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WT-Int. Crude - $24.18
WTIC Posted - $21.00
Natural Gas - $2.980

# THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY
March 14, 2002
Vol. 53 No. 271
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Richard Reed

## THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

**The feller on Deep Creek says, "A wife often is too beautiful for words, but not for arguments."**

These crooks get an "A" for guts, but an "F" for intelligence.

The most recent edition of Texas State Trooper magazine had these criminal antics in the True Scoop column.

The first told about a pair of 20-year-old crooks in Florida who violated a cardinal rule among burglars – don't return to the scene of the crime.

It started when a neighbor alerted police that she saw two men loading TVs into their car at a nearby house. The caller reported that the thieves were leaving while she was on the telephone to police.

About 10 minutes later, police arrived at the scene of the crime. About the same time, burglars pulled back into the driveway.

After some intense questioning, the wanna-be hoods revealed the reason for their hasty return – they had forgotten the remote controls.

Finally, a guy in Bristol, Pa., was just trying to make a dishonest living when he broke into a residence there and helped himself to some items.

He tried to leave by way of the garage, but discovered he couldn't get the garage door open as the automatic opener had been locked in the off position.

He then discovered that the door back into the house had locked when he shut it. And finally he realized that the owners of the house weren't just out for the evening – they were away on vacation. The crook spent eight days locked in the garage, surviving on soft drinks and dry dog food.

Oh brother, the crook then sued the homeowner for "mental anguish."

---

The good guys may need to rethink the law in Finland.

Anssi Vanjoki, senior vice president at Nokia, was stopped in Helsinki for doing 47 mph in a 30 mph zone.

In Snyder, a guy could probably get off with a fine for under a hundred bucks.

In Finland, the corporate executive's day in court landed him a $103,600 ticket.

In Finland, traffic fines are based on a percentage of the offender's income.

And the senior vice president was having a good year, just having cashed in on corporate stock options.

The concept is "equal pain for equal acts." In other words, a $50 ticket is less painful for the tycoon, so he should pay more than the kid who mows the tycoon's lawn.

Such an approach would certainly impact speeding, but so would the death penalty.

Would it work for Enron executives?

Some workers in Houston have suggested similar things for those Enron executives.

*Andrea Yates trial...*

# Jury hearing testimony for punishment

HOUSTON (AP) — The same jury that determined Andrea Yates was sane when she drowned her children in a family bathtub must now weigh whether she should join them in death.

Jurors were to begin hearing testimony in the sentencing phase of her trial this morning. They have two punishment options: life in prison or death by injection.

Yates, 37, was convicted Tuesday of two capital murder charges for the drowning deaths of three of her five children. Evidence surrounding the deaths of her other two children also figured into the case.

Under Texas law, the decision comes down to how jurors answer two questions: Does she pose a future danger to society? And are there mitigating circumstances to sentence her to life as opposed to death?

Jurors must be unanimous on both questions — that she is a danger and that there are no mitigating circumstances — in order for a death sentence to be imposed.

Defense attorneys were expected to call Yates' family, friends and some additional medical experts during the punishment phase, expected to be much shorter than the 17 days of testimony in the first phase.

James Cohen, a professor at Fordham University School of Law, said even though the jury of eight women and four men rejected Yates' insanity defense, it doesn't mean the panel won't consider her mental history during the trial's punishment phase.

"Their refusal to accept it the first time is not any indication they won't accept it in sparing her life," Cohen said.

Legal experts say prosecutors face an uphill battle in trying to prove Yates is a continuing threat to society.

"Before it was a much tougher case for the defense," Southern Methodist University School of Law professor Dan Shuman said Wednesday. "I think now it is a much tougher case for the prosecution.

"The jurors now are operating under no illusions that she is going to be set free."

As for mitigation, South Texas College of Law professor Neil McCabe said the state already has acknowledged a major mitigating circumstance by saying Yates did suffer from a severe mental disease.

# Coalition forces searching caves for terrorists

BAGRAM, Afghanistan (AP) — Coalition forces searched caves and blasted bunkers today in the Shah-e-Kot Valley abandoned by al-Qaida forces after heavy U.S. airstrikes, as forensics experts conducted DNA tests to make certain none of the terrorist organization's senior leaders was among the dead.

Neither Osama bin Laden nor Taliban leader Mullah Mohammed Omar was believed to be in the Shah-e-Kot valley March 2 when U.S. forces and their Afghan allies launched the biggest offensive of the 5-month-old war. But some corpses were so badly mangled that Maj. Gen. Frank L. Hagenbeck ordered the tests — just to be sure.

"Even if it's a long shot that maybe one of these al-Qaida leaders (was there), we want to go through every means we've got available to us to try to positively identify them," said Hagenbeck, the commander of all coalition troops in Afghanistan.

A U.S. officer estimated as many as 500 al-Qaida fighters were killed in the 12-day offensive in eastern Afghanistan. But Afghan troops said they found only 25 bodies in the initial sweep of the area. Others may be buried in caves that collapsed during the bombing.

Among the dead were "second and third tier" al Qaida leaders, though Hagenbeck did not explain what he meant.

Helicopters patrolled the valley looking for anyone who might have slipped through a coalition dragnet, sneaking out on smuggling routes and into neighboring Pakistan.

Pentagon spokeswoman Victoria Clarke said today that fighting had "mostly ended" and that troops were in the "exploitation phase," going cave to cave in search of bodies, weapons and intelligence information.

"We will have a long way to go in Afghanistan," she said.

Canadian forces took the lead in the mop-up work following the battle, with 500 troops landing high in the snowcapped mountains to search for al-Qaida fugitives, including Saif Rahman Mansour, the Taliban leader of the Shah-e-Kot fighters.

A joint Canadian and American team moved systematically through the area, blasting cave entrances with grenades and machine gun fire to make sure no one was hiding inside.

**RITZ PLAY — The Ritz Community Theatre's production of *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* begins its final three-day run at 7:30 tonight. Additional performances will follow at 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 2:30 p.m. Sunday. Father Christmas (Joe Hefner) delivers Christmas presents to Peter (Casey Pierce) in this scene. Others pictured are from left, Leah Phillips as Susan; Eleanor Ashley, Mrs. Beaver; Joseph Hefner, Mr. Beaver; and Danielle Phillips as the Elf. Tickets are $7 for adults, $5 for students and children and $5 for anyone at the Sunday matinee. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)**

# Feds preparing criminal charges against Andersen

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department prepared to bring criminal charges against Arthur Andersen after the accounting firm spurned a government deadline to plead guilty in the Enron scandal, sources familiar with the proceedings said today.

Andersen accused the Justice Department of a "gross abuse of government power" and said criminal charges would be a "death penalty" against the firm. One person familiar with the matter indicated that federal obstruction-of-justice charges would be filed in Houston as early as this afternoon.

A 9 a.m. Justice deadline for Andersen to plead guilty passed without any official word from either side, but in a letter to the department, Andersen lawyers signaled strongly that there would be no guilty plea.

"We submit that there is no basis for the government to take the unprecedented step of bringing criminal felony charges against Arthur Andersen LLP, when the evidence of criminal misconduct on the part of the firm as an institution is so flimsy," one of Andersen's outside lawyers, Richard J. Favretto of the firm Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw, said in the letter. The letter went to Assistant Attorney General Michael Chertoff, head of the department's criminal division.

Bryan Sierra, Justice Department spokesman, declined to respond to Andersen's accusations.

Representatives of Arthur Andersen, which has admitted massive shredding of Enron-related documents by its employees, have been repeatedly threatened with indictment by federal prosecutors over the past week to 10 days.

"None of the destruction occurred with the knowledge, much less the consent, of senior firm management," said the letter. "Indeed, even as to those few people who engaged in document destruction, there appears to be a dearth of credible evidence that they acted with the willful criminal intent to obstruct a government investigation."

Andersen said in the letter that Justice Department prosecutors demanded an answer by 9 a.m. today and were refusing to meet with the accounting firm. One person involved in negotiations said the sides last met face to face one week ago, with lawyers occasionally speaking by phone and sending documents back and forth.

The firm's management in Chicago has blamed the shredding on its Houston office, saying the document destruction was spearheaded by David Duncan, chief auditor on the Enron account.

"The department plans to press forward even though there are alternative ways to proceed that would achieve every single valid government objective while wholly avoiding harm to the innocent," Favretto wrote.

The accounting firm proposed that the Justice Department defer prosecution and that the government appoint a special monitor to oversee a new policy for retaining documents at Andersen along with "other reforms that would be approved by the Justice Department."

Andersen also proposed that the Securities and Exchange Commission adopt a remedy for the accounting firm's Houston office where the document destruction took place.

Finally, Andersen proposed further discipline including immediate dismissal from the firm of all people "at whatever level — who were responsible for the document destruction or whose failures of oversight and negligence made that destruction possible."

In an unusual move, Andersen also asked in the letter for an opportunity to offer testimony to a federal grand jury.

"If the Justice Department insists on proceeding with its present course, we urgently request that you and the Deputy Attorney General agree to meet with the principal officers of Arthur Andersen LLP before deciding whether to impose the death penalty on the firm," the letter added.

# Dozens of vehicles in pileup

RINGGOLD, Ga. (AP) — Dozens of vehicles piled up in a chain-reaction crash on a foggy interstate highway this morning, killing at least two people, authorities said.

The accident — involving 50 to 100 vehicles — happened around 7:50 a.m. on Interstate 75 just south of Chattanooga, Tenn., said Karlene Barrow, spokeswoman for the Georgia Department of Transportation.

Video from the scene showed tractor trailers piled up on top of cars and ambulance crews laying sheets on the highway to treat the injured.

Barrow said at least two people were killed. Earlier, she said at least 10 people had died. Officers at the scene reported numerous injuries.

Seven adults and one child were being treated at Erlanger Medical Center in Chattanooga, authorities said.

The Georgia State Patrol closed the interstate in both directions and advised motorists to avoid the area.

## ASK US

**Q—When is early voting for the Democratic runoff for U.S. Senator?**
**A—April 1-5.**

## FORECAST - ALMANAC

**Snyder Temps:** High Wednesday, 90 degrees; low, 45; 7 a.m. Thursday, 55; no precipitation; total for 2002, 1.48 inches.

**Area Forecast:** Tonight, partly cloudy; low near 45; SW winds 10-15 mph. Friday, partly cloudy, cooler; high 60-65; N winds 10-20 mph. Friday night, partly cloudy, low near 35.

Chance Young
Partly Cloudy

**Sunset:** 6:51 p.m.
**Sunrise:** 6:54 a.m.
**Of 72 days in 2002, the sun has shone 69 days in Snyder.**

## TODAY'S THOUGHT

**Never trouble another for what you can do yourself.**
**—Thomas Jefferson**

MAR 14 2002

# Hijacker visas foul-up prompts House chairman to propose abolishing INS

WASHINGTON (AP) — The chairman of the House Judiciary Committee said today that the approval of visas for two Sept. 11 hijackers offers new evidence why the Immigration and Naturalization Service should be abolished.

"It certainly showed how incompetent the INS is," Rep. James Sensenbrenner, R-Wis., said on CBS' "The Early Show." "It is one fiasco after the other."

The INS action also got the attention of President Bush, who on Wednesday made clear his displeasure on learning that student visas for Mohamed Atta and Marwan Al-Shehhi were delivered six months after they flew hijacked jetliners into the World Trade Center.

Bush ordered the attorney general to investigate and press the INS to do better. "They got the message and hopefully, they'll reform as quickly as possible," Bush said at a news conference.

The president first said he was "stunned, and not happy" when he learned about the visas. "Let me put it another way: I was plenty hot," he added.

Bush said he was unhappy that the visas remained in the immigration pipeline even though the names on the forms were widely known. He said INS Commissioner James Ziglar was responsible for "this embarrassing disclosure," but should be given a chance to rectify the problem.

"His responsibility is to reform the INS; let's give him time to do so. He hasn't been there that long," Bush said.

Sensenbrenner is proposing to replace the INS with two separate agencies that would be under the control of an assistant attorney general. He said Ziglar does not have the proper managerial background to run either agency.

"Mr. Ziglar should lead, follow or get out of the way," the congressman said.

On Monday, six months after the attacks, Huffman Aviation in Venice, Fla., received student visa approval forms for Atta, 33, and Al-Shehhi, 23. The men were aboard separate hijacked planes that struck the World Trade Center towers, killing thousands.

The pair trained at Huffman in 2000 and early 2001 and sought student visas so they could attend technical schools. The visa for Atta, of Egypt, was approved in July 2001 and a visa for Al-Shehhi, of United Arab Emirates, was approved the following month, said Russ Bergeron, an immigration agency spokesman.

Bergeron described the paperwork the flight school received as a backstop on notification the INS gave the men and the school last summer. He said the INS had no information "regarding these people and their link to terrorism" when the visas were granted.

Rep. Mark Foley, R-Fla., whose district borders the flight school, said the INS can't blame a lack of funds or equipment.

"How this wasn't discovered by even a rank-and-file worker is beyond my comprehension," Foley said. "Anything with Mohamed Atta's name on it should send alarm bells blasting."

# Judge to allow fingerprint analysis testimony in trial

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A federal judge who previously barred fingerprint testimony has changed his mind and will allow experts in a capital case to testify about prints lifted from a crime scene.

Judge Louis H. Pollak reversed himself Wednesday, two weeks after a hearing on the accuracy of fingerprint analysis, in a ruling that was carefully watched by prosecutors and defense attorneys.

"In short, I have changed my mind," Pollak said after a lengthy courtroom explanation of his 59-page opinion.

Pollak's ruling comes 91 years after fingerprint evidence challenged the infallibility of fingerprints as a crime-solving tool.

Since the first conviction on fingerprint evidence in 1911 in the United States, the system used in much of the world has changed little. A person's fingerprint is classified by its arches, loops and whorls, then compared to "latent" crime-scene fingerprints at various points.

In his earlier ruling on Jan. 7 — believed to be the first of its kind — Pollak ruled that experts could testify about crime-scene prints and compare them to a defendant's, but could not declare them a definite match.

At Wednesday's hearing, the government presented data on long-secret FBI fingerprint examiner proficiency tests in the hopes of addressing Pollak's conclusion that the accuracy of fingerprint analysis had never been adequately tested.

Defense attorneys also presented experts who testified that the proficiency exams appear to be crafted to ensure the test-taker's success. Pollak did not disagree with that assessment, but said it wasn't enough to forbid the testimony.

Among other factors cited in his January opinion, Pollak said that, unlike DNA evidence, fingerprint evidence has not been scientifically tested, its error rate has not been calculated, and there are no standards for what constitutes a match.

But Pollak concluded Wednesday that though the FBI tests are not challenging and need improvement, there was no evidence that the error rate for certified FBI fingerprint examiners is "unacceptably high."

He also said that one of his initial concerns had been that the United States and England had inconsistent standards — the U.S. does not require a minimum number of points to declare a match.

When he wrote his original opinion, he said, he wasn't aware that the standards in England had recently changed. England, which until recently had specific criteria for matching — like a fingerprint ridge splitting into two or the contours of individual ridges — now is like the United States in that it no longer requires a specific number of points to match up before experts can conclude the prints came from the same person.

"We're grateful to Judge Pollak for giving us the opportunity to reopen the record and address some of the concerns that he raised," U.S. Attorney Patrick Meehan said. "This will enable us to move forward with this prosecution."

The rulings stem from a death-penalty murder case slated to begin Monday. Prosecutors have accused three men — Carlos Ivan Llera-Plaza, 32, Wilfredo Martinez Acosta, 23, and Victor Rodriguez, 34 — of operating a multimillion-dollar Philadelphia drug ring linked to four murders.

## Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

### Your Birthday

**Friday, March 15, 2002**

Your self-confidence has grown considerably. In situations where you may have been content to be a follower, in the year ahead you will now want to take on a more commanding role.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** — If you can remain thick skinned against criticism today you can take on a faltering situation and reorganize it. There are always those who want things fixed without changing anything. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that'll govern you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** — The consequences of your behavior or activities today could adversely affect others if you're too self-involved to recognize their problems. Think of them, and they'll think of you.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** — Although you're not prone to get angry too easily, when you do, you can hold a prolonged grudge. Should you get hot under the collar today, try to be forgiving.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** — If you allow feelings to govern your attitude today, small issues could cause you considerable frustration. Take time to think things out, and problems will evaporate.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** — Chances are you'll regret it if you choose to ignore your good judgment today and decide to pass along gossip. You could cause trouble for the persons involved.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** — Kidding yourself about reality could cause you to make a very bad judgment call today. You've got the brains to figure things out without resorting to hoodwinking yourself.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — Stand up for your rights today and don't allow anyone to coerce you into involving yourself in something in which you do want to participate. Be your own person.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** — Think of your competitors as being better than you or at least as good as you are, and you'll fare very well today. Underestimating them would leave you vulnerable to defeat.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** — Things you enjoy doing you'll do with great efficacy today, but when it comes to tasks or assignments you find distasteful, it'll be quite another story.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** — Bad feelings could result today if you or a friend expect too much from one another. Give each other freedom of action, and all will turn out well.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — Small domestic issues could be blown totally out of proportion today if you allow petty things to dominate, such as how much someone spent on a social activity. Let it go.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** — Follow your own advice today instead of listening to do-gooders who butt into your business, especially when it comes to the personal affairs of your loved ones.

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## Court upholds conviction in Pan Am bombing

CAMP ZEIST, Netherland (AP) — A Scottish appeals cour today upheld the conviction of Libyan intelligence agent for th 1988 bombing of Pan Am Fligl 103, which killed 270 people.

The five-judge court rule unanimously that Abdel Bass Ali al-Megrahi, 49, was guilty i the bombing that brought dow the Boeing 747 over Lockerbi Scotland.

"We all concur that none of th grounds of the appeal are we founded," said the presidin judge, Lord Cullin.

"This brings the procedures t an end," he said, concluding th brief verdict.

Al-Megrahi was found guilt last year of loading an unaccon panied suitcase bomb onto a fligh in Malta that was later transferre onto Pan Am Flight 103, whicl exploded en route from Londo to New York over Lockerbie, Sco land.

His alleged accomplice, Lame Khalifa Fhimah, also a Libyan was acquitted.

Al-Megrahi's wife broke dow when the verdict was announced, and was led from the public gallery wailing in grief.

In his appeal, which opened Jan. 23, al-Megrahi's lawyers argued there had been a miscarriage of justice by the lower court in weighing the evidence. Defense lawyers also presented new evidence they said should cast enough doubt on the prosecution case to overturn the conviction.

Two new witnesses told the appeals court they found evidence of a break-in in the baggage area at London's Heathrow Airport hours before the Pan Am flight took off, suggesting that the bomb-laden suitcase could have been loaded in London rather than in Malta, as concluded by the trial court.

The original trial, held in the same high security courtroom on a former U.S. air base in the Netherlands, was presented to a panel of three judges instead of a jury.

Prosecutors called 285 witnesses to compile a case of circumstantial evidence that al-Megrahi loaded the unaccompanied suitcase onto the Malta flight.

events

## LOTTO TEXAS

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

### Texas Lotto

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

The ticket was worth an estimated $4 million.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 54 were: 18-26-27-33-41-43

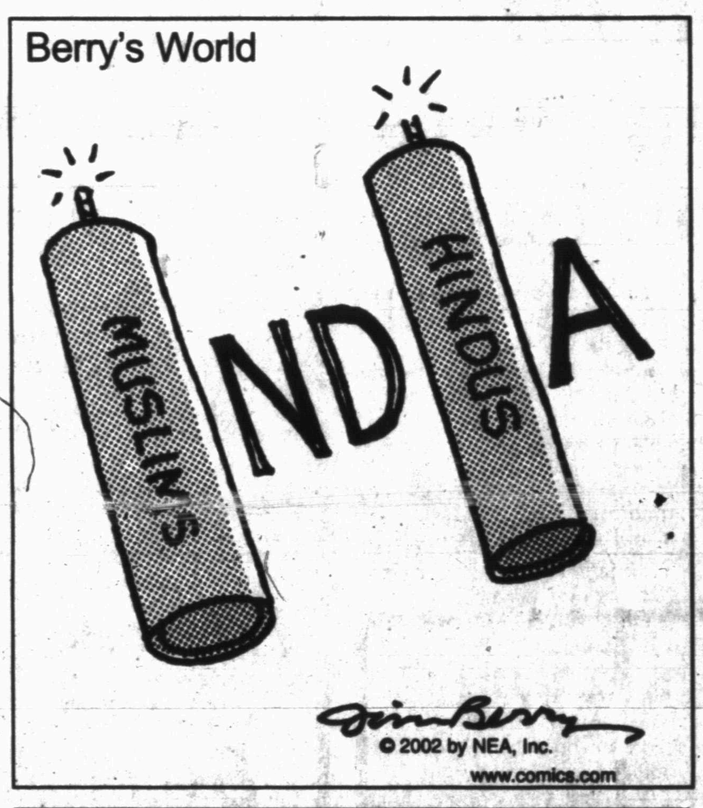
Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $6 million.

### Pick 3

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

6-7-4

Berry's World




## Date Book

**Thursday, March 14, 2002**

Today is the 73rd day of 2002, and the 84th day of winter.

**TODAY'S HISTORY:** On this day in 1743, the first town meeting took place in the American colonies. It was held in Boston's Faneuil Hall.

On this day in 1794, Eli Whitney patented the cotton gin.

On this day in 1964, a Dallas judge sentenced Jack Ruby to death for the murder of Lee Harvey Oswald.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS:** Albert Einstein (1879-1955), physicist; Michael Caine (1933-), actor, is 69; Quincy Jones (1933-) jazz musician/composer, is 69; Billy Crystal (1947-), actor, is 55; Kirby Puckett (1962-), baseball star, is 40.

**TODAY'S SPORTS:** On this day in 1997, 68-year-old Gordie Howe signed a contract with the Syracuse Crunch of the American Hockey League, the top minor league of the NHL.

**TODAY'S QUOTE:** "The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and science." — Albert Einstein, "What I Believe"

**TODAY'S MOON:** In between the new moon (March 13) and the first quarter (March 21)

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Gal. Easy Color Interior Latex Ceiling Paint
Add a fresh coat without spending a lot of money! Nonspatter formula means less mess when applying; easy soap and water cleanup. White.

BARGAIN OF THE MONTH

SCOTT
2.88
2-Pk. Shop Towels
These absorbent, multi-purpose towels on a roll are ideal for any workshop project. 55 disposable towels per roll.

BARGAIN OF THE MONTH

ACCU-CRAFT
9.44
23-Pc. Power Drill Accessory Set
Includes six 2" and ten 1" screwdriver bits, thirteen high-speed steel drill bits (sizes 1/16" to 1/4"), five-wood spade bits (sizes 3/8" to 7/8") and magnetic bit holder.

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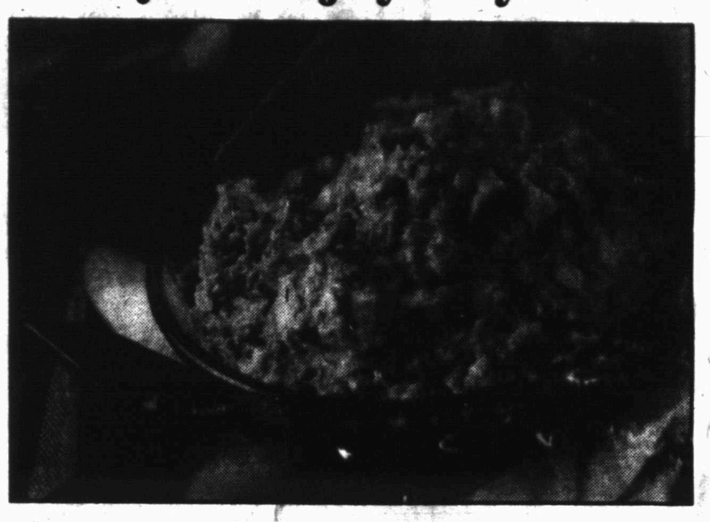
WEDDING SHOWER HELD — Carol Strayhorn and Harry Blackstock were given a wedding shower at 2 p.m. on March 2 in the home of Jim and Melissa Rosson. The couple will wed on May 18 in Lubbock. From left are Vicki Stephenson, sister of the prospective groom from New Deal; Sharon Handley, his mother from Crosbyton; the honored couple; Vina Strayhorn, mother of the future bride from Snyder; and Ellen Strayhorn, her sister from Fort Worth. (Contributed Photo)

# Guacamole is easy to enjoy any time

Making guacamole is easier than most people think. Just mash ripe Mexican avocados, add a few tasty ingredients, and you have a super snack or party food to scoop up with tortilla chips or cut-up vegetables. But why stop there? The same zesty dip can add sunny Mexican flavor to other everyday foods.

Spread guacamole on a burger or sandwich. Top a bowl of chili or soup with a spoonful. Make a quick salad by spooning guacamole into a lettuce leaf "cup." Or, spritz grilled chicken or fish with lime juice and garnish with guacamole.

Mexican Hass avocados-the black, pebbly-skinned kind-have the luscious flavor that's needed for guacamole. When an avocado yields to gentle pressure, it's ready for mashing.



At party or snack time, gather around the guacamole bowl.

**CLASSIC MEXICAN STYLE GUACAMOLE**

1 fully ripened Mexican avocado, halved, pitted and peeled
1 plum tomato, seeded and chopped (about ½ cup)
1 tablespoon minced onion
1 teaspoon minced jalapeno pepper
¼ teaspoon salt
In a small bowl, mash avocado with a fork or potato masher until it's still slightly chunky. Stir in tomato, onion, jalapeno and salt. If desired, add 1 tablespoon each chopped cilantro and lime juice, or ½ teaspoon minced garlic.
YIELD: about ¾ cup

**SPEEDY GUACAMOLE**

1 fully ripened Mexican avocado, halved, pitted and peeled
¼ cup prepared salsa
1 tablespoon lime juice
In a small bowl, mash avocado with a fork or potato masher until it's still slightly chunky. Stir in salsa and lime juice. If desired, add 2 tablespoons bacon bits or ¼ cup chopped black olives.
YIELD: about 1 cup

For more recipes and serving ideas, send a stamped, self-addressed, business-sized envelope to: Mexican Avocado Recipes, Lewis & Neale, 49 East 21st Street, New York, NY 10010.

# Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 03-14-02
♠ K J 9 6
♥ K 8 7
♦ A 6 5 2
♣ 7 3

West
♠ 7 4
♥ 6 5 3 2
♦ 10 9
♣ A K J 8 5

East
♠ A 8 5 3
♥ 4
♦ Q J 8
♣ Q 10 9 6 2

South
♠ Q 10 2
♥ A Q J 10 9
♦ K 7 4 3
♣ 4

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: East-West

| South | West | North | East |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 ♥ | Pass | 1 ♠ | Pass |
| 2 ♣ | Pass | 4 ♥ | All pass |

Opening lead: ♣ A

If South ruffs at trick two, he fails. If he draws all the trumps, then, when he knocks out the spade ace, the defenders run the clubs. And if declarer, after learning about the 4-1 heart break, tries immediately to drive out the spade ace, East ducks the first round, wins the second, and gives his partner a spade ruff. An eventual diamond winner is the defense's fourth trick.

As a 4-1 heart split is not so unlikely — 28 percent — South should discard an inevitable diamond loser at trick two. Then, he can win the next trick (ruffing a club in the dummy if necessary), draw trumps, knock out the spade ace, and discard his remaining diamond loser on dummy's long spade.

If sacrificing one trick early produces a later harvest of more tricks in return, that sacrifice is worthwhile.

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# Births

Gordon and Tobi Daman announce the birth of twin daughters, Raylee Ann and Emma Sue, on March 3 in Midland Memorial Hospital West. Raylee weighed three pounds, 12½ ounces and Emma, three pounds and three ounces.

Their maternal grandparents are Milton and Sue Stephens of Snyder and the late Pat Stephens. Paternal grandparents are Gordon Sr. and Glenda Daman of Midland.

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Kim Northcutt and Ray Jasso of Snyder announce the birth of their son, Brence Savier Jasso, weighing seven pounds, two ounces. Brence was born at 8:55 p.m. on March 12 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. His brothers are Brendon and Brody Jasso.

Paternal grandparents are Camillo and Teresa Jasso and maternal grandparents are James and Pauline Northcutt, all of Snyder.

# Minnesota bride wants wedding dress back

ATWATER, Minn. (AP) — It's not a missing cat or an apartment sublet that's posted on flyers around west-central Minnesota. Instead, it's Molly Swenson's strapless wedding dress.

Swenson, of Atwater, has been searching for her wedding dress since it was mistakenly donated to a Goodwill store in Willmar.

After her Sept. 2 wedding, the dress was put in her mother's car so it could be taken for cleaning. However, Swenson's mother also had items to be donated to Goodwill and the wedding dress went along with them.

When Swenson learned her dress had been donated, she said she started crying "really hard."

So far, Swenson has learned that the dress arrived at the Goodwill sometime in mid-September and was put into stock in February, when it was sold. Swenson bought the dress for about $950; Goodwill sold it for $35.

"It was pretty unique. It was strapless, which is not as common in this area," Swenson said.

Swenson said she's not ready to give up on the white gown, which took eight hours of shopping to find.

"I tried on 18 that day before I found the right wedding dress," Swenson said. "I'm willing to pay whatever they paid for the dress plus a reward to put toward a brand new dress. I just want it back."

# Hill to perform at jazz festival in May

CASTRIES, St. Lucia (AP) — Grammy-winning singer Lauryn Hill will perform at the St. Lucia Jazz Festival in May.

Hill will be the headline act for the open-air show at Pigeon Island peninsula on May 11, the St. Lucia Tourist Board, organizer of the event, said last week.

Smokey Robinson, Stephanie Mills, Branford Marsalis and India Arie are also scheduled to perform at the festival, which will run May 3-12.

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Wedding rings were first worn by the Romans, and were made of iron.

# Red cards spill no red blood

By Phillip Alder

Leaders in times of war send other men to their deaths. Most probably do it without giving the matter a second thought, but some obviously consider the situation. During a speech in London's Guildhall on July 12, 1945, Dwight D. Eisenhower said, "Humility must always be the portion of any man who receives acclaim earned in the blood of his followers and the sacrifices of his friends."

Bridge players sacrifice cards and tricks, but — in theory at least — no blood is spilled. In this deal, you reach four hearts. West starts with the two top clubs. How would you proceed?

With a minimum opening, two spades is a much better rebid than two diamonds. And when North received spade support, he upgraded his hand to a game-force from a game-invitation.

Thursday, March 14, 2002

# Community Calendar

**THURSDAY**

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

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

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; for information call 573-8268, 573-4048 or 573-1141; 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.

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

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

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club; 573-3733, 573-2101 or 5731141; 8 p.m.

**SATURDAY**

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

**SUNDAY**

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

Snyder
Healthcare Center
has re-opened.
We invite you to stop by and visit us at
5311 Big Spring Highway.

We thank you for your
patience and support.

Contact Gloria Mann,
Administrator
for information
915-573-6332

Birthday Bash
CASH!

If You Were Born
August 19, 1979 You Are A Winner!
Must Claim Prize By Friday, March 15, 2002
by 5:00 p.m. in person at Snyder Daily News.

All You Have To Do Is Come To
The Snyder Daily News And
Claim Your Birthday Bash Cash.

Proper Identification Needed

Today's
Birthday
Bash Cash
$150
Bash Cash value increases $10
when there is no winner.

Thursday
Birthday Bash Cash
Numbers

0 8 - 1 9 - 7 9
Month Day Year

Deadline 5 p.m. Friday, March 15, 2002

New Birthday Bash Cash Numbers
In The Weekend Edition Of The
Snyder Daily News

HOW TO PLAY:
-You win if BASH CASH numbers match your birthday, in sequence.
-Each BASH CASH starts with $50.
-BASH CASH increases $10 each time there is no winner.
-NEW BASH CASH numbers will be published Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday Editions of The Snyder Daily News.

ELIGIBILITY:
-Resident of Scurry County
-Must be at least 16 year old.
-Employees of the Snyder Daily News, their spouses and children are not eligible.

TO CLAIM BIRTHDAY BASH CASH
-Prize must be claimed in person by deadline.
-In case of multi-winners prize will be divided equally.
- Prize is claimed at Snyder Daily News, 3600 College Ave.
-Must provide proof of birthday and legal residence.
-Proof: driver's license, voter registration card, birth certificate, phone book, utility bill or other documentation.

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Snyder Daily News
3600 College Ave.
To Subscribe Call 573-5486

MAR 14 2002

ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman

THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom

SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski

BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell

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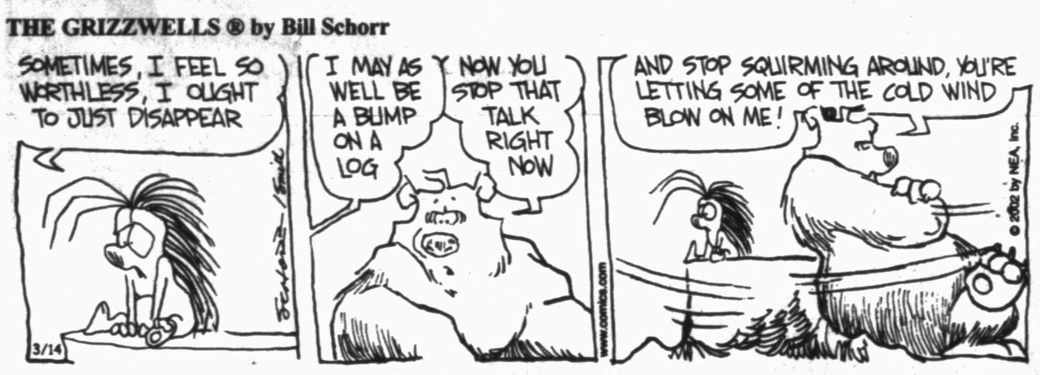


FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves

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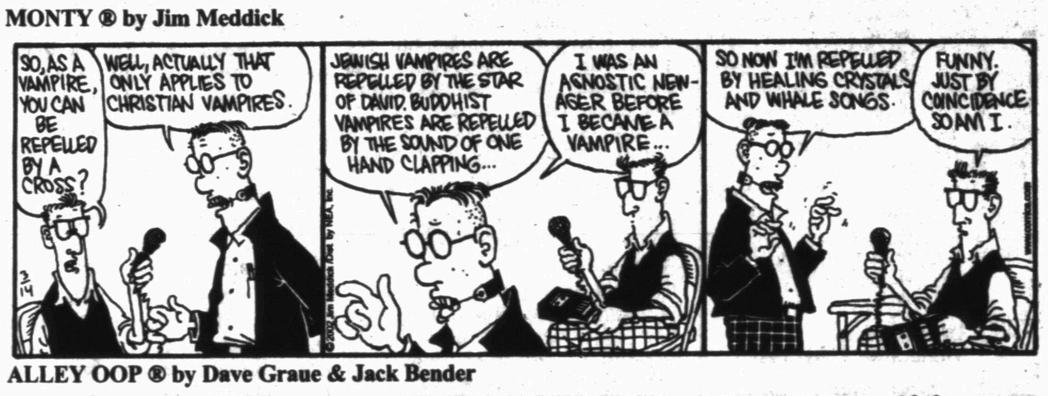


ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender

BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen

HERMAN ® by Jim Unger

## NEA Crossword Puzzle

**ACROSS**

1 Frothy
6 Knots or bumps
11 Evergreen tree
12 Japanese theater
13 Greece's ex...
14 Washes away
15 Live
16 Actress Dunaway
17 Faculty head
19 Get dirty
23 Get-up-and-go
26 Praise
28 Slugger's stat
29 Oven lights
31 Tape over
33 Aden's country
34 Joined forces
35 Roadmap abbr.
36 Soho streetcar
39 Dancer Vereen
40 Governess Jane
42 Viking name
44 Paste
46 Agile
51 Main dish
54 Less well-off
55 Tornado warnings
56 Citizens
57 Goes out
58 Gross

**DOWN**

1 Gush out
2 Whim
3 Sword fight
4 Almost boil
5 Itch
6 Not even one
7 Flute cousins
8 Flop
9 Barely make ends meet
10 Fam. member
11 Gloomy
12 Reeves of "Speed"
16 LAX regulators
18 Overhead trains
20 Deliver a speech
21 Norwegian playwright
22 More than misled
23 Reverence
24 Mr. Fudd of cartoons
25 "The Bells" author
27 Bear's refuge
29 Ceremonial fire
30 Miner's need
32 Leaf vein
34 Thurman of films
37 Cade
38 Malt brew
41 Marsh bird
43 Astonish
45 Pince-nez part
47 Tiny bit
48 "— bien, monsieur!"
49 The woman's
50 Pause fillers
51 Wind dir.
52 Veto
53 Prefix for pod
54 Pipe plastic

Answer to Previous Puzzle

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | A | W | O | L | | | | G | U | S | H | Y |
| A | B | I | D | E | D | | V | I | R | T | U | E |
| R | E | S | I | D | E | | A | S | S | E | N | T |
| F | L | E | E | | A | S | P | | A | P | T | |
| | | | | S | L | O | O | P | | | | |
| Y | A | C | H | T | | P | R | A | I | S | E | |
| I | G | L | O | O | | | | S | N | I | P | E |
| P | E | A | R | L | | | | T | I | G | E | R |
| | E | N | S | I | G | N | | O | T | H | E | R |
| | | | | D | E | T | E | R | | | | |
| | C | P | A | | N | H | L | | F | E | E | T |
| W | A | I | V | E | R | | L | O | U | I | S | E |
| I | G | N | I | T | E | | A | V | E | R | S | E |
| G | E | E | S | E | | | | A | L | E | E | |

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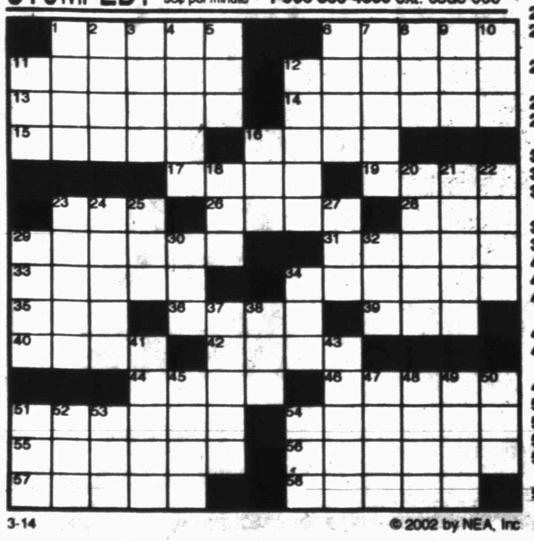

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# Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

3-14 © Jim Unger/dist. by United Media, 2002

"This new night fragrance is called 'Surrender.' "

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

# SPORTS

*Tournament tips off today...*

## Jayhawks have something to prove

ST. LOUIS (AP) — The Kansas Jayhawks have to prove themselves again after a nearly flawless regular season.

The Jayhawks, the No. 1 seed in the Midwest Regional, went undefeated in the Big 12 regular season, then lost to Oklahoma in the conference tournament final. They play Thursday night in their NCAA first-round game against Holy Cross.

"We try to put that loss behind us and forget about it," guard Jeff Boschee said. "But I don't think we want to forget about the things we did wrong, and the carelessness. It's a whole new tournament and everyone is 0-0."

Kansas (29-3) became the first Big 12 team to go 16-0 in conference play, led the nation in scoring and had a school-record 11 100-point games.

The Jayhawks had season lows in points, field-goal percentage and 3-point percentage in the loss to the Sooners, which resulted in them dropping from No. 1 in the nation after a three-week run to No. 2 behind Duke. But they've won 18 in a row in the first round of the NCAA tournament and are 281/2-point favorites to get past Holy Cross (18-14), the Patriot League Tournament champions who have 10 of 12.

"Their transition game is the most devastating I've seen in 10 years," Holy Cross coach Ralph Willard said. "Obviously, if we get into a shooting contest with Kansas, we'll lose.

"We have to make the whole better than the sum of the parts, because their parts are better than our parts."

Kentucky-Valparaiso was the first game in St. Louis, followed by No. 5 Marquette against Tulsa in another East game. In the other Midwest Regional game Thursday night, No. 8 Stanford plays Western Kentucky.

Both Stanford and Western Kentucky feature 7-foot centers. Western Kentucky's 7-1 Chris Marcus is averaging 16.1 points and nine rebounds and has played well since returning in February from an injury that sidelined him for two months.

"We've never been overreliant on any one player, including Chris," Western Kentucky coach Dennis Felton said. "We played the same way with him that we did without him.

"I think you're making a grave mistake if you just try to stop him."

Stanford's 7-foot Curtis Borchardt led the Pac-10 with 11.4 rebounds per game and averaged 17 points.

Western Kentucky is the last Sun Belt Conference team to win an NCAA tournament game, in 1995. Stanford has lost three of its last five games, but is in the tournament for the eighth straight season and is looking to make it eight straight first-round victories.

Kentucky is a shaky No. 4 seed in the East, losing four of its last nine games in what's been a tumultuous regular season. The Wildcats are less than confident heading into the Valparaiso game.

"It's been a very distracting season, and hopefully we'll learn from it," forward Tayshaun Prince said.

The lowlights for Kentucky (20-9) include the recent firing of athletic director Larry Ivy and the suspensions of guards Gerald Fitch and Adam Chiles. Fitch has been suspended three times, for trying to use fake identification to get into a nightclub, for scuffling with teammate Cory Sears and for missing curfew.

Valparaiso is in the tournament for the sixth time in seven years and reached the round of 16 in 1998. This season, the school set a record for victories, and coach Homer Drew said he has 22 Kentucky tapes to review in hopes of extending the record.

Marquette, making its first tournament appearance since 1997, finished second in Conference USA behind Cincinnati and has one of the stingiest defenses in the country. The Golden Eagles rely on guards Dwayne Wade (17.8 points, 6.6 rebounds) and Cordell Henry (15.1 points).

Marquette and Tulsa are both 26-6, but Tulsa is more tournament-tested, making the field for the third time in four years. That's particularly impressive considering it's playing under its third coach in three years, John Phillips.

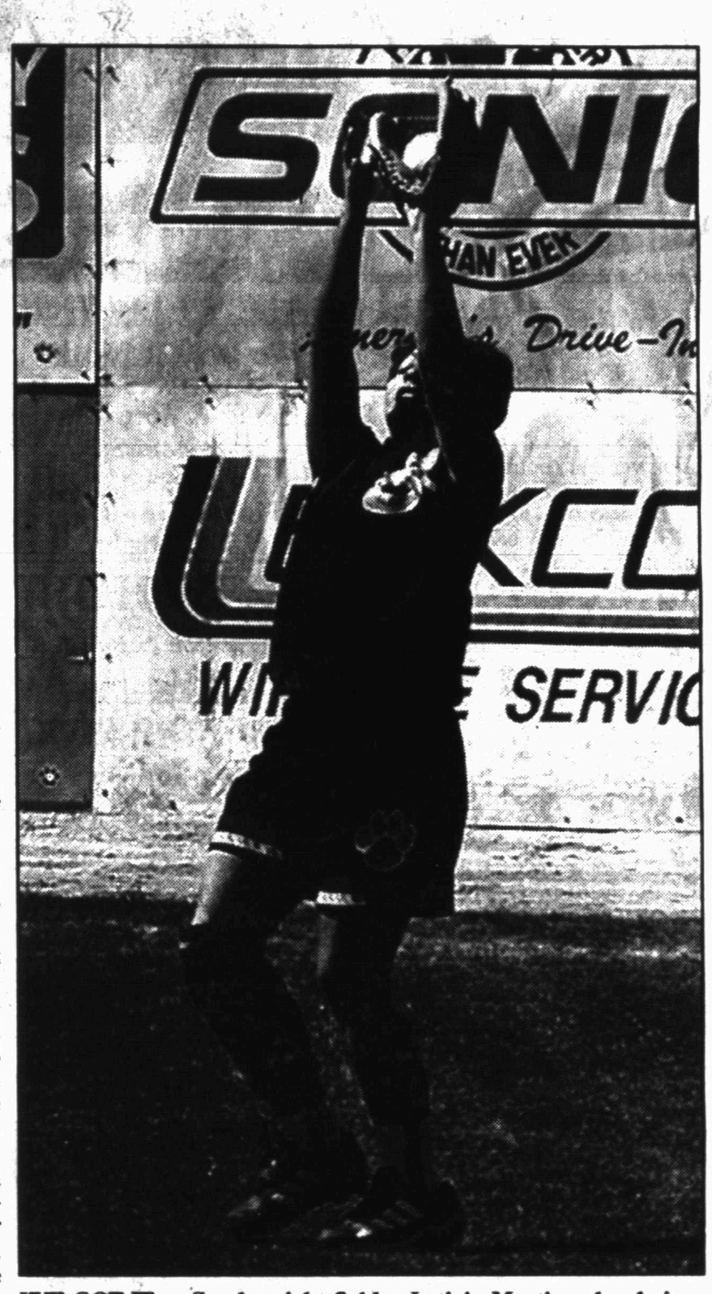
"It's an amazing tribute to the players that we continue to be successful," Phillips said.

All Times EST
EAST REGIONAL
Thursday, March 14
At St. Louis
Kentucky (20-9) vs. Valparaiso (25-7), 12:25 p.m.
Marquette (26-6) vs. Tulsa (26-6), 30 minutes following previous game
Friday, March 15
At Washington
North Carolina State (22-10) vs. Michigan State (19-11), 12:15 p.m.
Connecticut (24-6) vs. Hampton (26-6), 30 minutes following previous game
Wisconsin (18-12) vs. St. John's (20-11), 7:40 p.m.
Maryland (26-4) vs. Siena (17-18), 25 minutes following previous game
At Chicago
Texas Tech (23-8) vs. Southern Illinois (26-7), 7:50 p.m.
Georgia (21-9) vs. Murray State (19-12), 25 minutes following previous game

SOUTH REGIONAL
Thursday, March 14
At Greenville, S.C.
Oklahoma State (23-8) vs. Kent State (27-5), 12:20 p.m.
Alabama (26-7) vs. Florida Atlantic (19-11), 30 minutes following previous game
Notre Dame (21-10) vs. Charlotte (18-11), 7:40 p.m.
Duke (29-3) vs. Winthrop (19-11), 25 minutes following previous game
At Sacramento, Calif.
Southern California (22-9) vs. North Carolina-Wilmington (22-9), 7:55 p.m.
Indiana (20-11) vs. Utah (21-8), 25 minutes following previous game
Friday, March 15
At Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh (27-5) vs. Central Connecticut State (27-4), 12:25 p.m.
California (22-8) vs. Pennsylvania (25-6), 30 minutes following previous game

MIDWEST REGIONAL
Thursday, March 14
At St. Louis
Kansas (29-3) vs. Holy Cross (18-14), 7:50 p.m.
Stanford (19-9) vs. Western Kentucky (28-3), 25 minutes following previous game
At Sacramento, Calif.
Wake Forest (20-12) vs. Pepperdine (22-8), 2:42 p.m.
Oregon (23-8) vs. Montana (16-14), 25 minutes following previous game
Friday, March 15
At Chicago
Florida (22-8) vs. Creighton (22-8), 12:30 p.m.
Illinois (24-8) vs. San Diego State (21-11), 30 minutes following previous game
At Dallas
Mississippi State (26-7) vs. McNeese State (21-8), 7:55 p.m.
Texas (20-11) vs. Boston College (20-11), 25 minutes following previous game

WEST REGIONAL
Thursday, March 14
At Albuquerque, N.M.
Miami (24-7) vs. Missouri (21-11), 12:40 p.m.
Ohio State (23-7) vs. Davidson (21-9), 30 minutes following previous game
Gonzaga (29-3) vs. Wyoming (21-8), 7:40 p.m.
Arizona (22-9) vs. UC Santa Barbara (20-10), 25 minutes following previous game
Friday, March 15
At Pittsburgh
Cincinnati (30-3) vs. Boston University (22-9), 7:40 p.m.
UCLA (19-11) vs. Mississippi (20-10), 25 minutes following previous game
At Dallas
Oklahoma (27-4) vs. Illinois-Chicago (20-13), 12:30 p.m.
Xavier (25-5) vs. Hawaii (27-5), 30 minutes following previous game



I'VE GOT IT — Snyder right fielder Leticia Martinez hauls in a fly ball Tuesday during the Lady Tigers' 2-0 district victory over Big Spring. The Snyder softball and baseball squads continue league play Friday at home. The Lady Tigers host Frenship at 2 p.m. at Cates Field, while the Tigers take on Levelland at 5 o'clock at Moffett Field. (SDN Staff Photo)

## National Invitation Tournament

All Times EST
Opening Round
Tuesday, March 12
Ball State 98, South Florida 92
Saint Joseph's 73, George Mason 64
Montana State 77, Utah State 69
Wednesday, March 13
Richmond 74, Wagner 67, OT
Dayton 80, Detroit 69
Vanderbilt 59, Houston 50
Louisiana Tech 83, Louisiana-Lafayette 63
Tennessee Tech 64, Georgia State 62
First Round
Tuesday, March 12
Louisville 66, Princeton 65
UNLV 96, Arizona State 91
Wednesday, March 13
Syracuse 76, Saint Bonaventure 66
South Carolina 74, Virginia 67
Minnesota 96, New Mexico 62
LSU 63, Iowa 61
Temple 81, Fresno State 75
Thursday, March 14
Bowling Green (24-8) at Butler (25-5), 7 p.m.
Manhattan (20-8) at Villanova (17-12), 7:30 p.m.
Yale (20-10) at Rutgers (18-12), 7:30 p.m.
UNC-Greensboro (20-10) at Memphis (22-9), 8 p.m.
UC-Irvine (21-10) at BYU (17-11), 9 p.m.
Friday, March 15
Ball State (21-11) at Saint Joseph's (19-11), 7 p.m.
Montana State (20-9) at Richmond (20-13), 7:30 p.m.
Tennessee Tech (25-6) at Dayton (21-10), 8 p.m.
Vanderbilt (17-14) at Louisiana Tech (21-9), 8 p.m.

## Sports Briefs

### Players don't care for owners' proposals

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball players showed no interest in owners' proposals for a luxury tax and vastly increased revenue sharing, offering a far different view of what the sport's labor contract should include.

In its first response to plans offered by management on Jan. 9 and Feb. 26, the union declined to accept the owners' luxury-tax proposal and made only a small change to its revenue-sharing system.

Instead, players proposed that teams be allowed to trade draft picks and that the richest and most successful clubs lose draft picks, which would be given to teams with the lowest revenue and poorest records.

### Mariners pitcher will miss second season

PEORIA, Ariz. (AP) — Seattle Mariners pitcher Ryan Anderson will miss his second straight season because of an injured left shoulder.

The 6-foot-10 left-hander, nicknamed the Little Unit because of his resemblance to Randy Johnson, is scheduled for surgery Wednesday to repair a torn labrum, part of the shoulder joint. He had surgery to repair a similar injury on March 6 last year.

Anderson was the Mariners' first-round draft pick in 1997.

### Hearst gets six-year deal to stay with Niners

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) — Running back Garrison Hearst agreed to a six-year, $20 million contract to remain with the San Francisco 49ers.

### Sampras, Hingis, Seles advance

INDIAN WELLS, Calif. (AP) — Pete Sampras, his overall game a bit ragged but his serve still sharp, beat Albert Costa 6-4, 6-4 in the second round of the Pacific Life Open.

Martina Hingis and Monica Seles won to move into a showdown in the semifinals. Hingis downed Amanda Coetzer 6-1, 6-2. Seles beat Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.

In other men's matches, second-seeded Yevgeny Kafelnikov defeated Fernando Vicente 6-3, 7-6 (4); and Todd Martin beat fifth-seeded Tommy Haas 6-4, 6-2.

### NBA issues three fines

NEW YORK (AP) — Seattle SuperSonics coach Nate McMillan, for publicly criticizing officials, and forward Rashard Lewis, for verbally abusing officials, were fined $7,500 apiece by the NBA for their actions after a loss Monday to the Dallas Mavericks.

Also, the league fined New Jersey Nets coach Byron Scott $7,500 for publicly criticizing officials after a 96-90 loss at Seattle last Saturday.

## Rockets notch third consecutive victory

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Houston Rockets still have something to play for, even if it's not the NBA playoffs.

At least that was Steve Francis' belief after the Rockets beat the Minnesota Timberwolves 96-95 Wednesday night.

"It's been a trait of us all season, that we never give up," Francis said. "We always want to fight to the last horn.

"Right now, it doesn't look like we're playing for anything, but I think we're playing for pride among ourselves and trying to better our team for the future."

The Rockets' three-game winning streak ties their longest of the season. The last time they won this many consecutive games was November, when they were 5-1.

Minnesota was leading by five with just over a minute to play and seemed headed toward its first win in five games. But the Rockets turned up the defensive pressure, and the Timberwolves fell into disarray.

"From there, everything we could have done wrong, we did," Timberwolves coach Flip Saunders said.

With Minnesota ahead 95-90, Kenny Thomas stole an inbounds pass and then hit two free throws with 1:01 remaining. Then Kevin Garnett's pass to Chauncey Billups sailed out of bounds.

Eddie Griffin tied it at 95 with a 3-pointer with 44.4 seconds left, and Thomas stripped Garnett of the ball on the Wolves' next possession.

"I didn't know if he was going to turn with the ball up or turn with the ball down," Thomas said. "I just had my hand in there and swiped down on it."

Garnett fouled Francis on a drive, and Francis hit his second free throw with 9.7 seconds left after missing the first, putting the Rockets ahead 96-95.

The Wolves had one last chance, but Wally Szczerbiak overthrew Garnett, who tipped the errant pass to Anthony Peeler. Peeler overthrew Szczerbiak for a backcourt violation.

"We turned it around on defense. Defense was the key to everything when we got down," Thomas said.

Francis had 21 points, Cuttino Mobley added 20 and Thomas had 14 for the Rockets.

"This was a big-time character win. It looked like we were dead in the water," Rockets coach Rudy Tomjanovich said.

Billups led the Wolves with 23 points. Szczerbiak added 18 points and Garnett had 17 points and 15 rebounds. But Minnesota gave up 20 points on 18 turnovers.

## Rangers assign six players to their minor league camp

PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. (AP) — The Texas Rangers assigned six players to their minor league camp today, including third baseman Mark Teixeira, the team's No. 1 pick last June.

The others sent down were right-handed pitcher R.A Dickey, first baseman Jason Hart and catchers Brad King, Gerald Laird and Freddy Torres. The Rangers still have 51 players on their major league roster, including 27 pitchers.

Teixeira, the fifth overall pick in last summer's amateur draft, hit .400 (4-for-10) in his eight spring games. The Rangers haven't said where the switch-hitter will start the season.

Teixeira, 21, missed most of his 2001 season at Georgia Tech because of a broken right ankle. He played just 20 games in the Florida Instructional League last fall, when he hit .246 with 13 RBIs.

## National Basketball Association

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

| EASTERN CONFERENCE | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Atlantic Division** | | | | |
| New Jersey | 40 | 24 | .625 | — |
| Boston | 37 | 27 | .578 | 3 |
| Orlando | 34 | 30 | .531 | 6 |
| Philadelphia | 34 | 30 | .531 | 6 |
| Miami | 29 | 33 | .468 | 10 |
| Washington | 29 | 35 | .453 | 11 |
| New York | 23 | 39 | .371 | 16 |
| **Central Division** | | | | |
| Detroit | 36 | 26 | .581 | — |
| Milwaukee | 36 | 27 | .571 | ½ |
| Indiana | 32 | 32 | .500 | 5 |
| Charlotte | 30 | 33 | .476 | 6½ |
| Toronto | 30 | 36 | .455 | 8 |
| Atlanta | 24 | 39 | .381 | 12½ |
| Cleveland | 23 | 41 | .359 | 14 |
| Chicago | 16 | 49 | .246 | 21½ |
| **WESTERN CONFERENCE** | | | | |
| **Midwest Division** | | | | |
| Dallas | 45 | 16 | .714 | — |
| San Antonio | 43 | 21 | .672 | 2½ |
| Minnesota | 40 | 24 | .625 | 5½ |
| Utah | 34 | 29 | .540 | 11 |
| Houston | 25 | 39 | .391 | 20½ |
| Denver | 19 | 42 | .311 | 25 |
| Memphis | 17 | 47 | .266 | 28½ |
| **Pacific Division** | | | | |
| Sacramento | 46 | 17 | .730 | — |
| L.A. Lakers | 44 | 18 | .710 | 1½ |
| Portland | 38 | 25 | .603 | 8 |
| Seattle | 36 | 29 | .554 | 11 |
| L.A. Clippers | 34 | 31 | .523 | 13 |
| Phoenix | 30 | 35 | .462 | 17 |
| Golden State | 17 | 45 | .274 | 28½ |

Tuesday's Games
Indiana 115, Golden State 101
Philadelphia 104, New York 98
Miami 90, Phoenix 78
Milwaukee 110, Chicago 81
New Jersey 86, Toronto 84
San Antonio 98, Memphis 84
Houston 101, Seattle 98
L.A. Lakers 107, Charlotte 66
Wednesday's Games
Boston 97, New Jersey 89
Atlanta 105, Denver 102
Orlando 119, Phoenix 114, OT
Detroit 85, Cleveland 84
Houston 96, Minnesota 95
Sacramento 92, Philadelphia 88
L.A. Clippers 96, Washington 75
Thursday's Games
Utah at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Sacramento at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Dallas at Portland, 10 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
Friday's Games
Phoenix at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Denver at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Miami at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Utah at Detroit, 8 p.m.
Indiana at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Washington at Seattle, 10 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

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on Thursday
9-12
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MAR 14 2002

# THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS
# ALWAYS A WINNER

## Legal Notice

**NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS**

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

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)

District: Abilene
Contract 6083-16-001 for LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE in SCURRY County, etc. will be opened on April 23, 2002 at 11:00 a.m. at the District Office for an estimate of $8,100.00.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or District Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 6106

State Office

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

District Office (s)

Abilene District
District Engineer
4250 N. Clack
Abilene, Texas 79604-0150
Phone: 915-676-6800

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

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**Lost wallet in** Wal-Mart parking lot. If found please call me! 573-0757

**REWARD**
**Lost: Male** Pomeranian, white w/red tips. Answers to the name "Taz". Someone was seen picking him up by the Ritz, so please bring him home. I would not take your baby. 915-573-8477 or 915-573-8855

## Personal

I am looking for my twin aunts, **Christina and Annie Myhre** and their families and friends. You might be able to help me, but I do not know how to reach you. **Please try again.** We want to know about you and we want to tell our story too.
**Arvid J. Myhre**
**Box 459**
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Good mechanical condition.
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*Showroom samples may be viewed by appointment*
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*Free Estimates On Any Job*
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**DAVID HOLT**
**Insurance Services**
**Specializing In LONG TERM CARE**
111 College Ave. Office: 915-573-3255
P.O. Box 97 Toll Free: 877-571-3255
Snyder, TX 79550 Res: 915-573-6526

**Lee's Construction**
*"No Job Too Small"*
Residential
Remodeling & Repair
STEVE LEE
Snyder, Texas
79549
915/573-2709
Mobile
915/725-3165

**Let them spot your business ad right here. Call 573-5486 and get quick results.**

**SPARLIN CONSTRUCTION**
*Welding* *Metal Buildings*
*Fabrication* *Carpentry*
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1 Hour Drying — No Carbonation
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Snyder Daily News
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P.O. Box 949 Snyder, Texas 79550

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Walk-behind tiller, Tractor tiller, **Front-end loader**, Small acreage plowed. 915-573-8264

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All types carpentry, painting, and concrete work.
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**Abilene Reporter-News Carrier**
$1,100 a month. 7 days a week. Early mornings. Must have reliable vehicle. Call Sharon at 1-800-588-4284.

Delivery
**$ EARN EXTRA MONEY $**
Independent Contractors (*must be at least 18*) needed to deliver the Western Plains Area Wide Phone Book in Snyder, Sweetwater, Big Spring & surrounding areas. Call Today!
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Need 2 people for evening janitorial position. Call Servicemaster, 915-685-3121,

**Substance Abuse Counselor – Adolescent Services - 4 Positions**
**The Betty Hardwick Center (Substance Abuse Services)**
Provide substance abuse counseling services to individuals ages 13-17, and their families within Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Region 2. Services provided in the Abilene, Brownwood, Sweetwater/Colorado City/Snyder, Cisco/Breckenridge/Eastland areas. Adolescent experience or training required. Require LCDC, LPC, LMSW, LMFT, Psychologist, CARN, APN-PN/MH.
$2,389/mo. – $3,009/mo. Depending on experience, education, and credentials.
**Apply at:** Betty Hardwick Center, 2616 S. Clack, Suite 140, Abilene, Texas. EOE

**Large industrial manufacturer is seeking a #1 Electrician for their cement plant located in Maryneal, TX.**
Requirements for the job include, but are not limited to the following:
1. 5 to 10 years experience as a #1 Electrician in industry or construction.
2. Knowledge of 120/460 volt controls.
3. Knowledge of voltages up to 4160.
4. Experience with computers & programmable controllers would be a plus.
5. A good working knowledge of all plant electro-mechanical and instrumentation would be a plus.

Hourly rate is $16.22 plus excellent benefits including group medical, vacation, paid holidays and retirement.
**Please send resume to Judy Hill, Lone Star Industries, Inc., P.O. Box 1639, Sweetwater, TX 79556. Or call (915) 288-4221 to receive an application. Equal Opportunity Employer.**

## Employment

**Help Wanted**
$1,500 – $8,000 PT/FT
Mail Order/Internet
800-315-9635
www.IfYouCanDreamYouCanHave.com

**LVN needed at** Covenant, Mon.–Fri., 9a.m.–6p.m. Come by and pick up application at 5009 College.

**LVN NEEDED: Good** Benefits, Meals, Holidays, Vacation. Apply in person to Terri Owens, Director of Nurses at Kristi Lee Manor, 1941 Chestnut, Colorado City, TX.

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## Employment

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Up to $500–$2,500/mo. PT/FT
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Full Training, Free Booklet
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**Production Clerk, full-time,** for gas plant located 25-miles between Snyder and Big Spring, Texas, near Vincent. Code invoices, receive and order materials, calculate production, conduct gas analysis, take phone calls, and other office duties. Excel experience preferred. Need oilfield experience. Salary up to $2,000/month DOE. Send resume to 11703 East FM 846, Coahoma, Texas 79511, or fax to (915) 399-4290.

**Snyder Oaks Care Center** is now hiring LVN's, CNA's, Medication Aide, Housekeeping and Laundry Personnel. We pay 75% of LVN's medical insurance. Apply in person at 210 E. 37th or call Trisha or Ladell at 915-573-9377.

**GARAGE SALE**
Advertise your garage full of "Don't needs" in
**SNYDER DAILY NEWS**
**573-5486**

## Employment

**Teller position available.** Fast paced environment. Computer skills necessary and ability to work well with others. Send resume to: P.O. Box 949S
Snyder, TX 79550

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**1986 27' Terry** 5th wheel travel trailer. Full bedroom & bathroom, lots of storage. Kept in barn, excellent condition! $7,000 573-2172

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Wheel Chairs, Walkers, Canes, Home Blood Pressure Kits, etc.
Sales & Rentals
3706 College **573-7582**

**Deluxe side-by-side refrigerator** w/icemaker, Maytag, large capacity. $490 863-2299

**Good, clean, king-size** Sealy Posturepedic, super-plush mattress and box spring. Asking $125. See at 3007 Austin Ave.

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

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800 37th St. Snyder, TX
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**Good farm cow dogs,** free to good home. Australian/Blue Heeler Call 573-4473.

## Garage Sales

**BACKYARD SALE**
2317 Sunset Ave.
Friday & Saturday
8a.m. – ??
Too Much To List!

**BIG YARD SALE**
508 14th St.
Fri. & Sat. 9a.m. – ??
Lots of stuff! Clothes (toddler – adult), Bathroom vanity, Microwave, Knick-knacks & misc.

**GARAGE SALE**
409 N. Ave. Q
Saturday 7a.m. – 7p.m.
You Name It
We Have It!!

**GARAGE SALE**
411 26th St.
Thursday, Friday & Saturday
9a.m. until late
Lots of misc. Come see!!

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419 36th Place
Friday & Saturday
7a.m. – 2p.m.
Lots of Everything!!

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*WE SAVE YOU MORE! DO THE MATH.*
$99 MOVE IN SPECIAL
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We Have Apartments for Hud Housing & Section 8 Qualifiers
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*Quality Living At An Affordable Price*

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## Garage Sales

**SPRING CLEANING**
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316 28th St.
Friday Only 8a.m. – 5p.m.
Too Much To List!!!

**YARD SALE**
1711 8th St.
Friday 8a.m. – 5p.m.
Women's clothes, Mattress sets, Entertainment center, Storm doors, Washer/Dryer, Homemade burritos & cold drinks.

**YARD SALE**
3109 39th St.
Friday 8a.m. – ??
Appliances, Tools, Clothes
Lots of Misc. Cheap!!!

## Apartments For Rent

*1 bedroom apartment, appliances furnished. $250/mo., deposit required.
*2 bedroom, 1½ bath apartment, appliances furnished. $325/mo., $150/dep.
4500 Ave. U 573-2219

Cute 1 bedroom duplex, appliances, CH/A, garage. Call 915-573-1012, leave message.

Nicely furnished 1 bedroom apartment for rent. Located in Hermleigh. 863-2700

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**Available March 16th**
Hermleigh 2-1-1 house. $350 month, $150 deposit. Call after 5:30p.m., 863-2723

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3-1 house, water well plus like new 30x45 steel building. 4 acres fenced/terraced. 915-573-6689 after 6p.m.

4 or 5 bedroom, 2 bath, 1-car garage, CH/A. Owner will finance. Low down, low monthly. 806-517-1187

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573-5486

## Real Estate

**BY OWNER**
5603 CEDAR CREEK DR.
WIDE RANGE OF AMENITIES FOR GRACIOUS LIVING
CALL 573-9780

**House For Sale** or Rent
2234 Sunset Brick-tile, Kitchen built-ins. Call 575-7134 & leave a message or call 573-7134 after 5p.m.

MAD? BANKS DON'T GIVE HOUSE LOANS DUE TO CREDIT PROBLEMS. I DO! L.D. KIRK (254)947-4475 TEXAS FAIR RATES

JACK & JACK
Realtors
611 Coliseum Dr.
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573-8571 573-3452

6.91 Acres 2-1 + Lots of out Bldgs & Pens
REDUCED 4-2-2 2211 27th.....$39T
160 Acres w/3-1½+2, 3 miles NE Snyder
Spacious 4-1½+½-2cp+2 LA's...3600 Hill Ave.
321 35th St. 3-1-1 Detached.....$25T
160 A's 3-2-cp & shop 5.2 mi. NE of Hermleigh
REDUCED 2805 Ave. V 3-1½+1cp.....$39,750
14.49 Acres 3-2 Hot Tub, Sprinkler System...$85T
Attractive 3-1½+-2 4014 Irving.....$65T
Economical mobile home 3-1 $9T 2209 Gilmore
Near City 160 acres w/2-1-1cp.....$100T
3202 40th 3-1-1 Nice Kitchen & Carpeting $29.5T
Good Floor Plan 3-1¾-2 4006 Jacksboro $54.9T
3-2½-2+4+RV Gar., Pool, Hot Tub, 2501 48th
4-1¾-2cp Det. $28.5T w/$4000 Repair. Allow.
REDUCED! Crest Home 4-2-4cp, office 2803 El Paso
1 Acre with 3-1 & 4-2 cp detached, E. 23rd St.
401 30th 3-1-1 det. $14,000 Owner Finance
2-1-2cp w/applicances $22,500 + Stor. Bldg.
9.02 A's w/lovely home 3-2-2cp, Din. Rm + Den

We Will Work For You
We Need Listings!
Doris Spikes.....573-6602

THIS IS WHERE ALL THE ACTION IS! The Snyder Daily News 573-5486

****OPEN HOUSE****
**Sunday 2:00 – 5:00 3732 N. Hwy 208**
**Quality Thru Out!!**
Directions: From courthouse go north on Hwy 208 approximately 6 miles, house in on the right. Look for signs.
320 acres with an approx. 4111 sq. ft. house with 3 huge bedrooms with walk-in closets, 3 custom ceramic tile baths, 2 living areas, Jen-Air cook top-convection/microwave and convection oven, walk-in pantry, crystal light fixtures and chandelier, 2 enclosed sun porches and 3 car oversize garage with storage.
Also has an approx. 3,700 sq.ft. hay barn, approx. 2,000 sq.ft. implement barn with attached garage, other barns & out buildings, 3 water wells near house, 2 water wells located in pastures, corrals - squeeze shoot - pipe fencing - cattle guards and a 1 bedroom Mother-In-Law house that needs lots of TLC. Too Many extras to list!
OTHER PROPERTY FOR SALE
*400 Acres located 15 miles west on the Lamesa Hwy. Cultivation and pasture. Good hunting.
*385 Acres in the Camp Springs Area Cultivation and pasture, Lake, Great hunting retreat.
*Great Business Location Frontage, 7.86 acres on the Lamesa Hwy. House and Galvanized Bldg.
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**817-341-3638 OR 817-304-1339**
**Julie Lawrence**

AUCTION

**ESTATE AUCTION**
Sale Time 10 A.M. Sat. March 16, 2002
**LEONA SMALLWOOD ESTATE**
9827 CR 397 Ira, TX
DIRECTIONS: From Int. of Hwy 208 & FM 1606 (at Dunn) go W. on FM 1606 approx. 5.2 miles then N. on Scurry Co. 397 to Auction site or from the Intersection of Hwy. 350 and FM 1606 (at IRA) take Hwy 350 toward Snyder approx. 1.4 miles then S. on SC 397 to Auction Site or from Snyder take Hwy. 350 toward Ira approx. 9.6 miles then S. on SC 397 to Auction Site. WATCH FOR AUCTION SIGN.
INSPECTION TIME 9:00 A.M. SALEDAY
FOOD ON SITE, BRING YOUR OWN LAWN CHAIR. FOR MORE INFORMATION OR FREE SALE BILL CALL 1-915-728-8292 OR CELL PHONE 1-915-338-1832
**PARTIAL LISTING ONLY!!!**
Ranch Oak style Wagon Wheel 5 pc. L.R. Suite, Nice Lift Chair, Upright Piano w/Bench, (2) Old Floor Model Radio/Record Players, Four Poster Bed, 3 pc. Bedroom Suite, (2) Rockers, Washer & Dryer, Dining Table & Chairs, Buffet, Sears Ref., Wagnor Ware B. Skillet+ other C.I. & Graniteware Items, Wooden Butter Mold, Old Sad Irons, Sausage Grinder, Wood Wishing Well Lamps, Green Water Jugs, Glass Battery Case, Glass Kerosene Stove Bottles, Chicken Waterers & Feeders, Cotton Scales, Metal Bed, Horse Hames, Rods & Reels, Hand Tools, Pipe Cutters & Threaders, Elec. Chain Saw, Plus Much, Much More.
AUCTIONEER: GRADY W. MORRIS TXs – 6785

# Andersen loses two potential suitors

NEW YORK (AP) — Arthur Andersen LLP's attempt to salvage some of its value by selling part or all of its accounting operations stumbled badly after two rivals cut off negotiations. The moves came as Andersen faced a government deadline for agreeing to a plea in the Enron scandal.

On Wednesday, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu and Ernst & Young announced just hours apart that they were not interested in buying any of Andersen's assets.

Deloitte said negotiations between the two companies that started last week ended Wednesday "due to Andersen's unresolved litigation and legal issues."

Ernst & Young said it concluded "that as long as Enron and other Andersen litigation matters are unresolved, it is not in the best interests of our people, clients, and our firm to pursue such a combination."

Experts agree that the biggest stumbling block to a sale of Chicago-based Andersen is its potentially huge liability costs related to energy trading giant Enron's bankruptcy. Andersen auditors signed off on questionable accounting practices that, when uncovered late last year, led to the company's collapse.

Andersen said in a letter Wednesday that the Justice Department had imposed a 9 a.m. today deadline for the firm to agree to plead guilty for its alleged role in the Enron scandal or face immediate indictment. That time passed without any word from either side, but in a letter to the department, Andersen lawyers signaled strongly that there would be no guilty plea.

Pleading guilty to obstruction of justice charges would be "the death penalty" for Andersen and "a gross abuse of government power," the accounting firm wrote in the letter.

A guilty plea could bar Andersen, one of the big five accounting firms, from performing audits and approving financial reports that companies file with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the core of its business — unless Andersen was granted a waiver.

The decision by Deloitte and Ernst & Young to back off from a deal significantly raises the possibility that Andersen could "default, probably within the next month or so," said Ed Ketz, an accounting professor at Penn State's Smeal College of Business.

Other possible suitors — most notably KPMG and PriceWaterhouseCoopers — probably won't be interested in buying parts or all of Andersen, Ketz said.

"It looks really bad for Andersen," he said. "The obvious reason is that you'd like to have Andersen's assets without the liabilities."

Deloitte said its executives initially hoped that Andersen would continue as an independent firm, but entered into the merger talks only after "insufficient progress was being made toward that goal."

Experts say Andersen is in dire straits and at risk of going under because it is losing important clients with no end in sight.

Household International, the nation's second-biggest consumer finance firm behind Citigroup Inc., became the latest major firm to drop Andersen as its auditor.

In a statement Wednesday, Household said its board chose KPMG to replace Andersen, pending final approval by stockholders at its upcoming annual meeting.

The company cited the "uncertainty" surrounding Andersen, which has been embroiled in controversy since the collapse of Enron, one of its biggest clients.

The decision came two days after FedEx Corp. dropped Andersen, following the lead of Delta Air Lines, Freddie Mac, Merck & Co. and SunTrust Banks.

*Report says...*

# Military has highest gay dismissal rate since 1987

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of people forced to leave the military last year because of their homosexuality reached the highest level since 1987, a report says. About one in six was discharged from an Army base where a soldier thought to be gay was beaten to death in 1999.

The military dismissed 1,250 people last year for homosexual conduct or for stating their homosexuality, compared with 1,241 in 2000, according to figures provided by the service branches to the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, an advocacy group.

Reports of anti-gay harassment increased 23 percent, from 871 in 2000 to 1,075 last year, the organization said in its annual report on the Pentagon's "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

The policy, in effect since 1994, allows gay men and lesbians to serve as long as they keep their sexual orientation private and do not engage in homosexual acts.

"This policy undercuts the very liberties and freedoms our military members fight to protect," the organization said. It contended the Pentagon allows an anti-gay atmosphere to pervade its ranks by failing to hold commanders accountable when harassment is reported.

A Pentagon inspector general's report in 2000 said anti-gay behavior was common. The Pentagon subsequently announced it was stepping up training to try to eliminate anti-gay harassment and educate personnel about the policy, but C. Dixon Osburn, the advocacy group's executive director, said the military has made few changes.

"When a problem continues to fester, things get worse," he said.

Cpl. Paul O'Dell was discharged from the Marine Corps in May after telling officials at Fort Meade, Md., that he was bisexual. O'Dell said he no longer could stand the harassing comments or the derogatory notes left on his door.

"I was left to cope with it by myself," O'Dell said. "It wears you down. That does not make an effective member of the military, to have something that's wearing them down."

Defense Department spokesman Lt. Col. James Cassella said the Pentagon is conducting a survey to get a better handle on anti-gay harassment. Meanwhile, he said, "We expect commanders at all levels to exercise good judgment in implementing the policy in a manner that is both fair and consistent."

The Army led all branches in discharges with 616, compared with 573 the previous year. Of those, 222 came from Fort Campbell, Ky. It was the second consecutive year in which that base had more discharges than any other facility.

It was at that base in 1999 that Pfc. Barry Winchell, 21, was bludgeoned to death by a fellow Fort Campbell soldier who believed Winchell was gay.

The report credits Maj. Gen. Richard A. Cody, who took over Fort Campbell in June 2000, with working to eliminate anti-gay harassment. But the report said other Fort Campbell officers "perpetuate anti-gay attitudes within their units by tolerating hateful anti-gay remarks."

# Security to be tightened for subway system in Chicago

CHICAGO (AP) — Police and transit officials say they plan to tighten security in Chicago's subway system following the arrest of a man who stashed cyanide and other chemicals in an underground storage room.

Joseph Konopka, 25, was returned to the Metropolitan Correctional Center on Wednesday after waiving his right to a bond hearing before a federal magistrate who called him "an extreme danger to the community."

Konopka, formerly of De Pere, Wis., was arrested Saturday in a steam tunnel at the University of Illinois at Chicago. A 15-year-old also picked up in the tunnel told police about the cyanide and other chemicals Konopka had allegedly stashed in the tunnel system.

The teen was charged in juvenile court with criminal trespass and released to his parents' custody.

Cmdr. Ed Gross, head of the police unit that patrols the Chicago Transit Authority, promised an immediate security clampdown. He said anyone found trespassing in the subway system will be arrested, fingerprinted and subjected to a background check.

City officials have said Konopka's arrest exposed vulnerabilities in a rail system that handles 500,000 passengers a day.

"If there were disbelievers that there could be a threat to our system, they are believers now," Gross said.

Konopka had been living in the tunnels for weeks and managed to swap locks on doors so only his keys could open them, officials said. Officials have now begun an evaluation of all underground areas in the subway system to see if some should be sealed off, transit authority President Frank Kruesi said.

Federal prosecutors have 30 days to bring charges against Konopka. Federal Magistrate Judge Edward A. Bobrick said Wednesday that he would not have granted Konopka a bond hearing if he had requested one.

## Ask Hollywood by Holly Wood

# *Where's Parks?*

**Q:** Back in the late 1960s, there was a TV show called "Then Came Bronson," starring Michael Parks, about a young drifter who traveled around the United States on his motorcycle. When did the show run, and whatever became of Michael Parks? — **E.G., Manitowoc, Wis.**

**A:** "Then Came Bronson" ran from 1969 to 1970, and Parks has had a lengthy career since the series ended. He has starred in too many films and TV movies to list here, but some of the more famous ones are "From Dusk Till Dawn," "Caged Fury," "Death Wish V" and "Arizona Heat." He also guest-starred in "Walker, Texas Ranger" and "Twin Peaks."

**Q:** In the 1950s there was a show called "Spin and Marty," featuring Tim Considine and David Stollery. Can you tell me anything about where they are, if they are still alive? — **N.J., Pittsburgh, Pa.**

**A:** Both actors appeared in the 2000 TV movie "The New Adventures of Spin and Marty: Suspect Behavior." Considine is a sports photographer and auto racing expert, while Stollery made his mark on the automobile industry, namely, the 1978 Toyota Celica, which he designed. He still designs cars and other products, including lifeguard towers.

**Q:** Why does Kelly Ripa wear low-cut sweaters? She sits there with her arms on the chair and pushes her bust out. She has a bony chest and looks disgusting. She has about as much class as my big toe. I love Regis, but this chick has to go. Please print an address for "Live! With Regis and Kelly" so I can send my comments to their studio. — **No Name, Pittsburgh, Pa.**

**A:** I imagine Ripa wears low-cut sweaters because she likes them, but you can tell the show's producers how you feel by writing to the studio at "Live! With Regis and Kelly," 7 Lincoln Square, New York, NY 10023. If you want to write for tickets to a taping, you can send your request to LIVE Tickets, Ansonia Station, P.O. Box 230777, New York, NY 10023.

**Q:** Why don't TV stations give you enough time to read the credits after a show or movie ends? That's annoying! There has to be a reason. Can't they cut one commerical? - J.D., Little Rock, Ark.

**A:** The truth is that one commercial brings in a lot of money, while a few minutes of names scrolling across a screen leads to nothing but a proud mama exclaiming, "See, my boy was an assistant director on 'Baking with Asbestos.'" I'll give you the advice I've given other readers who have complained about the same thing: Tape the end of the show and watch the credits at your leisure.

**Q:** What has happened to Jena Malone? She played Bone in the movie "Bastard out of Carolina." I hope she has gone on in her career. Has she appeared in any other movies? — **B.B., Mesa, Ariz.**

**A:** Malone has been a busy woman, and she has appeared in some big movies, including "Stepmom," "Contact," "For Love of the Game," "Donnie Darko" and "Life as a House." This year, you can see her in "The Badge," "The Dangerous Lives of Altar Boys," "The United States of Leland" and "American Girl."

**TRIVIA:** When Kelly Ripa was a dancer on "Dance Party USA" in the 1980s, her goal was to be a newscaster.

(Send your questions to Ask Holly Wood, c/o Newspaper Enterprise Association, 200 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016, or write to HollyWood85@hotmail.com. Because of the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.)

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## Markets

### Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -

| | High | Low | Last | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| AMR Corp | 27.25 | 26.85 | 27.00 | —.54 |
| AOL TimeWrn | 26.40 | 25.83 | 25.97 | —.43 |
| AT&T Corp s | 15.74 | 15.52 | 15.61 | —.10 |
| Albertsons | 31.79 | 30.91 | 31.60 | —.09 |
| Allfel | 57.48 | 57.13 | 57.13 | —.07 |
| AmEl Pw | 45.08 | 44.75 | 44.82 | —.14 |
| AndarkPtr | 56.35 | 55.78 | 56.11 | —.57 |
| ATMOS Egy | 23.58 | 23.40 | 23.52 | + .11 |
| Availl | 8.00 | 7.85 | 7.99 | + .04 |
| BP PLC | 52.10 | 51.68 | 51.69 | —.48 |
| BakerHughes | 37.70 | 36.85 | 37.29 | —.61 |
| Bank of Amer | 67.89 | 66.96 | 67.77 | + .22 |
| BellSouth | 38.83 | 38.60 | 38.64 | —.06 |
| vjBeth Steel | .52 | .50 | .51 | + .04 |
| BurlNoSFe | 30.49 | 30.16 | 30.17 | —.03 |
| Caterpillar | 58.95 | 57.67 | 58.87 | + 1.38 |
| ChevronTex | 89.65 | 89.24 | 89.50 | + .08 |
| Citigroup | 48.90 | 48.20 | 48.76 | + .37 |
| CocaCola | 48.26 | 47.98 | 48.23 | + .28 |
| ColgatePal | 54.80 | 54.55 | 54.69 | —.01 |
| ComclMetals | 38.84 | 38.69 | 38.78 | —.06 |
| Cooperin | 40.70 | 39.95 | 40.48 | —.02 |
| DaimlrChry | 44.86 | 44.54 | 44.86 | + 1.05 |
| DeltaAirl | 35.48 | 34.95 | 35.19 | —.56 |
| Dillards Inc | 23.38 | 23.05 | 23.22 | —.01 |
| DowChem | 32.40 | 31.81 | 32.35 | + .26 |
| DuPont | 47.42 | 46.85 | 47.41 | + .41 |
| EastmanChem | 45.56 | 45.30 | 45.50 | + .11 |
| EstKodak | 32.11 | 31.25 | 31.84 | + .84 |
| EDS Corp | 63.45 | 62.37 | 62.85 | + .05 |
| Entergy | 42.50 | 42.02 | 42.15 | —.20 |
| ExxonMobil s | 43.45 | 43.07 | 43.16 | + .04 |
| FstBkSAm | 41.20 | 38.40 | 41.20 | + 1.80 |
| FootLocker | 16.85 | 16.42 | 16.67 | + .18 |
| GenDynam | 91.55 | 90.35 | 91.03 | —.07 |
| GenElec | 40.44 | 40.00 | 40.42 | + .42 |
| GenMills | 47.47 | 46.95 | 47.40 | + .54 |
| GenMotors | 60.48 | 59.50 | 59.90 | |
| GePacific | 28.25 | 27.45 | 27.81 | —.14 |
| Goodrich | 32.04 | 31.52 | 31.80 | —.40 |
| Goodyear s | 27.69 | 27.16 | 27.27 | —.28 |
| GtAtlPac | 26.75 | 26.51 | 26.53 | —.07 |
| Halliburtn | 16.74 | 15.50 | 16.22 | —.53 |
| Hanson ADS | 37.05 | 36.90 | 37.00 | + .40 |
| HartfeHanks | 30.01 | 29.97 | 29.98 | —.16 |
| HomeDepot | 48.98 | 48.20 | 48.89 | + .39 |
| Honeywellntl | 40.29 | 39.76 | 40.04 | + .20 |
| IBM | 107.85 | 106.74 | 107.72 | + .54 |
| IntlPaper | 43.99 | 43.31 | 43.77 | + .45 |
| JohnsonJn s | 64.20 | 63.70 | 64.11 | + .21 |
| vjK mart | 1.90 | 1.65 | 1.72 | —.06 |
| KinderMorg | 48.49 | 48.08 | 48.44 | + .80 |
| Kroger Co | 22.31 | 22.10 | 22.27 | + .06 |
| LockheedM | 57.43 | 56.71 | 57.37 | + .39 |
| Lowes Cos s | 44.79 | 43.80 | 44.34 | + .36 |
| Lubys | 6.75 | 6.60 | 6.75 | + .20 |
| LucentTech | 4.93 | 4.70 | 4.85 | —.07 |
| MarathonOil | 29.39 | 29.11 | 29.13 | —.26 |
| MayDeptStr | 37.19 | 36.88 | 36.99 | —.20 |
| Medtronic | 44.94 | 44.51 | 44.80 | + .12 |
| Motorola | 14.10 | 13.88 | 13.92 | —.16 |
| NCR Corp | 44.90 | 44.32 | 44.50 | —.51 |
| Navistar | 44.38 | 43.99 | 44.25 | + .22 |
| PNM Resrcs | 28.45 | 28.05 | 28.10 | —.23 |
| Penney JC | 22.34 | 21.78 | 22.26 | + .26 |
| PepBoys | 15.35 | 15.25 | 15.35 | + .05 |
| PepsiCo | 50.49 | 49.73 | 50.41 | + .84 |
| Pharmacia | 42.79 | 42.01 | 42.17 | —.43 |
| PhelpDodge | 40.10 | 39.10 | 40.04 | + .09 |
| PhilipPet | 62.54 | 61.85 | 62.12 | —.37 |
| PilgrmPrd B | 13.20 | 13.10 | 13.17 | + .07 |
| Praxair | 59.41 | 59.00 | 59.34 | + .13 |
| ProctGamb | 85.30 | 84.27 | 84.49 | —.73 |
| RadioShack | 29.14 | 28.94 | 29.14 | + .08 |
| ReliantEngy | 25.04 | 24.45 | 24.50 | —.45 |
| RoyalDut | 54.62 | 54.26 | 54.36 | —.18 |
| SBC Comm | 39.12 | 38.80 | 38.88 | + .08 |
| SaraLee | 20.78 | 20.48 | 20.73 | + .16 |
| Scripps EW | 79.85 | 79.00 | 79.60 | + .60 |
| SearsRoeb | 52.84 | 52.34 | 52.63 | —.02 |
| SherwinW | 28.40 | 28.25 | 28.25 | —.20 |
| SouthernCo s | 25.99 | 25.79 | 25.91 | + .14 |
| SwstAirl | 19.95 | 19.66 | 19.77 | —.18 |
| SprintFON | 15.67 | 15.00 | 15.48 | —.44 |
| SprintPCS | 11.08 | 10.51 | 10.85 | —.23 |
| Sunoco Inc | 42.20 | 41.61 | 41.65 | —.20 |
| TXU Corp | 52.25 | 51.84 | 51.84 | + .08 |
| TempleInland | 57.86 | 57.49 | 57.85 | + .38 |
| Texind | 41.39 | 40.85 | 41.05 | —.35 |
| TexasInst | 33.45 | 32.40 | 33.15 | + .75 |
| Textron | 49.00 | 48.21 | 48.38 | —.45 |
| TriconGlbR | 57.94 | 56.50 | 57.07 | + .49 |
| Trinityinds | 23.50 | 22.70 | 23.45 | + .71 |
| TylerTech | 5.00 | 4.79 | 4.99 | + .23 |
| UnionPacif | 61.34 | 60.72 | 60.73 | —.37 |
| USSteel | 17.10 | 16.82 | 17.01 | + .21 |
| UnitedTech | 74.29 | 73.59 | 74.05 | + .16 |
| Unocal | 38.37 | 37.65 | 37.80 | —.49 |
| VerizonComm | 47.99 | 47.60 | 47.63 | —.24 |
| WalMart | 62.48 | 61.91 | 62.48 | + .49 |
| WellsFargo | 49.49 | 49.06 | 49.27 | —.33 |
| WstnGasRs | 37.30 | 36.43 | 36.58 | —.28 |
| WinnDixie | 16.05 | 15.83 | 15.84 | —.15 |
| Xerox Cp | 10.39 | 10.23 | 10.23 | —.10 |

MAR 14 2002 2

# Connecticut children grieve loss of parents

GREENWICH, Conn. (AP) — A counseling group that helps children come to terms with the death of family members has become a sanctuary for families shattered by the World Trade Center attack, a place to gather weekly for pizza, play and grieving.

Since a month after the Sept. 11 attacks, 21 families — including 33 children — have met every today at the Den for Grieving Kids, a former orphanage in Greenwich. The wealthy New York suburb is in a corner of Connecticut that was home to dozens lost in the trade center, many of them moms and dads.

"These families are doing a lot of intense, painful work in trying to stabilize themselves in the face of this terrible trauma," said Lorenzo Colon Munroe, director of the Den.

Thursday evenings at the Den begin with pizza for the children and their parents. Then the adults go upstairs and talk with volunteers and each other about issues they're currently facing — financial and legal matters, holidays, their own grief.

Downstairs, the kids divide up by age for exercises to help them remember their missing parent and talk about their feelings. They play Feelings Bingo, write in memory books and share stories.

In the months since the attacks, the children have become more conscious of what has happened to their family. Sitting in a circle on the floor one night, a 4-year-old girl got up and jumped into Munroe's lap.

"She looked up at me and said she used to do that with her Daddy," he said.

Den volunteers have worked hard to help children, especially the younger ones, preserve the memories of a lost parent. Kids fill their memory books with drawings and photos showing what their parent looked like, and lists of favorite things they did together.

Mostly, the volunteers listen.

They listen to a mother who says her 18-month-old looks out the window every day and says "Dada." They pay attention to a 6-year-old who probably can't count to 88 but says he heard no one survived above that floor.

And they don't look away when a child looks them in the face and asks why Daddy isn't coming home.

"We make sure children and adults know we hear them ... that somebody hears their struggle," Munroe said.

Volunteers also understand that the children are frustrated, and they sometimes get agitated. The Den even has a "volcano room," where children can express their grief using a punching bag and gloves.

"This is not the den for well-behaved kids; this is not the den for well-adjusted kids," Munroe said. "This is the Den for Grieving Kids, and sometimes grieving kids act out. We accept that here."

For nearly 10 years, the Den has been a sanctuary where children and parents who lost family members can allow themselves to be vulnerable.

Virginia Rowan, a longtime Den volunteer, works with children who have lost a family member to illness or an accident. She also allows children to express themselves in her role as art teacher at the Brunswick School, a private academy for boys in Greenwich.

After Sept. 11, Rowan said she made sure the boys knew they could talk about anything they wanted to in the art room.

"A lot of these kids had parents who were running out of the buildings," Rowan said.

During Halloween, younger boys made twin towers of candy. Last month, during a lesson on expressing personal struggles through art, many students painted burning buildings and exploding airplanes.

Since September, the Den has received an outpouring of donations — 500 teddy bears from California, another box of teddy bears from a church in Missouri and money from around the country. The Den must raise several hundred thousand dollars each year, since it does not charge the families it serves and will not turn anyone away.

Den volunteers also see the donations as a source of comfort for the families they're trying to help.

"We told them, 'There are so many people who are thinking of you,'" Munroe said.

# Ex-60s radical Rap Brown sentenced to life in prison

ATLANTA (AP) — A jury deliberated for about five hours before deciding to spare the life of former '60s radical H. Rap Brown for the slaying of a sheriff's deputy.

Rejecting prosecutors' call for the death penalty, the panel decided on a life term with no parole Wednesday for the Muslim religious leader now known as Jamil Abdullah Al-Amin.

The same jury found Al-Amin guilty of killing Fulton County Deputy Ricky Kinchen and wounding deputy Aldranon English in a shootout in Al-Amin's southwest Atlanta neighborhood on March 16, 2000. English survived and identified Al-Amin as the shooter.

After the verdict, the defense continued to contend that English was mistaken in his identification and that someone else shot the deputies. They also claim Al-Amin was framed as part of a government conspiracy that has followed him since his days as a radical civil rights activist.

"He's alive — and that creates another day for us to fight," said Al-Amin's brother, Ed Brown, reacting to the jury's decision. He said Al-Amin plans to appeal.

Al-Amin, wearing traditional Muslim attire of white robe and knitted white hat, showed no emotion when the jury's decision was read. The judge immediately sentenced him, adding 35 years for related offenses in the 13-count indictment.

"I wish we'd done a better job," defense attorney Jack Martin said. "But we're not going to stop until we've exonerated Mr. Al-Amin."

The jury had three options: death, a life sentence with no parole, or life with the possibility of parole. Jurors declined comment afterward.

"This is just a starting point for us to heal and go on," said Lisa Francis, sister of Sherese Kinchen, the slain deputy's widow, after the sentencing.

Fulton District Attorney Paul Howard said his office and Kinchen's family were satisfied with the sentence, even though his prosecutors had argued for death.

Defense attorneys implored the jury to spare Al-Amin's life, noting his civil rights work in the '60s and how he has helped clean up his once crime-ridden neighborhood.

English testified that Al-Amin leveled a high-powered assault rifle and open fired when the deputies tried to serve him with an arrest warrant in March 2000. Then, prosecutors said, he raised a Browning 9 mm handgun and fired three shots into Kinchen's groin as the wounded officer lay in the street.

Al-Amin leads one of the nation's largest black Muslim groups, the National Ummah. The movement, which has formed 36 mosques around the nation, is credited with revitalizing poverty-stricken pockets such as Atlanta's West End, where Al-Amin owned a grocery store.

He is familiarly known as H. Rap Brown, a '60s militant who served as a leader of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. In 1967, he characterized violence as a vital tool for blacks, "as American as cherry pie."

Brown changed his name when he converted to the Dar-ul Islam movement in the 1970s while serving a five-year sentence for his role in a robbery that ended in a shootout with New York [illegible]

## Fans award medal

MOSCOW (AP) — Unhappy that their favorite figure skater didn't get the top prize in Salt Lake City, a group of fans awarded their own gold medal to Russia's Irina Slutskaya.

The Russian Figure Skating Federation protested the Olympic judges' decision to award American Sarah Hughes the gold, leaving Slutskaya with the silver.

"This medal is different. It comes from the hearts of people, my fans, people who really love me," Slutskaya said Monday as she accepted a gold medal from Anton Bakov, a politician from the Sverdlovsk region in the Ural Mountains, at a ceremony near Moscow's Red Square.

Slutskaya said she was disappointed but not bitter.

"The judges made their choice — that's all I can say. I feel that I was worth more than I got," she said. "The judges decided that I'm worth a silver. Well, the silver is also good. I'm not disappointed."

## Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

### Woman struggles to cope with teen rape, miscarriage

DEAR ABBY: I would like to respond to "All Alone in Tucson, Ariz.," the 14-year-old girl who had a miscarriage and is afraid to tell her mother.

Just weeks before my 16th birthday, I was raped by a longtime friend. I found out I was pregnant when I had a miscarriage the day before Thanksgiving. That was 10 years ago. Like "All Alone," I told no one. It was the loneliest time in my life. I sought medical care, weathered the changes in my body and shouldered the painful loss all by myself.

To this day, my mother has no idea. I am now in therapy and learning to cope with what happened. It has been a slow process. I should have started 10 years ago.

I pray "All Alone" takes your advice. It can spare her years of confusion, loss and pain. Looking back, I wish I had spoken with an adult — a teacher, clergyperson, a counselor — anyone who had the life experience and compassion I desperately needed.

"All Alone" should join a support group either in her community or online. Pregnancy loss, no matter what the circumstances of conception can be [illegible] — FINDING PEACE IN NEVADA

DEAR FINDING PEACE: That's true. I'm sorry you didn't call your local rape crisis hotline at the time of your assault. It might have saved you years of pain.

An excellent resource for parents grieving the loss of a baby through stillbirth, miscarriage or newborn death is a group called SHARE Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support Inc. SHARE is a nondenominational, not-for-profit organization that provides grief resolution and healing following the death of a baby. It can be reached at SHARE, St. Joseph Health Center, 300 First Capitol Drive, St. Charles, MO 63301-2893; or call (800) 821-6819, or on the Internet at www.nationalshareoffice.com.

**

DEAR ABBY: When I was 17, I experienced the same thing "All Alone" did. The difference is, I did tell my mother, and she was extremely supportive.

My mother often quotes what my grandmother used to say: "God gives you only what you can handle." Abby, I live that philosophy. What Mom didn't know, but God did, was that I was in an abusive relationship with my boyfriend. I was punched, screamed at and blamed for every bad thing that happened to him.

I am now 33, married to a wonderful man who loves me, and have two beautiful children whom I love with all my heart. My mom was right, "God gives you only what you can handle." — BEEN THERE IN INDIANA

DEAR BEEN THERE: I share that philosophy, and I'm pleased your story had a happy ending. However, no teen should remain in an abusive relationship out of fear or intimidation. I advise younger readers who may be in an abusive relationship to seek help from a trusted adult. If none is available, the National Hope Hotline for Youth Crisis and Suicide, (800) 784-2433, will listen and refer teens in trouble to local agencies.

**

Pauline Phillips and her daughter, Jeanne Phillips, share the pseudonym Abigail Van Buren. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**

**Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $10 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)**

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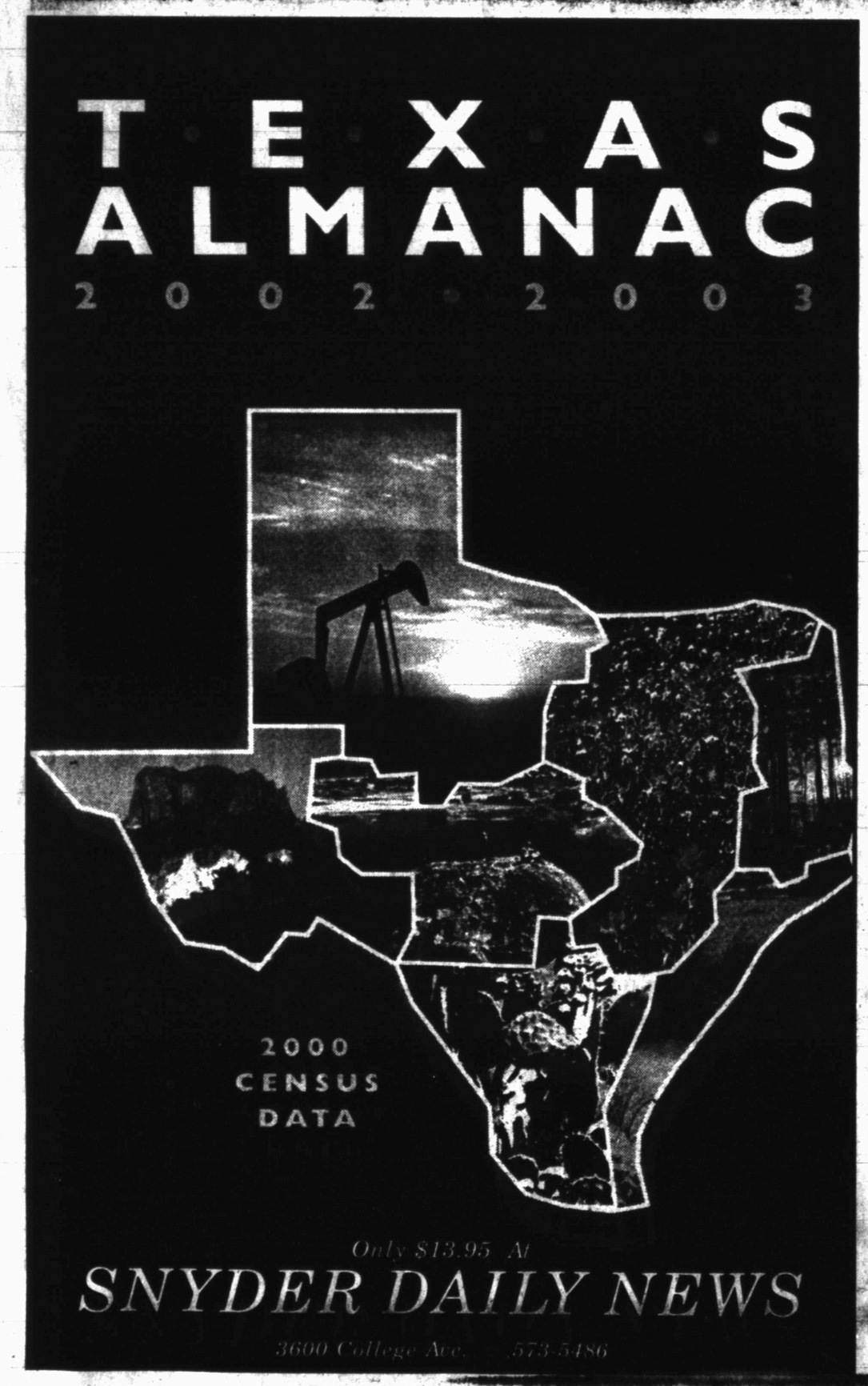



## Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

### Psoriasis does not respond to herbal therapy

DEAR DR. GOTT: I recently read a pamphlet written by a "doctor of nutrition" stating that psoriasis is normally caused by liver dysfunction and can usually be cured by exercise, diet and herbal remedies. Could this therapy harm me?

DEAR READER: This approach is probably not harmful, but I'd have to know the details before giving you a definitive answer. For instance, certain strict diets, which may prohibit protein and other nutrients, could lead to a metabolic deficiency and ill health.

Exercise, providing it is prescribed in moderation and in keeping with your age and health status, should not be hazardous; on the contrary, it will benefit your cardiovascular system, your muscles and your bones.

Herbal remedies are not unhealthful, in the main. However, watch out for these supplements if they contain steroids or other powerful drugs that should more properly be prescribed by a licensed M.D.

Having answered your question as directed, I still feel obligated to tell you that the information contained in the pamphlet is pure bunk. Psoriasis is a common and chronic skin disorder of unknown cause, marked by itchy and scaly patches. It is not — repeat, not — caused by liver disease in the overwhelming majority of patients. Even in the unlikely case that the skin disease was related to a liver disorder, the treatment you mentioned would be totally ineffective. Standard therapy for psoriasis includes a variety of methods, all of which should be supervised by a dermatologist.

Psoriasis, aside from being a nuisance and a cosmetic embarrassment, is often associated with a particularly virulent form of arthritis that can frequently be treated successfully with a class of medicines known as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, such as ibuprofen, Arthrotec, Celebrex, Vioxx and others.

Be skeptical of pamphlets written by "doctors" who claim miraculous cures from products the practitioners themselves endorse. Their far-out theories of disease seem designed more to pander to an uneducated public than to offer insights about (and effective treatments for) difficult diseases.

See your dermatologist for the most up-to-date and successful therapy for psoriasis, which should be superior to the techniques you mentioned.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Because I am allergic to many things, I have a problem finding a source of dietary calcium that I can tolerate. Sugar, yeast, milk and soy products give me diarrhea and cause stomach upset. What do you suggest?

DEAR READER: People who are sensitive to certain foods that are good sources of calcium may find themselves with diets deficient in this important mineral. Such dietary restrictions can lead to osteoporosis — brittle bones that easily break. In such instances, supplemental sources of calcium are advisable.

Many brands are available, including Caltrate, Os-Cal, Tums and generic versions. Although these products have minor variations in formulation, they all supply adequate amounts of calcium. Therefore, I suggest that you try one.

First, you should check with your physician about how much calcium you need; this depends on your age, sex and general state of health. As a general rule, women during their reproductive years require about 1,000 milligrams of calcium a day, post-menopausal women about 1,500 milligrams, and men somewhat less. Pregnancy increases the need for the mineral; the amount should be determined by an obstetrician.

A NOTE TO READERS: For updated and revised Health Reports on "Erectile Dysfunction" and "Coronary Artery Disease," send $2 for each report to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Be sure to mention the title(s) of the Health Report(s). Also, be on the lookout for more updated Health Reports.

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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

# Bush is pressed to declare Arafat's security force terrorist organization

WASHINGTON (AP) — More than 200 members of Congress wrote President Bush today asking him to cite Yasser Arafat's security force and two other groups linked to the Palestinian Authority as terrorist organizations.

This would freeze their assets in the United States, and authorize denial of visas to members trying to enter the country and expulsion of those already in the country.

The letter, which drew 230 signatures, commended Bush for his stand against terrorism and for declaring Arafat must be held accountable for Palestinian attacks.

"It's time to take our policy a step forward," said Rep. Henry A. Waxman, D-Calif., who helped organize the effort to condemn the three groups.

"There is nothing to distinguish the tactics and suicide bombings of these groups from Hamas, Islamic Jihad, or other organizations already recognized by the United States as terrorist groups," said Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R-Fla.

The State Department lists 30 groups as terror organizations.

The three the Congress members said should be added to the list are the Al-Aqsa Brigade, which has claimed responsibility for several bloody attacks on Israel; the Tanzim, an armed wing of Fatah, the Palestine Liberation Organization faction controlled by Arafat, and Force 17, Arafat's presidential security force.

Senior officers of Force 17 routinely gather intelligence for attacks and operate explosive labs for bomb preparation," the letter said.

Bush on Wednesday said recognition of Israel's right to exist is "the first and most important qualification" of any Middle East peace accord.

As U.S. mediator Anthony Zinni headed to the area to try to stop fighting between Israel and the Palestinians, Bush praised a proposal by Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia that offered Israel diplomatic recognition, security and trade in exchange for all the land the Arabs lost in the 1967

# OPEC's production level meets demand

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — OPEC's current level of crude production is sufficient to meet demand, several of the group's oil ministers said today, even as market fears about possible U.S. military action against Iraq was pushing crude prices higher.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries will assess its output policy when its representatives meet here Friday. Ministers' comments ahead of the meeting confirmed the expectation of many analysts that the oil producers' group will leave untouched its current output target, or ceiling, of 21.7 million barrels a day.

"It is too early to talk about raising the ceiling," said Obaid bin Saif al-Nasseri, oil minister for the United Arab Emirates, as he arrived at a hotel in the Austrian capital.

Iranian Oil Minister Bijar Namdar Zangeneh echoed that view, and his Venezuelan counterpart went so far as to dismiss the idea of boosting production even at a possible OPEC meeting in June.

"Not in June and not now," Venezuelan Oil Minister Alvaro Silva told reporters.

OPEC, which supplies about a third of the world's oil, cut 1.5 million barrels from its daily target in January, in the most recent of a series of output cuts aimed at propping up weak prices.

Recent signs of a rebounding economy in the United States, the biggest consumer of crude, have helped since then to firm up prices. So too has speculative buying of futures contracts on concerns that a U.S.-led attack might knock OPEC member Iraq out of the export market.

Contracts of North Seas April Brent crude were trading penny higher at $23.90 on the International Petroleum Exchange in London, after closing 19 cents higher on Wednesday. Light sweet crude for April delivery was trading 16 cents lower at $24 in midday trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

OPEC's benchmark price for a blend of seven different crudes rose 1 cent to $22.37 a barrel on Wednesday, the most recent day for which the group compiled information.

The OPEC benchmark price had languished since late September at well below the group's desired minimum price of $22 a barrel, until breaking through that psychologically important threshold on Monday.

Heartened by the price increase, Zangeneh of Iran said OPEC's minimum price target of $22 was "still valid."

Al-Nasseri went further, expressing support for OPEC's preferred price of $25 a barrel. OPEC had abandoned that price as unrealistic when the global economy went into its slump last autumn.

"I think around $25 on average is fair," Al-Nasseri said.

Algerian Oil Minister Chakib Khelil warned that current price trends were uncertain.

"Right now, things are very fragile," he said earlier. Khelil argued that the recent strengthening in prices owed much to tensions in the Middle East. The market's nervousness about a possible military strike against Iraq has added a $3 premium on each barrel of crude, he said.

Some analysts have said OPEC will need to reverse its policy and increase production by summer so as not to cause a spike in oil and gasoline prices during the peak driving season in the United States and Europe. Khelil said OPEC members probably would meet again in June to consider such action.

# Bush, staff are trying to save nomination to appeals court

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush and his staff made eleventh-hour lobbying calls as Democrats prepared for a Senate Judiciary Committee vote today that would hand Bush his first defeat in his efforts to place conservative judges on federal appeals courts.

On the eve of the vote, Bush accused the Democrats of "standing in the way of justice" in not allowing the Senate to vote on his nomination of U.S. District Judge Charles Pickering of Mississippi.

White House press secretary Ari Fleischer told reporters that Bush and his aides "have made a call or two" to lawmakers in an effort to save the nomination.

Republicans twice postponed the proceedings to try to sway a Democrat to vote for Pickering. During the two-week delay, the White House and Senate Republicans furiously lobbied Democrats.

The delay appears to have done nothing for Pickering, nominated for a seat on the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans. Committee Democrats said Wednesday they were still lined up against him.

A party-line vote in the Democratic-controlled committee would doom the nomination. Without the committee's approval, Senate Majority Leader Thomas Daschle, D-S.D., said, he would not allow the nomination to reach the Senate floor.

Bush wants all 100 senators to vote on Pickering. His supporters say they would prevail on the floor even though Democrats hold a 50-49 majority and the lone independent leans Democratic.

At least three Senate Democrats — Zell Miller of Georgia, Ernest Hollings of South Carolina and John Breaux of Louisiana — have said they might consider voting for Pickering.

"By failing to allow full Senate votes on judicial nominees, a few senators are standing in the way of justice," Bush said Wednesday at a news conference. "And this is wrong, and the American people deserve better."

Pickering originally was supposed to be up for a vote two weeks ago, but Senate Republican leader Trent Lott of Mississippi and Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah, the top Republican on the Judiciary Committee, each obtained one-week delays to seek out Democratic votes.

Sen. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., said something has gone wrong when "a clear minority of the Senate frustrates a nomination that appears to have majority support."

Rejection of Pickering would be a setback for Bush in what is seen as a possible preview of Supreme Court confirmation battles. Democrats "seek to undermine the nominations of candidates who agree with my philosophy that judges should interpret the law and not try to make law from the bench," the president said.

## Obituaries

### Rudolph Menix

1910-2002

Rudolph Frank Menix of Snyder died Tuesday, March 12, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

Service for Mr. Menix, 91, is set for 2 p.m. Friday in Grace Lutheran Church in Lamesa. Pastor Dale Snyder of Sweetwater will officiate. Burial will follow in Dawson County Cemetery in Lamesa under the direction of Branon Funeral Home.

Born on Nov. 1, 1910 in Lee County, he married Novice Octavia Bingham on March 10, 1935. She died Nov. 6, 1959. He married Ruth Huse Bielefeldt on Sept. 17, 1960.

He was also preceded in death by two grandsons, Charles Ray Menix and Jamon Weidemann.

Mr. Menix farmed in Sparenburg, Patricia and Flower Grove communities of Dawson County for many years. He moved to Snyder after retiring in 1998. He was a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Lamesa.

Survivors include his wife, Ruth Huse Menix of Snyder; two daughters and sons-in-law, Bobbie and Jack Weidemann of Ledbetter and Sallie and Arthur Connor of Odessa; three sons and two daughters-in-law, Wilbert and Kristi Menix of Flint, Frank D. Menix of Gail, and Robert and Sara Menix of Snyder; four stepdaughters, Wanda Gossen, Rachel Vogel and Beverly Segner, all of Monroe, Wis., and Becky Bielefeldt of Snyder; two sisters, Lydia Brock and Esther Jones, both of Lamesa; 20 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

### Lucille Yandell

1916-2002

Eunice Lucille Yandell of Snyder, died this morning in Cogdell Memorial Hospital after a lengthy illness.

Services for Mrs. Yandell, 85, are pending at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born Dec. 2, 1916 in Electra, she married Darrell Yandell in 1945 in Indiana. He died Dec. 9, 1982.

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# Two men arrested on warrants

•*Arrests*

Sheriff's deputies arrested Gonzalo Lara, 32, of 1005 26th Street at 3:20 p.m. Wednesday on a city warrant and for indecency with a child. Lara was booked into the county jail.

An 18-year-old man was taken into custody at 3 a.m. today on outstanding warrants for driving without a license and for failure to appear before a judge.

•*Assaults*

A man reported he was assaulted Wednesday at Winston Field. Officers advised an offense report for Class A assault would be filed.

A Class C assault report was submitted after a woman reported being assaulted by another female at 3 p.m. Wednesday.

•*Close patrols*

A man requested a close patrol of his residence in the 300 block of 31st Street Wednesday morning after finding damage done to his vehicle.

Officers initiated a close patrol in the 2700 block of 38th Street after a man reported damage done to a vacant house.

A close patrol was requested at Coleman Apartments Wednesday evening after a woman reported a subject with a criminal trespass warning was in the area.

•*Gas drive off*

A clerk at Rip Griffin's Truck Stop reported a drive off Wednesday afternoon, but offered no description of the vehicle or its driver.

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events

# WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

### Community garden planning

There will be a planning session for the community garden at 7 this evening at St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church. All interested are invited to attend. For more information, call BeBe Boren, coordinator, at 574-1967 or 806-629-4475.

### FBC support groups

Support groups dealing with divorce, death, cancer or caring for elderly parents meet at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at the First Baptist Church educational building. A special group for students facing these problems is held at the same time.

### Iglesia de Cristo

Iglesia de Cristo, 501 N. College Ave., will have a special study program on the Book of Revelations from 7-8:15 p.m. Friday.

### UW board meeting

Directors of the Scurry County United Way will meet at noon Monday at 2311 Ave. T.

### Scurry Masonic Lodge #706

Scurry Masonic Lodge will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday for work in the Masters Degree. All Master Masons are invited.

### Community choir class

A community choir class will begin Monday in Western Texas College's Fine Arts Theatre. The class will meet Mondays from 7-9 p.m. for seven weeks, followed by a performance on April 26. The class is free and registration will be on the first day of class. Call 573-8511 for more information.

### Mesquite Country Emmaus

The Mesquite Country Emmaus community meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Calvary Baptist Church in Colorado City. Babe chicks meet at 6 p.m.

### Scurry County 4-H Club meeting

The Scurry County 4-H Club will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at East Elementary.

### Free income tax help

Free income tax aid for low to middle income citizens of any age is available each Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon, and 1-3 p.m. at the senior center located, 2603 Ave. M.

### Senior center banquet

The 23rd annual Scurry County Senior Center volunteer recognition banquet will be held at 6:30 p.m. Friday at the Senior Center.

### SHS class of 1992 reunion

The 1992 class of Snyder High School is needing addresses for classmates. Call Melanie at 573-4022, Julie at 573-1634 or Amy at 573-4793. The reunion will be held at the end of July.

### Enchilada dinner

The third annual Knights of Columbus enchilada dinner is Sunday, March 24, at West Elementary. Serving will be from noon until 5 p.m. Adult plates are $5 and child's plates are $3. Meal includes tea and dessert.

### Foster care meeting

To learn more information of foster care and adoption, attend an informational meeting to be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 26, at the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services office at 3409 Snyder Shopping Center.

### Windbreak trees

The Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District has windbreak trees available for sale. Extra hardwood trees are $1 each and Evergreens are $2.25. Call 573-6317 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

### American Legion membership drive

The American Legion is holding its membership drive and if you or a family member served in the military, you could be eligible for membership in the American Legion, Ladies Auxiliary or Sons of American Legion. Call 573-4082, 573-6542 or 574-6805 for more information.

### Adult basic education classes

Adult basic education classes taught by certified teachers and Spanish-speaking aides are held at WTC from 8 a.m. until noon Tuesday through Thursday, and from 6-9 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. Classes include G.E.D., E.S.L., and refresher courses. For more information call 573-8511, ext. 322.

### ESL, GED classes

Classes for E.S.L., GED and computers are held at 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Region 14 classroom at 4200 College Ave. For more information, call 574-6012.

### Discovery School

Discovery School will be providing summer childcare from 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. for children ages birth to 10 years. For more information call 573-4770.

### Cancer treatment transportation

Transportation for cancer patients to Lubbock, Abilene or Midland is available free of charge. Call Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993 or Blakey Fargason at 574-8041. If not home, leave message on answering machine.

# Arlington Hooters can sell beer

ARLINGTON (AP) — A Hooters restaurant is selling beer and wine after winning a five-month battle to get a license from the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission.

Before receiving the permit Tuesday, the eatery had been serving free beer since opening March 6.

Company officials applied for the permit last fall, but then a neighborhood group called Decency for Arlington started a campaign against Hooters, where waitresses wear low-cut tank tops and tight shorts.

County Judge Tom Vandergriff denied the beer application in November. A visiting state district judge overturned the decision last month.

But the sitting judge came back several days later, disregarded the visiting judge's ruling and ordered a new trial. The visiting judge, in his second ruling, threw out the new trial Friday.