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WT-Int. Crude - $27.20
WTIC Posted - $24.00
Natural Gas - $2.415

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY
Aug. 29, 2001
Vol. 53 No. 103
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Olin Bunch



GREEN THUMBS — Sally Byrd, 3000 38th Street, gets some help with her yard work from James Simmons. Recent rains have greened up yards around Snyder and Mrs. Byrd took advantage of the cooler temperatures to prune shrubs. (SDN Staff Photo)

Cogdell suit on agenda

County Attorney Mike Hartman will meet in executive session with the Cogdell Memorial Hospital board at 8 a.m. Thursday to discuss the lawsuit filed against the hospital by Dr. Joseph L. Gendreau of Washington.

Dr. Gendreau claims in his lawsuit that he and the hospital entered into an oral agreement in 1997 for him to provide radiology services.

The suit contends the hospital promised that he would become the primary radiologist for the facility after the retirement of their primary radiologist.

The lawsuit further claims that the contract was violated and the promise ignored when the hospital made an agreement with a Lubbock radiology firm.

The physician is seeking a jury trial according to the documents filed by Keith C. Thompson of the Lubbock law firm of Agnew and Dodson.

In a meeting of the commissioners' court earlier this month, County Judge Ricky Fritz said the court had directed Hartman to defend the county in the suit that the court feels is without merit.

"We're definitely going to defend ourselves in this case," said Fritz.

In addition to the closed session, the board will also hear performance and safety reports, plus consider a uniform tardiness and unauthorized absence policy.

"We're basically trying to get the sick leave policy uniform throughout the hospital's departments," said George Parsley, CEO.

The board will also discuss the approval of a resolution related to funding the emergency room renovation, and an agreement increasing the emergency room physician's pay from $75 to $85 per hour on weekends.

Rivas asks for death

DALLAS (AP) — Convicted killer George Rivas asked for the death penalty today, telling jurors he didn't want to live like an animal in prison any longer.

"What you call the death penalty, I call freedom," Rivas said, looking at jurors during the penalty phase of his trial for the Dec. 24 slaying of Irving police Officer Aubrey Hawkins. "I can finally be free. I'm telling you right now I don't want another life sentence."

Rivas, who masterminded the escape of seven inmates from a South Texas prison in December, said Tuesday he never intended to kill Hawkins and took pains to limit bloodshed in the prison escape.

Rivas spoke haltingly and emotionally today about his wish to die. On Tuesday, he detailed a bleak childhood, recounted his criminal background, the prison escape and Hawkins' death in the penalty phase of the capital murder trial. His attorneys have been trying to get him a life sentence instead of lethal injection. Jurors are to consider mitigating evidence when determining Rivas' fate.

"You said in your confession you deserved to die," prosecutor Toby Shook said today. "Do you still stand by that?"

"Absolutely," Rivas said.

Rivas said he took full responsibility for the death and does not blame anything in his past for the action.

"To this very day, even now, I still feel responsible completely for his death," Rivas said.

Rivas said he didn't know Hawkins was married and said he was sorry for his wife. He said he had apologized to Hawkins' mother and family.

"I don't want more time," he said. "I don't want to just exist anymore like an animal in prison."

The case was expected to go to the jury today.

On Tuesday, Shook said Hawkins was ambushed by Rivas, who led a gang of violent escapees from a South Texas prison and on a spree of armed robberies. Rivas, 31, was the first of the escapees to go to trial.

"Aubrey Hawkins was shown no mercy this last Christmas Eve, was he?" Shook said to Rivas.

Rivas said he only wanted to disarm Hawkins by shooting him in the shoulders.

"You could have given up," Shook said.

"And go back to prison? No," Rivas responded.

Rivas said that, while he lied to juries that convicted him for two 1993 robberies in El Paso, he is being honest now.

"Were you trying to kill Aubrey Hawkins?" Shook asked.

"God, no. No," Rivas said.

"Someone was trying to kill Aubrey Hawkins, weren't they?" Shook asked.

Senate hopeful here Thursday

Kirk Wilson, a Republican candidate from Denton County for the vacant Texas Senate seat held by the late Tom Haywood, is scheduled to be in Snyder Thursday for a 10 a.m. meeting in the offices of the Development Corporation of Snyder.

Wilson, a former commissioner and county judge of Denton County, will earlier tour the downtown square with Bill Parker of West Texas State Bank, Joe Jackson of Snyder National Bank and attorney David Cotton.

Wilson will also attend a noon luncheon hosted by Donna Fowler of the Snyder Chamber of Commerce, and Price Daniel Unit Senior Warden Wilhelmenia Howard.

Following the luncheon, the candidate will tour Western Texas College with Dr. Greg Williams, president.

Wilson said this morning that he has been called for jury duty in his home county and in the event the trial is set, his wife, Andrea, and other staff members will be in Snyder.

SHS names editorial staff for student newspaper, annual

Editorial positions have been named for the *Tiger's Tale* newspaper and *Tiger's Lair* yearbook at Snyder High School for the 2001-2002 school year.

Serving as editor-in-chief of the student newspaper will be Haley Elkins; assistant editor is Joanna Burk, while Ryan McAnally will be the news editor as well as the business manager. The feature editor is Cody Beaver while Ashley Gunset is the sports editor.

Named editor-in-chief of the yearbook is Kasey Crill. Section editors are: Miranda Eckert, people; Stefani Beck, student life; Krisi Early, clubs-organizations; Melissa Maguire, sports; Katie Haggard, academics; and, Somer Powell, index-business manager.

Serving as photographers for both publications are Kendall Brewster, Maranda Pierce and Chad Martin.

Diane Arnold serves as advisor for both publications.

Effective Saturday...

Gas drive-offs will soon mean stiff penalties

From local, wire reports

Department of Public Safety Trooper Darryle Sparks soon may be one of the most recognized DPS officials in the state.

Starting Saturday, his face will show up on new gas pump decals that warn drivers they could lose their driver's licenses for filling up with gasoline and then driving away without paying.

"Theft is one of the most prevalent problems in the convenience store industry and thefts of fuel — commonly referred to as 'drive-offs' — are among the most costly thefts our industry endures," Lynton Allred, executive vice president of the Texas Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association, said Tuesday at a news conference.

In Snyder, gas drive-offs are reported regularly, more than 35 have been reported since July 1, according to dispatch blotter reports.

John Hardin, fuel manager at United Supermarket, said gas drive-offs are common, but he suspects most of them are accidental.

"I would say that 90 percent of our drive-offs are not intentional," he said. "People just get in a hurry and forget or sometimes they think they've used a credit card when it really didn't process, so they drive of not knowing they didn't pay."

United's policy is to pay close attention and to take down a license plate number and description of the car if possible. Fuel attendants then notify the Snyder Police Department as soon as possible.

"Our local police are fantastic," Hardin said. "If we give them a license number and a good description, they usually have the car back here in 10 minutes. And it's almost always someone who is real embarrassed and very apologetic that they forgot to pay. But then, there's always that other 10 percent who you can tell were trying to get away without paying."

Among the more than 900 bills that become law Saturday is one that aims to deter the crime by increasing penalties for offenders. Under the new law, a driver could lose his or her driver's license for six months on a second offense and for one year on subsequent offenses.

"Currently it is a misdemeanor to steal fuel and that doesn't seem to be much of a deterrent to people, but we have found recently that the threat of losing a driver's license is a strong motivating factor to people who are thinking about breaking the law," said Sen. Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo, who sponsored the bill.

A TPCA study in late 2000 found that drive-offs are now a $29 million annual problem. And, with higher gas prices, what was once a $10 to $15 theft is now a $25 to $50 theft, Allred said. In 2000, more than 520,000 instances of fuel theft occurred in convenience stores and service stations, Bivins added.

Hardin said drive-offs in Snyder pick up during cold winter months when people are anxious to get back in their warm cars.

"Most of the time, they just forget and drive off, not meaning to steal anything," he said. "Most of our drive-offs are in the $20 range."

It's not just money at stake, said Col. Thomas Davis Jr., director of DPS. When a person leaves a gas pump without paying, he or she usually leaves in a hurry and puts lives in danger, Davis said.

To warn drivers about the potential penalties, TPCA and DPS designed a decal, featuring a uniformed trooper, that retail gas sellers can post on their pumps. Allred said more than 30,000 orders have been placed for the decals.

Hardin said he would be glad to post the decals on United's pumps as soon as he can get some.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "The best thing about being imperfect is that it brings joy to others."

We're grateful to Snyder's Edna Mearse for a couple of items she brought us from the Haskell Free Press.

While entertaining, it might even help some would-be writers and grammar students. It was titled, "Rules for Better Writing."

—Verbs has to agree with their subjects.

—Prepositions are not words to end sentences with.

—And don't start a sentence with a conjunction.

—It is wrong to ever split an infinitive.

—Avoid cliches like the plague. They're old hat.

—Also, always avoid annoying alliteration.

—Be more or less specific.

—Parenthetical remarks (however relevant) are usually unnecessary.

—Also, never, ever use repetitive redundancies.

—No sentence fragments.

—Contractions aren't necessary and shouldn't be used.

—Foreign words and phrases are not apropos.

—Do not be redundant; do not use more words than necessary. It's highly superfluous.

—One should never generalize.

—Comparisons are as bad as cliches.

—Don't use no double negatives.

—Eschew ampersands and abbreviations, etc.

—One-word sentences? Eliminate.

—Analogies in writing are like feathers on a snake.

—The passive voice is to be ignored.

—Eliminate commas, that are, not necessary. Parenthetical words however, should be enclosed in commas.

—Never use a big word when a diminutive one would suffice.

—Kill all exclamation points!!!

—Use words correctly, irregardless of how others use them.

—Understatement is always the absolute best way to put forth earth-shaking ideas.

—Use the apostrophe in it's proper place and omit it when its not needed.

—If you've heard it once, you've heard it a thousand times. Resist hyperbole, not one writer in a million can use it correctly.

—Puns are for children, not groan readers.

—Go around the barn at high noon to avoid colloquialisms.

—Even if a mixed metaphor sings, it should be derailed.

—Who needs rhetorical questions?

—Exaggeration is a billion times worse than understatement.

If e-mail communication continues to grow, we're fearful that the English language will soon be foreign.

ASK US

Q—Did the Snyder Chamber of Commerce bid to get the AJRA Rodeo back in Snyder?

A—Yes, but it was awarded again to Sweetwater.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Tuesday, 83 degrees; low, 67; 7 a.m. Wednesday, 67; no precipitation; total for 2001, 11.44 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, partly cloudy, low upper 60s, SE wind 5-10 mph. Thursday, mostly cloudy, high around 90, wind 5-15 mph. Thursday night, mostly cloudy, low upper 60s.



Dylan Early
Cloudy

Sunset:
8:11 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:19 a.m.
Of 240 days in 2001, the sun has shone 228 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

The will is more important than the skill when it comes to scaling a wall.
—Robert Schuller

AUG 29 2001

Gateway to layoff one-quarter of workers

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Gateway Corp. has pulled the plug on operations in Asia and slashed a quarter of its worldwide work force as part of a new strategy that moves the computer retailer further from its roots as a maker of low-cost personal computers.

Gateway's chairman and chief executive, Ted Waitt, said Tuesday the layoffs of 4,700 employees were part of a restructuring that would take the company "beyond the box."

Sales of the "box," or the personal computer, fell worldwide for the first time this year since Waitt started making affordable computers in an Iowa farmhouse 16 years ago. Analysts say consumers don't see a reason to make the upgrades in the new millennium that kept shipments in double-digit growth year after year.

Gateway, the No. 4 computer maker, has been hit especially hard, due, in part, to its focus on the shrinking U.S. industry. The company lost more than $500 million the first six months of the year and has seen its stock price slump nearly 88 percent off its 52-week high. Shares closed Tuesday at $8.60.

Outlining his plan Tuesday for the "transformation of Gateway," Waitt said the company would move aggressively to tap high-margin, high-growth U.S. technology markets in five new areas: networking, software applications, training, financing and support services.

"We're going after a much bigger pie than we've talked about before," Waitt said.

Gateway lacks the distribution, brand awareness and local presence to do well overseas, Waitt said, adding, "We don't have to be a global business to succeed."

Analysts, however, were cool to Gateway's new plans.

"In a sense, they are changing the company charter," said Eric Rothdeutsch, a computer industry analyst for Robertson Stephens in San Francisco. "I think the jury is going to be out for quite a while until they start to show some results."

The company, with 19,000 employees worldwide, said it will immediately close all of its company-owned operations in Malaysia, Singapore, Japan, Australia and New Zealand. Plans are underway to exit key markets in Europe. About 2,500 jobs will be cut overseas.

The rest of the layoffs will target the company's 16,500 U.S. work force. Gateway is closing customer service and sales centers in Hampton, Va.; Vermillion, S.D.; Salt Lake City; and Lake Forest. An assembly plant in Salt Lake City also will be shuttered.

Gateway says the layoffs will save the company about $300 million a year, although the computer maker said it will take a one-time charge of $475 million because restructuring and layoffs. Waitt said Gateway expects to become profitable in the fourth quarter of 2001 and the company will have $1 billion in cash on hand by year's end.

The layoffs follow an earlier wave of 3,000 job cuts and a management shake-up which saw Waitt return from semiretirement. In his absence, Gateway's costs ballooned after it opened 100 new Gateway Country stores, expanded internationally and burned through cash.

Waitt imposed a series of cost-cutting measures. The company closed 27, or about 10 percent, of its retail outlets with their trademark cow hide spots. To save $140 million over 10 years — and return to a more folksy environment — the company will soon leave San Diego for an 80,000-square foot warehouse in Poway, a suburb 15 miles away.

"We're planning to win by building a lean, nimble organization that is unified and focused on our customer base unlike any other time in our history," Waitt said.

On the Net:
http://www.gateway.com

Gas price spike feared as supplies shrink

NEW YORK (AP) — On the eve of the Labor Day weekend, U.S. gasoline supplies are shrinking, a possible harbinger of higher prices at the pump in the coming months.

Nationwide, gas prices are up less than a penny from a year ago. But industry data released late Tuesday showed U.S. inventories of gasoline dwindling significantly ahead of the Labor Day holiday.

The American Petroleum Institute reported that U.S. gasoline supplies shrank by 6.7 million barrels in the past week to 196.2 million barrels, or 3 million barrels below levels a year ago.

"If you're a refiner, it's a glorious end to the driving season," said Tom Kloza, director of Oil Pricing Information Service, a Lakewood, N.J., publisher of oil industry data. "If you're a consumer, you're probably annoyed."

Also on Tuesday, the Environmental Protection Agency temporarily relaxed air-quality standards on gasoline produced and sold by Citgo Petroleum Corp. in the Midwest in an attempt to alleviate a recent price spike in the region.

Citgo will be allowed to sell retailers in Chicago and Milwaukee a blend of gasoline that meets the less stringent requirements for the remainder of the summer driving season.

In exchange, the EPA said Citgo will have to pay the Treasury Department about 14 cents for every gallon it sells of the lower grade gasoline, which is cheaper to manufacture.

The move is intended to help Citgo make up for a production shortfall that began Aug. 14, when a fire forced the Tulsa, Okla.-based company to close its 160,000 barrel-a-day refinery in Lemont, Ill.

Gas prices have risen nearly 10 cents nationwide since the Lemont refinery fire. And its impact was magnified in the Midwest, where markets have been tight since January, when Premcor Inc. shut down its 80,000 barrel-a-day Blue Island, Ill., refinery to make improvements.

Drivers in Chicago and Milwaukee are paying, on average, 22 cents more for a gallon of gasoline than they did the same time a year ago, according to the Energy Information Administration, the statistical arm of the Energy Department. A gallon of gas in the Midwest is averaging $1.66, compared with a U.S. average of $1.49.

Citgo will be allowed to sell gasoline with a less stringent vapor pressure standard, which is intended to reduce the release of volatile organic compounds into the air. The compounds contribute to the formation of smog.

The EPA action "demonstrates what can quickly be accomplished when governmental agencies and the private sector work in close cooperation," said W.A. DeVore, senior vice president of supply and marketing at Citgo.

Citgo, which is owned by PDV America Inc., a subsidiary of Venezuela's state-owned Petroleos de Venezuela SA, can sell the lower grade product at its own branded stations and to other independent retailers.

"The intent of this is to level the playing field economically for Citgo," said Bruce Buckheit, the EPA's director of air enforcement division. "We're not allowing other refiners to do the same thing."

Buckheit said the impact to the environment would be minimal.

On the Net:
http://www.epa.gov/otaq/rfg
http://www.citgo.com

events

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Texas Two Step

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Texas Two Step numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery:
9-26-28-32
Bonus number 3
Estimated jackpot: $200,000

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery:
1-15-16-19-33

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery, in order:
9-0-1

New Boy Scout troop organized

Troop 2, a new Boy Scout troop chartered by the First Baptist Church, will have its initial meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday at the church bus barn located across from the church on 27th Street.

Membership is open to boys in the 6th to 12th grades, ages 11-18. Each boy must be accompanied by a parent. Adults who would like to get involved are also encouraged to attend the meeting.

For more information call James Garvin at 915-965-3415 or Rhonda Fletcher at 573-7065.

Berry's World



Date Book

Wednesday, Aug. 29, 2001

Today is the 241st day of 2001 and the 70th day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1758, the legislature of New Jersey appropriated 1,600 acres of land in Burlington County for an Indian reservation.

On this day in 1915, Navy salvage divers raised the first U.S. submarine sunk in accident. The underwater craft was called the F-4.

On this day in 1958, George Harrison joined the Quarrymen, a musical group that included John Lennon and Paul McCartney.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: John Locke (1632-1704), philosopher; Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894), poet-essayist; Ingrid Bergman (1915-1982), actress; Charlie Parker (1920-1955), musician; Richard Attenborough (1923-), actor-producer-director, is 78; Dinah Washington (1924-1963), singer; Elliott Gould (1938-), actor, is 63; Michael Jackson (1958-), singer, is 43.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1977, St. Louis Cardinal Lou Brock broke Ty Cobb's stolen-base record when he brought his career total to 893 during a game against the San Diego Padres.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "The actions of men are the best interpreters of their thoughts." — John Locke

TODAY'S MOON: Between first quarter (Aug. 25) and full moon (Sept. 2).

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Gas range. #75751. Reg. 599.99, sale 549.99

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closeout 999.88.
KENMORE Refrigerator, Save $150
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While quantities last

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BIG SPRING:1801 East FM 700-C6, Big Spring,TX., Phone: 915-267-1127, Owner: Jody & Terri Swinney, Mon. - Sat. 10-7, Sun. 1-6

Amana MAYTAG Kenmore Whirlpool RCA PHILIPS MAGNAVOX GE

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Local/New



GRADUATES — graduated Thur Methodist Chu Smith of Colora Carrmon White Tracy Sanders Smith of Colora of Coahoma; top



PINNED — Pi have completed dents pinned at Alexander of S Ragland of Hobb Fox of Colorado

Ten g WTC

Ten Western nursing studen Thursday even monies at Tr Methodist Churc 12-month cycle. are now eligible board examinatio licensed vocation

Five are from include Lisa Alon lano, Tracy Sa Garvin and Paul

Three from include Jennifer rmon Whitesides Smith. Others ar Rotan and Rose T homa.

Pinning ceremo five students who ed the first six n

Hotels hel shortage

HOUSTON (demand for univ has left some are short supply of d

Colleges are re and dorm lounge ly house their stu

Both Texas So sity and Prairie V versity will place students in hotel

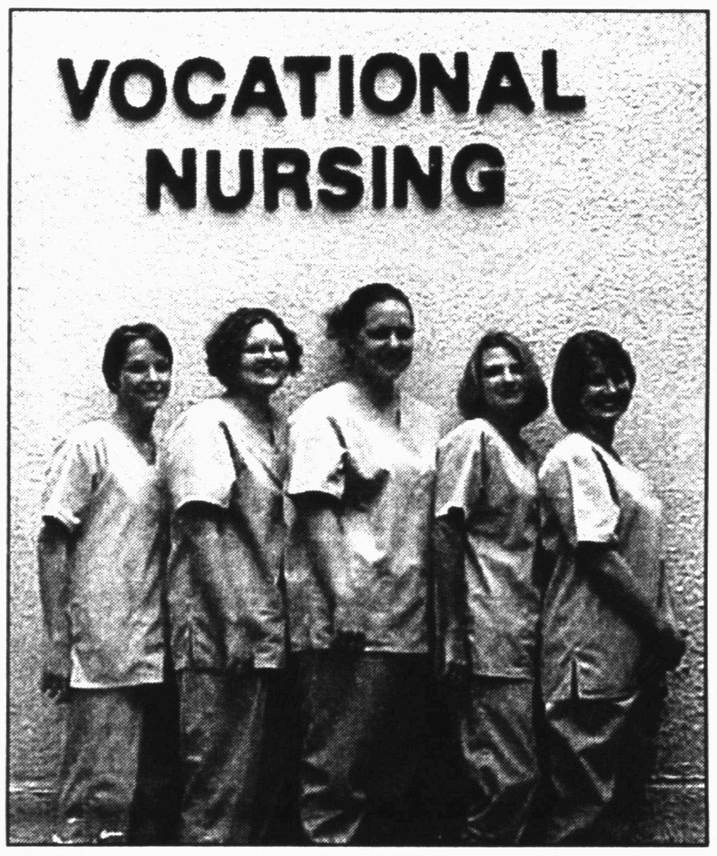
About 120 Univ ton students a lounges at the M dormitory until become availabl drop out, said E vice president affairs.

All three campu ly built new dorm campus apartmen all full.

Texas Souther Days Inn have neighbors at Ra Astrodome and Center next door



GRADUATES — Ten Western Texas College nursing students graduated Thursday evening in ceremonies at Trinity United Methodist Church. Pictured front row from left are Jennifer Smith of Colorado City and Lisa Alonzo of Snyder; middle row, Carrmon Whitesides of Colorado City, Erica Arellano of Snyder, Tracy Sanders of Snyder, Erica Garvin of Snyder, Lavinda Smith of Colorado City, April Roby of Rotan and Rose Thomas of Coahoma; top row is Paul Camp of Snyder. (WTC Photo)



PINNED — Pinning ceremonies honored five students who have completed the first six months of their LVN studies. Students pinned at the ceremony include, front row from left, Kelly Alexander of Snyder, Jessica Grant of Snyder, Courtney Ragland of Hobbs, N.M,, Gail Newsom of Dickens, and Sherri Fox of Colorado City. (WTC Photo)

Ten graduate from WTC nursing class

Ten Western Texas College nursing students graduated Thursday evening in ceremonies at Trinity United Methodist Church, completing a 12-month cycle. The students are now eligible to take state board examinations to become licensed vocational nurses.

Five are from Snyder and include Lisa Alonzo, Erica Arellano, Tracy Sanders, Erica Garvin and Paul Camp.

Three from Colorado City include Jennifer Smith, Carrmon Whitesides, and Lavinda Smith. Others are April Roby of Rotan and Rose Thomas of Coahoma.

Pinning ceremonies honored five students who have completed the first six months of their studies. Students pinned at the ceremony include two from Snyder, Kelly Alexander and Jessica Grant. Others are Courtney Ragland of Hobbs, N.M., Gail Newsom of Dickens and Sherri Fox of Colorado City.

The program began with a processional. John Gibson, dean of vocational instruction at WTC, offered the invocation and Bettie McQueen, WTC vice president, welcomed the graduates and guests. Following a song performed by Cindy Nix, Mrs. McQueen introduced the speaker for the ceremony, Rose Thomas, who represented the senior class.

The presentation of certificates and pins was conducted by nursing instructors Diane Beard and Carol Watkins, assisted by vocational secretary, Donna Robinson. The benediction was offered by Gibson and was followed by a recessional.

Hotels help ease shortage of dorms

HOUSTON (AP) — High demand for university housing has left some area campuses in short supply of dormitories.

Colleges are relying on hotels and dorm lounges to temporarily house their students.

Both Texas Southern University and Prairie View A&M University will place hundreds of students in hotel rooms this fall.

About 120 University of Houston students are living in lounges at the Moody Towers dormitory until rooms will become available as students drop out, said Elwyn Lee, UH vice president for student affairs.

All three campus have recently built new dormitories or off-campus apartments, but they're all full.

Texas Southern students at a Days Inn have unexpected neighbors at Radisson Hotel Astrodome and Convention Center next door.

Fans, colleagues mourn Aaliyah's death

WEST HOLLYWOOD, Calif. (AP) — A record store billboard has become an impromptu memorial for singer-actress Aaliyah, with one of the hundreds of handwritten messages imploring: "Keep on singing up in heaven."

"It felt very sad," said Celina Torres, 11, as fans scrawled their feelings on a 10-foot-high sign promoting Aaliyah's latest album. "We watched her videos on MTV and my dad brought us to get her CDs."

Colleagues at the Soul Train Lady of Soul Awards on Tuesday night also mourned the 22-year-old star who died with eight others when her plane crashed after takeoff Saturday in the Bahamas.

"What brings peace to my heart is that she was able to do what she loved to do," singer-actor Tyrese said. Aaliyah was among those nominated for an award, but did not win.

The performer's body was flown Tuesday to New York; the bodies of the pilot, Luis Antonio Morales Blanes, 30, and the other victims were to be returned to the United States on today.

Meanwhile, U.S. and Bahamian aviation officials searched for clues, saying they would investigate whether excess weight from baggage — among other possible causes — contributed to the crash.

The Miami Herald reported today that the pilot of the Cessna did not have Federal Aviation Administration authorization to fly that specific plane for its owners, Blackhawk International Airways.

According to FAA records, Blackhawk is cleared to fly charters under what is known as a single-pilot certificate, "meaning only one pilot was authorized to fly the plane that crashed," said Kathleen Bergen, the FAA's Atlanta spokeswoman. That pilot wasn't Morales, Bergen told the Herald.

Blackhawk has been cited by the FAA nine times in four years for safety violations, the Daily News of New York reported in today's editions.

The company was fined in March 1998 for violating safety rules and was warned in June 1999 that it was not following drug testing guidelines, the paper said.

On the Net:
http://www.aaliyah2001.com
http://www.soultrain.com/losa/los.html

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



	North	08-29-01
	♠ 9 8 7	
	♥ A Q 9 6 4 3	
	♦ Q J	
	♣ 9 2	
West		**East**
♠ 3		♠ 6
♥ 10 5		♥ K J 8
♦ A K 9 6 3		♦ 10 8 7 5 4 2
♣ A Q 6 4 3		♣ 10 7 5
	South	
	♠ A K Q J 10 5 4 2	
	♥ 7 2	
	♦ —	
	♣ K J 8	

Dealer: North
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
		2 ♥	Pass
4 ♠		4 NT	Pass
5 ♠		Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♦ A

North opened with a weak two-bid, showing a decent six-card suit and some (5) 6-9 (10) high-card points. West's four-no-trump overcall announced at least 5-5 in the minors. The adverse vulnerability dissuaded East-West from sacrificing in six diamonds, which should cost 500.

Declarer ruffed the opening lead, drew trumps, and finessed dummy's heart queen. However, it lost to the king and a club came through: one down.

South overlooked dummy's superb spade spots. And at trick one, he failed to consider all the possibilities. South should have discarded a heart, not ruffed at all. Say West continues with the diamond king. South ruffs high, plays a heart to the ace, ruffs a heart high, returns to dummy with a trump, and ruffs another heart high. Now a second low trump over to dummy's eight gives access to the queen-nine-six of hearts, on which all of South's club losers disappear: one over, not one under.

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Wednesday, Aug. 29, 2001

Don't waste wonderful spots

By Phillip Alder

A defender makes the opening lead. After trick one is completed, you ask his partner what the lead had been. A hopeless player will say a club when it was a diamond. Nearly as bad is someone who claims a heart when it was a diamond. Better is the person who replies a diamond. Which one? I forget. However, someone with potential tells you exactly which card it was.

The same thing applies later in the play. Many do not pay proper attention to the actual spot-cards at their disposal. For example, in this deal, how would you try to land five spades after West leads the diamond ace?

Actress arrested

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Actress Natasha Lyonne was arrested for allegedly driving drunk after she crashed a rental car while rounding a curve, police said.

Lyonne, 22, was charged Tuesday with careless driving, leaving the scene of an accident and driving under the influence. She was released from the Miami-Dade County jail on $2,000 bond.

Lyonne lost control of the rental car she was driving, jumped a curb and drove into a road sign Tuesday morning, police said. She then tried to keep driving, Miami Beach Police spokesman Al Boza said.

She was stopped by an officer who witnessed the accident and taken to jail, where she spent about eight hours, police said.

Condit's children resign after Gov. Davis criticizes their dad

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — One day after Gov. Gray Davis publicly criticized Rep. Gary Condit, the children of the California congressman resigned from the governor's office.

Chad, 33, and Cadee Condit, 26, submitted a sharply worded joint resignation letter Tuesday saying the Condits "are a proud and loyal family, not only in the good times but also during the darkest hours ... Continued employment with the governor's office would undercut that standard."

Chad Condit worked as a Central Valley liaison for Davis and his sister was Davis' special assistant. Davis and the Democratic congressman from California have been longtime friends and political allies.

"I regret their decision to leave ... I wish them all the best in their future endeavors," Davis said in a statement.

Davis spoke publicly about the case for the first time Monday, saying he was "disheartened that Congressman Condit did not speak out more quickly or more fully" about the disappearance of former intern Chandra Levy.

Davis said he did not see Condit's interview last week with ABC's Connie Chung, but had read a transcript and media reports about it.

The congressman's son criticized Davis on Monday night during an appearance on CNN's "Larry King Live."

"There is no honor in kicking somebody when they are down," Condit's son said.

In their resignation letter, the children wrote that Davis' statement "will not help find Chandra Levy," and accused him of speaking about the case for political gain.

"Friendship should not be based on poll numbers," the letter said.

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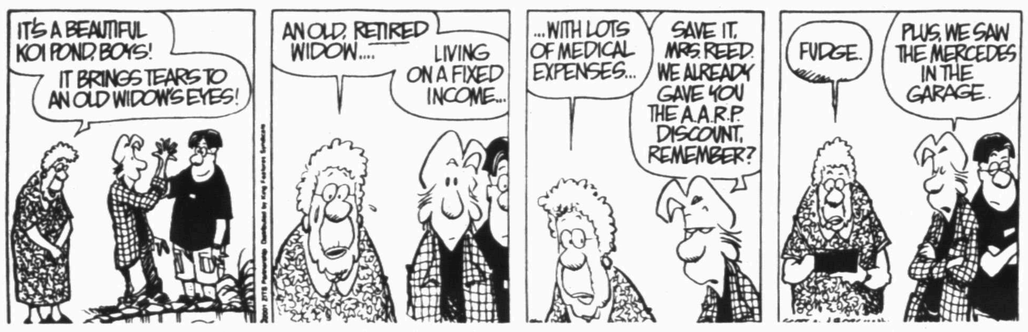
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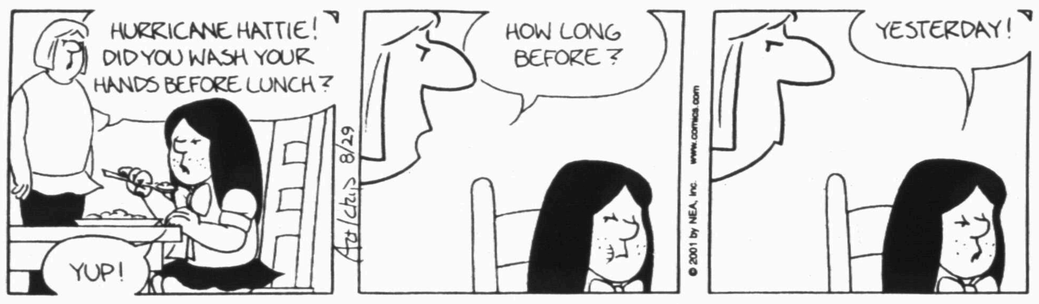
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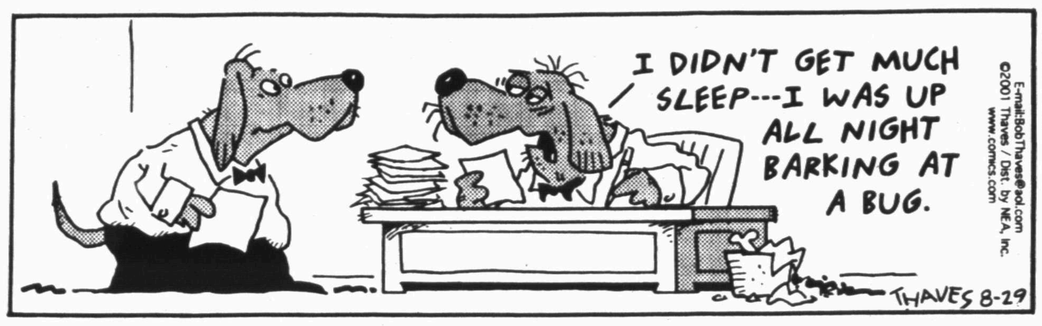
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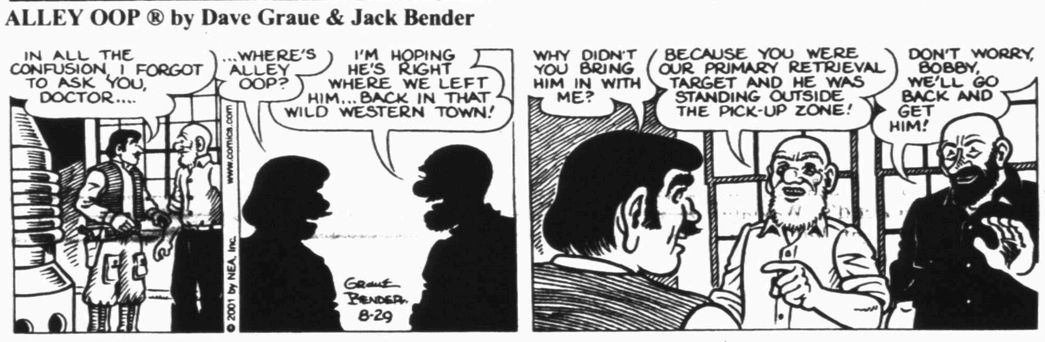
BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce



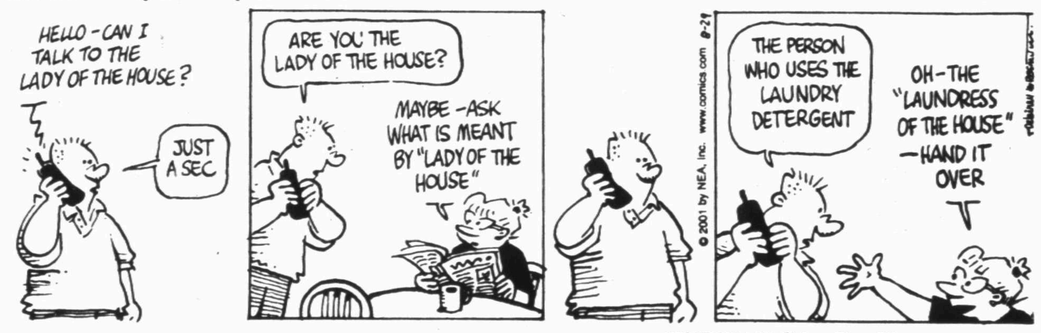
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HERMAN ® by Jim Unger



"You see, son, the grass isn't always greener on the other side of the fence."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Pakistan's Benazir —
7 Wall material
12 Short jacket
13 Of the north wind
14 Stopped
15 Vigor
16 Actor Mineo
17 Merry
18 Scot's cap
21 Evil spirit
23 Mai — (drink)
26 Ardor
28 Unison
29 Hockey great Bobby —
30 Part of the eye
31 Adolescent
33 Sir Walter —
36 "No man — — island"
37 Sault — Marie
38 Lotion ingredient
40 Husband of Gudrun
41 Turner or Kennedy
42 Social rank
44 Pouchlike part
45 Computer abbr.
46 Ms. Sumac
48 Fundamentals
51 Depressed
55 Folly
56 Gifted speaker
57 Medicinal plant
58 Synthetic materials

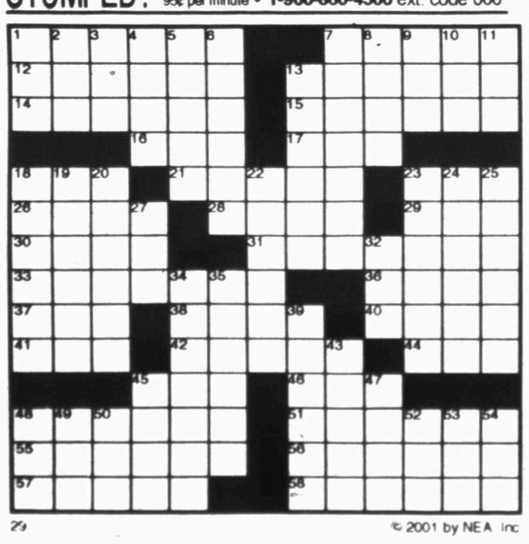
DOWN

1 UK broadcasters
2 Do farm work
3 Gums
4 Dick Tracy's wife
5 Walk on
6 Lots and lots
7 Sound
8 Low card
9 Above (poet.)
10 Be a shrew
11 Actor Ron —
13 "Scat!"
18 Desire for water
19 Expose to air
20 Posted
22 Collection of beliefs
23 Breakfast breads
24 Type of stork
25 Peaceful
27 Mao — -tung
32 TV's Peeples
34 Auto executive Lee —
35 Smooth
39 Earlier form of a word
43 Georgia university
45 Singer Celine —
47 Sea in Asia
48 Twice
49 Cooling beverage
50 Go wrong
52 Ear (comb. form)
53 Male child
54 Ums' kin

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



"I GUESS I SHOULDA BROUGHT A LONGER LINE."

SPORTS

Stumped again...

Lady Tigers succumb to Seminole, Midland

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

Snyder entered Tuesday's volleyball matches with hopes of turning things around before district play begins. Instead, the Lady Tigers were once again left wondering what happened.

"I don't ever remember being in this situation before where we play really well at the beginning of matches, then don't finish it out," said Snyder head coach Patty Grimmett. "At least I don't remember it happening this many times.

"It's frustrating because we play so well to gain the lead, then it's almost like we start playing not to lose."

Such was the case again Tuesday night.

In the opening match, Snyder rolled over Seminole in Game 1, before dropping the next two frames to fall, 15-8, 7-15, 12-15.

The Lady Tigers got back on track to start their match against Midland High. With a 14-8 lead, in need of only one point to claim the first game, Snyder's attacking offense turned cautious. It was the chance Midland was waiting on.

The Lady Bulldogs' powerful hitters quickly gained the upper hand as Midland reeled off eight unanswered points to take the game, 16-14. Midland used the momentum to close out the match in Game 2, 15-7.

The setbacks drop the Lady Tigers to 4-9 on the season, with only this weekend's Wayland Baptist tournament left before District 4-4A action gets underway Tuesday.

"We have a mental block that we have to get over. This group is so inexperienced that once they put themselves in a position to win, they don't want to mess it up so they back off," Grimmett stated.

"We have to get in our heads that we can finish a match. If we make one mistake, then we can overcome it. What we can't overcome is playing defensively and letting the other team just hammer away at us."

The tendency to turn cautious at crucial moments seems to be the only thing holding the Lady Tigers back.

Statistically, Snyder turned in two more strong performances Tuesday. The Lady Tigers landed 92 percent of their serves on the night and posted a hitting percentage of .402.

"We put up good stats, and we're able to control the match for a while," Grimmett remarked. "So we know we have the physical ability to win, but it's the mental errors that are hurting us.

"At least we know that if we can cut down on the mental errors at key points in the game, then we have a good chance of coming out on top."

Senior Amber Alexander and junior Zipporah Peoples paced the Lady Tigers at the net, combing for 23 kills. Peoples also added eight blocks.

Shelly Fisk was Snyder's leading server with 14 points.

Snyder is in action again at 8 a.m. Friday against Lubbock High at the Coca-Cola Classic hosted by Wayland Baptist University in Plainview.

The Lady Tigers close out Friday's pool play against Dalhart and Borger. The tournament continues with bracket play on Saturday.

Snyder opens District 4-4A competition Tuesday at San Angelo Lake View.

Seminole def. Snyder
8-15, 15-7, 15-12

Seminole service points: Jackie Adams, 9; Danlee McLain, 8; Sarah Hill, 7; Katie Hughes, 6; Chrystal Adams and Rebecca Villava, 4. **Kills:** B.J. Williams, 8; Hughes, 7; Hill, 6; Kimbre Johnson, 4; Sara Chiles, Ashley Jarridge and Villava, 1. **Blocks:** Johnson, 7; Williams, Villava and Hill, 1.

Snyder service points: Kate Wright, 9; Kallie Billingsley and Shelly Fisk, 8; Chaelyn Robinson, 5; Amber Alexander and Laura Billingsley, 2. **Kills:** Zipporah Peoples, 7; Cindy Sanchez and Alexander, 6; K. Billingsley, 4; Ashley Tuttle, 3; Robinson, 2. **Blocks:** Peoples, 4; Tuttle, 2; Sanchez, Alexander and Robinson, 1.

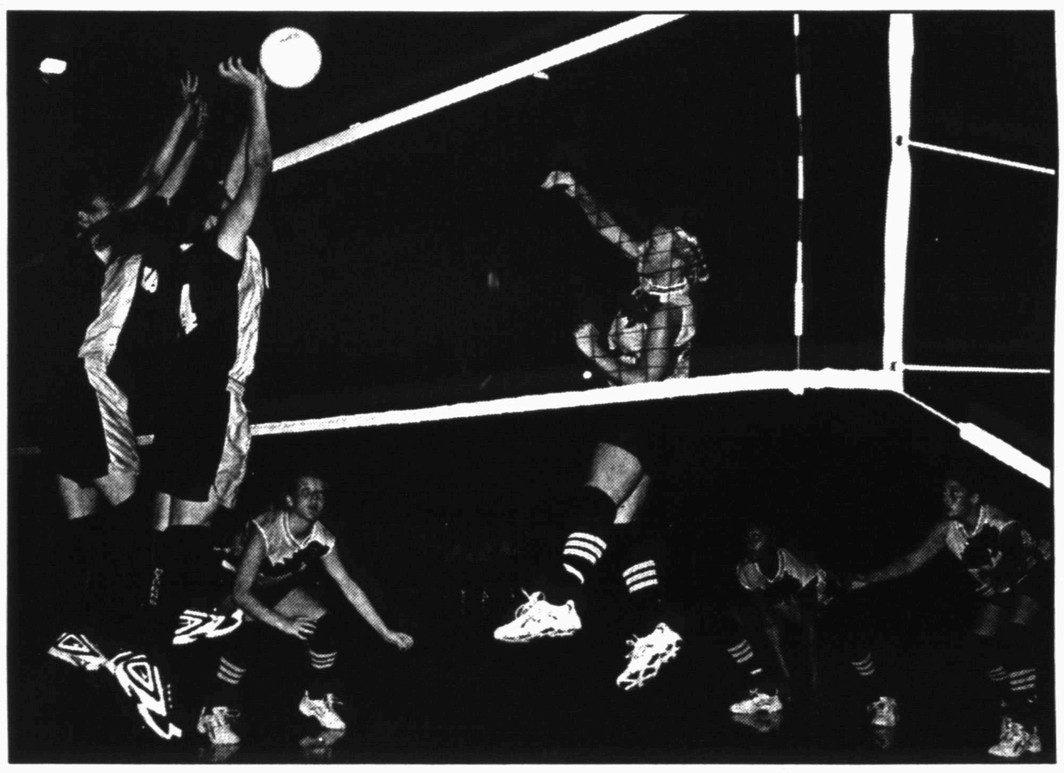
Midland def. Snyder
16-14, 15-7

Midland service points: Sheramie Ward, 11; Aubrey Pavlis, 7; Erin Wellen, Leah Robinson and Jessi Hollums, 4; Ashley Burns, 1. **Kills:** Burns, 10; Pavlis, 9; Katie Decker, 7; Hollums, 6; Ward and Robinson, 1. **Blocks:** Burns, 7; Decker, 3; Pavlis, 1.

Snyder service points: Fisk, 6; Wright and Robinson, 4; Alexander, 3; Leticia Martinez, 2; Tuttle and L. Billingsley, 1. **Kills:** Alexander and Peoples, 5; Robinson, 4; K. Billingsley, 3; Sanchez, 1. **Blocks:** Peoples, 4; Tuttle and Robinson, 1.



GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS — Snyder's Ashley Tuttle crouches to keep the ball alive, while teammate Kate Wright looks on during non-district volleyball action Tuesday at the SHS gym. (SDN Staff Photo)



RISING TO THE OCCASION — Snyder's Chaelyn Robinson tries to avoid a block put up by a pair of Seminole players Tuesday during varsity volleyball action at the SHS gym. Moving in to assist Robinson are, from left, Laura Billingsley, Zipporah Peoples and Kate Wright. (SDN Staff Photo)

A-Rod ties mark; Rangers win

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Texas Rangers shortstop Alex Rodriguez matched one record by Ernie Banks. He hopes, he won't repeat Banks' other famous mark.

Banks, the former Chicago Cubs shortstop who never appeared in a World Series game, had four consecutive 40-homer seasons.

On Tuesday, Rodriguez became just the second shortstop in major league history to accomplish the feat, hitting his 40th home run in the first inning of a 10-1 victory over the Minnesota Twins.

The home run, Rodriguez's 11th in 26 August games, and one of four by Texas on the night, let him reach the milestone.

Rodriguez, 26, and Banks (1957-60) are the only shortstops with four straight 40-homer seasons. Rodriguez was the ninth player overall to do it, joining Banks, Babe Ruth, Harmon Killebrew, Ken Griffey, Jr., Mark McGwire, Sammy Sosa, Ralph Kiner and Duke Snider.

"Being an historian of the game and a fan of the game, it's overwhelming and flattering when you talk about names like that," Rodriguez said. "But obviously, being so young I'd never mention my name with any of those guys."

But Texas manager Jerry Narron isn't afraid to boast about Rodriguez.

"He's arguably the best shortstop of all time," Narron said. "He's hard to believe. He's as intelligent of a player as I've ever been around. He has a true love and passion for this game. You have to see him every day to fully appreciate how good he is."

Despite the Rangers' (59-73) struggles, Rodriguez has put up big numbers. He leads the team with 40 homers, 114 RBI, 113 runs, 162 hits, 31 doubles and .612 slugging percentage. He's second on the team with a .322 average.

"He's played every game and he wants to play every game," Narron said. "And there have been games when he's been sick. He's been an outstanding leader and he's done a great job, especially with the young guys who've come up this year."

Even though Texas was eliminated from the AL West race last Thursday, Narron said players like Rodriguez have the heart and pride to keep playing hard.

"I wish you could have seen the play he made the other night at 1:10 in the morning when he went into the hole to get the ball. It was as good of a play as you'll see a shortstop make."

Rafael Palmeiro, Randy Velarde and Frank Catalanotto also connected for the Rangers, who lead the majors in home runs with 199.

Bagwell homer fuels Astros' 6-4 victory

HOUSTON (AP) — As soon as the ball left his hand, Jim Brower had a bad feeling about his seventh-inning pitch to Jeff Bagwell.

"It had trouble written all over it," Brower said after Bagwell's 33rd homer broke a tie and powered the Houston Astros to a 6-4 victory over the Cincinnati Reds on Tuesday night.

"It was a changeup that I left up, and it seemed like it took an eternity to get there. I was just hoping that it hit a speaker or something and would just be a ground-rule double," Brower said. "I finally looked at it just to see where it ended up."

Bagwell's solo homer off Brower (6-9) snapped a 4-4 tie. The Astros added an insurance run in the inning when Lance Berkman walked, Moises Alou singled him to third and Richard Hidalgo hit an RBI groundout.

"It was a changeup that I kind of anticipated a little bit. Sometimes you look for a pitch like that and you don't hit it, but sometimes you do," Bagwell said.

Wade Miller (14-7) pitched seven innings and allowed four runs on eight hits, including two solo homers by Dmitri Young. Miller struck out six and walked one as the first-place Astros won for the ninth time in 11 games and moved four games ahead of the Chicago Cubs in the NL Central.

Todd Walker of the Reds was impressed with Miller's performance.

"He is one of the toughest right-handers in the league. I thought he was outstanding. His sinker is one of the best in the league," Walker said.

Major League Baseball

National League
All Times EDT

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	71	60	.542	—
Philadelphia	71	60	.542	—
Florida	62	69	.473	9
New York	61	71	.462	10½
Montreal	56	75	.428	15

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	76	55	.580	—
Chicago	72	59	.550	4
St. Louis	70	61	.534	6
Milwaukee	58	73	.443	18
Cincinnati	53	78	.405	23
Pittsburgh	49	82	.374	27

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	76	55	.580	—
San Francisco	73	59	.553	3½
Los Angeles	72	60	.545	4½
San Diego	66	65	.504	10
Colorado	57	73	.438	18½

Tuesday's Games

Philadelphia 9, N.Y. Mets 6, 11 innings
Montreal 7, Atlanta 0
Florida 4, Chicago Cubs 3, 14 innings
Houston 6, Cincinnati 4
Pittsburgh 6, Milwaukee 5
San Diego 5, St. Louis 2
Arizona 4, San Francisco 1
Colorado 4, Los Angeles 3

Wednesday's Games

Montreal (Armas Jr. 9-11) at Atlanta (Glavine 11-7), 7:05 p.m.
Philadelphia (Daal 12-4) at N.Y. Mets (Chen 6-6), 7:10 p.m.
Florida (Clement 8-8) at Chicago Cubs (Bere 8-8), 8:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Dessens 9-10) at Houston (C.Hernandez 0-1), 8:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (J.Anderson 6-15) at Milwaukee (Levrault 5-8), 8:05 p.m.
San Diego (Jones 8-15) at St. Louis (Smith 3-2), 8:10 p.m.
San Francisco (Rueter 12-9) at Arizona (Witt 1-1), 10:05 p.m.
Colorado (Jennings 1-0) at Los Angeles (Baldwin 2-1), 10:10 p.m.

Thursday's Games

San Diego (Herndon 1-2) at St. Louis (Morris 17-7), 1:40 p.m.
Florida (Sanchez 2-4) at Chicago Cubs (Lieber 17-5), 2:20 p.m.
Cincinnati (Reyes 1-4) at Houston (Oswalt 11-2), 4:05 p.m.
Philadelphia (Coggin 4-3) at N.Y. Mets (Trachsel 7-11), 7:10 p.m.
Montreal (Ohka 0-2) at Atlanta (Marquis 3-5), 7:35 p.m.
San Francisco (Schmidt 9-7) at Arizona (Batista 9-7), 10:05 p.m.
Colorado (Neagle 8-6) at Los Angeles (Park 12-9), 10:10 p.m.

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	77	55	.583	—
Boston	71	59	.546	5
Toronto	64	68	.485	13
Baltimore	54	77	.412	22½
Tampa Bay	48	84	.364	29

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	74	57	.565	—
Minnesota	69	63	.523	5½
Chicago	66	64	.508	7½
Detroit	53	77	.408	20½
Kansas City	52	80	.394	22½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	94	38	.712	—
Oakland	76	56	.576	18
Anaheim	69	63	.523	25
Texas	59	73	.447	35

Tuesday's Games

Cleveland 8, Boston 3
Oakland 6, Baltimore 2
N.Y. Yankees 4, Toronto 0
Chicago White Sox 8, Detroit 6
Tampa Bay 6, Seattle 0
Texas 10, Minnesota 1
Kansas City 10, Anaheim 4

Wednesday's Games

Oakland (Hudson 14-7) at Baltimore (Towers 8-7), 7:05 p.m.
Boston (Fossum 1-0) at Cleveland (Sabathia 13-4), 7:05 p.m.
Toronto (Halladay 2-1) at N.Y. Yankees (Hitchcock 3-2), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Glover 3-1) at Detroit (Redman 2-5), 7:05 p.m.
Seattle (Moyer 15-5) at Tampa Bay (Sturtze 8-10), 7:15 p.m.
Texas (Bell 4-3) at Minnesota (Milton 12-5), 8:05 p.m.
Anaheim (Rapp 5-10) at Kansas City (Suppan 7-11), 8:05 p.m.

Thursday's Games

Seattle (Garcia 14-5) at Tampa Bay (Rupe 5-10), 12:15 p.m.
Toronto (Carpenter 8-11) at N.Y. Yankees (Pettitte 14-8), 1:05 p.m.
Boston (Nomo 11-5) at Cleveland (Colon 10-10), 7:05 p.m.
Oakland (Zito 10-8) at Baltimore (Johnson 10-9), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Buehrle 12-6) at Detroit (Cornejo 2-1), 7:05 p.m.
Texas (Myette 2-2) at Minnesota (Mays 13-12), 8:05 p.m.
Anaheim (Washburn 11-6) at Kansas City (Durbin 7-13), 8:05 p.m.

Sports Briefs

Labor Day Scramble

Snyder Country Club will host a four-person Labor Day Scramble at 10 a.m. Monday. Entry fee is $20. To register, call the SCC pro shop at 573-7101.

Bowling meeting

The Men's Commercial League will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday at Snyder Lanes to prepare for the upcoming season. League bowling begins Sept. 6.

Sammy Baugh tournament

The 10th annual "Slingin" Sammy Baugh Snyder Golf Tournament will be held Sept. 8 at Western Texas College. Proceeds benefit Snyder ISD golf programs.

Format is four-person scramble and cost is $140 per team. Shotgun starts are scheduled for 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Cash prizes will be awarded with $600 going to the winning team.

Entry deadline is Sept. 7. Registration forms can be picked up at the WTC pro shop.

Flag football

Any teams interested in playing in the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation flag football league should contact Earl Ware at 573-0800.

Western Texas MGA

The Men's Golf Association of Western Texas College holds a weekly event at 6 p.m. each Tuesday. Players need to register in the pro shop by 5:30.

Tuesday scramble and all-day MGA

The Men's Golf Association of Snyder Country Club holds its weekly scramble at 5:30 p.m. each Tuesday.

Also, an all-day MGA event is held each Thursday.

WGA play day

Due to the Labor Day holiday, the Women's Golf Association of Snyder Country Club will hold its weekly play day at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday. Format will be most and least strokes to the green on the back nine. The club will be closed on Tuesday.

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More stringent physical examinations recommended for bus, truck drivers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bus and truck drivers should be required to undergo more stringent physical examinations, federal officials said Tuesday, linking recent crashes to drivers with heart problems, kidney disease and poorly controlled diabetes.

In its final report on the Mother's Day 1999 bus crash that killed 22 people in New Orleans, the National Transportation Safety Board said the federal government should make sure that doctors who perform the examinations know the demands of driving a truck or bus, learn how health problems can affect drivers' performances and be able to find out if an applicant failed an earlier exam. The exams are given once every two years.

In addition, the board said, doctors and others who have concerns about a driver's health should be able to tell state and federal transportation officials without the risk of being sued.

Despite being hospitalized 10 times in the 20 months prior to the accident for heart and kidney disease, the driver in the New Orleans crash was repeatedly cleared to renew his commercial license and doctors never reported his health problems to state or federal officials. Three months after the crash, the driver, Frank Bedell, died of a heart attack.

Bedell also had been fired from two previous jobs after failing drug tests, but his last employer had no way to find that information out. After the crash, Bedell tested positive for marijuana.

The NTSB blamed the crash on the driver's poor health and the failure of the doctors to try to take him off the road.

The board also recommended setting up a system to allow a prospective employer to find out whether an applicant has failed a drug test, and renewed its suggestions for bus-design standards that would protect occupants more effectively in crashes.

The New Orleans crash was one of several accidents in the past two years involving bus or truck drivers with medical problems. In May, a driver returning from a Mississippi casino drove his bus off an Interstate 10 ramp, injuring 27 people. The driver, who had diabetes, was in hypoglycemic shock when taken to a hospital.

"Medical personnel need to report unfit drivers to the proper authorities," acting NTSB chairwoman Carol Carmody said. "It's a systemic problem. No evaluation was passed through to anyone who could do something about it."

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, which oversees the bus and truck industry, plans to review the NTSB recommendations, spokesman Dave Longo said.

And Michele Janis, a vice president with the American Bus Association, an industry group, endorsed the recommendations.

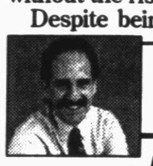
"This is about highway safety," Janis said. "It's making sure that anyone unfit to be behind the wheel of a commercial vehicle is kept out of that seat."

Other recent bus crashes have NTSB officials looking for other safety loopholes they need to close. Some examples:

— Earlier this month, a driver apparently fell asleep before losing control of his bus, which flipped over after hitting a highway median on Interstate 24 in Tennessee. The crash killed one person and injured 45. That same week, a driver was charged with careless driving after his bus returning from Atlantic City along the Garden State Parkway flipped over. Twenty-three people were hurt.

— The month before, a Greyhound driver fell asleep before his bus veered off Interstate 15 northeast of Las Vegas, injuring 37 people. The driver later died of his injuries.

— In June, a bus hit a car and a pickup along an expressway leading to Atlantic City, killing two people and injuring dozens.



On Nutrition by Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Is dry milk a health danger?

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I am alarmed about the information on oxidized cholesterol in your recent column. For years I have been using nonfat dry milk instead of fluid milk because the dry is cheaper and more convenient. I consume from 20 to 50 grams per day, equivalent to approximately 1 to 2 cups of fluid milk. My diet contains virtually no other cholesterol and is low in saturated fat, and my blood cholesterol levels are good. In your opinion, does 5 to 10 milligrams of (oxidized) cholesterol consumed daily pose a danger to my health? I look forward to reading your column and value your opinion. - **J.W., Santa Barbara, Calif.**

Dear J.W.: Powdered milks of all types tend to have oxidized cholesterol, but there can be a considerable difference in the amount in whole milk vs. nonfat skim. Nonfat (skim) powder has only a fraction of the cholesterol of its full-fat counterpart, giving it a limited load of those nasty oxidized lipids (fats and cholesterol). So you can stand down your alarm. In the long run, small amounts of nonfat milk powder do not represent a significant health risk for an average person.

On a different note, you say that your diet does not contain any other dietary cholesterol and is low in saturated fat. In my opinion, cholesterol and saturated fat are not the dietary demons they have been made out to be. If you give your body what it needs, these components are much less problematic. This means having a diet centered on vegetables (lots of greens), fruits, legumes, whole grains, fish, nuts, seeds and low/nonfat dairy products.

Your fats should be predominantly monounsaturated, such as olive oil, and, with the exception of fish, you should be eating a minimum of animal (meat) products. With these guidelines, you needn't be too hung up on cutting the cholesterol or saturated fat out of your diet. Eat well, but make sure you enjoy the foods you eat.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: Will 1 teaspoon or so of sugar change the acid taste in tomato sauce? My husband says it does, but I am skeptical. If it does, what is the chemical reaction? Thanks. - **N.P., Boston, Mass.**

Dear N.P.: Added sugar might serve to offset the dominance of the acid taste, but it doesn't neutralize the acid itself.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: Apropos your article on freezing milk, I've been wondering about the effects of freezing on bread. I read somewhere that vitamin E is lost upon freezing, and wheat germ is high in that nutrient. Am I doing myself a disservice by eating (defrosted) frozen bread? The last thing I want to do is to sap the "goodness" out of whole grain breads. - **B., Charlotte, N.C.**

Dear B.: Freezing is a good way to store bread — much better than refrigeration. You are not doing yourself disservice, especially if the bread is sealed in an airtight wrapper in which excess air has been removed. (I advise you to use specialized freezer bags, as typical bread wrappers are not sufficiently moisture and vapor resistant to be useful for freezing.) As for vitamin E, with the possible exception of what is added through fortification, you will find there isn't much vitamin E in bread. A slice of whole wheat bread has about 0.2 milligrams alpha tocopherol equivalents (aTE), which equals 0.3 international units (IU) of vitamin E. (The daily value for vitamin E is 30 IU.) Add to this the fact that freezing doesn't destroy the vitamin E to any great degree. Freezing bread will not have a significant impact on your vitamin E intake for the day. The "goodness" from the bread comes from the variety of vitamins, minerals and fiber in the whole grains.

Send questions to: "On Nutrition," Ed Blonz, c/o Newspaper Enterprise Association, 200 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016. For e-mail, address inquiries to: ed@blonz.com. Due to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

Ed Blonz, Ph.D., is a nutrition scientist and the author of "Power Nutrition" (Signet, 1998) and the "Your Personal Nutritionist" book series (Signet, 1996).

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Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Spanking is a no-no

DEAR DR. GOTT: In the past, you have endorsed the practice of spanking badly behaved children. What is the current opinion of professionals?

DEAR READER: I cannot speak for my colleagues, but I can say that I have changed my tune.

Based on a survey of almost 10,000 children, researchers published a study in a Canadian medical journal (CMAJ, 1999) showing that there is a direct relation between childhood spanking or slapping and subsequent maladjustments in adults, primarily anxiety disorder, alcohol abuse and other behavioral abnormalities.

The majority of subjects reported having been spanked "sometimes" (33 percent) or "rarely" (41 percent); some children (6 percent) were spanked "often" and 20 percent "never." Those individuals who were spanked "sometimes" or "often" carried their experiences into adulthood and suffered long-term consequences.

Therefore, I have to conclude that spanking as a punishment can certainly be questioned. Clearly, the unmistakable results of regular frequent spankings indicate that this approach is inappropriate.

I always believed that spanking was a normal part of childhood. My father, a West Pointer, would occasionally chastise us boys with a riding crop on the buttocks. (I was always less interested in the minor pain involved than I was with the anticipation of the punishment; as a result, I considered the interaction a success — I won if I didn't cry!)

I digress only to show that I grew up in a culture that condoned spanking. Now, I'm not so sure it's OK. (Nor am I so certain that young men and women should be educated to wage war and kill other young men and women.)

In short, childhood spanking or slapping is probably best avoided.

I am eager to hear from readers who agree (or disagree) with the implications of the Canadian study. This is an important topic that should be openly and frankly discussed in public.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I take insulin for diabetes. Recently, I experienced a feeling of total fatigue with no energy as the day wears on. After resting, my strength returns, and I can function normally until my next bout. What is happening?

DEAR READER: This is a difficult problem to sort out because fatigue can be caused by many factors, including a blood sugar that is too high or too low. To clarify the issue, you should have a blood glucose determination at the time your weakness and tiredness are most noticeable. If the sugar is high, you'll need to increase the dose of your insulin.

On the other hand, if your sugar is low — a more likely explanation for your symptoms — your doctor must reduce the dose of insulin.

Certain forms of insulin, notably the long-acting types, create an effect late in the day, many hours after they have been administered. This can lead to low blood sugar in the afternoon, so called "tea-time hypoglycemia." By cutting back the dose of such insulins and adding a smidge of regular insulin (which works more quickly and has a less sustained effect), doctors can usually overcome this distressing complication of therapy.

Should your insulin not need adjusting, your physician has her work cut out for her, because you will need extensive testing and monitoring to discover the cause of your weakness and fatigue. Please let me know how the situation turns out.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Diabetes Mellitus." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Be sure to mention the title.

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DNA tests free one man, links another to Oklahoma rape

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Three months after a prisoner's rape conviction was set aside after DNA testing, an inmate already serving time has been linked to the crime, authorities said.

In May, Jeffrey Todd Pierce was released from prison after serving 15 years of a 65-year term for a rape at an Oklahoma City apartment complex. Tests showed that semen and hair samples taken from the crime scene didn't match his DNA profile.

The evidence was tested against all convicted violent offenders in an Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation database and was found to match a man serving a 45-year sentence for rape and robbery, bureau spokeswoman Kym Koch said Tuesday.

The name of the man was not released because he has not been charged. Koch said he may never stand trial for the 1985 rape because the seven-year statute of limitations has run out.

Pierce's exoneration and an FBI review of the case led to state and federal investigations of Oklahoma City police chemist Joyce Gilchrist, who has been accused of doing shoddy forensic work and giving false or misleading testimony.

Hundreds of cases involving Gilchrist's work are being probed. Eleven death row inmates whose cases she worked on have been executed; others have been sentenced to die.

Gilchrist, who is on paid administrative leave, has denied any wrongdoing.

Fast food coming to NASM

WASHINGTON (AP) — Want some fries with your history?

The Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum announced Tuesday that it will close its cafeteria to make way for three fast-food restaurants: McDonald's, Boston Market and Donatos Pizzeria — all part of the McDonald's family.

Smithsonian officials say the food will be cheaper than that served by the current restaurant, while generating more revenue for a museum that sees 9 million visitors a year. Smithsonian officials said the 10-year agreement would generate up to $34 million in revenue, according to today's editions of The Washington Post.

McDonald's officials predict that the 1,000-seat eatery will be their busiest daytime operation in the United States. The operation is to open next spring.

The museum will spend $3.2 million to prepare the cafeteria area before McDonald's moves in. About 10 percent of the money is from public funds, the rest from private sources, the Post reported.

The agreement was faulted by critics who say the Smithsonian is polluting its educational mission by permitting corporations and other private-sector interests to profit on its name.

"It's one more part of the commercializing of the Smithsonian," said Gary Ruskin, the executive director of Commercial Alert, a Washington organization that monitors nonprofit organizations. "They're drifting from education to becoming a corporate PR arm."

Popular exhibits at the Air and Space Museum, located on the National Mall, include planes flown by the Wright Brothers and Charles Lindbergh, as well as an IMAX theater.

On the Net:
National Air and Space Museum: http://www.nasm.edu
McDonald's:
http://www.mcdonalds.com

Markets

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NEW YORK (AP) -

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AOL TimeWm	40.75	39.31	39.37	—1.33
AT&T Corp s	19.36	18.93	19.03	—.17
Albertsons	35.69	34.83	34.98	—.39
Alltel	58.20	57.64	57.73	—.02
AmEl Pw	46.58	46.09	46.33	—.15
AndarkPtr	54.00	53.15	53.39	—.10
ATMOS Egy	22.28	21.96	22.23	—.03
Aviall	10.78	10.38	10.38	—.40
BP PLC	51.82	51.28	51.47	+ .22
BakerHughes	33.95	33.10	33.63	
Bank of Amer	61.95	60.02	60.21	—1.65
BellSouth	38.42	37.92	38.17	+ .30
Beth Steel	1.68	1.60	1.62	—.07
BurlNoSFe	27.03	26.61	26.66	—.08
Caterpillar	52.00	50.90	51.24	—.90
Chevron	92.25	91.60	91.98	+ .86
Citigroup	47.34	46.17	46.38	—.67
CocaCola	48.10	47.31	47.39	—.48
ColgatePal	54.96	54.30	54.49	—.22
ComclMetals	32.20	32.15	32.18	+ .07
CooperIn	57.20	56.65	56.70	—.45
DaimlrChry	45.57	44.90	45.10	—.70
DeltaAirl	39.90	39.00	39.11	—.69
Dillards Inc	19.29	18.80	18.93	—.12
DowChem	35.94	35.07	35.15	—.25
DuPont	42.16	41.24	41.25	—.39
EastmanChem	40.40	39.25	39.25	—.70
EstKodak	46.22	45.20	45.51	—.47
EDS Corp	61.75	60.86	61.00	—.19
Entergy	40.00	39.64	39.79	+ .08
ExxonMobil s	41.17	40.52	40.66	+ .15
FstBksAm	27.40	27.29	27.29	—.26
GenDynam	81.45	80.55	80.93	—.53
GenElec	41.65	40.61	41.00	—.23
GenMills	44.49	44.01	44.30	—.23
GenMotors	56.75	56.16	56.18	—.24
GaPacGP	36.99	36.32	36.69	+ .08
GlobalMar	15.58	15.07	15.21	—.15
Goodrich	33.75	33.26	33.26	—.08
Goodyear s	25.48	24.93	24.97	—.30
GtAtlPac	18.85	18.11	18.15	—.63
Halliburtn	31.10	30.27	30.40	—.05
Hanson ADS	39.65	39.35	39.55	—.16
HarteHanks	23.94	23.71	23.85	—.03
HomeDepot	47.75	47.05	47.05	—.85
Honeywellntl	38.05	37.26	37.38	—.13
IBM	105.90	104.23	104.56	—.39
IntlPaper	41.80	40.82	40.89	—.21
JohnsonJn s	53.95	53.20	53.85	—.02
K mart	10.50	10.35	10.44	—.21
KinderMorg	56.85	56.74	56.82	+ .32
Kroger Co	26.63	26.35	26.50	—.20
LockheedM	40.10	39.34	39.90	+ .25
Lowes Cos s	38.69	37.63	37.70	—.86
Lubys	8.90	8.86	8.87	+ .04
LucentTech	7.76	7.40	7.57	—.03
MayDeptStr	34.90	33.97	34.03	+ .07
Medtronic	47.25	46.64	46.86	+ .34
Motorola	19.08	18.27	18.27	—.38
NCR Corp	38.35	37.86	38.28	+ .52
Navistar	34.55	34.02	34.13	—.42
Penney JC	25.07	24.45	24.65	+ .06
PepBoys	12.85	12.58	12.77	+ .19
PepsiCo.	46.98	46.51	46.64	+ .03
Pharmacia	41.45	41.05	41.16	—.14
PhelpDodge	40.39	39.43	39.49	—.55
PhilipPet	59.73	58.80	58.99	+ .72
PilgrmPrd B	14.41	14.30	14.30	—.10
Polaroid	1.42	1.38	1.41	—.02
Praxair	47.20	46.50	46.90	+ .25
ProctGamb	75.60	74.27	74.27	—.72
PubS NwMx	28.91	28.25	28.62	—.29
RadioShack	23.30	22.91	22.97	—.13
ReliantEngy	31.24	30.69	30.70	—.42
RoyalDut	58.04	57.41	57.80	+ .69
SBC Comm	41.65	41.25	41.41	+ .04
SaraLee	22.36	21.87	22.11	—.15
Scripps EW	66.25	65.86	65.86	—.38
SearsRoeb	43.50	42.95	43.05	—.30
SherwinW	22.86	22.60	22.73	+ .07
SouthernCo s	23.55	23.25	23.44	+ .06
SwstAirl s	18.08	17.76	17.82	—.38
SprintFON	23.48	23.07	23.07	—.22
SprintPCS	25.50	24.65	24.85	—.28
Sunoco Inc	38.38	37.76	37.81	+ .81
TXU Corp	48.70	48.37	48.39	—.01
TempleInland	60.10	59.51	59.56	+ .54
Texaco	70.48	69.80	70.33	+ .83
Textrnd	41.50	40.60	40.72	—.36
TexasInst	36.10	34.26	34.80	—1.11
Textron	53.90	53.31	53.32	+ .02
TriconGlbR	44.08	43.98	44.04	+ .10
TrinityInds	25.35	25.05	25.13	—.14
TylerTech	3.81	3.80	3.80	+ .11
USX-Marathn	31.90	31.30	31.75	+ .71
USX-USS	20.29	20.12	20.23	+ .07
UnionPacif	52.80	51.88	51.92	—.83
UnitedTech	71.22	69.00	69.00	—2.10
Unocal	36.70	36.00	36.19	+ .24
Venator Grp	18.55	18.35	18.43	+ .03
VerizonComm	51.50	50.41	50.70	+ .13
WalMart	50.42	49.32	49.35	—.75
WellsFargo	47.18	45.98	46.14	—.71
WstnGasRs	31.44	30.40	31.30	+ .28
WinnDixie	22.89	22.45	22.55	
Xerox Cp	9.99	9.45	9.50	+ .06

AUG 29 2001

Scurry County Country

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

By Jim Lionberger, Wildlife Biologist

Dove hunting regulation changes for 2001-2002 season

As dove season nears, dove-hunting enthusiasts should be aware of some changes in the 2001-2002 dove hunting regulations.

The North Zone remains the same. The season dates are Sept. 1 through Oct. 30, with a daily bag limit of 15 mourning white-winged and white-tipped doves in the aggregate including no more than 2 white-tipped doves per day. The possession limit is 30 doves in aggregate with no more than 4 white-tipped doves.

The Central Zone season dates are Sept. 1-Oct. 28 and Dec. 26-Jan. 6. The daily bag limit is 12 doves in the aggregate with no more than 2 white-tipped dove per day. The possession limit is 24 doves in aggregate including no more than 4 white-tipped dove.

The South Zone season dates (except in the special white-winged dove area) are Sept. 21-Nov. 4 and Dec. 22-Jan. 15 (January 11 in the special white-winged dove area). The daily bag limit and possession limits are the same as for the Central Zone.

The special white-winged area season dates are the first two complete weekends in September (Sept. 1-2, Sept. 8-9), Sept. 21-Nov. 4 and Dec. 22-Jan. 11. The bag limit during the first two weekends in September is 10 white-winged mourning and white-tipped doves in the aggregate including no more than 5 mourning doves and 2 white-tipped doves. The possession limit is 20 white-winged mourning and white-tipped dove in the aggregate including no more than 10 mourning dove and 4 white-tipped doves. The bag limit thereafter is 12 mourning, white-winged and white-tipped dove in the aggregate including no more than 2 white-tipped dove. The possession limit is 24 mourning, white-winged and white-tipped doves including no more than 4 white-tipped doves.

Shooting hours for all zones except for the special white-winged area are one halt hour before sunrise to sunset. In the special white-winged area shooting hours are noon to sunset during the first two complete weekends in September (Sept. 1-2, Sept. 8-9) and one half hour before sunset to sunset thereafter.

White-winged doves have been undergoing a range expansion and even hunters in the North Zone should consider purchasing a white-winged dove stamp along with their hunting licenses. It would not be surprising for a mourning dove hunter to accidentally harvest a white-winged dove. Accident or not, harvesting a white-winged dove without a stamp is illegal. The fee for the white-winged dove stamp is $7. A small price to pay for peace of mind.

Anyone hunting migratory birds is required to be HIP certified. This costs nothing. Simply inform your license retailer than you wish to be HIP certified and he will ask you a few simple, painless questions. HIP certified will show up on your license and your are set.

Listed below are doves and their legal status.

Legal Game Birds: mourning dove, white-winged dove, white-tipped dove (white-tipped doves are non-migratory and are only found in South Texas.

Unprotected Birds: Rock dove, Eurasion collared dove.

Protected Birds: Red billed pigeon: Similar to domestic pigeon, bluish gray to purple in color with reddish bill. This dove is uncommon and found in the Rio Grande Valley, near large brush tracts along the Rio Grande.

Inca dove and ground dove: About half the size of a mourning dove. Both the Inca and the ground dove are gray. The Inca dove has a scaly appearance and has a long tail with white-margins. The ground dove has a short, round dark tail.

Band-Tailed Pigeon: Locally common in oak and pine woods in the mountains of the Trans-Pecos Region. This is a large dove with white neckband and broad gray tail band.

Diversified

By Greg Gruben, County Extension Agent

There seems to be more white-tailed deer now than ever before, and the truth is, there are, about 33 million plus at last count. Such was not always the case. Back in 1920, white-tailed numbers had dwindled to a mere half-million head, nationwide. So, what happened?

According to Dr. Dale Rollins, Texas Cooperative Extension wildlife specialist here, hunters and conservationists enacted into law the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, better known as the Pittman-Robertson Act. The move was spurred by the loss of not only white-tailed deer, but also North American elk, whose numbers had dropped to 100,000 head nationally.

"Wild turkey and weed duck were also sentinels of our wildlife's health," said Rollins. "Pittman-Robertson provided funds for state game and fish agencies to begin efforts to restore these species. White-tailed deer were trapped and restocked to previously occupied ranges. Whitetails are now the number one hunted species of wildlife in Texas and the nation.

"North American elk have also increased dramatically in recent years. They and other wildlife species are hunted, but they also provide outdoor enthusiasts hours of enjoyable viewing."

Rollins said the wild turkey has been restored to every state in the U.S. and some Canadian provinces. The noble bird now provides the skilled hunter countless hours of hunting pleasure and the outdoor visitors a thrill on early spring mornings with its echoing gobble. The birds now number over six million strong.

"White-tailed deer, elk and turkey were all in danger of being extirpated at one time, but they're now 'un-endangered' thanks to sportsmen who placed an incredible value on the existence of these species," said Rollins. "Because of their value to the hunter, they became the basis for today's multi-billion dollar wildlife conservation program. The saving of these valuable natural assets is a reward all Americans can be proud of."

CRP haying, grazing OK'd

Scurry County was recently approved for emergency grazing and haying of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acreage. This means producers participating in CRP are now authorized to graze or bale acreage due to the continuing drought and hay shortage in the county.

"Producers will be allowed to graze or bale through Sept. 30," according to Joe B. Hefner, county executive directive for the Scurry County Farm Service Agency.

The required payment reduction will be 25 percent of the per acre annual rental payment rate times the number of acres actually grazed or baled in fiscal year 2001.

A request signed by all participants on the CRP contact must be filed with the local office prior to any grazing or haying.

Producers will not be allowed to bale and graze the same acreage. For more details on this emergency authorization, contact the Scurry County Farm Service Agency at 573-0171

Colorado City

The Colorado City Livestock Auction had a run of 637 head of cattle for the Saturday, Aug. 25, sale. Compared to last week: Feeder steers and heifers were steady to $1 higher. Slaughter cows and bulls were steady. Bred cows and pairs were steady in a light test. Trading was active and demand good.

Feeder steers:
200-300: 120-129
300-400: 115-124
400-500: 103-106
700-800: 82.50-83.50
Feeder heifers:
200-300: 115-125
300-400: 101-106
400-500: 89.50-95.50
500-600: 84.50-89.50
600-700: 82.50-87
Replacement cows
Older cows: 585-630
Aged cows: 470-6560
Pairs: 735-860
Slaughter cows:
Breakers: 1000-1250 Lbs. 40.50-48.50
Boners: 1000-1200 Lbs. 42-48
Lean: 900-1200: 39-45
800-1000 Lbs.: 38-43.50
Under 750 Lbs.: 29.50-36
Slaughter Bulls
Yields grade 1-2 1300-2100 Lbs.: 50-58.25
Low dressing: 100-1300 Lbs. 48-49.75

Lubbock

The Lubbock Stockyards, Inc. had a run of 690 head of cattle for the Thursday, Aug. 23, sale. Cows were steady. Calves and yearlings were steady. Trading and demand were good.

Slaughter cows
(High dressing — cutters — utilities: 43-49.50
Canner and low cutters: 35-43
Slaughter bulls: 50-60
Feeder steers — choice:
300-400: 105-125
400-500: 90-115
500-600: 85-100
600-700: 83-92
700-800: 80-85
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 100-117
400-500: 85-105
500-600: 85-93
600-700: 80-85
700-800: 75-85
Feeder Bulls — good and choice:
500-600: 85-100
700-800: 75-81
Cow and calf pairs:
Good: 650-850
Grade: 550-650
Springers: 450-640
Baby calves: 150-220
Doodlers: 200-275

Artificial wetlands cleans farm spill

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. (AP) — An artificial wetlands complex built by Purdue University to treat farm runoff has helped avert an environmental disaster.

Thousands of gallons of liquid manure spilled into a drainage ditch earlier this month at a Purdue-operated dairy farm. A state inspector suggested diverting the spill into the nearby wetlands, a move that spared a creek where the manure could have killed a large number of fish.

Aquatic plants and microbes in the wetlands cleaned up the manure with surprising efficiency, said Ron Turco, associate director of Purdue's Indiana Water Resources Research Center.

"We were pretty amazed by what happened," Turco said.

That cleanup of the spill convinced Turco that marsh plants and microbes in constructed wetlands can play a major role in protecting waterways from manure, chemical fertilizers, pesticides and other agricultural runoff.

Days after the spill, water in the drainage ditch upstream from the wetlands still had elevated ammonia levels of 80 parts per million. But water emerging from the wetland and flowing back into the ditch registered only 1 part per million of ammonia, just slightly more than the typical level in drinking water.

Packaged baby carrots are popular

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Carrots may be behind the largest increase in farmland Los Angeles County has seen since officials began keeping track in 1984.

The county added more than 3,300 acres of farmland last year as local farmers expanded acreage to satisfy the public's demand for packaged baby carrots, according to a California Department of Conservation report.

The increase has surprised officials in a region that saw a loss of more than 5,000 acres of farmland in a two-year span during a late-1980s building boom.

Most of the growth in farmland occurred in the Antelope Valley area, one of the fastest growing sections of Los Angeles County, according to 2000 census data. The population in the area has exploded from 40,000 to 331,000 during the last 20 years.

At the same time, farmers began to irrigate the outlying land, where the loose, sandy soil is ideal for planting root crops such as carrots and potatoes.

Carrots and other root crops were a $28 million industry in the county last year.

Dry summer could reduce corn crop

MASON, Mich. — The hot, dry summer could reduce Michigan's corn crop by 30 percent from last year, agricultural experts said.

Even last week's rain, which dumped up to 6 inches in some areas, isn't likely to help much, said Jerry Graner of Michigan Agricultural Commodities Inc., which buys, sells, and stores grain and other crops.

The corn industry generated $340 million last year, according to the Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service, but may bring far less this year.

Monday's news was the latest in a string of reports reflecting the problems Michigan farmers are having coping with the drought, which has dried up everything from Christmas trees to dry beans, potatoes and hay.

"This is the worst we've had in 13 years," said farmer Philip Hall, who grows corn, beans and wheat on his farm south of Lansing.

Man gets 20 years for drug trafficking

HOUSTON (AP) — A Fronton man was sentenced to 20 years in prison without parole for helping smuggle marijuana from at least three drug rings through Starr County ranch lands.

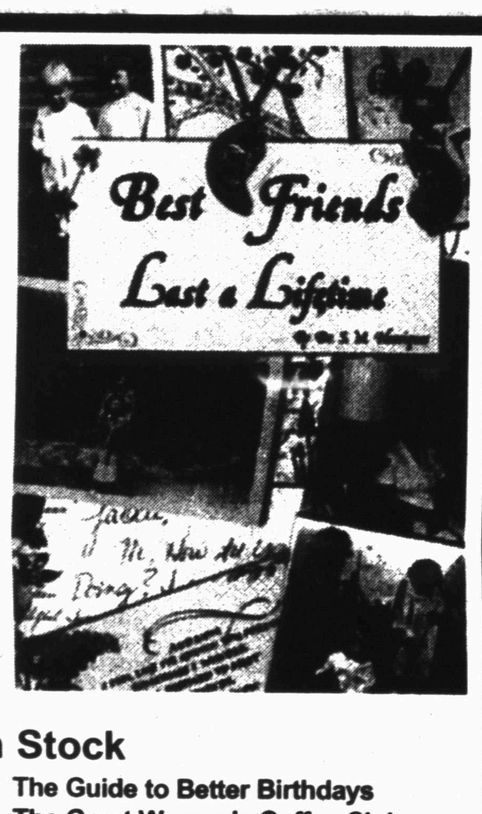
Frederico Perez was a part of a drug trafficking organization that transported about about 100,000 pounds of marijuana, U.S. Attorney Gregory A. Serres said Monday. Perez was sentenced Friday.

The organization circumvented South Texas border patrol checkpoints by shepherding the loads of marijuana on ranch roads, Serres said. In one arrest, Perez was found transporting 599 pounds of marijuana.

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From 10:00 a.m. 'til 4:00 p.m.

National

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Astro

By Bernice

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Dear

By Abigail V

Grandm with bo

DEAR ABBY: grandson, "Grant, ble. I must find a w Two years ago he menopausal, recl Of course, these from broken hom vote their fate; th whatever is thrust
Stepmom has downstairs playro ter bedroom and center. She wat there with my fo (Grant's father).
Grant is not allo there unless he permission. He s his time alone in h room playing his watching TV in th
Recently, telep were cut off betw me. Grant's fathe me that my not ca home happier for am sure he will cu I try to help Grant
Abby, I don't kn Is there any way I — **HURTING IN**
DEAR HURT anything to threa with your grands you. You must bec safe harbor. See h you can. Help him feelings. Let him k you anything, and judgmental or get
Do things a 9-y enjoy so he can b experience some you. Let him know on you when thi darkest.
If his father and cut off your visits, Help USA (1-800 expert advice on t emotional child ab

DEAR ABBY: stand one more let

Survey shows many tires are underinflated

WASHINGTON (AP) — About a third of the light trucks and a quarter of the cars on U.S. roads have at least one substantially underinflated tire, a potentially deadly oversight, according to a government survey.

The survey, released today by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, shows that, despite government and industry warnings, many people still are not keeping their tires inflated to recommended levels.

Low tire pressure creates excessive stress and heat that can lead to tire failure, including blowouts and tread separation. Underinflated tires also can wear out more quickly and reduce fuel efficiency.

In many of the accidents involving Firestone tires, they were not inflated to the pressure recommended by the manufacturer. Firestone tire failures have been blamed in 203 deaths and more than 700 injuries.

"People need to make it a regular part of their maintenance, not only to check the oil and the other fluids in the vehicle, but checking the tire pressure," said NHTSA spokesman Rae Tyson.

NHTSA recommends that tire pressure be checked once a month and before every long trip.

The survey considered a tire underinflated if it was eight pounds per square inch or more below the vehicle manufacturer's recommended inflation pressure. That's 25 percent for a common recommended inflation pressure of 32 psi.

Data collectors stationed at gas stations around the country measured the inflation pressure of 11,530 tires during two weeks in February.

They found that 27 percent of cars and 32 percent of vans, pickups and sport utility vehicles had at least one tire that was underinflated. Eight percent of light trucks and 3 percent of cars had all four tires underinflated.

All vehicles made after November 2003 will have to have a system to warn drivers about low tire pressure under a rule being drafted by NHTSA. The agency estimates the system will prevent dozens of deaths and thousands of injuries each year.

The Rubber Manufacturers Association has launched a multimillion-dollar campaign to encourage proper tire care called "Be Tire Smart — Play your PART." PART stands for pressure, alignment, rotation and tread, the key aspects of tire maintenance.

Only 4 percent of respondents to a survey conducted for the association last year mentioned tire pressure checks when asked what routine tire maintenance is done on their vehicles.

Fifty-five percent did not know where to find the correct pressure recommendation for their tires, which is in the owner's manual and on the vehicle doorjamb.

"It speaks on one sense for people's faith in tires, that they expect them to go on forever, but they do need some basic care," said association spokesman Dan Zielinski.

Police officer shot, then held hostage

CHICAGO (AP) — A police officer attempting to serve an arrest warrant on a robbery suspect was shot and then held hostage for about two hours, authorities said.

Officer Joseph Airhart Jr., 45, was hospitalized in critical condition Tuesday at after undergoing surgery for a gunshot wound to the head. The suspect, Daniel Salley, was in fair condition after being treated for gunshot wounds.

Salley, 41, was wanted for stealing $239,000 from a bank in a robbery last week.

"He was about to be arrested and something went wrong," FBI spokesman Ross Rice said.

Rice said when Airhart served the warrant at the apartment Tuesday, the suspect went for a gun and the two shot each other. Airhart collapsed when he was hit.

Authorities said the suspect was visiting a woman and two young children who were in the apartment at the time. They were not injured.

The names of the woman and children were not released.

The standoff ended after the suspect's request to speak to a television reporter was granted.

Salley has an active order of protection against him obtained by the mother of his child, according to the bank robbery warrant. He was also arrested in January 2000 on charges of aggravated assault, domestic battery and a firearms registration offense. Police said they took a semiautomatic handgun from him during that arrest.

FBI agents with automatic weapons and body armor responded to the morning standoff in minutes, as did dozens of police officers. The block was cordoned off and police sharpshooters took up positions.

Rodney King arrested for suspicion of drug use

CLAREMONT, Calif. (AP) — Rodney King, whose beating by police officers led to the 1992 Los Angeles riots, faces misdemeanor drug charges in his latest run-in with the law.

King was arrested Tuesday for suspicion of being under the influence of the psychedelic drug PCP. A motel clerk called police after noticing a guest who appeared to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol, police Lt. Gary Jenkins said.

King had told the motel clerk that his car had been stolen, but officers later determined King's girlfriend had taken the car to run an errand with King's knowledge.

King, 36, of Altadena, was examined at a hospital and booked for investigation of being under the influence of PCP. He was released on his own recognizance pending an Oct. 2 hearing. Claremont is about 40 miles east of Los Angeles.

King's 1991 beating by Los Angeles police officers was recorded on videotape and later broadcast. The city erupted in violent riots in 1992 when the four white officers were acquitted of state charges. Two officers were later convicted in federal court of violating King's civil rights.

King, who is black, won a $3.8 million settlement in a civil rights lawsuit against the city of Los Angeles.

During the past decade, King has had other brushes with the law. He was convicted of drunken driving and of hit-and-run driving in a case involving his wife, and he pleaded guilty to misdemeanor spousal abuse.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Thursday, Aug. 30, 2001

A number of significant successes are in the offing for you in the year ahead that may be denied others. The reason being is what others view as extremely hard, you'll see as labors of love.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Sweeping under the rug all that you don't feel like doing today will raise the eyebrows of those around you. If one of them happens to be your boss, he'll also raise the roof. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it.

The Astrograph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Insincerity is one of the best things you could do today to get labeled a shallow person. If you honestly have nothing nice to say about someone else, don't say anything at all.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — If you're hoping to achieve a noteworthy success today, you're going to have to earn it through effort and application. Thinking big does not yield proportionate results.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Unfortunately, you might be inclined today to color the facts to suit your expectations, but self-deception will prove to be a formula for disappointment. View matters realistically.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Even though it might be difficult to convince you otherwise today, the world doesn't owe you any free rides. Expecting more than you've earned or deserve will leave you feeling dejected.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Every once in a while you can be overly attentive to someone who doesn't deserve it while ignoring someone who does. The results will be the same — you'll look unfair and deceptive.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Although a commitment you've made might be of little significance to you, it could be very important to the person to whom you made your promise. Be sure to honor it.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Pretending to be something you're not will actually make the opposite impression on others than you intend today. Relax and accept yourself and everybody else for who and what you or they are.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Don't be too disappointed today if someone who you like and enjoy shows a side of him or herself you find distasteful. People are seldom all that we would like them to be. They're human.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Be careful not to go rambling off at the mouth today, because you might end up with egg on your face after saying the wrong thing to the wrong person.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Extravagance used as a pretense today will be perceived for what it is. Don't bark up the wrong tree, because all the spending will simply make you look foolish.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Forgo any form of one-upmanship in your one-on-one relationships today. You may think you're being cute, but chances are you'll get trumped royally.

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Grandma fears losing touch with boy left alone too often

DEAR ABBY: My 9-year-old grandson, "Grant," is in deep trouble. I must find a way to help him. Two years ago he had to take on a menopausal, reclusive stepmom. Of course, these poor children from broken homes don't get to vote their fate; they must accept whatever is thrust upon them.

Stepmom has turned Grant's downstairs playroom into a master bedroom and entertainment center. She watches TV down there with my former son-in-law (Grant's father).

Grant is not allowed to go down there unless he receives special permission. He spends most of his time alone in his upstairs bedroom playing his boom box or watching TV in the living room.

Recently, telephone privileges were cut off between Grant and me. Grant's father candidly told me that my not calling makes his home happier for his "recluse." I am sure he will cut off my visits if I try to help Grant.

Abby, I don't know what to do. Is there any way I can help him? — **HURTING INSIDE**

DEAR HURTING: Don't do anything to threaten your visits with your grandson. He needs you. You must become his loving, safe harbor. See him as often as you can. Help him to express his feelings. Let him know he can tell you anything, and you will not be judgmental or get angry.

Do things a 9-year-old boy will enjoy so he can bond closely and experience some happiness with you. Let him know he can count on you when things seem the darkest.

If his father and stepmother do cut off your visits, then call Child-Help USA (1-800-422-4453) for expert advice on this sad case of emotional child abuse.

**

DEAR ABBY: I hope you can stand one more letter about funerals. I read your "eulogy" articles on July 31. It was the day after my husband was buried.

My darling wore a red Hawaiian shirt and sunglasses. I included photographs, a back-scratcher, money clip, blue rose and a 1-inch-tall bear, a white rosary and a toy skunk that sang, "How Sweet It Is to Be Loved by You." I wrote the eulogy and took lots of pictures. I had an open casket at the graveside service. An American flag draped the silver metal casket.

His family was horrified that I buried their family member in this manner. I had only known him 8 1/2 years and they knew him a lifetime.

I kissed him "bye" and let the skunk do its thing while I left. I had the funeral director give the flag to my husband's sister instead of to me.

Everyone should do what they feel is right in their heart, not what people tell them is right.

I sleep peacefully every night because I buried my friend, my husband, my lover in a manner he would have been proud of. — **SAD IN LAKE CITY, FLA.**

DEAR SAD: A-A-A-men! (I'll bet he's glad you packed only the essentials.)

**

Dear Abby is written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips.

**

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby — Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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AUG 29 2001

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Downpours drench parts of Texas

By The Associated Press

As much as 8 inches of rain in parts of the Concho Valley flooded out some residents and covered highways in the region of West Texas, but residents aren't complaining too much as they watch reservoirs filling up.

From 5,000 and 10,000 acre-feet of runoff was expected to flow into Twin Buttes Reservoir after Tuesday's rains. The rains came two days after Stratton Cralles' church, and many others in West Texas, observed Sunday as Pray for Rain Day.

The Houston area was under a flash flood watch this morning as an east-west line of heavy showers moved north through the city after drenching Galveston. The National Weather Service for Houston/Galveston said the watch likely would be extended because more rain was expected Thursday.

Cralle, who lives on the South Concho River, said most of his eight acres of land were covered in water. His rain gauge, which measures up to 6 inches, was overflowing when he woke up Tuesday. So he poured out the water and collected another inch. His garage had 3 feet of water in it.

"It's delightful," he said. "It will take a while to clean up, but its still great. It should put a lot of water in Twin Buttes. I saw a lot of it flow by here. We sure are glad to get this rain."

Residents of Christoval in Tom Green County reported from 4 inches to more than 8 inches of rain Tuesday morning. Around Mertzon, up to 5 inches fell. U.S. Highway 67 between San Angelo and Mertzon and Farm-to-Market Roads 915 and 2469 near Mertzon were closed due to flooding.

School bus drivers in Christoval could not deliver students to schools and drivers had to find alternate routes to return students to their home as some roadways became impassable. Classes were canceled for the day Tuesday.

Authorities were keeping a close eye on the South Concho River, south of San Angelo, after a river flood watch was issued.

Some residents of Sherwood, a town of about 150, sought help from rising water early Tuesday when the town and nearby areas received about 5 inches of rain in a two-hour period.

Heavy rains also fell near San Antonio. A total of more than 7 inches was reported for Pipe Creek. The National Weather Service said Gonzales, Medina Lake, Boerne and Leakey have been inundated with up to 5 inches of rain or more since Sunday.

Experts: SS benefits not threatened

WASHINGTON (AP) — Politicians may have to dip into the Social Security trust fund again after all their hands-off promises.

Just how worried should we all be about our retirement? Not very, experts say.

"This doesn't mean a blessed thing," said David John, senior Social Security analyst for The Heritage Foundation, a conservative Washington think tank. "It's essentially a theoretical discussion that won't affect Social Security in the short term or even in the long term."

Last week, the White House projected a slim $1 billion non-Social Security surplus this year, meaning the retirement funds would not have to be touched. But on Tuesday, the Congressional Budget Office reported the government wouldn't even have that much, and would need to pull $9 billion from the Social Security surplus to make ends meet. That still leaves Social Security with a $153 billion surplus for this year.

"It represents a prying open of what was supposed to be a rock-solid, government fiscal tightfistedness," said Hans Riemer, senior policy analyst for the Institute for America's Future, a liberal policy group in Washington. "As to how much it will open and whether it will stay open very long, it's not clear yet."

To understand the debate, one must also come to terms with the lockbox idea that was talked about so much during last year's presidential campaign. It's a sham. There is no untouchable Social Security account full of money that is just sitting there, piling up interest for future generations of retirees.

As White House budget director Mitch Daniels put it, the lockbox is "symbolic."

It's also political. Republicans and Democrats want to be on record as staunch defenders of a program that serves nearly 46 million Americans, many of them senior citizens who turn out in large numbers on Election Day.

Social Security itself remains on solid financial ground under the new projections, running surpluses in each of the next 10 years for a total of $2.5 trillion.

Low-grade war in Iraq is beginning to intensify

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. and British attacks on Iraq's air defenses have intensified in recent days, indicating the Pentagon's growing concern about the risk to pilots enforcing "no-fly" zones in the north and south.

On Tuesday, U.S. and British fighter jets attacked two military targets in southern Iraq, one day after an unmanned Air Force reconnaissance aircraft was lost near the southern city of Basra. The Pentagon has acknowledged losing the Predator drone but is not sure whether Iraq shot it down.

Tuesday's targets were facilities that provide command, control and communications support for Iraqi air defense fighter aircraft, one U.S. official said. More than a half-dozen U.S. and British strike aircraft carried out the attacks, accompanied by more than a dozen jammer and other support planes.

The Iraqi News Agency, offering the Iraqi government's first reaction to the raid on al-Ahrar in Nasiriya province, said two civilians were killed and accused U.S. and British pilots of aggression. "This peaceful village was far away from any military site," the agency said.

Army Col. Rick Thomas, a spokesman for U.S. Central Command, which is responsible for U.S. military operations in the Persian Gulf area, said today that the sites were legitimate military targets.

Tuesday morning accident sends a couple to hospital

Accidents

A late morning accident at the intersection of 25th Street and College Ave. Tuesday sent a man and wife to Cogdell Hospital.

Barbara Jones, 75, of 4517 Garwood was transported by Snyder EMS to the hospital. She was admitted for observation and was listed in good condition this morning.

Wallace Jones, 72, also of 4517 Garwood, was taken to the hospital by private vehicle. He was treated and released.

The couple were in a 1998 Ford Windstar van, driven by Mr. Jones.

Also involved in the accident was a 2000 Ford Ranger driven by Richard Payne, 36, of 3115 Ave. T. Payne was not injured.

Officers submitted a major accident report.

Officers responded to a private property accident at 10 a.m. Tuesday.

Involved in the minor accident were a 1986 Chevrolet van driven by Anselmo Hernandez, 70, of 1604 27th Street and a 1998 Chevrolet pickup driven by Kenneth Atkinson, 73, of 3745 Gary Brewer Rd.

Arrest

Officers arrested a 20-year-old man in the 1300 block of 26th Street Tuesday night on warrants for minor consuming alcohol and failure to appear before a judge.

Criminal trespass

R.J. Youngclaus requested an officer at Wal-Mart Tuesday afternoon in reference to issuing a criminal trespass warning to a juvenile, advising him to stay away from the store. Officers responded and served the juvenile with the warning, then transported him to the high school.

Rocky Vanous requested a criminal trespass warning be issued to Gonzalo Lara, advising him to stay away from 3010 Austin Ave. Officers contacted Lara and served him with the warning.

Prowler

Lupe Garza requested an officer at 2301 Ave. H in reference to his mother hearing noises like someone walking by her house. Officers responded and were unable to locate anyone in the area. A close patrol was maintained through the night.

Gas drive off

A clerk at Tiger Mart requested an officer in reference to a gas drive off in the amount of $10.01. The subject attempted to pay with a credit card, but the card was rejected. The clerk described the vehicle as a Dodge Intrepid.

Obituaries

Tristan Bass

Infant

Private graveside service for Tristan Michael Bass, stillborn son of Jackie Suzanne Bass, will be conducted by Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home. Fr. Jerry Leatham, pastor of the St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, will officiate.

Maternal grandparents are Joe and Carol Bass of Snyder.

Curtis Tate

1934-2001

B. Curtis Tate, a native of Scurry County, died Saturday, Aug. 25, in a Temple hospital.

Funeral service for Mr. Tate, 66, is set for 11 a.m. Saturday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. A son, the Rev. Paul Tate, will officiate. Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens.

Born Oct. 10, 1934 in Snyder, he was a 1953 graduate of Snyder High School where he was an all-American football player for the Snyder Tigers.

A resident of Belton, Mr. Tate had worked in the construction business for many years.

Survivors include his wife, Marie Tate of Belton; a daughter, Darla Sonzansky of Mesquite; a son, the Rev. Paul Tate of Austin; a brother, O.P. Tate Jr. of Snyder; a stepdaughter, Alix Elkins of Forney; two stepsons, Steve Jones of Belton and John Tate of Combine; and 12 grandchildren.

Mr. Tate will lie in state Friday afternoon until service time Saturday at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Personal, Professional Service

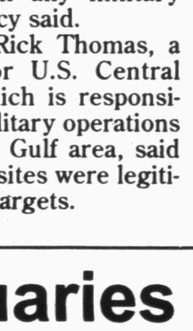
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Santas Gonzales

1939-2001

ODESSA – Santas Rios Gonzales, the mother of Esme Olvera of Snyder, died Friday, Aug. 24, in Medical Center Hospital.



Mrs. Gonzales

A memorial service for Mrs. Gonzales, 61, is set for 10 a.m. Friday in the Odessa Funeral Home Chapel. Cremation will follow.

Born Aug. 26, 1939 in Sanderson, she was a homemaker and a Baptist.

Mrs. Gonzales was preceded in death by her father, Magdaleno Rios; two sons, Gilbert and Arturo Gonzales; two grandsons, Jerich Len Olvera and David Hernandez.

Survivors include her husband, Ramon T. Gonzales of Fort Stockton; four other daughters, Sally Pichardo and Anna Rodriguez, both of Carlsbad, N.M., Martha Rodriguez and Olga Amparon, both of Fort Stockton; her mother, Antonia Rios of Fort Stockton; five brothers, Fidel Rios, Tonis Rios, Juan Rios, Lucio Rios and Leno Rios, all of Fort Stockton; five sisters, Modesta Rios of El Paso, Alejandra Lopez, Nieves Celaya, Maria Rios and Elvira Feyry, all of Fort Stockton; 15 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Terry Ron Clay

1954-2001

Terry Ron Clay, a former Dunn resident, died Monday, Aug. 27, in Houma, La., following a lengthy illness.

Services for Mr. Clay, 47, of Houma are pending at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

He was born on May 21, 1954 in Snyder and was an oilfield worker.

Survivors include two brothers, Jay Lynn Clay of Lubbock and Kerry Clay and his wife, Sandra, of Dunn.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Pick up SHS yearbooks

Snyder High School yearbooks can be picked up all this week in the journalism room, from 8-8:10 a.m. and 12:10-12:20 p.m. Ten extra annuals are available at $60 each.

Cub Scout leader meeting

There will be a meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday at the West Elementary library for Cub Scout leaders and parents to organize for the coming scout year. Boys who have not registered may do so at this time. Please call Rhonda at 573-7065 for more information.

New Boy Scout troop

Troop 2, a new Boy Scout troop chartered by the First Baptist Church, will have its initial meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday at the church bus barn located across from the church on 27th Street. Membership is open to boys in the 6th to 12th grades, ages 11-18. Each boy must be accompanied by a parent. Adults who would like to get involved are also encouraged to attend the meeting. For more information call James Garvin at 915-965-3415 or Rhonda Fletcher at 573-7065.

Technical student booster club

The technical student association booster club will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday at the high school shop building. Businesses who may be able to provide jobs for the students in the future are invited to attend.

Weigh down classes

Weigh down classes begin at 7 p.m. Thursday at Word is Life Deliverance Church. There is still time to sign up by calling Linda Tippens at 574-8104 or Claudia Sanchez at 573-9615.

Faith Revival fundraiser

Faith Revival Church will have an enchilada dinner fundraiser from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday. Plates are $5 each.

SHS tennis booster club

The booster club will meet at 7 p.m. next Wednesday at Texas Savings Bank to discuss the 2001-2002 tennis season. All parents of junior high and high school players are invited.

SHS school pictures

SHS school pictures will be taken during English classes next Wednesday and Thursday. All pictures must be pre-paid and students will be given an information packet to take home.

Volunteer training

Gateway Family Services, a domestic violence and sexual assault crisis center, will offer a volunteer training class from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 6, at the shelter in Snyder. To RSVP, call 573-1822 and ask for Yvonne.

SHS choir boosters fundraiser

SHS choir boosters will sponsor a fiesta stack-up dinner before the Littlefield home game Friday, Sept. 7, from 5-7:30 p.m. at the high school cafeteria. Tickets are $5 each and can be purchased from any choir student or at the door. Carry outs will be available. Call 573-1499.

SHS choir yard signs

All ex-Snyder High School choir students who no longer want their yard signs are asked to please return them to the school so they can be used for new choir students.

Enchilada dinner

Discovery School will have an enchilada dinner from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 9. at First United Methodist Church. Tickets are $5 for adults and $3 for children under 12. Take-outs will be available. Tickets will be available at the door or by calling 573-4770.

Gateway support group

Gateway Family Services will begin a support group for victims of family violence on Mondays, beginning Monday, Sept. 10, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the facility. Call 573-1822 in advance to reserve a place.

Speech team boosters

There will be a Snyder High School Parent Speech Team Booster Club and team member meeting at 6 p.m. Monday, Sept. 10, in room 109 at the high school. Topics to be discussed will be upcoming tournaments, fundraising and orientation.

Senior water aerobics

Water aerobics for senior citizens will be held from 1-2 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the WTC pool.

Ira 2001 annuals

The Ira 2001 Bulldog annuals are in and can be picked up from Becky Hudgins at the high school. Extra copies are available for $22 each.

WTC pool opens

The WTC swimming pool opens this evening for the fall semester. The public schedule for lap swimming is from 6:30-8 a.m. and noon to 1 p.m. M-F. Open swimming is 7 to 9 p.m. M-Th. Cost is $2 per person or $50 for a semester pass. Thursday night is family night at a cost of $5 per family. The pool also is available for parties on Friday and Saturday. For information, call Lisa Christensen at 573-8511, ext. 290.

U.S. economy records weak growth

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. economy barely moved forward in the spring, growing at an anemic rate of just 0.2 percent, the weakest performance in eight years, the government reported Wednesday.

The Commerce Department's latest reading of gross domestic product in the April-June quarter represented a big downward revision to the estimate one month ago of a 0.7 percent growth rate.

GDP is the country's total output of goods and services and is considered the broadest measure of the economy's health.

Though the economy was clearly ailing in the second quarter, some economists took comfort that it didn't slip into negative territory as some had feared. "Psychologically, I think this is a good thing — the fact that the economy did keep its head above water," said Ken Mayland of ClearView Economics.

On Wall Street, investors were not impressed by the slim gain. The Dow Jones industrial average lost 95 points and the Nasdaq index dropped 19 points.