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INSIDE
Sirhan Denied Parole 2
Rangers End Winning Streak 5
Most-Married Man Dies 7
Southern Baptist Boycott Disney 8
Estrogen Studies Conflict 9

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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY
June 19, 1997
Vol. 49 No. 42
10 Pages 50¢
Home Of Hadley Lewis

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "There's lots of books on how to make a million. The best ones are on how to make a living."

Heard several comments on a recent listing of things a patient wouldn't want to hear during surgery. Along the same line, here's a collection of quotes taken from actual medical records compiled by Richard Lederer for the Journal of Court Reporting:

--By the time he was admitted, his rapid heart had stopped, and he was feeling better.

--Patient has chest pains if she lies on her left side for over a year.

--On the second day the knee was better and on the third day it had completely disappeared.

--She has no rigors or shaking chills, but her husband states she was very hot in bed last night.

--The patient has been depressed ever since she began seeing me in 1983.

--Patient was released to outpatient department without dressing. Suggested that he loosen his pants before standing, and then, when he stands with the help of his wife, they should fall to the floor.

--The patient is tearful and crying constantly. She also appears to be depressed.

--Discharge status: alive but without permission. The patient will need disposition, and therefore, we will get doctor to dispose of him.

--Healthy appearing decrepit 69-year-old male, mentally alert, but forgetful.

--The patient refused an autopsy.

--The patient has no past history of suicides.

--The patient expired on the floor uneventfully.

--Patient has left his white blood cells to another hospital.

--Patient was becoming more demented with urinary frequency.

--The patient's past medical history has been remarkably insignificant with only a 40-pound weight gain in the past three years.

--She slipped on the ice and apparently her legs went in separate directions in early December.

--The patient experienced sudden onset of severe shortness of breath with a picture of acute pulmonary edema at home while having sex which gradually deteriorated in the emergency room.

--The patient left the hospital feeling much better, except for original complaints.

FESTIVAL UNDERWAY — Ted Scanlon and the Desperados kicked off the 10th annual Legends of Western Swing Music Festival at Scurry County Coliseum at noon Wednesday. The event will run through Saturday with Johnny Bush performing Friday and Ray Price on Saturday. (SDN Staff Photo)

Festival underway at county coliseum

Bigger and better — that seems to describe the Legends of Western Swing Music Festival as first-day attendance appeared to exceed last year.

And if the trend continues, western swing fans will be in for some real treats in the years to come as Dewey Miers sang the praises of Snyder and the chamber of commerce: "We'll be back here as long as they will have us!"

That announcement was met with loud applause from throughout the Scurry County Coliseum as festival-goers prepared to hear as many songs as there are different kinds of lawn chairs on the floor of the coliseum.

Miers and Chuck Woods, plus their wives Gloria and Corene, respectively, are the main players in Western Swing Promotions, Inc., which is putting on the festival.

Ted Scanlon and the Desperados is serving as the host band this year and they got the event off to a swinging start at high noon.

Scanlon and his group from New Mexico will perform all four days of the festival.

West Texas' own Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys put on their normal up-beat performance before having to leave to perform in the Big Spring rodeo.

Nix, always a crowd-pleaser, did take time to visit with several of his fans before leaving for the rodeo.

Leon Rausch, former singer with Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys, performed on the opening day, as did the Time Warp Cowhands and the Rowe Brothers Band.

Snyder's Texas Sand, rounded out the entertainment for Wednesday.

Another local band, J.D. Barham and Cowjazz, is scheduled to perform this afternoon, as is Terry Sneed and Up the Creek and Dave Alexander and the Legends of Western Swing.

Johnny Bush will highlight the action Friday and Ray Price will appear Saturday.

The festival gets underway at noon daily, with the exception of Saturday when the guitars will start twanging at 10 a.m. It concludes at midnight.

There are booths to purchase all types of western swing paraphernalia. Concessions are also available.

Admission to the coliseum for all-day tickets through Friday is $20. Saturday admission prices are $25 for all day, or $15 until the dinner break and $15 after.

Local tickets, for Snyder residents only, will be available at the coliseum door nightly after 8 o'clock Wednesday through Friday for $10. Tickets for the Saturday evening Ray Price show are $15.

Festival schedule

Thursday, June 19
TED SCANLON & DAVE ALEXANDER DAY
MC Mike O'Daniel, KBEC, Waxahachie

12:00 Terry Sneed & Up the Creek
1:30 J.D. Barham & Cowjazz
3:00 Ted Scanlon & The Desperados
4:35 Dave Alexander & Legends of Western Swing
5:45 Dinner Break
6:55 Terry Sneed & Up the Creek
8:05 J.D. Barham & Cowjazz
9:30 Ted Scanlon & The Desperados
10:50 Dave Alexander & Legends of Western Swing

Friday, June 20
JOHNNY BUSH DAY
MC Larry Scott, KVOO, Tulsa

12:00 Ted Scanlon & The Desperados
1:35 Dave Alexander & Legends of Western Swing
3:00 Johnny Bush & The Bandoleros
4:25 Clyde Brewer & The River Road Boys
5:45 Dinner Break
6:40 Ted Scanlon & The Desperados
8:05 Dave Alexander & Legends of Western Swing
9:30 Johnny Bush & The Bandoleros
10:50 Clyde Brewer & The River Road Boys

Saturday, June 21
RAY PRICE DAY
MC Larry Scott, KVOO, Tulsa

10:00 Sounds of the Southwest
12:00 Fiddlers Two & Friends
1:15 Herb Remington/Johnny Gimble & Playboys II
2:45 Ray Price & The Cherokee Cowboys
5:45 Dinner Break
6:30 Fiddlers Two & Friends
7:50 Herb Remington/Johnny Gimble & Playboys II
9:30 Ray Price & The Cherokee Cowboys
10:45 Ted Scanlon & The Desperados

Panel takes up $85 billion tax cut

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate tax-writers today began to put their imprint on a broad $85 billion tax-cut proposal, with senators expressing an interest in changing tax treatment on everything from real estate sales to cigarettes.

The Senate Finance Committee planned to begin voting on a tax proposal drafted by the panel's chairman, Sen. William V. Roth Jr., R-Del. A similar tax-cut package won approval of the House Ways and Means Committee last week following two grueling nights marked by sharp partisan exchanges.

But today Roth said, "We combined the best ideas from both sides of the aisle and both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue. I consider this the first in a series of steps that will lead to further tax cuts and bipartisan reform."

Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan of New York, the ranking Democrat on the finance committee, promised to work for bipartisan agreement while expressing misgiving about cutting taxes.

The tenor in the finance committee was expected to be more collegial than in the House. With no dissenting votes, the Senate panel approved major changes in the big Medicare and Medicaid health programs. The health package includes a first-time requirement that higher-income seniors pay a larger share of their doctor bills under Medicare.

But that doesn't mean the task will be easy. finance committee aides estimated that about 150 amendments to the tax bill had been filed by Wednesday evening despite Roth's pleas to keep changes to a minimum.

The Roth bill calls for a $500-per-child credit and reductions in capital-gains and estate taxes. The bill differs significantly from the House version in several respects. For example, unlike the House bill, Roth's plan would not protect capital gains against inflation.

In an interview published today, President Clinton warned Republicans that he would not sign a tax bill that indexes capital gains for inflation, saying it would cost the government too much in lost revenue.

Court upholds redistricting plan

WASHINGTON (AP) — Delivering another blow to efforts aimed at maximizing the voting clout of racial and ethnic minorities, the Supreme Court today upheld a Georgia congressional redistricting plan that features only one majority-black district.

By a 5-4 vote, the justices ruled that the redistricting map drawn by a three-judge federal court is valid.

In a series of rulings since 1993, the nation's highest court has disapproved of attempts by state legislators and local officials to draw districts to preserve or enhance minority candidates' chances to win. Today's decision continues that trend.

In the past rulings, a slim majority of justices has seemed intent on minimizing race as a factor in drawing election-district boundaries.

Civil rights advocates had sought a congressional redistricting plan for Georgia's 11 congressional seats that would feature two or three majority-black districts.

But writing for the court today, Justice Anthony M. Kennedy said even if the court-drawn redistricting plan had contained an unacceptable population disparity "the solution would not be adoption of the constitutionally infirm, because race-based, plans."

At the Justice Department's insistence after the 1990 census, the Georgia Legislature created a redistricting plan with three majority-black districts.

But the Supreme Court struck down that plan in 1995, ruling that creation of the majority-black 11th District represented by Cynthia McKinney, a black Democrat, amounted to unlawful racial gerrymandering.

Bids, appointment on city agenda

Snyder City Council will meet in a special session Friday at noon to consider awarding of bids for two projects and to consider a vacancy on the council.

Decker Construction Company of Abilene submitted the apparent low bid for the construction of a booster pump station near SnTx I and for a 16-inch water line from the city's water plant to 37th Street. The bid also calls for a 16-inch water line from the booster pump station to the industrial park. The firm bid $324,151.

The council is also expected to award the bid for a 250,000-gallon ground storage near the U.S. Highway 84 booster station to Work Mule Construction of Crosbyton. The company's bid was $187,623.

Terry Martin is expected to be appointed to an at-large seat on the council. Martin was elected to the council in May, but was absent from the June meeting when members were sworn in.

Section 20 of the city's charter states that newly-elected officers must "qualify" for the council within 30 days after being elected. Qualifying, in this case, refers to taking the oath of office.

Since Martin did not do that, the seat automatically becomes vacant. However, it is expected that the council will go ahead and appoint the retired oil field supervisor to the seat on Friday.

DCOS board convenes at 4

Bids for a booster station and water lines highlight a 4 o'clock meeting today of the Development Corporation of Snyder.

Bids include construction of the pump station, a 16-inch water line from 37th Street to the water plant, boring, and a 16-inch line from the booster pump station to the industrial park.

Snyder City Council will also consider the bids, as well as bids on a 150,000-gallon ground storage tank, in a meeting set for noon Friday.

The low bid on the pump station is $324,151, received from Decker Construction Co. in Abilene. E.D. Walton Construction of Snyder bid $348,844 and Rhode Construction Company of Lubbock bid $373,033.

Also on today's DCOS agenda are consideration of financial statements, bills for payment, approval of previous minutes and the executive director's report.

Mooar marker will be unveiled

Scurry County Historical Committee will unveil a historical marker honoring J. Wright Mooar at 9:30 a.m. Saturday at the county coliseum.

The marker has been placed beside the white fiberglass buffalo in front of the main entrance to the coliseum.

Mooar, a native of Vermont, became a successful buffalo hunter in the 1870s. On Oct. 7, 1876, he killed a white buffalo 10 miles northwest of Snyder on Deep Creek. He and his brother, John Mooar, began ranching in Scurry County in 1877. When J. Wright Mooar died in Snyder in 1940, The Scurry County Times estimated that 3,000 people attended his funeral.

The public is invited to attend the brief unveiling ceremony.

ASK US

Q—How can I be sure the money I am giving to a charity is getting where it is supposed to?

A—Try the National Commission on Philanthropy and Civic Renewal at 1150 17th St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20036; phone (202) 463-1460 or try their website at http://www.ncpcr.org.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 92 degrees; low, 64; 7 a.m., 73; no precipitation; total for 1997, 18.98 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, clear. Low 70-75. S wind 10-20 mph. Friday, cloudy early, then sunny, breezy. High around 95. S wind 15-25 mph.

Kelton Clayton
Windy

Sunset: 8:51 p.m.
Sunrise: 6:39 a.m.
Of 169 days in 1997, the sun has shone 157 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Teach thy tongue to say 'I do not know' and thou shalt progress.

Maimonides

JUN 19 1997

Woman receives 25 years

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — A Corpus Christi woman has been sentenced to 25 years in prison for the murder of her husband, but the defense continues to insist that the police officer was killed by his daughter.

Both women were convicted last week in the 1995 shooting death of Juan Aguilar, a police department veteran and polygraph examiner.

Aguilar was shot in the face at close range with a hunting rifle on Feb. 10, 1995. Prosecutors allege his wife, Nilda Aguilar, and her stepdaughter, Evangelica "Evie" Aguilar, conspired to commit the crime. The women have blamed each other for the murder.

Both were convicted on Friday of last week and faced a maximum sentence of life in prison.

Jurors took about 10 hours over two days to determine Nilda Aguilar's punishment Wednesday. The jurors were told to return today to resume deliberations on punishment for the daughter.

After the sentence was announced, Aguilar's widow spoke from the center of the courtroom, denying that she killed her husband and saying that she knew who did.

"I'm going to prison to protect her," she said, while looking straight at her stepdaughter.

Nilda Aguilar claimed that her husband abused her and began a sexual affair in late 1994 with a younger woman who worked as a clerk in the Corpus Christi Police Department.

EAST PE — East students who received either a sportsmanship award or most improved in physical education award for 1996-1997 are from left, bottom row, Joshua Lumpkins, Kelly Jo Holdren, Brittani Carnes; next row, Vanessa Gomez, Megan Fouts, Tommy Toland; next row: Kirsten Salazar, Jason Hook, Clint Cooper, Whitney Warner, Juan Rivera, Marisa Munoz, Amanda Ballard, Jerrica Gutierrez, Mechelle Renfro, Terry McGough, Russell Lee, Daniel Burton, Shaina Kerr, Eric Torres; next row, Ricardo Perez, Luke Robertson, Teryn Sullenger, Paige Tovar, Andrew Lam, Bobby Gutierrez, Brittany Scott, Christopher Witte, Jayme Tomlinson, Clay Hirt; next row, Justin Hertel, Brooke Jackson, Alan Gray, Kelly Moore, Leslie Nesmith, Courtney Cox, Kalli Wesson, Andrea Rios, Tyler Rogers, Jammie Treat, Brandon Treat; next row, Stacey Williamson, Tara Gilliland, Eric Munoz, Patrick Jones, Kirisa Torres, Norma Ramirez, David Martin, Jessica Davis; Coach Brad Brunson; next row, Cole Robertson, Philip Rice, Brad Richardson, Jacey Beccue, Kelsey Shaw, Zach Garcia, Corie Hernandez, Heather Zajicek. Not pictured: Micaela Quiros, Lance Turner, John Anthony Gomez. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

Sirhan denied parole

CORCORAN, Calif. (AP) — For 29 years, convicted assassin Sirhan Sirhan said he couldn't remember shooting Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. Now he says he's convinced he didn't do it.

An unimpressed parole board denied his bid for freedom at least until the year 2000. But Sirhan's assertion could have long-range effects.

"This is going to bring the conspiracy theorists out of the woodwork," said Loyola University Law School Dean Laurie Levenson. "This has always been a case with unanswered questions and there is an audience for his message."

Sirhan, sprang his surprise claim moments into Wednesday's parole hearing. It was the 10th time he had asked to be free.

"I believe I'm innocent of this crime and that I did not commit this crime," Sirhan said in the hearing at Corcoran State Prison.

Looking youthful despite flecks of gray in his hair, Sirhan, 54, called himself a victim of "an out-and-out frame-up by the district attorney."

"I have been a good citizen. I am again sorry for this whole mess. Let me go home and mind my own business."

He was grim-faced as the Board of Prison Terms announced that he was still a danger to society. The panel made no comment on his claims of innocence.

Thomas L. Trapp, Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney, called Sirhan's belated claim of innocence "preposterous."

"It is mind-boggling and insulting to the American people. It is hurtful to the family of Sen. Kennedy. It is so shocking," the prosecutor said.

Kennedy was shot June 5, 1968, at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles minutes after claiming victory in the California Democratic presidential primary. Sirhan, who was wrestled to the ground with a gun in his hand, has long claimed to suffer from amnesia about that night.

Weight gain called great career booster

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Aside from the pain of getting called "Miss Piggy," a 24-pound weight gain during her reign was great for her career, Venezuela's former Miss Universe insists.

"It was the best thing that ever happened to me," Alicia Machado told a news conference Wednesday. "It gave me international publicity."

Machado, 20, looking fit and making her first visit home since ending her reign a month ago, said she's gotten offers to act in movies and on television in the United States and Latin America.

The 5-foot-7 daughter of a candy store owner was crowned the world's most beautiful woman in May 1996 — weighing in then at a mere 119 pounds, according to her trainer.

By August, rumors were flying that Miss Universe officials had threatened to take back her crown if she didn't lose some newly added heft.

Machado said it was all nonsense.

"They never told me, 'Alicia, you have to take off the pounds.' It was just the opposite," she said.

She said that in January she went to pageant officials to ask for help in shedding weight. They sent her to New York City for a two-week crash course with a personal trainer.

What she wasn't expecting was a media onslaught her first day in the gym, arranged by mega-builder and pageant co-owner Donald Trump.

Drinking on dare kills teen-ager

ORLAND PARK, Ill. (AP) — A 16-year-old cheerleader who died within 24 hours of drinking a bottle of 107-proof schnapps on a dare had a blood-alcohol level nearly four times the state's legal limit.

Elizabeth Wakulich was pronounced dead with a 0.38 percent blood-alcohol level, nearly 12 hours after she downed a quart of liquor on a dare.

Her blood-alcohol level probably was closer to 0.60 shortly after the binge, the Cook County medical examiner's office estimated. A blood-alcohol level of 0.40 can kill.

Houston Lotto winners collect $9 million prize

AUSTIN (AP) — Three friends who formed a lottery pool and won the $9 million Lotto Texas jackpot drawn on June 4 went to an expert for legal representation on lottery matters.

R.L. Littleton, Joseph Hill and Alden Clopton, all of Houston, said after they realized they had the winning numbers among 60 Quick Pick tickets they had purchased for the drawing, they hired Rep. Ron Wilson, D-Houston, to represent them.

Wilson, an attorney, authored the bill that created the lottery in Texas.

The winning numbers — 5, 19, 23, 29, 33 and 34 — were purchased on a Quick Pick ticket purchased at Cadillac Liquor in Houston.

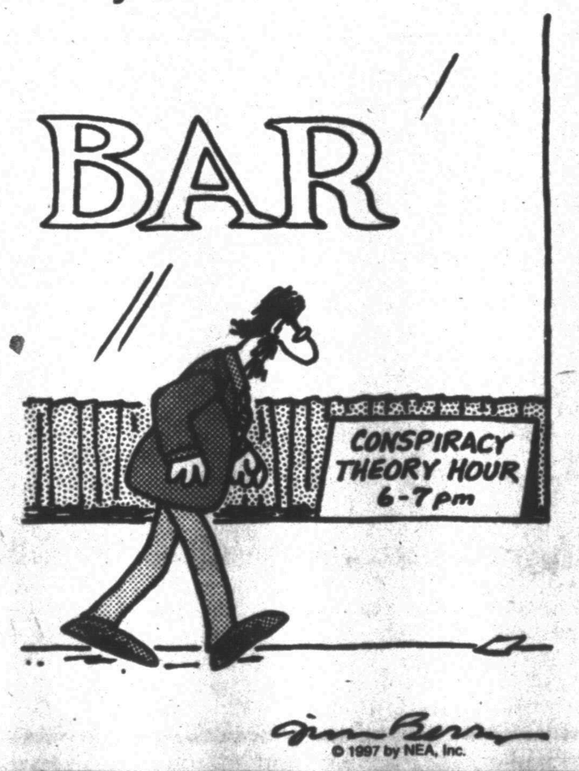
The "June 4, 1997 Lottery Trust" received the first of 25 annual payments in the amount of $360,000 on Wednesday. The remaining payments will be paid every June 15 for the next 24 years.

The men work at St. Joseph's Dialysis Center as biomedical technicians.

After learning of the winning ticket, Hill said he started running through the halls of St. Joseph's telling anyone who would listen that the three men had won the lotto jackpot.

"We had patients clapping for us in the halls and nurses congratulating us and cheering," Hill said. "It was pretty exciting."

Berry's World



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JUNIOR, SENIOR HIGH GIRLS — Barbara Tune's junior and senior high girls participating in the spring piano recital were back row, Melinda Hernandez, Laurie Kerley, Crissida Tyler; front row, Amber Rich, Anna Williams, Vanessa Jones, Audra Reneau and not pictured, Alicia Peoples. (Contributed Photo)

RECITAL PARTICIPANTS — Barbara Tune's piano students in the spring recital at the Martha Ann Woman's Club included, back row, Wendy Proffitt, Gretchen Hollis, Whitney Jones, Stephanie Parmer; front row, Sara Cantu, Jana Lewis, Kristina Mayer, Kirstie Davis and Morgan Bilderback. (Contributed Photo)

PIANO STUDENTS — Boys participating in a spring recital as students of Barbara Tune included, from left, back row, Austin Brunson, Jason Hall, Bryan Clifton; front row, Carl Self, Jase Olvera and Marcus Barboza. Not pictured is Brandon Robbins. (Contributed Photo)

Pianist perform in recital

Piano students of Barbara Tune were presented in a "Springtime Melodies" recital and several awards were presented.

Following performances in the Martha Ann Woman's Club, Mrs. Tune recognized students who participated in the Lubbock Music Contest in February and the Abilene Music Festival in March.

In addition, guild certificates went to Brandon Robbins, Bryan Clifton, Laurie Kerley, Jason Hall—Hobbyist; Carl Self, Jase Olvera—Local; Morgan Bilderback, Kristina Mayer, Marcus Barboza—District; Kirstie Davis, Whitney Jones, Anna Williams, Audra Reneau, Vanessa Jones, Melinda Hernandez—State; and Stephanie Parmer, Gretchen Hollis, Wendy Proffitt, Sara Cantu, Crissida Tyler—National.

Special awards were received by Gretchen Hollis, Whitney Jones—Promising; Jason Hall—Rhythm; Wendy Proffitt—Progressive; Sara Cantu—Second Highest Guild Grade; Anna Williams, Audra Reneau—Performance; and Crissida Tyler—Outstanding Student of the Year, who made the highest guild grade and it is her seventh year with a national program.

In conclusion, Tune expressed appreciation to parents and grandparents for their support and encouragement during the year.

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Man's Friends Take Little Pleasure in Wife's Company

DEAR ABBY: This is the first time I have ever sat down and written to you, although I often wonder what your thoughts would be on various matters.

I have a good friend named "Don." Don's wife, "Susan," is the problem. Every time we get together, she tries to impress people and acts superior. She does it in subtle ways, but my wife always ends up feeling somehow inadequate when the evening is over. Susan talks a lot about money and has hinted to her parents about "early inheritance" many times. For the most part, she will associate only with people who are at least as well off as she is. And when she meets people who are wealthy, she sticks to them like glue.

Don and Susan are having serious marital problems. I have seen her in action. She has a terrible temper and has been known to throw a phone or two. Also, she's the most shallow person I've ever met. How does someone get like this?

My wife has told me that she can no longer stomach Susan. I understand her objections to Susan's value system, but I fear if we refuse their invitations, Don will be hurt. Some of our other friends stopped seeing them years ago. I know Don would be puzzled if I started inviting him alone. My wife thinks I should level with Don and tell him, "The girls don't have much in common." We agreed we would abide by your advice.

BRAD IN CLEVELAND

DEAR BRAD: Whose feelings are more important to you — Don's or your wife's? She must be a saint to have tolerated being belittled without having ended this foursome sooner.

Since other friends have stopped socializing with Don and Susan, Don will understand if your wife is unavailable and the get-togethers are "men only" because "the girls" don't have much in common — an understatement. (Susan might even be relieved.)

Believe it or not, the reason many people act superior and aloof is because they feel inadequate or inferior.

***

DEAR ABBY: The letters in your column about people meeting Harry Truman have conjured up a fond childhood memory of mine.

I grew up in Independence, Mo., but had never seen Mr. Truman until his library was being constructed. My father built and installed many of the display cabinets in the Truman Library.

My daddy, knowing me to be quite an autograph hound, thought that meeting and getting President Truman's autograph would be an event of a lifetime for his teen-age daughter, so he asked permission to bring me along one morning. I took my Bible and was introduced to Mr. Truman.

He graciously signed it with, "Read it carefully. It will make you happy." Then, handing me the signed Bible, he led me over to a display case and asked me to read the signature on a document. It was Joseph Stalin's. Mr. Truman smiled and added, "I collect autographs, too."

Even though both my father and Mr. Truman are gone now, and my autographed Bible disappeared during a move, the memories will be mine forever.

SHIRLEY (YEAGER) HENDERSON, RAYTOWN, MO.

DEAR SHIRLEY: I think you've said it very well. Our memories can be our most treasured possessions, beyond material things. Circumstances may change, but our experiences make us who we are.

***

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 06-19-97
♠ 9 7 3
♥ 9 7 6 2
♦ K 10 8 6
♣ 9 2

West
♠ 8 4
♥ K Q J 8 4
♦ 5
♣ K 10 7 5 3

East
♠ Q J 10 5
♥ A 10 5 3
♦ 3
♣ Q J 6 4

South
♠ A K 6 2
♥ ---
♦ A Q J 9 7 4 2
♣ A 8

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: West

South	West	North	East
	2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
6 ♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♥ K

A deal of capital letters

By Phillip Alder

Golfers say that when they are playing well, the cup looks like a bucket. On this deal, Geir Helgemo, the Norwegian Tiger Woods of bridge, probably felt that the cards were the size of advertising boards.

The deal occurred during his team's victory in the Open Swiss Teams at the Spring Nationals in Dallas last March.

West opened with a modern weak two-bid. Then, over East's jump to game, Helgemo boldly bid six diamonds. No laying up for him.

A club lead is lethal, but not surprisingly West selected the heart king. After ruffing and drawing trumps, Helgemo needed three spade tricks. He began with the spade two: four, seven, jack. East returned the spade five. How did Helgemo read the position?

Being vulnerable, East probably had four trumps to jump to four hearts. And if West had opened with a five-card suit, Helgemo judged he was more likely to have begun with 2-5-1-5 distribution than 3-5-1-4. (If spades were 3-3, Helgemo could run the suit from the top.) And if West had begun with a doubleton spade, there was only one hope. So, Helgemo played the spade six from his hand, winning the trick with dummy's nine! Helgemo cashed the ace-king of spades (discarding a club from the dummy), took the club ace, and ruffed his club loser in the dummy.

Give Helgemo the green jacket! This outstanding piece of card-reading makes Helgemo the favorite to win the Best-Played Deal of the Year award from the International Bridge Press Association.

Helgemo's teammates were Bart Bramley, Brian Glubok, Edgar Kaplan, Norman Kay and Walter Schafer.

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Community Calendar

THURSDAY

TOPS TX56, (take off pounds sensibly); weigh-in and meeting 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; 2501 35th. For information call Peggy Eubank at 573-6509.

Snyder Chapter No. 450 Order of the Eastern Star; Masonic Hall, 1912 35th; 7:30 p.m.

Bilingual AA meeting; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; 8 p.m.

Deep Creek Cloggers lesson; American Legion; 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Hermleigh Order of the Eastern Star; Masonic Lodge; 8 p.m.

New Horizons Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club Addition in Winston Park; for information call 863-2349 or 573-8626; 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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

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

Cornelius-Dodson House; open by appointments; 573-9742 or 573-2763.

NA Anonymous; Snyder Park Club; for information call 573-3667, 573-1579 or 573-0949; 6 p.m.

Hermleigh Community Center Family Night; 6:30 p.m.

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 573-8929; 8 p.m., open meeting (last Friday of the month is the birthday meeting, pot luck at 7 p.m.).

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for information call 573-3956 or 573-2101; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

Horseshoe Pitching For Fun; Horseshoe Courts located at the coliseum; everybody welcome; 3 p.m.

People Without Partners; Inadale Community Center; games of 42 and dominos; 6:30 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for more information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 863-2349; 10 a.m.

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

Narcotics Anonymous Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 5 p.m.

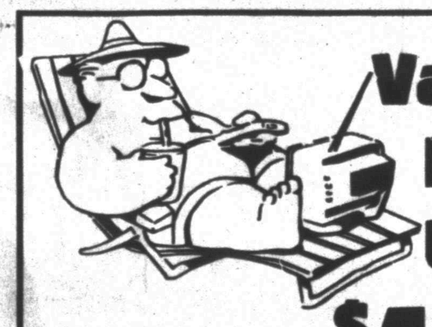
Celebrity Auction held

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Garth Brooks, whose trademark is a black Stetson cowboy hat, isn't one to keep a good thing to himself.

Ask a couple of the singer's fans from Long Island in New York.

Dan and Angie Wagner, who already have some of his guitar picks and drumsticks, spent $1,400 for his black, autographed hat.

They picked up their prize during the Celebrity Auction Tuesday at Fan Fair, a weeklong country music festival.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Comic Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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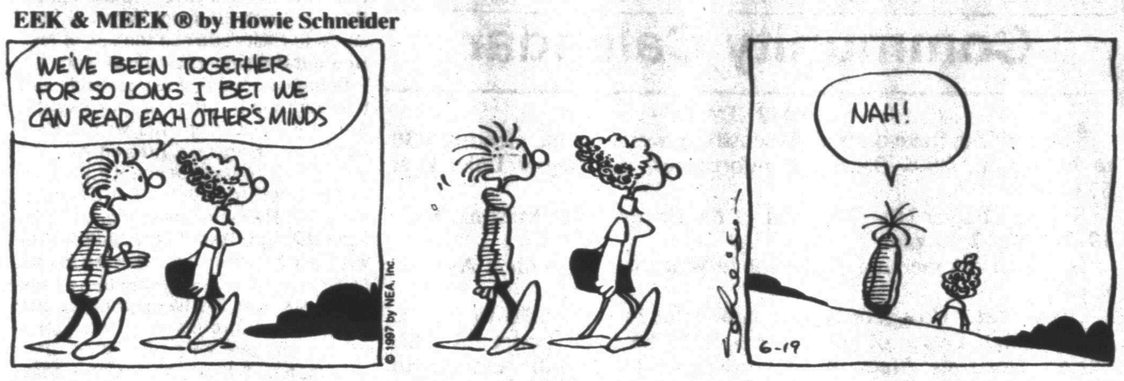
EEK & MEEK ® by Howie Schneider



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Barney Google and Snuffy Smith® By Fred Lasswell

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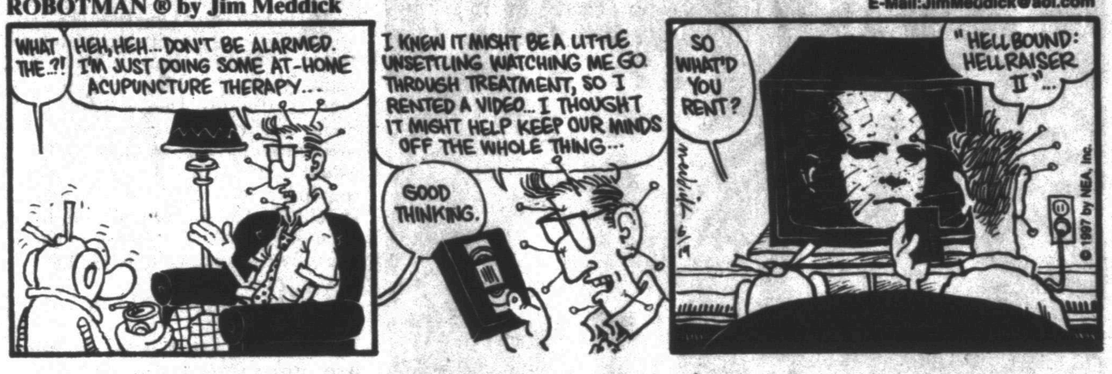

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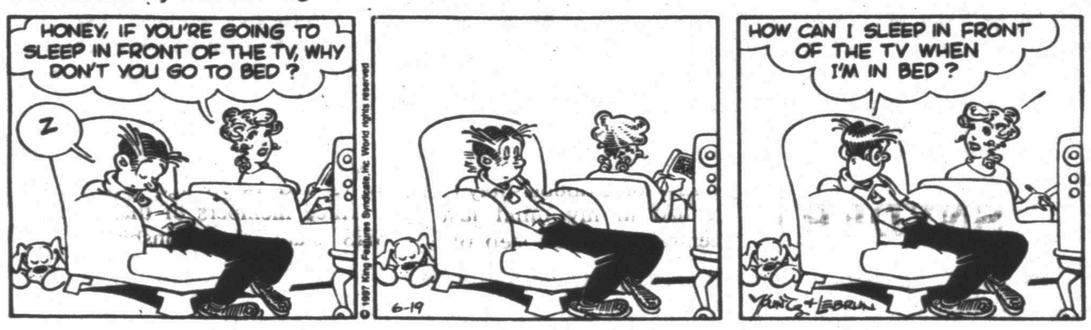
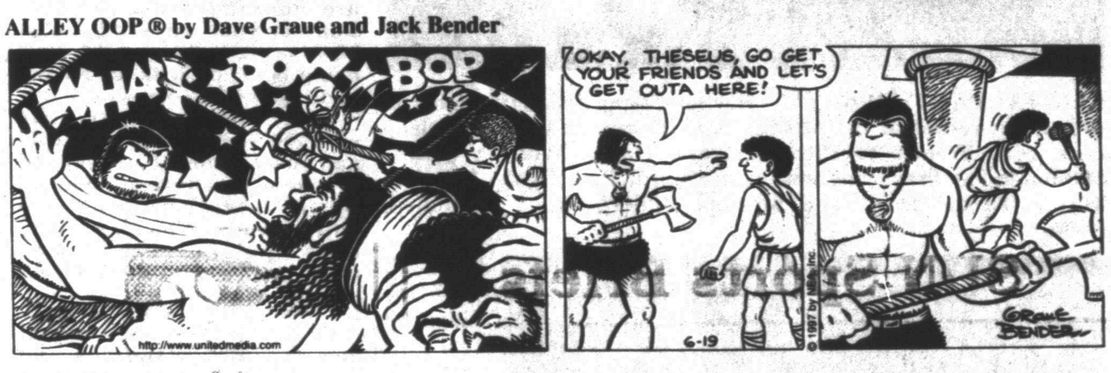
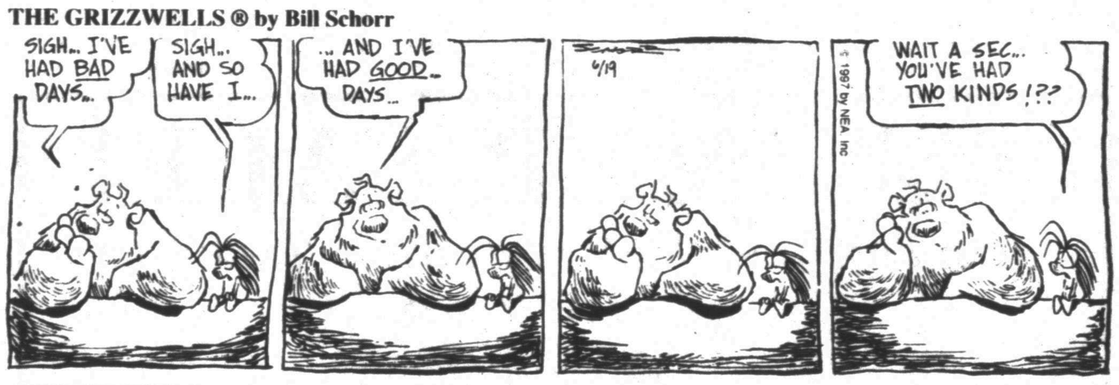


ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender



THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



BETTY ™ by Delainey and Rasmussen

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 — de mer
4 Biblical king
8 Actor Sharif
12 Keats' creation
13 Landed
14 Fern features
15 TV's Peeples
16 Virtuous
18 South American mountains
20 Sailor (sl.)
21 Stop working, like a battery
22 Flightless bird
24 Director Jacques —
26 Female voice
30 Cattle farm
33 French yes
34 Baseball team number
36 Prefix for plane
37 Land measure
39 Browns
41 California's Big —
42 Prefix for graph
44 — ratings
46 Military abbr.
48 Unclaimed mail dept.
49 Mined matter
51 Fair grade
53 Incited
57 Real
60 Strange
61 Former Yugoslav leader
62 Drying kiln
63 Harem room
64 Large knife
65 Woe is me!
66 Sprite

DOWN

1 — Lisa
2 Tennis term (2 wds.)
3 Direct
4 Crew member
5 Roman 1,051
6 Actress Diana —
7 Some Like — —
8 Gravel ridge
9 Glumness
10 Wild sheep
11 Get up
17 Construction beam
19 Ending for auction
23 Single quantity
25 Chinese pagoda
26 Type of opera
27 That hurts!
28 Ballerina's twirl
29 — — even keel
31 Motley — (rock group)
32 Telephone, slangily
35 Novelist Bagnold
38 Annapolis grad
40 Chooses
43 — upon a time
45 Ship's diary
47 City in Italy
49 Kind of grain
50 Destroy
52 And others (2 wds.)
54 Mistake
55 Book of Norse myths
56 WWII event
58 Weeding implement
59 Rose — — rose

Answer to Previous Puzzle

P	L	O		M	O	R	E		M	O	R	K
A	E	S		A	X	E	S		M	I	E	N
P	E	A		N	Y	E	T		E	N	D	O
A	K	R	O	N		K	E	Y		T	O	T
			P	E	G		S	I	A	M		
G	O	V	E	R	N	S		P	R	E	S	S
N	I	A		S	A	C	K		K	N	E	W
U	N	C	I		W	A	N	D		T	R	A
S	K	A	T	E		N	I	E	L	S	E	N
		N	O	R	A		T	W	O			
P	I	C		N	I	L		I	N	C	A	S
U	S	I	S		M	U	S	E		A	S	E
L	E	E	S		E	A	T	S		P	T	A
L	E	S	T		D	U	E	T		P	O	R

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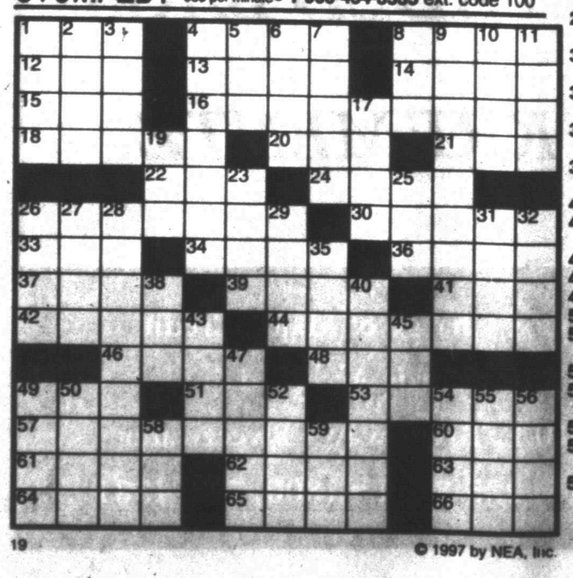

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"YOU'RE LIKE ME, GRANDPA. WE BOTH DO A LOT OF THINGS JUST FOR THE FUN OF IT."

SPORTS

Costly Ranger errors end Texas' win streak

DENVER (AP) — Andres Galarraga celebrated his 36th birthday by pummeling one of the best closers in baseball, and made no apologies for it afterward.

Galarraga unloaded a game-tying three-run homer off John Wetteland in the ninth inning, and Walt Weiss then coaxed a bases-loaded walk, lifting the Colorado Rockies to a 10-9 win over the Texas Rangers on Wednesday.

The Rockies rallied from an early 7-1 deficit with a four-run seventh inning and four more in the ninth.

Colorado, winning for only the second time in six interleague games, scored three runs off Wetteland in the ninth inning of Tuesday night's game, but Galarraga's strikeout helped blunt the rally, and the Rangers went on to win 10-8 in 11 innings.

Wetteland, who had allowed just three runs in 28 2-3 innings all season before the Colorado series, said the location of the home-run pitch was faulty.

"Last night it worked," Wetteland said. "Today I tried the same thing. The ball didn't stay up. If anything, it was down. I wanted another foot on that ball. He did a heck of a job hitting the pitch."

Wetteland, summoned in the ninth to protect a 9-6 lead, did not record an out.

Ellis Burks reached on shortstop Benji Gil's throwing error to open the inning and Larry Walker singled. Galarraga then tied it with an opposite-field homer to right, his 19th.

Wetteland gave up a double to Dante Bichette and walked Vinny Castilla intentionally. The Rockies loaded the bases when Kirt Manwaring laid down a sacrifice bunt and Wetteland was late with his throw to third.

Weiss worked the count to 3-2 and, after fouling off two pitches, drew the game-winning walk off Wetteland, who blew his fourth save in 19 opportunities this season.

"In that situation, the pressure is definitely on the pitcher," Weiss said. "I was in the hit-and-run mode, I was ready to swing. But when he throws that hard and the pitch is down and in, it's going to be tough for me to get to it, so I just let it go."

Curtis Leskanic (1-0) pitched to one batter in the ninth for the win.

Walker raised his major-league best batting average to .417 by going 3-for-5. Center fielder Damon Buford robbed Walker of another hit with a diving catch in left-center in the sixth.

Burks hit his 17th homer and Bichette added his 10th, both solo shots, for Colorado.

Ivan Rodriguez went 3-for-4 with two RBIs for the Rangers, who lost for the first time in five games. Rodriguez's two-run single past a drawn-in infield in the ninth had given the Rangers a 9-6 cushion.

The Rangers came undone with two errors in the seventh and another in the ninth, fueling Colorado's two big innings.

"You can't win here if you can't catch the ball," Rangers manager Johnny Oates said.

LADIES' PUMPJACK FIRST FLIGHT — Winners in the first flight are, front row, left to right, Kaye Cypert, Martha Fagin, Stacie Clemmer and K.B. Guerry. On the back row are Kay Bingham, Shea Dodson, Jo Sterling and Juanita Hester. (SDN Staff Photo)

Bill to change Title IX

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government would have to make specific data available to high school students on how much colleges spend respectively on men's and women's athletic programs, including coaches' pay and scholarships, under a bill before Congress.

A day after President Clinton asked for stepped-up enforcement of a ban on sexual discrimination in schools, two women Democrats said they have a measure of their own for putting more teeth into the 1972 Title IX law.

Sen. Carol Moseley-Braun, D-Ill., and Rep. Nita M. Lowey, D-N.Y., complained the law has been enforced too loosely.

Their "Fair Play Act" would require colleges to report to the Department of Education how much they spend respectively on men's and women's sports. The department would be required to publish the data annually on the Internet, establish a toll-free number and notify all the nation's high schools that the information was available.

Colleges and universities now are required only to make such information and statistics on their Title IX compliance available to students and others who request them specifically.

Moseley-Braun cited a recent study by the NCAA that female college sports teams receive only 23 percent of athletic operating budgets and women athletes get just 38 percent of athletic scholarship dollars.

"The promise of Title IX has still not entirely been filled. There still is a significant gap," Moseley-Braun said.

Kansas City whips the Astros

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — For Jim Pittsley and Jeff King, baseball really is a game of inches.

A slight change in the way he grips the ball has given Pittsley a wicked changeup, a pitch he didn't have when he arrived in the major leagues.

All King did was move his hands about two inches farther away from his body, and he's on one of the hottest streaks of his life. With King hitting a first inning grand slam and Pittsley going a career-best eight innings Wednesday night, Kansas City whipped Houston 6-2.

"Pittsley threw a real good game against us," said Houston outfielder Luis Gonzalez, who singled to stretch his hitting streak to 22 games. "His changeup made his fastball look faster."

Everybody knew King could hit when the Royals got him from the Pittsburgh Pirates over the winter.

But the 6-foot-7 Pittsley was beginning to look like a huge question mark following elbow surgery and an 0-4 start this year.

"He's learned an awful lot," manager Bob Boone said. "His breaking ball is much, much better. And he's added a changeup, something that's unusual to do at the major league level. He made a slight adjustment, and then he got back on line. He was very, very impressive tonight."

Pittsley (2-4) picked up his second win in three starts, allowing two runs and eight hits. He struck out four and did not walk a batter.

"He must have pitched better tonight than he has all year," Houston manager Larry Dierker said. "We have guys who draw walks, but we couldn't get any tonight."

The changeup also helped Pittsley throw three double-play balls.

"I had in my mind just to concentrate on each step of my motion, and it was successful," he said.

He changed the grip after his last start in Pittsburgh, where he got rocked.

"It made it a little softer and it has a little more movement than my old changeup had," he said. "We threw it a lot tonight. I got a couple of double plays on it, which were big."

In six interleague games against Pittsburgh and Houston, King is 10-for-21 with 12 RBIs. During his 13-game hitting streak, the former Pirate has five doubles, six homers, 13 runs and 15 RBIs.

"Hitting's a funny thing," King said. "Sometimes the ball looks big and bright. Other times, it looks small and blurry. The ball just looks a lot bigger than it did a couple of weeks ago."

A couple of weeks ago is when King, at the suggestion of hitting coach Greg Luzinski and Boone, moved his hands about two inches.

Gonzalez has the longest hitting streak in the National League this season and needs only to get a hit in the Astros' next game Friday against the Cubs to tie Art Howe's 16-year-old club record.

"I don't pay much attention to it," Gonzalez said of his streak.

Junior golfers post low scores

The North Texas Professional Golf Association Junior Tournament was held Wednesday at Snyder Country Club. There were seven different age groups totaling 58 competitors.

"The tournament went very smooth and the course was in excellent condition thanks to superintendent Craig Kight," said SCC Assistant Pro Bryan Word. "I was very surprised that the scores were so low, especially in the boys 12-13 and 14-15 age groups."

Three members of this year's SHS state championship team competed in the girls 15-18 division. Daysha Weaver, who shot the low round of the state tournament with a 71, grabbed the top spot again on Wednesday. Snyder teammate Lacey Kidd was runner-up and Lady Tiger Keisha Gafford came in third.

Snyder's Kelbi Pitner, Jay Weaver and Zach Starnes also competed. Pitner and Weaver placed third in their divisions and Starnes finished eighth in the boys 12-13 age group.

1997 NTPGA Junior Tournament

Boys

16-18: D.J. Graha, Abilene, 75; Courtney Smith, Odessa, 80; Adam Ernest, Lawn, 82.

14-15: Marcus Lopez, Post, 72; Coy Ellison, Andrews, 73; Jason Chesser, San Angelo, 73.

12-13: Jeff Hogan, Odessa, 70; Robert Evans, Amarillo, 72; Jarryd Foreman, Odessa, 73.

10-11: Joel Jones, Colorado City, 42; Sam Richardson, Abilene, 49; Jay Weaver, Snyder, 50.

Girls

15-18: Daysha Weaver, Snyder, 70; Lacey Kidd, Snyder, 83; Keisha Gafford, Snyder, 87.

10-11: Aubrey Stanley, Lubbock, 49; Nikki Norman, Post, 55; Kelbi Pitner, Snyder, 60.

Co-ed: Bryan Foreman, Odessa, 24; Kenneth Scott, Colorado City, 29.

SDN Sports Briefs

Girls softball tournament

A softball tournament for girls 18 and older will be held this Saturday at Winston Park. Cost is $90 per team. To register, call Henry Ramos at 573-2037.

Tennis mini-clinic

A tennis mini-clinic will be held each Friday from 8 to 10 a.m. and from 10 a.m. until noon. The clinic is for junior high and older. Cost is $5 per two-hour session. Class sizes are limited to six. Call Alan Lee at 863-2305.

Raggedy Ann and Andy tourney

The annual Raggedy Ann and Andy golf tournament will be held June 28-29 at Snyder Country Club. Entry fee is $150 per couple. The tourney will be pre-flighted by total handicap and the format will be six holes of alternate shot, six holes of scramble and six holes of low ball. Call Carolyn Green at 573-5775.

Volleyball Fireworks Classic

A July 4th volleyball classic will be held starting at 9 a.m. The coed division is open to all ages. Play will be double elimination and T-shirts will be awarded to the first and second place team. Deadline to register is July 1 and fee is $10 per person. Late fee is $6. To register call Patty Grimmett at 573-9416.

Coed basketball camp

Coach Rick Archer, SHS girls' cage coach, will hold a coed basketball camp for boys and girls who will be in the 2nd through 8th grades next year. The camp will be July 7-11 at Snyder High School. Cost is $55 per camper and brochures are available at any school. For more information, call Archer at 573-6301.

Snyder volleyball camp

A volleyball camp for girls in the 5th through 9th grades will be held July 14-17 at the high school gym. Sessions will be from 8:30 a.m. until noon. Cost is $40. For more information, call Coach Patty Grimmett at 573-9416.

Athletic physicals

All incoming 7th and 9th graders, and all students new to SISD who plan to participate in athletics must take a physical. Students not participating in sports last year, or who answered yes to questions 1, 4, 5, 6 or 7 on medical history forms, will need a physical.

Anyone needing a physical should schedule an appointment before Aug. 5. The school will pay for exams through Aug. 5 only.

Participating doctors are Drs. Burleson, Cooper, Thompson, Nussey and Pierce. Anyone not needing a physical must return all forms filled out to the athletic department.

All-star tournaments

The all-star tournament for nine- and ten-year-olds will be June 28-July 14 at Logan Field.

The all-star tournament for 11- and 12-year-olds will be June 28-July 14 in Abilene.

Ladies playday Tuesday

The Women's Golf Association at Snyder Country Club will have it's weekly playday starting at 9 a.m. Tuesday. Format will be Bing, Bangle and Bungle.

SNYDER YOUTH LEAGUE

Senior Little League

Buffs 6, Astros 5

Buffs: Ralph Ramon and Adam Beck, two hits; Jared Hester and James Villarreal, one hit. **Astros:** Paul Camp and Stanley Maresch, two hits; Johnny Alaniz, Sonny Cumbie and Randy Valadez, one hit.

Oilers 15, Rebels 6

Oilers: Duane Allred, home run and another hit; Jared McMillan, three hits; Chris McLeod, Josh Ward and David Sutton, two hits; Derrick Rushing and Sammy Aviles, one hit. **Rebels:** Brandon McGuire, Bebos Martinez and Brandon Bolding, one hit.

Girls' Softball

16 and up

Poison 6, Xplosion 4

WP: Kristin Martin; LP: Kendra Dacus.

Poison: Mindy Thompson, triple and two doubles; Miranda, double and single; Kristin Martinez, three singles; Amber, Ira Gonzales and Ashley Martinez, single. **Xplosion:** Sabrina Davidson, double; Kendra Dacus, Starla Davis, Christy Tomlinson and Tara Beall, single.

Xplosion 9, Colorado City 7

WP: Kendra Dacus.

Xplosion: Christy Tomlinson and Jessica Blevins, double; Summer Barnes, Sabrina Davidson and April Digby, two singles; Kendra Dacus, Starla Davis and Tara Beall, single.

State Tournament

7-8 Pixies

Snyder Scorpions 13, C--City Ladybugs 6

Scorpions: Allie Brewster, home run and single; Chelsey Drummond, two triples and double; Monica Benavidez, two doubles and single; Katie Wall, three singles; Tana Sullenger, Ember Poffitt and A'lex Koonce, two singles; Jessica DeLeon, double and single; Kelby Seale and Ashley Bruns, singles.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

American League

East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Baltimore	46	21	.686	-
NewYork	39	30	.565	8
Toronto	32	34	.485	13½
Boston	31	38	.449	16
Detroit	30	37	.448	16
Central Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	35	31	.530	-
KansasCity	33	34	.493	2½
Milwaukee	33	34	.493	2½
Chicago	32	36	.471	4
Minnesota	32	37	.464	4½
West Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Seattle	38	31	.551	-
Texas	36	31	.537	1
Anaheim	34	34	.500	3½
Oakland	30	41	.423	9

Wednesday's Games

N.Y. Yankees 3, N.Y. Mets 2, 10 innings
Detroit 6, Florida 2
Minnesota 8, Pittsburgh 2
Montreal 1, Baltimore 0
Colorado 10, Texas 9
San Francisco 4, Seattle 2
Boston 4, Philadelphia 2
Cincinnati 5, Cleveland 2
Toronto 5, Atlanta 3
Milwaukee 8, St. Louis 4
Chicago White Sox 3, Chicago Cubs 0
Kansas City 6, Houston 2
Los Angeles 7, Anaheim 5
Oakland 11, San Diego 9

Thursday's Games

Seattle (Johnson 10-1) at Texas (Hill 4-4), 8:35 p.m.
Oakland (Karsay 1-7) at Anaheim (Perisho 0-2), 10 p.m.

National League Standings

East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	44	26	.629	-
Florida	41	28	.594	2½
Montreal	40	29	.580	3½
NewYork	37	32	.536	6½
Philadelphia	22	46	.324	21
Central Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	34	37	.479	-
Pittsburgh	33	36	.478	-
St.Louis	31	38	.449	2
Cincinnati	29	40	.420	4
Chicago	28	42	.400	5½
West Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
SanFrancisco	40	29	.580	-
Colorado	37	33	.528	3½
LosAngeles	34	35	.493	6
SanDiego	29	40	.420	11

Thursday's Games

Colorado (Bailey 7-5) at San Diego (Jackson 1-3), 5:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Lieber 3-8) at N.Y. Mets (Clark 6-4), 7:40 p.m.
Los Angeles (Astacio 3-5) at San Francisco (Estes 8-2), 10:05 p.m.

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010 LEGAL NOTICES

INVITATION TO BID
Noah Project-West, a Non-Profit Tax Exempt Organization: invites all interested bidders to submit bids to build a new office/shelter facility to be located in Snyder, Texas. Plans and Specifications will be available June 18, 1997, after 1:00 p.m. from the Noah Project-West office located at 2707 College Avenue in Snyder, Texas. Sealed bids will be accepted at this location until 5:00 p.m. on June 26, 1997. Bids submitted after 5:00 p.m. on June 26, 1997 will be returned to bidder unopened. The bid opening will take place on June 26, 1997 at 5:30 p.m. Noah Project-West will accept the most advantageous bid and reserves the right to reject any bid.
All bids should be addressed to: Noah Project-West, PO Box 425, Snyder, Texas 79550. Attention: Building Committee. Sealed envelope shall be clearly marked "Shelter Bid".
For further information call (915) 573-1822 between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm Monday thru Friday.

RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR PRIVATE CLUB REGISTRATION PERMIT
Application is filed by: Spanish Inn Club of Snyder
Location: 2212 College Avenue Snyder, Scurry County, 79549
Mailing address: 2212 College Ave. Snyder, TX 79549
Officers: Wilbert L. Rawlings, Vice Pres
Chon Rodriquez II, President
Mary Ann Rodriquez, Secretary

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573-5486

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FOR SALE: 1984 Red Camero V-8 automatic, T-Top, tinted windows. New Bra, Shocks, Springs & Rotaras. $3,000 Or Best Offer. Call Nancy 573-6516.

FOR SALE: 1988 Chev. Cheyenne ½ ton pickup. See at 1874 Tuscola. 573-7269.

140 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

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$ 1926 25th Street 573-9335 $
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Shorts of all sizes, jeans & infants too! Books of all kinds, tires & dishes too! Lots more. Come See!

GARAGE SALE
304 North Ave. U
Friday 8-3 Saturday 8-2
(2) Pickups, dishes, furniture, tools & misc.!

GARAGE SALE
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Friday 8-12
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Get it while it's hot! 1997 Fleetwood Doublewide, 5 year warranty. 3 bedroom 2 bath. $1495 down $239 month, 9.50% var apr 360 months. Call Troy at Homes of America Odessa. Tx. 1-915-363-0881 or 1-800-725-0881.

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BY OWNER: Old West 3-2-2, 2 living areas, dining room & basement. 2674 square feet, $65,000. 573-1625 573-7621.

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HOUSE FOR SALE: 3602 44th Street, 3-2-2, fireplace, CH/A, new fenced yard, trees, storage building & covered patio. 573-7984.

HOUSE FOR SALE: Brick 3-1-den with built-ins. 6 ft. metal fence & storage building. 3007 41st. 573-1554.

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3718 Dalton 3-2-1 All New
3213 40th 3-1-cp-fpl.
3612 Ave. V 3-2 Reduced
3604 Ave. B 3-2-2 Lo $40's
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Glassware • Figurines • Porcelain Dolls • China • Cast Iron Skillets
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DNA found on pens, keys and phones can be traced to people

NEW YORK (AP) — Think you're a tidy person? A new study suggests you're leaving DNA all over the place — on pens, keys, coffee mugs — and it can be traced back to you.

That provides a handy tool for investigating crimes, say forensic scientists who recovered DNA from a slew of everyday things and matched it back to the people it came from.

The technique has already been used to provide evidence in cases of attempted murder, rape, armed robbery, extortion and drug trafficking, the Australian scientists said.

At the same time, the researchers found that people can pick up other people's DNA on their hands. That raises at least the possibility that a person could plant or accidentally leave somebody else's DNA at a crime scene.

Most people know DNA can be recovered from blood or semen, and they may have heard that evidence in the Unabomber case includes DNA recovered from some licked stamps.

Scientists said it's no surprise that DNA can also be found on objects that were only casually touched by hands. Prior reports have described getting it from doorknobs, for example.

Still, the Australian work is striking in suggesting that so much DNA can be recovered so consistently from so many things, experts said.

"It's more common than we would have expected. It seems less a chance occurrence," said Ron Fourney of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

The new work is presented in Thursday's issue of the journal Nature by Roland A.H. van Oorschot and Maxwell K. Jones at the Victoria Forensic Science Center in Victoria, Australia.

It's not clear where the DNA that people shed casually comes from, van Oorschot said. But there is some evidence that "naked" DNA — DNA that has escaped from dying cells — can be on the skin, he said.

The researchers recovered DNA from leather briefcase handles, pens, a car key, a locker handle and telephones, and found the samples matched the DNA of people who regularly used each item. One of the phones also yielded the genetic profile of somebody who used it only occasionally.

They also found that people left identifiable DNA on plastic knife handles, a mug and a glass after handling them for only 15 minutes. New vinyl gloves, worn for 20 to 90 minutes, gave the genetic profile of whoever wore them.

DNA could be picked up even from plastic tubes that had been held for only five seconds. When two or three people handled tubes, DNA from the different users could be recovered.

Three taken into custody

Officers arrested two people early this morning on separate charges. Another person was arrested Wednesday.

A 34-year-old man was taken into custody at 1:47 a.m. today in the 1900 block of Coleman Avenue on an outstanding misdemeanor warrant from Stephens County to revoke his probation and for failure to identify.

Following a report at 2:17 this morning that juveniles were congregating in the alley of the 800 block of 27th Street, officers arrested a 17-year-old male in the 2700 block of Avenue G for consumption of alcohol by a minor.

At 9:28 a.m. Wednesday, a 26-year-old male was arrested on a city warrant for Class C assault, public intoxication and failure to appear.

In other activity, an officer was requested in the 2100 block of Gilmore in reference to juveniles shooting dogs with BB guns.

An offense report for assault/family violence was submitted at 3:10 p.m.

Officers were called to the 4400 block of Avenue U at 3:48 p.m. in reference to a subject being harassed by another person.

A woman requested to speak to an officer at 3:59 p.m. in reference to damage to her vehicle while it was parked at Snyder Junior High School. An offense report for Class B criminal mischief was submitted.

A 35-year-old male was reported missing by his family at 4:54 p.m. An offense report for missing person was submitted.

A report of a gas drive-off was made at 5:28 p.m. in reference to someone not paying for gas at Skinny's on Coliseum Drive.

Lisa Guerrereo reported the theft of a bicycle at 7:05 p.m. from the 200 block of 33rd Street.

An offense report for family violence was submitted at 11:29 p.m.

Marriage king Glynn 'Scotty' Wolfe, 'Guinness' most-married man, has died

REDLANDS, Calif. (AP) — Glynn "Scotty" Wolfe took 29 trips down the aisle. It looks like he'll be taking his one trip to the grave, though, without a grieving widow.

Wolfe, a flamboyant, Bible-thumping minister who held the Guinness Book of Records title as the most-married man for more than 35 years, died of heart disease June 10 at a nursing home. He was 88.

He died 10 days before his first wedding anniversary with No. 29, Linda Essex-Wolfe, the world's most-married woman with 23 husbands. They had planned to renew their vows Friday.

Even though they lived apart — she in Indiana, he in California — their 11-month marriage lasted longer than some of their others. Wolfe's shortest was 19 days, while Essex-Wolfe once ended a marriage after 36 hours. Both of their longest marriages lasted seven years.

Wolfe left one wife because she ate sunflower seeds in bed and divorced another because she used his toothbrush, said Vickki Wolfe, a daughter-in-law.

Now, Wolfe's body lies unclaimed at the San Bernardino County morgue, spokesman Tom Dewhirst said. If no one steps forward to claim him this week, Wolfe will be cremated by the county and dumped into a collective grave.

The 56-year-old Essex-Wolfe, calling collect from a pay phone outside a grocery store in her hometown of Anderson, Ind., told The Press-Enterprise of Riverside that she can't afford her husband's burial.

"I wish I could," she said, "but I don't have the money. That's what's really hurting me."

Wolfe attracted worldwide attention last year when he wed Essex-Wolfe. They were introduced in Blythe, his hometown, by the National Enquirer in 1989. At the time, he was married to a 17-year-old girl from the Philippines.

"As soon as I saw him, I knew I cared for him," Essex-Wolfe said. "He was a charmer. He married a lot of beautiful women, a lot of young women."

They spent only one week together last year before getting hitched in front of cameras for a British documentary about marriage. Wolfe rarely shied away from the spotlight, with appearances on "Donahue" and other talk shows.

Unwilling to leave her hometown, the bride flew back to Indiana. Unwilling to venture into the cold, the groom remained in California. They stayed in touch by writing letters.

Essex-Wolfe was trying to find a way back to California for their first anniversary when she found out he had died.

Wolfe was sent to the Brookside Healthcare Center in Redlands in July 1996 following a bout with pneumonia, said social services director Peter Duncan. He also suffered from coronary disease and seizures.

His son, John Wolfe, said he would like to give his father a proper burial, but "it's just, I can't afford any funeral."

"Regretfully, my job doesn't pay a whole lot," said Wolfe, 33, who works at a Burger King.

Wolfe died "with $336 to his name," which will be used to pay for his cremation, Duncan said. John Wolfe said he may ask the county for the ashes.

And Essex-Wolfe plans to honor her husband in a way he surely would have appreciated — by talking about their marriage on television.

Besides his current wife, Wolfe is survived by 19 children and at least 40 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEWYORK(AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	93¼	92⅝	92⅝	—2⅛
AT&T Corps	37⅞	37⅞	37⅞	— ⅛
AirTouch	27⅞	27⅛	27⅞	— ⅜
Albertsons	37⅛	37	37⅛	+ ⅛
AlldSignal	83⅛	82⅝	82⅝	— ⅜
Alltel	33⅛	33⅛	33⅛	— ⅛
AmerOnline	61⅜	60⅝	60⅝	— ⅛
AmStores	50⅛	49⅝	49⅞	+ ⅛
Ameritech	70⅝	69⅝	69⅝	—1⅜
Amoco	90⅛	90⅛	90⅛	— ⅜
AndarkPtr	63⅞	63⅜	63⅜	— ⅛
Armcolnc	4	3⅞	4	+ ⅛
AtlRichfld s	74⅝	73⅞	73⅞	— ⅞
ATMOS Egy		24⅛	24⅛	24⅛
Avlall	15⅜	15⅜	15⅜	+ ⅛
BakerHughes	38⅝	38⅜	38⅛	— ⅜
BellAtl	76⅜	75⅞	76⅛	—1
BellSouth	46⅝	45⅞	46⅛	— ⅛
BethSteel	10⅛	10	10	— ⅛
BritPet s	72⅛	71⅜	71⅜	—1
BurlNoSFe	88⅜	87⅞	88	+ ⅜
Caterpillar	108⅛	107⅞	107⅞	— ⅛
Caterpillar wi		53⅞	53⅞	53⅞
CenSoWst	21	20⅞	21	+ ⅛
Chevron	74⅛	74⅛	74⅛	+ ⅛
Chrysler	33⅛	32⅞	32⅞	+ ⅛
Coastal		52⅛	52⅛	52⅛
CocaCola	72	71	71	— ⅜
ColgatePalm s	65⅞	65⅛	65⅞	+1
ComclMetals	31⅛	31⅛	31⅛	— ⅛
Cooperln	53⅜	52	52⅛	+ ⅜
CyprusAmax		25⅛	25⅛	25⅛
DallSemicn	36⅛	35⅞	36⅛	+ ⅛
DeltaAirl	87⅞	86	86⅞	—2⅜
DigitalEq	38⅜	37⅞	37⅞	+ ⅛
Dillards Inc		35	34⅞	35
DowChem	88⅞	88⅛	88⅛	— ⅛
DresserInd		36⅜	36⅛	36⅛
DuPont s	61⅛	60	60⅝	+1⅛
EastmanChem	61⅜	60⅝	61⅛	— ⅛
EstKodak	79⅜	78⅞	78⅞	+ ⅛
EDS Corp	41⅞	41⅛	41⅞	+ ⅛
Enserch		21⅞	21⅞	21⅞
Entergy	27⅛	27⅛	27⅛	— ⅛
Exxon s	63⅜	63	63⅛	— ⅛
FstBksAm		13⅛	13⅛	13⅛
Flowers s	17	16⅞	17	+ ⅛
FordMotor	39⅜	38⅜	38⅜	— ⅛
GTE Cp		44⅝	44⅝	44⅝
GenDynam	77⅛	76⅛	76⅛	— ⅛
GenElecs	67⅛	66⅞	66⅞	+ ⅛
GenMills		64⅝	64⅝	64⅝
GenMotors	56⅜	55⅞	56⅛	— ⅛
GaPacif	89⅝	89⅝	89⅝	+1⅜
GlobalMar	23⅜	23⅜	23⅜	— ⅜
Goodrich	47⅛	46⅜	46⅜	— ⅜
Goodyear s	61⅜	61⅛	61⅛	— ⅛
GtAtlPac		27⅞	27⅞	27⅞
Halliburta	78⅜	76⅛	76⅛	—1⅛
Hanson ADS n		26	25⅞	26
HarteHanks	30⅜	30	30⅛	+ ⅜
HomeDepot	68⅛	67⅞	68⅛	+ ⅛
HomeDepot wi	45⅛	45⅛	45⅛	+ ⅛
HoustonInds		21⅞	21⅞	21⅞
IBM s	89⅞	89⅛	89⅛	+ ⅛
IntlPaper	50⅜	49⅞	50⅛	+ ⅛
JohnsonJn	65⅞	64⅞	64⅞	+ ⅛
K mart	13⅛	12⅞	12⅞	— ⅛
Kroger s	28⅛	27⅞	27⅞	+ ⅛
Litton	48⅛	48⅛	48⅛	— ⅜
LockhdMart	97⅛	96⅛	96⅛	— ⅛
Lowes Cos		38 9-16	38⅜	38⅛
Lubys	20⅜	20⅛	20⅛	— ⅛
LucentTech	70⅞	70⅛	70⅝	+ ⅛
MayDeptStrs	49⅛	48⅞	48⅞	— ⅜
Medtronic	81⅜	80⅞	80⅞	— ⅛
Mobil	141⅛	140⅛	140⅛	— ⅛
Mobilwi	71⅜	70⅛	71	— ⅛
Monsanto	43	42⅛	42⅛	+ ⅛
MorganJP	109⅛	108⅞	109	— ⅛
Motorola	72	70⅞	71⅛	—1⅛
NCR Corp n	28⅜	28⅜	28⅜	— ⅛
NationsBk s	68⅜	67⅞	68⅜	+ ⅛
Navistar	17⅛	17⅛	17⅛	+ ⅛
NoramEngy		15⅜	15⅛	15⅛
Norwest	58⅜	58	58	— ⅜
Nynex	58⅛	58	58⅛	— ⅜
OryxEngy		20⅛	20⅛	20⅛
Penney JC	52⅛	51⅞	52⅛	+ ⅜
Pennzoil	60⅛	60⅛	60⅛	— ⅛
PepBoys	34⅛	33⅞	33⅞	+ ⅛
PepsiCo	39⅛	38⅞	38⅞	— ⅜
PhelpDodge	89	88⅞	89	+ ⅜
PhilipPet		44⅝	44⅝	44⅝
PilgrmPrd		11⅛	11⅛	11⅛
Polaroid	50⅞	50⅛	50⅛	+ ⅛
Praxair	56	55⅞	55⅞	— ⅛
ProctGamble	141	139⅝	140⅝	+1⅜
PubSNwMx		18	17⅞	17⅞
RoyalDutch	207⅞	206⅞	206⅞	+ ⅛
SBC Comm	59⅛	58⅞	59⅛	—1
SaraLee	42⅞	42	42⅛	+ ⅛
SearsRoeb	53⅜	53⅜	53⅛	+ ⅜
SherwinW s		31⅛	31⅛	31⅛
SmthBc ADS	88⅛	87⅞	88⅛	+ ⅛
SouthernCo	21⅜	21⅛	21⅛	+ ⅛
SwstAirlines	25⅞	25⅛	25⅞	— ⅛
Sprint	52	51⅛	51⅛	— ⅜
SunCo	31⅛	30⅞	30⅞	— ⅛
TNP Ent	23⅜	23⅜	23⅜	+ ⅛
Tandy	56⅜	56⅛	56⅛	+ ⅛
TempleInland	59	58⅛	58⅛	+ ⅜
Tenneco	45	44⅛	44⅛	— ⅛
Texaco	113⅜	112⅞	112⅞	— ⅛
TexasInds		26⅛	26⅛	26⅛
TexasInst	86⅛	85	85⅞	— ⅜
TexUtil	34½	34⅛	34⅛	+ ⅛
Textron s	65⅞	65	65	+ ⅛
Travelers s	64⅞	64	64⅛	— ⅛
TrinityInds		33⅜	33	33⅜
TritonEngy	44⅜	44½	44⅜	+ ⅛
US WestCm	37⅛	36⅞	37	— ⅛
USWstMda		22⅛	21⅞	22
USX Delhi	13⅛	13⅛	13⅛	— ⅛
USX-Marathn	30⅜	30⅛	30⅜	+ ⅜
USX-USS		34⅛	34⅛	34⅛
UnCarbde	48⅛	47⅞	48	— ⅛
UnPac s	70⅜	69⅞	70⅛	+ ⅜
UnitedTech s	86⅞	85⅞	86	— ⅜
Unocal	41	40⅞	40½	— ⅜
WalMart		33⅛	32⅞	33
WstnGasRs	19⅜	19⅛	19⅛	+ ⅛
WestghEl	23	22⅞	22⅞	+ ⅜
WinnDixie	41⅞	41⅞	41⅞	+ ⅛
Woolworth	25⅞	25⅛	25⅛	— ⅛
Xerox Corp	73⅜	72⅞	73⅛	+ ⅛
ZenithE	12⅞	12	12⅞	+ ⅜

Can S. Baptists really avoid all things Disney?

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Southern Baptists can abstain from Disney if they want. They may have to wear blinders and earplugs to do it.

The nation's largest Protestant denomination has officially urged its 15 million members to boycott Disney, condemning as immoral and "gay-friendly" everything from its same-sex employee benefits to TV's "Ellen."

Trouble is, Disney is omnipresent in entertainment.

Harold Mclaughlin, a Disney store shopper and the father of a 4-year-old boy, said the Southern Baptists were being unrealistic.

"There's too many Disney products out there," he said. "How are they going to determine what is OK? Hand every member a list of the companies owned by Disney?"

Disney's empire is ubiquitous, embracing theme parks, the Anaheim Angels baseball and Mighty Ducks hockey teams, television networks ABC, ESPN, A&E and Lifetime, and popular shows like "Home Improvement."

And of course, the faithful would have to avert their eyes from Hollywood's leading supplier of family movie fare.

"That's pretty restrictive," said Mary Pugh, a non-Baptist shopper at a Glendale Disney store. "I wouldn't want to be one of those parents who has to tell their children that they can't see 'Hercules' or any other Disney film.

"And what are their kids going to watch now?" she asked. "Those of us who are parents feel there is already too few choices of shows and things for our children."

Boycotters may have to abstain from much more than they realize. Disney is a leviathan, its arms reaching into sports, entertainment and pop culture.

Is not just ABC off-limits, but the local news on an ABC-affiliated station as well? Must the "Little Mermaid" pajamas be packed off to the Salvation Army? Is one obligated to root against the Mighty Ducks?

The Southern Baptists were short on specifics, saying they felt compelled by a religious imperative to urge members to censure Disney.

Among their objections: Disney's policy of giving health benefits to same-sex partners of employees; "Gay Days" at its theme parks; Disney subsidiary moviemakers putting out films with violence and sex, such as "Pulp Fiction" and "Kids."

The last straw was the episode of the ABC sitcom "Ellen" in which Ellen Degeneres' character revealed she is a lesbian, boycott supporters said.

"Walt Disney would never have approved this, and I think it's just a slap in his face and to his family that they're taking this viewpoint," said Katera McMillan of Rogers, Ark.

McMillan was among the delegates to the Southern Baptist Convention that voted overwhelmingly Wednesday in favor of a nonbinding resolution to boycott everything Disney for its "anti-Christian and anti-family" direction.

The vote was blasted by The Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest gay political organization.

"It is morally wrong for the delegates of the Southern Baptist Convention to punish a company for simply refusing to discriminate against gay Americans," spokesman David Smith said.

But can the snubbing work? Even the convention faithful wondered if they could remain stalwart, especially since Disney is the main source of the kind of family fare religious conservatives typically praise.

"If we approve this resolution, you have a moral obligation to go home, cancel your ESPN coverage, get rid of the A&E Channel, stop watching Lifetime television and never turn your TV to ABC, including 'Good Morning America,'" said the Rev. Rick Markham, pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church in Snellville, Ga.

Monte Shinkle, pastor of Concord Baptist Church in Jefferson City, Mo., doubted he could resist temptation.

"One of our concerns is how large Disney is,' Shinkle said. "Are we always going to avoid the ABC evening news? Probably not."

At a Disney store in Little Rock, Ark., Baptist music minister Richard Wentz said there was no way he could abide by the boycott.

"If I did, I don't know what I'd do with her," said Wentz, looking down at his 4-year-old daughter, Taylor, dressed in a pink "Hunchback of Notre Dame" outfit and clutching her new "Winnie the Pooh" books.

Analysts said a boycott would be fruitless and have little impact on earnings.

Three-year-old told his dad that rock was dinosaur egg

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — Don Shiffler didn't think much about it when his 3-year-old son insisted that the thin, green rock he unearthed with his toy backhoe was a dinosaur egg.

Think again, Dad. Researchers say the "rock" young David Shiffler found is the oldest evidence of a meat-eating, egg-laying dinosaur.

The family was on their way home from a camping trip, having just seen "The Land Before Time," a cartoon about a little dinosaur, and Shiffler said David had dinosaurs on his mind.

"Everything he picked up that day was a dinosaur egg," said Shiffler. He put the fragment on a shelf in the family garage for nearly two months.

David kept telling his father that the quarter-sized fragment, which he dug up in October 1995 near Rio Puerco, west of Albuquerque, was important.

"I knew it was a dinosaur egg," David, now 4, said last week during a news conference at the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, where the fossilized piece of eggshell is now displayed.

After Dad gave in and took the piece to the museum, researchers there sent it to Emily Bray, a University of Colorado paleontologist. She determined that it was a one-of-a-kind find, which is changing scientists' theories of when meat-eating, egg-laying dinosaurs first appeared.

The fragment, about 150 million years old, gives more evidence that meat-eating — or therapod — dinosaurs laid hard-shelled eggs during the upper Jurassic Period, Ms. Bray said.

It also could prove that dinosaur eggs from that era were hard-shelled, not leathery, advancing the theory that modern birds are descendants of dinosaurs.

Spencer Lucas, a paleontologist at the New Mexico museum, said the oldest meat-eating dinosaur egg previously found in North America came from the Cretaceous period, about 70 million years ago.

"If it's from the Jurassic, then it's definitely a first, so then it's very important. It provides some tantalizing ideas," said Kenneth Carpenter, a paleontologist at the Denver Museum of Natural History.

He said more evidence of therapod egg-laying needs to be found from the Jurassic Period. Most fossilized eggshells are from the late Cretaceous Period and are found in Mongolia and China, he said.

Fossilized eggshells are rare in the Southwest because the region was very wet during the time of the dinosaurs, and eggs usually don't fossilize in such an environment.

David's discovery now has scientists thinking that meat-eating dinosaurs laid eggs much earlier than previously thought, Ms. Bray said. Maybe even 170 million years ago.

"We just haven't found the evidence yet," she said.

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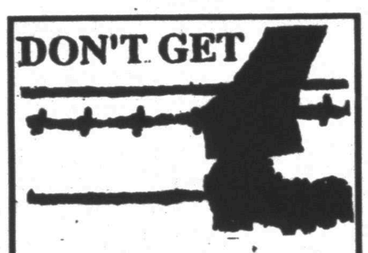

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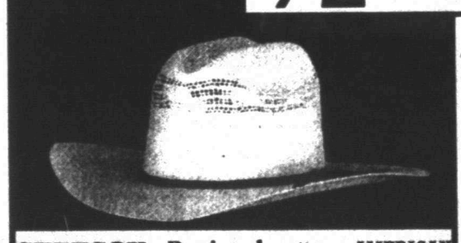

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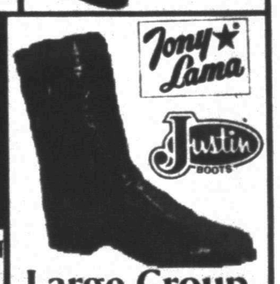

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Astro-graph By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Friday, June 20, 1997

In the year ahead you may form two powerful alliances that will produce mutual advantages. These will be benefits you wouldn't be able to achieve on your own.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Agreements you make today might not amount to much in the long run if both parties lack the essential follow-through. To be successful, objectives must be achieved. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that govern you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing $2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Serious responsibilities can't be wished away with magical thinking today. Pretending that everything will take care of itself is soliciting bigger headaches.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Avoid involvements that smack too heavily of chance today, because just when you'll need Lady Luck the most, she might pass the dice to someone else.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) If the world treats you too rough today, don't take your wrath out on innocent bystanders, especially family members who are powerless to fight back.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) You could be asking for trouble if you hold unyielding opinions today, especially if you enter into a debate with a character who has a similar mind-set.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) A joint endeavor requiring your funds might not live up to its expectations today. Before investing, know what you're getting into.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Treat your partners with all the kindness you can muster. Normally this is one of your strongest areas, but today it could be one of your weakest.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) It is best to place some limits on your generosity today or else you might impulsively give away something you'll wish you had back later.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Avoid a social gathering today where you might encounter someone you dislike. There is a possibility that this individual might spoil your fun.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Be mindful of others in career situations today, or else you might achieve your purpose at the expense of an innocent bystander.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) If you rely upon your emotions rather than the facts today, you might not see all the issues clearly. Blurred vision produces fuzzy results.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) This might not be one of your better days financially. Be very careful with your own cash as well as with the resources of others today.

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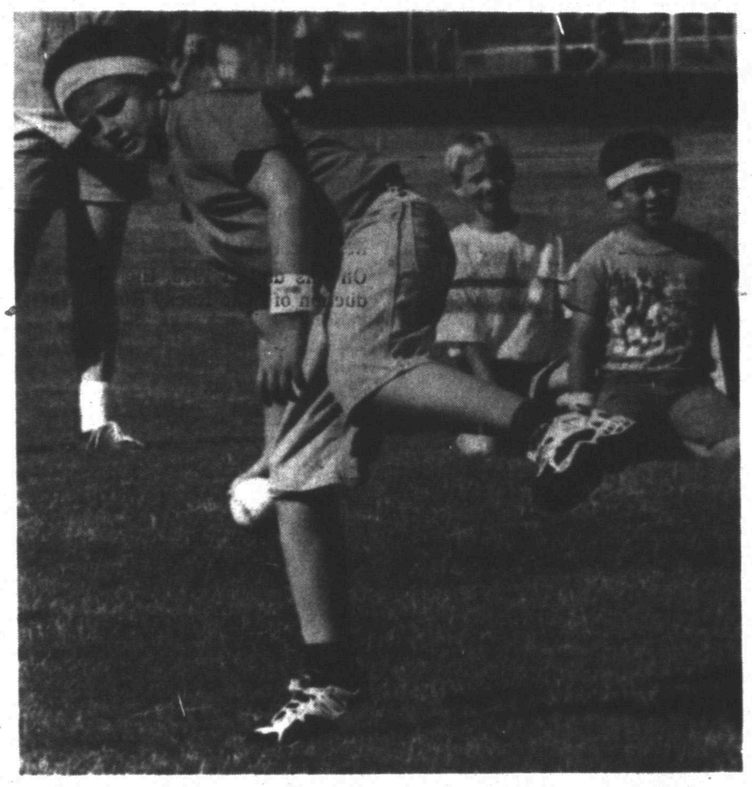

READY TO THROW — Brandon Robbins gets ready to throw the softball during Stanfield's play day in May while Wesley Price and Henry Ramos look on. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

PUBLIC NOTICE

BRIEF EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF PROPOSED

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

SPECIAL ELECTION

AUGUST 9, 1997

PROPOSITION NO. 1 ON THE BALLOT

House Joint Resolution 4 proposes a constitutional amendment which would increase the school property tax residence homestead exemption from $5,000 to $15,000. The amendment would also authorize the Legislature to limit all or part of the exemption to political subdivisions that are the principal providers of elementary and secondary education within their boundaries.

In addition, the amendment would authorize the Legislature to allow the transfer of all or part of the age 65-and-over tax freeze to another homestead. Specifically, the Legislature would be authorized to provide that the current limitation against increasing school property taxes on the residence homesteads of persons age 65 or older, or their surviving spouse who is eligible to receive the exemption, may be transferred if the person establishes a different residence homestead.

The amendment would also allow the $10,000 additional amount for the standard exemption to be used to lower the tax rate of persons currently receiving the 65-and-over tax freeze. Specifically, for a homestead affected by this limitation in 1996 or in an earlier tax year, the Legislature must provide for a reduction in the school property tax limitation in the 1997 tax year and subsequent tax years in an amount equal to $10,000 multiplied by the 1997 school property tax rate.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows:

"The constitutional amendment providing school property tax relief by increasing the residence homestead exemption by $10,000 and providing for the transfer of the tax limitation to another qualified homestead for persons over 65 and a reduction in taxes subject to the limitation."

Este es el informe explanatorio sobre la enmienda propuesta a la constitución que aparecerá en la boleta el dia 9 de agosto de 1997. Si usted no ha recibido una copia del informe en español, podrá obtener una gratis por llamar al 1/800/252/8683 à por escribir al Secretario de Estado, P.O. Box 12060, Austin, Texas 78711

Published by Secretary of State Tony Garza

JULY 4TH CELEBRATION
FISHING RODEO TOURNAMENT

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Address: _____

Phone: _____

Age: _____

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11 to 16 - $2.00
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Prizes will be awarded to all age groups after the tournament.

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HORSESHOE & WASHER PITCHING TOURNAMENT

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Address: _____

Phone: _____

Age: _____

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List of 10 best, 10 worst legislators released

AUSTIN (AP) — The timing couldn't have been much worse for Sen. Drew Nixon, R-Carthage.

On the same day Nixon's court case on a misdemeanor charge of soliciting sex from an undercover Austin police officer was set for a pretrial hearing, Texas Monthly magazine released its annual list of the 10 best and 10 worst legislators for 1997.

Surprise. Nixon was one of the 10 worst.

"I understand that the problems in my personal life earlier this year would preclude me from making anyone's list of model senators," Nixon said Wednesday in a statement.

Texas Monthly's annual report card takes a tongue-in-cheek look at House and Senate members who pushed, often unsuccessfully, issues ranging from property tax relief to same-sex marriages during their biennial 140-day stay in Austin this year.

To make the 10 best, the magazine said it looked for lawmakers with "integrity, fairness, a desire to solve problems ... and a commitment to put policy ahead of partisanship."

Those making the 10 best included Rep. Ron Wilson, D-Houston, who successfully navigated through a legislative mine field a bill requiring colleges that use grade point averages in admissions to set the same standard for athletes and non-athletes.

Wilson filed it in response to a federal court ruling that struck down race-based admissions and financial aid policies in Texas. He said he didn't want schools continuing to recruit minority athletes while ignoring minority scholars.

While most legislators say the bill won't impact the state's biggest universities, Wilson says it will.

"If he is right, the effect on college athletics, in Texas and across the nation, could be revolutionary," the magazine said. "And even if he turns out to be wrong, he has given us all something to think about."

Among others on the 10 best list are Rep. Paul Sadler, D-Henderson, who headed a special House committee on property tax relief; Sen. David Sibley, R-Waco, who passed a bill allowing Texans to sue their health maintenance organizations for malpractice; Rep. Hugo Berlanga, D-Corpus Christi, who passed a bill making insurance coverage more available to uninsured children; and Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, who along with Berlanga, passed a bill imposing penalties on minors who smoke.

As for the 10 worst?

"They don't care about solving problems, they don't have a willingness to compromise and they don't put public policy ahead of jockeying for political advantage," the magazine said. "... It's not their ideology that we deplore; it's their methodology."

Titled "The Worst of the Worst" was Rep. Arlene Wohlgemuth, R-Burleson, who single-handedly killed 52 bills in what has become known as the Memorial Day Massacre.

"She broke the social contract that is the basis of all government: the agreement to give up the right to use brute force in exchange for the benefits of civility and order," the magazine said.

Mrs. Wohlgemuth released a statement saying, "Taking a stand for conservative issues would naturally place me at odds with the Texas Monthly. I expected to make ... (the) 10 worst and would have been surprised if it had been otherwise."

Among others on the 10 worst list are Sen. Eddie Lucio, D-Brownsville, accused of promoting self-serving bills; Rep. Kevin Bailey, D-Houston, blamed for failing to successfully lead the liberal faction of the House; Rep. Frank Corte, R-San Antonio, a 10-worst repeater from 1995 for "faults ranging from pettiness to mendacity;" and Rep. Kent Grusendorf, R-Arlington, whose "antipathy for Speaker Pete Laney makes him a marked man."

Bailey said, "The last time someone from my district got voted to the worst list, he got elected to Congress, so maybe I've got something good coming."

Lucio said, "I was aggressive and I was persuasive and I don't apologize for that. If I'm going to be criticized for helping the people in my district, so be it."

Corte and Grusendorf didn't immediately return messages left at their offices by The Associated Press.

Sens. Nixon and Michael Galloway, R-The Woodlands, were also on the 10 worst list under the heading, "Dumb and Dumber, the Sequel."

Estrogen increases breast cancer risk

BOSTON (AP) — For older women, the difficult question of whether to take estrogen for the rest of their lives has grown even more complicated.

On Wednesday, researchers reported new evidence that estrogen supplements after menopause may cut the risk of Alzheimer's disease in half. On Thursday, another study is coming out suggesting that long-term use increases the risk of dying from breast cancer by nearly half.

Women often take estrogen for a couple of years to ease the hot flashes and other symptoms of menopause, and there is little doubt about the safety of this limited use.

More controversial, however, is the idea that women should keep on taking the pills because of estrogen's other well-known benefits: It clearly protects the heart and keeps bones from growing brittle, and might also ward off Alzheimer's.

Estrogen also increases the risk of breast cancer, although by just how much has been unclear. Nevertheless, since heart disease is so much more common than breast cancer in older women, many doctors and their patients assumed that the benefits far outweighed the risks.

The latest study, published in Thursday's issue of the New England Journal of medicine, attempted to see what estrogen supplements do to women's risk of death. It is the first to assess how this risk changes over time.

Like other studies, it found that estrogen dramatically reduces older women's risk of dying from a heart attack. But it found that the risk of breast cancer gradually increases. And after a decade of use, the increasing cancer deaths begin to wipe out the advantages of avoiding heart trouble.

Researchers say these studies emphasize the need for making the decision about long-term estrogen on a person-by-person basis, taking into consideration each woman's risk of heart trouble, breast cancer and other diseases.

Estrogen after menopause "is being increasingly prescribed for long-term use to prevent heart disease and osteoporosis. Based on the uncertainty of the balance of benefits and risks, that should be done only with caution and not routinely," said Dr. JoAnn Manson, one of the researchers at Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital.

Nearly 9 million American women take Premarin, Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories' brand of post-menopausal estrogen. It is the nation's most widely prescribed medicine.

The Boston study involves 121,700 women in the Nurses Health Study, including 3,637 who died during 18 years of follow-up.

It found that the risk of dying from any cause was 45 percent lower than expected among nurses who took estrogen supplements for less than five years. Between five and 10 years of use, the risk was 40 percent lower.

However, after more than 10 years on estrogen, the risk of death was just 20 percent lower. This is because these women's risk of dying from breast cancer was 45 percent higher than nonusers'.

Wyeth-Ayerst issued a statement Wednesday saying that whether hormone replacement therapy raises the risk of breast cancer "remains an inconclusive topic in scientific circles."

The Alzheimer's study, conducted by Dr. Claudia Kawas and others from Johns Hopkins University and published in the June issue of Neurology, found that women who took estrogen had a 54 percent reduction in their risk of the disease.

Dr. Francine Grodstein, who directed the Boston study, noted that only women already at risk for heart disease live significantly longer as a result of the hormone pills. These include women with diabetes, high blood pressure or high cholesterol, or who smoke or have a strong family history of heart problems.

The study suggests that for those with a high risk of heart disease, long-term use of estrogen may be worthwhile. But for women with an elevated risk of breast cancer, the benefits are less clear, especially if they have healthy hearts.

Risks factors for breast cancer include a mother or sister with the disease, having puberty at an early age or having children late in life or not at all.

"It's still a hard decision, but a woman needs to consider her own risk factors," Grodstein said.

Dr. Nananda Col of New England Medical Center in Boston noted that even though the mortality advantage shrank to 20 percent after 10 years of estrogen use, "that really is a huge benefit."

"Does this mean women should stop therapy after 10 years? No," she said.

Certainly, delaying death is not the only reason to take estrogen. Alzheimer's disease and osteoporosis clearly diminish the quality of women's lives, as does treatment for breast cancer or living with heart disease.

Even though the study is probably the most careful look yet at estrogen's risks and benefits, it does not settle the question. Some wonder whether women who choose to take estrogen are already healthier than non-users, and perhaps this explains why they live longer.

One attempt to provide a clearer answer is the Women's Health Initiative, which is randomly assigning 27,500 women to take estrogen alone, estrogen plus progestin, or dummy pills.

Date Book

June 19, 1997

Today is the 170th day of 1997 and the 92nd day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1865, the state of Texas emancipated its slaves.

On this day in 1973, the stage production of "The Rocky Horror Show" debuted in London.

On this day in 1978, the comic strip "Garfield" was published for the first time.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Blaise Pascal (1623-1662), philosopher-mathematician-physicist; Guy Lombardo (1902-1977), bandleader; Lou Gehrig (1903-1941), baseball great; Abe Fortas (1919-1982), U.S. Supreme Court justice; Salman Rushdie (1947-), writer, is 50; Paula Abdul (1962-), singer-dancer, is 35.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1867, Ruthless won the first Belmont Stakes.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "The heart has its reasons which reason knows nothing of." — Blaise Pascal

TODAY'S WEATHER: On this day in 1938, a rain-runoff-weakened bridge near Miles City, Mont., collapsed as a train passed over it, killing 48 people.

SOURCE: 1997 Weather Guide Calendar; Accord Publishing, Ltd.

TODAY'S MOON: Day before full moon (June 20).

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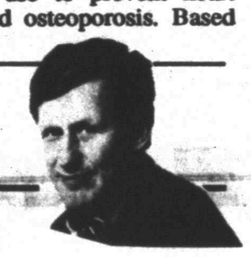
Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Heart condition needs diagnosis

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: About two months ago, I had a considerable amount of fluid removed from my heart sac. Despite the use of cortisone, I have continued to have a cough and low-grade fever. For the past two weeks, I've noticed increasing shortness-of-breath. Has the fluid returned? What should I do?

DEAR READER: The condition you describe is called a pericardial effusion: the appearance of fluid around the heart under the pericardium (the thin, tough, unexpandable membrane that surrounds the heart).

This is an extremely serious disorder, because as the amount of fluid increases, it presses against the heart, preventing the cardiac chambers from completely filling with blood. As cardiac filling is progressively compromised, there is less blood expelled, so circulation becomes deficient and heart failure will occur. Unless the effusion is removed with a needle (to allow the heart chambers to re-expand), the affliction can be fatal.

There are many causes of pericardial effusion, including various virus infections, Lyme disease, tuberculosis, rheumatoid arthritis, lupus, pneumonia, renal failure, cancer, radiation, and trauma. Thus, testing is often extensive. In many cases, however, no cause can be identified. Symptoms include cough, difficulty breathing and pain. Fever may or may not be present.

The diagnosis is suggested by certain findings on the physical examination and the cardiogram, but is confirmed by a cardiac ultrasound, which usually conclusively demonstrates the fluid beneath the pericardium.

Aside from withdrawing the fluid and analyzing it in the lab, therapy depends on the cause. As a practical matter, cortisone is usually prescribed because it reduces inflammation and retards the fluid buildup.

I do not know the cause of your pericardial effusion, but given your increasing breathlessness, I am concerned that the fluid has returned. In my opinion, you need immediate medical attention from a cardiologist, including another ultrasound exam. If an effusion is present, it will have to be drained again — only this time, the doctor may choose to perform a procedure called "pericardial window," during which part of the sac is surgically removed to prevent fluid accumulation and subsequent heart failure.

Keep me informed of your progress. Although this is a serious situation, it is curable.

To give you more information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Understanding Heart Disease." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

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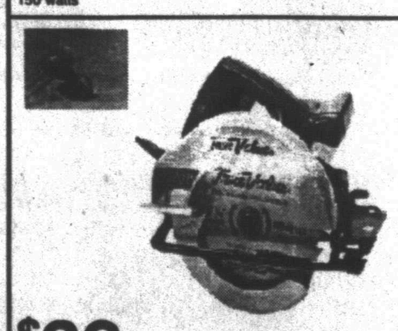

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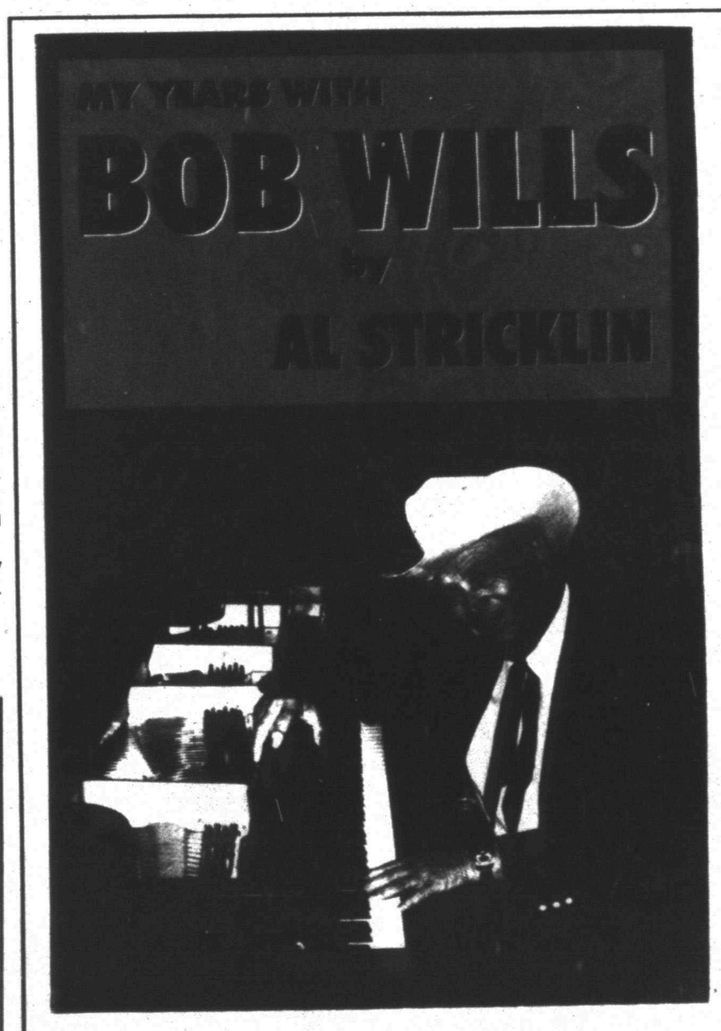

"This is how it really happened, before Elvis, before the Beatles. This was Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys. On these pages, one can see the twinkle of the eye, hear the world's greatest laugh, and feel the warmth of Al Stricklin. Read this book and you'll be on the bus with the best of them. No one could play octaves that fast, swing that much, or wow an audience night after night like my musical father. When we met, I was 20 years old and playing piano for *Asleep At The Wheel*. Since then, I've had the honor of playing Al Stricklin licks on a variety of albums, from *George Strait* to *Asleep At The Wheel* to *Herb Ellis*. The night I met Al, he offered to teach me everything he knew. An impossible task, but he passed the torch and I still do my best".

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2ND FRONT PAGE

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Mexican citizen executed in Texas

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Mexican government protests and demonstrations by supporters failed to keep convicted murderer and Mexican citizen Irineo Montoya from the Texas death chamber.

Montoya, 30, received lethal injection Wednesday evening for the 1985 stabbing and beating death of a Rio Grande Valley man who had given Montoya and a companion a ride.

"I wait for you in Heaven," Montoya told his father and a woman who claimed to be his wife, both of them sobbing, as they watched him die. "I am at peace with God. Fight for the good."

Just before a doctor arrived in the death chamber to pronounce him dead, a prison chaplain removed a prayer card from inside the inmate's shirt so the physician could listen for a heartbeat.

Outside, a crowd of about 60 supporters chanted in Spanish, "Assassins!" as witnesses emerged from the prison.

Montoya also released a handwritten statement in which he expressed love for his family.

"I apologize and beg for forgiveness to whomever I had offended, hurt and disrepected," he said.

The execution came less than an hour after Texas Gov. George W. Bush refused the inmate's request for a 30-day reprieve. Bush took the action after the U.S. Supreme Court rejected 11th-hour appeals from the inmate.

"Gov. Bush ... concluded all appropriate courts, including the United States Supreme Court, have had ample opportunity to address all of the issues involved in this death penalty conviction, and therefore there are not grounds to delay it," Karen Hughes, a Bush spokeswoman, said in a statement.

Montoya became the third Texas inmate put to death this week and the 24th this year, extending the state's record number of executions for a single year.

Montoya, one of 11 Mexicans on the Texas death row, was not the first Mexican citizen put to death in the state. Ramon Montoya, who was not related to him, was executed in March 1993 for killing a Dallas police officer.

Saudi ready to admit plot to kill Americans

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Saudi dissident is ready to plead guilty to plotting with terrorists during 1994-95 to kill Americans in Saudi Arabia and is willing to tell U.S. investigators about a separate bombing a year ago that killed 19 U.S. airmen there.

Spectators were searched twice for weapons and seated behind bulletproof glass as Hani al-Sayegh appeared before U.S. District Judge Emmet Sullivan for nine minutes Wednesday afternoon. Al-Sayegh's lawyer, Michael Wildes, did not object when Sullivan ordered his client held without bond.

Today, Wildes said that his client had suffered a stress-induced asthma attack late Wednesday and that he and the government might ask to postpone the guilty plea depending on how quickly al-Sayegh recovers.

Wildes told the judge the case could be resolved today — with al-Sayegh's guilty plea to a one-count, federal grand jury indictment unsealed Wednesday.

Prosecutor Eric Dubelier asked Sullivan to exclude the public from portions of today's hearing and to keep secret the government's agreement with al-Sayegh, which would spell out some of what investigators already know about him and outline generally what he proposes to tell them.

The Washington Post and the CNN, ABC, CBS and NBC television networks objected, and Sullivan said he would hear arguments on the unusual secrecy request today.

Deported Tuesday from Canada, the bearded, bespectacled 28-year-old father of two wore a white shirt and dark trousers to court. He said only "OK" when the judge asked if he understood the translator.

Afterward, Wildes told reporters the deal "is in the best interest of my client," who is afraid he would be executed if he were returned to Saudi Arabia. "As for law enforcement, it is certainly going to help them in their investigations" of the June 1996 truck bombing at the Khobar Towers complex that housed U.S. airmen in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

The indictment said an unidentified terrorist organization paid al-Sayegh a stipend during 1994-95 for his work on the conspiracy, which government officials have said never produced an attack on Americans. Canadian court documents have said he is a member of Saudi Hezbollah, an offshoot of the Iranian-backed terrorist organization Hezbollah.

Al-Sayegh was arrested in March in Canada, where he sought refugee status because he feared persecution at home for opposing the Saudi royal family. When arrested, he said he was not even in Saudi Arabia at the time of the Khobar bombing.

But Canadian court documents alleged al-Sayegh drove a car that signaled a bomb-laden truck when to pull alongside the Khobar Towers complex.

Al-Sayegh's cooperation is considered important because he could provide U.S. authorities their first confirmation of Saudi government claims that Iran was behind the Khobar attack.

Saudi Arabia, which has refused to let FBI officials question several dozen suspects arrested there in the Khobar bombing, is sending its own investigators to Washington in hopes of interrogating al-Sayegh. If they cannot interrogate al-Sayegh directly, they will try to get answers from him through the FBI.

Saudi authorities say their investigation has made much progress but al-Sayegh's testimony is needed to fit loose pieces together.

Conspiring to murder Americans abroad carries a maximum penalty of life in prison. Authorities would not say whether they had agreed to recommend a lesser penalty for al-Sayegh.

Clinton says other nations could learn from U.S. economic example

DENVER (AP) — President Clinton, staking out bragging rights for this year's summit of major industrial nations, says the U.S. economy is the envy of the world because its strong private sector is constantly adapting to new global challenges.

The president is hoping to use the three days of meetings with leaders of the world's seven richest industrial countries and Russia to highlight the American model of economic development and the policies his administration has pursued to bolster private enterprise.

"We have a private sector ... where there is a very strong entrepreneurial risk-oriented spirit," Clinton said in a pre-summit interview.

"It's indefinable and intangible, but I think it has a lot to do with why we are who we are," he said in the interview with the Wall Street Journal. "We're sort of constantly in the act of becoming."

But many of Clinton's summit partners are arguing that the U.S. strategy won't work in places such as Europe where citizens are used to a larger social safety net and more job security.

The debate over how to create well-paying jobs in a competitive global economy will be one of a slew of the topics at the 23rd annual economic summit, renamed this year the Summit of the Eight with the addition of Russia as a full participant.

The talks, which get under way Friday, will focus on such problems as rising pension and health costs in aging societies, terrorism, infectious diseases, shaky banking systems in developing nations and how to integrate Russia more fully in the global economy.

There also will be plenty of debate over Clinton's proposal to limit the early expansion of NATO to only three countries — Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic. That plan has drawn the ire of France and Italy, who want more countries included.

Clinton was due to arrive in Denver today, with his first stop a high-tech television transmission facility where he will give a speech on the challenges and promises of economic globalization.

He also was holding hold one-on-one talks with another early arrival, Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto. Those talks were certain to focus on U.S. concerns about skyrocketing Japanese trade surpluses.

Before the president left Washington, the government reported today that America's deficit with Japan surged 5.1 percent in April to $4.8 billion, representing more than half of the overall deficit of $8.4 billion. Administration economic officials have been warning that the rising deficit with Japan would fuel a new wave of protectionism in this country.

Other leaders scheduled to arrive in Denver today were Russian President Boris Yeltsin, German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien and Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi.

Denver was rolling out the red carpet for the summit, which Mayor Wellington Webb proclaimed represented the "most significant event in our history."

Security in the city, site of the just completed trial of convicted Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh, was exceptionally tight.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Bobbie Marchel, 3102½ Ave. I.

DISMISSALS: Evie Farmer, Jo Kesner, Minnie Love, Antonia Rodarte and baby girl, Thomas Boley, William Steel, Roberta Stewart.

CENSUS: 42 (Med, Surg.-5, Long-term Care-35, CCU-2).

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Investigators blow up missile warheads so they can compare damage to jet

NEW YORK (AP) — Still trying to test any possibility that TWA Flight 800 might have been downed by a missile, authorities blew up missile warheads outside an aircraft fuselage in the desert to compare the damage, an investigator said.

They recently conducted their test on a Boeing 747 jetliner in the Southwest, comparing its holes and marks with damage done to the Paris-bound jumbo jet that exploded off Long Island 11 months ago. The blast claimed 230 lives.

During the missile testing, warheads were detonated at various distances from the aircraft fuselage to analyze how the different explosions damaged the plane.

"The whole point of the testing is to see what things look like, and to compare various types of damage in a whole host of different scenarios to what we have," said an investigator who spoke to The Associated Press Wednesday on condition of anonymity.

"If a missile blows up an inch away it is going to leave all sorts of damage associated with a high energy blast," the investigator said. "If it blows up 10 feet away it's probably just going to leave some holes."

So far, investigators say they have no evidence that a bomb or missile was involved in the crash and that a mechanical cause appears more likely. Investigators declined to give details on the findings in the warhead test.

The FBI and the National Transportation Safety Board, the lead investigative agency in the crash, plan next month to detonate small devices known as shape charges on the center fuel tank of a 747 in England to study the damage to the tank.

Investigators have said they have no reason to believe that a small charge ignited the center fuel tank but they want to be able to scrutinize every conceivable criminal theory before reaching conclusions. The FBI has said it hopes to issue a final opinion in the next 60 to 100 days.

What's Up?

Assisted living rep

Margaret Evans, director of marking and operations for Tejas Living Corporation, will be at the Senior Center during lunch Friday. She will conduct a seminar on assisted living.

Benefit dance

Hermleigh senior class will sponsor a dance from 8 p.m. to midnight Friday at Towle Park Barn. Cost is $3 per person. Proceeds will be used to fund the senior trip.

Benefit garage sale

Snyder Healthcare Center will have a garage sale Saturday to benefit residents of the home. Donations for the sale are being accepted.

Youth car wash planned

Primera Iglesia Bautista youth will hold a car wash from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday in the Wal-Mart parking lot.

Car wash set Saturday

Hermleigh cheerleaders will hold a car wash from 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Saturday at Long John Silver's. Donations will be accepted to help with camp uniforms.

Blood pressure clinic

Interim Healthcare will sponsor a free blood pressure clinic from 2-4 p.m. Saturday at the Wal-Mart pharmacy.

Bible study series

Bible study video tapes are airing on TCA Cable Channel 2. They are followed by a series of tapes titled "Archaeology and the Bible." The next tape, "The Conscience," will air t 7 p.m. Monday, followed by "The Old Testament."

Vacation Bible School

Avenue D Baptist Church

June 23-27, 9-11:30 a.m., age 4 years through 6th grade. Theme is "Good News Stampede."

Writing contest

West Texas Poets, Etc. is sponsoring a writing contest through June. There are three catagories: poetry, short stories and children's stories. Adults within a 50-mile radius of Snyder are eligible. For information, call 573-2008, 573-3437 or 573-7369. Entries must be mailed by June 30 to Helene Tutt, 13525 U.S. 180 East, Hermleigh, 79526. Prizes will be awarded July 17.

Raffle tickets offered

Snyder Bowhunters are selling raffle tickets for a four-wheel drive Honda. Tickets are $10 each, call Steve Hand at 556-3313, Dale Putnam at 642-9559 or Woody Wooddell at 573-8566.

Class of '87 reunion

Registration forms are being sent out for the SHS 1987 Class Reunion to be held Aug. 2. Anyone not receiving a registration form by mail should call Robyn Fambro Wilson at 915 368-4583. RSVPs due July 1.

Snyder Bowhunters raffle

Snyder Bowhunters are holding a raffle for a new 4-wheel drive Honda four-wheeler to be given away Aug. 3. Tickets are $10 each. To purchase tickets, contact Steve Hand at (915) 556-3313 or 573-0257; Dale Putnam at (915) 634-9589 or 572-2420; or Wood Wooddell at 573-8566.

Pick 3

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

8-7-3

(eight, seven, three)

Lotto Texas

By The Associated Press

No tickets correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 50 were: 16-44-45-48-49-50.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $15 million.

Administration urged to step up effort on global warming

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Clinton administration told Congress today that man-made pollution is having a "discernible impact" on the world's climate and the United States must commit to emission reductions as part of an international treaty on global warming.

Undersecretary of State Timothy Wirth said global warming is "the most important environmental challenge facing the world" and must be met by mandatory reductions in carbon emissions by industrial countries.

But the administration's climate strategy came under sharp criticism at a Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee hearing. Several senators questioned why the United States should commit to binding pollution reductions when developing countries, including China, would have no such obligations under a climate proposal being prepared by the administration for an international conference later this year.

Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., said the Senate is unlikely to ratify a climate treaty unless it includes a commitment by China and other developing nations to reduce carbon emissions.

"There will be a mountain in the way" if the United States does not obtain such commitments from developing countries, Byrd said.

Wirth acknowledged that developing countries must eventually take actions to curb so-called greenhouse gas emissions, primarily carbon dioxide from burning fossil fuels. But, he said, the industrial nations need to lead the way with binding reductions.

"Without this sort of legal obligation, countries will continue to pay only lip service to their efforts to solve this problem," Wirth told the senators.

The subcommittee wanted to know exactly what binding commitments the president is ready to accept at an international climate conference in Japan later this year.

So far, the White House has said it would commit to some mandatory reductions of carbon dioxide, but it has not given any specific numbers on how much of a cut or a timetable. The Europeans, meanwhile, have called for a 15 percent cut in carbon emissions by industrial nations by 2010, compared with 1990 levels.

Releases of man-made pollution, mainly carbon dioxide from burning coal, oil and gas, are believed by many scientists to be trapping the Earth's heat like a greenhouse, and could lead to a warming of the Earth by as much as 6 degrees Fahrenheit over the next century.

Such warming would cause sea levels to rise and cause widespread coastal flooding and other economic, social and ecological changes, said a statement by scientists that urged the United States to endorse "early domestic action to reduce U.S. emissions via the most cost-effective means."

The statement Wednesday, signed by 2,409 scientists from various disciplines, said that the overwhelming majority of climate scientists have concluded that "human induced climatic change is under way" and actions should be taken to stem the pollution.