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WT-Int. Crude - $27.85
WTIC Posted - $24.50
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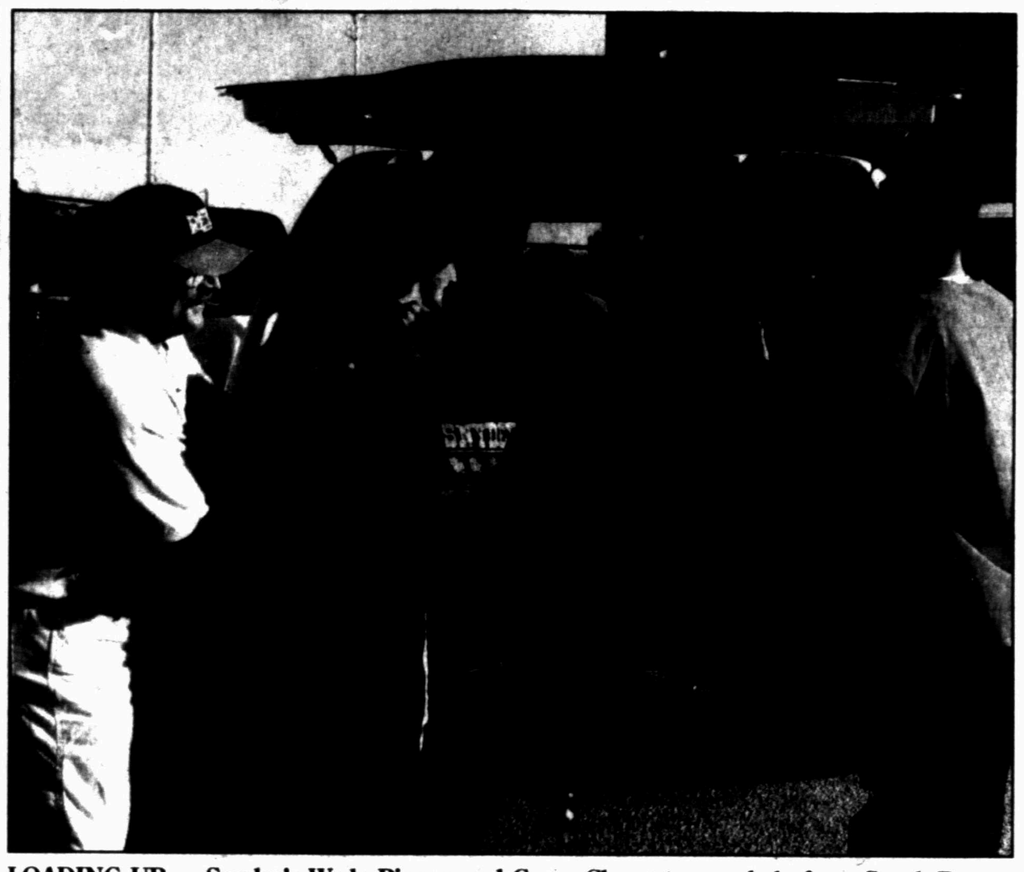
THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY

May 9, 2002
Vol. 54 No. 8
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Marvin G. Morrell



LOADING UP — Snyder's Wade Pinson and Corey Clay get some help from Coach Roger White this morning as they prepare to leave for the state track meet in Austin. Pinson and Clay compete in the meet Friday on The University of Texas campus. (SDN Staff Photo)

Clay, Pinson in state meet...

State track titles just a hop, skip and a few hurdles down the road

By Eric Drennan
SDN Sports Editor

In most cases, the winning margin at the state track meet is tenths of a second or fractions of an inch. Whether or not an athlete wears home a medal or comes back empty handed is determined by their ability to handle the pressure.

Snyder High School seniors Wade Pinson and Corey Clay know that. And they believe they're ready.

Pinson and Clay try to garner Snyder's first state track medals since 1985 when they participate Friday in the Class 4A State Track and Field Championships at Mike A. Myers Stadium on The University of Texas campus.

Current assistant coach Kyle Freeman was the last SHS athlete to bring home a medal when he won the shot put and took third in the discus in 1985.

Pinson earned his trip to Austin by winning the 110-meter high hurdles at regionals while Clay was second in the triple jump. The two seniors are making their first trips to the state meet, but are aware of the hype that surrounds it.

"You can't really prepare for what it's going to be like, but we know the pressure will be there," said Pinson. "It's still just 10 hurdles and 110 meters. It's the same race I've been running for years, and that's the way I'm looking at it."

Clay takes the same approach.

"We've put in a lot of hard work, so we owe it to ourselves to go down there and give it all we've got," Clay said. "The key is to concentrate and keep your focus."

Everywhere the athletes turn there will be reminders that this is the biggest meet of all. The words "UIL State Track and Field Championships" will be displayed all around the stadium and on the numbers they wear on their uniforms. This weekend's competition is the largest high school track meet in the country.

Handling the hype is the key to success, according to Head Coach Roger White.

"The biggest part of the meet is the extravagance of it all," said White, who came up two points shy of the team title during his coaching days at Gatesville. "You have to block all of that out and concentrate on the task at hand. The one who does that the best is usually the winner."

It's been two weeks since Pinson and Clay last competed, so they're eager to get back on the track.

"This has been the longest two weeks of my life," said Pinson.

"And with just two of us out there at practice, Coach White has had more time to stay on us and keep us working," Clay added.

Pinson drew Lane 1 for Friday's race and has focused his workouts on running in the inside lane. Clay has worked on timing his steps for the perfect take off.

"Wade has run strictly in Lane 1 since we got the lane assignments," White said. "That lane shouldn't be a problem for him because he leads with his left leg.

"We've been working with Corey on hitting the board. It's paid off because he's been within four inches for two solid weeks, and we've done hundreds of run-throughs."

Clay jumps at 4:30 Friday, with Pinson running at 7:05.

Also competing in the triple jump are athletes from Fort Worth Eastern Hills, Ennis, Frisco, Jasper, West Orange-Stark, Beeville and Austin Anderson.

Running alongside Pinson will be sprinters from Azle, Lancaster, Hewitt Midway, Jasper, Brenham, Corpus Christi Calallen and San Marcos.

Personnel matters top today's school agenda

Personnel matters will dominate this evening's Snyder ISD school board meeting as several resignations will be acted on, and Supt. Gayle Lomax will update the board on future personnel plans.

"We'll of course, address the end-of-year resignations and give the board an update as to how many positions we plan to absorb, and how much savings we'll realize," said Lomax.

"We'll also be looking into other cost-savings staffing procedures."

Letters of resignation have been received from Ed McAnally, West Elementary principal; Judy Barkowsky and Betty Thompson, third grade teachers at Central; Judy Grimmett, librarian at Central; Kay Kennedy, assistant SHS band director; and Patsy Williams, business instructor at SHS.

Also, Mechelle Chrane, SHS coach and business teacher; Kimberly Geeslin, coach and science teacher at junior high; Diane Hogan, special ed teacher at West; Tammy Hosemann, East fourth grade teacher; Paula Mabrey, SHS math instructor; Kelly McWilliams, SHS English teacher; and Brent Parr, SHS coach and history teacher.

One new board member and two incumbents will take their oaths of office this evening.

Doug Neff will be sworn in to represent Place 5, as will incumbents Glenn Clarady in Place 1 and Mark McCormick in Place 4.

Place 5 was vacated by longtime board member Janet Stribling who chose not to run as she is the Democratic Party's nominee for county judge in November.

None of the three candidates attracted an opponent and were declared elected to the board as allowed by state law.

State Rep. David Counts will swear in board members and then officers will be elected for the coming year.

In other action items, the board will review bids for carpet at Stanfield Elementary and a request for a tax refund to Wilson Supply.

The meeting will be at 6 o'clock in the distance learning lab at the high school.

WTC faculty and staff to be recognized for years of service

Western Texas College faculty and staff will convene in the school's cafeteria at 6:30 tonight for the annual service awards dinner.

WTC employees will be recognized for years of service to the college, including two faculty members with three decades tenure.

Mike Thornton, dean of continuing education; and Albert Conde, director of the physical plant; each has worked at the college 30 years.

Bettie McQueen, WTC vice president, will be recognized for 25 years of service and Cindy Fritz is to be honored for 20 years.

Three employees — Leanord Dodgen, Carolyn Osborn and Ben Sum — will be recognized for 10 years of service .

There are 10 five-year employees to be recognized this evening — Julie Sentell, Rob Fields, Bobby Jones, Teresa French, Teresa Pinkerton, Valerie Drum, Greg Rhodes, Patty Kuhl, Stephanie Ducheneaux and Hazel Smith.

WTC board of trustee members Jay Kidd and Carolyn Barbee will be recognized for 10 years of service.

English instructor Janet Halbert, an original WTC faculty member who is retiring this year, will be recognized.

The event will begin with a hamburger supper and Dr. Greg Williams will welcome guests. Lee Presswood, WTC board president, will present the awards.

The dinner is taditionally held in the fall, but was moved to coincide with the end of the year.

Henry lakeside lots nixed by Lubbock

Plans to build homes closer than 300 feet to the Lake Alan Henry shoreline have been deepsixed by a ruling from Lubbock's city manager.

Bob Cass said Wednesday that, on advice of attorneys, he made the decision not to give developers permission to build inside the city's 300-foot easement.

Cass said allowing developments within 300 feet of the shoreline would contradict representations made some 20 years ago when land was purchased for the reservoir.

Scurry County residents LaWayne Fagan and L.J. Ashley purchased some 1,500 acres on the south side of the lake spillway on Grape Creek, and they have sold numerous lots in their development.

Fagan said today that he is glad the issue is finally resolved and that they had been selling their lots with the 300 feet buffer as a distinct possibility.

"Now our buyers know exactly what the deal is and they won't be facing problems down the line," said Fagan.

The developer also said the fact that Lubbock will not be selling raw water to developers will have no affect on their plans.

"We are building our own water treatment plant and availability of water has never been an issue with us," Fagan emphasized.

Fagan has said that he feels the development, Rio Brazos Estates, will be beneficial to the Snyder business community.

"It's only about 25 miles from downtown Snyder," said Fagan, who feels homeowners in the development will do most of their shopping here.

Reception set for Jackson on Friday

A retirement reception for Edwin Jackson will be held from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Friday at the Martha Ann Woman's Club.

Jackson is retiring after 42 years with Big Country Electric Cooperative.

THE SDN COLUMN
By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Experience may be the best substitute for trial and error, but you've got to accept the substitute."

A real coffee drinker can tell every time, and if you can tell every time, then you're an addicted coffee drinker.

We make the first pot each morning at the news office, and the next person in will always make a pot of the unleaded kind.

Somebody beat us in the other morning and made a pot of the decaffeinated junk. Within a few minutes, we couldn't wake up.

Yep, we're hooked, but drinking lots of coffee gives you something to do between cups — like go to the restroom.

In the old days, crusty newspaper types had a cup of java in one hand and a cigarette in the other. The trend to non-smoking work environments has increased productivity — freeing at least one hand.

One newspaper friend, Jeffrey Patterson in Lamesa, listed some sure signs of caffeine addiction:

—Juan Valdez named his donkey after you.

—You sleep with your eyes open.

—The coffee is perking before you get up each morning.

—You grind coffee beans in your mouth.

—You don't sweat, you percolate.

—You can walk 20 miles on the treadmill before you realize it's not plugged in.

—People get dizzy just watching you.

—You're so wired you pick up radio signals.

—You life's goal is to amount to a hill of beans.

—Instant coffee takes too long.

—When asked about your health you reply, "Good to the last drop."

—You want to be cremated with remains placed in a coffee can.

—You sleep only because you can wake up and smell the coffee.

—You short out motion detectors.

—You soak your dentures in coffee overnight.

—Your coffee mug is insured by Lloyds of London.

—You introduce your spouse as coffeemate.

—You figure CPR stands for Coffee Provides Resuscitation.

—Your first-aid kit contains two pints of java with an IV hookup.

—You have your own key when the coffee shop is closed.

ASK US

Q—When is the deadline to enroll in the state's Tomorrow Fund for locking down future college expenses at today's prices?

A—May 24. More information can be obtained by calling 1-800-445-GRAD.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 96 degrees; low, 56; 7 a.m. Thursday, 56; no precipitation; total for 2002, 7.59 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, mostly cloudy, low near 60; NE winds 10-20 mph. Friday, mostly cloudy, breezy; 20% rain chance; high 85-90. Friday night, mostly cloudy, 20% rain chance; low around 65.

Nina Charvea
Rain Chance

Sunset:
8:29 p.m.
Sunrise:
6:51 a.m.
Of 128 days in 2002, the sun has shone 122 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

When we do the best we can, we never know what miracles await.
—Helen Keller

MAY 09 2002

Permits for coal mining cannot be issued by ACE

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — A federal judge's ruling that bans the dumping of waste from mountaintop coal mining into streams was hailed by environmentalists as a victory for the waterways of Appalachia, but attacked by miners as a threat to the industry.

U.S. District Judge Charles Haden II issued the ruling Wednesday, agreeing with a Kentucky citizen group that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Huntington, W.Va., district office didn't have the authority to issue permits to dump mountaintop waste.

"We could not continue to annihilate our hills and our streams," said Patty Wallace, a member of Kentuckians for the Commonwealth Inc. "Too many people are willing to shove it off on the next generation."

The ruling runs counter to a recent Bush administration decision to amend a clean-water rule to allow the mining practice. In his ruling, Haden said such a change would violate the federal Clean Water Act.

The permits banned in the ruling were issued to coal companies seeking to practice mountaintop coal mining, in which the tops of mountains are sheared off by explosives and large earth-moving machines are used to expose coal seams.

Although federal mining laws require companies to restore land to its approximate original contour, companies have received permits to dump tons of excess rock and dirt into valley streams.

"Some believe that reasonably priced energy from coal requires cheap disposal of the vast amounts of waste material created when mountaintops are removed to get at the natural resource," Haden wrote in Wednesday's ruling.

"Congress did not, however, authorize cheap waste disposal when it passed the Clean Water Act," he wrote.

Haden had also ruled in 1999 that dumping mine waste in streams violated federal law. The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned that ruling, saying Haden lacked jurisdiction because the underlying lawsuit in that case involved a state agency.

Haden's latest ruling stemmed from a lawsuit filed against the corps in February by Kentuckians for the Commonwealth.

The group sued to halt Beechfork Processing Inc.'s mountaintop removal mine in Martin County, Ky. The excess rock and soil from the mine would bury more than six miles of stream.

The lawsuit was filed in West Virginia.

NEW MEMBERS — Ira High School students recently inducted into the National Honor Society include from left, Rusty Jones, Lacie Thompson, Jake Barnes, Lindsey Wilson, Jess Wall and Amanda Calley. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Houston mother files suit

HOUSTON (AP) — A woman whose 13-month-old daughter was locked inside a Houston day care center after operations had closed for the day has filed a lawsuit against the center.

Ebony Aaron's suit against the Sharpstown Learning Center and Daycare seeks unspecified monetary damages for breach of contract and false imprisonment.

The suit, which listed day care operators Joseph Sixto and Irma Diaz as defendants, said Aaron has since suffered nightmares, insomnia and constant fear of losing her daughter.

Aaron's attorney, John Simpson Jr., said the child is now afraid of the dark or being left with strangers.

The day care declined comment Tuesday, but Diaz's attorney said the child was asleep in a classroom under a structure and was not visible when the teacher informed Diaz that all the children had left.

"The child also had not been signed in during the morning so there was no record of her being there," Thad Whisenant told the Houston Chronicle today.

Aaron said there was miscommunication with Nia Welch's grandmother over who was responsible for picking her up that day.

Aaron said she called the day care as soon as she learned no one had picked up the child, but no one answered. After failing to find an emergency number on the center's front door, she called police, Simpson said. Officers searched the center's perimeter and looked inside each window, but could not find anyone at first.

Florida missing girl panel runs into snag

MIAMI (AP) — A clash between laws respecting privacy and those urging open government has stalled a panel's investigation into the disappearance of a 5-year-old girl.

No sooner had Gov. Jeb Bush's blue ribbon panel met for the first time Wednesday when the head of the child welfare agency that lost track of the girl balked at sharing case records.

Kathleen Kearney, head of Florida's Department of Children & Families, told panelists that making the documents relating to Rilya Wilson public would violate the girl's privacy rights.

"I would like nothing better than to have the records open to the media but I am also incredibly mindful of the confidentiality and that we have a missing child," she said.

The governor's office and the state attorney general were still trying to work out how the panel could discuss the case in private without violating state laws governing open meetings.

Authorities are trying to determine how Rilya vanished 15 months ago while in state custody. Detectives are treating her disappearance as a possible homicide.

Bush wants the panel's interim report May 20 and a final report June 3. Panel members said those deadlines will be difficult to meet if they can't review records.

"I would like every piece of information but the privacy and confidentiality issues and so on, we must respect," said David Lawrence Jr., the panel's chairman.

Kearney's department reported Rilya missing April 25, long after losing contact with the girl. She was placed in state custody in 1996.

"We will never, ever be perfect. Ever," said Kearney, who took over the department in 1999. "I accept full responsibility."

On Wednesday, Democratic gubernatorial hopeful Janet Reno called for Kearney to be replaced, saying Bush's actions have been inadequate and the panel's appointment falls short of what is needed.

Meanwhile, the state Senate passed a bill making it a felony for state workers to file false records on children. The unanimous vote sent the legislation to the House.

Deborah Muskelly, the caseworker charged with reporting Rilya's status to the court, had reported that the girl was fine even as she went missing, Circuit Judge Cindy Lederman has said. Muskelly resigned in March over her performance in other cases.

Geralyn Graham, who has identified herself as the girl's grandmother, said she last saw Rilya in January 2001 and thought the girl was in the state's care. Graham said she regularly asked Muskelly when the girl would be returned but got only evasive answers.

Muskelly's attorney, Stephen R. Verbit, issued a statement Wednesday, denying any wrongdoing by the caseworker and attacking the department for trying to make her a scapegoat.

He denied Muskelly falsified reports and accused Kearney and the department of trying "to spin this story as an isolated incident caused by a criminal caseworker, instead of admitting this is only the latest and perhaps the most horrible example of DCF's well-documented systemic problems."

Investigators are still waiting for DNA test results from police in Kansas City, Mo., to see if a girl found beheaded there in April 2001 and since nicknamed "Precious Doe" was Rilya. Kansas City police said results should be available in about a week.

Mother's Day is no big thing for Taylor

LOS ANGELES (AP) — She has four children, 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild, but Elizabeth Taylor says Mother's Day this weekend is no big thing.

"It's not like Thanksgiving, when we all get together," Taylor said in an interview Tuesday with The Associated Press. "I think maybe half of my children will be here; they're spread all over the world, and I never know if they're coming."

Taylor said she believes Mother's Day is "a commercial rip-off, to tell the truth, a chance to sell my perfume and other things that ladies like."

The 70-year-old actress, star of films such as "National Velvet," "Giant," "Cleopatra" and "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" has been in the perfume business since 1986, when she introduced Elizabeth Taylor's Passion.

Date Book

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Today is the 129th day of 2002 and the 51st day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1671, Irish adventurer Thomas Blood was caught by British authorities after having stolen the Crown Jewels from the Tower of London. King Charles II eventually pardoned him.

On this day in 1974, the U.S. House Judiciary Committee began hearings to decide whether or not to seek the impeachment of Richard Nixon for his part in the Watergate scandal.

On this day in 1997, the United States appointed an ambassador to Vietnam for the first time since the Vietnam War ended. President Bill Clinton named Democratic congressman Pete Peterson to the post.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: John Brown (1800 - 1859), abolitionist; Howard Carter (1873 - 1939), archaeologist; Mike Wallace (1918 -), journalist, is 84; Albert Finney (1936 -), actor, is 66; James L. Brooks (1940 -), producer, is 62; Candace Bergen (1946 -), actress, is 56; Billy Joel (1949 -), singer, is 53; Tony Gwynn (1960 -), baseball star, is 42; Steve Yzerman (1965 -), hockey star, is 37; Rosario Dawson (1979 -), actress, is 23.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1984, the Chicago White Sox defeated the Milwaukee Brewers 7-6 in 25 innings - the most innings ever in an American League contest.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Had I so interfered in behalf of the rich, the powerful, he intelligent, the so-called great, or in behalf of any of their friends ... every man in this court would have deemed it an act of reward rather than punishment." - John Brown, last speech to the court (1859)

TODAY'S MOON: Between the last quarter (May 4) and the new moon (May 12).

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Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Lotto Texas numbers drawn Wednesday by the Texas Lottery:

15-27-36-39-46-53

Estimated Lotto Texas jackpot: $14 million

Pick 3

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

2-7-7

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO ESTABLISH RATES

Pursuant to Section 104.103 of the Texas Utilities Code, TXU Lone Star Pipeline (TXU LSP), a division of TXU Gas Company, hereby gives notice of intent to establish a supplemental firm transportation rate and an interruptible transportation rate designed to recover the costs of constructing and operating a 76.5-mile, 24-inch pipeline extending from the Bridgeport area in Wise County to the junction of Lines W and W7 in Denton County and then in an easterly direction to the junction of Lines D 17-9 and D9 in Collin County, hereinafter called the "Northside Project." The supplemental firm rate and interruptible rate are proposed to be charged upon the initiation of service on the Northside Project. The proposed supplemental firm rate constitutes a major change and will result in an annual increase in the revenues of TXU LSP of approximately $9.8 million. These revenues will represent an 8% increase in the total revenues of TXU LSP.

The proposed supplemental firm transportation rate will be applicable to all firm transportation customers contracting for capacity on the Northside Project. The only current customer directly affected by the supplemental firm transportation rate will be TXU Gas Distribution. No other customer has agreed to contract for firm capacity on the Northside Project. The supplemental firm rate may, however, indirectly affect all residential and commercial customers served by TXU Gas Distribution in the state of Texas. The supplemental firm rate will be assessed to TXU Gas Distribution for its contracted capacity on the Northside Project in addition to the city gate rate approved in the Railroad Commission of Texas (Commission) Gas Utilities Docket (GUD) No. 8976. The supplemental firm rate may then be passed on to TXU Gas Distribution's residential and commercial customers. If any other transportation customers contract for firm capacity on the Northside Project, those customers may also pay the supplemental firm transportation rate in addition to any other applicable rates charged such customers.

TXU LSP also proposes an interruptible transportation rate for the use of the Northside Project. To the extent that shippers other than firm transportation customers use the Northside Project, they will be charged this interruptible rate. TXU LSP proposes to reduce the proposed supplemental firm transportation rate charged to firm customers on the Northside Project through an annual revenue crediting mechanism based on revenues from the interruptible rate approved in this proceeding.

Construction of the Northside Project is estimated to be completed in approximately 23 months after approval of this rate application. The proposed supplemental firm rate and interruptible rate will be effective on June 4, 2002, but will not be charged until the initiation of service on the Northside Project and will be charged for an initial seven year period. TXU LSP further proposes to reconcile the projected capital costs with those actually incurred and to adjust the supplemental firm transportation rate and interruptible transportation rate accordingly.

A Statement of Intent to make such change has been filed with the Commission in GUD Docket No. 9292 and is available for inspection at the Commission's office at 1701 North Congress, Austin, Texas, and at the offices of TXU LSP at 301 South Harwood, Dallas, Texas. Copies of the Statement of Intent have also been sent to the appropriate city official of each incorporated city served by TXU Gas Distribution. Any affected person may file written comments or a protest concerning the proposed changes in the rates with the Docket Services Section of the Office of General Counsel, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967, at any time on or before June 17, 2002. Any person or agency that has a justiciable or administratively cognizable interest in this proceeding who desires to be designated as a party may petition for leave to intervene and request to become a party to this proceeding. The final date for intervention in this case shall be June 17, 2002.

True Value
Help Is Just Around The Corner
BARGAIN OF THE MONTH
BARGAIN OF THE MONTH
1.87 Your choice X-O Rust Spray Enamel Forms a durable, rust-preventing finish. Gloss white or gloss black. K 100 444, 031 16
Ultimate Finish 9" Roller Cover Choose smooth or semi-smooth nap. K 537 886, 902 812
1.97 10.1-Oz. Window & Door Caulk This long-lasting formula provides a water-tight seal. Available in clear or white. P 729 160, 178 812
BARGAIN OF THE MONTH
16.99 Hose Reel Cart The handle folds down for easy storage. It's made of weather-resistant poly and holds up to 225' of hose. (Hose sold separately) L 501 536 1
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I'm Back!!!!!!
The Law Office of
Mike Brown
has re-opened at the original location on the North Side of the Square, across the street from the white buffalo, at
1823 25th Street
Snyder, Texas 79549
Telephone: 574-2000
*Board Certified, Criminal Law, Texas Board of Legal Specialization

KWIK KAR BACKS YOUTH — Kirk Taylor, owner of Kwik Kar, donated $500 to the Boys and Girls Club's "Back a Youth" fundraiser. Accepting was BGC director Chad Welsh, right. Other Kwik Kar employees are, from left, Isaac Flores, Kale Grimes and Cele Rivas. BGC is also sponsoring a wrestling event to take place May 17 at the Scurry County Coliseum. Part of all money raised will benefit the youth club. For more information, contact Chad at 573-3344. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

BRIDAL SHOWER — A shower was held March 23 in the atrium of Willow Park Inn for Mrs. Todd Collom, nee Amy Spencer. The couple married April 20 and have made their home in Arlington. Receiving guests were Kim Rice, aunt of the future groom; Linda Messick, his aunt; Joan Jones, his grandmother; Pam Collom his mother; the honoree; Jean Spencer, her mother; and Luara Spencer her sister. The couple married April 20. (Contributed Photo)

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

	North	05-09-02
	♠ Q 9 5 4	
	♥ K 3	
	♦ 7 6 3 2	
	♣ 8 7 4	
West		**East**
♠ 2		♠ K 8 7 6
♥ Q J 9 5 4		♥ A 8 2
♦ Q J 10 8		♦ 9 5
♣ J 9 2		♣ 10 6 5 3
	South	
	♠ A J 10 3	
	♥ 10 7 6	
	♦ A K 4	
	♣ A K Q	

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All pass

Opening lead: ♥ Q

Thursday, May 9, 2002

A simple technique that needs repeating

By Phillip Alder

Karl Marx was writing about sales and marketing when he penned, "A commodity appears at first sight an extremely obvious, trivial thing. But its analysis brings out that it is a very strange thing, abounding in metaphysical subtleties and theological niceties."

Although hardly metaphysical or theological, a finesse is at first sight an extremely obvious, trivial thing, but its analysis may bring out some subtleties. In this deal, how would you try to land four spades? The defenders take two heart tricks, then shift to a diamond.

There is only one way to show a balanced 21-count: open two no-trump. The heart weakness is partner's responsibility. Here, it is lucky North used Stayman because three no-trump would have been down after trick five, having suffered a fatal heart attack.

With three red-suit losers (two hearts and one diamond), you have to hope that East has the spade king. However, you may have to take three spades finesses, and if so, you must be careful. After ruffing a heart to get into the dummy, call for the spade nine. When that wins, continue with the spade queen. Finally, play a spade to your jack, cash the ace, and claim.

If you start with the queen and play the three from hand, you will win the second spade trick in hand, with no dummy entry left. And if you unblock the 10 under dummy's queen, when you continue with the spade nine, East covers with the king. In both cases, East scores a trump trick.

When taking a finesse that you plan to repeat, think ahead. It is often right to start with the bottom of equally high cards.

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Gere, Lane co-star in 'Unfaithful'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The thriller "Unfaithful" marks a reunion for Richard Gere and Diane Lane, co-starring for the first time since "The Cotton Club" 18 years ago.

In "Unfaithful," opening soon, Gere and Lane play a long-married couple whose seemingly ideal family life is shattered by the wife's fling with a Frenchman and the husband's jealous response.

It's familiar territory for director Adrian Lyne, whose films include the adultery tales "Fatal Attraction" and "Indecent Proposal."

Lane and Gere said in telephone interviews with The Associated Press that their familiarity from playing romantic leads in "The Cotton Club" made the marriage in "Unfaithful" seem that much more authentic.

Five students attend math conference

Five Snyder High School sophomores recently attended a mathematics conference for young women at ACU in Abilene.

The sessions were Tessellations and Kaleidoscopes, using the geometer's sketch pad.

Mathematics modeling using M&Ms — water and candles to demonstrate linear decay and exponential growth and decay.

Walking the line and swimming with dolphins — participants used the TI-83 calculator and the TI Ranger to investigate graphing concepts.

Pictures and Patios — participants problem solved with pattern blocks.

This event was made possible by a grant from the Mathematical Association of America and ACU's College of Arts and Sciences, and the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science provided funds and support for this conference.

—

The state bird of Missouri is the bluebird.

ATTEND MATH CONFERENCE — SHS sophomores attended a math conference for young women at ACU in Abilene include (from left) back row, Laura Arellano, Gretchen Hollis, Amanda Whitson; front row, Adrienne Garcia and Kerissa Ship. Their sponsor is Penny Perry. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

A people who are prosperous and happy, optimistic and progressive, will produce much slang; it is a case of play; they amuse themselves with the language.

–William Graham Summer

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

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

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

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; for information call 573-8268, 573-4048 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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

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

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

Scurry County AA closed meeting; Park Club at Winston Park; for information call 574-1292 or 573-9458; 8 p.m.

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

SATURDAY

Defensive Driving Course; Texas Savings Bank; no reservations necessary, for more information call 573-2850; 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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

SUNDAY

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

Births

Robert and Alicia Briggs and two-year-old Shelby Briggs announce the birth of Daisie Michelle Briggs at 9:04 a.m. on May 8 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. Daisie Michelle weighed eight pounds, five ounces.

Paternal grandparents are John and Beverly Nash and maternal grandparents are Ronnie and Karla Head, all of Rotan.

—

The state flower of Tennessee is the iris.

Opening Friday

CATTLE COUNTRY

Steakhouse & Grill

3206 College Avenue

SPECIALIZING IN...

Steaks
Chicken Fried Steak
Grilled Chicken
Catfish
Chicken Fried Chicken
Beef Tips
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Hamburgers

HOURS:
MONDAY-SUNDAY
11:00 A.M. - 2:30 P.M.
MON. WED., THURS., FRI., SAT
4:00-10:00 P.M.
CLOSED ALL DAY TUESDAY AND SUNDAY EVENINGS

LUNCH BUFFET
7 Days A Week
$6.95
includes drink & tax

Live
Cindy Nix
Friday & Saturday Night

3206 College Ave.
573-1388

STUDENT WORK ADS

$2 PER WEEK!

High School & College Students looking for a job can seek employment through the classified want ads of the Snyder Daily News for only $2 per week - max of 10 weeks. Ads can start Monday, May 27, 2002 and the special ends Friday, August 2, 2002. Ads are up to 15 words and cash in advance. Students need to place ad in person and pay in advance.

SNYDER DAILY NEWS

3600 College Ave.
573-5486

MAY 09 2002

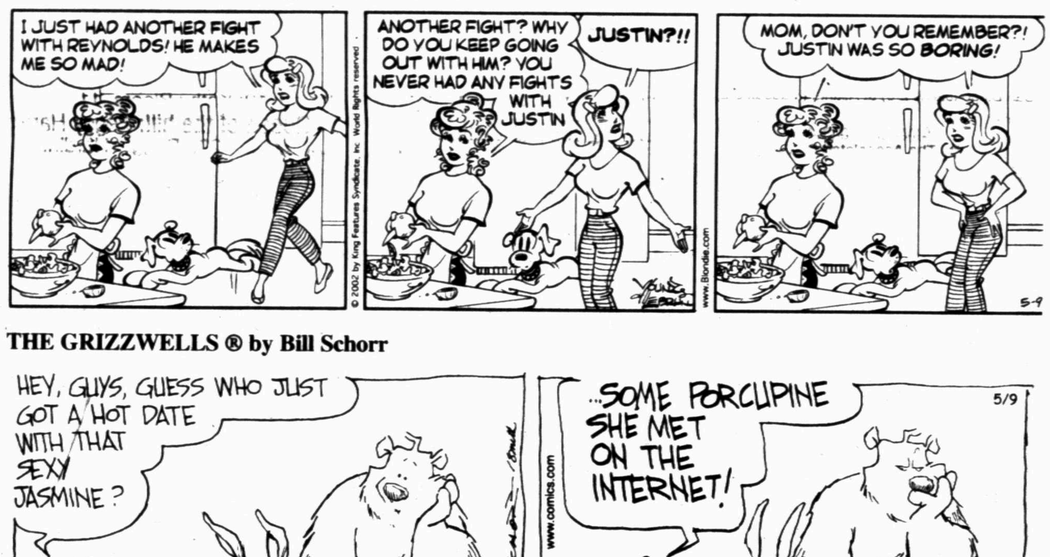
ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman

THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom

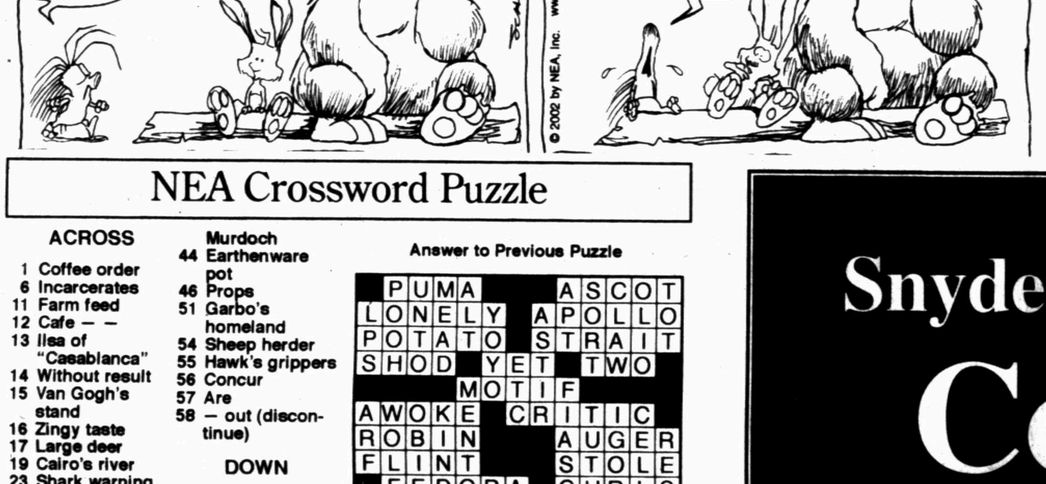
SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski

BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell

BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun



THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Coffee order
6 Incarcerates
11 Farm feed
12 Cafe — —
13 Ilsa of "Casablanca"
14 Without result
15 Van Gogh's stand
16 Zingy taste
17 Large deer
19 Cairo's river
23 Shark warning
26 Scintilla
28 Ariz. neighbor
29 Debated
31 Sheriff's ID
33 Blockheads
34 Slander
35 Hubbub
36 Thumb through
39 Actress Wray
40 General feeling
42 Novelist
44 Murdoch Earthenware pot
46 Props
51 Garbo's homeland
54 Sheep herder
55 Hawk's grippers
56 Concur
57 Are
58 — out (discontinue)

DOWN

1 Portuguese lady
2 Work units
3 Give a rap
4 Limber
5 T-man
6 San — Capistrano
7 Adjust the tires
8 Writer Fleming
9 Capp's Abner
10 Hog abode
11 "Shame!"

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

12 Stop, to Popeye
16 Sugar Ray stat
18 Jar topper
20 Taj Mahal site
21 Like a foal
22 Neck and neck
23 Tolkien ring-bearer
24 Arctic dwelling
27 Desert nomad's robe
29 First organ donor?
30 Double curve
32 Meimac emigre
34 2001 in old Rome
37 Potters' ovens
38 A Gershwin
41 Extinct birds
43 Wade
45 Let borrow
47 Famed lioness
48 Pub orders
49 Three squared
50 Firmed up
51 Fem. saint
52 Paraffin
53 Lilly or Wallach
54 Twist-off —

STUMPED? Call for Answers • Touch-tone or Rotary Phones
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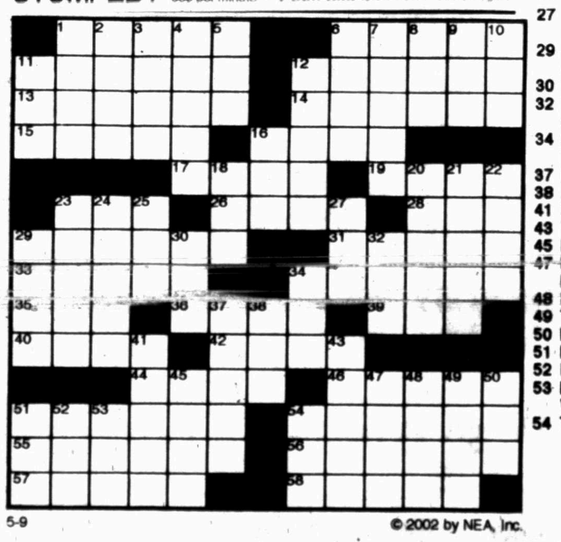

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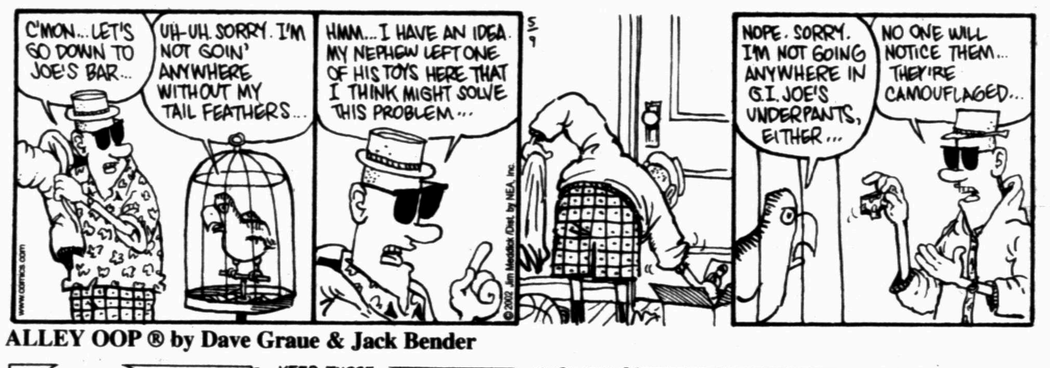
FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves

ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson

BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce

MONTY ® by Jim Meddick



ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender

BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen

HERMAN ® by Jim Unger

"His wife never lets him watch this show!"

Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"YOU SHOULDN'T INTERRUPT WHEN SOMEONE IS TALKING, DENNIS."

"PSSST, DAD. WHAT DOES INNER-UP MEAN?"

KIT 'N' CARLYLE © by [illegible]

SPORTS

3A playoff games set for Moffett

A pair of Class 3A area round playoffs will be decided at Moffett Field this weekend.

Kermit and Lubbock Cooper start things off at 5 p.m. Friday with Game 1 of their best-of-three series. Kermit sports a 16-12 record while the Pirates are 20-5.

The series continues at 1 p.m. Saturday with Game 3 to follow if necessary.

Friday's nightcap features Presidio taking on Perryton at 8 p.m. in a one-game playoff. The Presidio Blue Devils are 19-6 on the year. The Rangers carry in a record of 16-5.

WGA WINNERS — Anita Talbott, left, and Norma Thompson won the Women's Golf Association match-play tournament at the country club. (Contributed Photo)

Ailing Spurs, Lakers try to heal for Game 3

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The Spurs and Lakers are tied in their playoff series, and tied in their number of ailing 7-footers.

David Robinson is trying to recover from a strained lower back and return to the court for San Antonio.

Shaquille O'Neal has an arthritic big toe and now a cut finger that his Los Angeles teammates say is hampering his play.

"When you're struggling physically, it affects you mentally," Lakers guard Derek Fisher said. "We know everything's bothering him, we definitely understand that."

For all his aches, O'Neal is certain to play Friday night in Game 3 of the Western Conference semifinals at the Alamodome.

The same can't be said for Robinson, who played a few minutes in San Antonio's first playoff game against Seattle last month and not at all since.

Tim Duncan understands what it would mean to have Robinson on the floor.

"It would be huge," he said. "When Dave comes back, it will be an incredible boost for us."

Robinson averaged 12 points and eight rebounds during the regular season, but his main role in this best-of-seven series would be to defend O'Neal.

O'Neal cut his right index finger Sunday in the Lakers' victory in Game 1.

"He was numb (in Game 2)," said Samaki Walker, who last year played for the Spurs. "Try to shoot with a numb hand — that's tough."

O'Neal had 19 points and seven rebounds in San Antonio's 88-85 victory Tuesday night in Game 2. Afterward, new stitches were applied because the wound opened during the game. He didn't speak after the game.

Lakers coach Phil Jackson said he had a "heated discussion" with O'Neal on Wednesday.

"I wanted to stimulate him, I wanted to motivate him," Jackson said. "He played 40 minutes and only got seven rebounds. I'd rather have him play 30 minutes and get 12 or 13 rebounds."

The coach realizes the injury is bothering his star center.

"He doesn't have the hand strength he normally has," Jackson said. "Duncan took the ball right out of his hands a couple times."

Robinson aggravated a herniated disc in his lower back late in the regular season. Aside from the few unproductive minutes against the Sonics, he hasn't played in nearly a month.

Team officials say his back feels better, and he's strengthening his right leg to overcome nerve irritation caused by the back injury.

While he wasn't in uniform Tuesday, teammates say Robinson contributed with his savvy and experience.

"He was like Nostradamus out there," Malik Rose said. "He was predicting runs, 'They're going to make a run, this is going to happen, that is going to happen, we have to do this, we have to do that,' and it happened. We took heed to what he was saying."

Spurs coach Gregg Popovich would like to have Robinson on Friday, but he played down the lift his presence would provide.

"I'm not sure it would be that big a deal," Popovich said Wednesday in San Antonio. "We've been without him for a month, and we've gotten used to being without him."

Popovich also bucked conventional wisdom by minimizing the advantage that comes from playing at home.

"In the playoffs, all of the teams are so good now," he said. "They've all done well on the road, so people are prepared no matter where they play."

Woods, Duval ready for the Byron Nelson

IRVING (AP) — Tiger Woods and David Duval return to the PGA Tour at the Byron Nelson Classic for the first time since the Masters, although that's where the similarities end.

And it has nothing to do with who has a green jacket.

Woods is refreshed from his annual post-Masters break, although he says he wishes it could have been a few weeks longer.

Duval is coping with a shoulder injury that has been nagging him since he fell while snowboarding in January. He skipped the pro-am Wednesday to go to Birmingham, Ala., for an MRI exam. Test results were negative.

"I'm not hurt," he said. "There are no injuries to report. I just wanted to make sure nothing was there. I had some inflammation, but it's no big deal."

In any case, Duval's results this year have been abysmal. In nine tournaments, he missed the cut twice — including the Masters — and withdrew in Los Angeles during the final round because of food poisoning.

His best finish is 12th at the Mercedes, which had only 32 players. He has dropped to No. 6 in the world and is 100th on the PGA Tour money list.

He also broke off an eight-year relationship with his fiancee in late January and has been moving into a new house. A year ago, he faced a breach-of-contract lawsuit with Titleist.

Two years ago, he missed 10 weeks because of a bad back. The next year, he skipped three weeks because of tendinitis in his wrist.

"Have all these things hindered my play? It probably has," he said. "I just don't want to make any excuses. I just haven't gotten the ball in the hole very quick. I don't have any good answers.

"As much as anything, life has happened to me the last couple of years, the kind of things everybody deals with. That's why I don't want to make it a big deal."

Duval was reluctant to discuss the shoulder problem Wednesday evening after returning from Birmingham, saying he was tired of talking about injuries.

"Yes, it's bothered me," he said. "I have not been 100 percent for probably the better part of two years. I'm not a complainer. There have just been a few setbacks. I've been playing on the tour for eight years, and I'll get through it. I'll be fine."

He plans to play five of the next six weeks through the U.S. Open, and expects to play well. His only uncertainty was Thursday because of soreness from a large needle in his shoulder to prepare for the MRI.

The Nelson Classic, a $4.8 million tournament, also is the start of a big stretch for Woods.

The vacation is over.

Sports Briefs

Summer Bowling Leagues

A mixed couples bowling league starts at 7 this evening and runs for eight weeks.

Friday swingers

The SCGA Women's Golf Association will hold a weekly swingers event at 5:30 each Friday. It is open to all members and perspective members. Cost is $10 per couple and the format is scramble.

Cash prizes go to the top three finishers as well as closest to the hole. For more information, call Barbara Leatherwood at 725-7875.

WGA weekly play day

The SCGA Women's Golf Association holds a weekly play day each Tuesday at 9 a.m. Format is point system.

WTC Men's Golf Association

The Men's Golf Association of Western Texas College holds a weekly event Tuesdays at 6 p.m.

SCGA weekly events

The Scurry County Golf Association holds a weekly scramble Tuesdays at 5:30. The Men's Golf Association holds an all-day MGA event each Thursday.

Sunday couples tournament

A couples golf tournament will be held the first Sunday of the month at 1:30 at the country club golf course.

Girls basketball camp scheduled

The Snyder Tiger girls basketball camp is set for May 28-31 at the SHS gym. The camp is for incoming third through ninth graders, and cost is $60, which includes a camp T-shirt.

Registration forms are available at the elementary and junior high schools, or can be picked up at the SHS girls basketball office. Players can pre-register through May 15.

Flag football tournament

The Snyder Knights flag football tournament is scheduled for June 8. Entry deadline is May 22 and cost is $220 per team. For more information, call Earl Ware at 573-0800.

Major League Baseball

National League
By The Associated Press
All Times EDT

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Florida	18	15	.545	—
New York	18	15	.545	—
Montreal	17	16	.515	1
Atlanta	16	18	.471	2½
Philadelphia	14	19	.424	4

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cincinnati	20	13	.606	—
Pittsburgh	16	16	.500	3½
St. Louis	15	19	.441	5½
Houston	14	18	.438	5½
Chicago	13	19	.406	6½
Milwaukee	9	25	.265	11½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	21	11	.656	—
Arizona	22	12	.647	—
Los Angeles	20	13	.606	1½
San Diego	17	16	.515	4½
Colorado	14	19	.424	7½

Wednesday's Games

St. Louis 3, Chicago Cubs 2
Colorado 5, Montreal 0
Los Angeles 3, Atlanta 1
Florida 7, San Diego 4
Philadelphia 5, Houston 3
San Francisco 8, N.Y. Mets 2
Cincinnati 14, Milwaukee 5
Arizona 4, Pittsburgh 3

Thursday's Games

Milwaukee (Sheets 2-3) at Chicago Cubs (Bere 1-4), 2:20 p.m.
Colorado (Neagle 3-1) at Montreal (Chen 2-2), 7:05 p.m.
San Diego (Tollberg 1-3) at Florida (Izquierdo 0-0), 7:05 p.m.
Houston (Mlicki 3-3) at Philadelphia (Wolf 1-1), 7:05 p.m.
San Francisco (Jensen 2-2) at N.Y. Mets (Astacio 5-1), 7:10 p.m.
Los Angeles (Ashby 2-2) at Atlanta (Moss 0-0), 7:35 p.m.

Friday's Games

Milwaukee (Figueroa 1-2) at Chicago Cubs (Clement 1-2), 3:20 p.m.
Houston (C.Hernandez 3-0) at Pittsburgh (J.Anderson 2-4), 7:05 p.m.
Los Angeles (Ishii 6-0) at Florida (Burnett 5-2), 7:05 p.m.
San Francisco (L.Hernandez 4-2) at Montreal (Vazquez 1-2), 7:05 p.m.
Arizona (Helling 3-3) at Philadelphia (Padilla 4-2), 7:05 p.m.
Colorado (Jennings 2-2) at N.Y. Mets (D'Amico 2-2), 7:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Simontacchi 1-0) at Cincinnati (Haynes 2-4), 7:10 p.m.
San Diego (Jarvis 2-3) at Atlanta (Maddux 3-2), 7:35 p.m.

American League
By The Associated Press
All Times EDT

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	23	7	.767	—
New York	20	14	.588	5
Baltimore	17	17	.500	8
Toronto	10	21	.323	13½
Tampa Bay	9	23	.281	15

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	22	13	.629	—
Chicago	21	13	.618	½
Cleveland	17	17	.500	4½
Detroit	11	21	.344	9½
Kansas City	9	22	.290	11

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	23	10	.697	—
Oakland	17	16	.515	6
Anaheim	16	16	.500	6½
Texas	14	19	.424	9

Tuesday's Games

Baltimore 4, Cleveland 3, 10 innings
N.Y. Yankees 5, Tampa Bay 2
Kansas City 4, Minnesota 1
Chicago White Sox 11, Texas 6
Detroit 3, Anaheim 0
Toronto 4, Seattle 1
Boston 9, Oakland 7

Wednesday's Games

Cleveland 6, Baltimore 2
N.Y. Yankees 7, Tampa Bay 2
Minnesota 3, Kansas City 1
Chicago White Sox 5, Texas 3
Anaheim 3, Detroit 2
Seattle 5, Toronto 4, 10 innings
Boston 12, Oakland 6

Thursday's Games

Chicago White Sox (Ritchie 3-2) at Texas (Woodard 0-0), 3:05 p.m.
Boston (Lowe 4-1) at Oakland (Hudson 3-3), 3:35 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (O.Hernandez 3-1) at Tampa Bay (Kennedy 1-2), 7:15 p.m.
Cleveland (Colon 4-3) at Kansas City (Suppan 2-4), 8:05 p.m.
Detroit (Redman 0-3) at Anaheim (Sele 2-2), 10:05 p.m.
Toronto (Lyon 1-3) at Seattle (Moyer 3-1), 10:05 p.m.

Friday's Games

Baltimore at Tampa Bay, 7:15 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Minnesota, 8:05 p.m.
Detroit at Texas, 8:05 p.m.
Cleveland at Kansas City, 8:05 p.m.
Boston at Seattle, 10:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox at Anaheim, 10:05 p.m.
Toronto at Oakland, 10:05 p.m.

Women's Golf Association

April Play Day Results

Most one-putts: Suzy Reed, 4; Becky Knipe and Peggy Hardin, 3.

Most net pars or better: Becky Knipe, 12; Kathy Bloom, 11.

Queen of the hill: Peggy Hardin, low gross, 92; Peggy Hardin, low net, 71; Joan Hood, chip-in.

Low net twosomes: Suzy Reed-Joan Hood and Esther Guelker-Donna Stehley, 144; Esther Guelker, chip-in.

Bingle, bangle, bungle: Jo Sterling, 22 points; Joan Hood, low putter A, 30; Becky Knipe, low putter B, 33.14; Norma Thompson, low putter C, 32.28; Coleen Duke and Peggy Hardin, chip-in.

NBA Playoffs

By The Associated Press
All Times EDT
CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
(Best-of-7)

Saturday, May 4
Sacramento 108, Dallas 91

Sunday, May 5
New Jersey 99, Charlotte 93
Detroit 96, Boston 84
L.A. Lakers 86, San Antonio 80

Monday, May 6
Dallas 110, Sacramento 102, series tied 1-1

Tuesday, May 7
New Jersey 102, Charlotte 88, New Jersey leads series 2-0
San Antonio 88, L.A. Lakers 85, series tied 1-1

Wednesday, May 8
Boston 85, Detroit 77, series tied 1-1

Thursday, May 9
New Jersey at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Sacramento at Dallas, 9:30 p.m.

Friday, May 10
Detroit at Boston, 7 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at San Antonio, 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 11
Sacramento at Dallas, 3:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 12
New Jersey at Charlotte, 12:30 p.m.
Detroit at Boston, 3 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at San Antonio, 5:30 p.m.

Monday, May 13
Dallas at Sacramento, 9 p.m.

Tuesday, May 14
Boston at Detroit, 8 p.m.
San Antonio at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 15
Charlotte at New Jersey, TBA, if necessary
Sacramento at Dallas, TBA, if necessary

Thursday, May 16
Detroit at Boston, TBA, if necessary
L.A. Lakers at San Antonio, TBA, if necessary

SHS Tiger Football Booster
CAR WASH
Saturday, May 11
Wal Mart Parking Lot
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
$5 Wash & Vacuum
SUPPORT YOUR TIGERS!

OPENING SATURDAY
WESTERNER GOLF LAND
1804 43rd Street
Open 7 Days A Week - 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.
Come Enjoy A Great Night Of Family Fun
•Video Games •Batting Cages
•Miniature Golf
WE DO PARTIES...
Birthday-End Of School- Church
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DANCE
Saturday, May 11
9:00
IMPERIO
American Legion
1800 Ave. R
Members & Guests

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Call
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Rio Red Grapefruit or California Orange

10¢ ea.

YOUR CHOICE
BUY ALL YOU WANT!

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SAVE 23¢ ea.

IGA 1 Lb. Quarters

Margarine

10¢

Reg. Price 2/$1
SAVE 40¢ Lb.

IGA 4 Lb. Bag

Sugar

99¢

Reg. Price $1.49
SAVE 50¢

CASE PACK

IGA Ca
14.5 Oz.
Vegeta
•W.K. & Crea
•Cut Green
•Sweet
•Mixed Vege

$6

Case of 24

Reg. Pric
SAVE

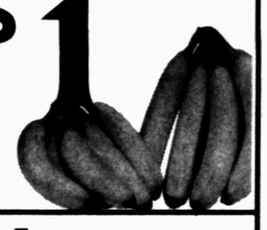
Juicy Lemons or Limes

15/$1

Reg. Price 25c ea..
SAVE $2.76 on 15

Golden Ripe Bananas

4 Lbs/$1



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SAVE 24¢ Lb.

48 Oz. IGA Vegetable Oil

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79¢ Gal. Jug

Reg. Price $1.29
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Best Yet Cola and Assorted Flavors
12 Pack, 12 Oz. Cans

3 For $5

Reg. Price $2.50
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Hass Avocados

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2 Lbs/$1

Reg. Price 79c Lb.
SAVE 29¢ Lb.

White Tortilla Mix Quaker Harina Preparada

$9.49 20 Lb. Bag

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Exceptional Value
3 Roll Pkg Paper Towels

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SAVE 79¢

Pacés Picante Sauce
Assorted, 24 Oz.

$1.99

Reg. Price $2.89
SAVE 90¢

Red Ripe Watermelons

3.99 Ea.

Reg. Price $5.99
SAVE $2

Mexican Large Pineapples

$1.99 Ea.

Reg. Price $2.99
SAVE $1

Peter Pan Flour
25 Lbs

2 For $5

Reg. Price $4.99
SAVE $2.49

Lipton Tea Bags
Family Size, 24 Ct.

2 For $3

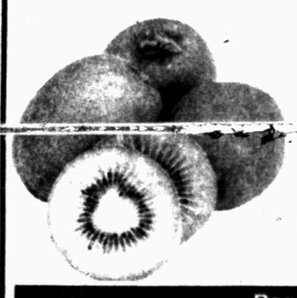
Reg. Price $2.19
SAVE 69¢

Hunts Ketchup
24 Oz. Squeeze

89¢

Reg. Price $1.39
SAVE 50¢

Kiwi Fruit



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Reg. Price 34c
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Fresh California Strawberries

2 1 Lb. Cartons $3 Ea.

Reg. Price $2.39 ea.
SAVE 89¢

X-Tra Liquid Laundry Detergent or Fabric Softner

128 Oz. $1.88

Reg. Price $2.99
SAVE $1.11

Exceptional Value
Bleach Gallon Jug

79¢

Reg. Price $1.19
SAVE 40¢

Value Star Foam Plates
40 Ct. Pkg

4 For $3

Reg. Price $1.19
SAVE $1.76 on 4

PLANTS & FLOWERS FOR MOTHER'S DAY

Big 10 Inch Tropical Show Plants

In Terra Cotta Cache Pots

$9.99

6 Inch Mums

$5.99

GIANT SALE!

May 11th; Sunday, May 12th, 2002

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INSIDE THE STORE AND IN OUR TENT!

SHOP EARLY! NO LIMITS
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST • NO RAINCHECKS
-NO SALES TO DEALERS-

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Country Style
PORK RIBS
89¢ Lb.

Reg. Price $1.79 Lb.
SAVE 90¢ Lb.
Family Pack

CASE PACK SAVINGS!
IGA Canned
14.5 Oz. Cans,
Vegetables
•W.K. & Cream Corn
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ARE YOU PUTTING ME ON?

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A MESSAGE FROM THIS NEWSPAPER AND THE DPS TROOPERS

Analysis of anthrax DNA may help search for source

WASHINGTON (AP) — A detailed analysis of anthrax bacteria strains suggests that scientists eventually may be able to pinpoint the source of spores used in the anthrax-by-mail attacks that killed five and sickened at least 13 last fall.

In a study in the journal Science, researchers say they found enough differences in the total genetic structure of the so-called Ames strain of anthrax to eliminate some labs as suspected sources.

Experts who evaluated the Science study said more research, using the same technique, could uncover other subtle but specific DNA "markers" that could match up some lab cultures with the bacteria spores mailed to people in Florida, New York and Washington.

"Based on the markers we found, I am not sure what we would find (in specimens) from other labs," said Timothy D. Read, a geneticist at the Institute for Genomic Research in Rockville, Md., and first author of the study. "It is possible we might be able to distinguish them."

Read's lab is analyzing cultures from 14 labs. Dr. Paul Keim of Northern Arizona University, a well-known anthrax researcher and co-author of the study, is working directly with the FBI to further evaluate the anthrax genetic data.

Both Read and Keim were guarded in their comments, with Keim responding to questions Wednesday only by e-mail.

Keim said the study reported in Science was the largest effort ever attempted "to identify molecular differences between two very similar isolates (cultures)," but he declined to answer more specific questions.

"I can't comment directly upon criminal investigation," he said.

An official in the Washington field office of the FBI also declined to comment on the study or its implications for the investigation.

But other experts said more research based on the work by Read and Keim almost certainly could lead to specifically identifying the source of the spores used in last fall's mail attacks.

"It will greatly facilitate the analysis that will lead to the answer," said David A. Relman, a Stanford University microbiologist. "It provides the basis on which one can now proceed and finally answer the question."

Relman said a major contribution of the current study will be eliminating some labs by showing that their anthrax cultures are different from those used in the bioterror attacks.

"Some of the labs can be shoved further down the list of possible suspects," he said.

In the study, Read, Keim and their colleagues sequenced the DNA from a strain of anthrax spores sent to the Florida office of a newspaper. An editor at that office died of inhaled anthrax, the first of a series of victims of the bioterrorism attack.

The researchers proved that the bacteria were almost identical with the classical Ames strain of anthrax, a culture that originated from a Texas cow. They were able to find markers that distinguished the bacteria used in the Florida attack from closely related anthrax strains, but were unable to specifically identify the source of the spores.

Asked if further work would lead to identifying the strain used in Florida, Read said, "Maybe."

The Ames strain was first isolated and named by Army researchers after it was sent to them in 1981 by a Texas veterinarian. Over the years, cultures of the bacteria were sent as research specimens to at least 20 laboratories.

Following the anthrax-by-mail attacks, investigators said that all of the bacteria used was of the Ames strain.

The purpose of the recent research was to determine if a close, molecular study of the 5 million DNA base pairs in the bacteria could find enough differences to tell one laboratory's culture of Ames from another and, thus, pinpoint the origin of the bioterrorist weapons.

Read said they will now be able to create a database that could aid investigators in tracing the origin of anthrax used in any fresh attack.

"It would help as an investigative tool and it could be a deterrent for other groups of people if they know we could quickly identify the type of Ames that they may use," said Read.

Anthrax-laced letters were sent to members of Congress in Washington and to television network offices in New York. Along the way, anthrax spores leaking from the letters contaminated post office buildings in Washington and New Jersey.

Two Washington postal workers died of inhaled anthrax, as did two women thought to have been infected from the mail. At least 13 people developed either skin or respiratory anthrax, but recovered.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Thin skin comes with age

DEAR DR. GOTT: Surely, there must be some treatment available for the "thin" skin, which occurs as one ages. Is there a vitamin or food regimen that can be used to prevent the unsightly blotches and wrinkling? I'm not ready to give in yet.

DEAR READER: Alas, the skin changes of "mature adulthood" are as inevitable as thinning hair and receding gums. As we age, the characteristics of our skin alter: loss of subcutaneous fat, disruption of cellular collagen, less elasticity and actual thinning of the skin itself. These inevitable changes lead to wrinkling, sagging, dryness and easy bruising (because the tiny capillary blood vessels in aging skin are not protected). Paralleling these transformations, the walls of blood vessels also become thinner and less elastic, leading to prominent veins (in the hands) and unsightly bruises from the most trivial trauma.

To date, no medicine, vitamin, cream, gel or collagen injection can correct age-related skin changes (which, incidentally, are substantially worsened by repeated and/or prolonged exposure to sun). Some therapy may achieve longed-for results that are, unhappily, temporary; the aging process continues unabated.

Nonetheless, in certain cases, blood-vessel fragility is accentuated by vitamin deficiency — notably vitamin C — in older folks whose diets may not be nutritionally balanced. In such cases, a vitamin supplement, such as Centrum Silver or others, might help.

I have been impressed, as I'm sure you also have, by the invasion of TV ads that promote various skin creams to "retard aging." Most of these products are effective because they contain compounds that force the skin to retain moisture. Consequently, as the skin "swells," wrinkles disappear; the skin appears to become thicker and more resistant when, in fact, all that is happening is that it is more water logged. Although this therapy is harmless, its effects are temporary (unless, as the manufacturers hope, people will continue to use the products). I am not aware of studies showing that these creams produce long-term benefits.

I should add one caveat: Spontaneous bruising (without a history of any trauma whatsoever) may reflect a disturbance in blood clotting. This can be primary (from defective blood cells, such as leukemia) or secondary (from the effect of many medicines, especially aspirin and related drugs). If you experience spontaneous bruising, regardless of your age, you should check with your doctor for an examination and blood tests to determine the efficiency of your blood coagulation.

A NOTE TO READERS: For an updated and revised Health Report on "Losing Weight" (formerly "Winning the Battle of the Bulge") that includes my No Flour, No Sugar diet, send a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope and $2 to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Be sure to mention the title. Also, be on the lookout for more updated Health Reports.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My daughter and granddaughter have recurring pink eye problems. They sleep on a waterbed with feather pillows. Every morning, they awaken with red eyes and lids that are glued shut with mucus. Should we dispose of the pillows?

DEAR READER: I think so. Feather pillows are frequently the source of allergies that can cause eye irritation, asthma and upper respiratory complaints. While the children may eventually require a visit to an allergist, a preliminary and cheaper alternative would be to discard the pillows and purchase hypoallergenic products. If, after sleeping on such non-allergen pillows for a week or two, the ladies are free of symptoms, you've solved the problem. If not, attention from medical personnel would be appropriate.

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	20.70	20.15	20.34	—.21
AOL TimeWrn	18.51	17.98	18.07	—.29
AT&T Corp s	14.09	13.83	13.91	—.29
Albertsons	33.55	33.24	33.41	—.12
Alltel	49.50	49.00	49.24	
AmEl Pw	45.86	45.66	45.84	—.12
AndarkPtr	52.86	52.19	52.84	+ .12
ATMOS Egy	23.97	23.69	23.89	—.08
Aviall	9.10	8.93	9.00	—.08
BP PLC	51.34	51.15	51.31	+ .10
BakerHughes	38.00	37.15	37.50	—.60
Bank of Amer	74.54	73.45	74.54	+ .54
BellSouth	30.16	29.55	29.94	+ .19
vjBeth Steel	43	.39	41	
BurlNoSFe	28.47	28.19	28.44	—.12
Caterpillar	55.01	53.85	54.22	—.80
Chevron Tex	88.50	87.81	88.05	—.40
Citigroup	44.91	44.29	44.62	—.15
CocaCola	56.89	56.46	56.59	+ .09
ColgatePal	55.85	55.20	55.67	+ .28
ComclMetals	46.07	45.92	45.94	—.15
CooperIn	45.50	44.85	44.97	—.56
DaimlrChry	48.33	48.00	48.18	+ .16
DeltaAirl	26.60	25.99	26.30	—.28
Dillards Inc	24.32	23.21	23.89	—.31
DowChem	33.71	33.01	33.56	+ .98
DuPont	46.30	45.76	46.22	+ .08
EastmanChem	46.00	45.57	46.00	+ .41
EstKodak	34.89	34.15	34.54	+ .09
EDS Corp	54.60	53.29	53.35	—1.75
Entergy	45.73	45.48	45.71	+ .03
ExxonMobil s	39.85	39.43	39.67	—.11
FstBksAm	41.10	40.90	40.90	—.37
FootLocker	15.40	14.88	14.95	—.32
GenDynam	100.92	98.73	99.62	+ .65
GenElec	32.52	31.35	31.82	—1.03
GenMills	44.85	44.50	44.72	+ .43
GenMotors	66.41	65.75	66.02	—.09
GaPacific	30.19	29.64	29.98	+ .15
Goodrich	32.35	31.88	32.02	—.02
Goodyear	22.27	21.93	21.94	—.17
GtAtlPac	26.24	25.60	25.69	—.21
Halliburtn	16.61	16.20	16.60	+ .22
Hanson ADS	37.40	37.30	37.37	+ .19
HarteHanks	32.01	31.79	31.80	—.02
HomeDepot	46.46	45.80	46.05	—.30
Honeywellntl	38.29	37.69	38.05	—.57
IBM	83.00	81.00	81.43	—1.02
IntlPaper	43.70	43.01	43.42	—.08
JohnsonJn s	61.57	60.54	61.22	+ .32
vjK mart	1.22	1.16	1.16	—.04
KinderMorg	47.25	46.59	47.19	+ .60
Kroger Co	23.27	22.84	22.94	—.54
LockheedM	63.28	62.15	63.04	+ .54
Lowes Cos s	42.77	42.08	42.72	+ .62
Lubys	7.00	6.90	6.91	—.17
LucentTech	4.60	4.44	4.44	—.18
MarathonOil	28.83	28.43	28.80	+ .14
MayDeptStr	36.33	35.08	35.55	+ .32
Medtronic	44.42	43.50	43.79	+ .14
Motorola	15.90	15.53	15.67	—.23
NCR Corp	38.67	38.05	38.45	+ .13
Navistar	39.47	38.89	39.22	—.25
PNM Rescs	27.84	27.53	27.70	
Penney JC	23.09	22.11	22.16	—.39
PepBoys	18.27	17.96	17.96	—.27
PepsiCo	52.40	51.60	52.33	+ .71
Pharmacia	40.65	40.21	40.52	—.34
PhelpDodge	37.60	37.20	37.40	+ .18
Philip Mr	88.50	88.01	88.07	+ .24
PilgrmPrd B	14.40	14.10	14.37	+ .17
Praxair	60.12	59.35	59.99	+ .41
ProctGamb	92.75	91.90	92.39	+ .59
RadioShack	33.82	33.42	33.71	—.08
ReliantEngy	25.20	24.71	25.14	+ .11
RoyalDut	54.18	53.90	54.17	—.39
SBC Comm	32.20	31.35	31.55	—.29
SaraLee	20.98	20.61	20.94	+ .20
Scripps EW	77.65	77.47	77.65	+ .18
SearsRoeb	53.31	51.95	52.12	—.73
SherwinW	31.84	31.50	31.83	+ .20
SouthernCo	28.47	28.21	28.42	+ .03
SwstAirl	18.21	17.92	17.98	—.30
SprintFON	15.90	15.55	15.82	—.01
SprintPCS	11.69	11.37	11.51	+ .11
Sunoco Inc	36.25	35.47	36.25	+ .92
TXU Corp	54.75	54.35	54.75	+ .18
TempleInland	56.17	55.50	55.85	—.07
TexInd	39.09	38.90	39.00	—.08
TexasInst	30.68	29.90	30.19	—.41
Textron	49.65	49.00	49.55	+ .49
TriconGlbR	63.66	63.28	63.50	—.17
TrinityInds	21.67	20.60	21.56	—.20
TylerTech	5.40	5.11	5.20	—.12
UnionPacif	60.00	59.26	59.65	—.11
USSteel	19.25	19.04	19.10	—.25
UnitedTech	69.76	69.50	69.69	—.61
Unocal	38.15	37.50	38.11	+ .16
VerizonComm	41.45	40.67	40.72	—.62
WalMart	55.75	53.72	53.94	—2.45
WellsFargo	51.57	51.00	51.08	—.72
WstnGasRs	38.10	37.65	38.04	—.33
WinnDixie	19.05	18.74	18.80	+ .21
Xerox Cp	7.70	7.51	7.60	—.10

MAY 09 2002

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$34,325	$4,026	$2000	$28,299

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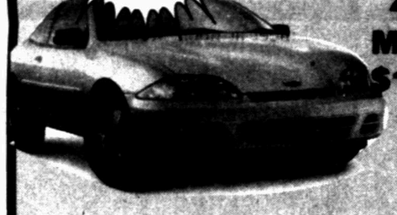

2002 Chevy Malibu - #CP4411

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$18,585	$1,186	$2000	$15,399

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MSRP	Discount	Rebate	Your Price
$16,205	$806	$3000	$12,399

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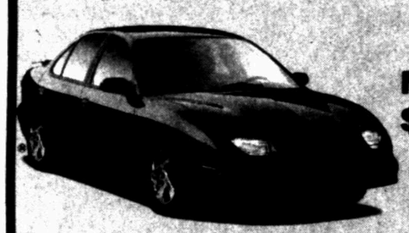

2002 Pontiac Grand Am

MSRP	Discount	Rebate	Your Price
$20,632	$1,633	$2000	$16,999

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2002 Chevy Venture Van - #C4036

MSRP	Discount	Rebate	Your Price
$28,375	$2,376	$3500	$22,499

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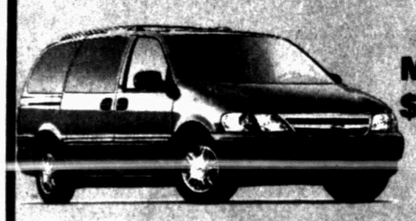
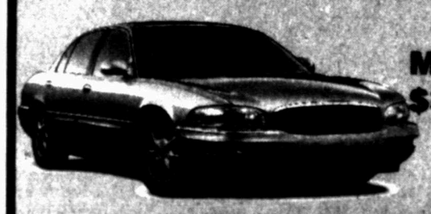


2002 Buick Park Ave - #B4208

MSRP	Discount	Rebate	Your Price
$34,550	$2,551	$3000	$28,999

YOU SAVE $5,551



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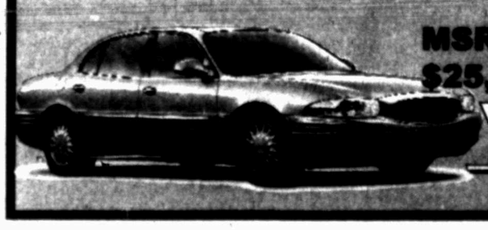
MSRP	Discount	Rebate	Your Price
$25,180	$1,681	$3000	$20,499

YOU SAVE $4,681



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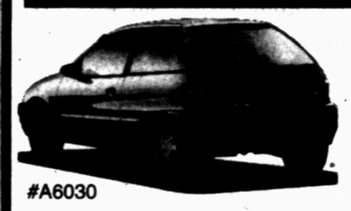

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Pipe bomb suspect called well-mannered

RENO, Nev. (AP) — Friends can't believe it and even local law enforcement officials admit the college student from Minnesota accused in a string of pipe bombings doesn't strike them as the typical terrorist.

"He looks like the average college kid from the Midwest," Washoe County Sheriff Dennis Balaam said of Lucas John Helder, 21, who is accused of placing homemade bombs in mailboxes in five states.

"He's a quiet, polite, well-behaved, well-mannered kind of kid. When I talked with him, he shook my hand and called me sir," the sheriff told The Associated Press in Reno.

Authorities were left to reconcile that portrait with the young man they said confessed to making 24 pipe bombs out of tape, paper clips and Christmas tree bulbs. Six people were injured from the bombs, which were packed with smokeless gunpowder and BBs or nails.

The FBI said Helder placed 18 of the devices in mailboxes in Iowa, Illinois, Nebraska, Colorado and Texas, along with anti-government notes. Helder had six other bombs with him when he was arrested Tuesday, authorities said.

"He indicated to FBI agents he knew people would be injured if these pipe bombs were detonated," Assistant U.S. Attorney Craig Denney said Wednesday.

Helder faces federal charges in four states. At a brief hearing in Reno on Wednesday, he was ordered held without bail for transfer to Iowa.

CIA missile targets ex-Afghan warlord

WASHINGTON (AP) — The CIA fired a missile from an unmanned Predator in hopes of killing a former Afghan warlord who was plotting to overthrow the new government and was threatening American troops, officials said today.

Former Afghan Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, the leader of a hardline Islamic group, was targeted Monday near the capital, Kabul, but the missile missed him, defense officials said on condition of anonymity. The strike is believed to have killed some of Hekmatyar's followers.

CIA officials declined comment.

An official of the Afghan Defense Ministry, who spoke only on condition of anonymity, said today that Hekmatyar was not in the Kabul area.

Hekmatyar had been making plans to strike the interim Afghan government of Hamid Karzai — and perhaps Karzai himself — one Pentagon official said. He also wanted to target U.S. troops, in Afghanistan for seven months to rout out Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida fighters and Taliban figures that supported the terrorist network.

Although he has been a strident critic of the U.S. role in Afghanistan, he was a major recipient of U.S. weapons and support during the war against Soviet occupiers in the 1980s.

The Central Intelligence Agency has played a major role in the Afghan campaign, gathering intelligence and sending in its paramilitary to work with local tribal leaders who mounted their armies against the Taliban and al-Qaida.

In also has operated Predators fitted with Hellfire missiles — making it the first war in which the U.S. government has used the unmanned spy plane with weapons on it.

Hekmatyar has claimed he still has U.S.-made Stinger missiles and controls a loyal militia in his homeland that would be ready to follow him.

His hardline Hezb-e-Islami party announced in early March that it was ready to cooperate with Afghanistan's U.S.-supported interim leader and sent a delegation to meet with Karzai in Kabul to iron out differences.

But in April, hundreds of people linked to the group were arrested in Kabul in connection with the alleged overthrow plot. It included plans to set off bombs throughout the capital, officials said at the time.

Documents and other evidence linked Hekmatyar to the plot, but made no mention of al-Qaida, officials said.

Arafat faces key test, Bush spokesman says

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush's spokesman said today that a key test of Palestinian leaders' intentions will be whether 16 Hamas members reportedly arrested will remain in custody.

Reports of the arrests by Palestinian police came from Hamas officials speaking on condition of anonymity. No senior member of the group, which the State Department lists as a terrorist organization, was among those arrested.

The Bush administration viewed the news skeptically because the Palestinian Authority has a history of making arrests under pressure, then quickly releasing the militants.

"The president views this again as a very key test of whether the Palestinian Authority is dedicated to what they promised at Oslo, which is justice and is what the world should expect of a group of people who want to be leaders of a state that focuses on stability," said White House spokesman Ari Fleischer. "If people are engaged in murder, they should be held accountable and a good government would arrest them and take it seriously and keep them locked up."

A top Palestinian official called on the Bush administration today to exert pressure on Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to keep him from retaliating for the latest suicide bombing near Tel Aviv.

A military response by Israel "will only lead to more defiance and hostility to Israel." Hassan Abdel Rahman, who heads the Palestinian Liberation Organization's Washington offices, said at a news conference.

"You cannot let Mr. Sharon have a free hand," he said, denouncing the prime minister as a war criminal, a bully and a murderer.

Rahman said "we will do everything that we can" to deter attacks on Israeli civilians by Hamas.

Rahman said the Palestinian Authority is ready to rebuild its security structure in response to an appeal from President Bush. And, he said, "we want a democratic government" in Palestine. But Rahman said the first the Palestinian heard of Bush's reform recommendations was in the newspapers.

"We don't need advice," he said.

Urging the administration to restrain Sharon, Rahman said the prime minister "can be influenced; he cannot fight the entire international community."

After meeting with Bush on Tuesday, Sharon threatened a forcible response to the bombing that occurred during their White House session.

Bomb blast reported in Russia today

KASPIISK, Russia (AP) — A remote-controlled bomb exploded today as a Victory Day parade marched down the main street of this Caspian Sea port town near Chechnya. At least 34 people died, including 12 children, and 150 were injured as the town celebrated the Allied defeat of Nazi Germany.

No one claimed responsibility, but prosecutors in restive Dagestan, the province where Kaspiisk is located, said Islamic militants were suspected. In Moscow, President Vladimir Putin called the blast a terrorist attack.

Six years ago, Kaspiisk was the scene of a bombing that killed 68 people, many of them Russian border guards, and Chechen rebels were suspected of the attack.

Chechnya, some 100 miles west of Kaspiisk, is a largely Islamic republic in southern Russia.

Obituaries

Mack Riggins

1958-2002

Mack Eurdis Riggins of Snyder died Tuesday, May 7, at Texas Stadium parking lot in Irving following an accident while erecting a roller coaster.

Mack Riggins

Funeral service for Mr. Riggins, 44, is set for 2 p.m. Monday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Tony Wofford, pastor of The Word is Life Church, will officiate. Burial will follow in the Snyder Cemetery.

Born on April 1, 1958 in Midland, he was employed by Van Equipment Co. of New Braunfels in the erection of roller coaster rides.

Survivors include a daughter, Andrece Riggins of Olympia, Wash.; two sons, Mack Eurdice Riggins Jr. of Arizona and Franklin Jamal Riggins of Olympia, Wash.; his parents, Leslie and Maxine Riggins of Snyder; four sisters, Leslie Ann McMillion of Omaha, Neb., Lois Burks of Albuquerque, N.M., Maxine Rash of Bermmington, Wash., and Bella Riggins of Snyder; five brothers, Leslie Riggins Jr. of Snyder, Sammie Riggins of San Diego, Calif., Tyrone Riggins of Abilene, Robert Cobb of Victoria, Canada, and Michael Riggins of Glen Burnie, Md.

Snyder firefighters stay busy Wednesday

Fire reports

Snyder firefighters responded to a Suburban on fire near Texas Ave. and North Hwy 208 at 2:48 p.m. Wednesday. The 1988 Chevrolet, owned by Benny Robertson of Spur, was classified as a total loss.

Fire Marshal Cy Posey said the fire began in the engine compartment, but damage was extensive as the interior of the vehicle suffered serious heat damage. Eleven firefighters responded with two fire trucks.

At 5:41 p.m. a caller reported railroad ties on fire 13 miles north of Snyder on U.S. 84. Firefighters were dispatched and located one tie smoldering on the track and quickly extinguished it.

On their way back to town, the firefighters were dispatched to a grass fire 2.5 miles north of Union on property owned by Wesley Graves.

Six firefighters responded to that fire, which was started by a downed power line.

Arrests

Officers arrested two men Wednesday night for parole violations. Taken into custody were Daniel Castillo, 25, of 608 33rd St., and Larry King, 47, of 4129 CR 267.

At 10:30 p.m. Wednesday, DPS troopers arrested a 47-year-old man on Hwy 208 for driving while intoxicated.

A 39-year-old man was taken into custody at 2:10 a.m. today for Class A assault and family violence.

Close patrols

A Farmsource Foods employee requested officers at the company's location Wednesday afternoon in reference to someone attempting to break into the facility over the weekend. A close patrol was initiated.

A woman requested a close patrol in the 2800 block of Ave. H Wednesday evening after seeing a subject jump over her fence.

Another woman reported three subjects in her back yard Wednesday night in the 1000 block of 26th Street The caller requested a close patrol of the area.

Gas drive offs

A clerk at Town and Country North reported a gas drive off early Wednesday worth $6.66, but later reported the driver returned to pay for the fuel.

Another drive off was reported from that location at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday in the amount of $17.39, but no description was provided.

The clerk at Rip Griffin's Truck Stop Wednesday reported a drive off worth $109 and described the vehicle as a beige pickup with New Mexico license plates.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

WTC awards, graduation tape

A one-hour videotape of Western Texas College's awards day and graduation ceremonies will be broadcast today through Friday at 8 a.m., 12 noon and 4 p.m. on Channel 22.

Reception

A reception to honor State Rep. David Counts and out-going school trustee Janet Stribling will be held from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. today in the foyer of Worsham Auditorium at Snyder High School.

FBC support groups

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

Scurry Lodge 706

Scurry Lodge 706 will meet at 7:30 this evening for work on the EA degree.

Fish-a-Thon

The Boy Scouts of America will hold its annual fish-a-thon from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Saturday at Towle Park Pond. There will be hourly prizes.

Country, gospel music

Country and gospel music is planned at the Scurry County senior center starting at 6:30 p.m. Saturday.

Tiger boosters car wash

The SHS Tiger football booster club will have a car wash from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday in the Wal-Mart parking lot. Cost is $5 for wash and vacuum.

End of school dance

An Snyder 8th grade end of school dance with a Hawaiian theme will be held from 7 to 11 p.m. Saturday at the Snyder Boys and Girls Club. There will also be games and cost is $5.

Hamburger cookout

Wings of Grace, a chapter of the Christian Motorcyclists Association, will host a free hamburger cookout at noon Saturday at the Displays of Splendor across from the Sonic in Big Spring. Matt Cross of Snyder said all bikers are welcome.

Retired teachers

Snyder Retired Teachers Association will meet at noon Monday at The Shack. Officers will be installed.

Martha Ann Woman's Club silver tea

The Martha Ann Woman's Club silver tea will be held from 3 until 4:30 p.m. Monday.

Retirement reception

A retirement reception to honor Ed McAnally, West Elementary principal, will be held from 4 to 5 p.m. Monday in the fellowship hall of Colonial Hill Baptist Church.

American Legion officers

The American Legion and Ladies Auxiliary will elect officers Monday in a 7 p.m. meeting at the legion hall. All members are urged to attend.

Open house

The public is invited to an open house at Scurry Community Services Tuesday from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. Tours will be given for the Head Start and Early Head Start program, as wells as the Snyder Child Daycare. The facility is located 2800 2nd St. – the former North Elementary building. Refreshments will be served.

Alzheimer's meeting

A meeting for families and caretakers of Alzheimer's patients will be held at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the library of Colonial Hill Baptist Church. For information call Kinney Robinson at 573-9377.

FFA banquet

the Snyder FFA banquet will be held at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the First Baptist Church Family Life Center.

Gateway Family Services

Gateway Family Services has a parenting discussion group from 10:30-11:30 a.m. every Tuesday, focusing on parenting issues and special challenges. The family violence support group also meets from 6:30-7:30 p.m. every Tuesday.

Texas Ablaze meeting

Texas Ablaze meeting with Keith Miller of Stand Firm World Ministries will be held at 7 p.m. next Thursday and Friday at Thee Place, 904 26th St. The meeting is sponsored by His Joy Ministries.

St. Jude Bike-a-Thon

The St. Jude Bike-a-Thon will be from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday, May 18, in the parking lot of the Scurry County Coliseum. Call Judy Hembree at 573-5273 for additional information on how to donate and participate.

Sonshine School registration

Sonshine School at 37th Street Church of Christ is pre-reregistering for the next fall. The school, which meets Tuesdays and Thursdays, is for children from two to five years old before Sept. 1. Registration fee is $30 and the monthly tuition is $45. Parents are encouraged to pre-register in order to assure a space. The school observes the same schedule as Snyder ISD. Registration packets may be picked up at the church office.

Trinity Methodist Church study

Trinity United Methodist Church will host the Beth Moore study, "Breaking Free," Sundays at 9:30 a.m. with Rebekah Thornton leading the discussion on Sundays. Melissa Petty will lead classes at 6:30 on Wednesdays beginning May 22, and Ellie Dryden is leading classes at 9:30 a.m. on Thursdays beginning June 6. Everyone is invited. Call 573-3988 to reserve a study book.

Girl Scout registration

Girl Scouts who register for the 2002-2003 membership during May will receive a patch. Cost is $7. See your Girl Scout leader to register.

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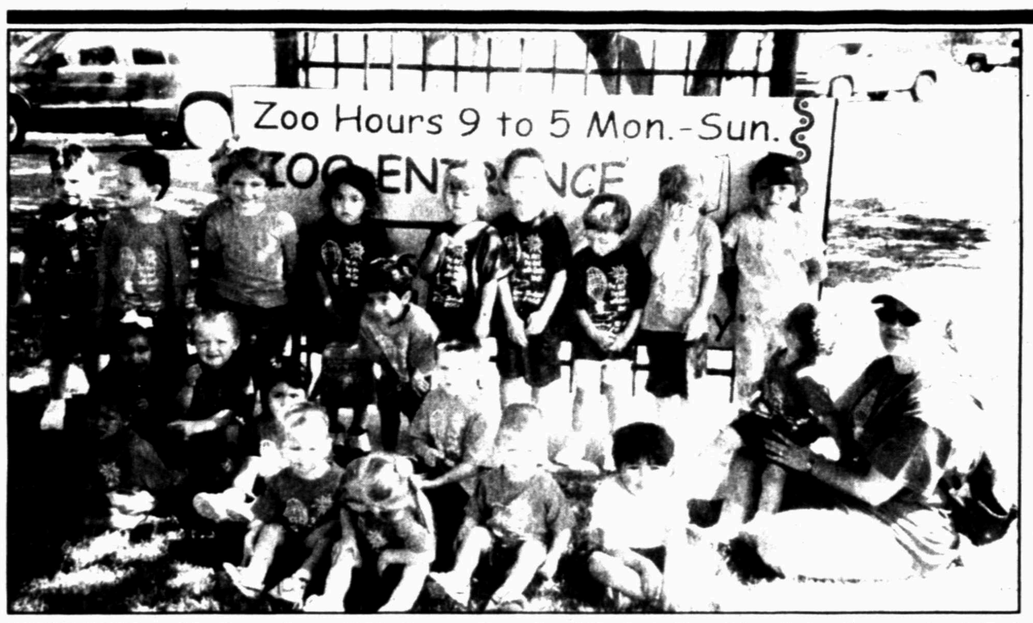

FIELD TRIP — Students from 37th Street Church of Christ's Sonshine School recently visited the Abilene Zoo. Pictured back from left are Colton Barnett, Cameron Horton, Kyra Sullenger, Baylee Ritchey, Emily Sosa, Karly Etheredge, Chris Dickinson, Austin Bates, Taylor Head and Alex Martinez. Middle row from left are Juan Jaramillo, Jordan Ruiz, Cenna Lane, Allegra Escobedo, Andrew Rodriguez, Dakon Tindol, Abby Tate and Cheree Tate, teacher for the two-year-old group. Front row from left are Bergen Kretzschmer, Kaitlyn Glover, Peter Kretzschmer and Audrey Moncevais. (Contributed Photo)

Heat, wind drought and water debt hurting crops

HARLINGEN (AP) — Farmers in the Rio Grande Valley say they've never seen it so bad. Milo grain is "pretty well over with," farmer Jimmie Steidinger said, and oranges and grapefruits are dime-sized and drooping with thirst.

It's not the driest season on record, National Weather Service meteorologist Richard Hagan said, but pretty well near it, leading Hagan to think a decade-long Pacific cooling trend is only beginning to dry distant South Texas.

Wind and record heat are meanwhile sucking off what moisture there is. The alleged Mexican water debt doesn't help — U.S. officials say Mexico is no longer sticking to its end of a 1944 water sharing treaty.

"I'm down to my last watering on citrus. I don't know what I'm going to do after that," said Tommy Garcia, a third-generation farmer who has fields and groves around the Rio Grande Valley. Garcia irrigates by flooding, eight times in a typical year. That leaves five waterings for this season, but because of rationing Garcia may not be allowed to flood again.

In Brownsville this year, just 1.94 inches of rain has fallen, making it the fifth driest January through May on record. The driest such period was in 1901 when only 0.3 of an inch were recorded, followed by 1996 with .71 inches and 1953 and 1954 with 1.45 and 1.48 inches respectively — part of the 1950s drought that is still remembered.

"I'm sure it was bad in the fifties, but that was before they had those dams," Harlingen Irrigation District manager Wayne Halbert said.

"This is the first time since the dams were built that the Harlingen Irrigation District has been on allocation. Up until this year, they've been able to irrigate with as much as they needed," Halbert said.

The dams created Falcon Lake and Amistad reservoirs, both now below 30 percent capacity.

Cement foundations of old Zapata, a town that was evacuated and flooded to create Falcon Lake, are now dry and surrounded by 12-foot high mesquite trees. Just across the border, squatters have taken up residence in the waterstained but intact structures in another once-covered town — Guerrero Viejo, Mexico.

According to U.S. members of the International Boundary and Water Commission, Mexico is in arrears on a 1944 treaty sharing water from the Colorado River and owes 1.4 million acre feet of water — some 456 billion gallons. Mexico says it is making its scheduled debt repayments and is in compliance.

While Congressional representatives in Washington are fighting to push Mexico to release water stores confirmed by satellite data, farmers are doubtful they will get substantial amounts in time to save their crops.

Compounding the problem is how hot and windy it's been, Hagan said.

As of Wednesday, Brownsville had logged 25 days of 90-plus degree temperatures since January, 18 of them consecutive, a record.

The prolonged droughts of 1893 to 1902 and of the 1950s were tied to Pacific Decadal Oscillation, major changes in Pacific Ocean temperature, Hagan said.

"What we are finding is that the Pacific Ocean is a primary player in our weather patterns here in deep South Texas," Hagan said. "The only time we have this kind of rainfall is when we're in a cool phase of a PDO. That's cause for real concern, because that implies that there's several more years ahead."

The wild card farmers find themselves hoping for is a wet hurricane or tropical storm, such as Hurricane Alice. Alice dumped up to 50 inches of rain all the way up the Rio Grande, ending the drought and spawning resort towns around the newly filled reservoirs.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Mom's road to marital bliss has taken numerous detours

DEAR ABBY: My mother is being married again this summer. This is her fifth marriage, and I fear she is doing it for all the wrong reasons.

It all started 30 years ago when, as a teen-ager, she married my father. She married him to get away from her family. My father abused her, she divorced him, then remarried him again. They stayed together 10 more miserable years before divorcing. Within three months she met and married another man. He was addicted to "the chase." Mother was his fifth wife. (He is currently on No. 8.) She divorced him and married husband No. 3, even though he was obviously drug-addicted. It eventually caused their divorce.

For the past few months, my mother has been looking for love on the Internet and through personal newspaper ads. Within two weeks, she found a man she claimed to love. They picked a wedding date. He was a drug addict and dealer who ended up taking everything from Mom's house. Fortunately, they did not marry.

Mom has recently met another man on the Internet — a recovering alcoholic, active in meetings and social functions. Of all the men she has brought home, he is definitely the best prospect for marriage. She confided that she is not in love with him, but they have set a summer wedding date. She feels love will come later, and she "likes" him enough to marry him.

I should mention that Mother is a successful professional woman with a great job. She owns a beautiful home and is financially secure. However, she is very lonely, has no friends, rarely speaks to her 10 siblings — and hardly ever visits me and my daughter, even though we live only 20 minutes away.

We have had a strained relationship for years. I feel that she abandons me whenever a new man enters the picture. I want what's best for her, but I don't believe she has the self-confidence or insight to pick a man who doesn't come with a lot of "baggage."

Can you think of anything I can say or do to make my mother reconsider this marriage and start getting some therapy? — **DAUGHTER OF A MARRYING MOM**

DEAR DAUGHTER: I'm not sure there is anything you can do now to "save" your mother. Wait to see if marriage No. 5 "takes." If it doesn't work out, then will be the time your mother will be most receptive to getting professional help.

**

DEAR ABBY: My fiance and I are being married in Wilmington, N.C. The pastor who will perform the ceremony lives two hours away in Raleigh. He will have to arrive in Wilmington on Friday afternoon in order to supervise the rehearsal that night — and stay in town overnight, as our wedding is the following afternoon.

Are we required to pay for a hotel room on Friday night for the pastor and his wife? If he stays Saturday night after the wedding, should we also pay for that?

We're also unsure if we should tip him in addition to the officiant fee. None of our friends or family has ever dealt with this dilemma, so we are hoping you can set us straight, Abby. We want to do the right thing. — **ALMOST NEWLYWEDS**

DEAR ALMOST NEWLYWEDS: Since the pastor will be in town officiating at your wedding, the gracious thing would be to see that the hotel bill is taken care of. If he and his wife are staying on Saturday to attend your wedding reception, the room should be included. However, after compensating him for the ceremony, I see no reason to add a gratuity.

**

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

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For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby — Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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Refunds delayed

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — About 415,000 Missouri taxpayers should get their delayed income tax refunds by August, perhaps sooner if the state House agrees to tap emergency funds, Gov. Bob Holden said.

Refunds checks have been delayed indefinitely for many taxpayers because of a budget crunch caused by lower-than-expected state income tax collections. Last week, the state said it still owed $167 million in refunds to taxpayers.

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Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Friday, May 10, 2002

The cycle ahead is ripe for you to involve yourself in as many enterprising activities as possible. As the months unfold, you'll be given all the encouragement you need to realize success.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Although you might want to get an early start on the weekend, don't ignore your business calls. There's something profitable in it for you. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that'll govern you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Treat yourself and enjoy every minute of it. You deserve some time for yourself to do your own thing in your own way — don't feel guilty about it.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — You've heard the phrase "if you want to be heard, whisper." This will be true for you, also. The lower your profile, the greater your recognition will be.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — There's a good chance that you could link up with someone with whom you'll have a great deal in common, either at work or socially.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — A seemingly irrelevant opportunity might show you how to accomplish something you haven't been able to do.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Because you are willing to listen to various viewpoints, your open-mindedness will lead you to learn something that'll prove to be immensely significant.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Things of a commercial or financial nature might capture your attention with great enthusiasm. Your instincts could be telling you there is something lucky awaiting you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Sharing time with your special someone will have many peripheral effects that ties you closer together. It's these kind of days that produce happiness.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — There will be no greater gratification to be found than immersion in a labor of love. What you produce will have a heart-warming effect on others.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — This can be both a productive day as well as a fun one. The secret is to organize your affairs so that you will have time to do both in ways that don't conflict with one another.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Spending time with your loved one is all that you'll need to make you happy. You'll find more excitement in them than in any of your friends.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — The last thing you're going to want is to be tied down to one spot all day long. If necessary, change your plans so that you spend time in several locations.

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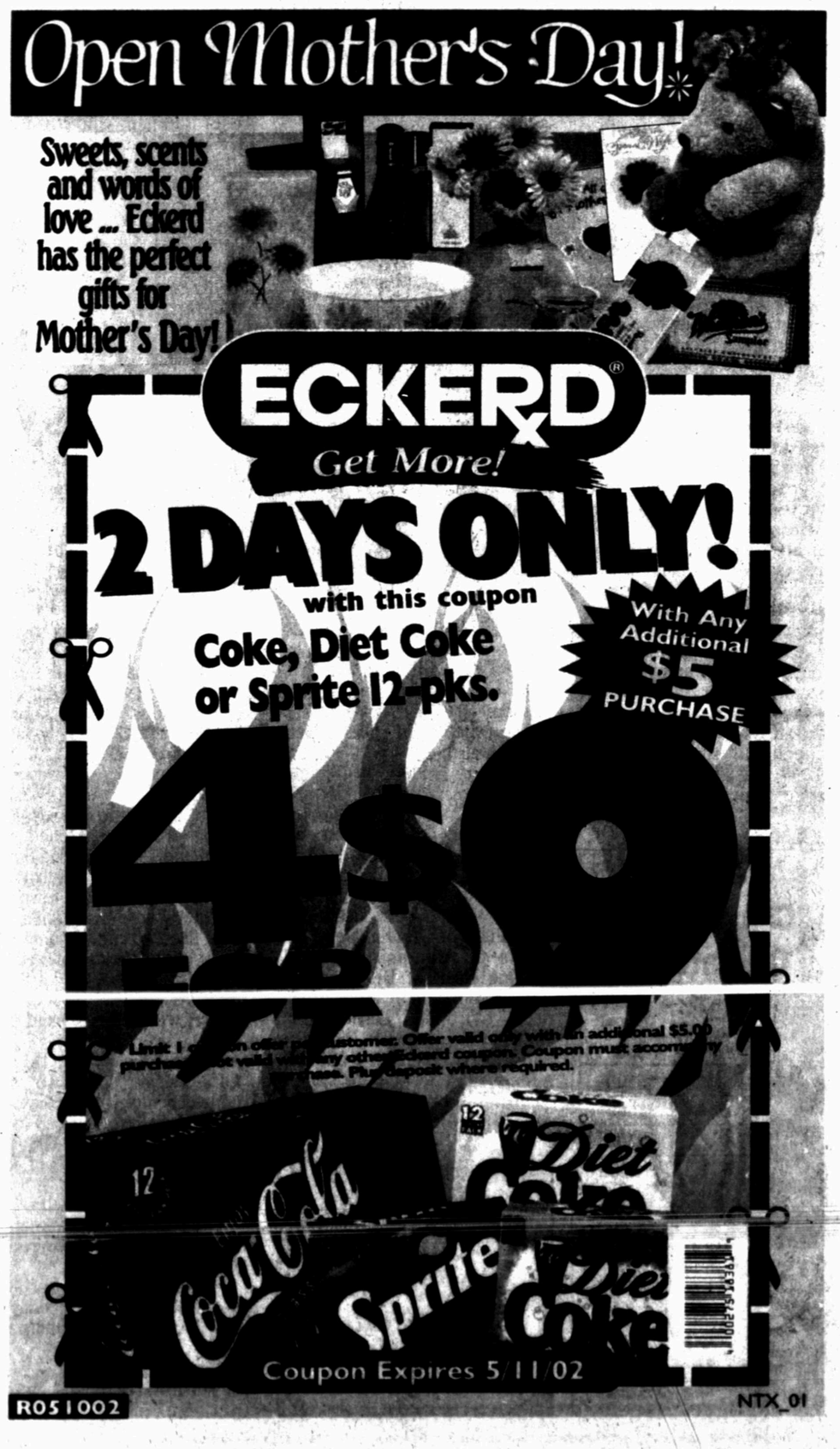

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