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INSIDE

WT-Int. Crude - $31.62
WTIC Posted - $28.25
Natural Gas - $5.10

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY
July 16, 2003
Vol. 55 No. 66
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Vanessa Freeman

Revealed Tuesday night...

SISD plan puts emphasis on teachers

By Wade Warren
SDN Managing Editor

Snyder ISD Supt. Dr. Ronny Collins presented his reorganization plan to the board of trustees Tuesday night and said it would put the emphasis where it should be — on the classroom teachers.

"This organization plan is driven at the classroom level," said Dr. Collins. "This is something I have found over the years to be more successful."

Dr. Collins said the classroom teachers are on the front line and everybody else should be working to support them.

In his presentation, the superintendent also emphasized that he would maintain an open-door policy for district employees.

"I don't want to be insulated from principals or teachers," said Dr. Collins, adding that his desk phone number and cell phone number are available to all employees.

In his plan, Rod Cottrell, who was hired June 26 at a salary of $65,000 per year, will serve as the number two person in the district as he is the new executive director of curriculum and instruction. Cottrell is returning to Snyder from Jacksboro where he had served as high school principal. He was a coach and teacher at SHS from 1984 to 1988.

Karen Waller, who previously held the title of assistant superintendent for finance, now has the title of executive director of business and finance.

The major change is with Melissa Jones who now carries the title of director of personnel. She previously was assistant superintendent in charge of curriculum and personnel.

Both Waller and Jones had their contracts extended one year on a unanimous vote by the trustees. Their contracts will now expire June 30, 2005.Four administrators will keep their present title..

Dixie Haggard will continue to serve as director of special programs and Dale Byrd continues as technology director. Mike Carter remains the director of maintenance, while Chad Rogers continues with his duties as athletic director.

No change in salaries was made Tuesday night as that topic is expected to be covered in upcoming budget talks.

Trustees also formally approved the hiring of four new teachers.

These include Shauna Huddleston, science at the high school; Terry Jones, industrial technology at junior high; Kelly Porter, social studies at high school; and Esther Stansell, third grade at Central Elementary.

Three other contracts were approved pending certification.

These include Mike Brogden, social studies and coach at the junior high; Alisa Keller, theatre arts at junior high; and Lane Minze, English at SHS.

Resignations were accepted from Judy Moss, Central Elementary third grade teacher, SHS science teacher Betty Johansen and SHS softball coach Shelly Hayes.

Trustees met in closed session with Rogers and girls athletic director Mike Martin before accepting Hayes' resignation, as it was only submitted Tuesday. The deadline for resigning from the district was July 4.

In action items, trustees approved the contract with the Hobbs Educational Cooperative that includes an $8,000 membership fee and 25 slots at $7,000 each; the contract for student athletic and activities insurance for $14,595 – a savings over the present year of more than $5,000; and the teacher appraisal calendar for next year.

Also approved were the qualification guidelines for instructional aides, and Waller gave an update on the 2003-2004 budget.

Waller is estimating revenue for the coming fiscal year to be $17,574,558, and expenses at $17,434,105.

Waller said certified values would be available July 25 and then could be more specific on the numbers. Trustees are expected to hold a budget workshop prior to next month's meeting.

Board president Mark McCormick presided at the two-hour meeting and trustees in attendance were Richard Chambers, Cathy Peoples, Glenn Clarady, Mike Levens and Doug Neff. Luann Burleson was absent.

SUMMER READING CERTIFICATES — Mike Hartman, county attorney, presented certificates and awards to children participating in the Summer Reading program at the library. Receiving their awards from Hartman are Nolan Duzan, left, and Taylor Duzan. Children's librarian Linda Jones, right, reported 169 children participated. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Hurricane causes power outages

VICTORIA (AP) — Many Texans in the path of Hurricane Claudette remained in the dark and without air conditioning today after power lines were damaged in several communities on or near the middle coast.

"This morning we have approximately 30,000 customers still without power," said Andy Heines, a spokesman for American Electric Power. "We anticipate these numbers will drop throughout the day. Right now we are doing some damage assessments."

Heines said the company called in reinforcements after Tuesday's hurricane and hoped to have electricity back on for a majority of customers "fairly quickly" but said, "There may be a few thousand that may be out for several days.

At least two people died, struck by falling tree or tree limbs, authorities said.

Claudette, the first hurricane to strike Texas in four years and the first to hit Matagorda Bay since monstrous Carla in 1961, came ashore Tuesday barely qualifying as a hurricane but caught many residents off-guard by foiling forecasters with its speed and its direction.

American Red Cross workers continued damage assessments Wednesday along the 261 miles of affected coastline, spokeswoman Suzanne Hogan said.

"Today is going to reveal a much better picture of what disaster assistance will be needed," Hogan said in Port Lavaca.

With hundreds of Red Cross volunteers already in the region, that number was expected to swell to thousands. The storm, downgraded to a tropical depression as it plowed inland through South Texas and into Mexico, had maximum sustained winds of 30 mph.

Victoria resident Bertha Ramirez, 46, said her 74-year-old aunt might not have known to batten down the hatches by midday Tuesday had she not called her to warn that the storm unexpectedly accelerated and headed toward the city 40 miles inland.

"She didn't think it was coming until this evening," said Ramirez, who listened to Claudette howl and wail outside the generator-powered Target store where she worked.

Residents along the affected area, from swamped beach house owners and vacationers on Galveston Island and Surfside Beach to the northeast and down to the strike zone around Port O'Connor and Palacios on the mid-Texas coast to the southwest, complained forecasters didn't allow enough time to prepare.

"It's called the unpredictability of tropical storms," said Gene Hafele, a Houston-based National Weather Service meteorologist.

Though Claudette was officially classified as a minimal Category 1 hurricane before it began dissipating over South Texas, the peeled roofs, flattened trailers, collapsed facades and twisted gas station canopies it left behind across the region had the earmarks of a stronger storm.

According to the National Hurricane Center, which as late as Sunday was predicting landfall near the mouth of the Rio Grande, the storm packed sustained winds of more than 85 mph when it came ashore, making it a strong Category 1. Gusts were reported to approach triple digits.

No deaths were reported along the coastline. However, two deaths were reported inland.

Judge sends two to prison

Two persons were sentenced to prison and a third was placed on probation as a result of action Monday in 132nd District Court.

Jessie Medrano Jr., 22, of 2805 Ave. T was ordered to serve 10 years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice following a probation revocation hearing.

Medrano was serving a 10-year probated sentence for a Dec. 1, 1999 offense of violation of a protective order. Court records indicated that Medrano violated his probation by causing bodily harm to an individual on April 12.

District Judge Ernie Armstrong also revoked the five-year probated term of Eric Rex Lujan for an Aug. 5, 2002 burglary of a habitation and an Aug. 15, 2002 offense of burglary of a building.

Judge Armstrong ordered Lujan, 19, of 1401 Ave. K to serve the five-year prison term and two-year state jail term concurrently.

Charles Sylvester Thompson, 31, of Colorado Springs, Colo., pleaded guilty to a March 7 charge of evading arrest.

Thompson was sentenced to two years in a state jail facility, probated for five years, and fined $1,500.

Hospital board to discuss budget in called meeting

Cogdell Memorial Hospital's board of managers will review the proposed 2004 operating budget when it meets in a called session at 7:30 a.m. Thursday.

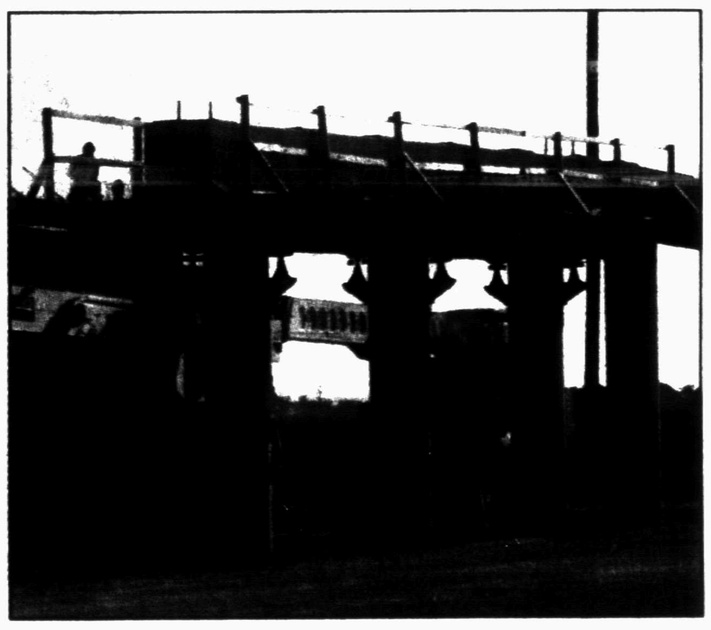
Chief Financial Officer Jared Squires said today that the hospital has to submit a balanced budget to the commissioners court for its approval, but the budget is currently $543,000 on the negative side.

"We've put together a realistic, activity-based budget, but we will need additional tax (money) support to balance it," said Squires.

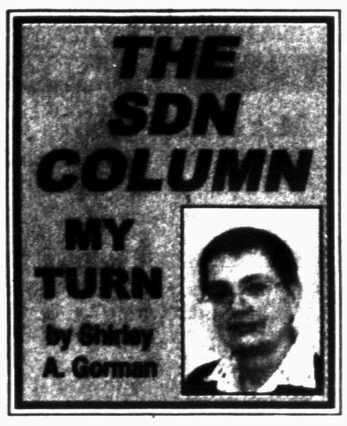
"Additional money from the county will get us to the break even point," said Squires.

Currently, the 2004 budget includes some $19.3 million in expenses.

The meeting will be in the hospital boardroom.



ROAD WORK — Crews were hard at work this morning on the overpass at U.S. 84 and Huffman Ave. Jones Bros. of Odessa is contractor and the project remains ahead of schedule. The company also will begin work next week on the 17-month reconstruction of College Ave. (SDN Staff Photo)



We are not the outdoors-type so we were hesitant when our friend Joan asked us to spend the summer helping her look for forest fires in New Mexico.

We spent two summers on Lookout Mountain in the early 1970s and had loads of fun. Our radio call letters were 202 Lookout Mountain and we had to keep a log of all calls as well as note the direction of the wind several times a day.

We also had an instrument (it had a name like azimuth) that was supposed to help us locate a fire more accurately.

The metal tower (lightning struck it once), basically a platform with large windows, stood at the top of three flights of stairs. We hung a blanket for privacy when we performed our toiletries.

We could walk around the outer deck and there was a gate we could lock at night. We hung our hand-washed clothes on the railing to dry.

A camping lantern or flashlight provided the only light because there was no electricity. The tower contained a small sleeping area, very limited drawer and counter space, a gas heat and cook stove and a water pump, which Joan could prime with one arm. We couldn't even do it with two arms.

The nearest grocery and gas stop was at Winston, 40 miles away. But "real civilization," including washing machines, a larger grocery store and the forest service office, were at Truth or Consequences, 40 miles beyond that.

Before we set off, we packed our 1968 Ford Mustang with supplies (food, flashlight, books, transistor radio and a big stock of batteries).

We spent hours searching the forest with a pair of binoculars, looking for signs of fire. Though we never spotted any really big fire, we did get to see slurry (fire retardant) dropped on a fire a few miles from the tower.

We were supposed to keep the tower neat and clean because we never knew when a ranger might drop by. (They liked to visit the tower for the view and the homemade cookies we kept on hand.)

We usually managed to put off doing the dishes so if we saw some one driving up our road one of us would toss the dishes in the oven. One day, we turned on the oven with the dishes still inside and partially melted the plastic pieces.

Our "bathroom" was an outhouse a short-walk from the tower. We carried a flashlight at night.

One day a rattlesnake made its home in the rock pile our wind sock was embedded in. We tread very carefully until a ranger dropped by and we asked him to kill it.

Though we (Joan and I) loved being on the tower, we occassionally got "cabin fever." That meant we'd get in one of our cars at night and drive to Truth of Consequences to do our laundry, replenish our food supplies, and grab a hamburger at the drive-in.

As we were returning during the wee hours one morning, Joan's vehicle broke down about eight miles from the tower. We radioed the ranger's office and someone came and towed us to the tower.

Joan and I didn't get to work together again but the next summer we spent three months as a lookout at Clearwater National Forest in Idaho. But that's another column.

ASK US

Q—Is the Chamber of Commerce accepting donations in the memory of Donna Fowler?
A—Yes.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Debra Brown...

...is adjunct faculty secretary at Western Texas College and she has live in Snyder 21 years. Her husband, Jeff, works at Sunoco Pipeline and the couple have two kids. A son, Jerek, 21, plays baseball at Lubbock Christian University and a daughter, Loryn, 19, attends Texas Woman's University in Denton. Debra's hobbies include watching her son's baseball games and sewing.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

I know God will not give me anything I can't handle. I just wish that he didn't trust me so much.
—Mother Teresa

JUL 16 2003

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

S.M.A.R.T. School

S.M.A.R.T School at Ira ISD with Carol Scott and Kim Allen is being held from 8-11:45 a.m. daily through Thursday. Transportation is available. Call 573-2628.

Clothing workshop

A clothing workshop – just for girls ages 9-18 – will be held Thursday at the Scurry County extension office. Bring rubber flip-fops for decorating and $3 for other supplies. RSVP by today by calling 573-5423.

FBC services televised

First Baptist Church services are televised on channel 2 at 3 p.m. each Thursday.

'83 class reunion meeting

A reunion planning meeting for the SHS Class of 1983 will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Kirk Herrley's home. For more information, call 573-3204.

Order of Eastern Star

Snyder Chapter No. 450 of the Order of Eastern Star will have a stated meeting to Celebrate America with Red,White and Blue at 7:30 p.m. Thursday. All members are urged to attend.

United Way

A Scurry County United Way board meeting will be held at noon Monday at the United Way office at 2311 Ave. T.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 p.m. Monday is "When Traditions Become Sinful," followed by "Called to a Holy Calling."

Financial workshop

Snyder Oaks Care Center will sponsor a workshop on preparing financially for nursing home placement to protect assets and qualify for assistance. It will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday. For more information call Ray or Joni at 573-9377.

First Methodist VBS

First United Methodist Church will hold Vacation Bible School from 6 to 8 p.m. July 28-Aug. 1. For ages kindergarten through 5th grade, theme is "God People Celebrate." Register at 2700 College Ave. or call 574-1547.

Star Boot Camp

Star Boot Camp junior military academy will be held from 8 to 11 a.m. July 28 through Aug. 1. The camp is for ages 6 to 11. To register call 574-6090 or 573-3703.

GED registration, test dates

Mandatory pre-registration for GED test will be held from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 30, at the GED testing center, Building 7B, at WTC. The math segment of the test will begin at 8 a.m. on Thursday, July 31. For more information call Molly Kattes at 573-2919 or Emily Hataway at 573-8511, ext. 297 or 574-2112. It is recommended that candidates receive some preparation before attempting the test.

Senior swimnastics

Swimnastics for senior citizens is held from 10 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the WTC pool.

SHS football program ads

Advertisements are now being sold for the 2003 football program. Anyone interested in purchasing an ad can call Christy Smith at 573-6301.

Sonshine registration

Sonshine School at 37th St. Church of Christ is currently registering students for the fall semester. For more information, call director Wendy Barnett at 574-1960.

Cancer treatment transportation

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

Higher ed commissioner Brown is stepping down

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas Commissioner of Higher Education Don Brown, who has been leading a 15-year effort to get more Texans into college, has announced he is stepping down from the post at the end of April 2004.

Brown, who turns 60 in October, became commissioner in 1997, but began working for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in 1983.

Even after retiring, he plans to help promote the state's 15-year plan "Closing the Gaps," he said Tuesday. Established in 2000, the plan's main goal is to get 500,000 more residents into college by 2015.

"A central reason for my decision to leave the commissioner's position, with its many responsibilities, is to find a way to devote all of my available time — rather than only a portion of it — to closing the gaps," Brown said.

The idea of the plan is to help Texas catch up to other states in research, student participation and overall excellence in higher education. Finding ways to help needy students pay for college is one aspect of the plan.

Brown said that by making his announcement now it will give the Higher Education Coordinating Board enough time to search for and appoint a new commissioner well before the 2005 regular legislative session.

High cost of prescription drugs displayed

MAYS LANDING, N.J. (AP) — Marc Snyder can't get his mind off the high cost of his prescription drugs. Thanks to a growing display outside his home, his neighbors are thinking about it, too.

Photocopies of prescriptions cover upstairs windows, surround the door and fill blue plastic tarps draped over the yellow house. Snyder said they are prescriptions he could not afford to fill.

A large sign declares the week-old display "The Great Wall of Prescriptions" and asks Congress for help.

"It's not an eyesore," said Adrienne Reyes, who lives across the street. "It's a good way to advertise."

Governor threatens 2nd special session

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry is expected to call another special legislative session to address congressional redistricting if a plan is not approved during the current session, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst said Tuesday.

Perry said he was leaving the option open but would not say for sure if he would call lawmakers back to the Capitol to redraw congressional districts if they fail to adopt a plan.

"Oh, I never rule it out," Perry told reporters earlier.

Dewhurst said Perry told him he would call another session.

The state's top two officials made their comments a day after Sen. Bill Ratliff, R-Mount Pleasant, joined 10 Democrats in opposing attempts to take up redistricting, a potentially devastating blow to efforts to redraw congressional boundary lines.

The special session began June 30 and can last a maximum of 30 days. Perry could convene another special session immediately at that point, or before then if legislative leaders decide to adjourn early.

"The preference is for the Senate to finish its work and get out a map that is fair and that members can support in this current session," Perry spokeswoman Kathy Walt said.

Democrats have a 17-15 advantage in the Texas congressional delegation. Republicans, led by U.S. Majority Leader Tom DeLay of Sugar Land, say they want a majority in the delegation and cite GOP-leaning voting trends in the past few statewide elections.

Last week, the Texas House approved a plan that could give the GOP as many as 21 seats in the delegation. Some senators, unhappy with that plan, are drafting their own maps.

DeLay's request violated regulations

WASHINGTON (AP) — New Federal Aviation Administration rules restricting access to information about an aircraft's whereabouts were spurred by Republican Rep. Tom DeLay's attempt to track down a Texas lawmaker who defied GOP redistricting plans.

The rules, announced at a House Transportation Committee hearing, would forbid FAA employees from revealing the whereabouts of a plane unless the request is for an official government purpose or for safety or efficiency reasons. A law enforcement agency can also make such a request as part of an investigation, under the new rules.

DeLay's office called the FAA May 12 to locate the plane of Rep. Pete Laney, former house speaker, who joined other state Democrats in Ardmore, Okla. The lawmakers stayed in Oklahoma four days to prevent a vote in the Texas Legislature on a GOP-favored redistricting bill.

A report from the inspector general of the Department of Transportation found that DeLay's request set off a search spread over eight hours and involved at least 13 FAA employees.

"I think there was some waste," Inspector General Kenneth Mead told the House committee on Tuesday.

DeLay, who made fraud, waste and abuse a focus of his morning briefing with reporters Tuesday, defended his office's inquiry through the FAA, saying the agency used the Internet to answer his questions. But investigators said some of the information given to DeLay, the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Homeland Security Department came from FAA databases that are not publicly accessible.

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Mom's second pregnancy is not up to expectation

DEAR ABBY: I am 27 years old and pregnant with my second child. I remarried one year ago and couldn't wait to have my new husband's first baby. My problem is, I am not as excited about having this child as I was my first. Don't get me wrong, I love this baby, but I expected to be more "thrilled" — and I'm not.

I also feel I am all alone in this pregnancy. Although he hasn't said it, I suspect my husband is repulsed by the amount of weight I have gained. (I am in my seventh month.) I am embarrassed to talk to my doctor about this for fear he will think I am a bad person.

Is there something wrong with me? Help! — **WORRIED MOM IN SOUTH CAROLINA**

DEAR WORRIED MOM: Needing support is not being a bad person. Your problem is that you have clammed up at the very time you should be speaking out. It is normal for a pregnant woman to have insecurities. It also is not uncommon for someone who has already had one pregnancy to feel less excited about her second. You should discuss these feelings with both your husband and your doctor.

Please don't worry. You will love your children in different ways — but equally.

**

DEAR ABBY: I am 25 and a registered nurse. For three years I've been in a live-in relationship with "Herb." He is 10 years my senior.

I have a history of depression, anxiety and binge drinking. I turned to alcohol when I got depressed over my father's death from a massive heart attack five years ago. I also drink because of lack of love and compassion from my mate.

Herb is unemployed and spends most of his time in front of the computer. If I have so much as a cocktail to wind down after a 12-hour shift, he withholds affection. I feel isolated. I'm afraid he will become angry if I stop for a drink with my colleagues after work.

Herb never asks me how my day was. I know I have problems, but it would be nice to feel supported. He has been physically abusive on multiple occasions. Is there any hope for me, Abby? — **DOWN IN THE DEPTHS IN COLORADO**

DEAR DOWN IN THE DEPTHS: Yes, there is. But first you must accept that you have a drinking problem and seek other avenues for resolving your depression. Speak to your doctor and get a referral for treatment.

That said, your drinking is no excuse for Herb to abuse you. Your life will improve as soon as you rid yourself of him.

**

DEAR ABBY: I am 21 and recently had a baby with "Danny," a guy I've never exactly dated, yet we continue to sleep together. He's gone through two girlfriends since I've known him, but he always comes back to me.

I love Danny, but I know the feeling is not mutual. Should I try to get over him and move on, or should I hang in with the man I love? — **WISHING AND HOPING IN DELAWARE**

DEAR WISHING AND HOPING: Please see a counselor. You need to explore why you have allowed yourself to be treated so poorly. Since Danny has never given you any reason to think you are anything more than a nocturnal convenience, it is best that you move on. However, before you do so, consult a lawyer about establishing child support and visitation because Danny does not appear to be a person who will shoulder his obligations willingly.

**

CONFIDENTIAL TO "GUILTY AND ASHAMED": Please stop punishing yourself over a relationship that ended 50 years ago. Appreciate the fine husband you have and those who love you. If you can't let go, get counseling so you can fully enjoy the reality you have — instead of grieving over a 1950s teenage fantasy.

**

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

**

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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events

LOTTO TEXAS™

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Texas Two Step

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Texas Two Step numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery:

10-25-26-32.
Bonus ball 21.
Estimated jackpot: $1.1 million

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery: 4-5-24-27-36

Pick 3

(Day) 1-7-1
(Night) 5-0-2

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Greenspan says low interest rates will continue

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve, after pushing interest rates to levels not seen since Dwight Eisenhower was president, is letting Congress know they will stay there for some time and may even go lower.

That was the message Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan was delivering to Congress as part of his twice-a-year testimony on the Fed's updated economic forecast.

Greenspan, who was scheduled to wrap up his testimony Wednesday with an appearance before the Senate Banking Committee, told a House panel Tuesday that the Fed was prepared to leave interest rates low "for as long as it takes" to revive the sluggish economy.

Private analysts predicted that the federal funds rate, the rate banks use for overnight loans to each other, will stay at its current 1 percent or even go lower if necessary. The next rate cut could come Aug. 12 at the next meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee, which sets the rate.

"Chairman Greenspan made it pretty clear that the FOMC intends to hold the funds rate at 1 percent or less if need be for an extended period of time," said Paul Kasriel, chief economist at the Northern Trust Co. of Chicago. "Basically, Greenspan is saying that the Fed will allow the economy to develop a good head of steam before even considering tapping the monetary brakes."

Many analysts said that means at the very least no Fed interest rate increases this year or well into 2004 — which should allow consumers to continue to enjoy low rates for mortgages and auto loans as well as short-term credit tied to banks' prime lending rate, which is currently at 4 percent, the lowest level since 1959.

"Greenspan was displaying cautious optimism," said David Wyss, chief economist at Standard & Poor's in New York. "He thinks things are improving, but they are not improving very fast and he is prepared to cut rates again if necessary."

The economy, weighed down early in the year by falling consumer and business confidence that reflected worries about the Iraq war, has shown disappointing growth so far in 2003. The sluggish growth pushed the unemployment rate to a nine-year high of 6.4 percent in June.

Greenspan expressed hope that the economy will pick up momentum in the second half of this year as low interest rates and President Bush's latest round of tax cuts take hold, telling the House Financial Services Committee, "We could very well be embarking on a period of extended growth."

Greenspan indicated that if this forecast proves too optimistic, the central bank was prepared to cut the federal funds rate further. The Fed last cut the funds rate to 1 percent, the lowest level since 1958, at its June 25 meeting.

The Fed "stands ready to maintain a highly accommodative stance of policy for as long as it takes to achieve a satisfactory economic performance," Greenspan said Tuesday.

Some economists had believed that the Fed would not move the funds rate lower than 0.75 percent, saying interest rates lower than that would make if difficult for money market mutual funds to meet expenses and still pay returns to investors.

Greenspan disagreed with that notion, saying, "substantial further conventional easings could be implemented" if needed. He said financial firms such as money market mutual funds would find a way to make money even at low rates.

At the Fed's last meeting in June, Greenspan said Fed policy-makers discussed at some length the possibility of using alternatives for influencing interest rates beyond the Fed's conventional lever of adjusting the funds rate.

But Fed policy-makers had concluded that "economic fundamentals are such that situations requiring special policy actions are most unlikely to arise," Greenspan said.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 07-16-03
♠ J 7 2
♥ J 7 6
♦ A 8 5 4 3
♣ 10 3

West
♠ 10 9 8 6 4
♥ 9 5 4 2
♦ 7
♣ 8 7 4

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

South
♠ A K Q
♥ A K Q
♦ K Q 2
♣ A K J 9

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
6 NT	Pass	7 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♠ 10

Wednesday, July 16, 2003

The grand slam of success

By Phillip Alder

What is the most common grand slam in sport? Consider baseball, bridge, golf and tennis.

How would you rate seven no-trump on today's North-South hands? How would you and your favorite partner bid them? After West leads the spade 10, how would you plan the play?

Forget the grand slam in golf — it has never happened in a calendar year since the present four-major format started in 1934. It is very rare in tennis. There have been only six. The last was by Steffi Graf in 1988 (and she won the Olympic gold medal too). In major-league baseball, a grand slam happens about once every 19 games. In bridge, one side or the other can make a grand slam approximately once in every two sessions. However, far fewer than that are actually bid and made.

Systems are not built around showing a balanced 31-count. Here, South opened two clubs, strong, artificial and forcing, then rebid six no-trump — a slight overstatement. Holding an ace, North understandably raised to seven.

There are only 11 top tricks: three spades, three hearts, three diamonds and two clubs. However, there are two chances for the extra tricks.

You win the first trick, then cash the king and queen of diamonds. If the suit splits 3-2, you are home. However, West inconsiderately discards a spade on the second round.

Now you must fall back on the clubs, hoping East has the queen. But after playing a diamond to dummy's ace, you must be careful to start with the club 10, so that if the finesse is successful, you are still in the dummy to repeat the finesse.

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White House raises deficit projections

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration dramatically raised its budget deficit projections on Tuesday to $455 billion for this year and $475 billion for next, record levels fed by the limp economy, tax cuts and the battle against terrorism.

The totals would easily surpass the $290 billion shortfall of 1992 that has been the red ink high water mark until now. They also mark a deterioration by more than 50 percent since February.

The shortfalls would drop to $213 billion in 2007, before edging back up to $226 billion the following year — underscoring that major budget challenges will loom just as the huge baby boom generation begins to retire and relies ever more on federal benefits like Social Security.

The dreary numbers set Republicans and Democrats at each other's political throats over an issue the public has largely ignored in recent years — even as massive projected surpluses have melted into deep deficits in the budget's starkest, most abrupt turnabout ever.

White House officials and GOP lawmakers said congressional spending must be controlled and economic growth policies like tax cuts should be continued. They said President Bush has had other, more pressing concerns.

"Restoring a balanced budget is an important priority for this administration," White House budget director Joshua Bolten told reporters. "But a balanced budget is not a higher priority than winning the global war on terror, protecting the American homeland, or restoring economic growth and job creation."

"Deficits do matter," said House Budget Committee Chairman Jim Nussle, R-Iowa. "Spending-driven deficits matter even more."

But reflecting some unease, Senate Budget Committee Chairman Don Nickles, R-Okla., called the deficits "uncomfortably high" and called for tighter spending controls. And the conservative-leaning Cato Institute chided Bush for "record-setting spending increases."

Democrats in Congress and on the campaign trail linked the unprecedented red ink to what they call Bush's mismanagement of the economy.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Doctors need to address the issue of drug costs

DEAR DR. GOTT: Are physicians ever aware of the retail prices of the drugs they prescribe? My doctor is always astounded at the cost of my medications.

DEAR READER: Doctors rarely discover the retail costs of medicines because — until recently, when this became a national problem — they seldom asked. Also, there is considerable variation in price from one pharmacy to another. Thus, physicians may be genuinely surprised when patients complain bitterly about how expensive medications are to purchase.

Patients need to address the issue by asking their doctors to be mindful of price. For those patients whose insurance plans do not cover the costs of drugs, the financial burden may be fearsome unless their practitioners are alerted to this potential problem.

Although substituting a less expensive drug may not always be appropriate, the use of cheaper equivalents or generics is usually advisable. For example, when it comes to antibiotics, the less expensive amoxicillin (or just plain penicillin) may be just as effective as the new synthetics, which can cost as much as $8 a pill.

Therefore, I urge patients to work with their doctors to achieve a suitable balance between price and effectiveness.

DEAR DR. GOTT: In the past, you have endorsed Benadryl as a safe and inexpensive sleep aid. But 50 milligrams doesn't even make me drowsy. Should I take more?

DEAR READER: I recommend 50 to 100 mg. of Benadryl for this purpose. Although most people respond to the lower dose, 100 mg. is not excessive. Try it. If the new dosage is ineffective, ask your physician to prescribe a stronger sleeping pill.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: Is myasthenia gravis always terminal?

DEAR READER: Myasthenia gravis is a serious neurological affliction caused by an autoimmune disorder that inactivates acetylcholine receptors, the precise place where nerves touch muscles. As a result of this deficiency, myasthenia patients suffer from episodic muscle weakness, double vision, heavy eyelids, difficulty speaking and swallowing, and — in severe cases — paralysis of the muscles of respiration.

The severity of myasthenia varies. Mild cases will cause only minor, periodic weakness, whereas severe cases can be fatal if left untreated.

The diagnosis is made by the edrophonium test, during which an injection of a drug temporarily neutralizes the defective receptors, permitting normal muscle function.

Myasthenia is treated with a variety of drugs, plasmapheresis (a form of blood exchange) and surgery (to remove the thymus gland, which is involved in the immune system).

Therefore, myasthenia is not necessarily fatal, although the treatment is complicated and should be administered only by experienced specialists.

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Date Book

Wednesday, July 16, 2003

Today is the 197th day of 2003 and the 26th day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1951, "The Catcher in the Rye," by J.D. Salinger, was first published.

On this day in 1969, the Apollo 11 mission departed Earth, leading to the first time human beings set foot on the moon — on any land beyond Earth.

On this day in 1999, John F. Kennedy Jr., his wife Carolyn, and her sister Lauren were killed when the single-engine airplane Kennedy was piloting crashed near Martha's Vineyard, Mass.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Sir Joshua Reynolds (1723-1792), artist; Mary Baker Eddy (1821-1910), founder of the Christian Science movement; "Shoeless Joe" Jackson (1889-1951), baseball great; Ginger Rogers (1911-1995), dancer and actress; Will Ferrell (1967-), actor, is 36; Barry Sanders (1968-), football star, is 35.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1909, the Senators and the Tigers played the American League's longest scoreless game — 18 innings.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "The real character of a man is found out by his amusements." — Sir Joshua Reynolds

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (July 13) and last quarter (July 21).

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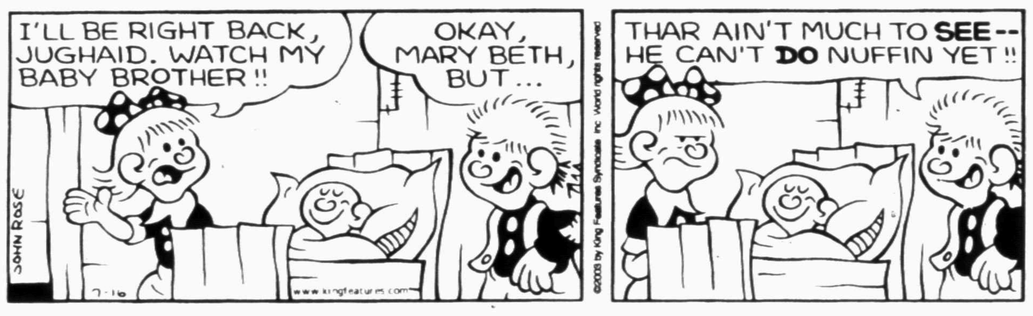

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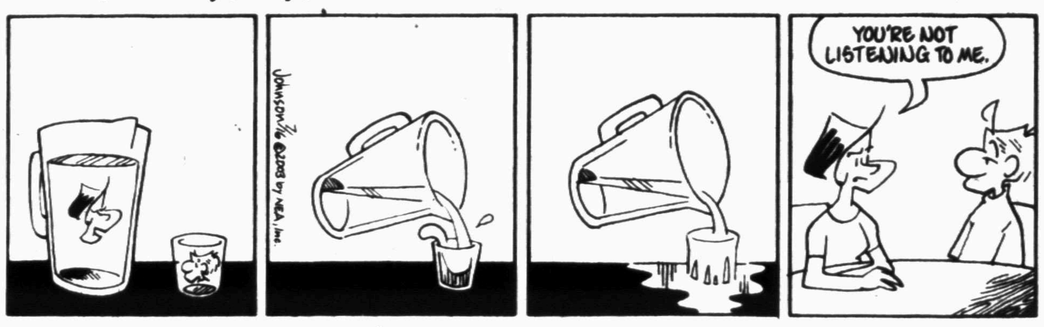

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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Ski lift (hyph.)
5 Classify
10 Bakery goods
12 Stuffed corn husk
13 Overly solemn
14 Bulova rivals
15 Part of OSU
16 Mont Blanc, e.g.
18 Nine-digit ID
19 Low-cost
21 Mountaineer's refrain
25 Flowering shrub
29 Historic shrine
30 Welsh dog
32 Some skirts
33 More frosty
34 Cowboy films
37 "On Golden Pond" actor
38 Journal
40 Tumult
43 Drug watchdog (abbr.)
44 Volcanic flow
48 Most darling
50 Complained
52 Works by Puccini
53 Cafe customers
54 Seafood garnish
55 High plateau

DOWN

1 Night on the —
2 Exotic island
3 Tel —
4 Thing in law
5 Flee hastily
6 Iowa city
7 Purses
8 Dash
9 French article
10 Holtz of coaching fame
11 Pahlavi's title
12 Gemstone
17 Meadow
19 Shut down
20 Calm
21 Orange vegetable
22 Melange
23 Art genre
24 Radiate
26 Loony
27 Dublin's locale
28 Mellow, as brandy
31 A Gershwin
35 Fissures
36 Crestfallen
39 Storm about
40 Trick
41 List component
42 Caligula's nephew
44 Diet-food label word
45 Gorillas or chimps
46 "Psycho" actress — Miles
47 TV spots
48 Promoted maj.
49 — Diego Chargers
51 Run into

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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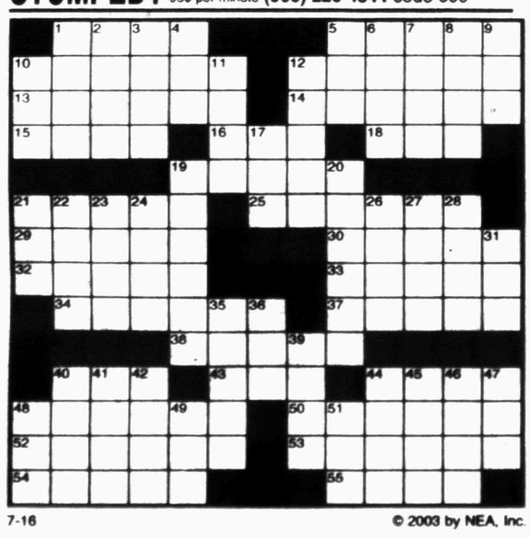

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Snyder Daily News
Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"EEYUK! MY SANDWICH IS MOSTLY SAND!"

SPORTS

BRING IT HOME — Snyder all-star Brent Bollinger connects for an RBI in the first inning of Tuesday's West Texas Babe Ruth state championship game at Dumas. Snyder defeated Dumas to advance to the Southwest Regional tournament in Warren, Ark. (Contributed Photo)

Snyder Babe Ruth wins West Texas state crown

DUMAS — The Snyder all-stars scored nine runs in the first inning Tuesday, and they needed every one.

The 13-year-old Babe Ruth all-stars captured the West Texas Babe Ruth crown, powering past host Dumas, 16-13, to advance to the Southwest Regional tournament in Warren, Ark.

Snyder used four pitchers in the seven-inning tilt, with Ryan Claxton going two innings for the win, and Lance Day recording the final six outs for the save.

Brent Bollinger and Dustin Murdock combined for the other three innings.

Though the squad gave up 13 runs, they never trailed and were never in danger.

Heading into the bottom of the fourth, Dumas had closed the gap to 11-10, but three more runs in the bottom of the frame pushed Snyder to a four-run lead and enough runs to seal the victory.

Snyder got things rolling right out of the chute in the bottom of the first.

Claxton belted a single to start the game, and Bollinger followed with a base hit on the first pitch he saw.

Day followed with a two-run single, and the floodgates opened.

Murdock belted a single and moved to second on a passed ball, and Ryan Gonzales walked and advanced on another pitch that got by Dumas catcher Preston Mead.

Claxton and Bollinger both crossed the plate for the second time in the inning on five errors in two bats from shortstop Andrew Rodriguez and Mead.

Claxton drove in his second run and scored his third of the game in the third inning. He was 3-for-5 in the game.

Brooks Gafford, who went 1-for-3 with two RBI, also scored the first of his two runs in that frame.

Dumas made it 15-13 after plating three in the top of the sixth, but Bollinger scored his third run of the game to provide the final tally.

Jesse Conner replaced Blaine Knipe in the third inning and collected two hits and a run driven in. Ryan Arredondo was 1-for-2 with two runs and an RBI.

The team will head to Arkansas for the start of the regional tournament on July 25.

Snyder gets a first-round bye, and will compete in its first game at 1:30 p.m. July 26 against the winner of host Warren and the squad from North Arkansas.

SHS softball coach resigns

Shelley Hayes, architect of this season's district champion Lady Tigers softball team, has resigned.

Hayes' letter of resignation was accepted by the SISD at Tuesday's meeting, signaling the end of her tenure with the program.

Athletic director Chad Rogers said Hayes took a position with Coleman, which is closer to her home in Abilene.

Hayes' resignation came after the 45-day window for teachers to opt out of their contracts, which is why the resignation needed approval from the board.

Rogers said a replacement has not been named, adding that the process of finding a new coach will be deliberate, adding that there is no hurry to fill the slot.

Hayes compiled a 37-3-1 record this season, including a 10-0 mark in district.

Blalock's pinch-HR rallies AL to victory

CHICAGO (AP) — Hank Blalock's team is going nowhere. Thanks to him, though, a lot of his AL teammates have a much better chance to go all the way.

In an All-Star game that clearly meant more than a mere exhibition, Blalock connected for a two-run, pinch-hit homer off Eric Gagne in the eighth inning that rallied the Americans over the NL 7-6 Tuesday night.

On a night when the teams turned serious and strategy took over, Blalock's unlikely shot gave the AL champion home-field advantage in the World Series. Blalock and the Texas Rangers are stuck in last place, but Jason Giambi, Ichiro Suzuki and several other stars surely owe him.

"Certainly, our guys in the clubhouse are going to be in the World Series, so I'm glad that I could help them out," Blalock said.

The NL was supposed to have the home-field edge this season. Yet after last season's disastrous 7-7 tie in 11 innings, baseball decided to juice up the All-Star game by attaching more meaning.

"For the American League, it's important to kind of steal one," New York Yankees ace Roger Clemens said before the first pitch.

Come Oct. 18 — Game 1 of the World Series — fans everywhere will see exactly how much this outcome meant. Of the last eight Series to go to Game 7, the home team has won every one.

Giambi and Garret Anderson also homered as the AL posted its sixth straight victory — not counting the tie — and matched its longest winning streak ever. Now, for the first time since Detroit hosted the opener in 1934 and 1935, the Series will start in the same league in consecutive years.

"We realize and recognize what was put on us and the stakes that were there," NL manager Dusty Baker said. "I'm not crazy about the outcome, even though it was a great game to watch and a great game to manage."

And the NL has no one to blame except itself. Andruw Jones' two-run, pinch-hit double and solo homer gave the Nationals a 5-1 lead before Anderson hit a two-run homer in the sixth.

Then, the vaunted NL bullpen blew it. Houston closer Billy Wagner gave up Giambi's solo shot in the seventh that made it 6-4 and Gagne, who has been successful on 39 straight save chances for Los Angeles, fell apart in the eighth.

Vernon Wells hit an RBI double with two outs and Blalock, batting for Troy Glaus, hit a long drive to right field — to the right of the big outfield sign that proclaimed the All-Star slogan, "This Time It Counts."

Brendan Donnelly got the win with a scoreless eighth, and Keith Foulke pitched the ninth for a save. Rafael Furcal flied out to the warning track in right to end it as the AL closed its overall deficit in the series to 40-32-2.

Anderson, who took the Home Run Derby title Monday night, won the first Ted Williams MVP trophy.

From the start, it was evident that both teams were intent on winning.

For the first time in years, each side had signs and signals. And there was only one substitution for a position player before the fifth inning.

Snyder bounced from tourney

SEMINOLE — After being shutout over the first five innings Tuesday, the Snyder 14- and 15-year-old all-stars rallied late, only to fall short against Pampa, 4-3.

The loss knocks Snyder from the Seminole tournament and ends its season.

Snyder had six hits through the first five, but could not string anything together. The team had seven runners in scoring position during that span, but could not score.

Trailing 3-0 entering the sixth, Snyder closed the gap on a two-run single from Cale Lancaster that plated Caleb Gutierrez and Cade Simpson.

After Pampa stretched its lead to 4-2 in the bottom of the sixth, Snyder added a run on a base hit from Gutierrez that scored Eric Martinez, before Pampa killed the rally.

Martinez was 3-for-4 with a stolen base, while Corbin Clements and Chris Smith tacked on hits for Snyder.

Sports Briefs

Volleyball camp

SHS volleyball coach Laura Moses will host a volleyball camp Monday and Tuesday for incoming 4th-6th-graders at the high school gym. The camp will run from 9 to 11 a.m. both days. Cost is $20 and includes a t-shirt. Contact coach Moses at 436-9067 for more details.

Partnership golf tournament

The Snyder partnership golf tournament will be held at Scurry County golf course July 26-27. Format is scramble-low ball. Call the pro shop at 573-7101 for more information.

Kiwanis Club golf tournament

The Snyder Kiwanis Club will sponsor a golf tournament Aug 9 at the WTC golf course to benefit the Cargile Scholarship Foundation. The tournament will begin at 8:30 a.m., and format is four-person scramble. Cost is $30 per person, and cash prizes will be awarded.

The tournament includes a long drive and putting contests, closest to the hole par three and $100,000 shoot-out. Call the WTC pro shop at 573-9291 or Russell Fisk at 573-3438 to sign-up or to reserve a cart.

Hermleigh athletic physicals

All incoming sixth, ninth and 11th grade Hermleigh athletes are reminded to get a physical. Forms can be picked up at the high school and all paperwork must be completed prior to the physical.

Snyder athletic physicals

Physicals are required for students wishing to participate in SISD athletics. Those needing physicals include all incoming seventh, ninth and third-year high school students; all new students to SISD who plan to participate in athletics; any student who answered yes to questions 1, 4, 5, 6, or 7 on their medical history form; and any student who has not participates in athletics in the past.

The district will pay for physicals up until Aug. 1. With the following doctors: Raykov, Burleson, Cooper, Thompson and Wolboldt. Incoming seventh and ninth graders pick-up physical forms at the doctor's office.

Woods, Els set for showdown

SANDWICH, England (AP) — Tiger Woods and Ernie Els have everything it takes to form a major rivalry except for one critical piece — a Sunday showdown at a major championship.

Royal St. George's might be the perfect place to start.

Woods, without a major trophy for the first time in four years, shot down any suggestions he was in a slump two weeks ago by going wire-to-wire for a five-stroke victory in the Western Open, his fourth win of the season.

Els responded by leading from start to finish to win by five strokes at the Scottish Open last week at Loch Lomond, his fifth victory of the year.

They arrived at the British Open on top of their games, a collision long overdue.

Might this finally be the week?

"Yeah, I think so," Els said Tuesday. "Tiger is playing really well. And I think from all the press he's getting — not winning a major in a year, which I think is ridiculous — I think he's going to try to prove something and have a good week.

"I'm looking for a good week. I've been playing well," Els said. "Hopefully, it happens. I feel really good about this week. We'll just wait and see."

The prospect of Woods vs. Els has been brewing since the beginning of the year.

The Big Easy won the first two PGA Tour events in Hawaii, then added two more victories in Australia as Woods was recovering from surgery on his left knee.

Woods returned from an eight-week layoff by winning three of his four tournaments.

But the majors?

Those belonged to Mike Weir (Masters) and Jim Furyk (U.S. Open).

Woods finished out of the top 10 in both, falling out of contention with a bad swing at Augusta National and a bad third round at Olympia Fields.

"You're not going to win every one, but at least you can give yourself a chance on Sunday," Woods said. "That's one of the things I haven't been able to do."

Els finished better than Woods in both majors, although he was never a factor, either.

Wolves, Spurs sign replacement centers

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Free agent center Michael Olowokandi agreed Tuesday night to join the Minnesota Timberwolves and replace Rasho Nesterovic, who hours earlier reached a deal with San Antonio.

Olowokandi's move was expected to be announced today, said agent Bill Duffy, who represents both Olowokandi and Nesterovic.

The 7-foot, 270-pound Olowokandi, the first overall pick by the Los Angeles Clippers in the 1998 draft, reportedly agreed to a three-year deal worth $16.2 million. Wednesday is the first day NBA teams can sign free agents to contracts.

News of Olowokandi's addition capped what had been a disappointing 48 hours for Minnesota, which lost out to Orlando for power forward Juwan Howard and had made re-signing Nesterovic a top priority.

Nesterovic instead agreed to a six-year, $42-million deal with the Spurs.

He had reportedly been considering a seven-year, $50-million offer to stay with the Timberwolves, his team for his first five NBA seasons.

"Though we were hopeful that Rasho would re-sign with our team, we have been preparing for this scenario," general manager Kevin McHale said in a statement.

But adding Olowokandi, who will join All-Star forward Kevin Garnett in the frontcourt, helps ease the pain.

"They landed on their feet," Duffy said of the Timberwolves.

Report: Boselli retires

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston Texans offensive left tackle Tony Boselli is planning to retire, according to newspaper and broadcast reports.

Boselli, a five-time Pro Bowler, was taken by the Texans as the first player in the 2002 expansion draft, but has never played for Houston. A shoulder injury sidelined him for the entire 2002 season, and most of the 2001 season.

The Houston Chronicle and Houston television station KRIV cited sources as saying Boselli will retire.

A call to Boselli's agent by The Associated Press was not immediately returned.

The official announcement is expected by the end of the week, the Houston Chronicle reported in its online edition Tuesday night.

Texans General Manager Charley Casserly said through a spokesman that they were discussing Boselli's future and would have a decision at some point, KRIV reported.

The Texans used their first pick in the 2002 expansion draft on Boselli, who had played in just three games the previous season for Jacksonville.

Members of the Texans' staff were optimistic that Boselli, 6-7 and 322 pounds, would make a successful comeback in 2003, but all indications are it will not happen.

Boselli participated in the team's offseason program, which included a three-day minicamp and 14 on-field coaching sessions, but he was unable to participate fully.

Both sides agreed Boselli would see how he felt prior to reporting to training camp before deciding on his future. Strength and range of motion were the key concerns about Boselli's left shoulder, which was operated on once in Jacksonville and twice after the expansion draft.

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Legal Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF SCURRY §

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of GLORIA GLADYS BROWNING, Deceased, were issued on July 15, 2003, in Cause No. 5813, pending in the County Court of SCURRY County, Texas, to: Shirley Hagins

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: **Pamela Jean Chaney**
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 507
Eastland, TX 76448

DATED the 15th day of July, 2003.

(s) PAMELA JEAN CHANEY
Attorney for Estate
State Bar No.: 24006983
PO Box 507
EASTLAND, Texas 76448
Telephone: (254) 653-7168
Facsimile: (254) 629-8441

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Girl Scout Council
seeks part-time Membership Specialist to serve 6 counties. Must have own transportation; Spanish Bi-Lingual a plus. Send resume to P.O. Box 5586, Abilene, TX 79606 or e-mail to wtgsc@hotmail.com.

Heavy equipment operators & CDL truck drivers for the Brazos Wind Ranch Project in Fluvanna. Applicants be at old Methodist church in Fluvanna 8a.m., July 19, 2003. Steven Franks, 806-886-1051 E.D. Baker Co.

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Kitchen helpers & wait-staff willing to work. Apply in person at LaRoca Restaurant.

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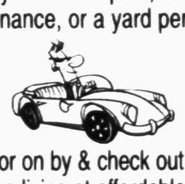

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July 19th
Ads must be placed by NOON Thursday 7/17
Ads will be in Friday's paper.
Ads must be paid for in advance.
Use up to 20 words,
1 day for $6.75

Marine who disapeared with young girl arrested

LONDON (AP) — Toby Studabaker, the former U.S. Marine who disappeared with a 12-year-old English girl, has been arrested in Germany, police said today. The girl was safe and well and had returned to Britain, they said.

Schoolgirl Shevaun Pennington has not been seen by her family since Saturday but spoke to her mother late Tuesday and said she was safe and still with the 31-year-old Studabaker.

"Greater Manchester Police with the support of German authorities and the FBI have arrested Toby Studabaker in Frankfurt, Germany," the department said.

Birgit Vetter, a spokeswoman for Germany's Federal Criminal Office, confirmed that Studabaker was arrested in Frankfurt at the request of British authorities.

"We'll be looking at bringing him back to this country," police Superintendent Peter Mason told reporters in Leigh, near the girl's hometown.

He wouldn't give details of the girl's location, but said she was accompanied by police officers and would be reunited with her parents "as soon as she can."

The pair had last been traced to Charles de Gaulle airport near Paris, where they arrived on a flight Saturday. French police had been cooperating with the search.

Shevaun had given no indication she was being held against her will when she spoke with her mother by phone on Tuesday, police said, adding that she hadn't discussed returning to her home in Lowton; northwest England.

Earlier Wednesday, Shevaun's mother Joanna Pennington said she was "relieved" her daughter was still with Studabaker, who police say befriended the schoolgirl via the Internet.

"Come home. Please come home. That is all we want," Pennington told Sky News TV.

Pennington said Shevaun had "feelings" for Studabaker and added she respected them.

"I'm actually quite relieved that he's still with her in a way because he's obviously helping to look after her. As long as she comes back, she can even come back with him, I'm not bothered."

Mason said earlier that Shevaun believed she was in a relationship with Studabaker.

"It is a relationship that has developed over a number of months, starting off on Internet chat lines and progressing through to e-mails and personal letters."

Police released closed circuit TV footage of Studabaker arriving at Manchester airport early on Saturday. He appears with short dark hair, whereas in previously published photographs he had a shaved head.

Studabaker has phoned his relatives to say the missing girl is safe and he will contact the FBI soon, his brother said Tuesday.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Thursday, July 17, 2003
Patience will be required in the year ahead regarding recognition and rewards for work well done. Although the accolades might be a bit delayed, they'll eventually make up for their tardiness in larger measure.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — As long as everything is going your way at work today, you'll be all smiles. Let someone offer a better way of doing something, however, and you could interpret his or her suggestion as a form of criticism.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today you'll have to devote your full attention to either business or social involvements, as you're not able to do both. The two simply won't mix.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — In an issue where you and your mate have taken opposing positions, it's time to find a compromise. Why prolong the argument? If each gives a little, it can be amicably settled.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Attitude is everything today, and if you choose to react negatively to situations, the response will be stormy. Come out from behind that dark cloud and walk in the sunshine.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Credit cards do not make good substitutes for hard cash. If you don't have the money in the bank, don't go into debt for frivolous purchases.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Sometimes a change of scenery is necessary to refresh your well-being. Today could be one of those days. If you've been cloistered in your home or office, step out on the town a bit.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — The heavy hand of neglected duty will weigh on your shoulders today. Even if you can't clean up everything at once, do what you can to make room for new responsibilities.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Unless you put limits on how you spend your hard-earned money, you'll succumb to temptation and forget your necessities.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Your social requirements are fine today, but you won't fare so well with your career. You need to get your priorities back on track.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Just because your family may forgive you for an occasional display of a temper, the world will not. Avoid a bad disposition today.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — You can impose upon others to take care of a matter for you, but don't expect it to get the same care and attention you would have given.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Yield to an objective observer when making a judgment call on the behavior of someone you love. Your critique may be prejudiced.

Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker wheel can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail $2 to Matchmaker, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Also visit: www.bernice4u.com

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Marine gets hero's welcome in Odessa

ODESSA (AP) — A West Texas military officer who helped rescue seven prisoners of war in Iraq has returned home to the Permian Basin.

U.S. Marine Sgt. Michael Castaneda of Sheffield was greeted Tuesday by about 50 of his family members and relatives at Midland International Airport.

Some younger relatives held a banner that read, "Welcome Michael," with a photo of Castaneda in his dress uniform.

"I'm excited and just so blessed to have him home," said his mother, Betty Sue Gonzales of Odessa. Gonzales said she had heard from her son earlier, but "not as much as we wanted to."

Castaneda was assigned to the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance, which led the POW rescue operation after members of a convoy from the Army's 507th Maintenance Company, based at Fort Bliss near El Paso, were ambushed March 23 near Nasiriya.

The POWs were Spc. Joseph Hudson, Sgt. James Riley, Spc. Shoshana Johnson, Spc. Edgar Hernandez and Pfc. Patrick Miller, members of the convoy from the 507th Maintenance Company, and chief warrant officers Ronald Young Jr. and David S. Williams.

Castaneda said the troops thought they might be headed into an ambush because the Marines didn't know there were any Americans that far north. The Marines used global positioning equipment to find the prisoners. Castaneda's scout team made a building-to-building room clearing to find their fellow troops. They were in and out in 10 minutes, taking very light enemy fire, he said.

The former POWs were put in a safe area and a med-evac was called. A section of highway was secured and the troops were transported to Kuwait.

"They were happy. They had never been so happy in their lives," Castaneda told the Odessa American, adding that the rescue was a turning point for him. "There's a deep feeling of accomplishment you can't top. It's one of the greatest feelings in the world. It's like being a parent for the first time or getting married."

He said he had been trained for a rescue like the one in Iraq, but had never done it before.

Castaneda, 24, was deployed to Iraq in January. He has been in the Marines for five years. His family had not seen him since January, when a group drove from Texas to Twenty Nine Palms, Calif., to see him off.

Castaneda's family has a long tradition of military service. Castaneda's cousin Matthew, is a lance corporal in the Marines. Another cousin, Santos Pedro Castaneda, an E-3 in the Navy, is still deployed aboard the USS Nimitz. After visiting with family here, Michael Castaneda plans to return to California and pick up orders to become a drill instructor.

Castaneda planned to spend time with his family.

"I'm ecstatic. I'm really ecstatic," his aunt, Sylvia Robertson-Baldwin, said of having Castaneda back. "I'm so proud. I feel every young man or woman in the military should be recognized for their sacrifice."

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	11.10	10.32	10.51	— 05
AOL TimeWrn	16.57	16.30	16.37	+ 01
AT&T Corp rs	19.62	19.23	19.27	— 33
Albertsons	18.97	18.62	18.62	— 32
Alltel	48.70	48.06	48.07	— 23
AmEl Pw	27.95	27.37	27.39	— 57
AndarkPtr	43.95	43.30	43.40	— 24
ATMOS Egy	24.63	24.40	24.49	— 01
Aviall	12.00	11.80	11.85	— 05
BP PLC	39.62	39.30	39.48	+ 18
BakerHughes	32.35	31.65	31.69	— 37
Bank of Amer	83.87	82.41	82.80	— 70
BellSouth	26.93	25.86	26.01	— 58
BurlNoSFe	29.00	28.54	28.60	— 18
Caterpillar	58.60	57.78	58.06	— 01
CenterPoint	8.00	7.87	7.90	— 10
ChevronTex	71.75	71.23	71.45	+ 09
Citigroup	47.00	45.44	45.50	—1.33
CocaCola	44.15	42.51	42.55	—1.44
ColgatePal	57.12	56.48	56.59	— 36
CmclMetals	18.00	17.73	17.73	— 27
ConocoPhill	53.20	52.66	52.78	— 22
Cooper Inds	41.68	41.04	41.12	— 18
DaimlrChry	35.78	34.88	35.04	— 61
DeltaAirl	14.39	14.10	14.17	— 11
Dillards Inc	14.14	13.75	13.83	— 12
DowChem	31.09	30.49	30.58	— 34
DuPont	42.30	41.83	41.97	— 11
EastmanChem	31.87	31.45	31.67	+ 17
EstKodak	26.88	26.01	26.20	— 36
EDS Corp	23.00	22.43	22.58	— 28
Entergy	49.56	48.97	48.98	— 41
ExxonMobil	35.45	35.07	35.18	— 01
FootLocker	14.08	13.95	13.96	+ 07
GenDynam	77.60	74.33	75.70	+ 1.70
GenElec	27.92	26.50	27.30	— 37
GenMills	48.35	47.76	47.82	— 44
GenMotors	36.15	35.03	35.26	— 99
GaPacific	19.09	18.75	18.75	— 24
Goodrich	21.64	21.33	21.46	+ 01
Goodyear	5.30	5.20	5.22	+ 01
GtAtlPac	11.15	10.62	10.79	— 04
Halliburtn	22.97	21.09	21.34	— 51
Hanson ADS	27.54	27.22	27.22	— 14
HarteHanks	19.00	18.85	18.95	+ 05
HomeDepot	33.54	32.59	32.89	—.28
Honeywellntl	28.12	27.34	27.58	—.30
IBM	87.24	86.42	86.75	+ 31
IntlPaper	37.06	36.47	36.66	— 08
JohnsonJn	53.05	51.80	52.75	+ 20
KinderMorg	54.47	53.61	53.87	— 23
Kroger Co	17.27	16.90	16.96	— 14
LockheedM	49.85	49.28	49.72	+ 42
Lowes Cos	47.19	46.56	46.64	— 42
Lubys	2.56	2.45	2.56	+ 08
LucentTech	1.78	1.62	1.69	— 23
MarathonOil	25.90	25.48	25.57	— 13
MayDeptStr	22.75	22.43	22.50	+ 20
Medtronic	49.35	48.11	48.72	— 63
Motorola	9.66	9.11	9.24	— 54
NCR Corp	31.58	30.54	30.75	— 57
Navistar	36.75	36.11	36.12	— 46
PNM Rescs	26.22	25.84	25.85	— 05
Penney JC	17.55	17.25	17.34	+ 25
PepBoys	14.50	14.41	14.46	+ 13
PepsiCo	47.83	47.03	47.67	+ 18
PhelpDodge	39.10	38.42	38.48	— 04
PilgrmPrd B	11.60	11.45	11.50	+ 05
Praxair	61.90	60.75	60.77	— 82
ProctGamb	88.60	87.94	88.09	— 20
RadioShack	28.16	27.24	27.31	— 59
RoyalDut	44.78	44.46	44.61	+ 10
SBC Comm	25.09	24.12	24.20	— 60
SaraLee	19.63	19.46	19.52	
Scripps EW	84.60	82.37	82.70	—1.90
SearsRoeb	41.30	38.48	38.65	+3.67
SherwinW	27.46	27.23	27.31	— 05
SouthernCo	28.65	28.05	28.06	— 40
SwstAirl	17.00	16.65	16.68	— 25
SprintFON	15.19	14.95	14.98	— 21
SprintPCS	5.90	5.74	5.74	— 04
Sunoco Inc	38.32	37.83	37.85	— 26
TXU Corp	20.69	20.25	20.25	— 32
TempleInland	43.50	43.15	43.31	— 14
TexInd	23.38	22.70	23.05	+ 45
TexasInst	19.75	19.02	19.11	— 33
Textron	38.50	38.00	38.05	— 02
TrinityInds	21.85	21.31	21.45	— 20
TylerTech	5.20	5.10	5.14	— 05
UnionPacif	59.39	59.02	59.07	— 03
USSteel	15.95	15.64	15.88	+ 16
UnitedTech	72.70	71.95	71.97	+ 05
Unocal	28.25	27.97	28.02	— 13
VerizonComm	37.05	36.60	36.74	— 21
WalMart	58.00	56.50	56.61	— 71
WellsFargo	52.15	51.59	51.66	— 27
WstnGasRs	38.00	37.60	37.70	— 16
WinnDixie	12.60	12.33	12.37	— 21
Xerox Cp	11.43	11.17	11.23	— 26
YumBrands	29.66	29.00	29.25	— 40

JUL 16 2003

Scurry County Country

Scurrying Around Snyder

Beth Dannheim, CEA- Family and Consumer Sciences, 2605 Avenue M, Snyder, Texas 79549

National Do Not Call Registry

There has been much hype in the news lately about the beginning of the "National Do Not Call Registry" by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to help limit unsolicited calls from telemarketers. It is also important to note that the State of Texas Public Utilities Commission (PUC) also offers two "No Call Lists" for residents with a Texas phone number: one list for telemarketers and one list for electric companies. While these two programs aim for the same goal — reduction in the number of telemarketing calls — there are some things you should know about each.

The PUC offers two lists for Texas residents. The first is a statewide "no call" list to help limit telemarketing calls to *residential* customers only. For a fee of $2.25, you may have your name added to a list for 3 years that will help reduce the number of unsolicited phone calls to your home.

Also available from the PUC is the Texas "electric no call." This option is available to *both* residential and business customers but will only limit phone calls from electric companies trying to get you to switch service. This list is available for a $2.55 fee that covers 5 years. Subscriptions are available to both lists at a cost of $4.80 for 5 years.

One note on the "electric' list: not all areas offer a choice in electric service yet and, as such, a subscription to that list may not be necessary. From the date of registration, it will take approximately 60 days for the calls to stop.

The nation-wide list operated by the FCC and FTC operates much the same way only anyone can register, not just Texas residents. The federal program is free of charge and will enroll you on their registry for 5 years. You may register up to three phone numbers on the national "no call" list.

This program also estimates about 60 days from registration for the calls to stop. Though the basic elements of both programs are the same, the Texas program is slightly more strict and comprehensive with regard to phone calls and will therefore still be offered.

Will all the calls stop? No. Companies with whom you have an established business relationship will still be able to contact you as well as non-profit, religious, and political organizations. Also, if you request contact from a company, they will be able to call you. Again, this program is not meant to eliminate the calls entirely but to limit them.

Fraud via the telephone is a multi-million dollar scam each year. Through programs such as the "Texas No Call List" and the "National Do Not Call Registry" initiative is being taken to reduce crime. For more information about the Texas list, call 1-866-896-6225 or ; or by writing: Texas No Call, P.O. Box 313,

E. Walpole, MA 02032. For the national program, you may go to or call 1-888-382-1222.

Marlin Terrell SCFB president reports...

78th Texas legislative session was good for farmers and ranchers

"Our local farmers and ranchers were generally pleased with the actions of the 78th Texas Legislature, which adjourned in early June after its biennial 140-day session," said Marlin Terrell, president of the Scurry County Farm Bureau.

"Not only was adequate funding for state agricultural programs preserved, new legislation was passed that stands to protect the property rights of farmers and ranchers," said Terrell.

Terrell said one of the most important bills requires cities to pay the fair market value of water beneath property that is condemned for the purpose of acquiring the water rights. Prior to passage of this bill, government entities had only to pay the market value of the land.

"It was an important property rights issue for us," Terrell said. "The bill ensures that landowners will be compensated if their land is taken for the water."

Terrell said he is also optimistic about the future of several state agricultural programs. "We knew going in there would be budget cuts, but agriculture's key programs will continue without a significant reduction in services, said Terrell.

These programs include boll weevil control, brush control, the Texas Cooperative Extension Service, agricultural research and others.

A bill allowing farms to control wild hogs damaging their property without a hunting license also passed, along with a measure to provide royalty payment for land taken for the Texas Transportation Corridor, said Terrell.

Market

Lubbock

The Lubbock Stockyards, Inc had a run of 670 head of livestock for the Thursday July 10, sale. Cows were $2 cheaper. Yearlings and calves were $2 to $3 higher. Trading and demand were good

Slaughter cows:
(High dressing, cutters, utility) 40-48.50
Canners and low cutters: 33-41
Slaughter bulls: 50-60.50
Feeder steers:
300-400: 105-135
400-500: 100-117
500-600: 85-100
600-700: 80-90
700-800: 75-85
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 95-115
400-500: 85-95
500-600: 77-87
600-700: 78-83
700-800: 68-80
Feeder bulls - Good and choice
500-600: 80-94
700-800: 65-78
Cow and Calf Pairs
Good: 750-1,000
Grade: 650-750
Springers: 500-725
Baby Calves: 150-200
Doodlers: 150-250

Diversified

By Greg Gruben, County Extension Agent

Garden Checklist for July — August

1. Caladiums require plenty of water at this time of year if they are to remain lush and active until fall. Fertilize with 21-0-0 at the rate of 1/3 to ½ pounds per 100 square feet of bed area and water thoroughly.

2. Don't allow plants with green fruit or berries to suffer from lack of moisture. Hollies will frequently drop their fruit under drought conditions.

3. In August, sow seeds of snapdragons, dianthus, pansies, calendulas, and other winter flowers in flats for planting outside in mid-to-late fall.

4. It's time to divide spring flowering plants such as irises, Shasta daisies, ox-eye daisies, gaillardias, cannas, daylilies, violets, liriopes, and ajugas.

5. Plant bluebonnet seeds in August. This winter annual must germinate in late summer or early fall, develop a good root system, and be ready to grow in spring when the weather warms. Plant the seeds in well-prepared soil, ½ inch deep, and water thoroughly.

6. Make your selections and place your orders for spring flowering bulbs to arrive in time for planting in October and November.

7. Mid-summer pruning of rose bushes can be beneficial. Prune out dead canes and any weak, brushy-type growth. Cut back tall, vigorous bushes to about 30 inches. After pruning, apply a complete fertilizer, and water thoroughly. If a preventive disease-control program has been maintained, your rose bushes should be ready to provide an excellent crop of flowers this fall.

8. Establish a new compost pile for the fall leaf accumulation.

9. Picking flowers frequently encourages most annuals and perennials to flower even more abundantly.

10. It is not too late to set out another planting of many warm-season annuals such as marigolds, zinnias, and periwinkles. They will require extra attention for the first few weeks but should provide color during late September, October, and November.

New strain of wheat rust hurting crops

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — A new strain of a disease that turns wheat the color of rust is hurting the crop in eastern Washington.

Researchers at Washington State University are scrambling to create a wheat variety that is resistant to the new strain, or race, of stripe rust.

"The new race showed up last year," said WSU agronomist Diana Roberts in Spokane. "It overcame the resistance in the varieties we have."

Wheat is a major crop in eastern Washington, where farmers have for several years suffered from low prices. Now they are spending some $20 per acre to spray chemicals to fight the stripe rust, Roberts said.

But spraying with fungicides does not make economic sense if crop yields are not high, she said.

"You can't get rid of the pathogen," Roberts said. "You have to develop varieties that are resistant to it."

That can take as long as five years, she added.

Rust stripe can reduce crop yields by 60 percent, but the scope of the problem in Washington is not clear, Roberts said. Last summer, farmers spent an estimated $2 million on chemicals and crop-dusters to save susceptible spring wheat.

The stripe rust appears as red bumps on a leaf and produces spores that are carried by winds. Different varieties are constantly and naturally formed, Roberts said.

Stripe rust has always been present in Northwest wheat fields. Mild temperatures last winter allowed the mutated fungus to survive here. At the same time, other new strains of the fungus blew into the region from other states, Roberts said.

No time line on banned Canadian beef

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — The federal government still has no timeline for lifting its ban on Canadian beef imports, a top U.S. Department of Agriculture official said.

The ban by the United States and other countries was imposed after mad-cow disease was detected in an Alberta cow on May 20.

The border will stay closed to Canadian cattle until "sound science" proves the country's markets are safe again, Undersecretary Bill Hawks said Sunday at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Association of State Departments of Agriculture.

"It would be totally disingenuous to sit up here and give you a timeline," Hawks said.

In Canada, where 70 percent of beef exports head to the United States, officials are watching their country lose $20 million per day, said James Marjerrison, an associate executive director with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency who made a presentation with Hawks.

Ranch wokers found slain execution-style

RIO GRANDE CITY, Texas (AP) — Two ranch workers were found slain execution-style on a ranch about eight miles north of Rio Grande City, the Starr County Sheriff's Department said Tuesday.

Investigators told a Harlingen television station that both men were shot in the head as they slept in a stable. The ranch owner discovered the bodies.

According to a statement released by the sheriff's department, it is believed the two were shot with a hunting rifle. Both were Mexican nationals, officials said.

No arrests have been made, and a motive was unclear, authorities said.

COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

WEEKLY LAKE AND WATER DELIVERY REPORT

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

	ONE YEAR AGO 7-14-02	LAST WEEK 7-7-03	THIS WEEK 7-14-03
ELEVATION (FEET)	18.42	19.03	18.73
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	20,594	21,905	21,255
PERCENT FULL	10.27	10.92	10.60
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.00	0.00
IVIE TO LAKE THOMAS (Gal.)		0	0
SPENCE TO THOMAS (Gal.)		0	0

*RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT BIG SPRING/ODESSA INTAKE.

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

	ONE YEAR AGO 7-14-02	LAST WEEK 7-7-03	THIS WEEK 7-14-03
ELEVATION (FEET)	42.35	43.44	43.18
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	49,020	52,653	51,772
PERCENT FULL	9.48	10.18	10.01
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.20	0.00

*RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT SPENCE PUMP STATION.

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

	ONE YEAR AGO 7-14-02	LAST WEEK 7-7-03	THIS WEEK 7-14-03
ELEVATION (FEET)	30.457	28.41	28.16
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	241,643	220,259	217,717
PERCENT FULL	43.59	39.73	39.27
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.10	0.00

* RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT DAM.

INFORMATION BASED ON NEW AREA CAPACITY CURVE DATA

MUNICIPAL WATER DELIVERIES IN GALLONS

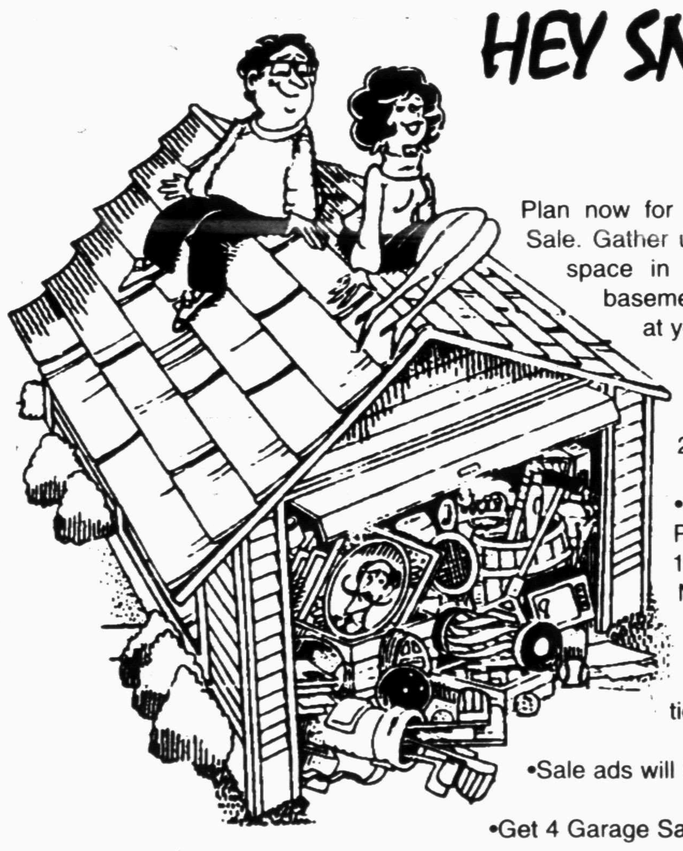
	LAST WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE 7-7-03 7-1-03	THIS WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE 7-14-03 7-8-03	THIS WEEKS PEAK DAY 7-14-03 7-8-03
BIG SPRING	5,674,286	6,204,286	7,090,000
ODESSA	25,388,143	23,564,714	27,960,000
SNYDER	2,819,857	3,191,143	3,646,000
MIDLAND	29,555,571	27,843,571	30,999,000
SAN ANGELO	8,981,000	12,347,143	18,819,000
STANTON	168,000	170,714	213,000

THURSDAY Is The LAST DAY To Get Your Garage Sale Ads In For The

CITY WIDE GARAGE SALE!

ON JULY 19

HEY SNYDER...



Plan now for your City Wide Garage Sale. Gather up those items taking up space in your garage, attic and basement and sell them for cash at your garage sale!

Ad must be placed by noon, Thursday, July 17, 2003.

•Garage Sale Ads Published Friday, July 18th in the Snyder Daily News

•Use up to 20 words to describe your sale (additional words 20¢ each)

•Sale ads will be grouped by location

•Get 4 Garage Sale Signs

•Rain Insurance... If it rains, your Garage Sale ad will be reprinted FREE!

Snyder Daily News

3600 College Ave. 573-5486

GET ALL THIS FOR $6.75

PAYMENT IN ADVANCE

Happy Birthday
NaNa LuLu
You're topping "The Hill"

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Pro-U.S. mayor killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — The pro-American mayor of the western city of Hadithah was shot and killed driving through the town today in escalating violence in Iraq that also took the lives of a U.S. soldier in a supply convoy and an 8-year-old Iraqi in an attack on U.S. forces guarding a Baghdad bank.

The U.S. military confirmed a report by the Arab satellite network Al-Jazeera that Mayor Mohammed Nayil al-Jurayfi's car was shot up by unidentified attackers as he drove through the city of about 150,000 about 150 miles northwest of Baghdad.

Al-Jazeera also said residents of the city had accused the mayor of collaborating with coalition forces. The Qatar-based broadcaster said al-Jurayfi's car caught fire after the attack.

Hadithah is part of the so-called "Sunni Triangle," an area west and north of Baghdad where Sunni Muslims predominate and pro-Saddam Hussein insurgents have been carrying out attacks against the American occupation force at a rate of 12 each day.

In violence directed at U.S. forces, the American soldier was killed in a rocket-propelled grenade attack on a supply convoy west of Baghdad near the Abu Ghraib prison, a U.S. military spokesman said.

The Iraqi child died when an attacker threw a grenade into a military vehicle guarding a bank in west Baghdad. The U.S. driver was wounded along with four adult Iraqi bystanders, according to a U.S. officer, said Maj. Kevin West of the 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery.

"They're killing more Iraqis than they are Americans," West said, shaking his head.

The rocket-propelled grenade blasted into the soldier's truck, hurling him out, as the 20-vehicle convoy passed along a main highway this morning. Soldiers at first believed a bomb was remotely detonated as the convoy passed.

Sgt. Diego Baez, who escaped without injury from the truck, wept over his comrade's death.

"We slept next to each other just last night. He was my best friend," Baez said.

U.S. soldiers have come under increasingly ferocious attacks by suspected Saddam loyalists in recent weeks — reaching an average of 12 attacks a day. A total of 33 U.S. soldiers have been killed in hostile action since President Bush declared an end to major hostilities on May 1.

The Pentagon said that as of Monday 144 U.S. personnel had been killed in combat since the start of the Iraq war. Since then, at least two U.S. soldiers have been killed in Iraqi attacks, bringing the total just short of the 147 killed in combat during the 1991 Gulf War.

The attacks today came a day before a holiday marking the 1968 coup in which Saddam's now-banned Baath Party seized power. U.S. officials have warned of possible stepped-up attacks to mark the anniversary, and the new Iraq Governing Council canceled the holiday, along with five others from Saddam's regime.

A half hour after the blast, the truck was still burning on the road near Abu Ghraib, just west of Baghdad, site of Saddam's most notorious prison. The convoy, made up of reservists from a supply unit based in Puerto Rico, had been heading to a U.S. base near the Jordanian border.

"We need more protection. We've seen enough. We've stayed in Iraq long enough," said Spc. Carlos McKenzie, a member of the convoy.

After the attack, troops began house-to-house searches in nearby villages. One resident, Mohammed al-Qazi, said the bombing was the work of men from the tense cities of Fallujah and Ramadi, farther down the road. "It was not people from Abu Ghraib," he said.

In the extreme south of Baghdad, an explosion badly damaged a U.S. Humvee and three U.S. casualties were seen taken away by an Iraqi witness. The coalition had no information on that incident.

Postal service needs more flexibility to change rates, policy

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Postal Service should remain part of the government but receive more flexibility to change rates and be operated by a corporate-style board of directors, a presidential commission concluded today.

The President's Commission on the United States Postal Service, formed by President George W. Bush to study the agency and make recommendations for its future, is expected to issue a final report by the end of the month.

Commission members began going through their basic recommendations this morning, voting to approve several that could have a major impact on the future of the postal service.

Any actual changes in the law would have to be made by Congress, with the president's approval.

In recommending more flexibility for the agency to change rates, the commission noted that it currently is severely limited by a process that can take up to a year to raise prices.

"If any business in America had to operate under the constraints of the rate-setting process, it would be out of business," said Harry J. Pearce, co-chairman of the commission. Pearce also is chairman of Hughes Electronics Corp.

The commissioners recommended that an independent postal regulatory board supervise rates and set a maximum rate for mail where the post office has a monopoly, such as first-class mail, but allow postal management the freedom to set prices below that maximum.

The possibility of the post office becoming a wholly private entity was rejected by the commission.

Rather it recommended that it continue to operate as an independent part of the executive branch.

"We did consider and we rejected either complete or partial privatization," said commission member Richard C. Levin, president of Yale University.

Other recommendations approved by the commission Wednesday included:

—The post office should limit its activities to collecting, sorting and delivering mail.

—The post office should maintain its current mail monopoly and its sole access to customer mailboxes.

—A commission be set up to recommend post office closings similar to the system used to close unnecessary military bases.

Once closings are recommended, they would become final unless Congress disapproved of them in their entirety within 45 days.

Ex-teammate seen driving missing Baylor player's SUV

FORT WORTH (AP) — A former Baylor University basketball player reportedly was driving teammate Patrick Dennehy's sport-utility vehicle about the time Dennehy was last seen.

Carlton Dotson's estranged wife, Melissa Kethley, said he was driving Dennehy's vehicle when he visited her in Sulphur Springs on the evening of June 12, said her stepfather, Sulphur Springs Police Chief Jim Bayuk.

"I wasn't aware of it (the visit) at the time, but she told me later Carlton was up here in Patrick's vehicle," Bayuk said. "It was the 12th. That's what she told me, and I have no reason to doubt her at all."

Because the visit occurred before Dennehy was reported missing and Dotson often drove his vehicle, Kethley didn't think it was odd at the time, Bayuk said. Kethley later told Waco police about the incident but is no longer talking to news reporters, he said.

Kethley has said that she and Dotson lived together in Waco but had problems, and she returned to Sulphur Springs in April, eight months after the couple married.

Dennehy has not been seen since mid-June, and his 1996 Chevrolet Tahoe was found abandoned in a Virginia Beach, Va., parking lot June 25.

Dotson, who has left the Baylor team in Waco and returned last month to Hurlock, Md., has been listed by police as "a person of interest."

Obituaries

Mr. Henderson

1922-2003

Talmadge P. Henderson, former Hermleigh educator, died Monday, July 14, at Vista Hospice Center in San Antonio.

Henderson

Service for Mr. Henderson, 80, will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Dr. Rex Reynolds, pastor of the Hermleigh First Baptist Church, will officiate. Interment will follow in the Pyron Cemetery.

Born Oct. 21, 1922 in Longview he moved to Houston where he met and married Nova Bowen after serving in the Army. She died June 10, 2003. He also was preceded in death by a brother, William D. Henderson.

They moved to Hermleigh where he was an educator, school administrator and cotton farmer. He retired in 1989. He served on the Hermleigh City Council as secretary and was active in the Boy Scouts. Mr. Henderson was adjutant of the American Legion and first vice president of the Loraine Lions Club.

An active Mason, he was a member of the Longview Lodge, affiliated with H.A. McFarland Lodge, charter senior warden in the Andy G. Vaughn Lodge, past master and past secretary of the Andy G. Vaughn Lodge, past district deputy grand master and past master of the Loraine Lodge. He also served in the Sam J. Helm Chapter R.A.M., Sam J. Helm Council, Taylor Commandery, was plural member of Fort Worth and Lubbock Scottish Rites and the Moslah Shrine Temple.

In 1992, he moved with his wife to Odessa and to San Antonio in 2001.

Survivors include his son and daughter-in-law, Larry and Karen Henderson of San Antonio; two sisters, Clydelle Madison of Longview and Sidney Hayes of Lufkin; a sister-in-law, Katherine Wemken of Hermleigh; and a granddaughter, Robyn Henderson of Chicago.

Memorials may be made to the Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children.

Professional Directory

BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME
3101 College Ave. 573-5454

5 arrests are made by local law enforcement on Tuesday

Arrests

DPS troopers took Larry Nolan, 46, of Odessa into custody at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday on U.S. 84 for felony driving while intoxicated.

A 25-year-old woman was arrested at 5 p.m. Tuesday on warrants for public intoxication.

At 5:45 p.m., deputies arrested a 30-year-old man for theft by check.

A 25-year-old man was taken into custody at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in the 500 block of 33rd Street on warrants for not wearing a seat belt and violating a promise to appear before a judge.

Officers arrested a 40-year-olod man in the 100 block of 37th Street at 9:30 p.m. Tuesday for public intoxication.

Assault

A woman on Merrill Ave. reported a disturbance between her son and daughter Tuesday afternoon. Officers responded and advised offense reports for assault, family violence and for aggravated assault were filed.

Disturbance

A woman requested an officer at an apartment on 37th Street at 9:30 p.m. Tuesday to report that a male subject was threatening to stab another man.

Officers contacted both men and neither wished to file charges.

Vandalism

A woman at the Park Village apartments reported vandalism in one of the units Tuesday morning, but officers advised it would be a civil matter between the owner and tenant.

Exposure

A woman called police Monday morning to report a man at the Fieldcrest apartments was standing on the balcony without any clothing on. She called again Tuesday and officers filed an offense report for indecent exposure.

Fireworks

A man reported possible gunshots on S. College Ave. at 11:45 p.m. Tuesday, but employees at Sonic advised they heard fireworks instead.

Independently Owned & Operated
WCFH
WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME
200 East 37th Street
Snyder, Texas
915-573-6200

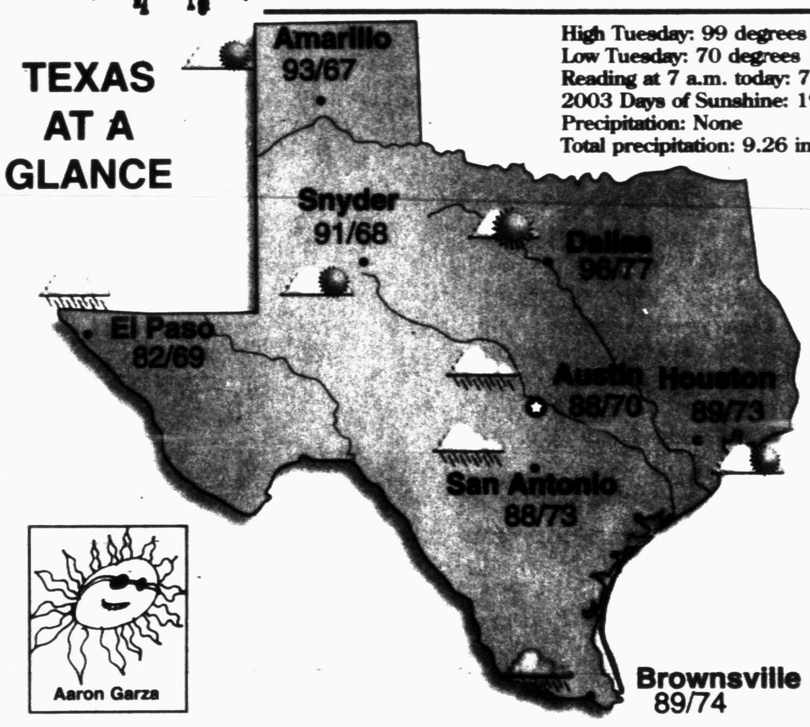
Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Thu 7/17	Fri 7/18	Sat 7/19
91/68	94/72	98/69
Sunshine along with some passing clouds. High 91F. Winds SSE at 5 to 10 mph.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 90s and lows in the low 70s.	Partial sunshine. Highs in the upper 90s and lows in the upper 60s.
Sunrise 6:48 AM Sunset 8:52 PM	Sunrise 6:48 AM Sunset 8:51 PM	Sunrise 6:49 AM Sunset 8:51 PM

WEST TEXAS STATE BANK
1901 26th Street • 573-5441
FDIC

TEXAS AT A GLANCE



High Tuesday: 99 degrees
Low Tuesday: 70 degrees
Reading at 7 a.m. today: 71
2003 Days of Sunshine: 193 of 196
Precipitation: None
Total precipitation: 9.26 inches

Aaron Garza

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	94	71	pt sunny	El Paso	82	69	rain	Midland	89	68	pt sunny
Amarillo	93	67	pt sunny	Fort Stockton	84	67	rain	Raymondville	91	72	t-storm
Austin	88	70	rain	Gainesville	97	72	mst sunny	Rosenberg	89	73	t-storm
Beaumont	88	73	pt sunny	Greenville	95	72	mst sunny	San Antonio	88	73	rain
Brownsville	89	74	t-storm	Houston	89	73	pt sunny	San Marcos	89	71	rain
Brownwood	95	70	pt sunny	Kingsville	90	72	t-storm	Sulphur Springs	96	71	mst sunny
Corpus Christi	88	75	t-storm	Livingston	90	71	pt sunny	Sweetwater	93	69	pt sunny
Corsicana	95	72	mst sunny	Longview	94	72	mst sunny	Tyler	95	74	mst sunny
Dallas	96	77	mst sunny	Lubbock	92	68	pt sunny	Weatherford	96	72	mst sunny
Del Rio	89	74	rain	Lufkin	92	72	mst sunny	Wichita Falls	98	73	mst sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	88	68	pt sunny	Houston	89	73	pt sunny	Phoenix	106	87	rain
Boston	80	67	pt sunny	Los Angeles	83	66	pt sunny	San Francisco	73	57	windy
Chicago	83	63	pt sunny	Miami	86	78	t-storm	Seattle	79	55	sunny
Dallas	96	77	mst sunny	Minneapolis	80	63	pt sunny	St. Louis	90	73	pt sunny
Denver	95	64	pt sunny	New York	83	68	mst sunny	Washington, DC	86	71	mst sunny

Moon Phases

Full	Last	New	First
Jul 13	Jul 21	Jul 29	Aug 5

UV Index

Thu 7/17	Fri 7/18	Sat 7/19
Extreme	Extreme	Extreme

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

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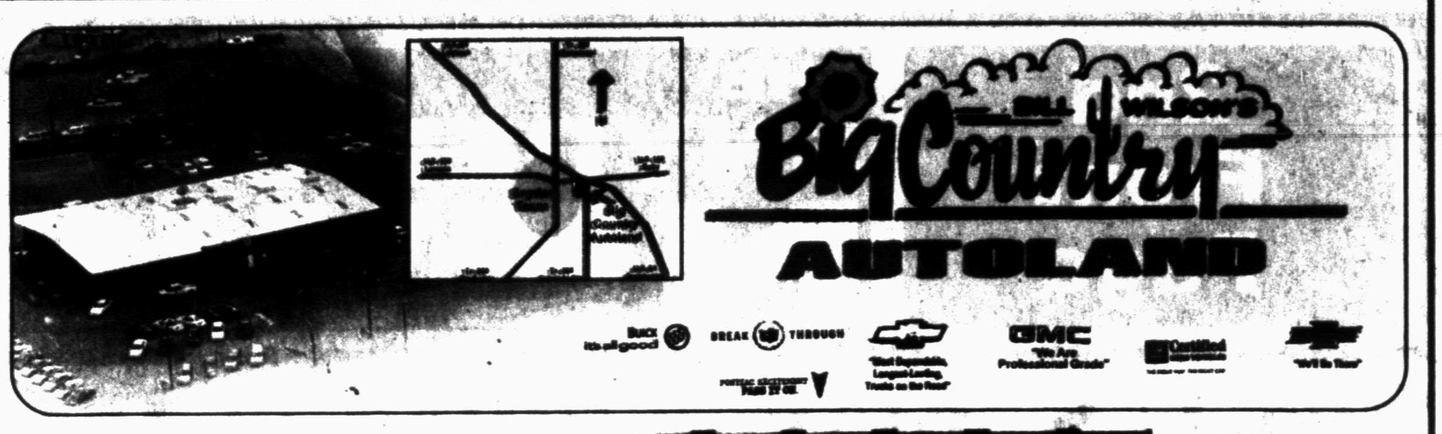
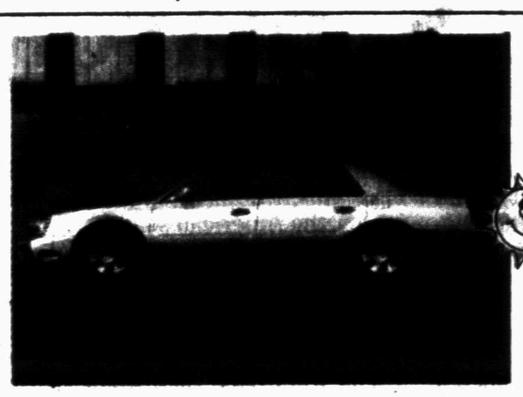
JUL 16 2003

GM 24 HOUR TEST DRIVE

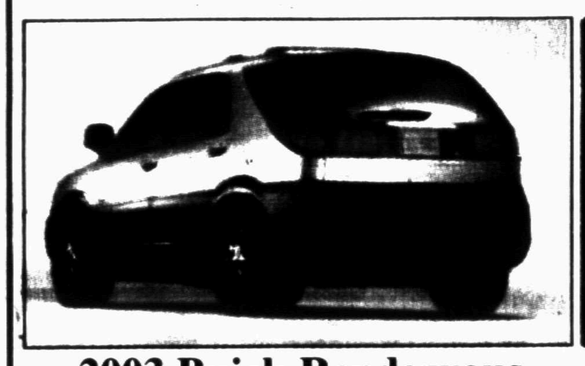
Buying a car or truck is a big decision. And now, when you shop for a GM vehicle, you can take your time making up your mind. Spend an entire day and night with one of our vehicles. Do what you'd do in your own vehicle and then sleep on it. When you wake up and see it sitting there, you'll know that it's the right choice for you!



'03 Summer Clearance
'04's Are Here!!!

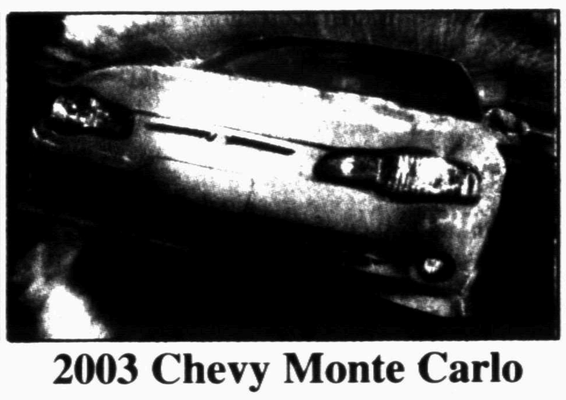


2003 Cadillac Deville $5,000 Owner Loyalty



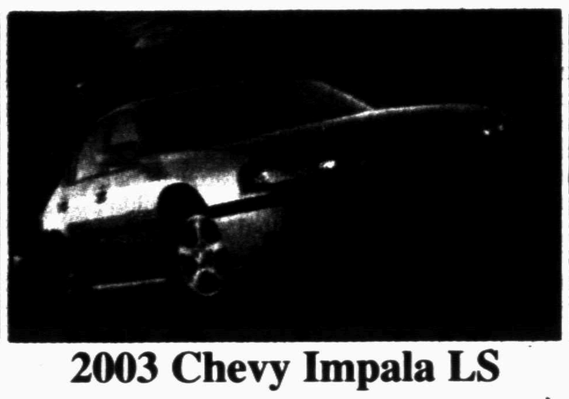
2003 Buick Rendezvous
#B6089, 3rd row seat

MSRP	$28,750
Clearance Discount	$2,133
Rebate	$4,000
Your Price	$22,617



2003 Chevy Monte Carlo
#CP5833

MSRP	$23,035
Clearance Discount	$1,323
Rebate	$3,000
Your Price	$18,712

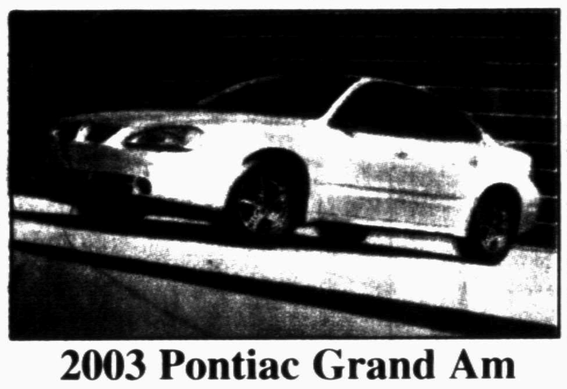


2003 Chevy Impala LS
#CP5478

MSRP	$25,040
Clearance Discount	$1,567
Rebate	$3,500
Your Price	$19,973

2003 Pontiac Sunfire
#TPT6234

MSRP	$17,150
Clearance Discount	$470
Rebate	$4,000
Your Price	$12,680

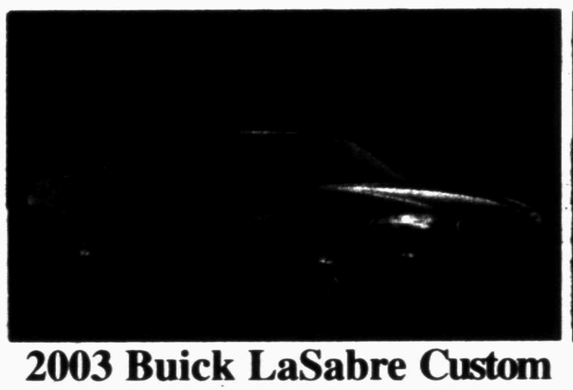


2003 Pontiac Grand Am
#PT6099

MSRP	$19,495
Clearance Discount	$959
Rebate	$4,000
Your Price	$14,536

2003 Buick Century
#B5435

MSRP	$22,635
Clearance Discount	$1,830
Rebate	$3,000
Your Price	$17,805

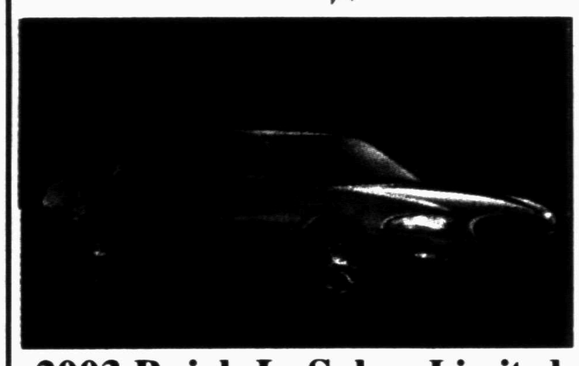


2003 Buick LaSabre Custom
#B6072

MSRP	$27,765
Clearance Discount	$1,766
Rebate	$4,000
Your Price	$21,999

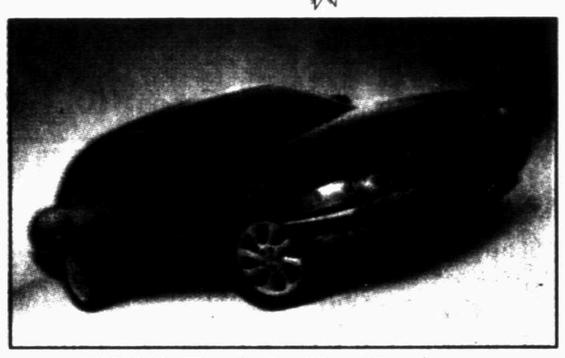
2003 Chevy Venture Van
#C5709

MSRP	$23,690
Clearance Discount	$1,695
Rebate	$3,000
Your Price	$18,995



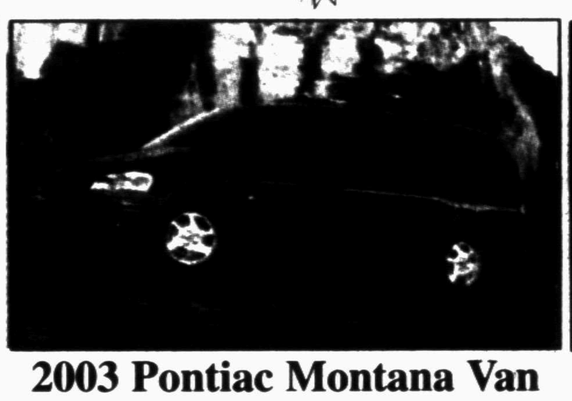
2003 Buick LaSabre Limited
#B5752

MSRP	$33,480
Clearance Discount	$2,213
Rebate	$4,000
Your Price	$27,267



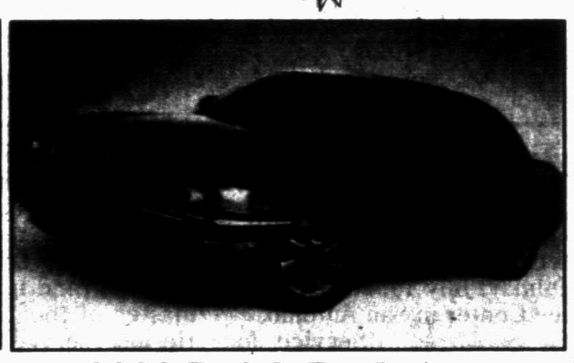
2003 Buick Park Ave. Prestige Pkg.
#TB5808

MSRP	$37,615
Clearance Discount	$2,617
Rebate	$3,000
Your Price	$31,998



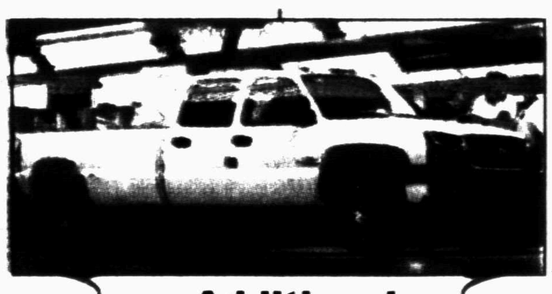
2003 Pontiac Montana Van
#G5902

MSRP	$26,915
Clearance Discount	$1,917
Rebate	$3,000
Your Price	$21,998



2003 Buick Park Ave.
#B6068

MSRP	$35,640
Clearance Discount	$2,647
Rebate	$3,000
Your Price	$29,993



Additional $1000 Bonus Cash
On Diesel Automatic Pickups

BUICK

'03 Buicks

Century	Rebate $3000
Regal	Rebate $3000
LaSabre	Rebate $4000
Park Avenue/Ultra	Rebate $3000
Rendezvous	Rebate $4000

0% for 60 months

Excludes: Cadillac CTS and Corvette

CASH BACK ON ALL...

'03 CHEVY$

Cavalier	Rebate $4000
Malibu	Rebate $3000
Impala	Rebate $3500
Monte Carlo	Rebate $3000
Corvette	Rebate $2000
S-10 Pickup	Rebate $4000
Silverado	Rebate $3000
C4500 Kodiak	Rebate $3000
Avalanche	Rebate $4000
Tracker	Rebate $4000
Blazer	Rebate $3000
Trailblazer	Rebate $3000
Trailblazer EXT	Rebate $3000
Tahoe	Rebate $3000
Suburban	Rebate $3000
Venture	Rebate $3000

GMC

'03 GMC

Sierra	Rebate $3000
Envoy	Rebate $3000
Envoy XL	Rebate $3000
Yukon	Rebate $3000
Yukon XL	Rebate $3000
Yukon Denali	Rebate $3000
Yukon XL Denali	Rebate $3000

Additional $500 Bonus Cash
On These 2003 Chevrolets and GMCs
Silverado, Trailblazer, Trailblazer EXT, Tahoe, Suburban, Sierra, Envoy, Envoy XL, Yukon, Yukon Denali, Yukon XL, Yukon XL Denali

PONTIAC

'03 Pontiac - GMC

Sunfire	Rebate $4000
Grand Am, V-6	Rebate $3000
Grand Am, 14V 4 Cyl.	Rebate $4000
Grand Prix	Rebate $3750
Vibe	Rebate $2000
Montana	Rebate $3000