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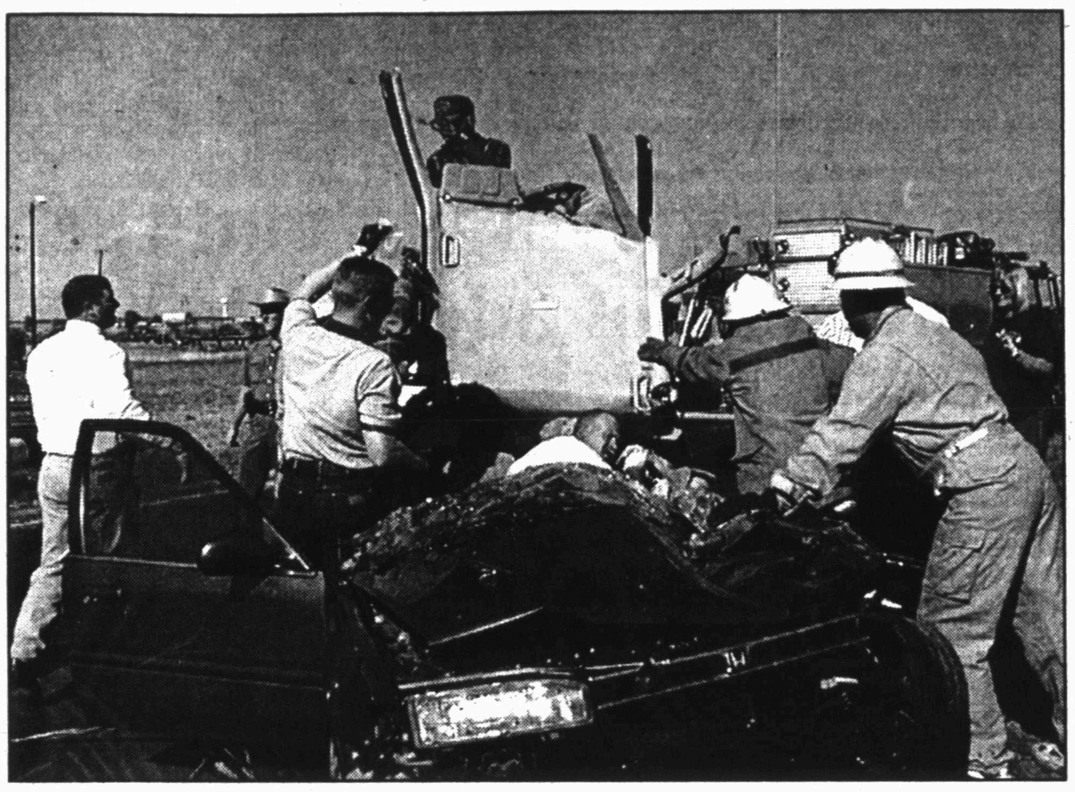
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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY

April 27, 2000
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Home Of Melissa Mitchell



TRAFFIC CIRCLE WRECK— Emergency personnel work to free Marla Beasley from her 1993 Honda after a two-vehicle collision Wednesday at the traffic circle east of Snyder. Beasley, a Rotan teacher and coach, was later air-lifted to Lubbock's UMC. See story on Page 9. (Staff-Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Lamesa prison unit cleaning up after riot

From Local, Wire Reports

LAMESA (AP) — Cleanup began today of the glass, blood, fire damage and tattered clothing left behind after a deadly prison riot.

The disturbance left one inmate dead and 15 others injured and in area hospitals. Five were listed in serious condition at University Medical Center and the Lubbock hospital listed four as satisfactory. Six were in various West Texas hospitals.

About 27 employees of the Price Daniel unit in Snyder responded to help quell the riot at the Smith Unit, located just west of Lamesa. Units of Snyder EMS were among several area emergency teams to respond.

Dawson County EMS director Dennis White said the initial call for his EMS service indicated only one person was hurt.

But White said when his crew arrived at the prison, they could tell a larger problem was brewing.

"When we got to the gate, we could see fighting. We called AeroCare to have their helicopters on standby, and we notified area EMS services," said White.

There were reports that the rear perimeter fence had been pushed down. And there was one early, false report that inmates had escaped, causing concern among Dawson County residents. No Texas Department of Criminal Justice employees were injured.

The Smith unit remained under lockdown today. The local Price Daniel unit was locked down Tuesday night, but things were back on a normal routine Wednesday morning.

"I saw a lot of destruction," TDCJ spokesman Larry Fitzgerald said after touring the Smith Unit.

"Unlike some other riots we've been in, they didn't destroy any expensive property, like computers. Probably the main thing is the glass breakage."

Three instructors from Western Texas College – Ava Russell of Snyder, Kyle Smith of Sweetwater and Ron Huddle of Lamesa – were inside the educational building which had windows broken out. They were not injured.

Some correctional officers who work in the Smith unit were trained at WTC, and some live in Scurry County, but it has not been determined if any Scurry County residents were on duty during the riot.

About 300 black and Hispanic inmates took part in the racially-motivated riot Tuesday night at the minimum- to medium-security prison. One man died and 31 others were injured.

Fitzgerald said several inmates tried to escape during the mayhem by taking off their clothes, throwing them over fences and trying to climb over the razor wire. Many got caught there and suffered severe cuts.

"It got very bad," he said. "I talked to some of the officers and they were scared. The inmates were on a rampage."

Many wielded garden tools during the brawl. The inmate who died, 20-year-old Frank Trejo, apparently was stabbed to death with a pickax stolen from a utility closet.

Trejo, who was serving a five-year burglary term from Cameron County, was found between a building and a recreation yard. Fitzgerald said he believes Trejo is the first inmate to die in a Texas prison riot.

Officials said the fight mostly took place in the prison's recreation yard but evolved from a fight involving two inmates in a dining hall.

That's where a Hispanic inmate confronted a black inmate who was fondling himself in front of a female officer, Fitzgerald said. Word of the confrontation then spread throughout the unit. A fire gutted one of the prison's kitchens.

"Some white inmates jumped in the fight, but it was mostly the black and Hispanic inmates who were fighting," prison spokesman Larry Todd said.

State corrections officials said it took about 300 guards to subdue an equal number of inmates. The brawl began around 6:30 p.m. and was under control by midnight, said John Barton, spokesman for Warden Lupe Lozano.

Guards used a pepper spray-like substance to subdue the inmates. One guard suffered minor injuries from a gas grenade that went off in his hand. Two other guards also were injured. All three were treated and returned to work, Todd said.

Fitzgerald said the first two inmates who started the fight were identified immediately and taken out. Officials are still trying to determine who killed Trejo.

Some of the injured inmates were taken to Brownfield Regional Medical Center. The hospital refused to give information, but Barton said some of the injuries were critical.

Six others were taken to the University Medical Center in Lubbock. Five were in the intensive care unit. None had life-threatening injuries, said Terry Martin, house supervisor at the hospital. Nine others were taken to the hospital of the Montford unit prison in Lubbock.

All the inmates will be returned to the prison and interviewed. Some may be reclassified and transferred to a maximum-security prison, Todd said.

Cogdell to receive all budgeted tobacco funds

While Scurry County is expected to receive $104,636 in tobacco settlement money, some $60,000 short of earlier estimates, the commissioners court will still fund the entire amount of the anticipated money it had budgeted to Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

County Judge Ricky Fritz made that announcement during this morning's hospital board meeting.

"Despite receiving less tobacco settlement money than we anticipated, we will still fund the entire $140,000 we said we would provide for the hospital," said Fritz.

However, the matter still needs to be voted on by the court and it is expected to be an agenda item when it meets Monday.

Precinct 4 commissioner Chloanne Lindsey said this morning that she anticipates the court will fund the entire $140,000.

"We still have to vote on it though," said Lindsey.

Following the comment by Fritz, board member Dink Foree said he felt the commissioners should be recognized for making up the difference in the tobacco money. "They've been battered around some, so I think they should be commended for this."

Chief Executive Officer Jeff Reecer also had some other good news for the board members.

Reecer said negotiations are being finalized for two doctors to begin practicing here through Covenant Healthcare.

"We have two meetings scheduled today. We're not there yet, but we are a lot closer in recruiting the two physicians," said Reecer.

Reecer said the hospital also is exploring the possibility of using physician assistants on a rotating basis through the Texas Tech medical school.

"We are just beginning to look at this option," said Reecer.

In his monthly report, Reecer said the hospital is facing some $1,200,000 less in revenue due to the balance budget act and Medicaire payments for next year.

"As a result, we are looking very close at our expenses," Reecer said.

Reecer said the hospital is taking bids for the first time on janitorial supplies, and has a new contract for linen service that is expected to save the hospital $58,000 yearly.

"We expect to save significantly on janitorial supplies by taking bids," said Reecer.

In an action item, the board voted to take the low bid of Knox, Gailey and Meador for renovation of the hospital's radiology department.

The Lubbock firm's bid was $372,819 – some $5,000 lower than the one other bid received.

"They're looking to start work just as soon as the paper work is finished," said Reecer, who added the work is expected to take 160 days.

In other matters, the board voted for Foree to serve as vice chairman of the board, replacing Dr. Mark Weaver who resigned.

Also, the monthly financial reports were approved as presented by Selina McGuire, and the year-end performance improvement evaluation was presented by Jo Beth Hardegree.

Consideration of bids for mammography equipment was postponed until the May meeting of the board.

Jim Bob Cave presided at the meeting and board members in attendance included Foree, Nan Swanson, Stanley Martin and Terry Williams. E. D. Walton was absent.

Relay for Life starts Friday

Teams of walkers, runners and spectators are expecting a good time and learning experience at the Relay For Life to benefit the American Cancer Society Friday at Tiger Stadium.

Registration for walkers and runners will be from 5:30 to 7 p.m. and they will receive their T-shirts at this time.

Relay For Life volunteers have been notified by the SISD that there cannot be wheels of any kind on the track this year.

Teams will begin walking immediately following the Cancer Survivor's Lap. Anyone having cancer or those who have had cancer can be identified by a different colored T-shirt that will also be worn in the victory march at the conclusion.

Luminaries will be available for a donation, minimum of $5, to honor or to be in memory of a friend or loved one. Luminaries provided by a $5 donation until 10 p.m. will be lit at 10:30. During the ceremony, Terry Bowden will read the names of those being honored.

Entertainment has been planned throughout the 28-hour event. Performers will include Terrisu Mann, Judy Brown, Carla Thompson, Donice Coonrod, Shanna Sides, Marcus Rios, K.K. McClain, Seth Rosson and Michael Compton.

Red Barn will have barbecue and turkey legs and on Saturday morning the Knights of Columbus will have breakfast burritos. Fruit for the walkers will be provided by United.

At 8:30 p.m. Friday, an auction will be held that will include an autographed Texas Tech Lady Raiders basketball, a 1999 media guide autographed by Bill Bates of the Dallas Cowboys, various art works, and other various items.

Awards will be given at 11:30 Saturday for the team raising the most money, most laps walked, best campsite and most spirited team.

Box office opens today for theatre production

The box office for the Ritz Community Theatre spring production, *God's Favorite*, opens today.

Box office hours for the Neil Simon comedy are from 2-5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The production dates are May 5-7, and May 12-14.

Curtain times on Friday and Saturday will be 8 p.m., while Sunday matinees are at 2:30.

Tickets are $7 and group rates for 10 or more are $6, as are senior and student tickets and the Sunday matinees.

Season ticket holders are urged to make reservations early, as are all patrons for the best seating.

Reservations can be made by going by the box office at the Ritz, or by calling the box office during business hours at 573-8880.

The production is Simon's contemporary counterpart of the story of Job from the Bible.

The show stars Kent Wright as Joe Benjamin, a wealthy Long Island businessman; Mike Harrison as God's messenger, Sidney Lipton; Barbara Vincent as Joe's wife, Rose; Justin Stice as the prodigal son, David; Kara Babcock and Caleb Durham as the twins, Sarah and Ben Benjamin; and Linda Proctor as the faithful servant, Mady.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Plagiarism saves time."

Snyder's Grant Knipe sent us the following, evidence that more and more folks are teed off with not getting through to speak with a real person.

But learning to live with "voice mail" is a necessary part of the technology explosion. The item sent by Grant discusses what might happen if voice mail were installed in Heaven and someone wanted to speak with God.

Imagine praying and hearing the following.

Thank you for calling My Father's House. Please select from one of the following options:

—Press 1 for requests.
—Press 2 for Thanksgiving.
—Press 3 for complaints.
—Press 4 for all other inquiries.

What if God used the familiar excuse: "I'm sorry, all of our angels are busy helping other sinners right now. However, your prayer will be answered in the order it was received, so please stay on the line."

Imagine getting these kinds of responses as you call in prayer...

If you would like to speak to Gabriel, Press 1.

For Michael, Press 2.

For a directory of other angels, Press 3.

If you would like to hear King David sing a Psalm while you are holding, Press 4.

To find out if a loved one has been assigned to Heaven, Press 5, enter his or her Social Security number, then press the # key. (If you get a negative response, try area code 666).

For reservations at "My Father's House," please enter J-O-H-N followed by 3-1-6.

For answers to nagging questions about dinosaurs, the age of the earth and where Noah's Ark is, please wait until you arrive here.

Our computers show you have already prayed once today. Please hang up and try again tomorrow.

This office is closed for the weekend to observe a religious holiday.

Please try again Monday after 9:30 a.m. If you need emergency assistance when this office is closed, contact your local minister.

ASK US

Q—When will the Tigers begin the baseball playoffs?

A—If the Tigers finish first, they will play May 12-13. A second or third-place finish will put the Tigers on the diamond May 5-6.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 88 degrees; low, 58; 7 a.m. Thursday, 65; no precipitation; total for 2000, 7.64 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, partly cloudy, low upper 50s. E wind 10-15 mph. Friday, mostly cloudy; high mid 80s; SE wind 10-20 mph.



Keagan Herrley
Cloudy

Sunset:
8:21 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:02 a.m.

Of 117 days in 2000, the sun has shone 114 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

If you can command yourself, you can command the world.

—Chinese Proverb

APR 27 2000

Horror of Columbine available on videotape

LITTLETON, Colo. (AP) — On a desk is an open book with tattered, charred pages. A calculator and pencil lie near a pockmark in the desktop. Pools of blood have seeped across the beige carpet of the library floor and folded yellow cards show where students were wounded — or died.

For $25, anyone can buy a video showing an empty, bullet-riddled Columbine High School after the massacre a year ago. The footage comes with a pop music soundtrack.

Despite outrage from victims' families, Jefferson County authorities on Wednesday released the video of scenes inside the school at least a day after the rampage left 15 dead, including the two student gunmen. The tape is nearly three hours long and is primarily aerial footage from the day of the attack, April 20, showing the wounded and the bodies of two slain students.

Jefferson County Attorney Frank Hutfless said the tape was distributed to victims' families under a court order and offered to the public "to avoid additional lawsuits by the public or news media."

County officials have not said what the fee will be used for.

The tape opens with the humming sound of helicopters as rescue personnel, police and firefighters take up positions outside the school on the day of the killings. They move students who either were killed or critically wounded.

The graphic images were a sharp blow to families of the victims, coming less than a week after the first anniversary of the attack.

"For the first time today, I saw my daughter being dragged over to the fire engine. I don't need to see that and nobody else needs to see that," said a tearful Beth Nimmo, whose daughter, Rachel Scott, was killed.

"It hurts," said Connie Michalik, whose son, Richard Castaldo, was paralyzed in the attack. "These are our children they have on video being hurt and shot and killed."

Inside the school, the camera captures a Columbine that is at once both real and surreal.

Trophy showcases line hallways. Classroom desks and chairs are in neat rows in some rooms and an electronic sign in the cafeteria blinks the message: "Good Luck Spring Sports."

There are no students. A coat is draped across the seat of a chair in one room. Backpacks are scattered about. Floors, ceilings and walls are scarred and scorched from gunfire and bombs.

As Sarah McLachlan's "I Will Remember You" plays in the background, the library's open doors appear and the aftermath of the violence soon becomes apparent. Books lie on the floor. Chairs are scattered as if pushed aside hurriedly. Bullets have shattered windows and punctured walls.

A window blind is jumbled, apparently from a student's hurried escape. A computer monitor is blown to bits and the skeleton of a lamp stands alone, no shade, no bulb.

Large pools of blood appear still shiny wet in the camera's eye. Folded yellow cards placed next to the stains show names of victims. Numbered cards mark pieces of evidence.

The tape was put together by a Littleton firefighter on his own time for use in seminars to help law enforcement officials prepare for shooting attacks and other emergencies. It has been shown in 82 seminars in the United States and Canada.

Littleton firefighters objected to the release of the video, saying it was "not suitable for public viewing." Littleton fire officials did not return calls for comment about why the firefighter added music.

Six victims' relatives sued to gain access to the tapes to try and prove authorities mishandled the rescue and failed to heed warnings of the rampage. Authorities have denied those allegations.

Attorney James Rouse, who represents several victims' families, said the footage is helpful because it provides a first look at the crime scene. He declined to specify any shots that could support their claims.

Rouse said some families turned down the audio as they watched.

"I don't know why you'd call it a training video," he said. "It's more of a documentary with a musical background."

A handful of people showed up at the county attorney's office to get copies of the tape Wednesday. Among them was Robin Brandfas, who said she wanted it to teach her two young sons "what can happen."

"I feel really bad for the parents and everyone involved," Brandfas said. "I just want to see for myself. You hope it never happens to your kids."

In addition to McLachlan's tune, the unnamed firefighter used "Columbine, Friend of Mine," a song written by two Columbine students, and "If It Were Up To Me," by Cheryl Wheeler.

Her lyrics include: "Maybe it's the movies, maybe it's the books, maybe it's the bullets, maybe it's the real crooks, maybe it's the drugs, maybe it's the parents." It concludes: "Maybe it's the end, but I know one thing. If it were up to me, I'd take away the guns."

The music companies that hold the rights to the songs by McLachlan and Wheeler, Arista Records and Amachrist Music and Penrod and Higgins Music, said their use violated copyright laws. They demanded that authorities remove the music or stop distributing the tape.

Las Vegas trying to end the euthenasia of adoptable pets

LAS VEGAS (AP) — In another city, the tabby cat in cage No. 10 would likely be on death row — she's been at the city shelter for days and no one has come to adopt her.

But in Las Vegas, the fate of homeless pets is better than in most places. The city is trying to become the first in the nation to stop killing healthy, abandoned pets.

"I know we're going to change history — change forever how our city deals with homeless pets," said Mary Herro, president of the Animal Foundation, the city-run shelter.

Since 1988, the euthanasia rate has dropped from 55 percent to 33 percent at the shelter, Herro said. Adoptions have increased from 1,500 a year to more than 9,000 annually and more than 122,000 animals have been spayed and neutered.

Sparing the lives of adoptable pets — those without severe health or behavioral problems — is a realistic goal, Herro said.

While many private shelters across the country have a no-kill policy, Herro said the Animal Foundation would be the first locally run shelter in the United States to stop killing animals.

"It should be the goal of every humane society and animal control facility in the country," said Wayne Pacelle, senior vice president of the Humane Society of the United States.

As the city shelter, the Animal Foundation must accept any animal.

Veterinarians spay and neuter dozens of homeless pets each day before they are placed in cages to await adoption. One veterinarian recently performed 57 operations in a single day, about average for the shelter.

The low-cost spay and neuter clinic has helped the city toward its no-kill goal by controlling the animal population. The shelter, open seven days a week, also holds adopt-a-thons with businesses and hotels.

Herro also enlists "foster families" to take in mother cats and dogs and their babies. After the animals are weaned, the families return the unwanted pets to the shelter for adoption.

A key element in reaching the zero euthanasia goal is building a 32,000-square-foot city shelter, a project that is about $300,000 short of needed funding. The current shelter is 7,000 square feet and overcrowded.

More space means the shelter can keep animals longer. Here each pet is kept 30 days; most shelters only keep animals a few days.

But even with the longer stay, healthy animals are euthanized because there is simply not enough room to keep them, Herro said. Last year, 1,594 adoptable pets were put to sleep.

"You have your days when you just want to go home and cry because you can't do anything for them," said Cyd Dutcher, 32, a shelter worker.

On the Net:
Animal Foundation
http://www.animalfoundation.com
Humane Society of the United States: http://www.hsus.org

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Friday, April 28, 2000

Someone with whom you've established a relationship whose real values haven't as yet been revealed could become a significant person in your life in the year ahead by aiding to your success.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Don't hide your charming self-expressions under a barrel today. Come out into the open where all can benefit from your enchantment and grace. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that'll govern you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Everyone intrigues a Gemini, but today you could meet someone who truly captures your fancy. This individual will be both charismatic and mysterious.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Through a social contact you could be introduced today to a person who could be influential in your career. Mutual benefits will be exchanged once you get to know one another.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) What makes you an excellent evaluator today is that you will assess information using both logic and compassion, which gives you a broader grasp of the issues at hand.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Good salespeople — of which you are one — are usually the easiest people to sell because they can't resist a good pitch when they hear one. Make sure you need what you're buying today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) You're an especially good communicator today, with the ability to see both sides of an issue. The combination of the two makes you an excellent orator and negotiator at this time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Those at work will find you are the right person to bring their problems to today. This is because you'll be able to sort things out from a sensible but compassionate perspective.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Be careful who you're flirtatious with today, because others find you charming and alluring and, if you turn someone on who doesn't interest you, you could have a problem on your hands.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) All you'll need today to make you happy is spending time with your family and loved ones. The harmonious atmosphere you'll provide will draw everyone together.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) What you possess today is an artistry balancing your mental faculties. If you're the creative type, this might be the day to tackle a matter that calls for this combination.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Today's aspect comfortably bestows blessings freely and willingly on you. Some of the nice things that life has to offer will be given to you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) The three C's of charm, consideration and compassion will serve you well today if you give them a vigorous workout all day long. These attributes will contribute to your success.

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Berry's World



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"My robot dog somehow got programmed to eat my homework."

Date Book

Thursday, April 27, 2000

Today is the 118th day of 2000 and the 39th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1521, Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan was killed in the Philippines.

On this day in 1899, the first tuberculosis hospital operated by the federal government opened at Fort Stanton, N.M.

On this day in 1964, the nations of Tanganyika and Zanzibar merged, forming a single republic that would be named Tanzania within the year.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Edward Gibbon (1737-1794), historian; Mary Wollstonecraft (1759-1797), writer-feminist; Samuel F.B. Morse (1791-1872), inventor; Ulysses S. Grant (1822-1885), U.S. president; Rogers Hornsby (1896-1963), baseball great; Jack Klugman (1922-), actor, is 78; Coretta Scott King (1927-), civil-rights leader, is 73; Anouk Aimee (1932-), actress, is 68; August Wilson (1945-), playwright, is 55.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1983, Nolan Ryan of the Houston Astros struck out a batter for the 3,509th time in his professional career, setting the all-time strikeout record.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "The winds and waves are always on the side of the ablest navigators." — Edward Gibbon

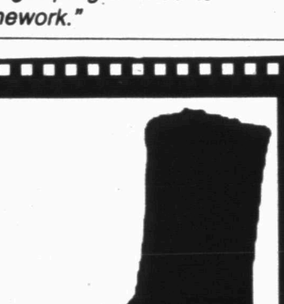
TODAY'S MOON: Day after last quarter (April 26).

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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

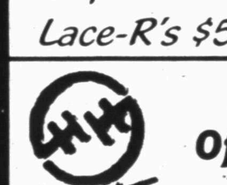
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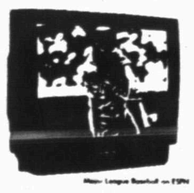
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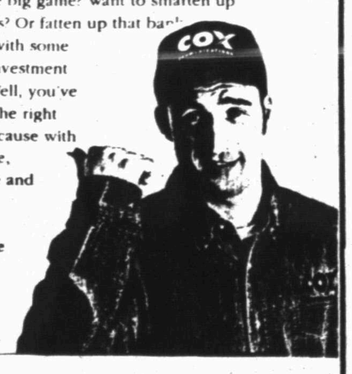
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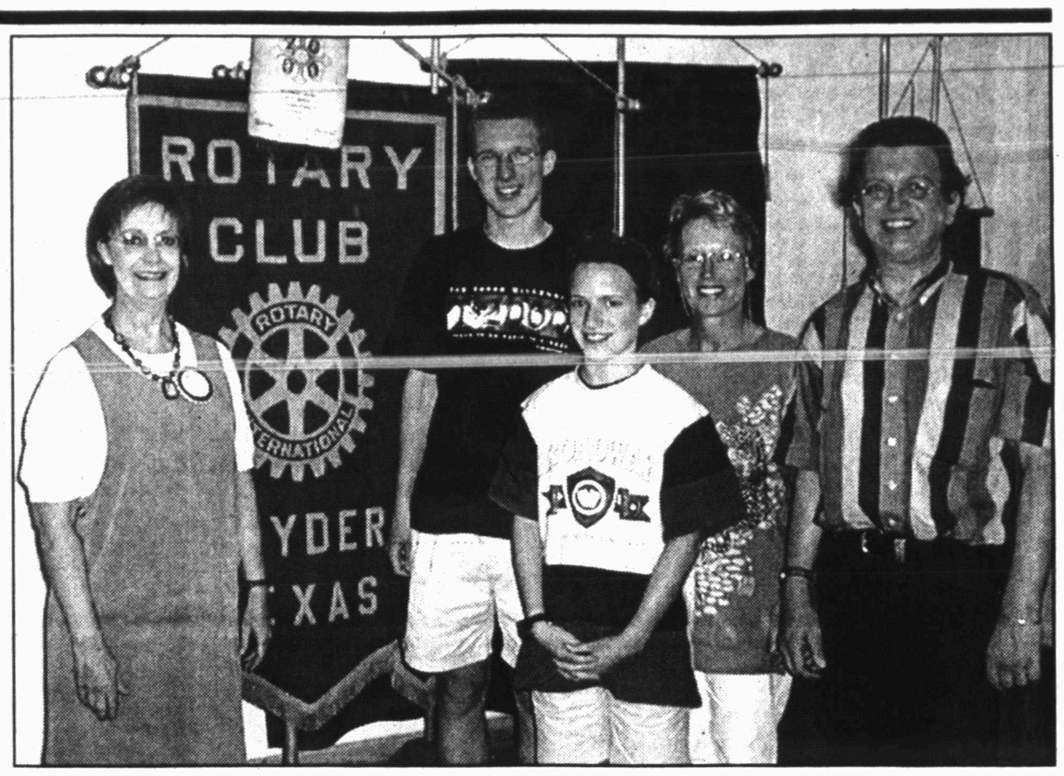


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FAMILY VISITS ROTARY — Exchange student Morten Edzards of Norden, Germany, and his family attended last Thursday's Rotary meeting at the Martha Ann Woman's Club. Welco. Julie Sentell, Rotary president, left, welcomed the Edzards family, Morten, Karin, Heing and Svenja. Morten is a senior at Snyder High School and lives with Darrell and Jane Neal. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)



SGC ADDS COLOR TO PARK — Sandra Browning, Betty Wood and Dolores Merritt, Snyder Garden Club members, recently planted roses and other flowers at the Towle Park entrance for a civic beautification project. They also planted two Wichita paper shell pecan trees near the pond in observance of National Arbor Day, April 28. SGC members will meet at 9:30 a.m. on May 4 at the Martha Ann Woman's Club for a program, "Key to Garden Art," by Betty Wood. Hostesses will be Marie Armstrong and Janice Blackwell. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Ask Anne & Nan

By Anne B. Adams and Nancy Nash-Cummings



DEAR ANNE AND NAN: Does anyone have a good old-fashioned recipe for rocky-road candy made with walnuts, large marshmallows and chocolate (milk chocolate or semisweet)? Neither Campfire Marshmallows nor Ghirardelli Chocolate Co. of San Leandro, Calif. have it. The proportion of the ingredients is vital. And are the large marshmallows left whole? — **MRS. J. MILLS, Pasadena, Calif.**

DEAR MRS. MILLS: Hope this is what you are looking for. We suggest you buy miniature marshmallows rather than large marshmallows, which you would have to snip into bite-size pieces.

ROCKY ROAD CANDY

1 (10 ounces) bar Ghirardelli milk or semisweet chocolate (a 12 ounce bag of semisweet chocolate chips may be substituted)

1 1/2 cups miniature marshmallows

1/3 to 1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Butter

Melt chocolate in double boiler over hot, but not boiling, water. Pour enough chocolate into a buttered one-quart loaf pan to cover the bottom. Top with marshmallows. Combine nuts with remaining melted chocolate and pour over the marshmallows. Spread top evenly. Cover and refrigerate until firm. Cut into squares.

P.S.: Ever had your chocolate clump and harden while melting it on top of the stove? The solution is to stir vegetable oil, at a ratio of 1 tablespoon of oil to 6 ounces of chocolate, into the "ruined" mess. Bingo! Disaster averted.

DEAR ANNE AND NAN: Some time back, you talked about lecithin. I believe it is used as a preservative for home-baked breads. If so, could you tell me how to use it in bread dough? How much lecithin to how many cups of flour? Finally, what is it? — **LOUISE MULLETT, Pilot Grove, Mo.**

DEAR LOUISE: Lecithin is a fatty substance obtained from egg yolks or legumes, such as soybeans. It's used to preserve, emulsify and moisturize food. It is, for instance, the main ingredient in those non-stick vegetable-oil sprays.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



North 04-27-00
♠ 5 2
♥ A Q J
♦ A Q 10 9 3
♣ Q 9 4

West
♠ 10 9 7 6
♥ 3
♦ 8 7 6 4 2
♣ A 8 3

East
♠ K J 8 4
♥ 9 5 4 2
♦ - - -
♣ K J 10 7 6

South
♠ A Q 3
♥ K 10 8 7 6
♦ K J 5
♣ 5 2

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ??

Leading from darkness to light

By Phillip Alder

The Upanishads, written c. 800-500 B.C., is a collection of Sanskrit theosophic or philosophical treatises. Part of the Brihadaranyaka Upanishad is particularly good for bridge defenders:

Lead me from the unreal to the real!

Lead me from darkness to light!

Lead me from death to immortality!

Well, how would you lead your partnership to the light in this deal? Look only at the West hand and make your selection.

When partner opened one heart, North had his eye firmly set on four hearts. However, with only three hearts, he had to start a two-step process, bidding his own suit first, then showing heart support on round two.

Normally, from a weak suit like West's diamonds, you would lead top of nothing, the eight. (If you lead fourth-highest, you promise an honor in that suit.) Yet from the auction, it should be clear that East has a diamond void. And when expecting to give partner a ruff (on this round or, at the worst, on the next if you have trump control), you should make a suit-preference lead. Here, you should open with the diamond two, the lowest card asking for the return of a club, the lowest-ranking nontrump suit. Leading instead the diamond eight would ask for a spade return.

After ruffing, East leads a club to your ace. A second diamond ruff and the club king kill the contract.

Note that if East switches to a spade after ruffing at trick one, the contract cruises home.

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Birth

Stormy Clark and Paul Camp announce the birth of their son, Reese Hunter Camp, at 2:28 p.m. on April 24 at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. He weighed seven pounds, two ounces.

Grandparents are Stanley and Marie Clark and Stephen and Paula Camp, all of Snyder.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: April 26 — Priscilla Holden, Edna Mearse, Juanita Chaidez, Sam Fare and Kenneth Rinehart.

DISMISSALS: Fred Cross, Paul Doyle, Rosie Smith and Laura Williams.

CENSUS: 43 (Med./Surg.-16, Long-term Care-25, OB-1 and Nursery-1)

Help children develop healthy boundaries. Teach them that their bodies belong to them and nobody should touch them without their permission. Don't force children to give or receive kisses or sit in the laps of family or friends if they are uncomfortable. Teach them they have the right to refuse touches that make them feel uncomfortable.

Cartoon character featured on stamp

PHOENIX (AP) — Wile E. Coyote couldn't catch the Road Runner, but state residents did. They nabbed the bumbling coyote, too.

Residents here were the first to grab the U.S. Postal Service's newest stamp honoring Warner Bros.' famed Looney Toons characters.

The stamp features the Road Runner perched atop a mail box in the desert, delivering a letter while Wile E. Coyote crashes during yet another gadget-filled scheme to capture his speedy nemesis.

"These characters have brightened our lives and now they will brighten our nation's commemorative stamp program," Phoenix Postmaster Johnray Egelhoff said.

The stamp goes on sale nationally Thursday.

The Postal Service has printed 300 million of the self-adhesive stamps, which is the fourth design in the Looney Toons series. Bugs Bunny launched the cartoon stamps in 1997, followed by stamps honoring Sylvester and Tweety and Daffy Duck.

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Snyder Daily News

3600 College 573-5486

APR 27 2000

ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman



THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



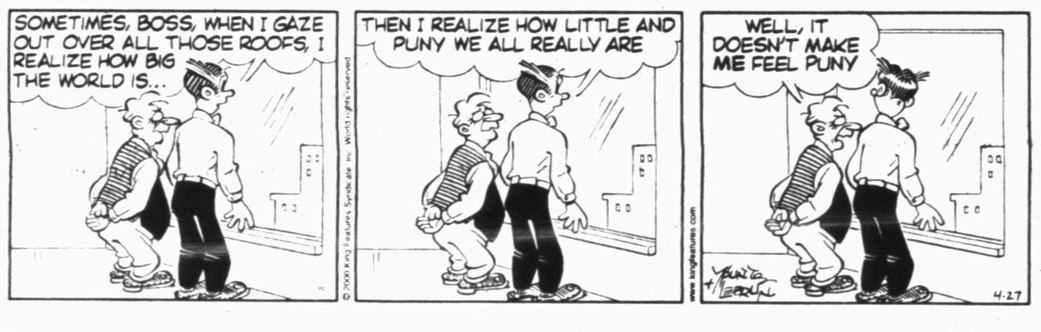
SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



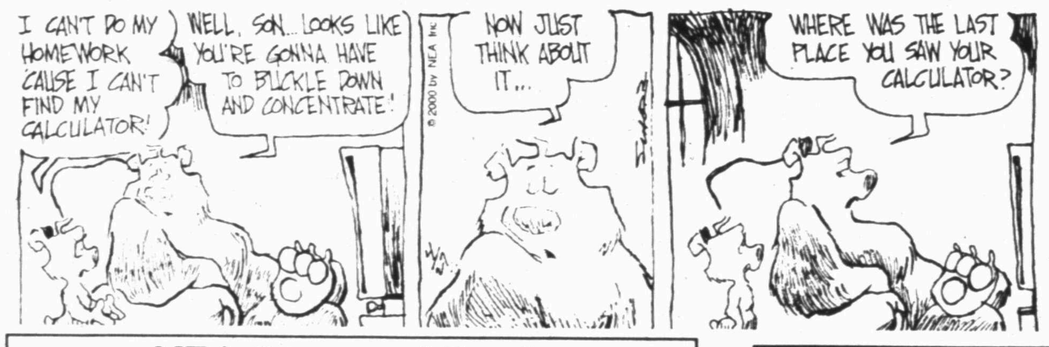
BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell



BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun



THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce



ROBOTMAN ® by Jim Meddick



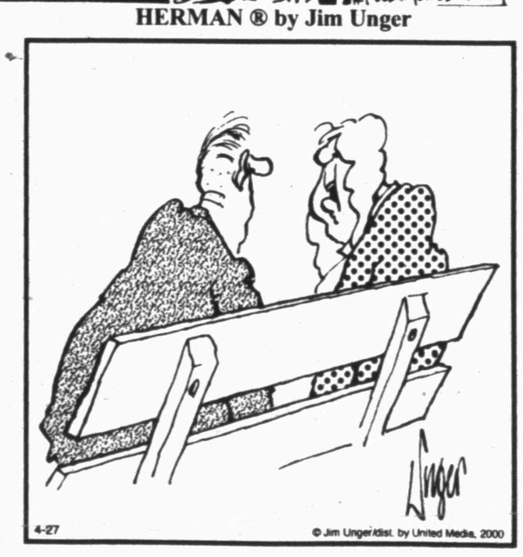
ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen



HERMAN ® by Jim Unger



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Woody
7 Grain for grinding
12 Punish by imposing a fine
13 Illinois city
14 Tea component
15 Away from the coast
16 Cricket positions
17 French season
18 Act like a suitor
21 Book category
23 Praiseful poem
26 Baseball's Slaughter
28 Unusual
29 Intermediate (pref.)
30 "Cinder" end
31 Small balls
33 Do harm to
36 Sheltered, at sea
37 Lodge
38 Italian currency
40 Swiss capital
41 Limb
42 Vault
44 Mao — -tung
45 "Eureka!"
46 Your and my
48 Threw a party
51 Deep-seated feeling of rancor
55 Structure type
56 Comes after
57 Unfeeling
58 Gravel ridges

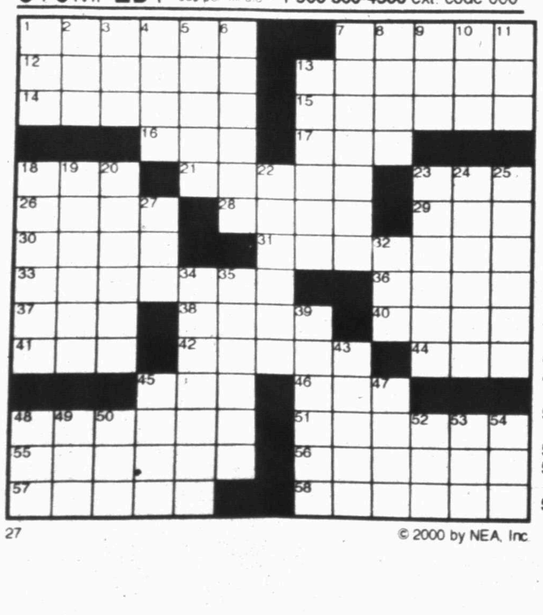
DOWN

1 Indian memorial post
2 Ms. Sumac
3 Bernstein, for short
4 "Yes — —?"
5 Cake topping
6 Thicker
7 Well-bred
8 Starlet's quest
9 Author Levin
10 Go astray
11 Small amount
13 South Dakota capital
18 Boll —
19 Connected to the Internet
20 Tea type
22 Linens
23 Brunch order
24 Discourages
25 Ancient Jewish ascetic
27 Actor Mineo
32 Research room
34 Medieval "science"
35 Heated discourse
39 Orbital point
43 Twists
45 — — angle
47 Secretary of State Dean —
48 Possesses
49 Frequently (poet.)
50 Sign at a full house (abbr.)
52 Payable
53 Neighbor of Fr.
54 Kind of curve

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

STUMPED? Call for Answers • Touch-tone or Rotary Phones 95c per minute • 1-900-860-4500 ext. code 000



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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



"WHAT'S FOR DINNER, MOM? I NEED TO KNOW HOW HUNGRY TO GET."

"I can't marry you 'til both of my divorces are finalized."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



SPORTS

At Region I-4A Track Meet...

SHS athletes eye state berths

Snyder will look to put an end to a long drought this weekend at the Region I-4A Track Meet.

Snyder hasn't advanced an athlete to the boys' state meet in five years, but that could change when this year's regional event gets underway Friday and Saturday at the ASU Multi-Sports Complex in San Angelo.

The Tigers qualified five competitors for the regional meet, after falling just short of the district crown.

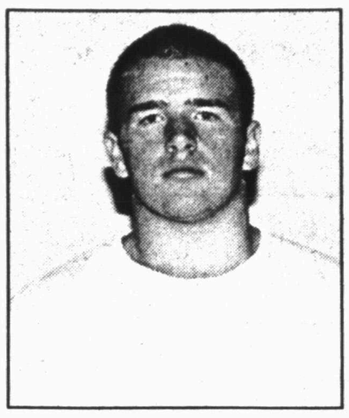
The SHS girls will also be represented, with two Lady Tigers scheduled to compete.

Amy Braziel nabbed the runner-up spot in the shot put at the district meet, while Loryn Brown grabbed second place in the triple jump.

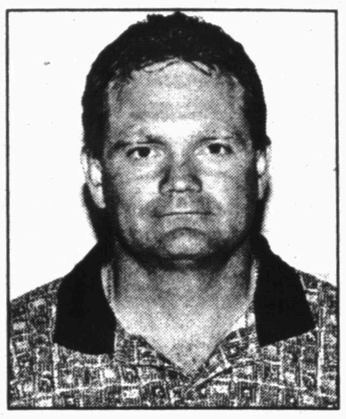
Braziel's toss of 35-2 1/4 is the ninth-best qualifying distance, heading into regionals. Brown, only a sophomore, soared 34-0 1/4 in the triple jump to earn her first trip to San Angelo.

"Amy and Loryn are turning in their best distances and times of the year, right now," said SHS coach Patty Grimmett. "They had a good district meet, and are looking forward to the competition at regionals."

Both Lady Tigers are set to compete Saturday. The triple jump will begin at noon, followed by the shot put at 3 o'clock.



Mark Medley



Coach Chad Rogers

Snyder's boys will compete both days in San Angelo, leading off with Mark Medley in the discus.

Medley enters the regional meet as the top-ranked qualifier in the discus. The junior's toss of 167-8 is more than 7 feet better than his closest competitor. The discus is slated for Friday at 4 p.m.

Medley will bid for another state berth Saturday in the shot put. His qualifying distance of 55-10 1/4 is bested only by a Mineral Wells' athlete who threw 60-2. The shot put gets underway at 4:30.

"Mark has a really good chance to make it to state," said Snyder coach Chad Rogers. "He keeps improving in every meet and in practice. Mark has worked really hard this year, and it is paying off. He's in a position to earn a trip to Austin."

Also on Friday's field event schedule is the pole vault where a pair of Tigers will compete for the title.

Juniors Jared Thornhill and Jesse Haines swept the top two spots at the district meet, with Thornhill's vault of 14-0 ranking him third amongst the qualifiers.

On the track, Rudy Martinez heads into regionals as a favorite in the distance events. The sophomore posted the second-fastest qualifying time in the two-mile run, and the top time in the mile.

The two-mile event will be Friday night at 9:05, with the mile slated for Saturday at 8:05 p.m.

The remainder of Friday's events are preliminaries, which get underway at 6 p.m.

Wade Pinson will look to secure a spot in the finals of the 110-meter high hurdles. Pinson's district time of 14.35 ranks him fourth, but is only .25 seconds off the fastest time.

Pinson, like Medley and Martinez, qualified in two events, and will be back in action Saturday at 4 p.m. in the high jump.

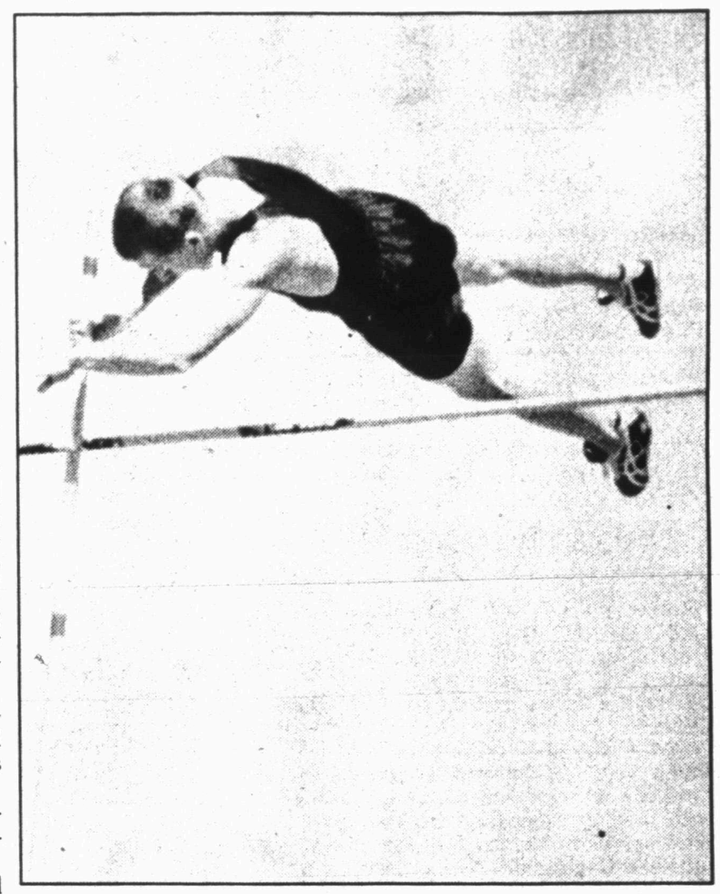
The SHS sophomore cleared 6 feet at the district meet. The favorite for the event is Weatherford's Alex Cope who qualified with a height of 6-11.

"We have some guys rank near the top of the qualifiers' list, and some who are in the middle of the pack," said Rogers. "But the way our guys have been performing lately, all of them have a chance. Our track team has come a long way this year, and having a few kids qualify for state would really top it off."

The meet gets underway Friday at 2 p.m. with five of the field events. The running preliminaries begin at 6 p.m.

Six more field events begin Saturday at noon, followed by the running finals at 6 p.m.

The top two in each event will qualify for the state meet May 12-13 at Mike A. Meyers Stadium on the University of Texas campus in Austin.



AIRBORNE — Snyder's Jesse Haines vaults over the bar during the district track meet. Haines will be joined by seven teammates at the regional meet, which gets underway Friday in San Angelo. (SDN Staff Photo)

Seven Ira tracksters ready for Friday's regional meet

Seven Ira tracksters will look to continue their seasons when they compete Friday and Saturday in the regional track meet at Elmer Gray Stadium on the campus of Abilene Christian University.

Three Bulldogs and four Lady Bulldogs earned a spot at the regional meet, after finishing in the top four at last week's area event.

Logan Daves, a state qualifier last year in the shot put, will bid for a second straight trip to Austin after garnering the runner-up spot at area.

Joining Daves in the shot put will be fellow senior Jerek Brown, who Ira coaches say is improving rapidly.

"Logan qualified for state last year, so he's always a threat to do well again," said Bulldog coach Toby Goodwin. "And Jerek is really coming on, here of late. Jerek has improved so much, that I wouldn't be surprised if he made it to state. Both guys have it in them, but they'll have to throw their best."

On the track, Jose Juarez will vie for a state berth in the 400 and 800-meter dashes. The senior was runner-up in both events at the area meet.

Juarez crossed the line in 52.98 seconds in the 400, while posting a time of 2:04.64 in the 800.

In the girls' competition, four Lady Bulldogs will team up in the 800-meter relay.

The relay foursome, which finished fourth at area, is comprised of Morgan Clements, Tara Allen, Jamie Goolsby and Kristen Harless.

Clements has two opportunities to qualify for state. The Lady Bulldog captured a spot in the high jump when she cleared 4-10 last week.

The top two finishers in each event will advance to the state track meet May 12-13 in Austin.

Cates Field to host playoff games today

Cates Field will be the site for a softball playoff doubleheader this evening, beginning at 6 o'clock.

Eastland will take on Midland Greenwood in the opener, before Breckenridge faces Monahans at 8 o'clock. Both match-ups are Class 3A area playoff contests.

Admission is $3 for adults, and $2 for students. Tickets are good for both games.

Following tonight's action, a Class 5A regional quarterfinal is tentatively set for Cates Field on Tuesday between Midland Lee and Abilene High at 4:30.

Frosh split final games

Snyder's freshman baseball squad closed out its season with a split against Frenship's freshmen and JV.

Snyder edged Frenship's JV, 6-5, before getting blanked by is freshman team, 10-0.

In the victory, Tito Alaniz went the distance on the mound, allowing only four hits and recording six strikeouts.

Billy Pena slapped a double and a single to pace the Tigers.

Snyder could tally only two hits in he setback, with Chance Grenwood's double and a Tyler Pollard single representing all of the Tigers' offense.

Billy Pena combined on the hill to strikeout nine Frenship batters, as Snyder surrendered eight unearned runs.

The Snyder freshmen end their season with a mark of 12-9.

Snyder 6, Frenship JV 5

Snyder: Pena, double and single; Hill, two singles; Alaniz, Alderete and Bowen, single.

Frenship 9th 10, Snyder 0

Snyder: Greenwood, double; Pollard, single.

JV edged by Frenship

WOLFFORTH — Frenship held off Snyder, 16-13, Monday in a junior varsity contest that featured 25 hits and 12 errors.

Snyder held a 10-9 lead, heading into the bottom of the fifth inning, before Frenship posted six runs to jump on top.

Shay Franks and Chris McCleod teamed up on the mound for Snyder. The two hurlers combined to allow 15 hits and issue nine walks.

Brooks Nunley and Riki Dorsett slapped three singles apiece to pace the Tigers at the plate.

Josh Heaton belted a double and a single, with Braden Doolittle also notching a double. McCleod, Stephen Ortegon and Heath Conner had one single each.

Snyder will be in action again today when it opens the Lubbock tourney at 5 p.m.

Weekly Sports Schedule

TODAY

Rodeo: Western Texas at Tarleton rodeo in Stephenville

Baseball: Snyder JV at Lubbock tourney

FRIDAY

Rodeo: Western Texas at Tarleton rodeo in Stephenville

Baseball: Snyder varsity at Andrews, 7:30

Baseball: Snyder JV at Lubbock tourney

Track: Snyder at regional meet, ASU's Multi-Sports Complex in San Angelo

Track: Ira at regional meet, ACU's Elmer Gray Stadium in Abilene

SATURDAY

Golf: PDU's Special Olympics Benefit Golf Tournament at Snyder CC

Golf: Lions Club Golf Tournament at Western Texas College

Rodeo: Western Texas at Tarleton rodeo in Stephenville

Track: Snyder at regional meet, ASU's Multi-Sports Complex in San Angelo

Track: Ira at regional meet, ACU's Elmer Gray Stadium in Abilene

Baseball: Snyder JV at Lubbock tourney

Sports Briefs

Adult softball sign-ups here

Snyder Men's and Women's Slowpitch Softball League will hold sign-ups for its spring draft today from 6-9 p.m. at Snyder Lanes. Players can also register by calling Chris Maxfield at 573-6862 or 573-4332.

Deadline to register is April 28.

Lions Club to host tourney

The Lions Club golf tournament will be Saturday at Western Texas College. Format is a four-person scramble, and each team must have a combined handicap of at least 50.

Entry fee is $50 per player, including green fee, cart rental and lunch. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top five teams, with $1,000 going to the winners. Hole-in-one prizes are a $5,000 CD and a 2000 Ford Ranger pick-up.

The field is limited to the first 20 paid teams. For more information, call 573-7627 or 573-1423.

SCC holds weekly events

The Men's Golf Association of Snyder Country Club will hold a Tuesday evening scramble and a Thursday MGA event. Play starts at 5:30 both days.

Horseshoe pitching held weekly

Snyder Slingers Horseshoe Club has league play Thursday's at 7 p.m. at the courts adjacent to the coliseum.

For more information, call T.C. Nunn at 573-6710 or Terry Duncan at 573-5589.

Major League Baseball

National League
All Times EDT
East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	14	6	.700	—
New York	14	8	.636	1
Montreal	12	8	.600	2
Florida	13	10	.565	2½
Philadelphia	6	14	.300	8

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
St. Louis	14	7	.667	—
Cincinnati	9	11	.450	4½
Pittsburgh	8	12	.400	5½
Houston	7	12	.368	6
Milwaukee	7	13	.350	6½
Chicago	8	15	.348	7

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Arizona	14	7	.667	—
Los Angeles	11	9	.550	2½
San Diego	10	11	.476	4
Colorado	10	12	.455	4½
San Francisco	9	11	.450	4½

Wednesday's Games

San Francisco 8, Florida 7, 12 innings
Atlanta 5, Los Angeles 1
Pittsburgh 9, San Diego 8
Montreal 9, Colorado 2
Arizona 10, Philadelphia 4
Cincinnati 12, N.Y. Mets 1
St. Louis 7, Milwaukee 0
Chicago Cubs 13, Houston 8

Thursday's Games

Cincinnati (Parris 1-3) at N.Y. Mets (Rusch 1-0), 1:10 p.m.
Los Angeles (Park 3-1) at Atlanta (Mulholland 2-2), 1:10 p.m.
Milwaukee (Haynes 2-1) at St. Louis (Hermanson 3-1), 1:10 p.m.
San Diego (Clement 2-0) at Pittsburgh (Ibarra 0-0), 1:35 p.m.
Arizona (Daal 0-2) at Philadelphia (Byrd 0-2), 3:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Lieber 1-2) at Houston (Lima 1-3), 4:05 p.m.
Only games scheduled

Friday's Games

Arizona (Reynoso 1-3) at Chicago Cubs (Tapani 0-3), 3:20 p.m.
St. Louis (Stephenson 2-0) at Philadelphia (Person 1-1), 7:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Harnisch 0-2) at Pittsburgh (Benson 0-3), 7:05 p.m.
Houston (Holt 0-3) at Milwaukee (Stull 1-1), 7:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Hampton 2-3) at Colorado (Astacio 1-2), 9:05 p.m.
Atlanta (Maddux 3-0) at San Diego (Meadows 2-1), 10:05 p.m.
Florida (Penny 3-1) at Los Angeles (Perez 2-1), 10:10 p.m.
Montreal (Irabu 1-2) at San Francisco (Ortiz 2-2), 10:35 p.m.

American League
All Times EDT
East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	13	7	.650	—
Boston	11	7	.611	1
Baltimore	12	8	.600	1
Toronto	11	12	.478	3½
Tampa Bay	7	13	.350	6

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Chicago	14	7	.667	—
Cleveland	11	7	.611	1½
Minnesota	11	12	.478	4
Kansas City	10	12	.455	4½
Detroit	5	15	.250	8½

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Seattle	12	8	.600	—
Anaheim	11	11	.500	2
Oakland	9	13	.409	4
Texas	8	13	.381	4½

Wednesday's Games

Baltimore (Mussina 3-0) at Chicago White Sox (Parque 2-1), 1:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Guzman 1-1) at Anaheim (Ortiz 1-1), 10:05 p.m.
Only games scheduled

Friday's Games

Chicago White Sox (Baldwin 3-0) at Detroit (Weaver 0-2), 7:05 p.m.
Boston (Schourek 1-1) at Cleveland (Burba 2-1), 7:05 p.m.
Texas (Loaiza 1-1) at Baltimore (Johnson 0-0), 7:05 p.m.
Toronto (Escobar 2-2) at N.Y. Yankees (Cone 0-2), 7:05 p.m.
Seattle (Tomko 1-0) at Kansas City (Witasick 0-4), 8:05 p.m.
Oakland (Heredia 1-2) at Minnesota (Radke 2-2), 8:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Yan 0-1) at Anaheim (Dickson 2-1), 10:05 p.m.

NBA Playoffs

All Times EDT
FIRST ROUND
(Best-of-5)

Wednesday, April 26

New York 84, Toronto 83, New York leads series 2-0
Portland 86, Minnesota 82, Portland leads series 2-0

Thursday, April 27

Milwaukee at Indiana, 8 p.m.
Sacramento at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

Friday, April 28

Charlotte at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.

Saturday, April 29

Miami at Detroit, 12:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Phoenix, 3 p.m.
Utah at Seattle, 5:30 p.m.
Indiana at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.

NHL Playoffs

All Times EDT
CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
(Best-of-7)

Thursday, April 27

New Jersey at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Colorado, 10 p.m.

Friday, April 28

San Jose at Dallas, 7 p.m.

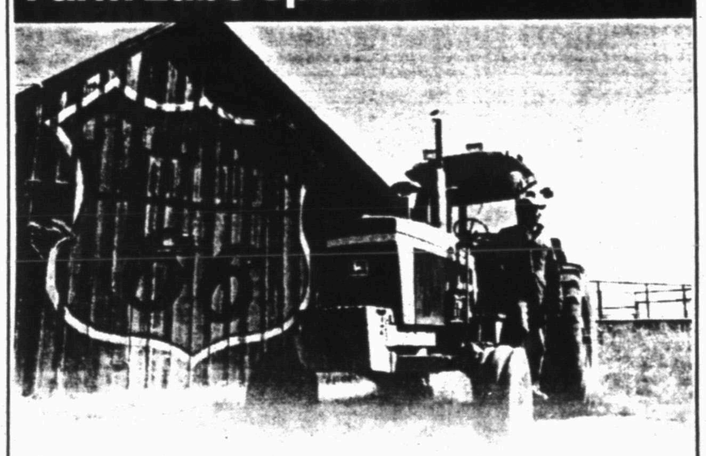
Saturday, April 29

Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 3 p.m.
Detroit at Colorado, 3 p.m.
New Jersey at Toronto, 7 p.m.

Sunday, April 30

San Jose at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.

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Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDot) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)
District: Abilene
Contract 0053-17-019 for RECONSTRUCT AND REALIGN INTERSECTION in SCURRY County will be opened on June 06, 2000 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or District Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available at reproduction companies in Austin, Texas at the expense of the contractor.
NPO: 359

State Office

Construction Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

District Office(s)

Abilene District
District Engineer
5250 N. Clack
Abilene, Texas 79603
Phone: 915-676-6800

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDot ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex or national origin.

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2006 37th St.
Friday 8 – 12
No Early Birds!!

BIG MOVING SALE
3007 39th
Thurs., Fri., & Sat. 8a.m – ??
Furniture, Appliances, Household goods, Tools, Lots of misc.

Do you have left over garage sale items? Call the Price Daniel Unit @ 573-1114 for pick up Monday–Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Proceeds go to Special Olympics.

ESTATE SALE
2312 40th
Thurs., Fri., & Sat. 8a.m. – ??
Living room, Bedroom & Dining room furniture, Appliances, Household goods, Lots of misc.

GARAGE SALE
3102 41st
Friday & Saturday 9a.m. – ??
Clothes, Tools, Kitchen items and lots of misc.

GARAGE SALE
3606 40th
Friday 2p.m. – ??
Clothes, Recliner, Arm chair & lots of odds & ends.

Morningside Baptist Church
Youth Garage Sale
126 Coliseum Drive
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Rent to Own: 3 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/RA, 2106 40th. Call 573-9068.

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3 Bedroom Mobile Homes for rent. $250/month. 573-1711.

For Rent: 2 bedroom mobile home. Stove & refrigerator furnished, CH/A, water paid. **573-2893.**

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Real Estate

3-1¾-1cp, Brick, new CH/A, permanent siding trim, fenced, storage shed. Beautiful front lawn. Ready for Occupancy–relocated–must sell!! Only $32,500. Hm:**573-7034/338-8256** Mobile.

4-2, w/2 living areas. Brick home w/many amenities. MUST SEE! Call today for more information/appointment. 573-4782 after 5p.m./575-5013.

4-3-2 brick house, CH/A, fenced, sprinkler system. 4005 Midland Ave. 505-887-5409, leave message.

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2 A's w/Doublewide Very Nice 3-2-2+sheds!
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Hermleigh 880 Harlan Ave. 3-2-2....$38T
228 Acres 3-1 Brick.....$80T
3-1¾-1 1901 29th Street.....$27T
Reduced-Lovely 4-2-2 3303 Irving..$112
ATTRACTIVE! 4-2-2 2211 27th...$42T
3103 Ave W 3-2-1+1cp Basemt. FP $36.5T
Updated-Very Nice 3-1¾-2 $62.5T

HUD LISTINGS

Doris Spikes..... 573-6602
Shirley Drum 573-1550

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ADDRESS:_____

CITY/STATE/ZIP:_____

(556)

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TDCJ Recruiting
3009 Highway 30 West
Huntsville, TX 77340

Preferred Screening Location (Circle One)
Huntsville Beeville Lubbock
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Wichita Falls

7 gun makers, industry group file suit over purchasing plan

WASHINGTON (AP) — Seven gun makers and an industry group are suing the federal government and others over a plan to give purchasing preference to the only gun manufacturer that signed an agreement to design safer guns.

The lawsuit by the manufacturers and National Shooting Sports Foundation is against the federal Housing and Urban Development Department, 16 communities and the attorneys general of New York and Connecticut.

HUD Secretary Andrew Cuomo called the lawsuit frivolous and defended the effort to give preference to Smith & Wesson when purchasing firearms for law enforcement officials.

"After the Smith & Wesson agreement, there are two types of gun manufacturers: safe and unsafe," Cuomo said in a statement. "Working with law enforcement, we prefer to do business with the safe manufacturers."

The lawsuit filed in an Atlanta federal court Wednesday alleges an illegal conspiracy in restraint of trade.

In March, President Clinton announced a landmark gun safety agreement with Smith & Wesson that included the installation of gun locks on all the weapons it sells, the introduction within three years of "smart gun" technology, and barring sales of its weapons at gun shows without a background check.

Under the agreement, Smith & Wesson was to be dropped from lawsuits against gun makers that were being contemplated by federal officials and some cities. Any other gun maker that agreed to the plan would also be given preferential treatment, but so far none has joined Smith & Wesson.

"We are demanding cities stop the effort of using their purchasing power to control the distribution and design of firearms," said Jeff Reh, general counsel for Beretta U.S.A. Corp, one of the seven suing companies.

The lawsuit names as defendants New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer and Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal, who helped draw up the agreement.

"This action is preposterous, false and unfounded and an insult to law enforcement," Blumenthal said. "It is plainly an effort to deceive and confuse the public, and distract law enforcement officials from the work of improving gun safety and stopping crime."

Also named were the California communities of San Francisco, Berkeley, East Palo Alto, Inglewood, Oakland, and San Mateo; as well as Bridgeport, Conn.; Atlanta; Miami-Dade County, Fla.; Gary, Ind.; Boston; Detroit; St. Louis; Newark, N.J.; Philadelphia; and the District of Columbia.

Bridgeport Mayor Joseph Ganim called the lawsuit, "a desperate move by the gun makers to try and prevent us from doing what is the right thing to do."

"They continue to forget that our only goal is to protect children and families, and their only goal is to protect corporate profits and greed," Ganim said.

"I am disappointed that some gun manufacturers have chosen confrontation over cooperation," said Sen. Frank Lautenberg, D-N.J.

Erin Brockovich...

Former husband & boyfriend are arrested in extortion plot

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — An ex-husband and an ex-boyfriend of the real-life Erin Brockovich were arrested in a sting and charged with trying to extort about $300,000 from her and her boss.

The pair were threatening to go to the media with accusations about Brockovich, the tart-tongued legal secretary whose work on a toxic waste case is the basis of the hit movie that stars Julia Roberts, officials said.

"The threat was that they were going to go to the press and say that Erin and I had a sexual relationship and that Erin was a bad mother," her boss, attorney Ed Masry, told the Los Angeles Times.

"Frankly, this whole thing really makes me sick," Brockovich told the Daily News of Los Angeles.

The arrests Wednesday of ex-husband Shawn William Brown, ex-boyfriend Jorg Lawrence Halaby and their lawyer John Jeffrey Reiner culminated a two-week investigation by the Ventura County district attorney's office and the FBI.

Investigators were outside Brockovich's attorney's office Wednesday morning as Brockovich and Masry handed over checks totaling $310,000 to the three men, who signed an agreement calling for their silence, according to the complaint filed by the district attorney's office.

Hidden cameras were rolling, and almost as soon as Brockovich and Masry left the room, investigators entered and made the arrests, officials said.

Brown, 38, of Simi Valley, Halaby, 46, of Costa Mesa and Reiner, 53, whose office is in Century City, were booked at the Ventura County Jail with bail set at $50,000 each.

Brown and Reiner had been released by late Wednesday and Halaby was expected to be released soon, said a records technician at the jail. Reiner told a reporter as he left the jail that he had no comment.

Brockovich and Masry, who was played by Albert Finney in the "Erin Brockovich" movie, released a statement Wednesday afternoon that read in part: "The very idea that there has ever been anything improper about our relationship is of course ludicrous."

In the blockbuster movie, Brockovich goes to work for Masry as an assistant, and through hard work, initiative and guile uncovers power plant pollution in a small town in the Mojave Desert and helps win a record $333 million settlement from corporate giant Pacific Gas & Electric. "Erin Brockovich" has grossed more than $100 million since its release last month.

Jesse Jackson and Klan face off

WALLINGFORD, Conn. (AP) — Jesse Jackson said his confrontation with a white supremacist group opposed to the town observing the Martin Luther King holiday shows there is "unfinished business" in the struggle for civil rights.

Jackson came to Wallingford on Wednesday to applaud a new state law that forces the town to observe King Day. Wallingford has been the only town in the state to keep offices open on the holiday.

A group of about 10 people waving Confederate flags showed up to protest Jackson's visit.

"Those who are waving these flags show us there is unfinished business," said Jackson, who offered to shake hands and tried to peek under the face mask of one man who was dressed in Ku Klux Klan garb but was rebuffed.

"It's time for sheets to be worn on a bed and not to hide a person's face," Jackson said.

The confrontation occurred before Jackson attended a church service and led a march of over 500 people to town hall for a rally.

The state Senate gave final approval to the King Day bill late Tuesday, and Gov. John Rowland signed it Wednesday morning.

Wallingford Mayor William Dickinson has said the controversy is not about race, but a dispute with the town's labor unions.

Markets

Midday Stocks

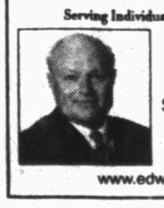
NEW YORK (AP) -

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp s	34 9-16	33⅞	33⅞	— 1¼
AT&T Corp	50¼	48 13-16	49¼	— 1½
Albertsons	32 11-16	31¾	32 1-16	— ¼
Alltel	66 15-16	66	66⅜	— ⅛
AmerOnline s	61	57 15-16	59 5-16	—15-16
AndarkPtr	40 13-16	39½	40 13-16	+ 1⅜
ATMOS Egy	14 11-16	14¼	14 5-16	— 7-16
Aviall	6½	5¾	5 13-16	— ⅜
BP Amoco s	53 9-16	52 9-16	52 11-16	+ 11-16
BakerHughes	32⅜	31	32	+ ¼
Bank of Amer	51⅝	50 1-16	50 7-16	—1 5-16
BellAtl	61 3-16	60 7-16	60 7-16	—1 1-16
BellSouth	51 3-16	49⅜	50	— 1⅛
Beth Steel	5⅜	5 5-16	5⅜	— 1-16
BurlNoSFe	24⅛	23½	23 13-16	—11-16
CBS Corp	58 9-16	57 9-16	58 1-16	— ⅝
Caterpillar	40 7-16	38 15-16	39⅞	— ⅛
CenSoWst	22 15-16	22 7-16	22 13-16	+ ¼
Chevron	88 5-16	86 5-16	87⅞	+ 1 9-16
Citigroup	61⅝	60 11-16	61⅛	— 1⅜
Coastal	51 15-16	50⅜	51⅞	+ 1¼
CocaCola	49⅛	47¾	47 13-16	— 1⅝
ColgatePal s	57¾	56⅜	57⅛	— 9-16
ComclMetals	28½	28	28	— ½
CooperIn	35 5-16	34¼	34½	— 9-16
DaimlrChry	58⅜	57⅞	58⅛	— 1½
DallSemicn s	40	38⅛	39 11-16	+ 7-16
DeltaAirl	52¼	51 5-16	51⅝	—13-16
Dillards Inc	14¾	14 5-16	14⅜	— 7-16
DowChem	111 3-16	105 9-16	108⅝	+ 3 1-16
DuPont	49⅜	48 7-16	49 1-16	— 1-16
EastmanChem	46½	45⅞	46	— ¼
EstKodak	58 3-16	57 3-16	57 3-16	— 9-16
EDS Corp	73	70 11-16	72 5-16	+ ⅛
Entergy	26⅞	26¼	26¼	— ⅜
ExxonMobil	79⅝	78 11-16	79	— 1⅛
FstBksAm	17⅜	17⅜	17⅜	
Flowers	15 9-16	15¼	15 7-16	— 3-16
FordMotor	54 15-16	53½	54⅜	— ⅝
GTE Cp	71 9-16	71 1-16	71 3-16	— ⅜
GenDynam	56 15-16	55 3-16	56 9-16	— 5-16
GenElec	161¼	158 9-16	159	— 4¼
GenMills s	37⅝	37¼	37⅜	— ⅜
GenMotors	91 15-16	89 15-16	91½	— ½
GaPacGP s	37⅞	37⅛	37¾	+ 7-16
GlobalMar	24½	23½	24⅜	+ ⅞
Goodrich	31 11-16	30½	31⅝	+ 11-16
Goodyear s	29 7-16	28¾	29 1-16	— ⅜
GtAtlPac	18½	18 5-16	18 7-16	— ⅛
Halliburtn	44 7-16	42½	44 1-16	+ 7-16
Hanson ADS	37 5-16	37 1-16	37 5-16	+ 5-16
HarteHanks	23⅛	23 3-16	23 3-16	— 7-16
HomeDepot s	60	58½	59⅛	— 1⅜
Honeywellnt	55¾	54 1-16	55⅜	— 1-16
IBM s	112 1-16	108 11-16	111	+ 3-16
IntlPaper	37⅞	37⅜	37¾	+ ⅜
JohnsonJn	82 11-16	81 13-16	82 1-16	—11-16
K mart	8¼	8⅛	8⅛	— ⅛
Kroger Co s	19⅜	18⅝	19⅛	— 1-16
Litton	40 13-16	40 1-16	40½	— 9-16
LockheedM	24 7-16	23⅜	24 3-16	+ 1-16
Lowes Cos	53 11-16	52 11-16	53	—1 7-16
Lubys	8 15-16	8⅞	8 15-16	
LucentTech	64¾	62⅜	64 3-16	— 5-16
MayDeptStr	28⅛	27 9-16	27⅝	— ½
MediaOne	78½	77¼	77½	— ¾
Medtronic s	53¾	53	53 5-16	+ 5-16
MorganJP	131¾	129 15-16	131	—3 9-16
Motorola	118½	114½	116 15-16	—1 1-16
NCR Corp	39 13-16	38 11-16	39 13-16	+ 9-16
Navistar	35⅜	34¾	34 13-16	—13-16
Penney JC	14 9-16	13⅞	14⅛	— 3-16
PepBoys	6⅛	6 1-16	6⅛	— 1-16
PepsiCo	37½	36¾	36 13-16	—15-16
Pharmacia	52 13-16	51 13-16	52½	— ¼
PhelpDodge	45	44¼	44 15-16	+ ⅛
PhilipPet	49 7-16	49 1-16	49¼	— 1-16
PilgrmPrd B	7 5-16	7¼	7 5-16	
Polaroid	21	20 7-16	21	
Praxair	43½	42	43 1-16	— 7-16
ProctGamb	60 7-16	59 9-16	59⅝	—15-16
PubS NwMx	17 15-16	17⅜	17 7-16	— 7-16
ReliantEngy	28 7-16	27 9-16	27 9-16	— 9-16
RoyalDut	57 3-16	56 7-16	57⅛	+ ⅛
SBC Comm	44¼	43¼	43½	—11-16
SaraLee	15¾	15¼	15¼	— 5-16
Scripps EW	46 7-16	45¾	45⅞	—13-16
SearsRoeb	37⅜	36⅛	36 9-16	—2 15-16
SherwinW	26¼	25⅝	25⅜	— 3-16
SmithkiBchm	67¼	65 13-16	67¼	— 5-16
SouthernCo	27 3-16	26 7-16	26 7-16	—15-16
SwstAirl s	21	20 7-16	21	+ ⅛
SprintFON s	61 7-16	58¼	61	+ 1⅝
SprintPCS s	52 7-16	49½	52	+ ½
Sunoco Inc	30	29⅜	29 15-16	+ ¼
Tandy s	57⅞	55 9-16	56 5-16	—1 9-16
TempleInland	50⅜	49¾	50	— ¾
Texaco	51 15-16	51⅛	51 7-16	— 5-16
TexInd	31½	31 7-16	31 7-16	— 1-16
TexasInst s	152½	146	152 7-16	+ 3½
Tex Util	34½	34 3-16	34 7-16	— ⅛
Textron	62⅜	61 15-16	62 5-16	—11-16
TriconGlbR	34⅜	32⅜	34 5-16	— ⅛
TrinityInds	21⅞	21 11-16	21⅞	+ ⅛
TritonEngy	37 15-16	37¼	37½	
TylerTech	5 5-16	5¼	5 5-16	+ 1-16
US West Inc	72¾	71⅜	71 9-16	— 1⅝
USX-Marathn	24 11-16	23 13-16	24⅝	+ 9-16
USX-USS	25 3-16	24⅝	24⅞	+ 1-16
UnCarbde	57¼	54 5-16	56	+ 1⅞
UnionPacif	45¼	44⅝	44¾	—11-16
UnitedTech s	60⅜	60	60 5-16	— 5-16
Unocal	31 11-16	30 1-16	31 9-16	+ 11-16
Venator Grp	11 7-16	11⅛	11 5-16	— 5-16
WalMart	58 7-16	57	57½	— 1¼
WellsFargo	42 7-16	41⅝	41 15-16	— 1⅛
WstnGasRs	16	16	16	
WinnDixie	17 11-16	16 11-16	16 13-16	—11-16
Xerox Cp	27 13-16	27 1-16	27⅛	— ⅛

Local Interest
STOCKS

Patterson	26 5/8	+1/16
Dell	50 1/8	+1/8
Wal Mart	56 7/8	-1 7/8
Compac	29	-1/4
Dol. Gen.	23 1/4	-3/8
GTE	70 5/8	-1 7/16
SBC Comm.	43 1/2	-1/2
BJ Services	70 1/4	+2 1/8
LU	64 1/8	-1/8
Cisco Sys.	66 3/4	0

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Buchanan's bid worries Reform Party

WASHINGTON (AP) — To Pat Buchanan, his tour of Reform Party state conventions is a legitimate, if aggressive, bid for the group's presidential nomination. But to supporters of party founder Ross Perot, Buchanan's march across the country looks more like a quiet coup.

"They want to elect their own chairmen, take over the party and make sure all of the delegates vote for Pat Buchanan," said Charles Dodge, who resigned as Wisconsin chairman amid a dustup between factions earlier this month. "We're a democratic group; we don't work that way."

Buchanan's campaign manager and sister, Bay, readily admits the campaign is touring the party conventions — 23 so far — in a bid for enough delegates to secure her brother's nomination and the $12.6 million in federal funding it brings.

Problems arise, she said, when state parties try to amend the rules to exclude Buchanan supporters from participating or running for party offices, which influence delegate selection.

Party leaders in Wisconsin recently tried to prevent members of less than six months from running for chairman or other offices. That would have affected most Buchanan supporters since they joined the Reform Party after he bolted the Republican Party in October.

Buchanan and the Reform Party also have clashed in New Hampshire and California.

Bay Buchanan said the majority of state parties have no problem with the campaign.

"We are trying to be the dominant force at the national convention," she said in a recent interview. "That is what you try to do when you wish to win a nomination."

Some longtime party members say that thinking reflects Buchanan's roots in the GOP, where delegate math is key to the party's nomination. The Reform Party has tried to establish a tradition of coalition-building during its nomination process.

But in response to Buchanan's presence, some state parties have split into opposing factions and some national party members are distrustful of the conservative commentator.

In the middle is chairman Pat Choate, a Buchanan friend who was Perot's 1996 running mate.

"You have to get the long-term party members to welcome and appreciate the new blood that's coming in, which the party absolutely must have to survive," Choate said in a recent interview. "With the new people ... get them to understand the way that the Reform Party does it."

Turmoil within the party didn't start with Buchanan, who says he could transform it from a brawling bunch of factions back into the unified political force it was in 1992 when Perot won 19 percent of the vote.

"What will come out will be populist, traditionalist, conservative, very strongly supportive of the ideas of mine on trade and foreign policy and immigration policy," Buchanan said in a recent interview. "At the end, it'll look like the Rockettes."

Donna Donovan resigned as press secretary last week because of the tension.

Incentives offered for voluntary drug testing at Navarro

GERONIMO (AP) — Students in the Navarro School District soon could be getting free T-shirts and discount shopping cards if they undergo voluntary drug tests.

"What we are looking for is just a way to reward the kids who say no to drugs and stay off drugs," Athletic Director Lin Havron told the San Antonio Express-News. "I would say the majority of our kids are looking for an excuse to say no, anyway."

The idea for voluntary drug testing came from Mike McGrew, who is scheduled to replace retiring superintendent Harold Besson in June.

McGrew currently is the superintendent of the Simms School District near Texarkana, where he instituted a similar program three years ago.

Under the program, students testing positive for drugs are ordered to meet with their parents and a school counselor, he said.

"The goal is not to get somebody, but to get somebody help," he said.

The Navarro school board voted unanimously Monday to have administrators draw up a policy to implement the drug testing program, starting this fall. It would affect students in grades 7-12.

The board is expected to approve the policy next month. The district in rural Guadalupe County has about 1,000 students.

Geronimo is 225 miles southwest of Dallas.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



See doctor about vein removal

DEAR DR. GOTT: After a vasectomy, I developed what my doctor diagnosed as a varicose vein in my penis. It's constantly uncomfortable and makes intercourse painful. Should I have my vasectomy reversed?

DEAR READER: A swollen penile vein would be an extremely rare consequence of vasectomy, because the operation is carried out in the scrotum and does not ordinarily affect the penile veins. Therefore, I doubt that reversal of your vasectomy — in itself, a technically challenging procedure — would solve your problem. I suggest that you be examined by a urologist, who could advise you whether the vein should be removed, thereby returning you to a more normal state.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Why do my joints crack when I move, exercise, walk or bend down? My friends tease me about getting old, but I'm only 31. What could be causing this?

DEAR READER: Joints are held in place by supporting tissue, primarily tendons and ligaments. In some people, either because of injury or genetic inheritance, some joints may be too lax. This can cause cracking or popping during movement as the bones of the joints move excessively. As we age, supporting structures tend to stretch and weaken; hence, joint cracking is a normal part of growing older. Painless joint popping is a common occurrence in people of any age, does not necessarily reflect disease and usually does not require treatment. You can reassure your friends that you are 1. in good health; 2. getting older; and 3. so are they.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Because of a heart irregularity, I take the anticoagulant Coumadin. I also have asthma for which my doctor recently prescribed Accolate. Now I notice blood in my urine and extensive bruising in my skin. Is this related to the medicines?

DEAR READER: Quite possibly.

Accolate is a new medication, available in pill form, for the prevention of asthma. Ordinarily, it is quite safe. Reported side effects include headache and gastrointestinal upset. However, when given to patients taking Coumadin, Accolate can accentuate the anticoagulant effects of the drug, leading to dangerous hemorrhage. In my opinion, you should have an immediate blood test, called a prothrombin time, to check your degree of anticoagulation. If, as I suspect, you are over-medicated, your physician should either discontinue your Accolate or re-adjust your daily dose of Coumadin. Don't delay in seeking medical attention. Your bloody urine and bruising could indicate that you are sitting on a time bomb. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Consumer Tips on Medicine." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

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Bush at record fund-raiser: I'll restore civility in politics

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican George W. Bush promises to treat Democrats with respect, but the pledge doesn't seem to extend to Al Gore.

On his first trip to Washington since sealing the Republican presidential nomination, the Texas governor promised Wednesday night to reach across party lines and end a "cycle of bitterness, an arms race of anger" that stymies progress in the nation's capital.

"Both parties bear some of the blame" for excessive partisanship, he said.

His audience — 1,500 top GOP contributors at a record-shattering $21.5 million fund-raiser — didn't react to the line. Stone silence.

But a roar went up when Bush pledged later in the keynote address to "respond aggressively" to Democratic attacks.

They were happier still when Bush accused presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Gore of being a negative politician.

"For Al Gore's campaign, every day is scorched-earth day," Bush said. "It's time to clean up the toxic environment in Washington."

Bush targeted the speech beyond Washington and the GOP elite to independent-minded voters who will determine the presidential race; most swing voters tell pollsters they are tired of partisan bickering.

"I will set a different tone in Washington, D.C. I will restore civility and respect to our national politics," the Texan said.

Bush said Americans crave bipartisanship after "eight years of excessive partisanship and finger pointing, eight years of attempts to exploit fear and foster division, all to score political points."

Laying most of the blame on Democrats, he said, "The Clinton-Gore administration has been the most relentlessly partisan administration in our nation's history, but sometimes some in our party have responded in kind. Americans have seen a cycle of bitterness, an arms race of anger."

Gore spokesman Chris Lehane said, "For him to preach nonpartisanship is sort of like talking about tolerance and then going to Bob Jones University." Leaders of the South Carolina university have criticized interracial dating and the Catholic Church. Bush spoke at the university during the primaries.

Vermont civil unions bill becomes law

MONTPELIER, Vt. (AP) — Gov. Howard Dean has signed Vermont's landmark civil unions bill into law and he did it quietly, with no fanfare.

"The healing process now begins," he said Wednesday.

The law, the first of its kind for any state, will allow same-sex couples to form civil unions beginning July 1. That will entitle them to all of the rights, privileges, benefits and responsibilities of civil marriage.

The Legislature wrote a law that is separate and distinct from the marriage statutes. Lawmakers said that was in keeping with the state Supreme Court's ruling that gay and lesbian couples were being unconstitutionally denied marriage benefits.

Dean signed the bill privately in his Statehouse office Wednesday, surrounded only by about a dozen members of his staff. Uncharacteristic on a bill of any significance, the governor did not invite advocates of the bill, its legislative authors or the media to witness and record the signing.

Some lawmakers said they were disappointed.

"I think the press, everyone in the room, all would like to witness the historical event, but it's the governor's call," said House Judiciary Committee Chairman Thomas Little. "The bill is law. That's the message."

The Legislature's only openly gay member delivered the same message.

"I think the story needs to be that gay and lesbian couples in Vermont had a historical day today," said Rep. William Lippert, D-Hinesburg. "Gay and lesbian couples in Vermont have more rights and benefits than couples in any other state.

"I would have preferred there was a public ceremony," he said. "But in the deepest part of my heart, I'm filled with appreciation."

After the Hawaii Supreme Court raised the possibility of same-sex marriages in 1993 — a prospect the state's voters later rejected — 30 states and the federal government passed laws denying recognition to same-sex marriages.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Parents privacy disappears in receptionist's open door

DEAR ABBY: My aunt broke her foot and can't drive, so I have been providing her with taxi service for the last three weeks.

I took her to see a new doctor about shortness of breath. His office was in a lovely new building, and I marveled at the paintings and expensive furniture in his waiting room. I thought about how successful he was, and that engendered confidence in his ability to treat my aunt.

However, when she hobbled into the receptionist's office, the door was left open, and everyone in the waiting room could hear the answers to all the personal questions. Nothing was secret from the captive audience. She tried talking softly, but the receptionist repeated her answers loudly enough that we could all hear them.

Abby, medical information is supposed to be confidential. Had one of the patients demanded that kind of information from the receptionist, she probably would have refused to answer. Because it was for medical records, my aunt felt compelled to answer the questions she was asked. It not only embarrassed her, it also put her in a vulnerable position for identity theft.

Shouldn't medical office personnel be more careful to guard the confidential information of the patients? — **NETTLED NIECE IN NEWARK, N.J.**

DEAR NETTLED NIECE: Yes. Care should be taken in keeping medical information confidential, and the receptionist was out of line. Your aunt should have smiled sweetly and said, "That information is confidential. I'll answer your questions when you close the door." Then, when she saw the doctor, she should have reported her complaint, which probably would have been a favor for all the patients.

Since your aunt did not report this lapse of confidentiality procedure by the receptionist, you should speak to the doctor and advise him or her of what you witnessed. It is the doctor's responsibility to ensure that employees observe protocol to protect patients' rights.

**

DEAR ABBY: The following little story appeared in our church bulletin last year, and I thought you might enjoy it. If you think it's worth sharing with your readers, please feel free to do so. — **ANITA G., WICHITA, KAN.**

DEAR ANITA: Your story illustrates what's really important in life. It's well worth space in this column. Read on:

HOW RICH ARE WE?

One day a father and his rich family took his son on a trip to the country with the firm purpose of showing him how poor people can be. They spent a day and a night at the farm of a very poor family. When they returned from their trip, the father asked his son, "How was the trip?"

"Very good, Dad!"

"Did you see how poor people can be?" the father asked.

"Yeah!"

"And what did you learn?"

The son replied: "I saw that we have a dog at home, and they have four. We have a pool that reaches to the middle of the garden; they have a creek that has no end. We have imported lamps in the garden; they have the stars. Our patio reaches to the front yard; they have a whole horizon."

When the little boy finished speaking, his father was speechless. His son added, "Thanks, Dad, for showing me how poor we are."

**

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby's "Keepers," P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Quarterly economic report good

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. economy, propelled by the biggest jump in consumer spending in nearly 17 years, grew at a 5.4 percent annual rate during the first three months of 2000, the Commerce Department said today.

And the Labor Department reported wages and benefits for American workers climbed by 4.3 percent during the 12 months ending in March, the sharpest advance in eight years.

The rise in the Employment Cost Index for just the January-March period was 1.4 percent, the biggest quarterly advance in 10 years.

The reports worsened fears of another round of interest-rate increases.

On Wall Street, stocks plunged sharply on the news but the Nasdaq index recovered most of its loss and was down 6 points at late morning. The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 190 points. Yields on 30-year Treasury bonds rose to 5.99 percent from 5.94 percent late Wednesday.

"It's pretty much a complete set of unfavorable readings on the economy from a policy-maker's standpoint of wanting to keep inflation at low and stable levels and wanting to slow the economy's growth," said Ken Mayland of ClearView Economics. "This is probably going to cause some indigestion in the boardroom of the Federal Reserve."

The increase in the gross domestic product was weaker than the 6 percent rate many analysts were expecting.

Economic growth in the January-March quarter was slightly slower than the breakneck 7.3 percent rate posted in the last three months of 1999, the strongest showing in nearly 16 years.

The first-quarter performance was still faster than the rate of 3.5 percent to 4 percent that the Federal Reserve regards as the pace that can be sustained without sparking inflation.

Reno said show of force necessary

WASHINGTON (AP) — Attorney General Janet Reno said today that agents who seized Elian Gonzalez had to have a "show of force, not a use of force, to show we were in control." A psychiatrist who examined the 6-year-old Cuban boy said it's likely he suffered no lasting harm from the armed raid.

Reno said the pre-dawn hours of Saturday were "the most appropriate time with the least crowd" for immigration agents to conduct the raid. "This appeared to be the safest time possible to effect the transfer," she told reporters.

Elian, she said, "has had a lot of bad luck along the way. He's still resilient, he's still strong, he's still a smiling little boy."

Reno sidestepped a question on whether the Justice Department would intervene to set up a meeting between Elian and the Miami relatives who cared for him after his rescue from the Atlantic Ocean on Thanksgiving Day. Elian's great-uncle Lazaro Gonzalez and cousin Marisleysis were the main caregivers.

"I can't imagine that Marisleysis will be out of his life," Reno said. "You could look at them and see a connection."

She was firm in defending the Justice Department's decision to seize Elian, saying the relatives gave officials no other choice. She said the relatives kept moving the "goal post" in negotiations aimed at achieving a peaceful transfer of custody of Elian to his father.

"They thought they could ignore us and we had tried to be very patient with them to effect a voluntary transfer, and then the time comes and the law must be enforced," she said.

Talking about the timing of the raid, Reno said there were very few people outside the house that morning and that if the government didn't act then, "People would be sure to find out that we were prepared to go."

As it was, she said, people outside the Miami home "tried to throw ropes around the agents as they came up to the house." One agent, Betty Mills, was grabbed as she carried Elian to a waiting van. "She, I am told, almost went down," the attorney general said.

Asked why the American public supports the Justice Department's actions, she said, "I think one of the things was that they had a chance to see it." She said officials knew cameras would be in the house during the raid.

Elian, his father, stepmother and baby half brother, Hianny, were at a secluded Eastern Shore retreat today, awaiting a visit from the boy's former kindergarten teacher and 10-year-old cousin.

Also expected to join the family as early as today were four of Elian's Cuban classmates, along with three of their mothers and one father.

In court papers filed by the government Wednesday, a psychiatrist, Dr. Paulina F. Kernberg of Cornell University Medical College, said Elian displays a "sense of well-being and happiness with his father."

"Whenever he made eye contact with his father, his face brightened."

Psychiatrists aligned with Elian's Miami relatives challenged Kernberg's conclusions and said the 21/2 hours she spent with him were not enough to judge his state of mind. They urged the government to permit Florida-based "medical professionals trusted by Elian" to evaluate him.

Recreational snowmobiles banned in national parks

WASHINGTON (AP) — The National Park Service today issued a broad ban on recreational use of snowmobiles at nearly all of the national parks, recreational areas and monuments. The off-road vehicles have had "significant adverse environmental effect" on the park system, the agency said.

The only exceptions to the ban were parks in Alaska and the Voyageurs National Park in Minnesota, where Congress specifically allowed use of snowmobiles, and in cases where the vehicles are considered necessary for access to adjacent private lands or inholdings, the agency said.

The ban applies to 12 national parks from Acadia in Maine to Sequoia and Kings Canyon in California, including Yellowstone in Wyoming, where snowmobiling has been the focus of intense controversy. Snowmobiling also no longer will be allowed in 15 national seashores, monuments, parkways, historic sites, recreational areas and scenic trails.

"The time has come for the National Park Service to pull in its welcome mat for recreational snowmobiling," Assistant Interior Secretary Donald J. Barry said. He called snowmobiles "noisy, antiquated machines that are no longer welcome in our national parks."

"The snowmobile industry has had many years to clean up their act and they haven't," said Barry.

More than 180,000 snowmobiles are used during winter months in the national park system and critics have complained that they account for significant air pollution, noise and damage to wildlife and the park environment.

The action came in response to a petition filed more than a year ago by the Blue Water Network and more than 60 other environmental and conservation groups. They claimed the National Park Service has not enforced its own regulations, dating back to the 1970s, that required close monitoring of snowmobiles and other off-road vehicles in parks, and a ban if they were found to harm the environment.

"The Park Service is finally waking up to the lasting harm motorized thrill-craft such as snowmobiles cause to parks," said Sean Smith of the San Francisco-based Bleater Network. He is a former park ranger at Yellowstone.

"Snowmobile use is hurting parks and discouraging visitors. People want to enjoy the parks free from noise and pollution," added Kevin Collins, a spokesman for the National Parks and Conservation Association.

Obituaries

June Hardin

1944-2000

June Ozella Hardin, a lifelong resident of Snyder, died Wednesday, April 26, in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock.



June Hardin

Funeral service for Mrs. Hardin, 55, is set for 2 p.m. Saturday in the Wright Colonial Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Tony Wofford, pastor of the Word Is Life Deliverance Church, will officiate.

Burial will follow in the Cottonwood Flats Cemetery.

Born Oct. 29, 1944 in Rotan, she was a homemaker and was preceded in death by her father, Jesse Hardin, in 1973.

Survivors include two daughters and sons-in-law, Denise and Kevin Ward of Snyder and Beverly and Johnny Price of Rotan; a son, Cartavious Groage of Snyder; her mother, Delia Hardin of Rotan; two sisters, Jackie Freeman of Rotan and Sue Kirby of Rockwall; and seven grandchildren.

Family visitation will be held from 6-8 p.m. Friday at Wright Colonial Funeral Home.

Velma Smith

1916-2000

Velma Snodgrass Smith, a longtime Snyder resident, died Wednesday, April 27, in Medical Center Hospital in Odessa.

Funeral service for Mrs. Smith, 83, is set for 2 p.m. Friday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Lloyd Stice, pastor of Trinity Methodist Church, will officiate. Buriall will follow in the Belview Cemetery in Fisher County.

Born Dec. 30, 1916 in Dickens County, she had lived in Snyder since 1942 and worked for 32 years as a cosmetician for Snyder Drug.

Mrs. Smith was a member of the Senior Citizens Center and active in the Kitchen Band. She also was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church.

She was preceded in death by one brother and one sister.

Survivors include two daughters, Audrey Gray of Odessa and Billie Faulk of Niceville, Fla.; five grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Personal, Professional Service

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Snyder woman hurt in mishap

A 27-year-old Snyder woman is in serious condition in Lubbock's University Medical Center's surgical intensive care unit following a two-vehicle collision at the traffic circle east of Snyder Wednesday afternoon.

The Jaws of Life was required to free Marla Beasley, 4015 Eastridge, from her 1993 Honda which the accident report indicated disregarded a stop sign in the northbound lane.

Beasley's vehicle was in collision with a 1995 Chevrolet pickup driven by Sam Fare, 47, of Box 45 in Snyder.

Beasley was transported to Cogdell Memorial Hospital in Snyder and later transported by AeroCare to the Lubbock hospital for treatment of multiple fractures.

Fare, driving eastbound when the accident occurred, went to Cogdell Hospital by private vehicle. He was admitted overnight for observation and a hospital spokesperson listed his condition as good.

Beasley is a basketball coach in Rotan and previously was assistant basketball coach at Western Texas College. Fare is a golf grounds and landscape instructor at WTC.

Snyder police officer Kenny Burns investigated the accident.

Disturbance report leads to 2 arrests

Two subjects were arrested early this morning following a report of a disturbance in the 3100 block of Avenue V.

Officers took a 19-year-old female and a 22-year-old male into custody at 6:23 a.m. on charges of Class C assault/family violence.

Two arrests were also made Wednesday.

At 10:24 a.m., a 24-year-old female was taken into custody for Class A assault/family violence. Officers picked her up in the 3200 block of Avenue L.

A 48-year-old female was jailed for driving while license suspended. Officers arrested her at 2:57 p.m. in the Varsity Square parking lot.

A clerk with Rip Griffin's reported a gas drive-off in the amount of $12 at 1:45 p.m. Wednesday. A report was submitted for Class C theft.

Jim Gannaway contacted officers at 5:33 p.m. in reference to the theft of a water-cooled window unit from a vacant house at 2304 Avenue I. An offense report for Class B theft was filed.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

All-sports banquet meeting

All parents of SHS athletes are invited to a meeting at 7 this evening in the student center to discuss plans for the banquet set for May 4.

GED exams

GED examinations will be administered Friday in the testing center at WTC. For more information, call Emily Hataway at 573-8511, ext. 297.

Mini-carnival

Wal-Mart employees will host a mini-carnival from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. Saturday at the store to raise money for the Children's Miracle Network.

Snyder Neighbors Sharing

SNS is in need of workers and monetary donations for Saturday's work day. For more information, contact Thomas Fogleman at 573-3538, or Sam Robertson at 573-4053.

Union Baptist garage sale

Union Baptist Church garage sale will be from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday, five miles west of Snyder on Hwy. 180. Proceeds will go to the church building mission trip to Pennsylvania in July. Call 573-6814 or 776-2403 to have items picked up.

Word Is Life anniversary

Word Is Life Deliverance Church will observe its 10th anniversary and dedication celebration at 3 p.m. Sunday at 312 Coliseum Drive. The public is invited. A meal will be provided following the services.

Avenue D Baptist anniversary

Avenue D Baptist Church will celebrate its 50th anniversary Sunday. A noon meal will be served following the morning service, and an afternoon service will also be held. Former pastors Calvin Brown and Jack Riley will speak, as will Darold Baldwin, Mitchell-Scurry director of missions, as will former interim pastor John Shugart. Charles Day is the pastor of the church.

Ira kindergarten signup

Kindergarten registration for Ira students will be held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Wednesday. Students must be five before Sept. 2 and will need to bring birth certificate, social security card and updated immunization record.

Choirs' spring show

Tickets are now on sale from SHS Mastersingers and Tiger Jazz students for their Spring Show entitled *Reflections — Music From The Past*. This concert is set for 7 p.m. Monday in Worsham Auditorium. Tickets are $5 each and will include admission and dessert, to be served at intermission. Ticket deadline is 3:30 p.m. Friday.

SJHS 7th grade program

Snyder Junior High will have a program for incoming seventh graders and their parents at 7:30 p.m. Monday in the school auditorium.

Fellowship for Savages

Paul and Kathy Savage, missionaries to Tanzania, will be in Snyder Monday. A potluck dinner is set for 6 p.m. in First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited. Bring a dish.

Hermleigh Cemetery meeting

The Hermleigh Cemetery Association will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Hermleigh Community Center. Everyone is invited.

5th grade band signup

A one-day registration for 5th graders wanting to be in the 6th grade band is set from 3:45 to 6 p.m. Wednesday in the Northeast Elementary auditorium. A parent or guardian must attend with student.

All sports banquet

Tickets for Snyder High School's all-sports banquet next Thursday are available at the principal's office. Tickets are $5 each for non-varsity and parents.

Ira First Baptist revival

Ira's First Baptist Church will have a revival at 7 p.m. May 4-11. Wes Massey will be the evangelist.

East retirement reception

A retirement reception for East Elementary's Wayne Kennedy, Billie Adams and Kay Echols is set for 3:30-5:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 9, in the First Baptist Church Garden Room. Photos and stories of Kennedy as a principal, teacher or co-worker are being sought for a special memory album to be presented at the reception. Contact Christy Smith at 2901 37th St., Snyder, Tx. 79549; or 574-6870 (fax), or 573-1769 (office).

SHS Pops Concert

Snyder High School's Pops Concert will be presented at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 11, at Worsham Auditorium. Tickets are $4 each and will go on sale Monday.

Amateur radio club

The Rolling Plains Amateur Radio Club will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 11, in the Scurry County Library. Anyone interested is invited. For more information call 573-2222 or 573-8182 after 5 p.m.

Project Graduation 2000

Anyone interested in making donations of cash or merchandise for Project Graduation for the SHS class of 2000 can call 574-6080 for additional information.

WTC basic education classes

Adult basic education classes at Western Texas College are taught Tuesday and Thursday from 8-11 a.m., and from 6-9 p.m. Classes include G.E.D. and E.S.L. refresher courses. For additional information, call 573-8511, ext. 322

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday by the Texas Lottery, in order: 2-4-8

Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Two tickets correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said. The tickets were worth an estimated $4 million. The tickets were sold in: Bronte and Edinburg. The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 50 were: 3-12-13-28-31-44. Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $4 million.

First detailed images of early universe revealed

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — The first detailed images of the embryonic universe suggest the cosmos will expand forever and not someday collapse upon itself, according to new research on the Big Bang published today.

Observations from a balloon-borne telescope that circumnavigated Antarctica largely match predictions and suggest scientists are on the right track in their understanding of the earliest moments of the universe, its composition and ultimate fate.

"It is an incredible triumph of modern cosmology to have predicted their basic form so accurately," said Andrew Lange of the California Institute of Technology and U.S. team leader of the $4 million international project dubbed "Boomerang."

The sensitive telescope carried aloft for nearly 11 days in late 1998 measured minute variations in the cosmic microwave background radiation, a faint glow that fills the sky in all directions and is believed to be the fading remnants of the Big Bang 12 billion to 15 billion years ago.

The images reveal the large-scale geometry of the cosmos and the underlying structures that were the precursors of today's clusters of galaxies.

"We are seeing something like the seeds of creation of the structure of the modern universe," said Harley Thronson, senior science manager for NASA's space science office. NASA, the National Science Foundation and the Department of Energy participated in the project along with four nations and 16 universities.

In the first results, published in today's journal Nature, scientists said the ripple patterns precisely match the scenario of a "flat" universe in which parallel lines never cross.

The findings rule out the possibility that the fabric of space-time is curved onto itself like a sphere or bent outward like a saddle. It also means that the universe will not collapse in a big crunch.

"We are really demonstrating that it's flat, and we are demonstrating that it will expand forever," said Italian team leader Paolo deBernardis of the University of Rome, La Sapienza.

The flat universe also fits the so-called inflationary theory that the universe underwent a rapid expansion in a fraction of a second after its birth.

"It's confirmation of the prediction of our best theory of what caused the structure of the universe," said Alan Guth, a Massachusetts Institute of Technology physicist who first proposed the theory in 1980. "It means that there's a very good chance that we're on the right track."

Measurements of the small ripples indicate the large-scale geometry of the universe, which the general theory of relativity says is determined by the total amount of matter and energy in the cosmos.

The Boomerang data also reveal hundreds of complex structures that represent the effects of the density variations in the early universe.

They are the seeds in which clusters of galaxies would form, said Boomerang scientist John Ruhl, a physicist at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Scientists hope to further refine the data to better quantify the nature of the matter that makes up the cosmos.

"What we will get is a census of the universe but without knowing what kind of things make up the population," said Edward Wright, an astronomer at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Shortly after the Big Bang, the universe was made of a fog of subatomic particles and radiation hotter than the surface of the sun. It was so dense that photons — the smallest units of energy — bounced off the primordial soup.

As the universe expanded and cooled, normal matter formed and the photons no longer scattered but moved freely through space. Boomerang analyzes variations that echo the final scattering, roughly 300,000 years after the Big Bang.

Clinton says she'll finish Senate term if elected

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton has vowed not to run for president in four years if elected to the Senate — even if Republicans win the White House this year.

"I am going to serve my six-year term as senator. I owe it to the people of New York," the first lady said Wednesday during a town meeting broadcast by CNN.

Clinton also addressed the Elian Gonzalez case, again defending the government's armed removal of 6-year-old boy from his Miami relatives. She said it was "regrettable, but I understand the necessity for it."

She added that she hoped the boy's father, Juan Miguel Gonzalez, could be persuaded to remain in the United States with his son.

"I hope that this taste of freedom and the opportunity to be with his son and to have this time perhaps would lead to that," Clinton said.

New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, Clinton's rival in the Senate race, was in Manhattan on Wednesday and did not attend the town meeting.

Clinton also touched on abortion rights, which she supports, but said she could back legislation that would outlaw so-called partial-birth abortions except in cases where a woman's health was at stake. President Clinton has vetoed the partial birth bans twice in the past, each time saying he would sign a bill if it provided exemptions for both the life and health of the mother.

The first lady's comments came at the end of a long day on the campaign trail in which she went from cow country to a college campus, calling for tax changes to help keep family farms in the family.

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