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WT-Int. Crude - $36.25
WTIC Posted - $33.00
Natural Gas - $5.47

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY
March 31, 2004
Vol. 55 No. 288
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Justin Phillips

MAR 31 2004

WTC event starts Thursday...

Rodeo ready to break out of the chute

By Bobby Allen
SDN Sports Editor

Sixteen schools and hundreds of visitors begin decending on Snyder today in anticipation of the 2004 Western Texas College Rodeo.

The rodeo, a mainstay on the Snyder entertainment scene for years, begins at 7 p.m. Thursday in the Scurry County Coliseum, with 400 hands slated to compete.

WTC rodeo coach Greg Rhodes said the three-day competition is a boon to the local economy.

"I think it's a great economic boost," the seven-year coach and member of the WTC rodeo team from 1982-1985, said. "Any event that can bring in 400 contestants — not counting parents and friends — is good. It's one of the top events in town."

Rhodes also noted that the facilities are attractive to those wanting to catch a rodeo.

"Having it at the coliseum is a big difference, especially for the older generation. They like it here. It's comfortable, the weather is not a factor and the coliseum crew does a good job of catering to the guests."

While the facilities and location provide a certain amount of comfort to visitors, they offer no real advantage for the team, according to Rhodes.

"My point of view is that it doesn't matter what type of set-up or cattle you have, you have certain things that you have to do at home or away," he said. "I don't look at it as a home-field advantage. You treat your rides and runs a certain way, and you should come out on top."

WTC enters the rodeo with the men's team in third place in the Southwest Conference behind West Texas A&M and Tarleton State University, while the women trail only TSU in the standings.

After a disappointing turn at the Odessa rodeo last week, Rhodes said he predicts the bull riders to have a good rodeo.

"I expect the bull riders to bounce back. They have done well both semesters," he said. "Look at the five rodeos we've been to, and we've had just one bad one."

Bull rider Tate Stratton is first in the conference in that event, according to the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association rankings, while Hadley Hunting stands in fifth.

Jared Farley also is in the top 15, currently sitting at 12th.

Rhodes said his saddle bronc riders have been the stalwarts on his team the past five years.

"That's one event I can count on. They did a good job at Odessa, but just didn't have the horses to finish," Rhodes stated. "But they didn't let the stock affect their performances."

Sam Spreadborough is in second place in conference in the event, while Guy Simanton stands in sixth.

Rhodes also said he was pleased with the work of his bareback riders, two of whom — Clay Bunney and Jake Marshall — are in the top six in the conference.

Tie-down roper Clay Long is in fifth place in the individual standings, as is steer wrestler Bruno Paoiella.

The women's team is just 112 points off the pace for the top spot, and Rhodes indicated the team has yet to have its best performance as a unit.

"Our women's team is really strong, we just haven't had a strong rodeo," he said. "They all haven't hit at the same time. We've got the women who can do it, and it's a credit to them that they are in second place."

Barrel racer Sabrina Lay is blowing away the competition in her event, with a commanding 205-point lead over the next closest competitor.

"Sabrina is the hub," Rhodes said. "She's a unique situation, because she has one of the best horses, not just in college rodeo, but in the world. She rides so good that she take care of her deal."

The coach also praised the work of Julie Jones, currently fifth in the individual goat-tying standings.

"I wouldn't trade Julie for anyone in goat-tying. Julie is another Jill Childers. She's that caliber — she's just got to have her rodeo," the coach said, referring to WTC's 1999 national champion goat-tier, who won the crown as a freshman. "The same goes for breakaway, and Erin (Anglin)and Jennifer (Weeding). We've got the women's team to win the region."

Rhodes said the toughest competition in the rodeo would come from West Texas A&M on the men's side and Tarleton State in the women's division.

Rhodes said he hopes this is the event where each of his hands has "their"rodeo.

OUT OF THE CHUTE — Western Texas College breakaway roper Julie Jones gets in some practice Wednesday in preparation for the WTC Rodeo, which starts Thursday at Scurry County Coliseum. (SDN Staff Photo by Bobby Allen)

Open house to focus on safe club programs

The Scurry County Boys and Girls Club will host an open house from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday.

The open house is being conducted to help advertise the "Campaign 3PM" program designed to raise awareness of the club's effort to get every child involved in a safe and structured supervised after-school program that runs from 3 to 8 p.m. daily.

Parents, teachers and others interested in the program are invited to attend.

Ira trustees to meet Thursday

The Ira Independent School district board will meet at 7 a.m. Thursday in a special meeting that includes an executive session.

The closed session to discuss personnel is the only item on the agenda.

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN

by Jo Ann Nunley

Stories of the history of Scurry County are always interesting reading.

A great debt of gratitude goes to those who have researched and documented the county's history in book form — one of these being Charles Anderson who now lives in Abilene.

After 32 years with the Snyder school system, Anderson has retired and devotes full time to historical writing.

Born in a tent on an Indian reservation in Oklahoma, Anderson's parents were working for Carter Oil Co. at the beginning of the great Depression. He served in the Air Force during the Korean War and later graduated from Abilene Christian University, earning both his bachelor's and master's degrees.

In Search of a Buffalo was his first book and is the story of J. Wright Mooar that reveals the life and adventures of buffalo hunters. J. Wright Mooar and his brother John killed thousands of buffalo and opened the market for buffalo hides. He killed an albino buffalo and the hide belongs to his granddaughter, Judy Hays of Snyder.

Marcus, Anderson's son who now is a counselor in the Killeen schools, did the artwork for the book.

His second book *Deep Creek Merchant, The Story of William Henry "Pete" Snyder* was published in 1984, Snyder's centennial year. This book is about Pete Snyder for whom our town is named tells us that he resided on Deep Creek only four years, and Anderson explains the reason for his short tenure.

Lu Bright did the illustrations for this book. Bright also taught in the Snyder schools and was a member of the Palette Club. After her retirement, she also moved to Abilene.

Bright again did the art illustrations for Anderson's third book, *Reflections,* that begins with facts about General William Read Scurry, for whom our county was named in 1884.

Anderson's third book, *Confederate General William R. "Dirty Neck Bill" Scurry 1821-1864,* author Walter T. Durham stated "Charles Anderson has rescued General Scurry from relative obscurity and in so doing has supplied valuable information about Scurry's adversarial relationship with Texas hero Sam Houston, both native Tennesseans. The author further illuminates Scurry's military career in the Mexican and Civil Wars and gives needed attention to his service in the Texas legislature and his role as an Austin publisher.

Mr. Anderson, plans to have a new book out in May called *Buddy–World War II POW #1831.* It is about a man who spent 18 months in a German POW camp.

Writing for reading enjoyment and historical information, his future plans include two books, one of his experiences in the Snyder school system and another of the collection of stories about early times in West Texas.

Some of his other published writings include articles in *Good Old Days Magazine, The American Bard, Texas Outlook, American Survival Guide Magazine and Texas Scenes.*

In addition, he has written numerous historical articles for *Snyder Daily News* and other newspapers. His books are available in the book section at SDN.

Anderson and his wife, Marge, also have another son, Chuck, an obstetrician-gynecologist in Abilene, and six grandchildren.

Odessa man sentenced to three years in TDCJ

A 40-year-old Odessa man will now serve three years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice following a probation revocation hearing Monday in 132nd District Court.

Michael Hugh McKerns was serving a five-year probated prison sentence for a June 27, 1998 driving while intoxicated offense in Scurry County.

McKerns failed to report to probation officers and make monthly installments and did not participate in a court-ordered drug and alcohol treatment program.

District Judge Ernie Armstrong revoked the probated sentence and ordered McKerns to serve three years.

Also on Monday, Walter Lance Gilbreath, 26, of Monahans pleaded guilty to a Sept. 25, 2003 charge of possession of a controlled substance.

Gilbreath was assessed a two year term in a TDCJ state jail division, probated for five years. He also was fined $1,000.

OPEC agrees to cut output

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — OPEC will cut its production target by 4 percent, several oil ministers said today.

The big question now is how serious the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries will be in complying with its new, lower target of 23.5 million barrels per day. An expected drop in seasonal demand during the April-June quarter and quota-busting by individual members of the group could eventually dampen the effects of the cut, analysts said.

OPEC agreed to reduce its output ceiling by 1 million barrels per day, or 4 percent.

A recent surge in oil prices had led some of the group's 11 members to suggest postponing the cut, but OPEC's most influential oil minister, Saudi Arabia's Ali Naimi, prevailed in his effort to press ahead.

Kuwaiti Oil Minister Ahmad Fahad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah had earlier suggested delaying the cut but was among those who confirmed the group's decision to trim its target to 23.5 million barrels per day starting Thursday. Ministers from Algeria, Nigeria, Libya and Qatar also confirmed the agreement, which the representatives reached in private talks ahead of a formal meeting at OPEC's headquarters in Vienna.

OPEC had agreed last month in Algiers, Algeria, to make the cut on April 1, but recent discomfort with rising prices in the United States and other importing countries had led some OPEC members to reconsider.

ASK US

Q—Where is Hermleigh ISD getting the money for the work on its campus?

A—Through the issuance of maintenance tax notes.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Mike Carter...

...a Snyder High School graduate, has served as the director of maintenance and transportation for SISD for the past seven years. He grew up in Snyder and returned in 1981. His wife, Kaye, teaches math at SHS. They have two grown children. Mike likes to play golf and visit grandchildren.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

I learned much more from defeat than I ever learned from winning.
—Grantland Rice

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Parents seminar

How parents can help their children prepare for the TAKS math test will be the topic of a seminar at 1:30 p.m. Thursday hosted by Central Elementary. All parents of elementary age children are invited. The hour-long seminar will be presented by Leslie Koske from the Regional Education Service Center in Abilene. Door prizes, refreshments and child care will be provided. For more information call 573-8592.

Game night

The adult singles class of First Baptist Church meets the first and third Thursdays at the old bus barn across the street from the church in the Desperados meeting room. Learn to play bridge. All singles welcome.

What's up guidelines

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

Bush touts economy and free trade

APPLETON, Wis. (AP) — President Bush touted free trade and lower taxes as the cure for Wisconsin's ailing industrial sector, contending Tuesday that the state, which has lost 80,000 manufacturing jobs, is already on the path to recovery.

On his ninth visit to a state he barely lost in 2000, Bush pointed to an improved unemployment rate — down to 5.2 percent in February from 5.8 percent a year ago and below the national average of 5.6 percent.

"Wisconsin is helping lead the growth of this country," Bush told a Republican-friendly audience of Chamber of Commerce members. Thanks to free-trade policies, "farms, factories and offices are shipping high-quality goods all across America and all throughout the world," he said.

"People are finding jobs here in Wisconsin because they're making products here that people want in other countries," he said.

Bush chose to visit Appleton, where the longtime cornerstone of the local economy, the paper industry, has lost hundreds of jobs in recent months. The president said he felt the pain of those stung by the bad economy.

"You ask any business leaders here, they can tell you what it's like to try to manage during the recession," Bush said. "There's uncertainty, the workers are getting anxious, sometimes you have to lay some people off. Recession is tough for a country to deal with."

In a shot at Democratic rival John Kerry, who Bush says wants to raise taxes, the president said, "Tax and spend is the enemy of job creation."

Hundreds of anti-Bush demonstrators protested along his motorcade route, chanting, "Bush go home!" They held signs that read, "Bush: No Millionaire Left Behind" and "Help Create Jobs. Lay Off George Bush."

Protesters greeted him again when he made an unannounced stop at the annual Governor's Conference on Emergency Management, but the reception was warmer inside.

Wisconsin Gov. Jim Doyle is a Democrat.

"I don't care about your politics. What I do care about is the fact that you're serving," Bush told an audience of first responders.

Bush said the nation is living in dangerous times but told his listeners his policy was to "get them before they try to get us."

Bush sought to focus attention on his economic prescriptions after more than a week in which news coverage on his administration has been dominated by the Sept. 11 commission and his performance leading up to the attacks.

After resisting for weeks, Bush relented Tuesday morning and agreed to let his national security adviser, Condoleezza Rice, testify under oath before the panel. Bush was to speak about his decision upon returning to the White House Tuesday afternoon.

Bush's trip to Appleton was billed as an official visit but carried political overtones. He lost the state by fewer than 6,000 votes in 2000, and it is regarded as a battleground again this year.

Smoking ban doesn't hurt bars

NEW YORK (AP) — Tax receipts from bars and restaurants jumped almost 9 percent in the 10 months since the city's public smoking ban went into effect, proof the city says that businesses haven't been harmed by the rules.

"The city's bar and restaurant industry is thriving and its workers are breathing cleaner, safer air," said a report issued Monday by the Economic Development Corp. and the Departments of Finance, Health & Mental Hygiene and Small Business Services.

From April 2003 through January 2004, the city collected about $17.4 million in tax receipts from bars and restaurants, compared with $16 million in the same period the year before — a 8.7 percent jump.

Some opponents of the ban say their establishments are suffering as a result of the no-smoking law, but the city said indications for the industry were generally strong.

The report found that the number of workers employed in bars and restaurants were the highest number in at least a decade, that active liquor licenses were up and that the number of bars and restaurants remained unchanged.

Woman accused of lying to get on Peterson murder case

REDWOOD CITY, Calif. (AP) — The defense lawyer for Scott Peterson on Tuesday accused a prospective juror of lying to get on the panel that will hear the murder case.

"I think it was clear there was the embodiment of a stealth juror there today," Mark Geragos said outside court.

"It's extremely distressing to anyone connected to the criminal justice system to think that anyone would lie their way onto a jury in order to execute someone."

Peterson, 31, could face the death penalty if he is found guilty of killing his pregnant wife, Laci. He's pleaded innocent.

A stealth juror is a term commonly used by lawyers to refer to someone who lies or is intentionally vague during questioning to get picked for a panel because they have a hidden agenda.

Earlier Tuesday, Geragos questioned the woman about a recent bus trip she took to Reno, Nev., during which she allegedly bragged about how she had "passed the test" to get on Peterson's jury.

The woman acknowledged she took the trip — but denied talking about the jury selection process.

"Did you ever say that he was guilty as hell," Geragos asked the woman, whose name was not released.

"No, sir. I never said that," she answered.

He also asked whether she had said Peterson would "get what's due him." She denied that, as well.

Geragos later revealed a fellow passenger had called his office last Friday to report what the woman allegedly said.

Today's chuckle

Woman's child accidentally locked in safe

KEARNEY, Neb. (AP) — A 14-month-old boy spent about an hour locked in an enormous safe that his parents had converted into his nursery.

"It seemed like five hours," said the boy's mother Elizabeth Bond. "I was panicked."

She said her son, CeJay, was crying on the other side of the door.

Dustin and Elizabeth Bond moved their family into the house two months ago. The house, about five miles east of Kearney, was formerly a business.

The Bonds said when they bought the house, they were told the safe's lock was disabled.

The 8-foot by 10-foot safe has a ventilation system and the lights are controlled from the outside.

In a stroke of luck, locksmith Lee Rowedder got the door open using a combination that is commonly coded into safes like the one in the Bonds house.

She said that after her son was freed, her panic turned to anger because she felt the previous owners had misled her about the lock being disabled.

Before leaving, Rowedder disabled the lock as Dustin Bond watched. Just to be sure, the Bonds asked Rowedder to remove the safe door.

events

LOTTO TEXAS

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Tuesday's Lottery Numbers
Mega Millions

ATLANTA (AP) — The jackpot in the multi-state Mega Millions lottery drawing grew to $75 million Wednesday.

None of the tickets sold for Tuesday's $63 million drawing matched all five lotto numbers and the Mega Ball. The next drawing will be Friday.

There were eight second-prize winners from Tuesday night's drawing. Twenty-nine players matched four of the five lotto numbers, plus the Mega Ball number. Those tickets are each worth $5,000.

The winning numbers from Tuesday's drawing were: 3, 27, 31, 41 and 45. The Mega Ball number was 33.

Texas Two Step

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Tuesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 7-12-23-27. Bonus Ball: 33.

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Prize: $275,000.

Number matching four of four: 11. Prize: $983.

Number matching three of four, plus Bonus Ball: 39. Prize: $34.

Number matching three of four: 1,055. Prize: $17.

Number matching two of four, plus Bonus Ball: 671. Prize: $17.

Number matching one of four, plus Bonus Ball: 3,868. Prize: $7.

Number matching Bonus Ball alone: 6,200. Prize: $5.

Estimated jackpot for Friday night drawing: $375,000.

Cash Five

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

Winning numbers drawn: 17-19-20-32-33.

Number matching five of five: 1.

Prize per winner: $40,505.

Winning tickets sold in: Bryan.

Matching four of five: 132. Prize: $138.

Matching three of five: 3,925. Prize: $11.

Matching two of five: 40,214. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Wednesday night.

Pick 3
(Day) 5-3-8
(Night) 3-3-0

World Almanac

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Today is the 91st day of 2004 and the 12th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1889, the Eiffel Tower opened.

In 1917, the United States purchased the Virgin Islands from Denmark for $25 million.

In 1991, the Warsaw Pact military alliance came to an end.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Rene Descartes (1596-1650), philosopher/mathematician; Cesar Chavez (1927-1993), labor leader; Herb Alpert (1935-), musician, is 69; Christopher Walken (1943-), actor, is 61; Al Gore (1948-), 45th U.S. vice president, is 56; Rhea Perlman (1948-), actress, is 56; Ewan McGregor (1971-), actor, is 33.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1906, the Intercollegiate Athletic Association of the United States was founded to set rules in amateur sports. The organization became the National Collegiate Athletic Association in 1910.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "All that is very clearly and distinctly conceived is true." — Rene Descartes

TODAY'S FACT: The average annual temperature of the Virgin Islands is 80 degrees Fahrenheit.

TODAY'S NUMBER: 1,063 — height, in feet, of the Eiffel Tower (including antenna/flagpole).

TODAY'S MOON: Between first quarter (March 28) and full moon (April 5)

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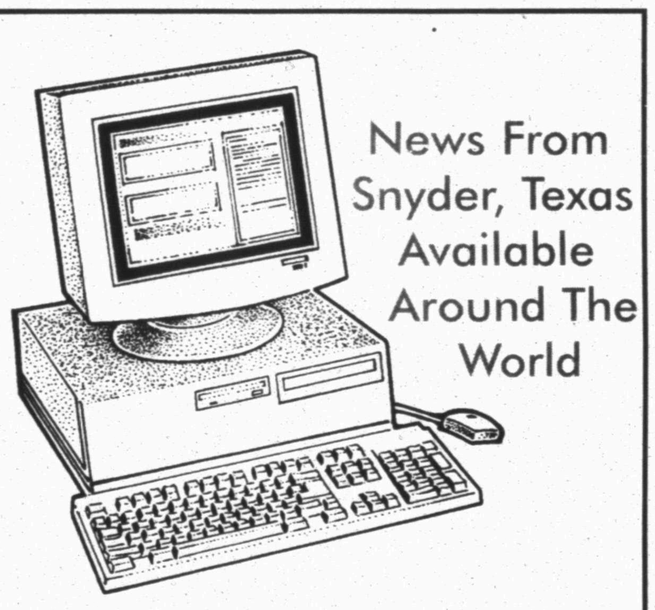

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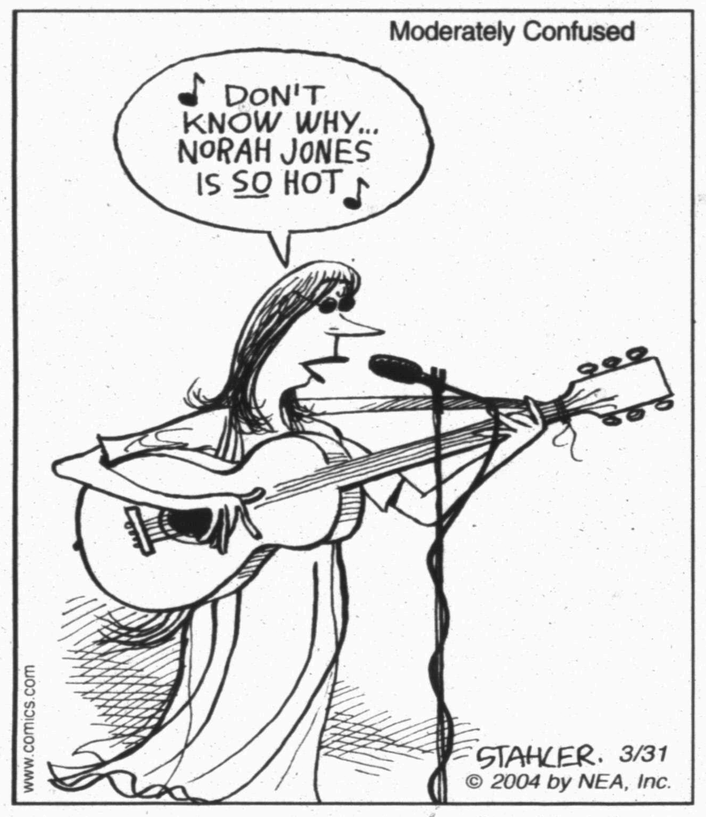

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Kerry faults Bush for hike in gas prices

SAN DIEGO (AP) — In a high-octane election year fight, Democrat John Kerry on Tuesday sought to lay the blame for soaring gas prices on a resistant Republican administration while President Bush warned of higher gas taxes from "some in the other party in Washington."

The presumptive Democratic nominee complained that Bush has not taken steps to drive prices down, calling on the administration to stop pumping oil into the nation's emergency stockpile until Americans see cheaper prices. The administration has rejected that notion.

Campaigning in Wisconsin, Bush complained about the damaging effect on the economy of gas taxes as his re-election team unveiled a new ad — set to air in 18 states — that labeled Kerry's gas tax ideas "wacky."

"There are some in the other party in Washington who would like to raise gas taxes. I think it would be wrong," said the president, who also faulted Congress for failing to produce a comprehensive energy bill although his fellow Republicans control the House and Senate.

On the eve of a meeting in Vienna, Kerry also urged the administration to implore the representatives of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to provide more oil.

"This administration has done nothing with OPEC to reduce the gas prices," Kerry said during a rally at the University of California, San Diego. The city has the nation's highest average gas prices at $2.12 a gallon.

Kerry also called on Bush to halt filling the Strategic Petroleum Reserves, which some Democrats contend drives up the cost of fuel for U.S. consumers in an already tight market with record prices. Gasoline prices reached a national average of $1.80 a gallon in the past two weeks, according to the private Lundberg Survey.

White House spokesman Scott McClellan said Tuesday the administration opposed using supplies from the reserve because independent analysts have concluded the impact on prices would be minor and that it is important to have necessary resources in case of a severe disruption in supplies.

With the summer driving season just a few weeks away — and the Nov. 2 election thereafter — rising gas prices are certain to be a critical political issue. Kerry has focused on the administration's actions and the connection of senior officials, such as Vice President Dick Cheney, to the oil industry.

Kerry also raised the specter of the uncertainty in the Middle East in light of the Iraq war, saying, "no young American in uniform ought to ever be held hostage to America's dependence on oil from the Middle East."

The Bush campaign has tried to keep the focus on Kerry's Senate record on gas taxes and his statements. The latest Bush-Cheney commercial, reminiscent of the bumbling Keystone Kops, argued that Kerry supported increases in gas taxes 11 times, including an additional 50-cent-per-gallon federal tax that would cost the average family $657 a year.

GRADUATES — Seniors in Western Texas College's nursing program graduated Feb. 19 at First United Methodist Church. Top row, left to right are Stacy Mosier of Lueders; Vanessa Long of Jayton; Daniel Hernandez of Snyder; Stefanie Baker of Big Spring; and Linda Shuman of Snyder. Bottom row, left to right are Ashley Hill of Colorado City; Amanda McBee of Snyder; Jessica Chaney of Colorado City; and Tiffany Anderson of Snyder. (Contributed Photo)

PINNED —Juniors in Western Texas College's nursing program received pins for completing the first six months of their program. The ceremony was held Feb. 19 at First United Methodist Church. Pictured top row, left to right are Shell Hembree and Tyra Brooks, both of Snyder; Tim Huddleston of Ira; Adelia Barker of Snyder; Jennifer Fisk of Snyder; and Amber Brightwell, of Jayton. Bottom row, left to right are J.J. Mandrell, Erika Estrada, Debbie Foster, and Melinda Short, all of Snyder; and Cheri Turner of Lamesa. (Contributed Photo)

Police, zoo staff clashed during gorilla escape

DALLAS (AP) — As a 350-pound gorilla terrorized Dallas Zoo patrons, a tranquilizer gun reportedly jammed and park employees clashed with police over how to corral the rampaging animal. It attacked four people before being shot to death.

Law officers failed to cooperate with the zoo's staff on how to subdue the western lowland gorilla Jabari despite more than five years of emergency drills together, records obtained by The Dallas Morning News.

"It was mayhem," Mike Glover, the zoo's emergency weapons team leader, wrote concerning the March 18 escape. "Nonzoo personnel were all over the site and approaching any zoo staffer they could find with questions and instructions. They were prepared to move in and frustrated that we were holding them up."

Zoo staff members tried for almost 50 minutes to evacuate patrons into locked buildings, move the injured to safety and track Jabari but found themselves overrun by police officers who ignored or were unaware of established emergency protocol that Police Department personnel had helped write, the report stated.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Trucker's midlife crisis may be causing couple's rocky road

DEAR ABBY: My husband, "Chuck," and I have been married going on five years. He's a long-haul truck driver.

Three weeks ago, he asked me for a divorce because he's been cheating on me with a long-haul lady driver I'll call Annabelle. The next weekend, he came home and we were together like nothing happened.

The weekend after that, Chuck said he's decided to hold off on the divorce until he can straighten out his head. He says he's depressed and unhappy, that he still loves me, but he doesn't know what he wants. Before he left on his new job — driving with Annabelle — he put his wedding ring back on. Then Chuck made a comment I still don't understand. He said that she was happy he did it.

Chuck says I have to lose my stomach and firm up my breasts, but that is easier said than done at 40. Before we got married, I was a size 24. Now I'm a size 16, so where does he get off saying I'm too fat?

Some of my friends say Chuck is going through a midlife crisis because he'll be 45 in a couple of months. I don't know what to do anymore. My head says to file for divorce and get on with my life. My heart says to wait a couple of months. I love him deeply even though he ripped my heart to pieces and destroyed what little self-esteem I had left. Please help. **— HURT AND CONFUSED IN CONNECTICUT**

DEAR HURT AND CONFUSED: Hold off on that divorce. It appears your husband's spirits are sagging more than your stomach and breasts. His problem could be a midlife crisis or depression — but whatever it is, he needs to speak to his doctor and stop projecting his problems onto you.

P.S. He should also change driving partners. If I were you, I'd demand it.

**

DEAR ABBY: My daughter, "Nancy," is 14 going on 21. She wants to start dating, but I don't think she's ready. So she goes out anyway and doesn't ask my permission. After she's out, she doesn't bother to call to say where she is or if she's OK.

Nancy also refuses to do her chores. Not long ago, she failed to come home after school; she takes the bus. I looked for her for two hours, then I called the police and filed a report. She didn't show up until after 11 p.m. Her excuse was that she was working on an English project with a friend. I wanted to believe her. I told her she should have at least called. The next night, she did the same thing.

This time, I called her friends and found out she was with a boy named "Steve" and she wasn't doing homework.

What can I do, Abby? My daughter will not listen to me. She plans to continue seeing Steve, even though I forbid it — and plans to spend the night with him. I think she's too young to be dating this seriously. What's the best way to tell when your teenager is ready to date? **— WORRIED IN NEW YORK**

DEAR WORRIED: Girls who are "ready to date" are young women who have proven they are responsible, make intelligent decisions and can be trusted.

Your daughter has not done this, and she is on the verge of getting herself into serious trouble.

As her parent, you must quickly learn to assert yourself — something it appears you have not done. There is a support group for parents of hard-to-handle children. It is called BILY (Because I Love You). For information and locations, log on to the Web site at www.BILY.org.

P.S. You did not mention how old Steve is. If he is 18, he is presumed to be an adult. At 14, your daughter is legally too young to consent to sex, which would make Steve a sex offender and vulnerable to prosecution.

**

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

**

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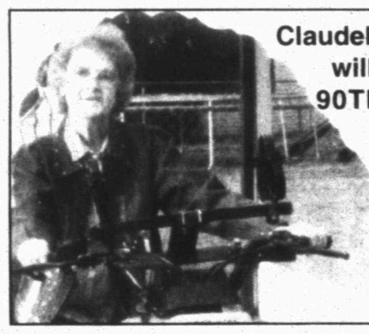
Della Reese still singing, acting and preaching

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A year after the end of the long-running CBS drama "Touched by an Angel," Della Reese is still singing, acting and preaching.

The Hallmark Channel has scheduled a "Touched by an Angel" marathon on Easter Sunday. The April 11 marathon is very special for Reese, who presides over the nondenominational Understanding Principles for Better Living Church in Los Angeles.



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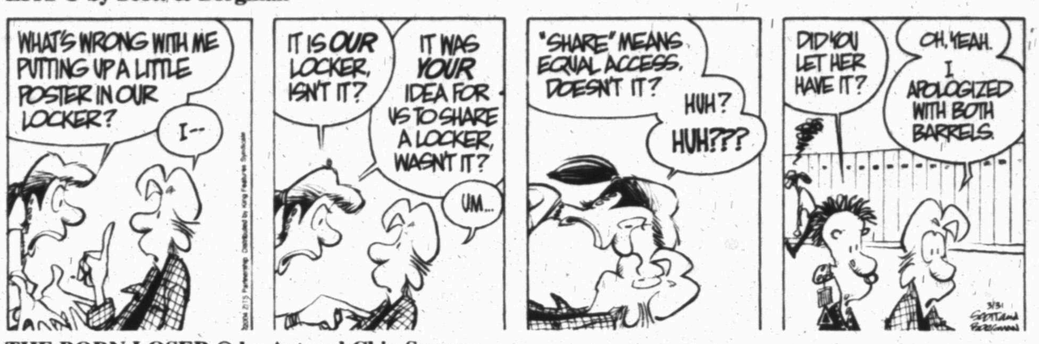

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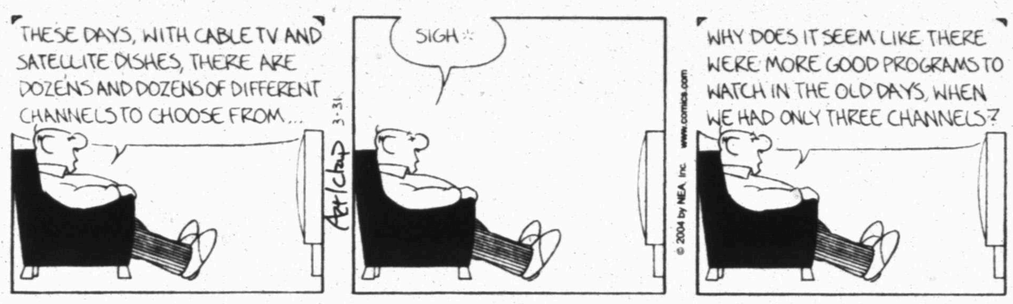

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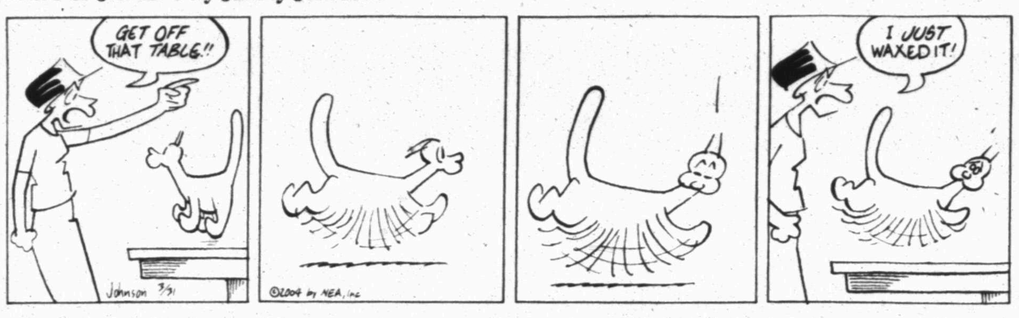

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"I can't explain now, but I have been called away on business for three months."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Arrive at
6 Good-natured
12 Empty a semi
14 Songbird
15 Ritzy home
16 Confront
17 Open meadow
18 "Unforgettable" singer
19 GI tags
21 — Cruces, N.M.
23 Many times
26 Forensic science tool
27 Showed the way
28 Weave together
30 Pay for
31 Victorian, e.g.
32 Stage whisper
33 Does finger painting
35 — on the dog
37 Like Capp's Abner
38 Planet's course
39 Explosive letters
40 Slippery customer
41 Last mo.
42 Psychic power
43 Supplement
44 Dutch airline
46 Solicit
48 Mummy locale
51 Rang out
55 Like the night sky
56 Dojo activity
57 Past and future
58 Floor polishes

DOWN

1 Street in Paris
2 USN rank
3 Hgt.
4 Embers
5 Shrink from
6 Blondell and Baez
7 Whale like Shamu
8 Conquerors
9 Debtor's letters
10 Hirt and Gore
11 Bruce — of kung fu
13 Merchant
19 Toward the center
20 River in a waltz
22 Transforms
24 Conked out
25 Made orderly
26 Nonflying bird
27 For fear that
28 Fiberglass bundle
29 Wooded valley
34 Quarrels pettily
36 Empty out
42 Television awards
43 Kurosawa of films
45 Tempt
47 "Pygmalion" author
48 Denver hrs.
49 All-purpose vehicle
50 Japanese honorific
52 Largest amt.
53 Summer, in France
54 — Plaines, Ill.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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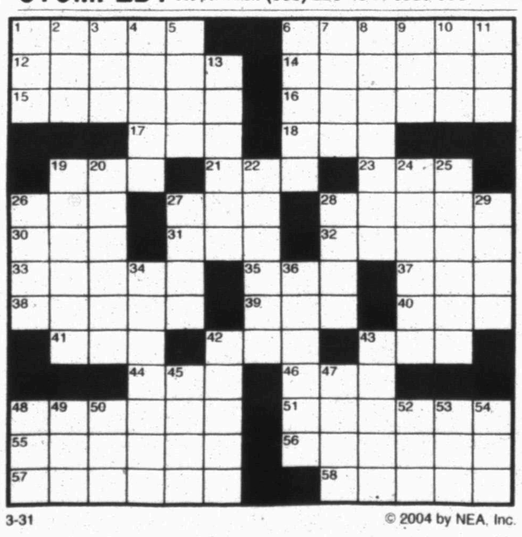

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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"MR. WILSON SAYS THAT 'ANTIQUE' MEANS IT'S EVEN OLDER THAN HE IS."

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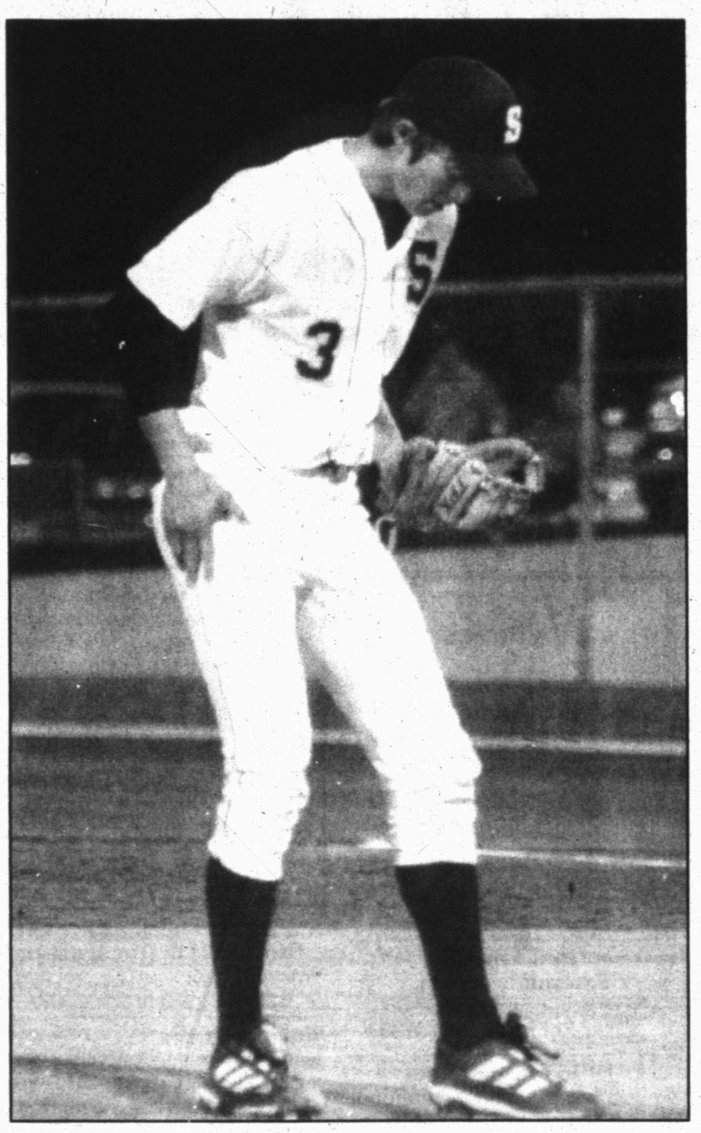
SPORTS



MOUND MAINTENANCE — Snyder hurler Lico Castillo moves the dirt around on the mound after relieving starter Ryan Mitchell Tuesday. The Tigers improved to 2-0 in district with a 10-0 win over Denver City. (SDN Staff Photo by Bobby Allen)

Tigers light up Mustangs, 10-0

By Bobby Allen
SDN Sports Editor

The Tigers recovered their offensive groove Tuesday, plating six runs in the second inning en route to a 10-0 victory over Denver City in six innings.

Freshman Ryan Mitchell and sophomore Lico Castillo combined on a three-hit shutout, with both pitchers going three innings each in the win.

"I thought by the third inning, Ryan was getting warmed up. He did a good job throwing strikes, and Lico came in and did a good job," head coach Charles Bollinger said, adding that the offense finally got into a rhythm after being out of sync against Lamesa and Lubbock Cooper. "We know we can hit the ball."

Alex Neal was 2-for-3 with two runs scored and two driven in, while Isaac Ramon and Jordan Dea each collected two hits and an RBI each.

"The main thing was we didn't hit well (against Lamesa), and we felt a lack of energy," said first baseman Neal, who drove in the first run and scored the clinching run in the sixth for the Tigers. "We wanted to come out and make a statement, and prove that we're the team to beat in district."

Snyder exceeded their scoring output from the previous 18 innings by breaking the game open in the six-run second inning.

After a going down in order in the first, Isaac Ramon led off the second with a double, and promptly scored on a double by Neal, who came around to score on a passed ball for the second run.

Marcus Villarreal drove in pinch-runner Castillo with a single, and crossed the plate with two down on a single by Bradley Price, who scored twice and drove in a run.

Jordan Dea's single scored Blake Grimmett to make it 5-0, and Ramon belted his second double of the inning to score Price.

Snyder (12-3, 2-0) scored two unearned runs each in the fourth and sixth to finish it off. Denver City committed five errors, while the Tigers had a perfect day in the field.

Next up for the Tigers is Merkel, which topped Lamesa, 7-1, Tuesday to remain a game back in district.

"If we play our game, we will be all right," Bollinger said.

Sweetwater kept pace with an extra-inning win over Seminole.

The Tigers will play the Badgers at Merkel at 5 p.m. Friday.

District 3-3A Standings

Team	Season W	Season L	District W	District L
Sweetwater	13	3	2	0
Snyder	12	3	2	0
Seminole	6	6	1	1
Merkel	6	5	1	1
Denver City	7	11	0	2
Lamesa	2	12	0	2

Boys golf takes district lead

The Snyder boys got off to a fast start in round one of the district golf tournament Tuesday in Sweetwater, with Snyder I taking a 15 stroke lead, and Snyder II sitting in sixth, 11 shots off second place.

Five of the six golfers for the varsity shot under 80 to help Snyder card a 302.

"We definitely played well," head coach Ricky Hunter said. "Our goal going into Sweetwater was to come out of the first round with the lead. We've got two more to go, and we have some good teams in district. It will tighten up."

Alan Gray and Jake Cottrell each fired a 74 to tie Brady Shivers of Seminole for the low round, and Tanner Bloom shot a 76.

Jay Weaver stroked a 78 and Blake Seale recorded an 88.

Snyder II is just six shots off fifth-place Seminole after an opening round 328.

Cole Robertson carded a 78, Wyl Wiggins and Syd Wiggins each shot an 83, Matt Schoolcraft stroked an 84 and John Whitworth finished with an 87.

2004 District 3-3A Tournament Team Standings

1. Snyder I 302; 2. Sweetwater 317; 3. Lamesa I 318; 4. Lamesa II 319; 5. Seminole 322; **6. Snyder II 326**; 7. Seminole II 347; 8. Sweetwater II 348; 9. Denver City 352; 10. Denver City II 394; 11. Merkel 435; 12. Merkel II 504.

Snyder Medalists

1. Seth Cooper 85; 2. Ryne Trout 89; 3. Jordan Payne 94.

Thornhill nails third-best vault in the country

Thornhill

Texas tech junior and Snyder graduate Jared Thornhill had his best vault of the year over the weekend, taking first place and earning a regional qualifying mark at the UTEP Invitationals in El Paso.

Thornhill's vault of 17-10.5 is the third-best in the country. He told the Texas Tech athletics Web site that he hopes to exceed that mark.

""I would really like to qualify for the Olympic Trials. The qualifying mark is 18-0.5 but they only take the top 24 so I would like to jump higher than that. I would like to jump 18-4.5 this season. I am within reach of that goal but I still have a lot of work to do to clear those heights," Thornhill said.

WTC hires Jason McAden to pilot vollyball program

McAden

Western Texas College has named 1993 Snyder graduate Jason McAden the new girls volleyball coach.

McAden spent the past two seasons as the head coach of 5A Texas A&M Consolidated.

After graduating from Snyder, McAden attended Odessa College for two years before transferring to Hardin-Simmons University.

While at Hardin-Simmons, he was the captain of the men's volleyball team and was a player-coach for two years. He also worked as an assistant coach for the girls volleyball team and was later named interim head coach.

McAden, whose father Larry is the pastor at Calvary Baptist, said he is ready to return to his roots.

"My family's here and I wanted to get back home," he said.

McAden and his wife Kellie have been married for four years and are the parents of a son, two-year-old Jaxon, and a three-week-old daughter, Jaron.

McAden will officially begin his duties Thursday, and already faces some challenges.

"Recruiting is going to be a challenge," he said. "We got a late start. I don't want to say all the good players are signed, because there are a lot of good players left. It's just a matter of finding them."

McAden also said scheduling the inaugural season will be a major job.

"I'm waiting on about 20 coaches to call me back," he said.

McAden said he hopes to carry 10 players on this year's roster, and will hold an open tryout at 10 a.m. April 17 at the WTC gym.

Lady Tigers overpower Lamesa in five innings

The Lady Tigers remained undefeated in district play after roughing up Lamesa, 10-0, in five innings Tuesday.

Staked an eight-run lead, Ashley Martinez went the distance, allowing two hits and striking out three.

Snyder (13-8, 6-0) plated eight in the bottom of the first inning, taking advantage of four walks to the first five batters to give Martinez plenty of cushion.

Laura Clanton drove in the first run of the inning on a bunt single, and closed out the inning with an RBI double.

Kelsi Johnson had a two-run single and Amber Luecke added a run-scoring single in the inning.

Head coach Darren Pool said the defense did a good job, and is happy with the team's output at the plate.

"We fielded well," he said. "Kelsi made a great diving stop, and Ashley threw well. I was really pleased with our hitting."

Clanton and Luecke both were 2-for-3, and Missy Vasquez was 3-for-3 with a walk, and RBI and three runs scored.

Pool said he is happy the Lady Tigers are undefeated and in the catbird seat in District 3-3A, considering the roster turnover from last season.

"We're playing — now we get ready for the next test against Lubbock Cooper," he said. "It's a good way to start the second round. It's a rebuilding year — we knew that coming in — and the girls have worked very hard. We're pleased, but not satisfied."

Lubbock Cooper will host the Lady Tigers at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Snyder A second at Midland

The junior high golf teams competed in Midland Saturday, with the Snyder A team capturing second place with a 393.

Josh Ornales and Loren Toombs led the way, each firing a 95, while Jonathan Mireles carded a 100.

Luke Robertson and Clay Hirt each shot a 103.

The Snyder B team recorded a 450.

Jesse Conner paced the team with a 107 and Tanner Butler and Zack Key both stroked a 108.

Chase Guynes fired a 129 and Zane Berryhill shot a 130.

Snyder took the top three spots in the nine-hole division.

Tyler Porter was first with a 56, Allison Sharrock posted a 57 for second and Tatum Norwood carded a 58 for third place.

Kelby Seale recorded a 69 and Taylor Davidson added a 71 in that division.

NY gets even with D-Rays

TOKYO (AP) — Hideki Matsui came through for his fans, and so did the New York Yankees.

Matsui rocked the Tokyo Dome with a two-run homer, Jorge Posada hit three-run shots from both sides of the plate and the Yankees calmed their jittery supporters back home by routing the Tampa Bay Devil Rays 12-1 on Wednesday night.

A day after Tampa Bay turned baseball upside down by winning the season opener 8-3, the Yankees restored the old order — appropriate for a country tied to tradition — in another game that started just after 5 a.m. back home in New York.

Kevin Brown got his 198th career victory in his first start for the Yankees, allowing six hits over seven innings. Tom Gordon and Mariano Rivera finished with hitless relief.

Tony Clark, playing first base because of Jason Giambi's cranky knee, hit a tiebreaking two-run homer for the Yankees, who made sure they didn't return home from the Orient 0-2 and in last place.

Owner George Steinbrenner took the first loss calmly, saying, "It's not where you start, it's where you finish," but an 0-2 trip might have led to a different tune.

It was another quiet game for Alex Rodriguez, who went 0-for-5 and is now 1-for-9 with no RBIs. And Derek Jeter finally got his first hit, an RBI single, after going hitless in his first seven at-bats.

But the night — if not the whole week — belonged to Matsui, Japan's biggest sports star.

After starring for 10 years with the Yomiuri Giants, he signed with the Yankees before the 2003 season.

WTC game pushed back

Due to a scheduling conflict, today's baseball game between Western Texas College and Hardin-Simmons has been pushed back to 4 p.m.

The Dusters open a four-game set with El Paso Community College with a doubleheader beginning at 2 today.

Both teams will play at the WTC Complex.

Area Sports Calendar

TODAY

Baseball: WTC vs. Hardin-Simmons, 4 p.m.
Softball: WTC vs. El Paso CC, DH, 2 p.m.

THURSDAY

Golf: SHS girls at Lamesa, district
Softball: WTC vs. EPCC, DH, 2 p.m.
Rodeo: Western Texas College Rodeo

FRIDAY

Baseball: SHS varsity at Merkel, 5 p.m.
WTC vs. Howard JC, DH, noon
Softball: SHS varsity at Lubbock Cooper, 5 p.m.
SHS JV at Lubbock Cooper, 7 p.m.
Track: SHS varsity at Brownwood
SJHS at Lamesa, district
Rodeo: Western Texas College Rodeo

SATURDAY

Baseball: WTC vs. Howard JC, DH, noon
SHS JV vs. Wylie, DH, 1 p.m.
Track: SHS varsity at Brownwood
Tennis: SJHS at Sweetwater Tournament
Rodeo: Western Texas College Rodeo

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SHS vs Lamesa

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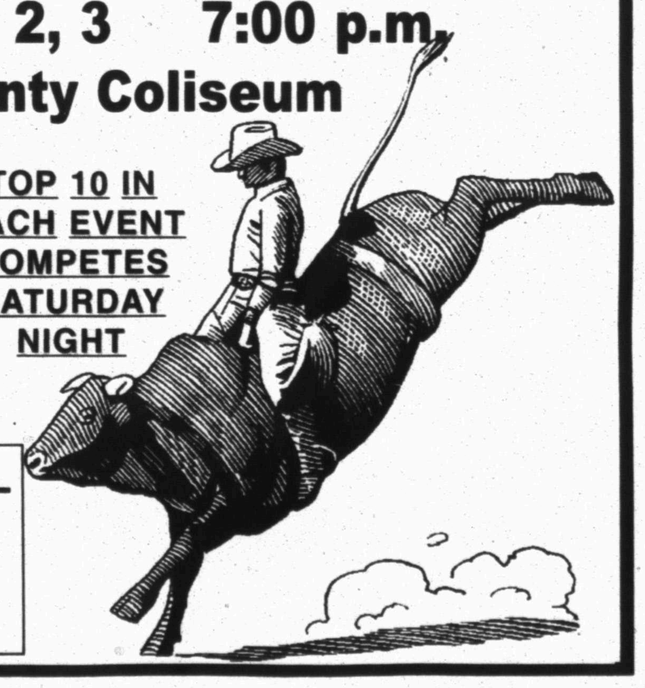

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Snyder, TX

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Diet trends focus attention on fiber

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The mass of dieters doing away with carbohydrates may be changing the demographics for companies that traditionally have marketed fiber laxatives to the silver-haired crowd.

In an advertising campaign appearing at newsstands, GlaxoSmithKline is offering a "zero-carb solution to a low-carb problem," referring to the irregularity suffered by some people on the Atkins and South Beach diets.

It was the first shot in a marketing blitz that has pharmaceutical companies seeking out consumers who might traditionally be more familiar with hair gel products than fiber laxatives.

GlaxoSmithKline said it is responding to a bump in sales and a surge in calls over the past year to consumer lines regarding Citrucel, its fiber laxative.

Just days after the GlaxoSmithKline ads appeared, Proctor & Gamble fired back, promising in advertisements that their brand, Metamucil, allows users to "Stay regular. The 0 net carb way."

Labels on Citrucel caplets now let the low-carb crowd know the fiber laxative won't set them back. The caplet form has no carbohydrates and can "help you get back on track," according to magazine ads appearing in March editions.

Patrick Seiffert, brand manager for Citrucel, said GlaxoSmithKline is targeting consumers who follow a particular lifestyle and not an age group, but acknowledges that the target audience for the product may be changing, largely because of low-carb dieters.

"About 20 percent of the population is now on a low-carb diet and about a third experience changes in regularity," Seiffert said. "That's about 13 million people. That's significant for us."

The estimated number of people on low-carbohydrate diets varies widely, as does the number of people who suffer adverse effects from eating more meats and cheeses, hallmarks of the diet.

Yet Internet forums dedicated to Atkins and South Beach are clogged with the woes of people who have not replaced the fiber that was once part of their diet.

GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare, a division based just outside Pittsburgh, is grabbing for a larger market share from industry leader Proctor & Gamble. Proctor & Gamble controls about 40 percent of the market, GlaxoSmithKline about 20 percent.

The two products are just a portion of the $350 million laxatives market, but marketing experts said companies can win customers for life if they get them first.

"That category tends to skew older, and it's intuitive that if you can broaden what is a pretty narrow demographic market, that would increase sales and presumably profits," said Lawrence Feick, a professor of marketing at Katz Business School at the University of Pittsburgh.

Proctor & Gamble boasts that Metamucil is mentioned in "The South Beach Diet" by its author, Dr. Arthur Agatston. However, no P&G market research shows younger consumers may be using more Metamucil, but the company is keeping tabs on the data, said Dr. Kurt Weingand, associate director of the P&G Health Sciences Institute.

Metamucil has three grams of carbohydrates, but they are all nondigestible dietary fiber, meaning zero net carbs for consumers, Weingand said.

"People are just coming to Metamucil with South Beach being No. 1 on The New York Times' best seller list," he said. "We've gotten a lot of play out of that."

The marketing power of carb-centered products remains a big seller, and GlaxoSmithKline says they're the market leader as far as carbs go.

"We have zero, zero, zero (carbs)," said company spokeswoman Lori Lukus. "We don't have any."

Amid 'Aprentice' success, Trump's casinos in trouble

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) — Donald Trump has become the resident prime-time expert on what it takes to make it in the business world, but his real-life casino empire is in trouble.

As Trump basks in the popularity of his smash-hit reality show "The Apprentice," Trump Hotels & Casino Resorts is dealing with a mountain of debt, huge losses and stiff competition from glitzier competitors that have eaten away at millions of dollars in business.

The result is a bleak financial outlook that has prompted the company's auditors to raise serious concern about its future. Barring a bailout, the company may not be able to continue as a viable company, auditors for Ernst & Young LLP warned in a letter to the company's board of directors that was released Tuesday.

"The company is working on various alternatives to improve the company's financial resources ... Absent the successful completion of one of these alternatives, the company's operating results will increasingly become uncertain."

Last month, Trump announced that Credit Suisse First Boston had agreed to make a $400 million cash infusion into the company in exchange for a controlling stake.

If approved by bondholders, the deal would result in Trump's removal as chief executive officer. He would stay on as chairman.

Trump Hotels, which carries $1.8 billion in debt, has been unable to finance major capital improvements at its three Atlantic City properties at a time when competitors — including the new Borgata Hotel Spa & Casino — have been taken away gamblers.

Trump's troubles come at the same time that "The Apprentice" has become one of the hottest shows on television. Millions of viewers have tuned in to watch ambitious entrepreneurs compete for a spot in the boardroom with Trump, whose "You're fired!" dismissals each week have given the country a new catchphrase.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Oatmeal isn't good therapy for high cholesterol

DEAR DR. GOTT: I am on Lipitor but, frankly, I'm concerned about its possible side effects, such as liver damage. Would you recommend that I substitute daily oatmeal cereal in place of the drug?

DEAR READER: Only if your physician is in agreement.

To be candid, oatmeal is not an appropriate substitute. I object to the heavy TV ads in which grinning people swear that they lowered their cholesterol levels (by eating oatmeal) by "as much as 17 points for a woman, 4 points for a man." These are trivial numbers that are well within the range of normal fluctuations in cholesterol levels.

For example, I have a patient whose cholesterol has consistently been below 200, an appropriate goal. Last month, he was retested. His level was 260. I called him and questioned him about the possible reasons for the significant increase. It turns out that he and his family had enjoyed pizza for dinner the night before he was tested, so what was really being measured was the cheese in the pizza. After I warned him about the inadvisability of consuming high-cholesterol food hours before his blood work, he was retested and found to be 190. This anecdote is just one example of why reductions such as 4 and 17 points are of no clinical importance.

The main reason for eating oatmeal is that, in my opinion, it is nourishing and takes the place of other, cholesterol-rich breakfast foods, such as eggs and bacon.

If you like oatmeal, fine. But drug therapy is much more effective. Don't be brainwashed by Madison Avenue. Follow your doctor's advice.

While it is true that Lipitor (and other "statin" drugs) may, in rare instances, cause liver inflammation, this reaction can easily be diagnosed by a blood test of liver function performed with a cholesterol study at periodic intervals.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have restless legs syndrome. Is there medicine I can take to relieve my symptoms?

DEAR READER: This affliction plagues millions of adults, chiefly the elderly. The cause is unknown, but the disorder commonly leads to an uncontrollable urge to move the legs, usually at night or at other inappropriate times. This sensation predictably interferes with sleep and other activities, such as reading and sitting quietly.

Doctors who treat the syndrome have been disappointed and frustrated by the lack of effective medication for this condition. However, many specialists have reported success with Permax (pergolide), a drug traditionally used to treat Parkinson's disease. Ask your doctor to consider this option. Meanwhile, you can obtain further, up-to-date information from the Restless Legs Syndrome Foundation at RLS Foundation, Inc., 819 Second Street SW, Rochester, MN 55902-2985 (or online at www.rls.org)

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

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Rape crisis official says more cases loom in university scandal

BROOMFIELD, Colo. (AP) — The head of a rape crisis center said Tuesday that two more women have come forward in the past three months to say they were sexually assaulted by University of Colorado football players.

Janine D'Anniballe made the new allegations during a public meeting of the panel investigating football recruiting practices at the university. Members of the panel said their investigation has confirmed underage recruits had access to alcohol and one said there was a "strong indication" university officials knew what was going on.

D'Anniballe, executive director of Moving to End Sexual Assault in Boulder, said confidentiality rules barred her from disclosing details of the latest assault claims, including whether the players are still on the team.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 03-31-04
♠ Q 7 6
♥ 10 9 5
♦ A Q 10 5 2
♣ 6 2

West
♠ 8 3 2
♥ Q 8 6 4 3 2
♦ —
♣ A K 9 3

East
♠ J 10 9 4
♥ K 7
♦ J 9 8 7
♣ Q 7 5

South
♠ A K 5
♥ A J
♦ K 6 4 3
♣ J 10 8 4

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
1 ♦	1 ♥	2 ♦	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♥ 4

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Game brought home in both directions

By Phillip Alder

There are deals on which both North-South and East-West can make a game contract. This doesn't look like one of them, but it was in a way.

This layout arose during the inaugural Bermuda Bowl, held on that picturesque island in 1950. It was a three-cornered battle between Britain, Iceland-Sweden, and the United States.

Johnny Crawford and Sidney Silodor had the given auction. Crawford (South) didn't open one no-trump, because he didn't trust their response structure.

The Scandinavian West led the heart four: five, king, ace. Crawford thought he had nine easy tricks, but when he led a low diamond, West discarded the spade two. Keeping a straight face, declarer cleverly inserted dummy's diamond 10. When East won with the jack, West assumed that his partner also had the diamond king. So, when a heart came back to the jack and queen, West cashed the club king to show where his entry lay, then (ignoring his partner's encouraging club seven) exited with a heart to dummy's 10. Crawford immediately claimed nine tricks.

At the other table, South did open one no-trump. George Rapee overcalled two hearts. North, with an awkward problem, gambled by doubling West into game. The contract can always be made, but North facilitated matters by leading the club six: seven, 10, king. A heart to the king lost to South's ace. Declarer ruffed the diamond return, cashed the heart queen, played a club to dummy's queen, then finessed his club nine. Rapee lost only three spades and two hearts.

With results like that, it is no surprise that the United States won the title.

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	12.80	12.10	12.76	+.51
AT&T Corp	19.88	19.46	19.63	—.18
Albertsons	22.04	21.57	22.04	+.22
Alltel	49.70	48.97	49.41	—.34
AmEl Pw	32.92	32.68	32.91	+.02
AndarkPtr	52.40	51.24	51.34	—.42
ATMOS Egy	25.61	25.35	25.53	—.02
Aviall	15.24	15.05	15.22	+.02
BP PLC	51.52	50.66	50.79	—.33
BakerHughes	36.65	35.75	35.83	—.30
Bank of Amer	81.87	81.34	81.51	—.26
BellSouth	27.60	27.30	27.60	+.19
BurlNoSFe	31.36	31.03	31.21	—.15
Caterpillar	79.85	78.87	79.02	—.98
CenterPoint	11.45	11.24	11.39	+.04
ChevronTex	87.67	86.36	86.54	—.54
Citigroup	51.94	51.56	51.66	—.28
CocaCola	50.30	49.83	50.17	—.06
ColgatePal	55.85	55.05	55.34	—.71
CmclMetals	32.26	31.57	31.99	+.28
ConocoPhill	70.05	68.81	69.17	—.20
Cooper Inds	57.12	56.42	56.72	—.28
DaimlrChry	41.95	41.50	41.79	—.21
DeltaAirLines	8.08	7.66	7.99	+.24
Dillards Inc	19.30	19.00	19.06	—.08
DowChem	40.42	40.03	40.35	
DuPont	42.63	41.79	42.19	—.29
EastmanChem	42.85	42.32	42.51	—.19
EstKodak	26.04	25.75	26.00	+.07
EDS Corp	19.32	19.05	19.29	+.04
Entergy	59.49	59.11	59.38	+.01
ExxonMobil	42.00	41.51	41.54	—.01
FootLocker	25.90	25.20	25.90	+.41
GenDynam	87.90	87.15	87.78	
GenElec	30.72	30.41	30.50	—.19
GenMills	46.56	46.12	46.37	—.18
GenMotors	47.50	47.00	47.38	—.22
GaPacific	34.05	33.25	33.52	—.54
Goodrich	28.03	27.71	28.00	+.10
Goodyear	8.63	8.43	8.50	+.08
GtAtlPac	7.65	7.40	7.50	—.15
Halliburtn	30.27	29.62	29.76	—.26
Hanson PLC	38.47	38.28	38.28	—.27
HarteHanks	22.76	22.70	22.71	—.06
HomeDepot	37.43	37.02	37.21	—.20
HoneywellIntl	33.99	33.55	33.71	—.05
IBM	92.08	91.51	92.00	—.32
IntlPaper	42.41	42.03	42.21	—.21
JohnsonJn	50.65	50.30	50.55	+.13
KinderMorg	62.80	62.25	62.72	+.07
Kroger Co	16.55	16.17	16.53	+.10
LockheedM	45.69	45.03	45.12	—.55
Lowes Cos	56.20	55.68	56.06	+.16
Lubys	5.94	5.65	5.94	+.02
LucentTech	4.25	4.14	4.19	+.06
MarathonOil	33.47	32.75	33.19	+.51
MayDeptStr	34.24	33.86	34.23	+.03
Medtronic	47.37	46.83	47.18	—.12
Motorola	17.55	17.36	17.47	—.06
NCR Corp	44.28	43.02	44.26	+.96
Navistar	45.60	45.05	45.36	—.20
PNM Rescs	30.00	29.77	30.00	+.04
Penney JC	34.72	34.44	34.49	—.32
PepBoys	28.04	27.58	27.94	+.35
PepsiCo	53.71	53.05	53.70	+.42
PhelpDodge	84.25	82.35	82.52	—.19
PilgrimsPride	21.80	21.25	21.57	+.05
Praxair s	37.05	36.31	36.60	—.31
ProctGamb	105.76	104.65	105.24	—.74
RadioShack	33.65	33.25	33.50	+.51
RoyalDut	47.85	47.34	47.36	—.34
SBC Comm	24.54	24.36	24.50	+.14
SaraLee	21.85	21.62	21.74	
Scripps EW	100.10	99.75	100.07	—.20
SearsRoeb	43.65	42.99	43.15	—.09
SherwinW	37.74	37.35	37.70	+.19
SouthernCo	30.54	30.39	30.46	—.10
SwstAirl	14.23	13.91	14.21	+.19
SprintFON	18.26	18.02	18.24	+.16
SprintPCS	9.16	8.97	9.14	+.11
Sunoco Inc	62.60	61.15	61.32	—.18
TXU Corp	28.58	28.26	28.51	+.25
TempleInland	63.15	62.50	62.90	—.16
TexInd	36.35	35.80	36.35	+.41
TexasInst	29.20	28.74	29.17	+.12
Textron	53.60	52.74	52.88	—.38
TimeWarner	17.07	16.86	16.89	+.01
TrinityInds	27.97	27.49	27.68	—.36
TylerTech	9.86	9.54	9.70	—.07
UnionPacif	60.40	59.38	59.47	—.95
USSteel	38.35	37.41	37.42	—.43
UnitedTech	85.72	84.77	85.70	—.05
Unocal	37.20	36.60	36.74	—.06
VerizonComm	36.68	36.29	36.55	+.24
WalMart	60.00	59.51	59.58	—.42
WellsFargo	56.90	56.41	56.63	—.20
WstnGasRs	50.55	50.30	50.30	+.03
WinnDixie	7.99	7.48	7.50	—.01
Xerox Cp	14.53	14.41	14.51	—.12
YumBrands	38.65	38.18	38.35	—.30

MAR 31 2004

Best Available Copy

Scurry County Country

Diversified

By Greg Gruben, County Extension Agent

The Virtuous Tree

Since the dawn of history, all civilizations and religions have believed trees to be of great significance. Pillars of the temples of Egypt were stylized trees, holding at the base of their spines the vital Life Force, which provided for strength and durability.

Many legends exist about the various creatures that live in and off the tree. The eagle that nests on top is said to lend his eyes to those who would see the mind of God. In Christianity, the Tree of Life is said to stand in the center of the Garden of Eden uniting heaven and earth, and opening a path to God.

As early as 600 BC, the Celts planted trees in the names of their children to insure a connection between the divine and earthbound aspects of the soul. It is said that the planting allowed the child's imagination to live in the earth and the wind.

If you have a newborn coming soon, you might want to share the ancient tradition of planting a tree when the child is born to ensure long life, prosperity, and an eternal bond with nature.

According to one ancient wisdom, birds and animals moving through the branches of a tree planted for a child could bring that child special insight into the accumulated wisdom of human life.

According to Dr. Roger S. Ulrich of Texas A&M University, laboratory research shows that "visual exposure to settings with trees has produced significant recovery from stress within five minutes, as indicated by changes in blood pressure and muscle tension."

I need to go to the forest myself! Did you know that planting trees means improved water quality, less runoff, less pollution and allows the recharging of the ground water system: Did you know that the USDA says that healthy, mature trees add an average of ten percent to a property's value?

Did you know that shade just from trees can save you up to $175.00 per year (per structure) in air conditioning costs according to Dr. Lowell Ponte? The net cooling effect of a young, healthy tree is equivalent to 10 room-size air conditioners operating twenty hours a day.

The US Department of Agriculture states that one acre of forest absorbs six tons of carbon dioxide and puts out four tons of oxygen. This is enough to meet the annual needs of eighteen people. OK, breathe...trees do a lot of work for us and for the environment.

We also know that landscaping, especially with trees, can increase the value of your home and save on heating costs as well. Forty percent of prescription drugs dispensed in the U.S. have active ingredients derived from plants, animals or microorganisms, many of them from forests.

Trees filter dust and toxic pollutants from the atmosphere and capture a wide range of smog-producing compounds such as ozone and carbon monoxide. They are good noise barriers, making a city and neighborhood quieter.

Trees are the longest living and largest living organisms on Earth and you have a chance to plant one. By planting 30 trees per person, it would remove that person's carbon dioxide debt for the year.

OK, here is one for you...why do they call a live oak a live oak? Not all hardwood trees are deciduous. During the winter while most other hardwoods are dead looking, the live oaks look, well, alive. Are you convinced now to go out and plant a tree?

Trees are so wonderful and graceful and do so much for us. Plant a tree, smile, laugh and laugh some more.

?Weather Whys?

Topic: Lightning and Thunder

Q: Does lightning cause thunder?

A: "The answer is yes," says Kelsey Curtiss of Texas A&M University. "Simply put, if you don't have lightning, there can be no thunder," she explains. "When there is a bolt or flash of lightning, it is incredibly hot — as high as 60,000 degrees.

"That means the air around it is heated up instantly, and this air then expands and contracts very quickly, creating an explosion-like noise. Hence, the rumble of thunder you'll hear after seeing lightning. When lightning is very close to you, the thunderclap noise is always louder. If you see lightning but don't seem to hear any thunder, it's because the lightning is too far away for the sound to reach you."

Q: Why don't we hear thunder when we see lightning?

A: "Because lightning travels at the speed of light — 186,000 miles a second — and thunder is at the speed of sound, which is 0.21 miles per second, which is thousands of times slower," Curtiss adds. "That's why lightning will always precede thunder," she says. "You have to remember that light and sound always move at far different speeds. By counting the seconds between the flash of lightning and the sound of the thunder and dividing by 5, you can estimate how far the lightning is in miles.

"When you hear rolling thunder, that means the lightning is fairly far away from you. The thunderstorm is very close to you when you see lightning and instantly hear a clap of thunder.

"And remember that worldwide, lightning strikes the Earth about 100 times every second, so potentially there could be a lot of thunder to be heard."

ABOUT WEATHER WHYS

"Weather Whys" is a service of Texas A&M University's Department of Atmospheric Sciences. Past and current topics can be viewed via the web at http://rev.tamu.edu/weather-whys/. For more information, please contact Keith Randall at (979) 845-4644 or kr@univrel.tamu.edu. Suggestions for future topics may be directed to news@univrel.tamu.edu.

Individual cattle producers advised to get involved with changes proposed for industry

FORT WORTH — Individual cattle producers must get involved in the debate over monumental changes proposed for the beef industry.

"If you don't, change will occur without you…and you won't like the results," insisted Dr. Bryan McMurry, beef brand manager for Cargill Animal Nutrition.

Dr. McMurry presented the opening remarks during the pivotal Animal Health Committee meeting at Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association's 127th annual convention March 7-10 in Austin.

His warning was echoed again and again by speakers from every link in the beef production chain, government representatives and legislative leaders as they described changes being considered in animal identification, marketing, food safety, animal health, trade, water regulation, taxation and numerous other issues where individual input is critical.

"We need your input and support," declared TSCRA President Bob McCan. "The most important reason to join an association is not for what it can do for you, but for what we can do together."

During their final business session, TSCRA members resolved to work together on several important issues.

Animal identification

Primary among them was to "be at the forefront of discussions of any national identification plan to ensure that the best interests of the association and its members are protected."

Members said that while TSCRA policy calls for a voluntary national identification system, officers would be directed to work within the framework of a mandatory plan if one should be required by Congress, the administration or the marketplace.

TSCRA emphasized that any national plan must assure confidentiality of producer records, be given adequate federal funding, have reasonable timelines for implementation and avoid imposing a burden on the industry.

BSE risk assessment and response plan members also reiterated their stand on the impending government BSE risk assessment and response plan.

TSCRA supports a "science-based, statistical, significant, rapid risk-assessment plan that maintains our domestic confidence in beef, reopens our foreign markets, and includes a rapid testing regimen."

U.S. Border Patrol and TSCRA members also asked the U.S. Border Patrol to suspend its recently instated horseback patrols in the sensitive fever tick eradication zones. TSCRA said the use of horses in these areas "poses an unnecessary risk to the health of the Texas livestock industry and the economic well being of rural Texas."

TSCRA suggested instead that, "In order to more effectively patrol the international border and prevent illegal entry, the Department of Interior should allow the USBP and APHIS to patrol the river corridor, thereby putting the maximum resources on the banks of the international border."

Stewardship awards

In other action, TSCRA decided to form a joint committee with the Texas Section, Society for Range Management to establish an awards program for "exceptional conservation ranchers."

Small producers have a big voice"Cattle producers can wield significant influence when they join together and work within their local and national organizations," McCan asserted.

And producers with small herds can have a big voice. Sixty-three percent (715,040) of U.S. cattle operations have fewer than 50 head of cattle, according to the 1997 Census of Agriculture. Another 17 percent (100,500) own 50 to 99 head. That makes 80 percent of the nation's cattle operations that have fewer than 100 head.

"These producers have a huge effect on the nation's beef herd and the quality of beef on the consumer's plate," McCan emphasized. He said this group is a major focus of the new TSCRA membership development plan task force that he appointed last fall.

Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association is a 127-year-old trade organization whose 12,500 members manage approximately 5.4 million cattle on 70.3 million acres of range and pasture land, primarily in Texas and Oklahoma.

COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

WEEKLY LAKE AND WATER DELIVERY REPORT

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

	ONE YEAR AGO 3-28-03	LAST WEEK 3-21-04	THIS WEEK 3-28-04
ELEVATION (FEET)	16.53	18.81	18.67
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	16,839	21,428	21,127
PERCENT FULL	8.39	10.68	10.53
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.00	0.00
IVIE TO LAKE THOMAS (Gal.)		0	0
SPENCE TO THOMAS (Gal.)		0	0

*RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT BIG SPRING/ODESSA INTAKE.

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

	ONE YEAR AGO 33-28-03	LAST WEEK 3-21-04	THIS WEEK 3-28-04
ELEVATION (FEET)	35.60	39.51	39.41
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	30,084	40,287	39,998
PERCENT FULL	5.82	7.79	7.73
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.10	0.70

* RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT SPENCE PUMP STATION

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

	ONE YEAR AGO 3-28-03	LAST WEEK 3-21-04	THIS WEEK 3-28-04
ELEVATION (FEET)	26.97	25.61	25.54
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	206,975	193,202	192,562
PERCENT FULL	37.16	34.85	34.74
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.00	0.00

* RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT DAM.

INFORMATION BASED ON NEW AREA CAPACITY CURVE DATA

MUNICIPAL WATER DELIVERIES IN GALLONS

	LAST WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE 3-21-04 3-15-04	THIS WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE 3-28-04 3-22-04	THIS WEEKS PEAK DAY 3-28-04 3-22-04
BIG SPRING	3,438,571	3,991,429	4,379,000
ODESSA	13,019,300	13,818,914	14,333,500
SNYDER	1,470,200	1,590,571	1,730,600
MIDLAND	15,958,871	17,449,043	21,329,900
SAN ANGELO	10,110,614	9,447,729	13,259,400
STANTON	268,000	267,143	321,000

Markets

Lubbock

The Lubbock Stockyards, Inc had a run of 455 head of livestock for the Thursday, March 25, sale. Cows were steady. Calves and yearlings were steady. Trading and demand were good.

Slaughter cows:
(High dressing, cutters, utility) 45-51
Canners and low cutters: 35-45
Slaughter bulls: 55-65
Feeder steers:
300-400: 115-150
400-500: 105-125
500-600: 90-107
600-700: 88-95
700-800: 85-92
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 105-120
400-500: 92-110
500-600: 85-95
600-700: 82-92
700-800: 80-85
Feeder bulls – Good and choice
500-600: 85-106
700-800: 75-88
Cow and Calf Pairs
Good: 750-1125
Grade: 600-750
Springers: 425-950
Baby Calves: 150-200
Doodlers: 225-300

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BIG SPRING - Ezell-Key Feed & Grain 267-8112 9:00-10:00 a.m.
COLORADO CITY - Colorado City Feed & Seed 728-5071 11:00-12:00 p.m.
SNYDER - Ezell-Key Feed Store 573-6691 12:30-1:30 p.m.
ROBY - Terry's Gin, Inc 776-2257 2:30-3:30 p.m.
ASPERMONT - D&D Feed & Seed 989-2994 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Best Av

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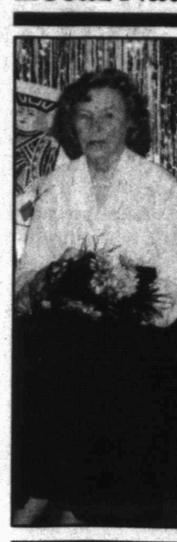

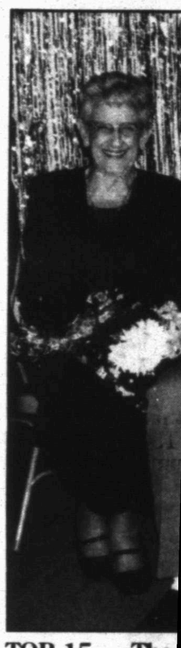

TOP 15 — The
unteers last Fri
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Bush, K

By The Asso

In the effort to
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Best Available Copy

TOP 15 — The Senior Citizens Center honored its top 15 volunteers last Friday. Top photo from left are Margaret Clevenger, Thadine Harless and Cary Patrick. Middle photo from left are Alice Underwood, Texa Ball and Ruby Gregory. Bottom photo from left are Juanita Ellington, Nate Pyburn and Billie Holladay. Not pictured are Dorothy and Don Duncan, Opal Cooper, Marie Armstrong, Peggy Fowler and Allie Beth Beauchamp. For the previous year, volunteers worked a total of 42,779 hours. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

New procedure can help some babies

ATLANTA (AP) — When Luke Cowdell was born, the nurses noticed he didn't have the pink hue of a healthy baby boy.

Because of a heart defect, blood wasn't coursing to his hands and feet. When emergency surgery failed, the only option was a heart transplant.

He received a transplant like few others. In October, Emory University surgeons placed the wrong blood type heart into the baby's body. On purpose.

Today the 5-month-old Moreland, Ga., boy is healthy and happy. He's one of only a few dozen children in the world to receive a heart that's incompatible with his body. Doctors say procedures like this may keep more babies alive.

Luke, who is blood type O, received a type A heart in a procedure that goes against the grain of years of transplant experience.

Past practice would call for waiting until a type O heart was available. "We were quite fearful he would not last that long," says Dr. Kirk Kanter, the Emory heart surgeon who performed the transplant.

The ability to use a different blood type organ doubled the child's chances of survival, Kanter said.

Beyond infancy, implanting incompatible organs can be deadly, as it was in the case last year of 17-year-old Jesica Santillan. Duke University Hospital surgeons accidentally implanted the wrong blood type heart and lungs, which her body rejected.

But Luke's surgery was based on pioneering research published three years ago by Dr. Lori West of Toronto, who found that infants haven't yet developed antibodies that reject other blood types.

Still, the findings aren't widely accepted, with only nine U.S. medical centers performing such transplants for a dozen infants, said Joel Newman of the United Network for Organ Sharing.

Infant hearts are scarce and proponents say the procedure allows more donor hearts to be matched with babies who need them.

The diminutive size of the organ — about the size of a strawberry — rules out transplants from older children. It takes about 52 days for a child on a waiting list to receive a transplant. Last year, 27 babies died waiting.

The donor pool also is small. An infant must be brain-dead to be a potential donor candidate, a condition that typically occurs after car accidents or drownings.

There were 82 heart transplants in infants under age 1 last year. Twenty children that age are on the current heart transplant waiting list, according to the organ network.

"It takes a long time to find a reasonable donor for a newborn, and to really add insult to injury, if you use classic heart transplant principles, the blood groups have to match," said Kanter, director of the heart and lung transplant program at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

Under traditional thinking, that means those who are blood type O can only receive a type O heart. Types A or B infants can receive hearts from the same blood type or from type O. Types AB are compatible with all blood types.

Despite West's research, U.S. transplant matchers still follow standard policy first for infants, seeking an exact match before releasing an organ for use in a baby with a different blood type. In Luke's case, no other child needed a type A heart.

"There still is some reluctance — I think cases like Dr. Kanter's are forging the way," said West, who is medical director of the transplant program of the Hospital for Sick Children. "They are starting what will become an eventual acceptance. The (blood type) barrier in transplantation is such a big barrier, they have to be really convinced before proceeding."

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Thursday, April 1, 2004

Just when things appear to be dark or uncertain, events in the year ahead could take a turn and offer you much to crow about. Don't count yourself out until the final play is made and the score is tallied.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — As usual, you can be extremely resourceful today, but this quality is likely to go untapped unless you are confronted by a challenge. Pressure or competition will awaken your ingenuity.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — In order to get your juices flowing today, you may require companions who are a bit adventurous and know how to stimulate exciting happenings. Just make sure to avoid risky or foolish activities.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — If you need the family's approval to bring about a change you'd like to initiate (which would affect them as well as you), this may be the day to present your case.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Use your head — not emotions — when it comes to solving a sensitive problem today. You're a fast thinker with sound judgment, so there's no need to allow feelings to rule the issue.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Devise ways to make or save money today, not how many avenues you can find to spend your funds. Strive to cash in on the gray matter instead of what you can put in your hand.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — If your schedule isn't working today, don't stubbornly stand by it only to be frustrated. Regroup and gather your assets to get cracking on something where you can make real progress.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Yield to your compassionate impulses today instead of turning a blind eye to those in need. When your urges beckon you to be helpful to the less fortunate, do a good deed without any fanfare.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Before passing judgment on someone today who belongs to a group you don't particularly like, get to know this person on his or her own merits. What you discover may please you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Instead of crying the blues over thinking you have little going for you, spend your time making something happen. Use your head to search out the opportunities that abound around you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — There's no need to be judgmental today. You possess a delightful faculty that enables you to say things to others that buoy up their spirits. Let your encouraging words ring out.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Take pains to further investigate a proposal that may be brought to you today regardless of who it comes from. Use your brains to evaluate it, not someone's prominence or stature.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Someone who is usually a bit on the caustic side may reverse his or her behavior today when it comes to dealing with you. This is because this person has great respect for you.

Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker wheel can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167.

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Bush, Kerry clash through ads

By The Associated Press

In the effort to paint Democratic rival John Kerry as a big-spending liberal the other day, President Bush's campaign used heavy hitters from the administration but also tweaked him by trotting out a home-state police officer.

"You might want to know him the way some of us in Massachusetts do," Jay Moccia says in a radio spot Bush is airing.

Kerry quickly fired back with a statement from a more friendly Massachusetts police officer decrying "misleading charges by the Bush campaign."

Bush not only draws distinctions with Kerry but tries to get under the Massachusetts Democrat's skin. There's a clear edge to many of the president's attacks, along with hopes of provoking a reaction. And it's worked a few times.

When Bush launched a television drive bashing Kerry on gasoline taxes and labeling his position "wacky," Kerry responded by saying the president was in "mid-October desperation."

While some had expected Bush to stay above the fray, he's waded in energetically.

"We have planned to be and stay on offense for the duration of this campaign," Bush campaign spokeswoman Nicolle Devenish said. "We've only been in a general-election dynamic for a couple of weeks, but we're holding Senator Kerry's feet to the fire with his own record."

A few weeks ago in Chicago, during a casual conversation with a worker, Kerry described his Republican critics as "lying" and "crooked."

For days, Kerry was forced to explain who he was referring to and what sparked his words. After scrambling, Kerry said he was talking about a "Republican attack machine" ranging from conservative radio hosts to Internet sites distorting his history. His message, however, was lost for days.

When Kerry emerged from the primary season exhausted but with the nomination in hand, he retreated to an Idaho ski resort to recuperate. No sooner had he arrived than Bush ripped into him with a new attack commercial and at a noisy campaign rally, labeling Kerry a serial tax hiker.

For hours, aides said Kerry was going to stay out of the fray, and he spent much of the day on the slopes while he took a pounding. He finally responded, but the image of the day was of an energized president firing up thousands of backers and a Democratic challenger on holiday.

Some Democrats are urging Kerry to develop a smoother response to Bush's prodding. Consultant Jenny Backus pointed to a line President Reagan used in his debates with Jimmy Carter. "Kerry can use this by setting up a nice Ronald Reagan 'There you go again,'" Backus said.

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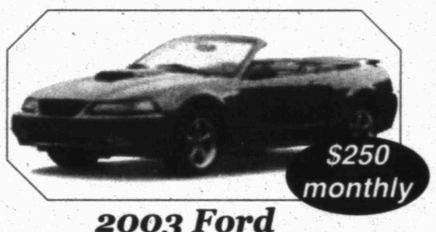
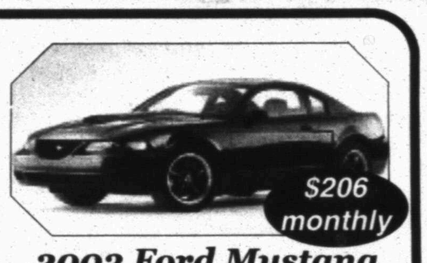
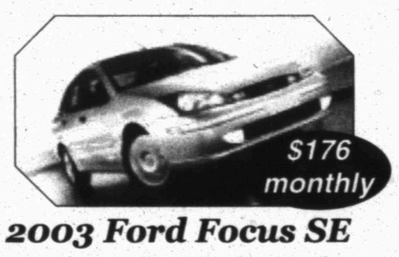


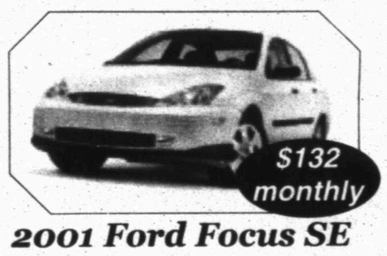
2003 Ford Mustang Convertible
V6, Auto, Leather, PW, PL, 17K



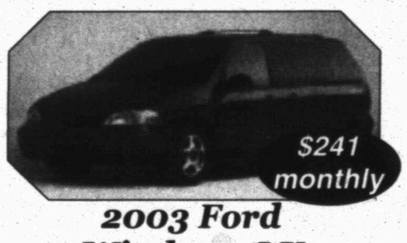
2003 Ford Mustang
V6, Auto, PW, PL, Keyless, 16K



2003 Ford Focus SE
Auto, PW, PL, Keyless, 18k



2001 Ford Focus SE
Auto, PW, PL, Keyless, 23K



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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Broadcasters meeting about indecency

WASHINGTON (AP) — The broadcast industry is meeting with regulators and critics behind closed doors to discuss ways of responding to growing complaints about indecent programming.

The daylong summit comes as the Federal Communications Commission promises a crackdown and lawmakers prepare to raise the fines for indecency on over-the-air television and radio.

"I have never seen such broad consensus on an issue," said L. Brent Bozell III, president of the Parents Television Council, a conservative advocacy group. "People have just said, 'Enough is enough. These are our airwaves. You are violating a trust and we have the right to knock you off for doing this.'"

Bozell was one of several speakers addressing the broadcasters in a closed meeting today.

Another was FCC Commissioner Michael Copps, who has been pressing his colleagues to start revoking the licenses of stations that repeatedly air indecent programs. He warned that regulators and lawmakers are serious about holding broadcasters accountable.

"I'm going to be for stepping up enforcement and for this commission to be credible on enforcement," Copps said. "Everybody's talking a pretty good game down here now. I will be truly convinced of our commitment when I see us send one or two of these cases for license revocation."

Broadcasters say the summit is evidence that they take the issue seriously.

"We thought it was an appropriate time for the industry to get in one room and discuss an appropriate response," said Dennis Wharton, a spokesman for the National Association of Broadcasters, the powerful broadcast lobby holding the meeting. "We're not oblivious to some of the concerns that have been expressed by both parents and policy-makers."

In advance of the summit, the four major networks on Tuesday announced a new advertising campaign to highlight the V-chip, which uses the voluntary TV ratings system to allow parents to block specific programs.

Federal law bars radio stations and over-the-air television channels from airing references to sexual and excretory functions between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m., when children may be tuning in. The rules do not apply to cable and satellite channels or satellite radio.

Foreigners' bodies dragged through streets

FALLUJAH, Iraq (AP) — Jubilant residents dragged the charred corpses of four foreign contractors through the streets today and hanged them from the bridge spanning the Euphrates River. Five American soldiers died in a roadside bombing nearby.

The four contract workers for the U.S.-led coalition were killed in a rebel ambush of their SUVs in Fallujah, a Sunni Triangle city about 35 miles west of Baghdad.

In Baghdad, Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt said the victims were contractors working with the coalition. He did not say what they were doing in Fallujah. All four were men, said Sgt. 1st Class Lorraine Hill, a coalition spokeswoman.

In one of the bloodiest days for the U.S. military this year, five 1st Infantry Division soldiers died when their M-113 armored personnel carrier ran over a bomb in a separate incident 12 miles to the northwest, among the reed-lined roads running through some of Iraq's richest farmland.

Residents said the bomb attack occurred in Malahma, 12 miles northwest of Fallujah.

Chanting "Fallujah is the graveyard of Americans," residents cheered after the grisly assault on two four-wheel-drive civilian vehicles, which left both in flames. Others chanted, "We sacrifice our blood and souls for Islam."

Associated Press Television News pictures showed one man beating a charred corpse with a metal pole. Others tied a yellow rope to a body, hooked it to a car and dragged it down the main street of town. Two blackened and mangled corpses were hung from a green iron bridge across the Euphrates.

"The people of Fallujah hanged some of the bodies on the old bridge like slaughtered sheep," resident Abdul Aziz Mohammed said. Some of the corpses were dismembered, he said.

Beneath the bodies, a man held a printed sign with a skull and crossbones and the phrase "Fallujah is the cemetery for Americans."

Four arrests, assault reported

• ***Arrests***

At 3:49 p.m. Tuesday, Snyder police arrested a 20-year-old male for driving while license suspended at 25th Street and Ave. A.

At 4:22 p.m. Tuesday, police arrested a 19-year-old male on two city warrants for failure to signal lane change and violation of a promise to appear.

At 6:28 p.m. Tuesday, police arrested an 18-year-old male on eight city warrants for several counts of no drivers license, failure to maintain financial responsibility and failure to appear.

At 7:27 p.m. Tuesday, Scurry County deputies arrested a 19-year-old male on two city warrants for speeding and failure to appear.

• ***Assault***

At 6:48 p.m. Tuesday police responded to the 3000 block of 39th Street concerning an assault by a juvenile female on another juvenile female. Police say an offense report will be submitted.

• ***Possible Prowler***

Two reports of possible prowlers were called into police. At 12:17 a.m. Tuesday the first call came from the 2800 block of Ave. X and the second came at 1:20 from the 1100 block of 28th Street. No suspects were located.

• ***Loud Music***

Complaints of loud music came from the 300 block of 34th Street at 11:10 Tuesday and three minutes later from the 2100 block of O'Neil. The music was stopped in both cases.

• ***Accident***

An accident was reported at 12:24 p.m. Tuesday at 34th and Denison and involved a 1992 Ford pickup driven by Austin Hatfield, 16, and a 1994 VW Jetta driven by Irving Wells, 20. No injuries were reported.

Obituaries

Opal Davidson

1922-2004

Opal Alene Davidson, a former resident of Scurry County, died Tuesday, March 30, in Hobbs Healthcare Center in Hobbs, N.M.

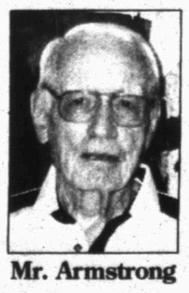
Funeral service for Mrs. Davidson, 81, is set for 2 p.m. Saturday in the Faith Baptist Church in Snyder with the Rev. Larry White, pastor, and the Rev. LaVoid Ford, pastor of Temple Baptist Church in Hobbs, officiating. Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens under the direction of Wright Colonial Funeral Home.

She was born Nov. 2, 1922 in Hermleigh and was married to James Davidson who died in November, 1999.

Mr. Armstrong

1919-2004

Emerson Lee Armstrong of Snyder died Sunday, March 21, in Snyder Healthcare Center.



Mr. Armstrong

A memorial service for Mr. Armstrong, 84, is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel with Mark Welch officiating. Burial was held in the Stewartsville Cemetery in Stewartsville, Mo.

Born Nov. 23, 1919 in Stewartsville, he entered the Air Force in 1942 and retired in 1963 as a Lt. Colonel. He flew B-25s. Mr. Armstrong taught in El Paso, retiring in 1988. Mr. Armstrong served as presiding elder of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, now known as Community of Christ, in El Paso and served as district president of the New Mexico district.

He married Marie Belcher on July 3, 1942 in Las Vegas, Nev. In 1988 they moved from El Paso to Lamoni, Iowa, and volunteered their services to the church as guides to a historical home site. He was called to the office of patriarch evangelist.

After moving to Snyder in 1996, Mr. Armstrong had been active in the Senior Citizen Center and the Food Cupboard, and sang for many activities.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Mona Capparel.

Survivors include his wife, Marie Armstrong of Snyder; one daughter and son-in-law, Joan and George Weber of Denver, Colo.; one son and daughter-in-law, Bill and Linda Armstrong of Lamoni, Iowa; four grandchildren, Joshua, Margaret, Richard and Jenni Armstrong; and one great-grandson, Ethen Armstrong.

The family suggests memorials to the Senior Citizen Center or the Food Cupboard.

Personal, Professional Service

BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME

3101 College Ave. 573-5454

John Trussell

1910-2004

Graveside service for John Henry Trussell of Bangs, formerly of Scurry County, will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday in the Snyder Cemetery with the Rev. Ponny Caldwell officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Englunds Funeral Service in Slaton.

Mr. Trussell, 93, died Tuesday, March 30, in Bangs.

He was born Aug. 28, 1910 on the J. Wright Mooar Ranch in Scurry County. He was in the Army infantry during World War II serving in the European Theatre and the Battle of the Bulge. He was employed with the RS&P Railroad before moving to Slaton in 1962 where he worked for the Santa Fe Railroad in the track maintenance department, retiring as a section foreman.

Mr. Trussell married Lora I. Wood on Jan. 1, 1936 and she preceded him in death on Sept. 24, 1979. He also was preceded in death by a son, Morris Wood Trussell; a sister, Pauline Scrivner; and a brother, Ambrose Trussell.

Survivors include two sons and a daughter-in-law, Travis and Libby Trussell of Bushland and Tommy Trussell of Lubbock; two grandchildren, Kelly Schaffer and Calvin Schaffer, both of Groom; and three nieces, Shirley Miller, Kathy Hall and Elois Pruitt, all of Snyder.

Independently Owned & Operated

WCFH

WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME

200 East 37th St.
Snyder, Texas
325-573-6200

High court to rule on sex harassment

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court considered today whether an employee who quits because of persistent sexual harassment on the job has the same right to sue her employer as someone who was unfairly punished or fired.

The court heard the case of Nancy Drew Suders, who claims she had no choice but to quit a well-paying job as a dispatcher with the Pennsylvania State Police.

Day in and day out, Suders claims, her male co-workers taunted her with lewd talk about sex with animals and worse. Suders claims one officer repeatedly grabbed his crotch in front of her and others told dirty jokes.

After five months, Suders quit and sued for alleged sexual harassment.

"She was subjected to horrendous conditions at work," and got nowhere when she sought help within the police agency, her lawyer, Donald Bailey, argued to the court.

Although perhaps sympathetic to Suders herself, several justices seemed unwilling to redraw complicated rules for sexual harassment lawsuits. In the past, the court has said companies can be liable for workplace harassment, even if top managers didn't know about the behavior.

Children hurt in bus wreck

BASTROP (AP) — Two school buses wrecked this morning on a rural road, causing minor injuries to some students, a Bastrop school official said.

"Two of our buses were involved in an accident. One bus rear-ended another bus," said Bastrop Independent School District spokesman Donald Williams.

Eight children were being taken to Brackenridge Hospital in Austin with minor injuries, Williams said.

"Those injuries were minor, but we wanted to take every precaution with our students' health and well being," he said.

There were about 50 children on the two buses, he said. The buses were traveling to Red Rock Elementary School. Some high school students were also on board. There were no reports that the bus drivers were injured.

The accident happened on FM 812, in a rural area of the Bastrop school district, which covers 450 square miles east of Austin.

Births

Melissa Burney and Dusty Ashby announce the birth of their son, James Wayne Ashby, at 7:51 a.m. on March 28 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. James Wayne weighed six pounds, six ounces.

Paternal grandparents are Barbara and Mac Ashby of Snyder and maternal grandparents are Vicki Young of Hermleigh, and the late Ron Young.

Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

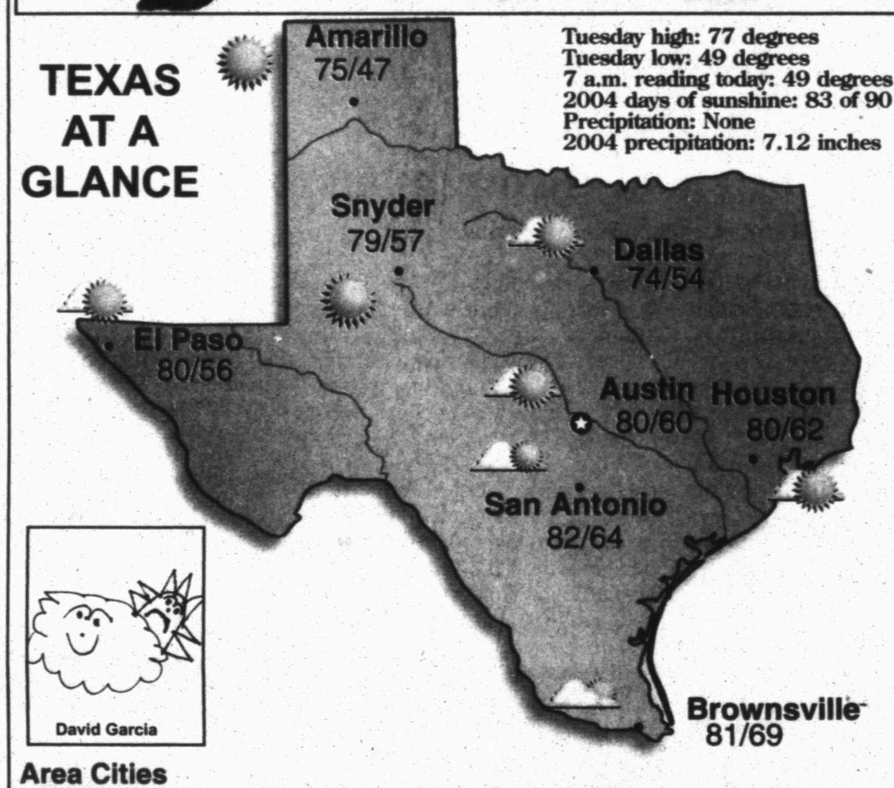
Thu 4/1	Fri 4/2	Sat 4/3
79/57	**77/56**	**62/47**
Mainly sunny. High 79F. Winds S at 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the mid 50s.	Rain. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 40s.
Sunrise 6:31 AM, Sunset 7:04 PM	Sunrise 6:30 AM, Sunset 7:05 PM	Sunrise 6:29 AM, Sunset 7:06 PM

Texas Savings Bank

"MOVE IT ON OVER"

2619 College Avenue FDIC 573-9305

TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Tuesday high: 77 degrees
Tuesday low: 49 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 49 degrees
2004 days of sunshine: 83 of 90
Precipitation: None
2004 precipitation: 7.12 inches

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	80	59	sunny	El Paso	80	56	mst sunny	Midland	82	59	mst sunny
Amarillo	75	47	sunny	Fort Stockton	82	59	mst sunny	Raymondville	82	66	cloudy
Austin	80	60	mst sunny	Gainesville	71	49	sunny	Rosenberg	80	61	mst sunny
Beaumont	78	59	sunny	Greenville	72	50	sunny	San Antonio	82	64	pt sunny
Brownsville	81	69	cloudy	Houston	80	62	mst sunny	San Marcos	82	61	mst sunny
Brownwood	82	58	sunny	Kingsville	82	67	cloudy	Sulphur Springs	71	49	sunny
Corpus Christi	79	68	pt sunny	Livingston	79	55	sunny	Sweetwater	81	59	sunny
Corsicana	75	54	sunny	Longview	72	49	sunny	Tyler	73	51	sunny
Dallas	74	54	mst sunny	Lubbock	79	54	sunny	Weatherford	74	52	sunny
Del Rio	81	64	pt sunny	Lufkin	78	54	sunny	Wichita Falls	72	50	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	59	38	pt sunny	Houston	80	62	mst sunny	Phoenix	86	61	pt sunny
Boston	41	37	rain	Los Angeles	70	56	mst sunny	San Francisco	68	53	windy
Chicago	46	34	pt sunny	Miami	77	59	pt sunny	Seattle	56	40	pt sunny
Dallas	74	54	mst sunny	Minneapolis	52	30	sunny	St. Louis	56	37	pt sunny
Denver	75	35	windy	New York	47	42	rain	Washington, DC	54	44	rain

Moon Phases

First	Full	Last	New
Mar 28	Apr 5	Apr 12	Apr 19

UV Index

Thu 4/1	Fri 4/2	Sat 4/3
8	7	5
High	High	Moderate

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

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