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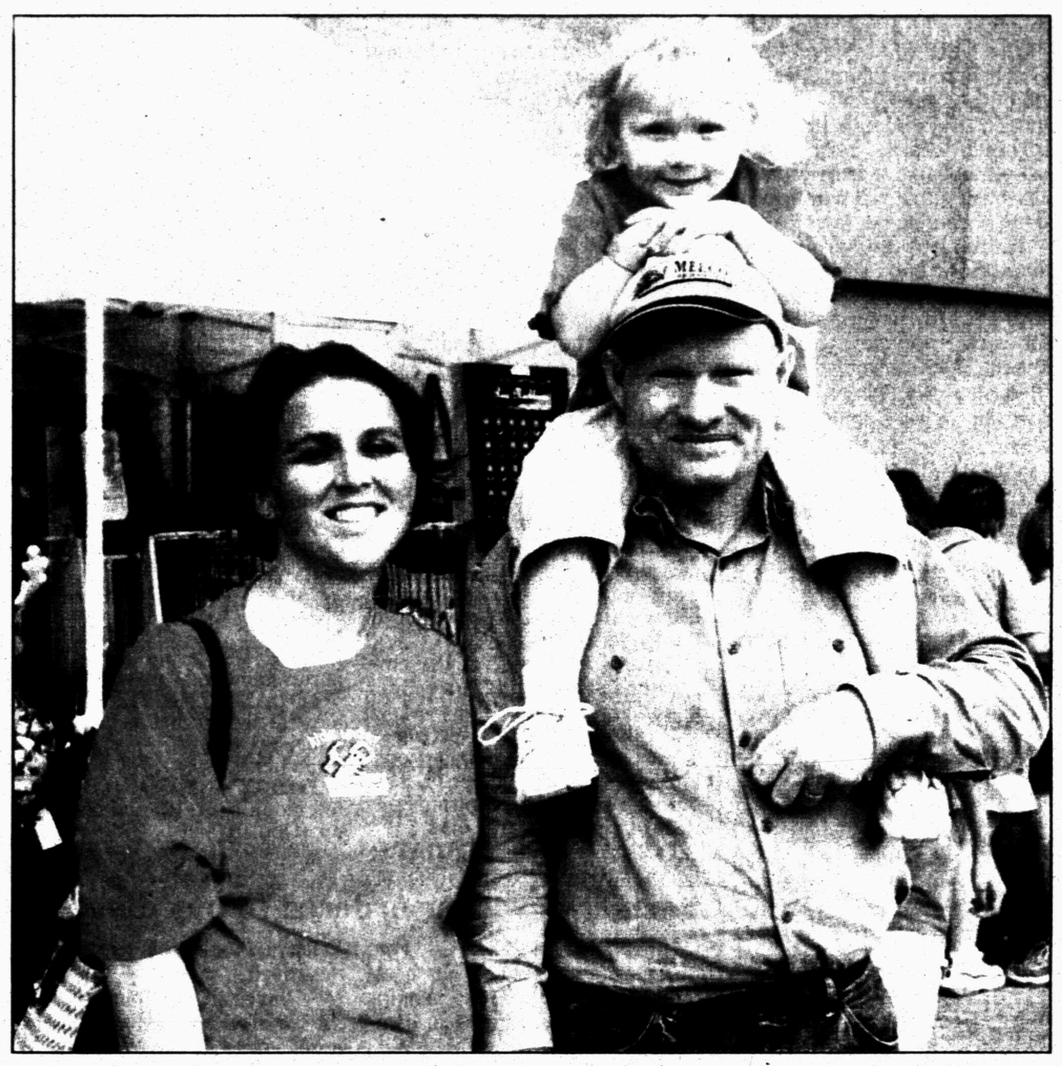
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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

MONDAY

Oct. 13, 2003
Vol. 55 No. 142
12 Pages 50¢

Home of Billie Rhode





FESTIVAL FUN — Children had a great time at Saturday's White Buffalo Festival riding the Little Red Train at the coliseum. At right, Sabrina Salinas, 8, and sister, Delia Pesina, who is 11-months, enjoy the ride. They are the daughters of Nancy Jaramillo and Gilbert Pesina. Pictured above, the Carroll family, B.J. and Sherry, enjoyed Saturday's activities at the Scurry County Coliseum. Their daughter Jessica, 3, was riding in style. (Staff Photos by Shirley A. Gorman)

After three special sessions...

Redistricting map sent to Gov. Perry, finally

AUSTIN (AP) — It took six months and three special legislative sessions but lawmakers finally have signed off on a new congressional redistricting map that likely will send more Texas Republicans to Washington.

The Texas Senate approved the bill Sunday, sending it to Republican Gov. Rick Perry, who is expected to sign it.

Republicans have said that under the map they could pick up as many as six additional seats in the Texas' 32-member congressional delegation that is ruled 17-15 by Democrats. Democrats said the map would add seven Republicans.

The GOP, led by U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Sugar Land, had been trying for months to pass a new redistricting plan, saying recent voting trends showed the state should have more Republicans representation.

After the vote Sunday, Republican Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst said a congressional redistricting map had finally been created that reflects the voting trends of the state.

"I think this map will lend, will create, new members of Congress being elected in the 2004 elections," Dewhurst said.

Democrats opposed the redistricting effort, arguing that the congressional boundaries drawn by a court after the Legislature failed to do it in 2001 should be left intact and that redistricting proposals hurt minority voters.

Sen. Leticia Van de Putte, D-San Antonio, said the map was crafted with one objective in mind and "that was to increase the maximum number of Republican congressmen and women in the state of Texas."

"In doing so, it ripped apart communities of interest, it tore at the heart of rural Texas and it violated the voting rights millions of African-Americans and Hispanics," Van de Putte said.

Dewhurst said the map will "elect more minority members to Congress."

Republicans acknowledge that more Texas GOP seats would come largely at the expense of white Democrats.

Although the bill was approved, Democrats twice held up the redistricting effort by staging boycotts of the Legislature.

House Democrats broke a quorum in their chamber, killing the redistricting effort, when they fled to Ardmore, Okla., in May. Senate Democrats held their own quorum bust when they fled to Albuquerque, N.M., for the full second special legislative session.

The Senate Democrats came back reluctantly after one member of their group decided to return to Texas.

Because the Legislature took so long in approving the plan, it also was forced to vote to push back the Texas primary election by one week to March 9 to allow for the new congressional districts to be incorporated on the ballot.

Although the legislative battle is over, Democrats have pledged to fight the new map in court.

"Today we find ourselves at the, some would say, at the end of the redistricting saga in this state, and I would say to you we've just (begun) a new ball game, one that will move to the courts," Van de Putte said.

The Senate approved the new map only after the House agreed to Senate demands and endorsed an unrelated bill that reorganizes certain parts of state government. One major part of that bill strips power from Republican Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn.

After approving the government reorganization measure, the House adjourned from the third special legislative session.

The Senate convened a few hours later, passed the redistricting bill on a 17-14 vote and then also adjourned.



Carole Keeton Strayhorn

WTC trustees to name new softball field

Only three actions items — including the naming of the softball field under construction — is on tonight's agenda for Western Texas College trustees.

Meeting at 7 p.m. in the administration building, the WTC board will be asked to name the softball field United Softball Field.

In 2001, United Supermarkets donated $100,000 to the fundraising effort and that contribution continues to be the largest to date.

The board also will be asked to approve the small class report, a routine item each semester, and to okay several minor policy revisions.

Informational items listed on the agenda are an enrollment report, education report and two fine arts reports.

Sunday attack kills six, injures dozens more

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — The American administrator in Iraq vowed to hunt down those responsible for a car bomb attack that shook central Baghdad, killing at least six bystanders and wounding dozens of others.

Sunday's attack outside the Baghdad Hotel was the seventh fatal vehicle bombing in Iraq since early August. The bombings have killed more than 140 people.

"We will work with the Iraqi police to find those responsible and bring them to justice," Iraq's U.S. civilian administrator, L. Paul Bremer, said after Sunday's bombing. So far, none of the planners of the previous bombings has been found.

Two cars exploded nearly simultaneously, but military spokesman Lt. Col. George Krivo said today it was unclear whether the second car was part of the attack or if its fuel tank had been ignited by the first blast.

The Pentagon said gunfire from Iraqi guards and U.S. personnel aborted the plan to hit the hotel, home to officials of the U.S.-led occupation authority here and reportedly some members of Iraq's interim Governing Council.

At least one guard was reported among the six bystanders dead; the two drivers also were presumed killed, but was not clear if one or both were suicide attackers. One member of the 25-seat Governing Council, Mouwafak al-Rabii, suffered a slight hand injury.

Seven inches in some areas...

Heavy rains hit South Texas

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — Thunderstorms pelted much of deep South Texas on Sunday, with rainfall in excess of 7 inches causing flooding in some areas, the National Weather Service reported.

The storms were working their way eastward toward the Gulf of Mexico, said Tim Speece, a National Weather Service forecaster in Brownsville.

Among the worst-hit counties were Brooks, Hidalgo and Starr, Speece said.

"We've received several reports of people who had to be evacuated," he said.

U.S. Highway 281 was closed in Brooks County because of flooding, according to the Texas Department of Transportation.

In saturated portions of western South Central Texas, conditions showed signs of improvement as some roads that had been closed Saturday reopened.

"We still have some streams out of banks and around flood stage," said Constantine Pashos, a National Weather Service forecaster in the Austin/San Antonio office. "Rivers are showing signs of going down, except for the far west along the Rio Grande area."

The weather was blamed for at least one death.

A woman died Sunday from injuries suffered in a traffic accident Saturday afternoon on a rain-slickened highway in New Braunfels, officer Jermyn Baker said. Her name was withheld pending notification of next of kin.

Two other women who were in the car, which was rear-ended by a truck pulling a trailer, were listed in critical condition Saturday night. Baker described their condition Sunday as guarded.

Conditions were mostly cloudy today with a slight chance of showers in South Texas.

Hermleigh man dies in one-car mishap Sunday

A 21-year-old Hermleigh man died Sunday night in a one-vehicle rollover 19 miles west of Andrews on SH 115.



Rocky Gill

Rocky Gill, a 2000 graduate of Hermleigh High School and an employee of Grimmett Bros., was pronounced dead at 7:25 p.m. at the scene by Winkler County Justice of the Peace Glenda Mixon.

Gill was driver of a 1998 Pontiac TransAm. Services for Gill are pending at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Three persons, all from Andrews, were passengers in the car and were taken to Medical Center Hospital in Odessa.

In critical condition was 18-year-old Tisha Hill with multiple injuries. Jay Boring, 16, also had multiple injuries and was listed in stable condition. Courtney Ralett, 17, is in fair condition with minor injuries.

The victim and all passengers were wearing seatbelts, according to the Department of Public Safety report.

Gill is survived by his parents, Roy and Cindy Gill of Hermleigh; and two sisters, Brandy Sorrels and Carlie Gill, both of Hermleigh.

Health unit to give flu shots on Tuesday

Flu shots will be available at the Scurry County Health Unit beginning at 8:30 a.m.Tuesday.

The cost is $15, or free with a Medicare card.

Tuesday's morning schedule will end at 11:30 a.m. The afternoon schedule will be from 1:30 to 4 p.m.

On Thursday, shots will be given during special hours beginning at 7 a.m. and continuing until 11 o'clock. The afternoon schedule on Thursday is 1:30 until 5 p.m.

ASK US

Q—Is anybody circulating a petition for a liquor election?

A—There have been two recent inquiries at the county clerk's office, but no one has requested the forms.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Cindy Torrez...

...has been manager of Laser Wash for seven years. She was reared in Sweetwater and moved from Chicago to Snyder 12 years ago. Her husband, Rudy, is employed at Nix's Auto & Tire Service. They have three sons, Israel, 11th grade; Jeremy, 10th grade; and Alex, fifth grade. Cindy enjoys watching the Torrez boys play football and spending time with them. She said her favorite pastime is "getting on her husband's nerves."

TODAY'S THOUGHT

A problem is an opportunity in work clothes.
—Henry J. Kaiser

OCT 13 2003

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Basketball booster club

The SHS boys basketball booster club will meet at 7 p.m. today in the SHS student center to discuss the upcoming chili supper. The supper will be from 5-7 p.m. Friday in the SHS cafeteria before the Merkel football game. Tickets are $5 and be purchased from any SHS basketball player or at the door. Take-outs will be available.

Hermleigh Masonic Lodge

The Hermleigh Masonic Lodge will hold its stated monthly meeting at 7:30 tonight. A meal will follow and Master Masons are welcome.

Apostolic Faith concert

The Apostolic Faith Bible School Choir will give a concert at 7 p.m. today at the church at 2510 25th St. The public is invited to attend. For more information, call 573-8115.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 this evening is "Impossible Commands from God" followed by "The Gospel of Peace."

American Legion meeting

American Legion Post 181 will elect a vacated officer position at its regular meeting at 7 tonight. All members urged to attend.

PLAN for SHS 10th graders

SHS 10th graders will take part in PLAN, an ACT program Tuesday, which includes academic tests and a survey of career choices. There is no charge for PLAN. For more information, contact counselor Debbie Phillips at 574-6049.

Women's Bible study

Beth Moore's Bible study, *A Woman's Heart*, will start at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at Trinity United Methodist Church with Sandra Woodward and Ellie Dryden as leaders. The book costs $13.95. For more information, call 573-3988. Everyone is welcome.

Central Elementary parenting seminar

An Apple a Day is Not Enough: Helping Children Stay Healthy" is the title of the second in a series of parenting seminars sponsored by Central Elementary. Chris Bane, SISD nurse, is the presenter. All parents are invited to the 1:30 p.m. meeting Thursday in Room 5 at Central. Childcare will be provided in the cafeteria.

MAWC sets style show

Martha Ann Woman's Club will have a style show Saturday at the clubhouse. Chico's of Lubbock will show fall and holiday fashions. A luncheon will begin at 11:30 a.m. Tickets are $10 and may be purchased by calling 573-3427, 573-6443 or 573-5586.

Missions conference

Calvary Baptist Church, 2405 35th, will host a missions conference Wednesday through Sunday. Guests will include Bruce Garner from Mexico, Josh Warneke from Fiji, Jerry Abbott from Hungary and Jeremy Brann, church planter in Marble Falls. The featured speaker will be Mike Haley, pastor of Hallmark Baptist Church in Fort Worth. Services Wednesday and Thursday are at 7 p.m. The missions banquet is at 7 p.m. Saturday. Sunday services are 9:45 a.m. Sunday School, and 10:50 for worship.

Literary evening

Literary evening at the Scurry County Library, will begin at 7 p.m. Thursday. Jean Everett and Jo Ashley will present a program about personalities who shaped America, including the Southwest. Everyone is invited.

Horseback riding club

The horseback riding club will begin Friday at 1368 Smith Ave. Contact Debbie Elder at 574-1622 for more information.

4-H cooking class

A 4-H cooking class for boys and girls will be conducted from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the Extension Office. If interested, RSVP by Tuesday.

Snyder missionaries to speak

Charlie and Pat Reynolds, Snyder missionaries to the police in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador, will speak at Trinity United Methodist Church at 6 p.m. Sunday.

Fall Festival of Fun

The Fall Festival of Fun for birth through 6th graders is set from 4-6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, at the Family Life Center. Games, concession and door prizes are planned. Requested donation, one bag of candy.

Lord's Acre

First United Methodist Church's Lord's Acre is planned for 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 26, at the coliseum. Booths open at 11 a.m. and a barbecue lunch will be served from noon to 1:30 p.m. Activities and games for children are planned. Everyone is welcome.

Used eyeglasses needed

The Snyder and WTC Lions Clubs, in partnership with the local post office, will pick up used eyeglasses from mailboxes on Friday, Oct. 31. Eyeglasses should be bagged and hung on mailbox.

Gateway needs costumes

Gateway Family Services is in need of used Halloween costumes in all sizes as well as basic arts and craft supplies for children's holiday projects. Donations may be dropped of at the shelter or call 573-1822.

Home for the holidays

Scurry County's annual home for the holidays, sponsored by the Texas Cooperative Extension, is set for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 18, at the First United Methodist Church. Tickets are $8 each and must be reserved by 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 12. Call 573-5423 to reserve tickets.

United Way packets

United Way packets have been distributed to businesses and will be picked up by Nov. 21. Packets are bright orange. For more information, call 573-5311.

SJHS yearbooks

Snyder junior high Tiger Times yearbook is on sale through Nov. 25 in room 110. Cost is $16 or students may make an $8 deposit. No extra copies will be ordered.

Lawmakers working on Medicare drug bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Fearing a political backlash, lawmakers at work on a Medicare drug bill are ready to spend billions of dollars to discourage companies from dropping or reducing coverage for retirees when a new federal benefit begins.

Options under consideration include subsidies or tax breaks for companies, beyond money contained in legislation that passed the House and Senate earlier this year, congressional aides said.

Lawmakers also probably will loosen federal regulations envisioned under the proposed new Medicare prescription drug program for companies that maintain existing coverage, according to the aides, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"No one knows with any certainty" how many retirees would lose company-provided drug coverage should Medicare legislation become law, the nonpartisan Employee Benefit Research Institute concluded in a July study requested by Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn.

Lawmakers have made it clear they aren't eager to find out — particularly considering that Congress' own experts put the estimate at 4.4 million, and corporations, labor unions and the politically potent AARP are clamoring for help on the issue.

The AARP, whose membership includes more than 35 million Americans age 50 and older, and the Business Roundtable, which represents large corporations, intend to begin a joint round of advertising that will touch on the issue in coming days.

The issue is one of numerous interlocking and expensive items confronting lawmakers as they seek an elusive compromise. The bill would provide a new drug benefit. It also would overhaul Medicare by creating a large new role for private insurance, an effort to modernize health care for seniors and slow future cost increases for the government.

Lawmakers have yet to decide whether to require wealthier seniors to pay more than other beneficiaries for coverage. Also to be settled is whether to raise or reduce planned government payments to doctors, hospitals and other health care providers.

Perhaps of most direct concern to the 40 million Americans on Medicare, lawmakers have not agreed on the level of premiums, deductibles, co-payments and other expenses that low-income and other older people would pay for drug benefits.

"We have $400 billion (to spend) and $600 billion in ideas, some people more than that," Rep. Bill Thomas, R-Calif., said recently.

With a nominal deadline of Oct. 17 looming, Thomas, chairman of the House-Senate negotiations, issued a schedule Friday for the week ahead that amounts to a forced march through a thicket of controversy.

In an additional sign of urgency, a second memo stressed the importance of secrecy. Only one aide may accompany each lawmaker to bargaining sessions, it said, and anyone else will be asked to leave.

The issue of employer-based drug benefits has vexed lawmakers for months.

An estimated 12 million Medicare clients receive drug coverage through former employers, and lawmakers expressed shock last spring when the Congressional Budget Office estimated that as many as 4.4 million might lose that coverage.

Today's chuckle

Annual outhouse races began in 1999

VIRGINIA CITY, Nev. (AP) — With such names as "Pee II" and the "Urinator," they rolled down the main drag of this old western town before cheering fans and awe-struck visitors.



Welcome to Virginia City's annual Outhouse Races. To the winner goes the Royal Flush Trophy.

"It's bizarre," said Brett Coleman, 30, of Seattle, who was visiting a friend in nearby Carson City. "But it combines two popular things: restrooms and racing."

The races began in 1999 and are inspired from the time, decades ago, when Storey County banned outhouses and citizens protested by putting their outhouses on wheels and parading them down Main Street, organizers said.

Twenty-two outhouses and portable toilets competed over the weekend.

The outhouses must be at least 6 feet tall and weigh 200 pounds, contain a toilet and toilet paper and have a maximum of three people pushing. Those who fail to meet the weight requirement suffer the ultimate penalty — walking two blocks through town carrying a 50-pound sack of manure.

Motors, sails, dog teams and gas-assisted propulsion are prohibited.

The Royal Flush Trophy is a glass outhouse, but other prizes include a toilet seat and bedpan.

Date Book

Monday, Oct. 13, 2003

Today is the 286th day of 2003 and the 21st day of autumn.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1775, the Continental Congress created the Continental Navy, which was the precursor of the United States Navy.

On this day in 1792, the cornerstone of the White House was laid in Washington, D.C.

On this day in 1998, Microsoft released a 45-page detailed outline of its antitrust defense. The outline was titled "Setting the Record Straight."

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Lenny Bruce (1925-1966), comedian; Margaret Thatcher (1925-), former British prime minister, is 78; Paul Simon (1941-), singer-songwriter, is 62; Marie Osmond (1959-), singer, is 44.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1971, the Baltimore Orioles lost to the Pittsburgh Pirates, 4-3, in the first World Series game to be played at night.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "You may have to fight a battle more than once to win it." — Margaret Thatcher

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (Oct. 10) and last quarter (Oct. 18)

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Former governor ordered to pay damages

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Former Gov. Jesse Ventura has been ordered to pay frequent Ventura critic Leslie Davis $258.40 for damaging Davis' sign.

Davis was awarded the amount — the cost of the sign — on Monday for an incident that happened outside the St. Paul studios of Twin Cities Public Television in July.

Davis, a frequent irritant of Ventura's who has written a book critical of the former governor, said Ventura took his sign and destroyed it.

A long-standing feud between the two now includes a restraining order against Davis prohibiting him and fellow Ventura critic Bill Dahn from having any contact with Ventura.



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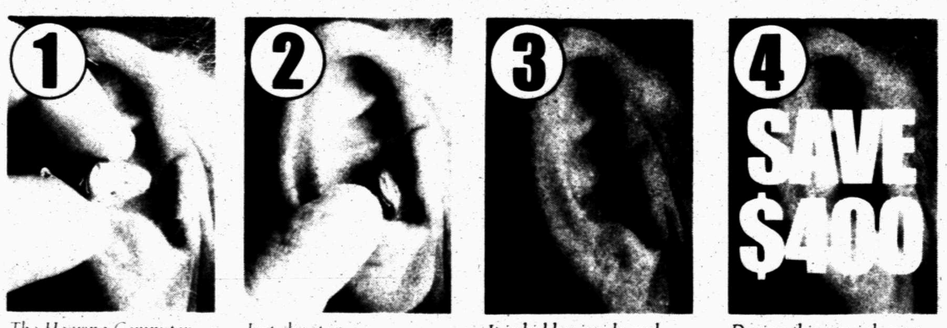
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Well, imagine no more – With this breakthrough technology from **SIEMENS**, the world's largest hearing aid manufacturer, comes the first hearing aid ever developed to address your most important needs. Not only does it fit your individual hearing loss, it fits the way you live. If you hear, but are having trouble understanding conversation, you owe it to yourself to take advantage of the free demonstrations offered during our Open House. Call today for an appointment: 1-800-828-0722.

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events

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RESULTS

Saturday's Lottery Numbers

Lotto Texas

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

Winning numbers drawn: 9-14-26-34-43. Bonus Ball: 5.

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

Number matching five of five: 2. Prize: $15,290.

Number matching four of five, plus Bonus Ball: 10. Prize: $2,776.

Number matching four of five: 540. Prize: $110.

Number matching three of five, plus Bonus Ball: 531. Prize: $99.

Number matching three of five: 21,362. Prize: $5.

Number matching two of five, plus Bonus Ball: 6,348. Prize: $5.

Number matching one of five, plus Bonus Ball: 30,209. Prize: $3.

Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: $8 million.

Cash Five

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

Winning numbers drawn: 1-15-21-35-36.

Number matching five of five: 0.

Prize per winner: $0.

Matching four of five: 123. Prize: $550.

Matching three of five: 4,022. Prize: $12.

Matching two of five: 42,213. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Monday night.

Pick 3
(Day) 0-6-1
(Night) 7-2-8

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Published each Sunday morning and each evening, except Saturday, by Snyder Publishing Co., Inc., 3600 College Ave., Snyder, Texas 79549.

Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Snyder, Texas, Publication Number USPS611-520.

POSTMASTER send change of address to P.O. Box 949, Snyder, Texas, 79550.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By carrier in Snyder, $9.25 per month.

By mail in Scurry and adjoining counties, one year $88.80 balance of Texas and out of state $113.85.

Roy McQueen, Publisher
Wade Warren, Managing Editor
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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Girl at head of the class feels socially left behind

DEAR ABBY: I am 13 years old and people say I'm cute. I have many girlfriends and a 4.0 GPA. I excel in sports and had the lead in the spring musical. So why do all my friends have boys coming up to them to talk — and I don't? Every time I talk to boys, they act like they can't wait to get away from me. When I say, "Hi," they don't answer.

I've asked my best friends about this. They say I am "too smart," and it makes boys feel uncomfortable. I love school, and I confess I like doing my research projects on the night they are assigned, even though we're given two weeks to complete them.

At a slumber party a few nights ago, we played a game where we all predicted where we would be in 20 years. My friends told me I wouldn't be married. I would be a rocket scientist instead.

Should I concentrate less on school assignments and work on my social skills with boys? — **A GIRL WITH ONLY GIRLFRIENDS**

DEAR GIRL: Absolutely not. You are the girl who has everything — looks, brains, talent and coordination. The boys in your age group are behind you in their social development. Please be patient. Do not "dumb down" for anyone. In a year or two, those boys will not only catch up to you, but they'll be beating down your door — and that will open up a whole new set of "problems." Trust me.

**

DEAR ABBY: I will be 79 in a few weeks and recently received notice of my 60th high school reunion. I was an outstanding beauty when I was 18, but now I have thinning hair and gravity has taken its toll on me.

I grew up in a small town outside of Boston and was one of a class of 160 students. I was extremely promiscuous back then. I slept with more than two-thirds of the boys in my class — and everyone knew it.

My problem is, my wonderful "steady man" insists that we go to the reunion. He has been my generous provider for many years and I don't want to argue. I hate seeing my classmates with my "old face," and hope nobody will make unkind comments about my past.

What should I do? — **FORMER BELLE OF THE BALL**

DEAR FORMER BELLE: Put on a happy face and attend the reunion. Time waits for no man — or woman — and that includes your former classmates. Please don't be self-conscious about your appearance or your past. After 60 years, everyone will probably be more than willing to let bygones be bygones.

**

DEAR ABBY: "Not a Princess in Pasadena" asked what to do for her friend who isn't as financially well off as she is. You missed a great opportunity to recommend volunteering.

The girls could become candy stripers in a hospital, read to the elderly at a nursing home, run errands for shut-ins — all sorts of things. Assuming they do a good job, they will get good references for jobs or higher education. Those teens should contact the nearest hospital, nursing home, social service agency or church, and inquire about what volunteer programs are available for teenagers. If there aren't any, they might consider organizing a few friends and creating one.

They would really enjoy it, and it wouldn't cost either of them a penny. My two kids did exactly that and loved it! — **NANCY HABLUTZEL, PH.D., J.D., CHICAGO**

DEAR NANCY: What a terrific suggestion. There is always a need to be filled if people look for it. Even a few hours a week can make a big difference in someone's life.

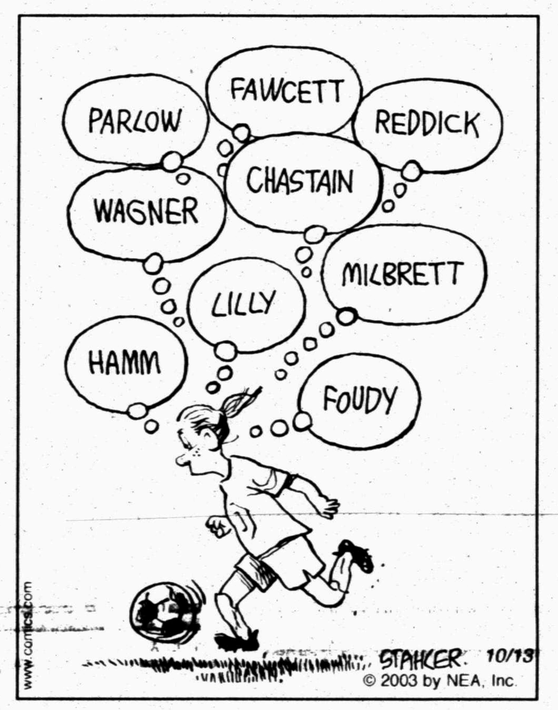
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**

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A year after war vote, frustrated Dems see little choice on Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — Like dozens of other Democrats who supported going to war in Iraq, Rep. Marty Meehan of Massachusetts is frustrated with the results.

A year after the pro-war vote in Congress, no weapons of mass destruction have been found. Postwar planning, he says, has been botched. President Bush is making little headway in winning a new U.N. resolution to provide fresh troops and money for Iraq.

Now Bush is asking Congress to vote again on Iraq, this time approving $87 billion for military operations and reconstruction there and in Afghanistan.

Yet, whatever misgivings they might have about last year's vote, Meehan and fellow Democrats may have little choice but to support Bush's request.

"The reality is I don't think any member would want to see all funding cut off for troops," said Meehan, a member of the House Armed Services Committee.

Democrats similarly had few alternatives last year when Bush requested the war authorization vote. A serious challenge would have severely weakened the president at a time he was pushing for a tough U.N. resolution demanding that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein declare his weapons and cooperate with inspectors.

It was also politically risky to oppose Bush, then riding high in opinion polls. With midterm elections approaching, Democrats were trying to keep control of the Senate and win control of the House. They did not want to be seen as weak on national security one year after the Sept. 11 attacks.

The war resolution was opposed by 126 House Democrats, but 81 supported it. It passed 296-133 on Oct. 10, 2002. The next day, 29 Democrats voted for the resolution and 21 opposed it as the measure passed the Senate 77-23.

"No one would have voted for it if we had known that there was no evidence of weapons of mass destruction," Meehan said.

Other Democrats are not so sure.

Rep. Jane Harman of California, top Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee, has criticized prewar intelligence on Iraq's weapons. But citing the dangers posed by Saddam, she said, "The reason why I voted for the resolution is still valid."

Some lawmakers' views have been shaped by their visits to Iraq — and the mass graves and other evidence they saw of atrocities by Saddam's rule.

"I certainly have concerns about the basis for the intelligence and how this was presented to Congress," said Rep. Norm Dicks, D-Wash., who visited Iraq last month. But of his vote for war, he said: "I still think it was the right thing to do."

Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota distinguished between the war itself and the handling of its aftermath.

"It's the building of peace that has been the subject of a great deal of criticism," Daschle said. "It's very important that we draw the distinction. And it's in that keeping of the peace and building up a new peaceful Iraq that I think the president has failed so far."

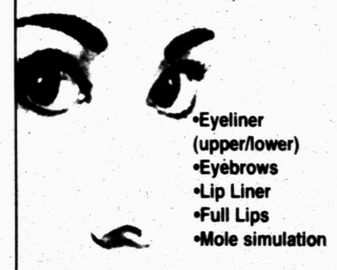
Democrats were wary of criticizing Bush last year, but they show no reluctance today with his popularity falling and public doubts about the Iraq war growing. They say his mismanagement of Iraq has left Americans with a huge toll in lives lost and war costs that will worsen the rising budget deficit.

As they consider his $87 billion request, Democrats demand accountability. They have targeted specific projects they see as wasteful, insist that Bush spell out his long-term plans and push for some of the money to be in the form of loans. Some Republicans have supported Democratic demands.

"We're holding their feet to the fire," said Rep. Ike Skelton of Missouri, the top Democrat on the House Armed Services Committee.

Despite the criticism, many Democrats say they eventually will support the request.

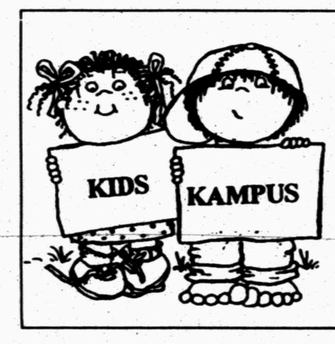
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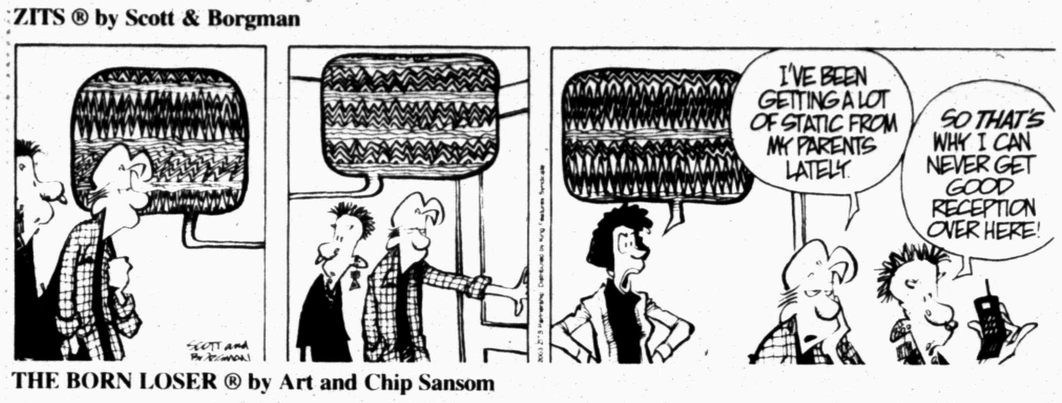
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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Give a little
5 Status —
8 Lose traction
12 General vicinity
13 Large vase
14 Tortilla snack
15 Lady's honorific
16 Sense of self
17 Country addrs.
18 Pony pad
20 Bound
21 Four qts.
22 Explode
23 Vexed
26 Poisonous snakes
29 Tobacco wad
30 Rains on
31 Miscellany
33 9-digit ID
34 Senora
35 Corn storage
36 Swirled around
38 Prince Am's mother
39 Had been
40 Buckeye st. campus
41 Cure
43 Air around a fen
46 Neutral or first
47 Beat the field
48 "Voila!" (hyph.)
50 Feudal underling
51 Squid's defense
52 British school
53 Jungfrau range
54 Barracks dwellers
55 Remainder

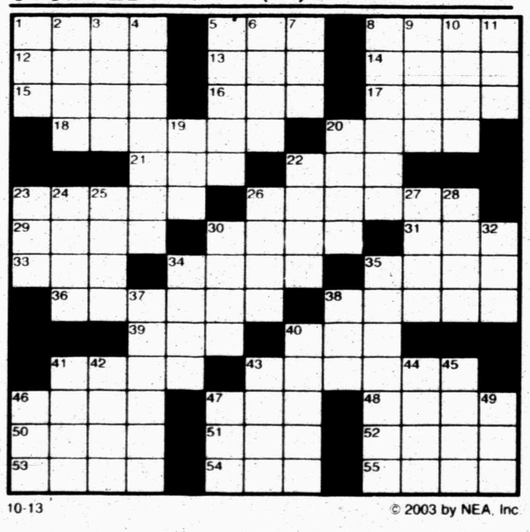
DOWN

1 Loud thud
2 Important decades
3 Dapper
4 Injured
5 Subdue
6 Try to persuade
7 Plastic — Band
8 Band
9 Petruchio's bride
10 Kept cold
11 Old PC system
19 Not good
20 Upper parts
22 Pocket bread
23 Mensa data
24 Trick
25 Gentle
26 Hawk
27 Steakhouse order
28 Fit of pique
30 Afflictions
32 "— Daba Honeymoon"
34 Indicator
35 Bunch
37 Fairy tale beings
38 Hungry — — bear
40 Farmyard noises
41 Foot part
42 Doc Holliday's friend
43 1960s fashion
44 Chess victory
45 Hubbubs
46 Brownie's org.
47 Hairpiece
49 Formic acid producer

Answer to Previous Puzzle

Z	U	L	U		J	A	D	E		A	A	H
I	N	I	T		A	B	E	D		G	N	U
P	I	T	T		Y	A	N	G		O	T	T
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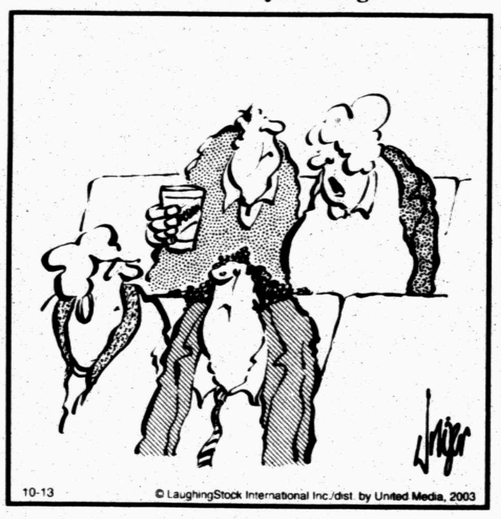
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SPORTS

Cowboys break Philly hex

IRVING (AP) — The Philadelphia Eagles found out in a hurry that these aren't the same old Dallas Cowboys.

Randal Williams returned an onside kick 37 yards for a touchdown just 3 seconds into the game, and Billy Cundiff hit a 28-yard field goal with 1:11 left as Dallas snapped a six-game losing streak against its division rival with a 23-21 win Sunday.

The Cowboys won their fourth straight under new coach Bill Parcells and are in first place in the NFC East, with their first 4-1 start since 1995. With a victory next week against Detroit, they'll match their win total in each of the past three seasons.

"This is a new era," Dallas quarterback Quincy Carter said. "This is a new football team. Coach Parcells has brought a whole new toughness to this team."

The Cowboys didn't waste any time proving it to the Eagles (2-3).

Philadelphia — coming off two wins after starting 0-2 — tried generating early momentum with the onside kick. It worked three years ago, setting the tone for a 41-14 Philadelphia win.

But not this time.

Williams seemed prepared, catching the kick on the fly and running into the end zone without being touched. It went down as the fastest score to begin a game since the NFL began using a scoreboard clock in 1970, but the time could be changed because the clock did not start immediately when Williams began the return.

"We thought we saw something during the week that we could take advantage of," Philadelphia coach Andy Reid said. "It just didn't work."

Dallas special teams coach Bruce DeHaven told Williams to be ready for it. DeHaven hadn't said that before any other game.

"I watched the kicker's approach. It was a little weird, so I knew it was coming," Williams said.

Dallas struggled on offense for much of the game, but was able to come up with big plays when they were needed.

And when the Cowboys trailed for the first time after Correll Buckhalter's 20-yard TD run with 4:14 left, the special teams and offense responded with the go-ahead points, then the defense protected that edge.

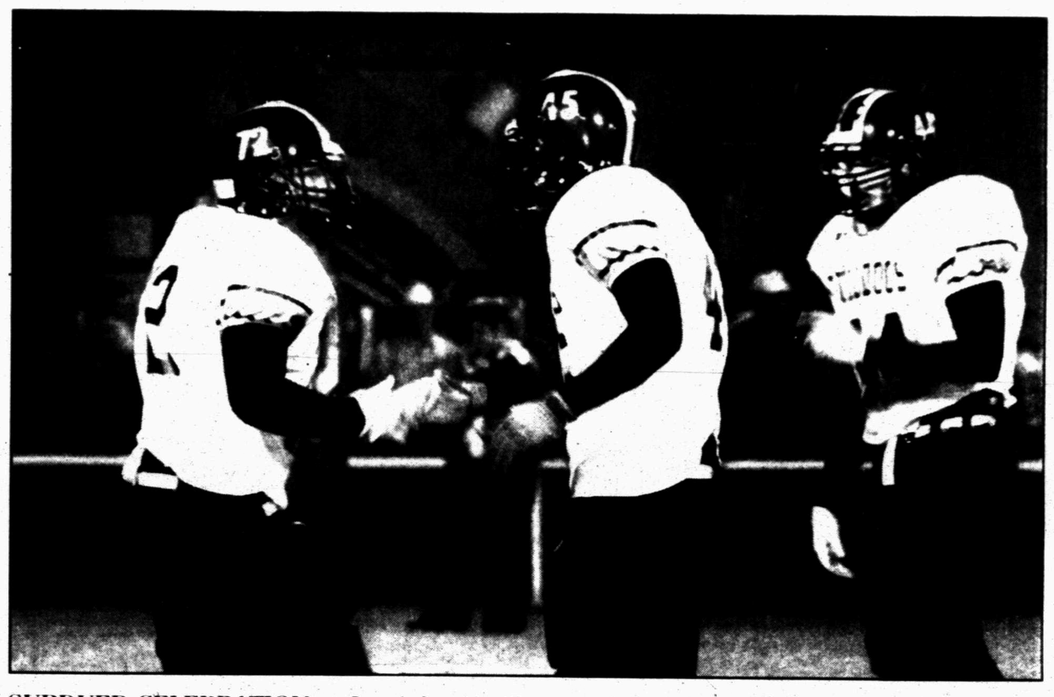
"I thought we'd be well-prepared," Parcells said. "I could tell. We did a lot of film work and our players were very attentive. ... I'm real happy about my team."

Carter offset shaky numbers — 14-of-25 for a season-low 146 yards — with a blitz-beating, third-down pass to Joey Galloway that kept the winning drive alive.

Even after the Eagles blew a 21-20 lead, they still had one more chance when James Thrash returned a kickoff to the 48 and they were one big play from David Akers' field-goal range.

"All they had to do was hit one pass," Parcells said. "I thought we may have lost it right there, but we came up with some plays."

Donovan McNabb threw two incompletions, then was sacked by Roy Williams and Dexter Coakley. While Williams wrapped up McNabb, Coakley knocked the ball loose, and La'Roi Glover recovered.



SUBDUED CELEBRATION — Ira defensive linemen, from left, Brandon Graves, Jake Barnes and Coby Appleton, celebrate after a safety that put Trent down by 41 points in the second quarter. Ira routed Trent in its district opener Saturday, 61-14. (SDN Staff Photo)

Ira dismantles Trent

TRENT — The other teams in District 8 better look out if Ira quarterback Wes Kellner ever feels better, because even when injured, he is pretty effective.



Kellner

Playing with a sore right foot that has nagged him all season, Kellner threw for 8 touchdowns on 9 completions, as the Bulldogs dispatched the Trent Gorillas, 61-14, early in the third quarter Saturday.

Kellner was 9 for 11 for 178 yards, and connected with end Jake Barnes for 6 of those scores as the Bulldogs made quick work of an overmatched Trent team that was celebrating its homecoming game.

Ira had every aspect of its offense working, despite the injury to Kellner and the early loss of starting tailback Jess Wall, who injured his elbow on the first series and stood on the sidelines with his arm in a sling the rest of the evening.

X-rays taken after the game of Wall's elbow were negative, and he was scheduled to be re-evaluated today. Head coach Toby Goodwin said he expects Wall to miss at least three weeks, as the elbow was unusually swollen.



Wall

Joel Lollar helped fill the void left by Wall, rushing for 107 yards on just eight carries, as Ira dominated the line of scrimmage.

Caleb Gutierrez averaged 21 yards-per-carry, taking four attempts for 85 yards.

"I was really proud of a lot of kids," Goodwin said. "We had spots to be filled and Caleb and Joel really stepped up."

Ira also was without Brandon Crane, who could not go after suffering a shoulder injury during Tuesday's practice.

Goodwin said he was not prepared for the loss of Crane, but that Coby Appleton came in and played admirably

"Coby had a heck of a game," Goodwin said.

Kellner, who got a foot massage from his head coach after each score, also hit Roy Torres and Justin Taylor on long touchdown passes.

"I was really proud of the kids' performance," Goodwin said. "We have Westbrook coming up, and it is always a good rivalry."

Westbrook downed Hermleigh, 55-22, Friday.

Beckett, Fish blank Cubs

MIAMI (AP) — Josh Beckett pitched the game of his young life and Florida put history on hold, beating the Chicago Cubs 4-0 and preventing them from wrapping up their first World Series trip in 58 years.

Beckett threw a two-hitter and struck out 11, sending the series back to Wrigley Field with Chicago's lead cut to 3-2. He became the first pitcher to throw a postseason shutout against the Cubs since Babe Ruth did it for Boston in the 1918 World Series.

"I had an idea we were going to go back home," Cubs manager Dusty Baker said. "Now we're going back to our fans and our people, and it's going to be exciting and electric."

Mark Prior is set to start in Game 6 Tuesday night against Florida's Carl Pavano. If he's needed, fellow ace Kerry Wood would pitch Game 7 the next day as Chicago tries to reach the Series for the first time since 1945.

"We feel confident with those guys on the mound, especially after a loss," Baker said.

Beckett's signature moment came in the fourth inning when he threw up-and-in to Sosa. The tension wasn't nearly as high as it was between the Yankees and Red Sox at Fenway Park in the ALCS a day earlier, but it had the ballpark buzzing.

"He overreacted a lot. I don't know if he was trying to pull a Boston Red Sox-Yankee thing," Beckett said. "It was pretty ignorant. I'm not trying to hit him."

Beaned twice this season, Sosa admitted he might have gotten too riled up.

"He probably wasn't throwing at me," he said. "But because of what happened before, maybe that was my reaction."

Spikers ace Cooper in five

The Snyder Lady Spikers improved to 3-4 in district play after a 25-18, 20-25, 25-10, 23-25 and 15-12 victory over Lubbock Cooper Saturday.



Johnson

Head coach Laura Moses said the team was in control throughout, but lost some continuity when she began to sub in the reserves.

"We got the other players involved, and they did a great job, but we lost some continuity," she said. "We controlled the game at the net and played pretty good defense. We were handling their hits, and Courtney (Cox) and Kelsi (Johnson) both had strong hits, as did Sarah (Crawford)."

Johnson had her best overall match of the season, recording 13 service points, 20 digs, four kills and three assists in the contest.

Crawford led the Lady Tigers with 19 kills in the match, and her defense at the net resulted in 11 blocks.

Kelbi Drum tallied 27 digs, 20 assists, eight points, two blocks and five kills, while Teddi Crenwelge notched seven kills and four assists.



Crawford

Cox posted eight points, 14 digs and four kills. Missy Vasquez continued her sound back-line play with 15 digs and 11 points.

Emily Jones had four blocks and seven kills, and Beth Clements added four digs in the victory.

The junior varsity swept Cooper Saturday, 25-14 and 25-13.

Head coach Darren Pool said Wendy Reed, Jessica Taylor, Allison Cottrell and Heather Zajicek all led from the service line.

"We played well as a team," he said. The JV improved to 4-2 in district and 11-15 overall.

The Lady Tigers will travel to Seminole Tuesday, with a 6:30 p.m. start scheduled for the varsity. The subvarsity is set to go at 5:30 p.m.

SHS continues improvement at Abilene cross country meet

Candace Chandler finished 22nd out of a field of 110 runners, and Terann Ragland placed 37th, as the Snyder cross-country girls placed 11th out of 14 teams at the ACU cross-country meet Saturday.

Chandler ran the course in 14:01, while Ragland recorded a 14:39.

Arthur Hernandez placed 20th for the boys out of 75 competitors, running the three-mile course in 18:47. The boys finished eighth out of nine squads.

"Most of the kids improved their times, and when compared to just the 3A teams, we did very well," coach Todd Pollard said.

Jeremy Torrez was 33rd with a 19:43, while Joseph Ynguanzo took 46th, crossing the line in 20:20.

Junior high runner Emmanuel Hernandez took ninth in his division with a 13:34.

Other times for the varsity boys were Tony Pena, 21:04 and Casey Newby, 25:30.

For the varsity girls, it was Destiny Proctor, 15:53; Tamara Taylor, 16:00; Erin Burleson, 16:20; and Casey Gregory, 16:23.

WTC women claim first place at Vernon

VERNON — The Western Texas College women won the Vernon rodeo over the weekend, adding 182 points to their season total after three rodeos.

Sabrina Lay continued her dominance in the Southwest Conference in barrel racing, winning every round and the average. She rode the circuit in 17.66 to claim the short round.

Julie Jones emerged from Vernon with a second-place standing in the goat-tying event, using an 8.7 in the short round to earn runner-up honors in the average and the short round.

The mens team had a setback, placing fifth. Tarleton State won the rodeo with 245 points, while West Texas A&M was second with 220. Point totals for the WTC men were not available.

Clay Bunney was second in the short round in bareback with a 72, which earned him a split for third in the average score.

"It was a good rodeo," coach Greg Rhodes said. "The guys did decent, they just didn't come out at the end. I'm not that disappointed in the men. Some of the guys who have been getting it done for us had a tough rodeo."

The team will take a week off to prepare for the Texas Tech rodeo Oct. 23.

Sports Briefs

Basketball booster club

The boys basketball booster club will meet at 7 tonight in the SHS student center.

Football booster club

The football booster club will meet at 7 tonight in the film room.

Appleby wins playoff in Vegas

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Stuart Appleby birdied the first playoff hole at the Las Vegas Invitational on Sunday to beat Scott McCarron and get his first PGA Tour victory since 1999.

Appleby and McCarron were tied at 31-under 328 at the end of the tournament's 90 holes.

Gustafson wins Samsung

THE WOODLANDS (AP) — Sophie Gustafson eagled the first hole and birdied eight others en route to an 8-under 64 to win the LPGA Samsung World Championship on Sunday. The 29-year-old Swede finished at 14-under 274.

Brack seriously hurt at Chevy 500

FORT WORTH (AP) — Kenny Brack was seriously injured in the Chevy 500 on Sunday when his car was hit from behind and pinwheeled down the track before breaking apart, marring Gil de Ferran's victory and Scott Dixon's IRL championship.

Brack suffered multiple fractures at the season-ending race at Texas Motor Speedway. The car broke apart when it slammed into the 12-foot steel catchfence at the top of the 39-inch concrete wall on the backstretch.

AP Top 25

		Record	Pts	Pvs
1.	Oklahoma (61)	6-0	1,597	1
2.	Miami (3)	6-0	1,534	2
3.	Virginia Tech	6-0	1,475	4
4.	Georgia	5-1	1,385	8
5.	Southern Cal	5-1	1,339	9
6.	Washington St.	5-1	1,161	12
7.	Florida St.	5-1	1,155	5
8.	Ohio St.	5-1	1,091	3
9.	Iowa	5-1	1,035	14
10.	LSU	5-1	986	6
11.	Arkansas	4-1	839	7
12.	N. Illinois	6-0	802	16
13.	Purdue	5-1	751	18
14.	Wisconsin	6-1	743	23
15.	Michigan St.	6-1	711	21
16.	TCU	6-0	647	18
17.	Michigan	5-2	611	20
18.	Nebraska	5-1	500	10
19.	Auburn	4-2	363	—
20.	Texas	4-2	311	11
21.	Tennessee	4-2	236	13
22.	Oregon St.	5-1	235	24
23.	Oklahoma St.	5-1	234	—
24.	Missouri	5-1	230	—
25.	Minnesota	6-1	224	17

Others receiving votes: Texas Tech 219, Bowling Green 120, Utah 92, Pittsburgh 74, Maryland 32, Miami (Ohio) 27, South Carolina 12, Florida 11, Air Force 7, Mississippi 4, Boston College 3, Boise St. 2, UCLA 1, Virginia 1.

MLB Playoffs

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(Best-of-7)
American League
(FOX)
Saturday, Oct. 11
New York 4, Boston 3. New York leads series 2-1
Sunday, Oct. 12
New York at Boston, ppd., rain
Today
New York (Mussina 17-8) at Boston (Wakefield 11-7), 7:18 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 14
New York (Wells 15-7) at Boston (Lowe 17-7), 3:18 p.m.
National League
(FOX)
Saturday, Oct. 11
Chicago 8, Florida 3
Sunday, Oct. 12
Florida 4, Chicago 0. Chicago leads series 3-2
Tuesday, Oct. 14
Florida (Pavano 12-13) at Chicago (Prior 18-6), 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 15
Florida at Chicago, 7:18 p.m., if necessary

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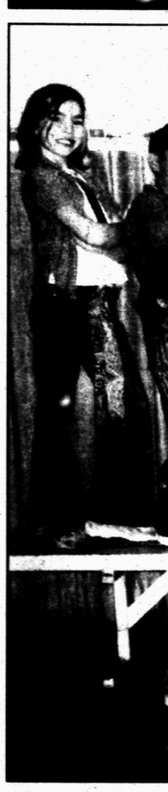
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SCHOOLHOUSE RAPS — Central third graders in classes of Magadalena Jaimes and Esther Stansell presented *Schoolhouse Raps!* Jaimes' students (top photo) are from left, top row, Janell Espinoza, Hector Torres, Dariela Garcia, Servando Gonzalez, Claudia Islas, Benjamin Alvarado, Julietta Hernandez, Maria Hernandez and Vanessa Carrasco; middle row, Misael Arellano, Alma Cabrera, Sonia Cabrera, Israel Islas, Ismael Islas, Gerardo Robles and Roberto Perez; bottom row, Cesar Torres, Aby Sanchez, Jennifer Facio, Jose Torres and Yadira Villalobos. Stansell's students (bottom row) Front row from left, Sydney Villarreal, Cailey Young, Christian Ortega Seth Lane and Brandon McCann; middle row, Dezarae Moreno, Triston Lopez-Villa, Jesse Garza, Tray Anderson, Loran Perry and Ashley Elizondo; back row, Penny Holdren, Cole Salinas, Austin Morris, Kiersten Price, Nolan Duzan, Dawn Carillo, Alex Hernandez, Tana Holley and Ashley Silva. (Staff Photos by Shirley A. Gorman)

Troops return to Iraq after 15-day leave with family

BALTIMORE (AP) — For the soldiers in Iraq facing the constant threat of attack, two weeks of home leave meant some precious rest and family time.

"I tried to cram as much family time as I could. I took my 8-year-old son to a couple of football games, and I got reacquainted with my daughter," said Staff Sgt. Jeffery Hannon, 32, from Fort Hood.

Though parting from loved ones was hard, many said they felt energized as the first troops to take advantage of the Army's unprecedented R&R program left Sunday to return to Iraq.

"It'll make the next six months easier to get used to," said Staff Sgt. Jason Whitaker, 33, from San Antonio.

The 200 troops, part of the military's largest leave program since the Vietnam War, were among the first to rotate home, according to an Army spokesman.

They originally arrived at Baltimore-Washington International Airport Sept. 26 amid concerns that two weeks with family and friends would be just long enough to make them miserable when the time was up. Many of those returning to Iraq on Sunday thought otherwise.

"Morale is kind of low over there," said Whitaker, who serves with a forward surgical team. "So I think this will make the guys feel a whole lot better."

Hannon said his daughter was 4 months old when he left for Iraq last January and was just beginning to call him "Daddy."

"It was good to let her know that she still has a Daddy," Hannon said.

Hannon, who serves with the 13th CosCom support unit, described his leave as "a bittersweet kind of deal. It helped our families to see us again. By the same token, we had to leave again."

Sgt. First Class Kenneth George, 45, said Iraq was his third and most difficult deployment. George, who served in Desert Storm and Bosnia, said it was harder to get adjusted to home life than it will be to readjust to military life.

He said it took him a couple days to wind down from the constant threat of attack and the trauma of seeing buddies wounded or killed. "But as soon as we get back there and hear the gunfire and the mortar fire, we'll snap right back."

Many of the troops said they found the public very supportive, regardless of how people may have felt about the war. They described seeing yellow ribbons and road signs welcoming them home.

Hannon said there was a church convention in the motel where he and other soldiers stayed last night, and this morning, soldiers were pulled into the services and prayed over and hugged.

"It made us feel real good," Hannon said.

At the same time, some soldiers found that people back home did not understand fully how hard it has been in Iraq.

"If one person dies, five or six are getting wounded," said George. "People are only hearing about the one man who is killed."

Since Sept. 26, there has been one flight per day from Iraq with an average of 240 soldiers on board, said Lt. Col. Robert Hagen, an Army spokesman.

This is the first time soldiers have been allowed to spend leave at home on this scale, Hagen said.

Soldiers who had been wounded and returned to duty — and those with newborn children they have not seen — are at the top of the list.

Deal reached on controversial sonar system

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The Navy has agreed to limit its peacetime use of a new sonar system designed to detect enemy submarines, but which may also harm marine mammals and fish, an environmentalist group said.

The Navy and the Natural Resources Defense Council, which sued the military on the issue, reached a legal settlement last week in which the Navy agreed to use the new system only in specific areas along the eastern seaboard of Asia, according to documents provided by the environmental group.

The agreement must be approved by a federal magistrate to become permanent, but if implemented the deal would greatly restrict the Navy's original plan for the sonar system, which once was slated to be tested in most of the world's oceans.

Navy officials familiar with the case could not immediately be reached for comment.

Environmentalists say sonar systems endanger marine mammals and fish, especially whales. They point to a different system the Navy used in 2000, when at least 16 whales and two dolphins beached themselves on islands in the Bahamas. Eight whales died and scientists found hemorrhaging around their brains and ear bones, which could have been caused by exposure to loud noise.

Last year the Natural Resources Defense Council and other environmental groups sued the Navy over the new system, seeking to restrict its use.

U.S. Magistrate Elizabeth Laporte later issued a preliminary injunction restricting use of the system, and in a separate ruling ordered the environmentalists and the Navy to negotiate a final settlement.

The new deal, which is the result of those negotiations, largely mirrors the restrictions imposed by Laporte's earlier injunction.

Joel Reynolds, director of the Marine Mammal Protection Project at the Natural Resources Defense Council, welcomed the settlement.

"This agreement safeguards both marine life and national security," Reynolds said in a statement. "It will prevent the needless injury, harassment, and death of countless whales, porpoises and fish, and yet allow the Navy to do what is necessary to defend our country."

In addition to restricting the system to the eastern seaboard of Asia, the Navy also agreed to seasonal restrictions designed to protect whale migrations, and to avoid using the system near the coast.

None of the restrictions applies during time of war.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 10-13-03
♠ A 6 4
♥ 7 2
♦ A K 8 5 4 2
♣ 5 3

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

East
♠ K J
♥ 9 6 4 3
♦ Q J 6
♣ Q J 10 8

South
♠ 9 5 3 2
♥ A K
♦ 7 3
♣ A K 7 6 2

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♦	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♥ Q

Monday, Oct. 13, 2003

Did the bat cause batty play?

By Phillip Alder

If one ever thinks one has seen it all, suddenly something new happens. Last summer, I was playing bridge with three of my students when a bat flew into the room! I was amazed how it zoomed around in complete silence.

Of course, I had to write down the deal we were playing. Look at the North-South hands and decide on your line in three no-trump after West has led the heart queen.

My three-diamond re-bid was game-invitational, showing a decent six-card suit and some 9-11 high-card points —v a slight underbid with ace-king, ace.

My partner won with her heart king and ducked a diamond. West returned the heart 10, but my partner won with her ace, ran the diamonds, and claimed 10 tricks. Was South's play businesslike or batty?

I congratulated partner on her play, but she had made a mistake that didn't cost, which I mentioned after the session was over.

South relied on a 3-2 diamond break. If they had been 4-1, she would have failed. But she can make the contract if either the diamonds are 3-2 or the clubs are 3-3. With the spade ace in the dummy as an entry, declarer should have started with dummy's two top diamonds. When both opponents follow throughout, South concedes a diamond and claims an overtrick. However, if the diamonds divide 4-1, declarer switches to clubs. If they are 3-3, South gets home via one spade, two hearts, two diamonds and four clubs.

Eventually, I caught the bat in a butterfly net and released it outside.

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Oil Patch News

Scurry County

Kinder Morgan will drill the No. 178-8 SACROC unit in the Kelly-Snyder field, three miles northwest of Snyder. Planned for a depth of 7,200 feet, drill site is in Section 39, Kirkland and Fields survey.

Kinder Morgan will drill the No. 178-6 SACROC unit in the Kelly-Snyder field, three miles northwest of Snyder. Planned depth is 7,200 feet, and location is in Section 39, Kirkland and Fields survey.

Patriot Resources Inc. will drill the No. 2-64 Ochsner in the Mirage field, one mile southeast of Dunn. Planned for a depth of 8,100 feet, location is in Section 64, Block 3, H&GN survey.

Howard County

Patriot Resources will drill the No. 1-14 Cole Ranch in the Vincent field, 22 miles northeast of Big Spring. Contracted for a depth of 5,000 feet, location is in Section 14, Block 26, H&TC survey.

Nolan County

Pioneer Exploration will drill the No. 8 TXL-K in the Hylton northwest field, seven miles south of Nolan. Planned for a depth of 6,400 feet, location is in Section 21, Block Z, T&P survey.

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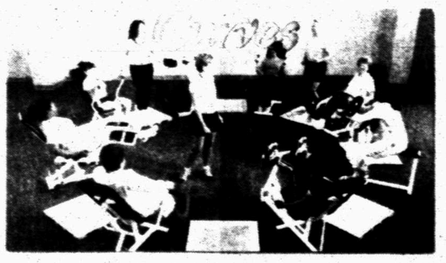


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LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, Drawer 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711-2967 (Telephone 512-463-6792).

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Warden says other windows vulnerable

WILKES-BARRE, Pa. (AP) — A warden says he wants an inspection of prison windows after an inmate charged with two murders and suspected of three others removed a seventh-floor window and escaped.

The 12-inch-by-18-inch window was found, intact, on the lower bunk of the cell from which Hugo Selenski and another inmate escaped on Friday, Luzerne County Correctional Facility Warden Gene Fischi said. Selenski remained at large Monday morning.

Similar windows at the jail are also vulnerable to being opened, Fischi said.

The inmates climbed down a rope assembled from 12 prison-issue bedsheets. Selenski's cellmate, Scott Bolton, fell during the escape attempt and was captured on a rooftop, critically injured. Bolton told officials that Selenski pushed him during their escape, but did not say whether it was an accident or not, Fischi said Sunday.

Selenski is charged with the murder of two people whose remains were exhumed from the yard of his home outside Wilkes-Barre. He also is a suspect in the deaths of three others whose bodies were also recovered from his property.

The escape occurred near the end of a two-hour period during which cells are unlocked and inmates in the overcrowded maximum security unit are permitted to leave them to socialize.

Selenski, 30, and Bolton, 39, walked into another inmate's unoccupied cell and removed the same window that was taken out in a failed 1990 escape attempt, Fischi said. The earlier attempt prompted the jail to weld windows to their frames, install bolts and add a layer of wire mesh to the interior.

Officials were examining the post-1990 improvements to see why they failed to stop Selenski and if further modifications are needed, he said.

"I welcome an investigation. I want them to test those windows," Fischi said.

District Attorney David Lupas criticized prison officials for allowing Selenski to wear nondescript civilian clothing and for giving the men access to a broom handle that might have been used to pry open the window.

He also said the prison was wrong to allow maximum security inmates to have "free access to each other's cells."

Fischi said that guards are instructed to discipline prisoners they catch in a cell other than their own, but he said that the white T-shirt and gray sweat pants Selenski was wearing are standard exercise attire. The inmates typically wear green jumpsuits, he said.

In the short term, Fischi has added perimeter building checks and more regular inspections of cell windows.

Selenski's attorney, Demetrius Fannick, said neither he nor any of Selenski's family members have had any contact from him. A phone call Selenski made from prison less than two hours before the escape was to his girlfriend, but he did not mention his plans and she was unaware of them, Fannick said.

"She was completely shocked when the police showed up at her door," Fannick said.

Selenski has been in jail since June, when police acting on a tip obtained a search warrant and began digging up bodies in his yard. Prosecutors said two victims, Frank James, 29, and Adeiye Keiler, 22, were killed in May as part of a plot to make money by kidnapping and robbing drug dealers. No charges have been filed in the deaths of the other three: a pharmacist who had been linked to illegal drug sales, his girlfriend and a third person whose identity has not been released.

Conjoined Egyptian boys are successfully separated in Dallas

DALLAS (AP) — Two-year-old twin boys from Egypt who had been joined at the head spent their first night apart after 34-hour separation surgery and a doctor said today they were "in good shape."

The surgery to separate little Ahmed and Mohamed Ibrahim began Saturday morning at Children's Medical Center Dallas and ended late Sunday afternoon. They remained in critical but stable condition early today.

"They had a very good night," Dr. James Thomas told ABC's "Good Morning America" on today. "They stayed in good shape. There were no major problems through the course of the evening. ... It couldn't have been a better night."

He said their blood pressure was stable and kidney function "perfect." They were on mechanical ventilators and were to remain in a drug-induced coma for three to four days.

Doctors stressed there were still concerns: the possibility of stroke, infection and how the wounds will heal, and long-term questions about brain damage from the surgery.

The conjoined twins, who had an intricate connection of blood vessels but separate brains, were physically separated about 26 hours after they entered the operating room. Doctors then went to work covering the head wounds.

The boys' father, Ibrahim Mohammed Ibrahim, fainted when he heard the operation was over.

"At one point when someone came up and said, 'you have two boys,' the father jumped to my neck and he hugged me and he fainted and I cared for him," said Dr. Nasser Abdel Al, who was with the family for the marathon operation. He is head of neonatal surgery at a Cairo hospital where the twins were taken shortly after their birth.

"He told me that he never dreamt of such a moment," said Abdel Al. He added that Ibrahim's wife, Sabah Abu el-Wafa, "was crying like everybody else."

The intricate operation had been in the planning stages for months. The surgery team used a specially made operating table that let doctors swivel the boys bodies for easy access to the front and back of their heads.

At a news conference Sunday afternoon, part of the medical team talked about the road ahead for the boys.

"We're very pleased with the surgical outcome," said Dr. Dale Swift, one of five pediatric neurosurgeons involved, "but the post-surgical care is extremely important — really can determine your outcome. So right now, we're waiting."

They will spend the postoperative phase at Children's until they are stable. Then they will be moved back to North Texas Hospital for Children at Medical City Dallas, where they were cared for before arriving at Children's on Thursday.

They will need additional reconstructive surgery in coming years.

Dr. Kenneth Salyer, a craniofacial surgeon who founded the World Craniofacial Foundation that brought the boys here, said his feelings had ranged "from moments of ecstasy to moments of concern and anxiety."

Swift described an unexpectedly difficult moment separating the left hemisphere of Mohamed's brain from part of Ahmed's. "It was very, very stuck together."

He said it was too early to tell what kind of neurological damage the boys might have.

The boys were born on June 2, 2001, by Caesarean section.

The Dallas-based World Craniofacial Foundation, a nonprofit group that helps children with deformities of the head and face, arranged to bring the boys to Dallas in June 2002 for an evaluation.

In the boys' hometown of el-Homr, some 400 miles south of Cairo, villagers have been praying in town mosques for the twins "to return safely," said Mohammed Ibrahim, 65, the twins' grandfather.

As conjoined twins, Mohamed and Ahmed smiled and giggled, babbled in English and Arabic and tried to move around any way they could. Experts had said they were getting behind in their development, compared with other children their age, because they were unable to explore their world.

When doctors concluded that a separation surgery was possible, the risks were explained to the parents.

Hermleigh Menu

Juice is served with breakfast; milk is served with all meals.

HERMLEIGH SCHOOL MENU

BREAKFAST

Tuesday
Donuts

Wednesday
Pancake Pup

Thursday
Cinnamon Toast

Friday
Sausage/Egg/Cheese

LUNCH

Tuesday
Pizza
Vegetable Salad
Corn
Fresh Apples

Wednesday
Burrito/Chili/Cheese
French Fries
Pinto Beans
Fruit Nut Bars

Thursday
Roast Beef/Noodles
English Peas
Fried Okra
Hot Rolls
Apricot Crisp

Friday
Sloppy Joe
Potato Wedges
Pickles/Onions
Banana Pudding

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Nocturnal leg cramps a medical mystery

DEAR DR. GOTT: What causes nighttime leg cramps? Does dietary insufficiency or lack of exercise play a role?

DEAR READER: The cause of nocturnal leg cramps is unknown, although some experts believe that this painful, recurring affliction may be the result of inadequate circulation to the calf muscles, a common complication of aging.

Many patients have found that quinine helps reduce symptoms. I suggest that you drink 8 ounces of tonic water in the evening, or use one or two quinine pills, to see if this inexpensive remedy may help. Remember that some people confuse nocturnal leg cramps with restless legs syndrome, a more devastating disorder that requires prescription drugs (Permax and others) for relief.

So, if you are really having painful leg cramps, try the quinine. If, on the other hand, your legs feel uncomfortable at night and you have to arise and walk to relieve that restlessness, see your physician for further advice and treatment.

If you choose this route, please mention restless legs syndrome, because your doctor may not have thought of it and will need to engage in some research.

DEAR DR. GOTT: A recent blood test showed my PSA to be 18.7. Does such a reading indicate prostate cancer? How should I proceed?

DEAR READER: The Prostate Specific Antigen blood test is one of several techniques used to diagnose prostatic cancer. The normal range is 0-4 nannograms per deciliter.

An elevated PSA reading does not necessarily indicate malignancy — although the higher the reading, the greater the chance of cancer.

In my practice, I often examine middle-aged men who have enlarged prostate glands and PSA values in the 5-15 range. Further testing almost always confirms that the high reading merely reflects nonmalignant enlargement of the prostate gland. However, levels above 20 are highly suspicious.

In your case, the PSA is in a "gray area" — too high to ignore, but too low to be diagnostic. Were I your family physician, I'd refer you to a urologist for further examination, including ultrasound testing of the prostate and, possibly, biopsy.

There are two reasons why I would refer you. One, the most important, is that your elevated PSA could indicate an early stage of a serious condition that needs immediate treatment. Therefore, to give you good care, I'm obligated to seek help from a specialist.

The second, less important, reason is that while I doubt that you have prostate cancer, if you do (and I have failed to refer you to a urologist), I could be considered negligent and end up in court.

Ask your primary care physician to refer you.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "The Prostate Gland." 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.

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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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	15.03	14.35	14.54	—.10
AOL TimeWrn	16.00	15.70	15.91	+.18
AT&T Corp rs	20.37	20.08	20.21	+.02
Albertsons	21.23	20.71	21.04	+.07
Alltel	49.35	49.10	49.24	+.04
AmEl Pw	29.74	29.53	29.73	+.17
AndarkPtr	43.05	42.51	42.59	—.42
ATMOS Egy	24.69	24.38	24.66	+.18
Aviall	13.94	13.54	13.93	+.35
BP PLC	44.71	44.20	44.67	+.61
BakerHughes	31.35	30.98	31.10	—.18
Bank of Amer	81.87	81.28	81.70	+.58
BellSouth	24.31	24.12	24.18	—.07
BurlNoSFe	29.75	29.49	29.73	+.38
Caterpillar	77.40	76.00	77.03	+1.28
CenterPoint	9.95	9.70	9.87	+.17
ChevronTex	74.74	74.00	74.67	+.87
Citigroup	48.67	48.15	48.63	+.73
CocaCola	44.25	44.00	44.16	+.33
ColgatePal	58.50	58.07	58.22	+.32
CmclMetals	20.56	19.97	20.56	+.58
ConocoPhill	58.01	57.36	57.95	+.76
Cooper Inds	50.88	50.67	50.83	+.38
DaimlrChry	37.19	36.88	37.10	+.62
DeltaAirl	15.14	14.61	14.73	+.12
Dillards Inc	16.59	16.08	16.45	+.40
DowChem	34.70	34.25	34.55	+.40
DuPont	40.89	40.49	40.85	+.43
EastmanChem	32.50	32.22	32.23	—.01
EstKodak	23.00	22.35	22.90	+.55
EDS Corp	22.26	21.77	22.07	+.51
Entergy	54.11	53.57	54.09	+.37
ExxonMobil	38.59	38.36	38.55	+.25
FootLocker	17.32	17.02	17.30	+.38
GenDynam	82.77	81.60	82.68	+1.43
GenlElec	29.55	29.25	29.26	—.06
GenMills	45.38	45.10	45.23	—.01
GenMotors	43.95	43.00	43.78	+.99
GaPacific	26.60	26.30	26.46	+.29
Goodrich	26.20	25.95	26.13	+.40
Goodyear	7.20	7.05	7.15	+.03
GtAtlPac	7.98	7.75	7.97	+.25
Halliburtn	24.85	24.56	24.65	—.10
Hanson ADS	35.42	35.15	35.39	+.49
HarteHanks	19.34	19.20	19.32	+.12
HomeDepot	35.40	35.10	35.29	+.37
HoneywellIntl	29.00	28.21	28.69	+1.19
IBM	93.54	93.02	93.27	+.60
IntlPaper	39.13	38.61	38.99	+.67
JohnsonJn	49.86	49.35	49.69	+.45
KinderMorg	55.38	55.24	55.32	+.12
Kroger Co	19.49	19.17	19.35	+.13
LockheedM	46.85	46.26	46.79	+.59
Lowes Cos	57.99	57.30	57.89	+.95
Lubys	2.49	2.40	2.41	—.04
LucentTech	2.42	2.36	2.40	+.04
MarathonOil	30.41	30.16	30.37	+.16
MayDeptStr	27.66	27.07	27.50	+.53
Medtronic	45.06	44.75	44.89	—.01
Motorola	14.60	13.85	13.91	+.12
NCR Corp	34.97	34.76	34.79	—.03
Navistar	40.87	40.20	40.61	+.65
PNM Rescs	28.70	28.40	28.65	+.20
Penney JC	23.40	22.81	23.38	+.57
PepBoys	17.10	16.90	17.01	+.11
PepsiCo	48.45	48.00	48.41	+.41
PhelpDodge	53.75	53.53	53.69	+.31
PilgrmPrd B	13.22	13.14	13.16	+.05
Praxair	66.88	66.39	66.62	+.46
ProctGamb	96.15	95.45	95.90	+.31
RadioShack	30.42	29.90	30.21	+.13
RoyalDut	46.76	46.53	46.69	+.67
SBC Comm	22.14	21.83	21.86	—.09
SaraLee	19.04	18.87	19.02	+.16
Scripps EW	87.98	87.50	87.50	+.25
SearsRoeb	51.04	49.71	50.70	+1.00
SherwinW	32.06	31.65	32.01	+.31
SouthernCo	29.76	29.53	29.61	+.01
SwstAirl	18.99	18.70	18.80	+.31
SprintFON	16.00	15.72	15.87	+.22
SprintPCS	5.92	5.79	5.85	+.05
Sunoco Inc	42.70	42.24	42.66	+.45
TXU Corp	23.00	22.84	22.98	+.10
TmpleInland	50.36	49.75	50.27	+.88
TexInd	27.37	26.60	27.30	+.65
TexasInst	25.80	25.05	25.43	—.05
Textron	45.00	44.05	44.91	+.87
TrinityInds	26.50	26.30	26.45	+.52
TylerTech	7.90	7.75	7.90	+.16
UnionPacif	59.05	58.32	58.98	+.79
USSteel	19.88	19.49	19.80	+.29
UnitedTech	83.20	82.50	82.92	+.79
Unocal	31.95	31.65	31.81	+.03
VerizonComm	32.50	32.05	32.11	—.24
WalMart	59.08	58.43	59.04	+.62
WellsFargo	54.92	54.60	54.78	+.23
WstnGasRs	41.31	41.01	41.19	+.14
WinnDixie	8.82	8.50	8.53	—.12
Xerox Cp	11.49	11.13	11.47	+.36
YumBrands	32.42	31.96	32.34	+.25

Happy 14th Birthday
Jacob
McFatridge

SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIED
ALWAYS A WINNER

Employment

Taking applications for energetic P/T Assistant Manager position. Previous experience helpful, but not required. Must have valid driver's license. Apply at Sun Loans, 2519 College Ave., Snyder. No phone calls please.

Youth Pastor's Secretary
First Baptist Church
Must have strong organizational skills and strong computer skills. Pick up application at 1701 27th St.

WSI Cased Hole Specialist
Now Taking Applications
Requirements:
21 years of age and older
CDL desired but not required
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(Apply In Person, NO CALLS)

Instructions

Defensive Driving Classes
Mon. & Tues. Oct. 13th–14th,
6p.m.– 9p.m. each night.
2619 College Ave. 573-2850

Farmer's Column

***1983** Ford 6700 tractor, $5,500
***1988** Cadillac Brougham, 54K original miles. $3,000
573-6839

Wheat hay & bermuda grass hay available. Square or round bales. Fertilized.
Hinton C & S
573-0878 725-8576

Sporting Goods

18"x18" carpet pads for deer stand. 50¢ each 207-3947

Merchandise

SPECIAL TOUCHES
1¢ Jewelry Sale
2950 Gary Brewer Rd.
Tue. & Wed. 10a.m.–5p.m.
Thurs. & Fri. 10a.m.–6:30p.m.

1995 Lincoln 200 welder. Assorted welding supplies. 573-5291 or 303 36th, backyard

1 yr. old white Sharp Carousel sensor cook microwave, 1200 watts. (2) large brass & green glass table lamps. See at 4112 Jacksboro.

GUARANTEED USED APPLIANCES
Washers, Dryers, Refrigerators, Ranges & Freezers
WESTERN AUTO 2510 Ave. R

***King** size waterbed, $250.
***Bunk** bed w/futon sleeper, $175.
***Piano,** $425.
*Sleeper sofa, $100.
573-8426

Queen mattress & box springs for sale, $75 for set. Inquire at Purple Sage Motel, 573-5491 weekdays.

Dogs, Pets, Etc.

6 male, mostly Lab, puppies to be given away.
573-0029, leave message.

Free To Good Home
female Australian Shepherd Collie mix, 7 months.
Call after 5p.m., 573-0271.

Everyone reads classifieds!

Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE
Association for Retarded Citizens open each Tuesday and Thursday, 8a.m.-3:30p.m., 2504 Ave. W. Good used children's clothes. Donations of useable & sellable items accepted. For local pickup on items, call 573-4186, 573-5374 or 573-3729.

Apartments For Rent

1 bedroom furnished apartment for rent. No bills paid, no pets. Deposit required. Call 207-2122.

College Park Apartments
4503 College
2 bedroom apartment available in clean, quiet, 16-unit complex. Locally owned. 575-3084 573-0340

Western Crest & Windridge Village
Do you have a pool, 24 hr. maintenance, or a yard person??
Motor on by & check out our carefree living at affordable rates!
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Snyder, TX
573-1488
1 Bedroom, 1 Bath, Pool
2 Bedrooms, 2 bath
W/D Connections, Pool & Playground

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1900 37th St.
573-5285

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Must See!
4-2-2, CH/A, remodeled inside & out. $69,000 Call for appointment. 573-7585

Owner Finance
2-1, fenced, large rooms, remodeled bath & kitchen. 218 29th St. $1,000/dwn., $350/mo. 12 yrs
Call **207-0508**

Owner Will Finance
low down, low monthly, quick closing. 3006 38th
4 bedrooms, 2 baths.
Milton Richards 806-790-0827

Spacious, lovely 3-2-2, den, fireplace, patio, new carpet, new kitchen. 2703 47th
$119,000 573-1428

JACK & JACK
Realtors
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Ford Spikes, Owner/Broker
573-8571 573-3452
Fluvanna 3-2, den on .34 A's water well **Bargain**
Mobile Home 3-2 2309 O'Neil w/app. Very nice!
Owner Finance Lrg. Mobile Home 2-2, 302 24th Nice $20T
3773 Dalton 3-1¾-1cp, den, dining..$35T
60 Acres w/Gorgeous Home 1986 sq. ft. **REDUCED!** 1.710A's 3-2-2, 15mi. S on 208 $65T
600 29th St. 2-1-1 + office + den....$20T
Shop Bldg. + 3 Lots 407 College & 2-1 **Merrill**
111 Peach 2 or 3-1 ..... $12.5T
80 acres 5 mi. SW of Hermleigh. 3-2-2 + office + shop & out building.....Call
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573-5486

OCT 13 2003

Best Available Copy

Some operatives in recent al-Qaida plans still remain at large

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some of the al-Qaida operatives whose activities led to a U.S. security warning last month have been captured, while others remain at large, U.S. counterterrorism authorities say.

"We have received a lot of good information from these detainees over the past several weeks and corroborated the fact there were active plans, ongoing, to conduct another attack in the United States," said William H. Parrish, a top intelligence official with the Homeland Security Department, during a recent interview with The Associated Press.

"This attack as they indicated was probably going to be multiple attacks, simultaneous," he said.

The al-Qaida members include some lieutenants operating in Saudi Arabia. Their leader, Abu Bakr al-Azdi, turned himself in in June; his deputy was killed in a recent shootout with Saudi forces.

"We also know there were also other members involved with this planning that are still loose," Parrish said.

Parrish, the acting assistant secretary for information analysis at Homeland Security, said the threat posed by this group remains one of the top domestic terrorism concerns.

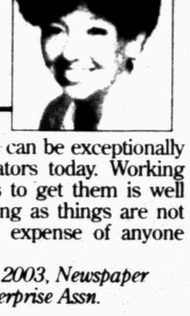
On Sept. 4, the department issued a warning to security personnel suggesting an al-Qaida attack was in the works. It offered a number of potential threats; atop the list were concerns terrorists would again hijack airplanes and use them as weapons.

But the precise nature of the threat remains unclear. Enter Parrish, whose charge is to turn vague, uncertain intelligence into coherent, useful warnings for police, emergency workers and corporate security officials.

He now has about 60 intelligence analysts working for him — a tiny shop compared with operations at the CIA and FBI. His group also must find a role distinct from the Terrorist Threat Integration Center, the new operation designed to share information between the FBI, CIA and other agencies on terrorist plots.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2003

Influences which may be difficult to discern will be working on your behalf in the year ahead to better your lot in life. It looks like your needs and desires are about to be met, so keep an optimistic outlook.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — The best way to satisfy what you can't acquire for yourself immediately is to take a long-range view over how and when your desires can be gratified. With a game plan, you'll get what you want.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Someone who thinks highly of you is well aware of your present needs and is doing what she or he can today to try to set in motion ways to ease your personal burden. You're not alone.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — A fresh alternative to making a better or more sensible decision about a situation you've been pondering could come about today simply by listening to the opposition. Be open-minded.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — In career situations today, perform to the very best of your abilities. Don't worry about how something looks or what you have to go through to get to your end result, just do a good job.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Forego all forms of affectation today and don't pretend to be anybody but yourself. You have real charisma and a fresh approach to things that will captivate and appeal to others.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — The most important factor involving a family issue that may be of a confidential nature is that the majority must be in accord with the action that needs to be taken. No individual desire should prevail.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — An important work-related decision you may have to make today should not be based solely on what's in it for you. Giving equal credence to other considerations will reward you far more than singular desires.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Instead of expecting your family to make sacrifices today so that you can purchase something you want, find a way to make extra money for this sole purpose. You'll feel better about it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Your influence over your friends is much stronger than you think. Today they'll be swayed not only by what you say but by the example you set. Better make it a good one.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — It will be very important today that you keep a matter that is of a sensitive or secret nature strictly to yourself or to those who are directly involved. Betrayal could be costly.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Don't take as gospel a financial tip you get today, even when it comes from a close friend. Your friend may mean well, but things may have changed since your pal got the information. Check it out.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Material desires can be exceptionally powerful motivators today. Working on finding ways to get them is well and good, so long as things are not acquired at the expense of anyone else.

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The Snyder Slingers

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BUSINESS CARD DIRECTORY

Spotlight



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Tom Mechen (325) 573-6562 Home 573-5219

No more flat tires, even in the most hazardous operating environments. Tom Machen, owner of Tom's Marine Sales and Service, located at 315 Coliseum Drive, now offers flatproofing. Your pneumatic tires will roll right over spikes, scrap metal, nails, rocks...you name it. You could even shoot them with an elephant gun and they would keep right on rolling.

With flatproofing, you will get the full tread life of your tire, frequent tire repair costs will be eliminated or drastically reduced, the potential for tires or wheels to fail with explosive force will be eliminated and never again will you get stuck due to tire failure.

Flatproofing is also ideal for bicycles and hunting vehicles.

Put an end to expensive tire-related costs, premature tire failure and downtime - see Tom Machen at Tom Marine, 315 Coliseum Drive or give him a call at 573-6562 and let him flatproof your tires.

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Rodney & Theresa Dupree
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Best Available Copy

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

U.S. official says Saddam hiding in Tikrit

TIKRIT, Iraq (AP) — Saddam Hussein has been hiding in his hometown Tikrit and is believed to be exerting influence within the resistance that has been killing American soldiers at a rate of nearly one every two days, a U.S. officer said today.

The American casualties continued, with one soldier killed and two wounded when attackers fired a rocket-propelled grenade at their patrol in Tikrit. A second soldier was killed and another wounded when their vehicle struck a land mine in Beiji, 120 miles north of Baghdad.

U.S.-led coalition officials said they had made arrests in a suicide car bombing that shook central Baghdad on Sunday, killing at least six bystanders and wounding dozens of others.

U.S. troops have been struggling to put down an insurgent campaign that has targeted American forces and has increasingly turned to using dramatic suicide attacks. The most recent deaths brought to 96 the number of U.S. soldiers known to have been killed in hostile action since May 1, when President Bush declared major combat over.

A top American officer in Tikrit told The Associated Press that Saddam likely has a "strong influence" on anti-U.S. guerrilla attacks in the area around the city.

"We have clear indication he has been here recently," Maj. Troy Smith, executive officer of the 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, told reporters.

"He could be here right now," Smith added. "At the least, he is maintaining a strong influence in the area."

Support for Saddam still runs deep in Tikrit and other parts of the so-called "Sunni triangle," a region north of Baghdad where Saddam's Baathist regime drew much of its power. Most of the attacks employ rocket propelled grenades or roadside bombs. Saddam's Fedayeen militia and his most loyal supporters are believed to be financing and organizing the attacks. The U.S. military says it has uncovered scores of bomb-making facilities and weapons caches in private homes across the Sunni region.

Saddam, who was born in a village on the southern outskirts of Tikrit, was last seen in Baghdad in early April as the city was falling to American forces. His sons Odai and Qusai were killed July 22 in the northern city of Mosul.

Smith did not elaborate on intelligence information that has led the military to conclude that Saddam has been in the Tikrit area but expressed confidence in the quality of the information.

"Where else would he go to?" Smith said. "He has family and tribal roots here."

Smith said some of the other key regime figures still at large could be in the Tikrit area. Of the 55 Iraqis on the coalition's most wanted list, 38 are in custody, 14 are at large and three are either dead or thought to be dead.

"We think they could still be around," he said. "They obviously have the money to pay the average poor Iraqi to shoot at coalition forces... We believe we are dealing with very few individuals here."

Clark admits he did not always get along with Pentagon brass

WASHINGTON (AP) — Wesley Clark, the retired four-star general who is running for president, got himself in hot water with his Pentagon bosses more than once in his 34-year military career.

Clark matter-of-factly recounts a time when the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff was so irked he grumbled that Clark had "one foot on a banana peel and one foot in the grave." As it turned out, less than a year later Clark was yanked out of his job as NATO's Supreme Allied Commander early, his military career abruptly over.

Plenty of generals in the U.S. military have been chewed out, of course. And plenty of Clark's former colleagues in the military speak highly of him. But it is notable that a number of fellow retired officers now speak frankly about what they see as his shortcomings as a leader.

The man who vaulted to the head of the Democratic pack since declaring his candidacy three weeks ago is running on the luster of a standout career that took him from first in his class at West Point to a Silver Star earned in Vietnam to the top ranks of Pentagon brass.

Heated disputes over strategy and tactics, particularly during combat, are inevitable among officers at that level, but not questions about personal ethics.

So it raised eyebrows last month when the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs, retired Gen. Hugh Shelton, gave a barbed answer when asked what he thought about Clark as a presidential candidate.

"I've known Wes for a long time," Shelton said. "I will tell you the reason he came out of Europe early had to do with integrity and character issues, things that are very near and dear to my heart. ... I'll just say Wes won't get my vote."

The general has since declined to elaborate. Clark responded that he and Shelton had had "professional disagreements and for him they became personal."

At the time of Clark's early recall from his NATO tenure in 1999, the Pentagon said he was relieved of command simply to make way for another officer waiting to assume the position. It was Shelton who broke the news to Clark.

Several other retired officers, while crediting Clark for tremendous intellect and determination, also raise questions about trustworthiness and whether his personal ambition and drive to succeed caused him to overstep his bounds and go outside the established chain of command.

Retired Gen. Dennis Reimer, a former Army chief of staff, describes Clark as an intelligent, "hardworking, ambitious individual who really applies himself hard."

More than 1,200 Palestinians left homeless after Israeli hit

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Yasser Arafat appointed a senior official from the ruling Fatah party as acting security chief, an official said today, a new blow to Palestinian Prime minister Ahmed Qureia.

U.N. officials said Israel's three-day military operation in a Gaza Strip refugee camp left 1,240 Palestinians homeless, the largest demolition of houses in a Gaza raid in three years of fighting.

Arafat appointed Hakam Balawi to the security post, a Palestinian official said on condition of anonymity. Qureia, who had supported another candidate, has told Fatah he wants to quit once the term of his temporary government expires in about three weeks because of sharp disagreements with Arafat. However, with the deadline three weeks off, there is still time to settle the differences, Palestinian officials said.

Israeli troops withdrew from the Rafah refugee camp on the Gaza-Egypt border Sunday, after a three-day operation the military said was aimed at finding and destroying weapons smuggling tunnels. Three tunnels were shut down.

The raid, the biggest in Gaza in six months, was accompanied by heavy fighting between soldiers and Palestinian gunmen. Eight Palestinians, including two children, were killed, and dozens were wounded.

The U.N. Relief and Works Agency, which cares for refugees, initially said that about 1,500 Palestinians were left homeless in the raid, the largest-scale demolition of houses in a single operation in Gaza in the past three years of fighting. After further checks, the agency revised the number to 1,240.

"We have had very, very significant damage to the refugee camp," Peter Hansen, the commissioner general of UNRWA, said after inspecting the damage Sunday. "Many houses, maybe as many as 120, have been completely demolished."

Another 70 houses were damaged, said Saed Zoarub, the mayor of the town of Rafah next to the camp.

The area targeted was the camp's Yabena neighborhood, next to the Gaza-Egypt border. Several of the houses were blown up, while the remainder were razed by army bulldozers. It was the largest-scale demolition in a single raid since the outbreak of Israeli-Palestinian fighting three years ago.

Rafah has been repeatedly targeted by Israeli troops.

In all, nearly 3,500 houses have been demolished in the Gaza Strip in the past three years, including about 1,200 in Rafah, municipal officials said.

Seven arrested over the weekend

• ***Arrests***

Steve Rose, 31, of 4503 College Ave. was arrested Saturday night by city officers on East Hwy. 180 for felony driving while intoxicated.

DPS troopers arrested a 29-year-old male Saturday night on Hwy. 208 on outstanding city warrants for failure to wear a seat belt and failure to appear.

A 28-year-old female was taken into custody at the VFW at midnight Saturday for Class A assault, family violence, and resisting arrest.

At 1 a.m. Sunday, a man was arrested in the United Supermarket parking lot for public intoxication.

Following a report of loud music around 2 a.m. Sunday in the 3600 block of 40th Street, officers arrested a 22-year-old male for public intoxication.

A report of a reckless driver at 4 a.m. Sunday in the 3200 block of 40th Street resulted in the arrest of a 38-year-old male for driving while intoxicated.

City officers arrested an 18-year-old male at 10:30 Sunday night in the 3100 block of 40th Street on outstanding warrants for driving under the influence, not using a seat belt, no liability insurance and failure to appear on the three charges.

• ***Thefts***

A report of a welding trailer and equipment missing from the 300 block of 23rd Street was made early Saturday morning. An offense report for a state jail felony theft was filed.

A Class B theft report was filed at 11 a.m. Saturday as a person reported a tailgate stolen from his pickup in the 3700 block of Avondale.

An offense report for burglary of a building was filed around noon Saturday as an air compressor was reported stolen from the 1600 block of Andres.

A Chihuahua was reported missing from the 3000 block of 40th Street Saturday afternoon.

Sunday afternoon, a person reported someone had taken pit bulldogs from the 3800 block of Noble Drive.

At 10 p.m. Sunday, a person reported a Chihuahua missing from the 400 block of 34th Street.

• ***Criminal mischief***

Saturday morning, a woman reported a stepping stone had been damaged in a yard in the 3000 block of Hill Ave.

Saturday night, a person reported someone throwing rocks at his vehicle. He said it occurred in the 3200 block of Avenue E.

At 9:44 p.m. Sunday, a woman reported someone throwing rocks at her residence in the 400 block of 32nd Street.

Officers filed a report for Class B mischief at 7:20 Sunday morning from the 400 block of 36th Street as a car windshield had been damaged.

Sunday afternoon, a woman reported her fence in the 2700 block of Avenue U had been damaged.

At 6:30 Sunday afternoon, a person reported a lock had been broken on a trailer parked at Countryplace.

• ***Gas drive-off***

A report for a gas drive-off for $10 was made Saturday afternoon from United Fuels.

At 11:30 p.m. Saturday, a gas drive-off was reported from Town & Country East.

• **Loud music**

A report for loud music was made Saturday morning from the 2800 block of Avenue Q.

• ***Dog at large***

Officers were called to the 100 block of 34th Street Saturday afternoon as a Rottweiler was running at large.

• ***Power outage***

Dispatchers received calls beginning around 6:48 p.m. Saturday of a power outage in an area including the 3600 block of 41st Street and into Blockline Rd. Oncor representatives said a fuse blew on a transformer southwest of Snyder and the outage lasted about 43 minutes with 30 customers affected.

• ***Motorist assists***

Officers assisted 12 persons who had locked keys in their vehicle over the weekend.

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Today's Weather

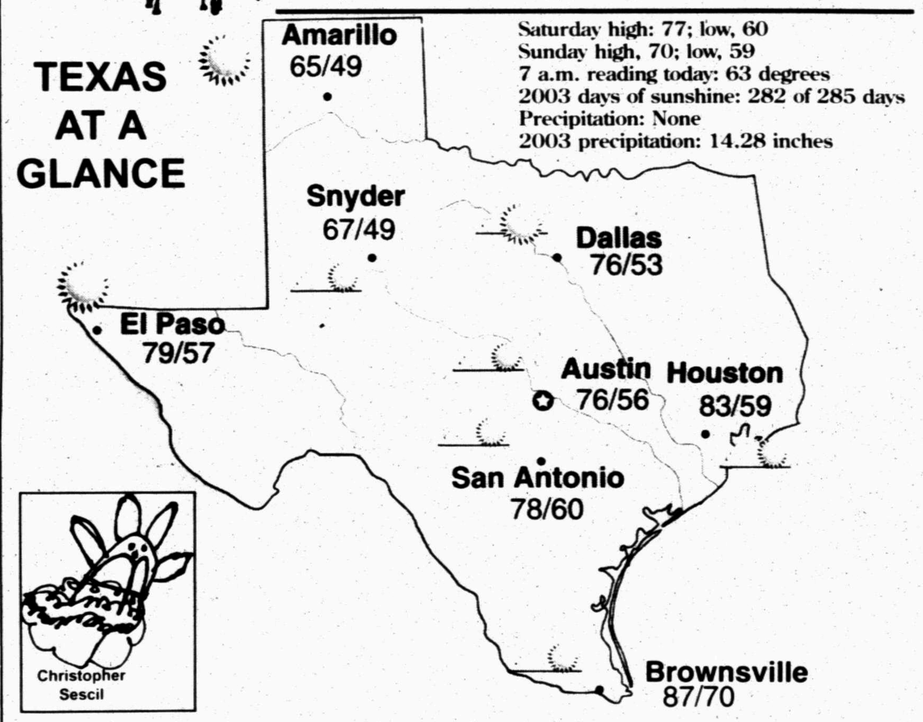
Local 3-Day Forecast

Tue 10/14	Wed 10/15	Thu 10/16
67/49	72/56	75/56
Partly cloudy. Cooler. High 67F. Winds NE at 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 50s.	Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the mid 50s.
Sunrise 7:47 AM / Sunset 7:12 PM	Sunrise 7:47 AM / Sunset 7:11 PM	Sunrise 7:48 AM / Sunset 7:10 PM

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TEXAS AT A GLANCE

Saturday high: 77; low, 60
Sunday high, 70; low, 59
7 a.m. reading today: 63 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 282 of 285 days
Precipitation: None
2003 precipitation: 14.28 inches



Christopher Sescil

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	70	52	mst sunny	El Paso	79	57	sunny	Midland	70	55	mst sunny
Amarillo	65	49	sunny	Fort Stockton	72	56	sunny	Raymondville	86	66	t-storm
Austin	76	56	pt sunny	Gainesville	75	47	sunny	Rosenberg	83	58	pt sunny
Beaumont	82	56	pt sunny	Greenville	75	48	mst sunny	San Antonio	78	60	pt sunny
Brownsville	87	70	pt sunny	Houston	83	59	pt sunny	San Marcos	78	56	pt sunny
Brownwood	75	51	mst sunny	Kingsville	84	64	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	76	47	mst sunny
Corpus Christi	82	65	pt sunny	Livingston	81	52	pt sunny	Sweetwater	69	51	mst sunny
Corsicana	77	50	mst sunny	Longview	77	49	mst sunny	Tyler	77	51	mst sunny
Dallas	76	53	mst sunny	Lubbock	68	50	mst sunny	Weatherford	75	48	mst sunny
Del Rio	78	64	pt sunny	Lufkin	80	53	mst sunny	Wichita Falls	74	49	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	75	49	rain	Houston	83	59	pt sunny	Phoenix	95	72	sunny
Boston	62	53	pt sunny	Los Angeles	77	60	mst sunny	San Francisco	71	52	sunny
Chicago	60	41	rain	Miami	88	74	pt sunny	Seattle	58	44	rain
Dallas	76	53	mst sunny	Minneapolis	58	41	rain	St. Louis	66	48	rain
Denver	61	36	mst sunny	New York	66	56	rain	Washington, DC	68	54	rain

Moon Phases

Full	Last	New	First
Oct 10	Oct 18	Oct 25	Nov 1

UV Index

Tue 10/14	Wed 10/15	Thu 10/16
7 High	7 High	7 High

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

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OCT 13 2003

2003 White Buffalo Festival











SDN Staff Photos
By
Shirley A. Gorman

