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WT-Int. Crude - $38.75
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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

MONDAY
June 21, 2004
Vol. 56 No. 44
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Suzan Pinkerton

County salary hike approved

By Jeff West
SDN Staff Writer

County employees will get pay raises next year and citizens needing to pay bail and other jail fees will be able to put it on their credit cards soon.

The pay plan was discussed at the last meeting and the Scurry County commissioners court agreed on the basic plan, but had some minor adjustments they wanted to consider.

At this morning's meeting, the court okayed the new salary plan without comment. The new plan called for adjustments to five positions from the original plan. Some of the adjustments were clerical corrections rather than actual salary increases from the original plan.

The coliseum foreman, parks foreman and the airport manager will see their salaries increase to $22,487.91, the same as road and bridge foremen.

The head librarian will get the same amount, but that is shown as a decrease from the original schedule. The assistant librarian's salary will increase to $20,541, the same paid to the chief clerks in other county offices.

The court also agreed to add a master certification for peace officers, which will add three percent above the advanced certification that the pay committee had already recommended.

At the last meeting, the court approved allowing the county clerk to accept credit cards through a company that charges the payee rather than the county.

Sheriff Darren Jackson expressed an interest in offering the same service to those making bail or paying fines. Since only the county clerk was listed on the last agenda, the court approved allowing any county office that wanted to use the service to do so. The payments are made by calling an toll-free number or going to a web site, there will be no swipe machines, since that could cost more.

The court also approved requesting bids for an old air conditioner cooler and some chairs that have been removed from the coliseum. The chairs are worn out and not able to be repaired, according to Larry Thompson, coliseum foreman.

County Judge Rod Waller said he had heard complaints about the metal chairs in the boxes where the seats used to be. Thompson said the difference is the metal chairs are about $8 a chair, while padded chairs are $120 each.

Waller asked Thompson to look into various kinds of seating and perhaps consider charging more for those in box seats.

Cogdell Hospital administrator Carol Hanes said she had chosen a staff member to be head of nursing, but did not want to release the name until consulting with the hospital board.

Hanes will also talk to the board about what it will take to get a new CT — or CAT — scan machine.

Other written reports were presented to the court which approved several routine line-item transfers and a budget amendment to transfer $40,000 received from TxDOT for runway maintenance to the airport.

Dallas blaze kills six-year-old boy

DALLAS (AP) — A woman and her 13-year-old son remained hospitalized today with burns suffered in a weekend fire that killed a 6-year-old boy who was visiting their home.

Fila Bailey, 6, of Terrell, died in the blaze Sunday morning. Jodi Collins, 46, and Tyler Collins, 13, were found in their 1,100-square-foot Seagoville home shortly after the fire was extinguished.

VINTAGE VESSEL — Curtis and Donald Tate of Hermleigh look over a bi-plane belonging to the Commemorative Air Force which took part in the fly-in at Winston Field Saturday. Other fly-in photos are on Page 8. (SDN Staff Photo by Jeff West)

One jailer fired...

Final report on jail investigation is released by Sheriff Jackson

Sheriff Darren Jackson has released the final report on alleged improprieties at Scurry County Jail.

In the prepared statement, Jackson said Texas Ranger John Billings provided him with the Ranger's investigative report on Friday.

"Ranger Billings' report states that 29 witnesses were interviewed by four different investigators from outside the Scurry County sheriff's office," said Jackson.

The report stated that during the course of the investigation, several jail rule infractions were documented, but no violations of law occurred that would result in criminal charges being filed against any staff member of the sheriff's office.

"Ranger Billings also noted that there were several employees of the jail that were involved in personality disputes among themselves, and this made them subject of being played by the inmates," Jackson said.

The report also said several polygraph exams were administered to both inmates and jail staff, but one staff member refused to submit to a polygraph examination.

Jackson said that as a result of the investigation, evening shift jailer, Katrina Burney, was terminated on May 18 for failure to provide proper supervision.

Embattled governor will resign tonight

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Gov. John G. Rowland will announce his resignation tonight, amid a federal corruption investigation and a growing move to impeach him, his lawyer said.

The governor was planning to announce his resignation on a live television address to the state at 6 p.m., lawyer William Dow III said this morning.

Dow would not specify when the resignation would take effect, but an administration source speaking on condition of anonymity said the resignation would be effective at noon July 1.

Earlier, a spokesman for the governor's office refused to comment.

PINE FIRE — Firefighters Nathan Hines took the nozzle while Donny Loveall handled the hose at a fire at 37th Street and FM 1611. Fire Marshal Cy Posey said weather conditions may have caused pine needles that were stacked to combust about 5 p.m. Saturday. (SDN Staff Photo by Jeff West)

Four U.S. servicemen are killed in ambush

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Four U.S. service members were killed today in an ambush while conducting operations in the Sunni Muslim stronghold of Ramadi, the U.S. military said.

The military also said that Saturday airstrikes in Fallujah killed key figures in the network of suspected terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

The airstrike leveled a building that U.S. officials said was a suspected safehouse for the network of al-Zarqawi, a Jordanian-born militant believed to be linked to al-Qaida. At least 16 people were killed in the strike. Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt declined to specify whether anyone killed in the strike came from abroad.

Col. Mohammed Awad, a senior officer of the U.S.-backed Fallujah Brigade, disputed the American contention Sunday, saying rescue operations uncovered only the belongings of women and children.

The four Americans in Ramadi had failed to check in at an appointed time, and a search was launched, Kimmitt said, declining further comment until relatives could be notified.

Videotape delivered to Associated Press Television News showed the four, still in uniform, lying dead near what appeared to be a walled compound.

On Sunday, attackers lying in wait for Iraqi troops detonated a roadside bomb on the dangerous road leading to Baghdad's airport Sunday, killing two Iraqi soldiers and wounding 11. American troops took the Iraqi wounded to a U.S. aid station and waited while they were treated.

An American Marine was killed in a non-combat incident Saturday in Anbar province, which includes Ramadi and Fallujah, the U.S. military said.

New business prospect on DCOS agenda

An executive session to discuss financial or other incentives to a business prospect will highlight Tuesday morning's Development Corporation of Snyder board of director's meeting.

The board also will hear a review of the 2004-2005 budget from executive director John DeLille, as well as DeLille's monthly report.

The monthly financial statements will be reviewed, as will the monthly bills.

The meeting is at 7:30 in the DCOS boardroom at American State Bank.

ASK US

Q—How much money did the Snyder firefighters collect Saturday in the Fill-the-Boot drive?
A—Just over $1,000.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Linda Compton...

...has lived in Snyder since 1972. She is an LVN at Snyder Healthcare Center while her husband, Don, is a teacher for the TDCJ Windham School District. Their daughter, Amanda, and her husband, Bryan Sparks, live in Irving while son, Michael, is in school in Waco. She enjoys crochet, reading, fishing and camping.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything.
—Steve Bartkowski

JUN 21 2004

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

SHS cheerleader car wash

Advance tickets for the SHS cheerleader car wash are on sale now. To purchase tickets, call 573-3475. The car wash is Saturday at Wal-Mart.

VFW Ladies Auxiliary

The VFW Ladies Auxiliary will meet at 7 p.m. today at the post home. Members are asked to attend.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 this evening is "The Unchanging Nature of God," followed by "Let Us Love One Another."

Head Start registration

Scurry County Head Start registration will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Wednesday. Call 573-7403 or go by the school at 2800 2nd Street. Children must be three years old and meet family income guidelines or have a diagnosed disability or development delay. Needed for registration is birth certificate, immunization record, Social Security card and proof of family income.

AA meeting

An AA meeting is held at noon every Tuesday and Friday at the Witherspoon house next door to the First Presbyterian Church. The meeting is non-smoking and closed. For more information, call 574-2656, or 207-1325.

GED, ESL classes

GED and ESL classes at Western Texas College are held from 8 a.m. until noon every Tuesday through Thursday and from 6 to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays through June 30. Classes will then resume in August. For more information call 573-8511, ext. 322.

Water aerobics

Water aerobics for seniors is held from 10-11 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday at the WTC pool.

4-H horse club point night

The Scurry County 4-H horse club will have point night at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the coliseum annex. Members are asked to turn in their brisket sale money on Tuesday. For more information, call 574-2450, or the extension office at 573-5435.

Class of 1989 reunion postponed

Due to lack of response and not enough addresses, the SHS class of 1989 is postponing its 15-year reunion on July 3 until further notice. The reunion was planned July 3. Continue to forward addresses to Christy James at 573-5625.

Water aerobics

Water aerobics for seniors is held from 10-11 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday at the WTC pool.

Cancer treatment transportation

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

First Baptist support group

First Baptist Church sponsors a support group for persons facing difficulties – including cancer, divorce, grief, etc. It meets on the first floor Adult 6 Department at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month.

East Side VBS

East Side Church of Christ will have Vacation Bible School from 6-8:30 p.m. Wednesday nights through July 7. Call 573-3583 for more information.

Love and Logic classes

East Side Church of Christ will offer Love and Logic classes from 6-8 p.m. on Wednesdays through July 7. Pam Hart is the instructor. The classes are geared toward parents and grandparents. A meal will be served at 5:15 p.m. in the multi-purpose building Wednesday at the Family Life Building.

What's up guidelines

Items for What's Up will be published twice at no charge, the day before and the day of the event. Events or activities requiring additional publicity will be referred to the advertising department where a special non-profit rate is available.

Iraq prison declared crime scene

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A military judge today declared the Abu Ghraib prison a crime scene and said it cannot be demolished as President Bush had offered, while defense lawyers in the prisoner abuse case indicated they want to question Bush and Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld.

During a hearing in Baghdad, the judge, Col. James Pohl, also refused to move the trials of three soldiers — Spc. Charles A. Graner Jr., Sgt. Javal S. Davis and Staff Sgt. Ivan L. "Chip" Frederick II — to somewhere outside Iraq.

The three are among seven soldiers accused of abusing prisoners. One of them, Spc. Jeremy C. Sivits, pleaded guilty last month and was sentenced to a year in prison.

After the pre-trial hearing in Baghdad, lawyers for the three defendants said their clients were following orders by senior officers and military intelligence.

"We can't have American soldiers in a war zone questioning the legality of orders," Guy Womack, the civilian lawyer for Graner, told reporters.

Womack said there was "a good chance" he would seek to question Rumsfeld. He said he doubted he would try to depose President Bush, although "certainly we will be considering it."

President Bush had offered to dismantle Abu Ghraib to help remove the stain of torture and abuse from the new Iraq. Saddam Hussein used Abu Ghraib to torture and murder his opponents.

Pohl declared the prison a crime scene and said it could not be destroyed prior to a verdict.

Civil lawyers for Davis and Graner won permission to seek testimony from the top U.S. general in Iraq, Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez and from the chief of the U.S. Central Command, Gen. John Abizaid.

The judge turned down a request to seek testimony from higher-ranking witnesses, including Rumsfeld, at this time. Pohl left open the possibility of calling other senior figures if the defense could show their testimony was relevant.

Bergrin has also said he wants to question Bush and Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld about the prisoner abuse, though he did not formally present a request in court.

"We would like to interview Bush because we know as a matter of fact that President Bush changed the rules of engagement for intelligence acquisition," Bergrin said today.

He did not elaborate, and it was not immediately clear what the changes he referred to.

Lawyers for Davis and Graner also sought unsuccessfully to have the trial moved to the United States or Germany. However, Pohl said he might reconsider his ruling if future events in Iraq precluded a fair trial.

Pohl postponed a pretrial hearing for one of the defendants in the Abu Ghraib abuse case until July 23 after his civilian lawyer failed to appear and the defendant refused to waive his right to co-counsel.

No date for a trial has been set, but Womack said he did not believe it would begin before October.

Davis' civil lawyer, Paul Bergrin, told reporters during a recess that lower-echelon troops at the prison had worked under intense pressure from their commanders and the CIA and were using "Israeli methods" known to work against Arab prisoners.

The hearings took place in the Baghdad Convention Center in the heavily guarded Green Zone, the nerve center of the American-run occupation of Iraq. U.S. authorities hope the proceedings will convince Iraqis that the United States does not tolerate abuses of civil liberties.

Davis' military lawyer, Capt. Scott Dunn, failed to win an order to reopen the Article 32 investigation, which would have in effect dismissed the current charges. Dunn had argued that the military failed to make available a witness during the Article 32 proceedings, which ended with a recommendation for court martial.

The judge granted a request by Bergrin to declassify all parts of an Army investigation report conducted by Maj. Gen. Antonio Taguba.

As the session began, Dunn, Davis' military lawyer, said the defense understood that security conditions in Iraq made it difficult to provide access to some witnesses. He wanted to question an inmate at Abu Ghraib.

Dunn said his client still had a right to confront his accusers.

"We couldn't go to him. They wouldn't bring him to us. They said it was impossible to obtain any telephone testimony. We object to not obtaining his testimony at all," Dunn said.

The Army has argued that a sharp rise in violence around the Abu Ghraib prison in April, including the siege of nearby Fallujah, made the area around the detention center too dangerous. One witness said convoys to and from the prison were sent out on an emergency basis only and they required the permission of a colonel or general to meet the defense request.

The seven soldiers charged in the case were from the 372nd Military Police Company, an Army Reserve unit from Cresaptown, Md. The abuse scandal broke in April when CBS' "60 Minutes II" aired photographs of hooded and naked prisoners.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Couple's pre-nup sparks disagreement on both sides

DEAR ABBY: I am engaged to be married in six months. My fiance, "Ken," has presented me with a prenuptial agreement. We have been together for 5 1/2 years. I am 35 years old, and this may be my only shot at having my own family. I love Ken and want to spend the rest of my life with him.

I have shown the agreement to two attorneys. Both told me that it is one-sided. If the marriage should end I will not be entitled to anything, and I will be nothing more than a live-in girlfriend. I am so confused. I tried to discuss it with Ken, but he is very stubborn about the wording and insists that it should remain.

I have no one to confide in because I don't want my family and friends to know. Please help me. — **EMBARRASSED IN STATEN ISLAND, N.Y.**

DEAR EMBARRASSED: A man who loves the woman he's about to marry should be willing to ensure that she is treated fairly. You should not be faced with being penniless if the marriage doesn't work out.

Unless a compromise can be worked out that is fair to both of you, you should not go through with the marriage. Your legal counsel should be negotiating with his legal counsel, and the two of you should remain above the fray.

While we're on the subject of legal documents, read on:

DEAR ABBY: Please remind your readers to be certain their estates are in order. One of my neighbors, "Graham," has been hospitalized twice for serious problems. After the first incident, I tried to convince Graham and his wife, "Carolyn," to make a Living Will and a Living Trust. Graham was all for it; Carolyn didn't want to take the necessary steps. Evidently, his vote didn't count because nothing was done.

Now Carolyn is in the hospital. Her illness is serious. Neither of them is covered in the eventuality of death. This means the survivor will have to go through probate — a costly journey. Their home is not in joint survivorship, so that will go through probate, too.

It doesn't matter how much a person owns. Everyone needs, at the very least, a will and a Living Will. — **CONCERNED FRIEND**

DEAR CONCERNED: How true. In recent weeks, I have lost two friends, both with no warning. The first to die was a beautiful woman in the prime of life. She was in the best of health until an infection suddenly overwhelmed her. Who thinks about mortality in the prime of life? She didn't, and now her survivors have a headache on top of their heartache.

The second was a gentleman I had known for more than 20 years. He carried my name in his wallet as the person to notify in case of an emergency. He was taken to the hospital by ambulance one afternoon and instructed the doctors and nurses not to notify me or his family because he was sure he'd be home within a few days. Then he slipped into a coma. He had talked to me about how he wanted his estate distributed in the event something happened to him — but he never put it in writing. By the time the government and the lawyers get finished with it, there will be little left for the people he loved.

What I'm trying to convey is that we're all going to go. And few can predict exactly how or when. So unless you want your hard-earned assets sold to pay death taxes and estate lawyers, make a will. Unless you want strangers or emotionally stressed relatives determining what will happen to you if you're too sick to speak for yourself, make a LIVING will. The choice is yours. Personally, I'd rather stipulate.

**

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

**

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

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Volunteer firefighters charged with arson

BENAVIDES, Texas (AP) — The volunteer fire department has been busy fighting blazes in this South Texas town — too many, some say.

The last in a string of eight fires that struck since late last year burned down a house. Volunteer firefighters responded to the May 5 blaze in two minutes.

By mid-May, two Benavides volunteer firefighters were charged with arson in connection with three of the fires.

"We've got a videotape from a convenience store of them paying for diesel fuel that they bought within two hours of the fire," Joe Mike Pea, an assistant Duval County district attorney, told the San Antonio Express-News in today's online edition. "Another witness saw them putting it into a small container, and one of them is wearing his bib uniform."

Forensic analysis of the charred debris at the house that burned May 5, owned by Juan Villareal, showed results consistent with a fire ignited by diesel fuel, said Pea.

"In addition, that same truck seen at the convenience store was later spotted driving away from the (Villarreal) house, and the person who saw it also saw a glow coming from inside the house," he said.

Firefighters, Adam Nerio, 28, and Robert Galvan Garcia, 24, are free after posting $200,000 bail each. No trial date has been set. Lawyers for the indicted firefighters declined to comment.

The Benavides Volunteer Fire Department's sole pumper, a 1986 Ford, is now out of service with a broken pump motor

"Oh God, we need to replace it," Fire Chief Ricardo Carrillo said. "Every meeting I'd go to, I'd tell the City Council, this truck cannot handle it."

The 20-year-old chief says he still believes in his firefighters' innocence.

"To this day, I think it was kids who set the fires," he said. "My guys say they had nothing to do with it. They were in the wrong place at the wrong time."

One of the blazes struck a house owned by an elderly man who barely made it to safety. The remainder were in unoccupied dwellings found in Benavides in abundance, some half hidden in the mesquite and huisache.

events

LOTTO TEXAS TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Pick 3

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

4-4-5

Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 9-26-28-29-40. Bonus Ball: 16.

Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: 1. Prize: estimated $145 million

Winning ticket(s) sold in: El Paso.

Number matching five of five: 33. Prize: $8,110.

Number matching four of five, plus Bonus Ball: 108 Prize: $2,249.

Number matching four of five: 4,763. Prize: $109.

Number matching three of five, plus Bonus Ball: 4,425. Prize: $104.

Number matching three of five: 192,618. Prize: $5.

Number matching two of five, plus Bonus Ball: 55,817. Prize: $5.

Number matching one of five, plus Bonus Ball: 254,585. Prize: $3.

Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: $4 million.

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Pasture land may hold clue to planet's past

MARQUEZ, Texas (AP) — Quiet pasture land in this east Central Texas community holds clues to the planet's violent past, geologists say.

They say the site known as the Marquez Dome was once thought to be a salt dome by prospectors looking for oil along the Texas Gulf coast.

However, scientists now say the site about 60 miles southeast of Waco holds the remnants of a huge crater formed from an asteroid's impact about 58 million years ago.

University of Houston geoscience professor Arch Reid says shallow seawater or a marsh probably covered Marquez when it was struck by the asteroid, leaving a hole about a mile deep that was filled with rock over geologic time. The dome-like uplift gradually resulted from erosion.

"It's essentially a buried and exhumed crater with none of the crater left," Reid told the Waco Tribune-Herald in Monday's online edition.

Reid and three other scientists wrote one of the first research papers explaining why the Marquez Dome was a buried impact crater rather than a subterranean salt dome where petroleum can be trapped.

Discovered in 1989, the dome has also drawn a group of University of Tennessee students.

"The amount of energy released was around 10 million to 100 million megatons," said University of Tennessee geology professor Bill Deane, who visited the site in March with a group of students. "You're talking about 100 hydrogen bombs. It's estimated that 25 to 50 percent of the energy from (the impact) is turned into heat. The effects would be devastating."

The resulting crater was initially about 8 miles in diameter before erosion slowly started to cover it.

Discovery of the site came about 150 years after Maria de la Concepcion Marquez purchased from her native Mexican government the 48,000-acre land grant that became portions of Leon and Robertson counties.

Around the turn of the 20th century, the town of Marquez became a railroad stop. It's now a farming community of some 220 people.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 06-21-04
♠ 8 5 4
♥ A K 7
♦ A 8 4 3
♣ A J 10

West
♠ Q J 10 9
♥ 10 6 5 3
♦ 9 5
♣ Q 6 3

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

South
♠ 7 2
♥ Q 4 2
♦ 7 6 2
♣ 9 8 7 5 2

Dealer: North
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
		1 NT	Dbl.
2 ♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♠ Q

Monday, June 21, 2004

The curiosity of crossing paths

By Phillip Alder

It is strange how paths can cross. Last year, I read about the book "Origins of Rhymes, Songs and Sayings" by Jean Harrowven (Pryor Publications, 1998). I entered the author's name into an Internet search engine and came up only with her bridge results! But I traced her to a small town in England. A delightful and modest woman, she claimed that her game isn't good. Instead of a deal, she sent me a couple of bridge poems. Here is one verse: "He opened one no-trump very sure. / She replied two clubs with a purr. / Then he said no bid / And she flipped her lid. / The argument caused quite a stir." (The other verses are at my Web site, www.phillipalderbridge.com.)

One can well understand responder's being unhappy when her partner passed over Stayman. However, maybe she hadn't heard her right-hand opponent double one no-trump, whereupon two clubs would be natural, saying that this contract should be less bad than one no-trump. Today's deal is an example.

If East had passed over one no-trump, that would have become the final contract, probably finishing two down. After East's double, though, South ran to two clubs. East didn't double again, afraid that his partner would think it was for penalties, not takeout. (East-West can make two spades, but not two hearts.)

The defenders began with three rounds of spades. South ruffed the last and played a club to dummy's 10. After winning with his king, East shifted to the diamond king. Declarer won with dummy's ace, crossed to the heart queen, and took a second trump finesse to collect eight tricks.

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Incident escalates

McMINNVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — A motorist's decision to stop a deputy for speeding escalated into a series of incidents than ended with his entire family joining him in jail.

Last week, Lance E. Champion, 23, reportedly pulled in behind Deputy Lt. Stan Hillis across from the local jail and told Hillis he had violated the speed limit. By the end of their conversation, Champion was in custody charged with disorderly conduct, resisting arrest and evading arrest.

Champion called his mother, Janice K. Champion, 48, who arrived with her 17-year-old son. The teen allegedly slapped the hand of a deputy who was gesturing for them to leave the area as Lance Champion's vehicle was about to be towed.

Today's chuckle

Church wanted neckties for Father's Day

ORRVILLE, Ohio (AP) — Fat and skinny, striped or plaid — Trinity United Methodist Church actually wanted neckties for Father's Day.

"We have ties that should have never been sold, much less worn," said Sharon Kowaleski, whose husband, David, pastors the church 21 miles west of Canton.

More than 500 ties were collected and at least 400 were stitched together to make altar cloths for Father's Day.

Kowaleski said that when the call went out for neckties, some widows who had given away their late husbands' ties bought new ones to donate in their memory.

"We thought that was really special," she said. "One woman whose husband died went up in the attic and found her husband's skinny silk ties from the 1940s and 1950s."

Kowaleski and church member Diane Painting cut the ties and sewed them to quilt backing, a material strong enough to bear the weight of the ties without tearing. The cloths are reinforced with dowels.

"Once we got the idea of what we wanted to do, the hardest part was starting out the color scheme," Painting said. "We didn't want to just throw something up there. We wanted color organization."

Baby fatally shot sitting in car seat during domestic dispute

HOUSTON (AP) — A baby girl was fatally shot as she sat in a car seat during a domestic dispute, say authorities who are investigating why she was visiting her mother in violation of an agency's order.

Child welfare officials said 4-month-old Brianna Battle died as her mother, Chandra Yvette Battle, argued with her boyfriend inside the car as they drove through a mechanical car wash at a gas station on Friday.

The 48-year-old boyfriend was sought today in connection with the slaying.

The girl's body was found dumped in a parking lot behind a snack foods warehouse a half-mile away from the station. She was shot twice, once in the left side of her face and once in the neck.

Another daughter of Chandra Battle was in the car during the attack, said Children's Protective Services caseworkers. They said the 22-year-old woman was not supposed to be visiting her two children without supervision.

Both children were placed in the care of Battle's sister in February because Battle had tested positive for drugs when both girls were born, CPS, spokeswoman Estella Olguin said.

Jasmine Battle, 2, was later dropped off unharmed at a friend's Pasadena residence and since has been placed in a foster home.

"She can't talk, so we don't know how much she saw. She can't tell us," Olguin told the Houston Chronicle in today's online edition.

Chandra Battle was shot in the thigh but was treated and released from a hospital. She was trying to end her relationship with the boyfriend she had been dating for more than a year, Houston police Sgt. Clarence Douglas said.

Battle told CPS officials the boyfriend was Brianna's father. He was accused of shooting into the car's back seat where the mother and younger child were sitting.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

A connection between appendicitis and diabetes?

DEAR DR. GOTT: My 28-year-old daughter recently had surgery for a ruptured appendix. Is there any correlation between this and diabetes? She has a couple of cousins who required appendix surgery and were found to have diabetes several years later.

DEAR READER: I am not aware of any relation between appendicitis and past, present or future diabetes. I believe that the situation in your family is simple serendipity: both appendicitis and diabetes are extremely common afflictions, so it is logical to assume that both disorders would appear in an individual on occasion. Nonetheless, with a family history of diabetes, your daughter should receive periodic blood sugar tests on a schedule suggested by her family physician.

DEAR DR. GOTT: After having three children, I had my tubes tied. Sixteen years later, I have an opportunity to lead a happy life with a wonderful man. We are going to be married later this year and he wants kids. I know there is an operation that will untie the tubes. Will an insurance company pay for such an operation? Would there be a payment plan? I'm 38 and in good health.

DEAR READER: Tubal ligation can be reversed by microsurgery in a high percentage of women. However, as you can imagine, the operation is delicate, technically difficult — and expensive.

Whether your insurance plan would cover such surgery is an issue you'll have to take up with the specific company. Some plans do; most don't. If you are unable to qualify for insurance benefits, your gynecologist would probably agree to a payment plan. Ask him or her.

DEAR DR. GOTT: If Viagra is such a boon to men's sexuality, why can't women achieve positive benefits from it?

DEAR READER: Actually, they can.

A recent study (reported in 2003 in the Journal of Urology) showed that Viagra was very useful in treating sexual arousal disorder in women, who discovered that the drug increased genital sensation and heightened satisfaction with foreplay and intercourse.

While Viagra is not approved for use by women, doctors, according to the Journal of Urology, can safely prescribed it "off-label" because it is effective and free of side effects.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Is the drug acetaminophen available only by prescription?

DEAR READER: Acetaminophen is the generic form of Tylenol, widely used and readily available without prescription.

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Native plants are as important to the ecosystem as the exotics so often cultivated. Natives require less water, less fertilizer and less care.

First privately-funded space shot set today

MOJAVE, Calif. (AP) — Mike Melvill is hoping to boldly go where no private enterprise has gone before.

Melvill was to be in the cockpit today of a privately developed rocket plane that seeks to soar into suborbital space, making history as the first non-governmental manned spaceflight.

SpaceShipOne was so thoroughly prepared that no work was done on it over the weekend, designer Burt Rutan said Sunday as aviation enthusiasts gathered in the Mojave Desert to await the event.

"Clearly there is an enormous, pent-up hunger to fly in space and not just dream about it," SpaceShipOne designer Burt Rutan told a news conference Sunday. "Now I know what it was like to be involved in America's amazing race to the moon in the '60s."

The rocket, carrying pilot Melvill, was to be carried aloft from Mojave Airport early today, slung beneath the belly of a specially built jet dubbed White Knight. It was to fly to an altitude of 62 miles.

After a climb to about 50,000 feet, SpaceShipOne was to be released from the mothership, fire its rockets for 80 seconds, coast up to the target altitude and then make a half-hour descent as a glider.

The project was funded by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen, who would only describe the cost as being in excess of $20 million.

SpaceShipOne has emerged as the leading contender for the Ansari X Prize, a $10 million award to the first privately financed three-seat spacecraft to reach 62 miles and repeat the feat within two weeks.

Monday's planned flight was not part of that competition, but Melvill was confident that the program will go on to claim the prize, which is intended to spur efforts to give the public access to space.

"I'm ready to go, boy, I am ready to go, and we are going to win the X-Prize. Put your money on it," he said Sunday.

Melvill, 62, was selected for the flight from among the project's three pilots. During a test flight last month, he flew the rocket plane to an altitude of about 40 miles.

"I enjoyed the last flight," Melvill said. "I'm hoping this will be an exact repetition just a little taller, a little higher, a little faster, and I'm looking forward to it very, very much."

NASA also is interested, said Michael Lembeck, requirements division director of the space agency's Office of Exploration Systems.

"We need people like Burt Rutan with innovative ideas that will take us to the moon and Mars," he said from NASA headquarters. "Folks like Burt bring a different way of doing business."

Melvill is a test pilot and vice president-general manager at Rutan's company, Scaled Composites, which built SpaceShipOne.

Teen accused of assaulting man in park

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (AP) — Police say a 15-year-old boy has been detained on aggravated assault charges in connection with last week's attack on a man, who was set ablaze as he slept on a bench.

The boy's detention in the Juvenile Justice Center on Saturday came after someone called police earlier in the day to discuss a surveillance video that showed the attack. That person thought his or her child might have been involved, Police Chief Pete Alvarez said.

The teenager who was placed in the center after talking to investigators was not related to the person who met with police early Saturday.

"Other people are being interviewed," Alvarez told the Corpus Christi Caller-Times for its Sunday editions. "We think we're going to resolve this; we're very close."

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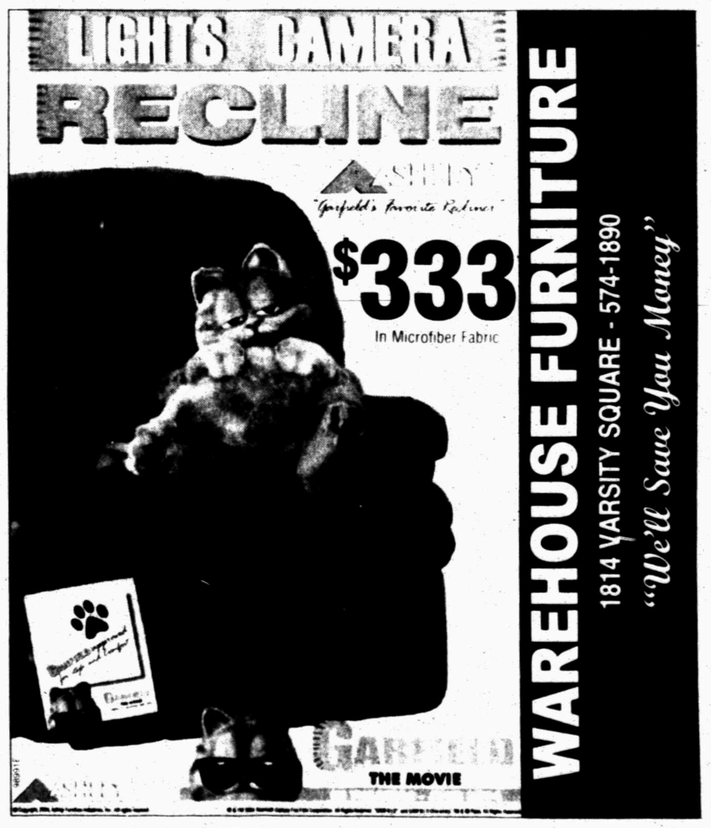

JUN 21 2004

ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman

THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom

SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski

BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell

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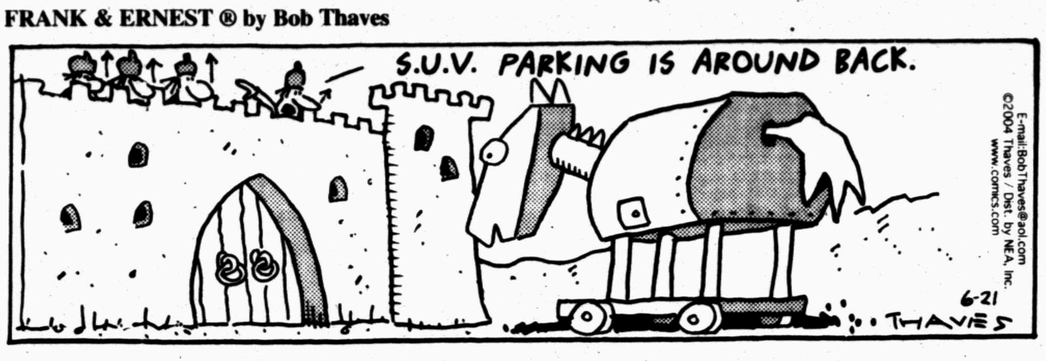
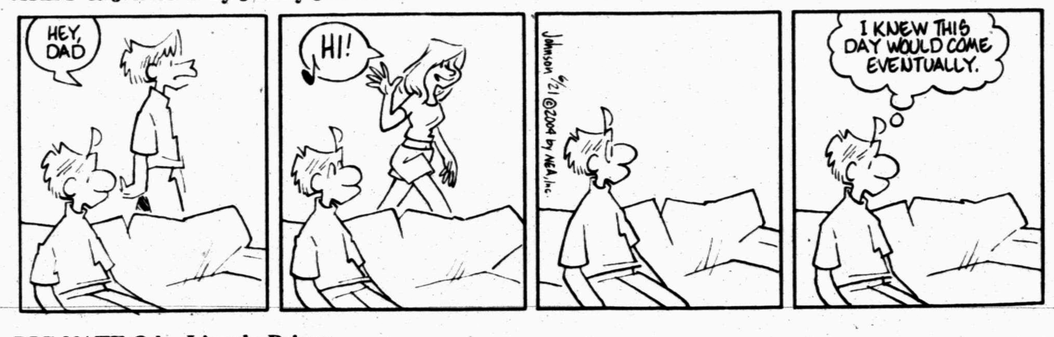
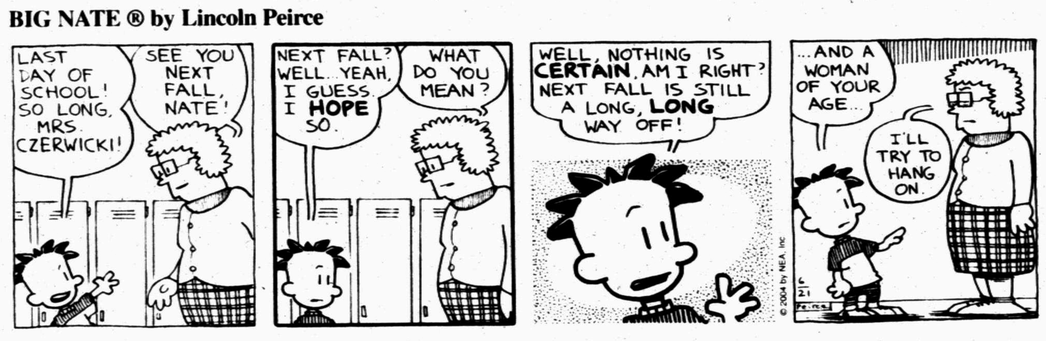


ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce



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ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender

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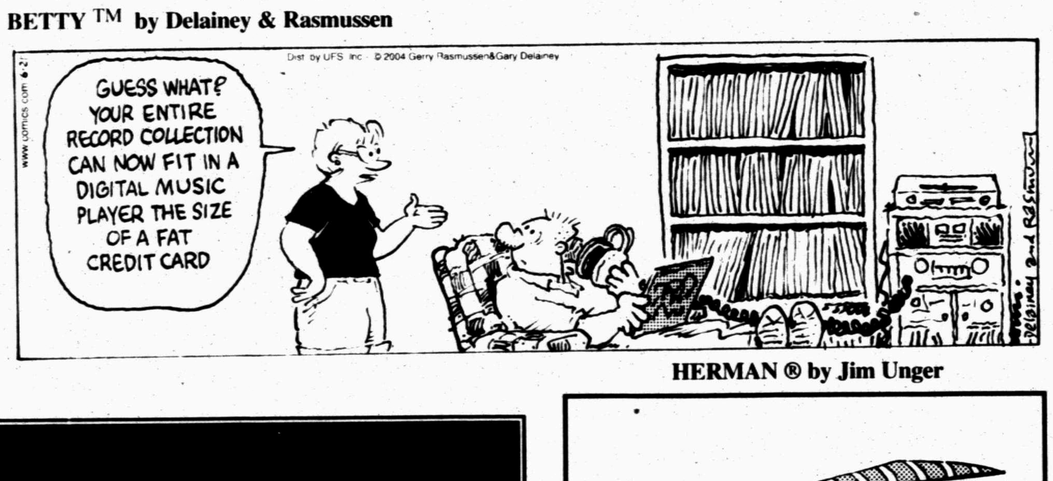
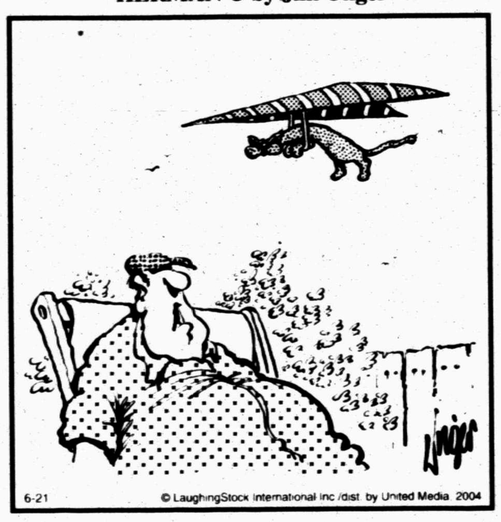


HERMAN ® by Jim Unger



"Did you tell the cat he could have my striped shirt?"

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Sped off
5 Polish
8 Go in reverse
12 Jealousy
13 U.N. member
14 Caspian Sea feeder
15 Manner
16 Early veggie
17 Paper unit
18 Copied
20 Eggy dessert
21 Any ship
22 Hunter's org.
23 Port-au-Prince site
26 Citizenry
29 Several
30 Lady's honorific
31 Wyo. neighbor
33 Discoverer's shout
34 Season
35 Cattle stall
36 Munchies
38 Sitters' banes
39 Ghost's hello
40 Fellow
41 Pub missile
43 Production
46 Roman Hera
47 Mr. Linden
48 Sycamore or ginkgo
50 Wrist-to-elbow bone
51 Handy abbr.
52 Author — Dinesen
53 Happy
54 "Pipe down!"
55 Bar of soap

DOWN

1 Garment edge
2 — — up to one's ears
3 Always
4 Royal house
5 Delhi coin
6 Exploited
7 Meadow sound
8 Rough fabric
9 Locality
10 "Misery" co-star
11 Dutch airline
19 Sweater letter
20 As of
22 Dapper
23 MD employer
24 Contented murmurs
25 A party to (2 wds.)
26 Buddies
27 Trevi Fountain coin
28 Correct
30 Dangerous shark
32 Tummy muscles
34 Highlander
35 Mystifying
37 In Europe, say
38 Except
40 Ravine
41 Monotonous
42 Governess in Siam
43 Solemn promise
44 Bear constellation
45 Salad bowl wood
46 Pitcher
47 Drakes and ganders
49 Barely make ends meet

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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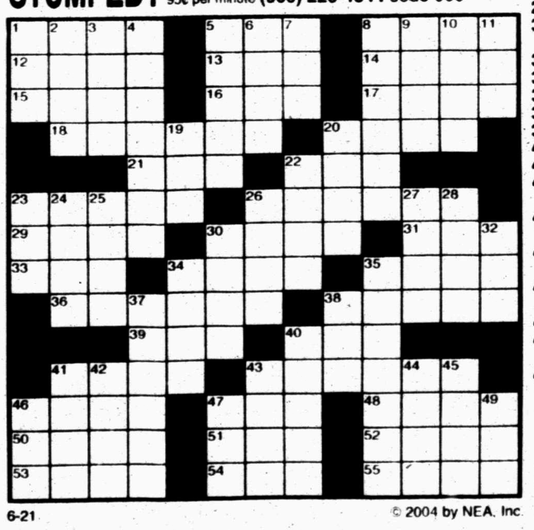

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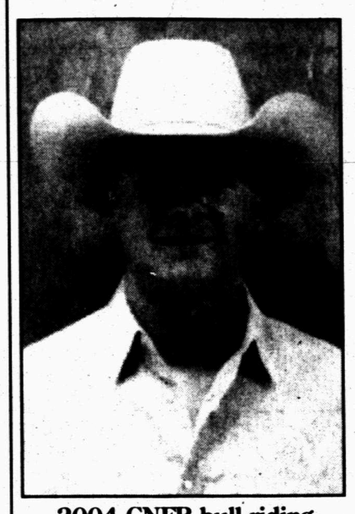
Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

SPORTS

Stratton wins national rodeo in bull riding



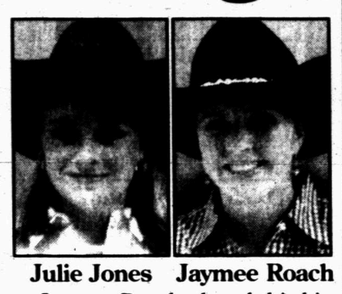
2004 CNFR bull-riding champion Tate Stratton

CASPER, Wyo. — Western Texas College rodeo hand Tate Stratton won the national title in bull riding at the College National Rodeo Finals Saturday, scoring an 87.5 in the championship go to secure the victory.

The Stanley, N.M. native, a freshman at WTC this year, entered the final round in eighth place after scoring a 78.5 in the third round Friday.

"He had a great ride," WTC rodeo coach Greg Rhodes said. "I'm happy for Tate winning the nation. He did a great job."

Stratton's ride also helped the college bolt up the rankings, finishing in 13th place. Before the championship round, WTC was in 32nd place.



Julie Jones Jaymee Roach

Jaymee Roach placed third in the nation in breakaway roping with a time of 3.0 seconds in the short round.

Roach, a freshman from Banquet, finished with a combined time of 11.9. She opened the rodeo with a time of 3.4 to start in 23rd place after the first round. She vaulted herself into contention in the second round with a 2.5 to jump all the way to second place.

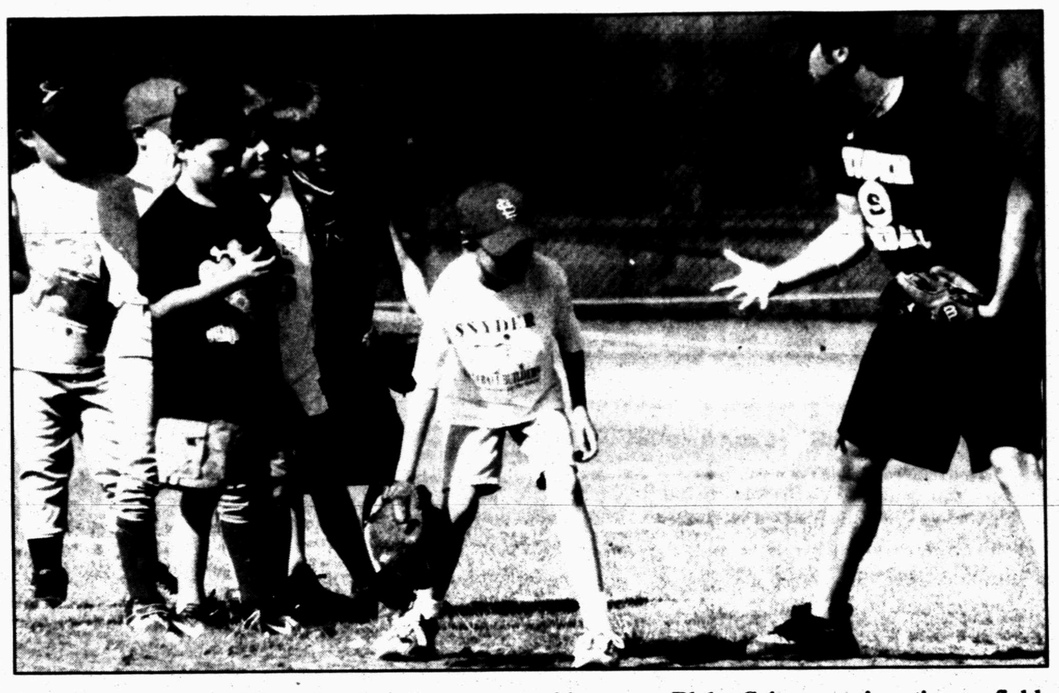
"I'm really happy with the performances, and I'm exceptionally happy with Jaymee," Rhodes said.

Julie Jones of Bosque, N.M. also finished in the top 10 in the country, taking eighth-place in the goat-tying competition.

Jones moved from 23rd to eighth after the second round.

The women's team placed 10th in the nation thanks to the efforts of Roach and Jones.

"They came from a long way down," Rhodes said. "Overall, I'm pretty pleased. I would take these performances every time. The way they did things will win a lot of rodeos."



BASEBALL BUILDERS — Snyder all-state second baseman Blake Grimmett gives tips on fielding ground balls to 10-year-old Brady Williams while the rest of the campers pay close attention at the start of the Baseball Builders camp today. The camp is slated to run through Thursday at Lewis Field. (SDN Staff Photo by Bobby Allen)

Griffey joins 500 HR club

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Ken Griffey Jr. hit a 2-2 fastball from Matt Morris into the right-field stands to lead off the sixth inning Sunday, securing a spot in the record books as the 20th player with 500 homers.

The star center fielder ended a frustrating stretch with the swing, which helped the Cincinnati Reds beat the St. Louis Cardinals 6-0. At 34, he became the sixth-youngest player to reach the milestone.

Griffey, who had been stuck on No. 499 for a week, took a few extra seconds to watch his drive fly into the seats, then dropped his bat and slowly trotted around the bases with his 19th homer of the season.

All of his teammates came out on the field to congratulate him after the historic homer. Griffey then went to a box next to the Reds' dugout and hugged his father, Ken Griffey, and children.

Mickleson meltdown helps Goosen

SOUTHAMPTON, N.Y. (AP) — Phil Mickelson lumbered to the 17th tee with that goofy grin and a one-stroke lead in the U.S. Open.

The New Yawkers were going bonkers, thoroughly convinced that Lefty — the Southern Californian turned one of their own — was going to win another major championship.

Then, without warning, the old Phil returned at Shinnecock Hills on Sunday. The shaky putter. Two excruciating misses. An opportunity lost.

Instead of Mickelson, it was Retief Goosen who hoisted the trophy on the 18th green as Open champion. The masses cheered politely, but their heart wasn't in it.

Their man was Phil.

The runner-up.

"I really thought it was going to be my day," Mickelson said.

Goosen shot a 1-over 71 for a two-stroke victory, his second Open title in four years secured with a performance that would have made Houdini proud.

The South African kept getting into trouble — in the high grass, in the sand — but escaped time and time again with his putter. On 12 of the 18 greens, the Goose walked away after using it only once.

"I had people yelling at me on just about every hole. 'Retief's in the bunker' and 'Retief's in the rough,'" Mickelson said. "Then I would look up at the scoreboard and see he was making pars. I don't know if that was good information or not."

It was.

Mickelson's putter had worked fine all week — until he got to 17.

After flying a shot out of the bunker a little too far, he missed a tricky downhill putt from 5 feet to save par. Then he yanked a 4-footer coming back, finally tapping in for double bogey.

One hole back, Goosen had finished off another one-putt birdie, then walked over to 17 to watch Mickelson self-destruct.

"He was putting for par when I was on the tee," Goosen said. "And I saw him miss that."

Goosen teed off with a two-stroke lead instead of a one-shot deficit, also putting his shot in the sand. Unlike Mickelson, he managed to get up-and-down for par, securing a special place in golf history.

One major can be a fluke. Two is the sign of greatness.

Goosen will no longer be just the guy who three-putted from 12 feet on the 72nd hole in the 2001 Open, forcing him to win an 18-hole playoff against Mark Brooks the next day.

Now, Goosen is one of just 22 players to win golf's toughest test twice.

How tough? No one broke par on the final day. Twenty-eight players — including two-time Open champ Ernie Els — failed to break 80.

"It was actually quite painful," Goosen said.

Not as painful as it was for Mickelson, who broke through for his first major title at the Masters two months ago, then fell back into a disturbing habit.

This was his third runner-up finish in the Open. The first two came while he was going through an 0-for-42 frustration as a pro in the majors, a decade-long stretch that turned him into golf's most beloved loser.

This was supposed to be the new Phil — the course manager instead of the wild risk-taker. He's worked diligently on his short game, not ending practice until he sank 100 straight 3-foot putts.

Maybe he should start working on the 4- and 5-footers.

"This is a championship I really want to win, so it's disappointing," said Mickelson, who closed with a 71 that could have been a 69. "But I also feel like I played well in some very difficult conditions."

Blalock's 11th inning bomb lifts Rangers to series sweep

MIAMI (AP) — After getting swept at Cincinnati, the Texas Rangers salvaged their road trip by winning three straight against the Florida Marlins.

"We played like garbage in Cincinnati," Hank Blalock said. "It was good to be able to come in here and sweep the world champions."

Blalock hit a two-run homer in the 11th inning to give the Rangers a 4-2 victory Sunday. His homer off newly acquired reliever Billy Koch came after Texas closer Francisco Cordero blew a save in the ninth and prevented Kenny Rogers from becoming the first 10-game winner in the majors.

Michael Young opened the 11th with a single, and Blalock followed with his 17th homer of the season on the first pitch from Koch (0-1).

Ron Mahay (1-0) pitched two scoreless innings for the win as Texas recorded its first three-game sweep on the road since last August against Detroit.

Rogers allowed four hits and one run in seven strong innings and appeared on his way to improving to 10-2 as the Rangers took a 2-1 lead into the ninth.

But Mike Lowell's two-out single with two strikes scored Alex Gonzalez with the tying run. Cordero blew just his second save of the season in 22 chances.

Rogers, though, took more comfort in his team bouncing back from four straight losses coming into the series and picking up momentum as the Rangers return home for a series beginning Tuesday against Seattle.

"After starting out 0-3 on the trip, we needed these three games. It was a big three games for us," Rogers said.

Gonzalez opened the ninth for Florida with a walk and took second on Abraham Nunez's sacrifice. Luis Castillo grounded out for the second out, and Jeff Conine reached on a walk. Lowell then hit a sharp single to left that scored Gonzalez and sent Conine to third.

Cordero got out of the inning by retiring Miguel Cabrera on a grounder.

At least Cordero was rescued by Blalock after blowing the save. Koch, acquired in a trade last Thursday to fortify the Marlins' bullpen, is off to a shaky start, having allowed a run in his only other inning of work prior to Sunday.

"This is unacceptable," Koch said "I threw a terrible pitch and it cost us."

Longhorns pound Georgia; Arizona eliminates Arkansas

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — David Maroul's three-run double highlighted Texas' five-run first inning and Seth Johnston and Dooley Prince each had four hits to lead the Longhorns to a 9-3 victory over Georgia in the College World Series on Sunday night.

The top-seeded Longhorns earned the inside track to a spot in the best-of-three championship series. Texas (57-13) will go to the finals next weekend if it beats the winner of Tuesday's Georgia-Arizona game.

Sam LeCure, making his school-record 22nd straight start this season, allowed three hits and one run in four innings. J. Brent Cox (6-1) got the win in relief after giving up two runs on four hits in three innings.

Sean Ruthven (7-2) gave up an RBI double to Curtis Thigpen in the fourth and left in favor of Mitchell Boggs to start the fifth.

Arizona 7, Arkansas 2

Jordan Brown hit two of his team's four home runs to help the Wildcats eliminate Arkansas (45-24).

Arizona (36-26-1) will play Georgia (44-22) on Tuesday.

John Meloan (10-0) allowed five hits in 6 1-3 innings. He walked six and struck out five. Mark Melancon pitched 2 2-3 innings of hitless relief for his third save.

Arkansas' Dave Van Horn became the only coach to lose each of his first six games in the College World Series. Van Horn also went two-and-out in 2001 and '02 with Nebraska.

Brown homered leading off the third inning off Arkansas starter Clint Brannon (4-4). He allowed four runs on five hits in 3 1-3 innings.

BINGO
Every Thursday & Friday
6:30 pm
American Legion Post 181
1800 Ave. R

Sports Briefs

Football camp

Snyder head football coach Chad Rogers will host a football camp June 28-30 at the field-house.

Incoming fourth through sixth grade players will work from 10 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. Camp for incoming seventh through ninth graders will take place from 1:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. Cost is $35 and includes a T-shirt and a cook-out the last day.

Applications can be picked up at the football field house or the athletic office. Contact coach Rogers or coach Martinez at 574-6039 for more information.

Volleyball camp

Snyder head coach Laura Moses will host a volleyball camp July 12-14 at the high school gym for incoming fourth through ninth graders.

Fourth through sixth grade spikers will go from 1 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. and cost for that group is $20 and includes a T-shirt.

Seventh and eighth graders are slated for 2:30 p.m. until 4 p.m., while freshmen will begin at 3:30 p.m. and finish at 5 p.m. Cost is $25 and also includes a shirt.

Deadline to register is July 2, and all participants should bring knee pads and a water bottle. Contact coach Moses at 573-8531 or 436-9067 for more information.

Snyder doubles tournament

The Snyder tennis booster club will host a doubles tournament July 3. Events include open men's, women's and mixed doubles. Entry fee is $5 per person per event, and players may enter two events. To enter contact SHS tennis coach Ted Phillips at 573-2525.

July 4th volleyball tourney

A coed volleyball tournament will be held Saturday, July 3. For more information call 573-7321.

Major League Baseball

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	36	31	.537	—
Florida	37	32	.536	—
New York	34	34	.500	2½
Atlanta	32	36	.471	4½
Montreal	22	45	.328	14

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	41	28	.594	—
Chicago	39	30	.565	2
Cincinnati	38	31	.551	3
Milwaukee	35	31	.530	4½
Houston	35	33	.515	5½
Pittsburgh	26	39	.400	13

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	37	29	.561	—
San Francisco	37	32	.536	1½
San Diego	34	34	.500	4
Arizona	27	42	.391	11½
Colorado	25	43	.368	13

Sunday's Games

Cincinnati 6, St. Louis 0

Today's Games

Pittsburgh (Fogg 4-5) at Houston (Redding 3-6), 7:05 p.m.

Arizona (Fossum 1-5) at San Diego (Valdez 5-3), 9:05 p.m.

Los Angeles (Od.Perez 4-3) at San Francisco (Rueter 3-6), 9:15 p.m.

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	43	24	.642	—
Boston	39	29	.574	4½
Tampa Bay	32	34	.485	10½
Toronto	30	39	.435	14
Baltimore	28	37	.431	14

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	38	30	.559	—
Chicago	35	30	.538	1½
Cleveland	33	34	.493	4½
Detroit	31	37	.456	7
Kansas City	26	40	.394	11

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	38	29	.567	—
Texas	37	29	.561	½
Anaheim	37	31	.544	1½
Seattle	29	38	.433	9

Sunday's Games

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

Today's Games

Cleveland (Sabathia 4-3) at Chicago White Sox (Schoeneweis 5-5), 7:05 p.m.

Oakland (Harden 3-4) at Anaheim (Lackey 4-8), 9:05 p.m.

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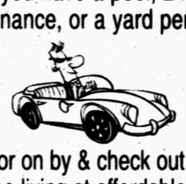

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Supreme Court rules patients can't sue HMOs for malpractice

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court said today that patients who claim their HMOs wouldn't pay for recommended medical care cannot sue for big malpractice damages, removing a weapon that trial lawyers and patient rights advocates said was crucial to keep the insurers honest.

The court was unanimous in saying that two HMO patients in Texas cannot pursue big malpractice or negligence cases against their insurers in state court, as they claimed a Texas patient protection law allowed them to do.

The case involves an issue that has stymied Congress, which has tried and failed to pass national patients' rights legislation. Some states have passed their own patient protection laws in the meantime, but the scope of protection varies.

The biggest question unresolved until today was whether patients could seek hefty damage awards in state courts, or whether they are limited only to federal courts, as insurers claimed.

The choice is significant, because state court juries can often be generous to sympathetic victims. Insurers have claimed that patients could only go to federal court, and then only to recover the value of whatever benefit the HMO denied.

The ruling weakens the Texas patient protection law and those of other states.

The court based its ruling on the language of a 30-year-old federal law, originally meant to protect employee pensions and other benefits, but now applied to the managed care industry.

The law, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act or ERISA, forces the HMO patients at issue in the case to sue only in federal courts, Justice Clarence Thomas wrote for the court.

The insurance industry had argued that ERISA trumps state patient protection laws or other state laws that allow medical negligence suits in local courts, and lower courts were divided on the issue.

The case concerns a gray area of medicine and insurance, in which decisions about what treatment to pursue and what coverage to offer are mingled. The situation arises frequently in managed care, where doctors belong to a closed network of providers overseen by administrators who may not be doctors but who nonetheless decide what the company will pay for.

The court ruled against a hysterectomy patient, Ruby Calad, who had claimed that Cigna Healthcare of Texas essentially evicted her from a Houston hospital after only one day of recovery.

The HMO would not pay for a longer stay, even though her doctor recommended it.

She was back in the hospital a few days later, suffering complications she claims could have been avoided had she remained hospitalized longer after surgery. She later went to court, seeking to make the HMO pay a price for what she called negligent care.

The Supreme Court did not decide whether Calad deserved better — only whether and where she could bring her lawsuit.

Trial lawyers, patient rights advocates and others had argued that HMOs need the threat of hefty jury awards to keep them honest.

Health insurers were backed by the Chamber of Commerce and others, who argued that lawsuits drive up the cost of health care for everyone, and HMOs must draw the line somewhere.

In the Calad case and a companion one involving post-polio patient Juan Davila, insurers tried to pull their lawsuits out of state court and then sought to have the complaints dismissed in federal court.

Davila took what he claims was inferior but cheaper pain medication, instead of the Vioxx his doctor had recommended, because his Aetna Health plan would not pay for the more expensive drug right away.

The cheaper medication caused bleeding ulcers, and he almost had a heart attack, Davila said.

Employers provide most private health insurance to American workers, and HMOs or other managed care options are increasingly popular choices as health care costs rise.

Texas and nine other states regulate HMOs, making decisions about whether treatment is medically necessary, state attorneys general backing Calad and Davila argued in a friend of the court brief. Other states have passed some form of consumer protection from HMO decisions, and still more states are considering such laws, the state lawyers wrote.

Arizona, California, Georgia, Louisiana, Maine, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Washington and West Virginia have laws similar to Texas.

High court rules in favor of law officers

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court ruled today that people do not have a constitutional right to refuse to tell police their names.

The 5-4 decision frees the government to arrest and punish people who won't cooperate by revealing their identity.

The decision, reached by a divided court, was a defeat for privacy rights advocates who argued that the government could use this power to force people who have done nothing wrong to submit to fingerprinting or divulge more personal information.

Police had argued that identification requests are a routine part of detective work, including efforts to get information about terrorists.

The justices upheld a Nevada cattle rancher's misdemeanor conviction. He was arrested after he told a deputy that he didn't have to reveal his name or show an ID during an encounter on a rural road in 2000.

Larry "Dudley" Hiibel was prosecuted, based on his silence and fined $250. The Nevada Supreme Court sided with police on a 4-3 vote last year.

Justices agreed in a unique ruling that addresses just what's in a name.

The ruling was a follow up to a 1968 decision that said police may briefly detain someone on reasonable suspicion of wrongdoing, without the stronger standard of probable cause, to get more information. Justices said that during such brief detentions, known as Terry stops after the 1968 ruling, people must answer questions about their identities.

Justices had been asked to rule that forcing someone to give police their name violated a person's Fourth Amendment protection from unreasonable searches and the Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination.

Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, writing for the majority, said that that it violated neither.

"Obtaining a suspect's name in the course of a Terry stop serves important government interests," Kennedy wrote.

Bill Clinton doing interviews to promote book release Tuesday

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bill Clinton is telling a litany of presidential anecdotes recalling his White House years in a series of introspective interviews timed to the release of his memoir.

He renews a public acknowledgment of personal weakness in the affair with Monica Lewinsky but states anew his belief that Kenneth Starr was overzealous in going after him.

Clinton told CBS's "60 Minutes" in an interview that he regretted failing to bring peace to the Israelis and Palestinians and that he wasn't able to capture terrorist leader Osama bin Laden.

"I'm sorry on the home front that we didn't get health care and that we didn't reform Social Security," the former president said in the Sunday interview.

He talked to CBS in advance of Tuesday's release of his 957-page book, "My Life."

Former press secretary Dee Dee Myers, said today she thought the people who liked Clinton all along would embrace his memoir, while his opponents criticize it.

"This is the first time we've seen that much introspection," she said on NBC's "Today" show. "Oddly, he would have been better off to write the book 10 years from now."

Myers suggested Clinton might have given shortshrift treatment to the historical record relating to his policies in a book in which he spends considerable energy discussing his early life, his conflicts, personal torment and lapses in judgment.

She said Clinton's account "would have been better, more integrated, more interesting, if he'd given it more time."

Asked if she thought Clinton was trying to set up his wife, former first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, for a run for the presidency, Myers replied, "No, I don't think that was his purpose. I think he's taken a shot at shaping his own legacy. I think he's made some progress but fell short in other areas."

Clinton shied away from harshly criticizing President Bush on Iraq, although he did say in the CBS interview that he thought it was an error to fail to let the United Nations finish its weapons-inspection program in Iraq.

On the Middle East, Clinton placed the blame for the collapse of his efforts to broker a peace deal squarely on the shoulders of Yasser Arafat.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	11.77	11.51	11.55	—.14
AT&T Corp	16.36	16.24	16.24	—.09
Albertsons	25.73	25.48	25.73	+.03
Alltel	50.39	49.93	50.15	—.22
AmEl Pw	32.30	31.80	32.26	+.39
AndarkPtr	58.32	57.93	58.01	—.05
ATMOS Egy	24.57	24.40	24.53	+.11
Aviall	17.62	17.39	17.62	+.12
BP PLC	54.00	53.82	53.90	—.62
BakerHughes	36.73	36.30	36.47	—.19
Bank of Amer	84.96	84.51	84.91	+.40
BellSouth	25.46	25.22	25.25	—.20
BurlNoSFe	34.27	33.95	34.25	+.12
Caterpillar	75.20	74.52	75.12	+.70
CenterPoint	11.25	11.21	11.25	+.05
ChevronTex	93.65	92.77	93.61	+.19
Citigroup	47.62	47.40	47.55	+.05
CocaCola	51.65	51.30	51.47	+.08
ColgatePal	58.50	58.20	58.39	+.01
CmclMetals	33.94	33.60	33.67	—.09
ConocoPhill	76.74	76.37	76.70	+.01
Cooper Inds	57.50	57.18	57.18	—.15
DaimlrChry	46.28	46.02	46.11	—.05
DeltaAirLines	6.49	6.20	6.21	—.03
Dillards Inc	22.47	22.11	22.26	
DowChem	40.13	39.83	39.91	—.10
DuPont	44.31	43.80	44.26	+.17
EastmanChem	43.85	43.38	43.51	—.28
EstKodak	25.72	25.33	25.58	+.13
EDS Corp	18.03	17.76	17.84	—.18
Entergy	55.37	54.65	55.33	+.35
ExxonMobil	45.00	44.84	44.89	—.09
FootLocker	24.00	23.71	23.72	—.17
GenDynam	99.97	99.45	99.50	—.18
GenElec	32.70	32.47	32.66	+.08
GenMills	46.00	45.70	45.77	+.11
GenMotors	47.98	47.68	47.68	—.30
GaPacific	35.17	34.84	35.00	—.05
Goodrich	31.44	31.25	31.33	+.03
Goodyear	10.45	9.95	10.18	+.29
GtAtlPac	7.30	7.13	7.30	+.20
Halliburtn	30.12	29.62	29.70	—.33
Hanson PLC	37.35	37.20	37.32	—.62
HarteHanks	23.20	22.94	23.18	—.09
HomeDepot	35.65	35.25	35.54	+.17
Honeywellintl	36.76	36.37	36.75	+.21
IBM	90.43	90.05	90.17	+.11
IntlPaper	43.75	43.52	43.52	—.20
JohnsonJn	55.56	54.96	55.42	+.17
KinderMorg	59.78	59.50	59.75	+.30
Kroger Co	17.75	17.48	17.49	—.27
LockheedM	50.70	50.50	50.50	—.18
Lowes Cos	53.94	53.29	53.75	+.15
Lubys	6.43	6.10	6.37	+.09
LucentTech	3.56	3.48	3.53	+.06
MarathonOil	37.10	36.64	36.92	+.28
MayDeptStr	28.53	28.05	28.42	+.23
Medtronic	49.70	49.22	49.62	+.50
Motorola	17.68	17.29	17.66	+.32
NCR Corp	49.17	48.65	48.74	—.32
Navistar	39.30	38.89	39.12	+.20
PNM Rescs s	20.25	19.92	20.25	+.07
Penney JC	38.45	37.70	37.93	+.08
PepBoys	25.00	24.73	24.91	+.01
PepsiCo	55.22	54.80	55.16	+.16
PhelpDodge	72.41	70.90	71.13	—.55
PilgrimsPride	27.40	27.23	27.29	+.29
Praxair s	37.68	37.35	37.62	—.11
ProctGamb s	56.04	55.07	55.72	+.63
RadioShack	29.36	29.14	29.16	—.15
RoyalDut	52.50	52.26	52.37	—.28
SBC Comm	24.51	24.38	24.43	—.17
SaraLee	23.08	22.87	23.05	+.15
Scripps EW	107.40	106.99	107.00	—.30
SearsRoeb	38.85	38.38	38.71	+.06
SherwinW	40.02	39.60	39.78	—.18
SouthernCo	29.26	28.91	29.24	+.28
SwstAirl	15.89	15.69	15.86	—.02
SprintFON	17.64	17.35	17.55	+.09
Sunoco Inc	63.30	62.69	63.00	+.54
TXU Corp	39.25	39.00	39.21	+.30
TempleInland	65.65	65.43	65.62	+.22
TexInd	38.60	38.24	38.31	—.39
TexasInst	23.55	23.30	23.35	+.17
Textron	60.00	59.30	59.69	+.39
TimeWarner	17.78	17.59	17.68	
TrinityInds	30.89	30.46	30.89	+.29
TylerTech	8.92	8.78	8.90	+.05
UnionPacif	57.61	57.45	57.50	—.11
USSteel	32.67	31.89	31.98	+.10
UnitedTech	90.00	89.35	89.91	—.04
Unocal	37.47	37.07	37.12	+.04
VerizonComm	35.99	35.59	35.62	—.55
WalMart	55.87	55.09	55.41	—.21
WellsFargo	58.61	58.31	58.44	—.16
WstnGasRs s	31.40	30.83	31.07	—.13
WinnDixie	6.60	6.51	6.56	—.05
Xerox Cp	14.38	14.12	14.33	+.11
YumBrands	38.01	37.62	37.73	—.27

A Grandpa Story
by Paul Hudgins
•
Commentary and Illustrations by Paul Hudgins Jr.
•
Snyder, Texas 2003

This book tells the history of Snyder seen through the eyes of Henry Paul Hudgins and told to his son Henry Paul Hudgins, Jr.

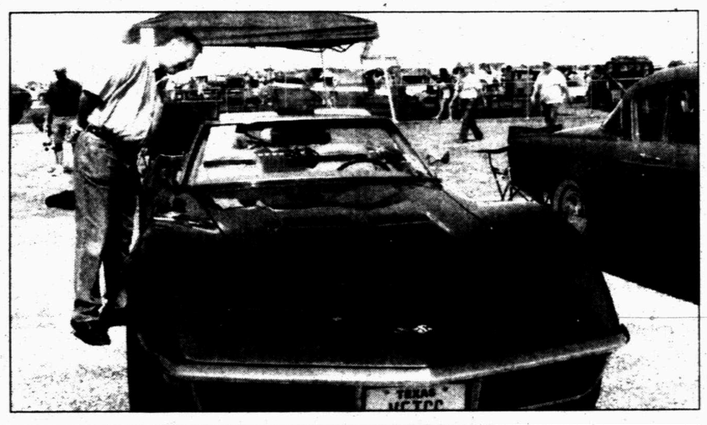
It is the story of the family of:
Henry Coleman Hayter 1846-1937,
Benjamin Wyndam Hudgins 1866-1916,
Henry Paul Hudgins 1899-1991
Henry Paul Hudgins, Jr 1926-

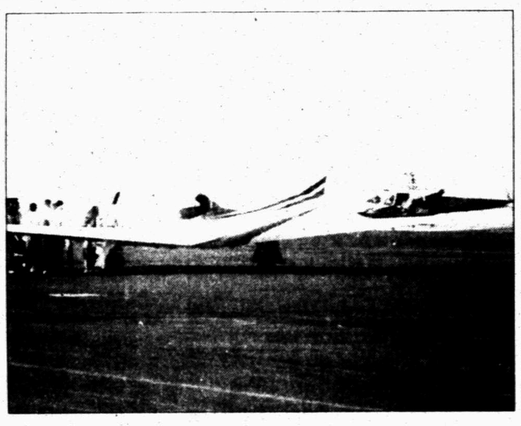
Snyder Daily News
3600 College Ave. 573-5486

JUN 21 2004

Fly-In 2004

Photos by Mark Erwin & Jeff West





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Business Directory

Texas Treasures

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573-7567

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Advertise Your Business Here.

Call Carolyn 573-5486

BUSINESS CARD DIRECTORY

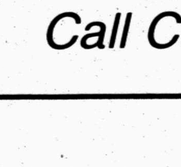
Spotlight

Tommy & Mary Williams

Texas Treasures

573-7567

TEXAS TREASURES is a local business run by **Tommy and Mary Williams** listed on the internet as **texastreasurechest.com**. The website features a partial list of current family oriented productions. Other than video production, we have beautiful concrete birdbaths, benches and many other yard decorations at a reasonable price. We also handle a delicious array of jellies, vegetables, relishes and many other food items made with old fashioned recipes. Our booth at **The Whistle Stop** features all our **food items** and our **concrete items** are located at the home address on **U.S. Highway 84. Call 573-7567** or come by and visit.



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By Bernice

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Demo presidential candidate to return donation

WASHINGTON (AP) — Stung during the 1990s Democratic fund-raising controversy, John Kerry is returning a $2,000 check from the son of South Korea's disgraced ex-president after learning the donor was charged with tax evasion.

Kerry's presidential campaign also acknowledges that some of its fund-raisers met with a South Korean government official who was trying to organize a Korean-American political group. That official has been sent home amid questions he was involving himself in American politics.

The Kerry campaign said it did not know about the $2,000 donation from Chun Jae-yong or his background until informed by The Associated Press. "We are sending the check back," spokesman Michael Meehan said.

Chun Jae-yong was arrested in February by South Korean authorities on charges of evading taxes on $14 million in inheritance money. His father, former president Chun Dooh-hwan, was convicted in 1997 on bribery charges.

Chun Jae-yong was a business partner with Rick Yi, one of Kerry's major fund-raisers in the Asian-American community. Yi acknowledged soliciting the donation from Chun last summer before learning of his legal problems.

"I didn't think anything wrong of it," said Yi, who has raised more than $500,000 for Kerry and Democratic causes and is listed as one of the campaign's fund-raising vice chairmen. "If I had known who he was at the time I probably would not have taken the money."

Yi, a former military attache in the Clinton White House, said he and Chun were business partners for about six months last year in a Duluth, Ga., company called OR Solutions Inc. When making his donation Aug. 11, Chun listed himself as the company's president and chief operating officer.

The same day, Yi also made a $2,000 contribution to Kerry, listing himself as chairman and chief executive of OR Solutions. Yi said Chun had asked him to help set up the company and that he ended his affiliation late last fall.

Yi said Chun showed him a Social Security card before making the donation to prove he was a legal U.S. resident allowed to donate to political campaigns. By law, the maximum individual donation is $2,000.

Yi also confirmed that while on Kerry fund-raising trips to California, he met at least three times with Chung Byung-man, the South Korean government's vice consul in Los Angeles and that they discussed forming a political group to organize influential Korean-Americans that would be called The Korean-American Leadership Council.

"It generically was being called a political action committee for the Korean-American community," Yi told The Associated Press. "He (Chung) asked me to spearhead this council. I rejected his proposal. I don't have time."

South Korean-U.S. relations have been strained over the North Korean nuclear weapons program and the Bush administration's decision to reduce the number of U.S. troops in South Korea.

Yi said his conversations with Chung never centered on fund raising and that many of the people the counsel was suggesting for the group were Republicans. He said, however, he found it odd that a South Korean diplomat was trying to organize an American political group.

"I asked him that, 'Is this appropriate for a diplomat to do?' He said he was only starting this up because there was no Korean-Americans to do it. Once two or three candidates were identified, he would hand it over."

Yi said he and Chung never discussed using the group to help Kerry and that he never solicited donations for the candidate in Chung's presence. But he acknowledged that Chung introduced him to some in California as one of Kerry's main fund-raisers.

"I don't doubt somewhere down the line, Chung said, 'This is Rick Yi, he is one of the persons helping John Kerry.' That is normal in their culture, but that never led to Chung or I asking for money."

Yi wasn't the only Kerry fund-raiser approached by Chung.

California lawyer David K. Lee said he was asked to dinner by one of Yi's fund-raising deputies and was surprised when Chung showed up. He said Chung talked to him and others present about creating a group modeled after the Group 100, which has become a strong political voice for Chinese-Americans.

"Whatever agenda that he had, whether it was political or personal or governmental, I really don't know," Lee said. "I just thought the most basic assumption for me was that he was doing something good for the community."

The South Korean government said Friday that Chung returned home on May 16 as part of a regular rotation.

The Los Angeles consulate has heard "speculation" that Chung was supporting the Democratic Party and Kerry but hasn't investigated and doesn't believe Chung violated a prohibition against foreign involvement in politics or any U.S. law, spokesman Min Ryu said.

Lee said there is heightened sensitivity in the Asian-American community after the 1996 fund-raising scandal involving it and the Clinton White House.

Improved economy is boost to charities

By The Associated Press

Helped by an improving economy, charitable giving in the United States last year rose by the highest rate in three years, according to a national survey released today.

The Giving USA annual report said donations by individuals, estates, foundations and corporations totaled $240.7 billion in 2003. Researched by the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University, the survey showed a 2.8 percent increase over 2002, when giving amounted to $234.1 billion.

Adjusted for inflation, donations rose only 0.5 percent in 2003, hovering at about the same rate of growth of 0.6 percent in 2002.

But the estimated contributions amounted to 2.2 percent of the country's gross domestic product, falling just short of the nation's all-time charitable giving high of 2.3 percent of GDP in 2000.

"Charitable giving above 2 percent of gross domestic product is one demonstration of our nation's renewed commitment to the good works done by charities and congregations," Henry Goldstein, chairman of the Giving USA Foundation, said in a statement.

Goldstein attributed last year's increase to a higher household net income, a stronger stock market and improved corporate profits.

Of the 1,369 organizations that responded to the Giving USA survey, 55 percent reported an increase in donations, while 8 percent reported stable levels of giving and 37 reported a decline in 2003. A year earlier, about half the organizations reported increases and the other half reported decreases.

While donations from individuals, estates, and corporations increased, gifts from foundations fell slightly. Individual contributions, which comprised 74.5 percent of total giving, rose 2.5 percent to $179.4 billion, up from just over $175 billion in 2002.

Charities had been worried that recent tax reforms, included phasing out the estate tax, might hurt donations, but gifts by bequest showed the greatest increase in 2003. With support from higher household net worth, estate giving rose 12.8 percent to $21.6 billion, from $19.5 billion in 2002.

Of the ten charitable categories documented by Giving USA, religious organizations received the most contributions, with an estimated $86.4 billion, or 35.9 percent of the total.

Educational organizations and foundations were the only groups to experience declines in giving from 2002 to 2003.

Diana Aviv, president and chief executive officer of Independent Sector, a coalition of nonprofit organizations, said there is typically a two-year lag before giving picks up after a recession. She said she was pleased to see donations rising more quickly than that this time.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

The year ahead could be a very stimulating one for you, and make you feel more alive and mentally alert than normal. Most things you take up will have an exciting quality that'll give you an edge over others.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — You'll have no trouble winning debates today because you'll use both your common sense and your quick wit. You'll innately understand that emotion will defeat your purposes.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — In your financial dealings today, don't hesitate to do what your intuition dictates and follow it to the letter, especially when it warns you not to accept things at face value.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — For a fulfilling day, seek companionship with a person who shares interests similar to yours. What one doesn't think of the other will, and together you can fill in all the holes.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — You may find yourself looking for ways to guard against making things tougher on yourself today than need be, and consequently become far more creative and clever than you usually are.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Because you are able to accept friends and associates today for what they are and not expect them to be something they are not, your pals will respond with great appreciation and warmth.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Somehow you'll understand that timing is apt to be everything today, and you'll be on your toes and ready to react to each situation as it is called for. Your castles won't be built on thin air.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — You are so quick to grasp the essence of things today that you might have to be patient and tolerant of those who aren't as fast as you. Slow down and let them catch up if you have to.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — If you're looking to make financial gains today, seek out stimulating people and listen to their ideas and opinions. You'll have the perception to know how to put them to work for you.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — In your dealings with friends today, you're apt to have a much clearer sense of what is going on around you than most people. It may not be your logic but your inner senses that tell what's up.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — You can easily get past any surprising difficulties that might arise today by using quick thinking. Use both your brains and your intuitive instincts to guide you back on track.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — It isn't likely you'll permit yourself to be caught in the middle of petty politics with associates today. You have the ability to dance around issues and come out smelling like a rose.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — People for whom you feel responsible might require your protection today. You'll keep an eye on things and be ready to react if you see them being taken advantage of by unscrupulous people.

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World Almanac

Monday, June 21, 2004

Today is the 173rd day of 2004 and the second day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1964, three civil rights workers — Andrew Goodman, James Cheney and Mickey Schwerner — were murdered in Mississippi by members of the Ku Klux Klan.

In 1977, Elvis Presley made his last TV appearance.

In 1982, John Hinckley Jr., who shot President Reagan and three others, was found not-guilty by reason of insanity.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Al Hirschfeld (1903-2003), cartoonist; Jean-Paul Sartre (1905-1980), philosopher/playwright; Mary McCarthy (1912-1989), writer; Jane Russell (1921-), actress, is 83; Maureen Stapleton (1925-), actress, is 79; Juliette Lewis (1973-), actress, is 31; Prince William of Wales (1982-), is 22.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1997, the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) began its first season.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "There are two types of poor people, those who are poor together and those who are poor alone. The first are the true poor, the others are rich people out of luck." — Jean-Paul Sartre

TODAY'S FACT: According to the American Law Institute, "A person is not responsible for criminal conduct if at the time of such conduct as a result of mental disease or defect he lacks substantial capacity either to appreciate the criminality (wrongfulness) of his conduct or to conform his conduct to the requirements of law."

TODAY'S NUMBER: 13 — number of teams in the WNBA.

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (June 17) and first quarter (June 25)

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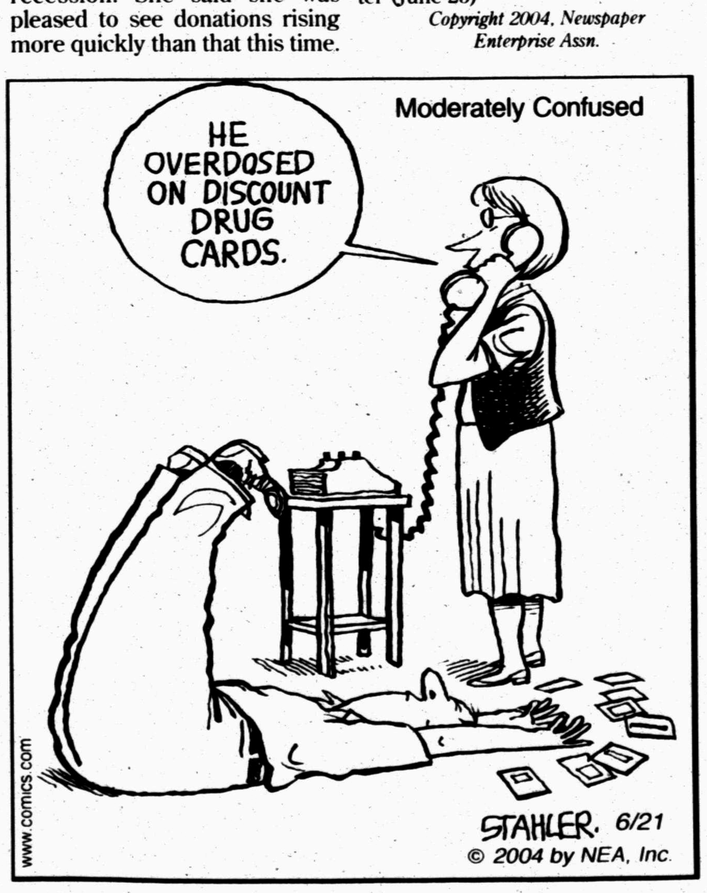

Abilene's Dyess AFB to receive multi-million shopping center

ABILENE (AP) — It's been a half-century in coming, but a West Texas air base is scheduled to get a multi-million-dollar shopping makeover.

A new shopping center, mini-mart, food court and gas station are planned for Dyess Air Force Base, with construction set to begin in September.

"This facility has been there since 1956. One building had been the former commissary," Col. Craig Christman, an Army and Air Force Exchange Service planning director, told the Abilene Reporter-News in today's online edition. "We program these things to be replaced every 30 years or so, so it was a facility whose time was due."

He said the AAFES is using money from its sales to fund the construction, which will take place in two parts with the $9.9 million, 92,000-square-foot shopping center to start first. The center will include a base exchange, dry cleaning services, two restaurants and uniform-buying services.

The project's second phase is scheduled to begin in March, with a $3.86 million, 10,000-square-foot mini-mart, automated car wash and gas station.

Dyess personnel are excited about the planned improvements, said Senior Airman Matthew Rosine, a base spokesman. He said demolition of old buildings has already begun in order to make room for the September construction.

"We ask so much of our Air Force men, women and families," said Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, who worked with AAFES and the base to get the projects rolling. "These facilities will offer them a small, but welcome, convenience and make Dyess a better place to live and work.'

Reps. Randy Neugebauer, R-Lubbock, and Charles Stenholm, D-Abilene, also welcomed the plans.

"I commend Sen. Hutchison for her efforts to bring improved services to our men and women at Dyess," said Stenholm. "I am always very supportive of any initiative that improves the quality of life at our bases."

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JUN 21 2004

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Arel Assaf calls for tolerance

EAGLESWOOD TOWNSHIP, N.J. (AP) — The leader of an anti-discrimination group called for tolerance after a sign reading "Stamp out Islam" was posted in the hometown of an American contractor murdered in Saudi Arabia.

Aref Assaf, president of the state chapter of the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, issued an advisory to its members telling them to be vigilant following news reports of residents angered over the death of Paul M. Johnson Jr. His organization had not heard of any violence committed against Muslims or Arab-Americans in New Jersey.

Johnson, 49, was kidnapped by militants who followed through on a threat to kill him if the kingdom did not release its al-Qaida prisoners. An al-Qaida group claiming responsibility posted an Internet message that showed photographs of a beheaded body.

"It's sad because we have lost a fellow American from New Jersey, but added to that our entire community is being castigated and blamed for the crimes of others," Assaf said Sunday.

"Our patriotism has been questioned and suspect. It's a difficult feeling to have when you're a citizen of a country and your loyalty is questioned by your fellow American citizens."

Phil Galasso posted the cardboard sign saying "Stamp out Islam" on a utility pole near his house in Eagleswood Township. It depicted a hand-drawn boot over a crescent and star.

"I'm getting a little fed up with the mindless violence against civilians who had nothing to do with the war in the Middle East," Galasso said.

Another sign hung on the mailbox of the house next to that of Johnson's sister, Donna Mayeux, in Little Egg Harbor Township.

"Last night Islamics had a chance to speak up for Paul Johnson but today it's too late," the sign read. "Islamics better wake up and start thinking about tomorrow."

The owner of the house where the sign was hung took it down Sunday morning and said he didn't know who had put it up. He added that he didn't know anyone in town who felt that way.

While Johnson's family has remained in seclusion in recent days, relatives had spoken of his appreciation for Saudi culture and traditions.

Joseph Billy Jr., an FBI agent who spoke on the family's behalf after news of Johnson's death, said relatives knew "this act of terrorism was committed by extremists and does not represent the Saudi Arabia that Paul often spoke and wrote about to his family."

Joe Giberson, a police detective in nearby Stafford Township, said he was dismayed when he saw news reports of the sign in Little Egg Harbor.

Police investigate business burglary on College Avenue

• ***Burglary, thefts***

Around 5 a.m. today, officers discovered Snyder Heating and Air Conditioning in the 4700 block of College Avenue had been burglarized. A small amount of cash was taken and at mid-morning today, an 18-year-old suspect has been identified in the burglary.

Officers also found a door at Whataburger had been broken. Whataburger is next door to where the burglary occurred. The same person is a suspect in this incident.

Officers are also investigating items missing from the back yard of a residence in the 400 block of 29th Street.

A flag was reported missing from the 1100 block of 30th Street Sunday morning, but was located by officers in the 3400 block of M and returned to the owner.

• ***Arrests***

At 12:50 this morning, officers were called to the 1300 block of North Avenue L in reference to a person calling dispatchers and saying a relative was hitting her. Officers arrested two persons at the residence. A 63-year-old male was taken into custody for Class A assault-family violence, and a 26-year-old male was arrested for an immigration violation.

DPS troopers arrested a 26-year-old male at 3:35 p.m. Saturday on U.S. 84 for misdemeanor driving while intoxicated.

Officers were called to the Park Village Apartments at 2:38 a.m. Sunday in reference to a suspicious person in the stairwell of the apartment building. Officers arrested a 41-year-old male for public intoxication.

At 1:30 p.m. Sunday, officers arrested a 29-year-old male on a warrant for making threats.

A 26-year-old male was arrested at 4:48 p.m. Sunday on Taylor County warrants for bad checks.

A 31-year-old male was arrested at 7:51 p.m. Sunday for an outstanding misdemeanor warrant for criminal mischief.

At 11:30 p.m. Sunday, DPS troopers arrested a 29-year-old male for misdemeanor driving while intoxicated with a child under 15 years of age in the vehicle.

• ***Family violence***

Officers filed reports for family violence at 12:34 p.m. Saturday, and at 8:57 p.m. Sunday.

• ***Juvenile problems***

Officers responded to the Park Village Apartments around 10 p.m. Saturday as juveniles reportedly were throwing rocks at passing vehicles.

Kerry criticizes Bush on stem cell research

NANTUCKET, Mass. (AP) — Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry this morning criticized President Bush for relying on ideology rather than fact in the pursuit of science and repeated his pledge to overturn the ban on federal funding of research on new stem cell lines.

"We need a president who will once again embrace our tradition of looking toward the future and new discoveries with hope based on scientific facts, not fear," Kerry said in a campaign statement issued as he traveled to Denver. "It's about investing in the future of our country. I won't let ideology and fear stand in our way."

The Bush campaign is airing radio ads promoting economic gains in six battleground states, focusing on markets where Kerry, Bush or Vice President Dick Cheney are traveling this week.

The Kerry campaign said the Massachusetts senator will invest in scientific research to foster discoveries to protect the economy as well as to help cure diseases. He also will rely on scientific leaders and expert advice when making decisions, the campaign said, and will allow stem cells to be researched in full under the appropriate ethical oversight.

The Bush administration places "politics over science to please their right-wing constituency," the Kerry campaign said.

The administration, according to a campaign statement, removed information about global warming from a 2003 Environmental Protection Agency report; ordered changes to a report that described damage that would be caused by drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge; and deleted information about condoms from government Web sites.

Iran confiscated three British naval vessels

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran said today it had confiscated three British naval vessels and arrested eight armed crew members. The Royal Navy acknowledged it had lost contact with three small patrol boats on a routine mission in the waterway between Iraq and Iran.

British officials did not confirm the boats were captured or the crewmembers detained.

"I can confirm that three small Royal Navy patrol boats and eight crew have been out of communication since the early hours of this morning," said a British military spokesman in the southern Iraqi city of Basra on condition of anonymity. "It is not unusual for the Royal Navy to be patrolling the Shatt-al-Arab" waterway.

The three British ships entered Iranian territorial waters not far from the Iran-Iraq border, the Arabic language Al-Alam television reported.

"Iranian forces confiscated the ships and eight military personnel on board," the report said.

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid Reza Asefi confirmed the report, according to Iran's main Persian language TV channel.

"Interrogation of those detained will continue until the matter is clarified," Asefi was quoted as saying.

The Royal Navy said it had lost contact with three small patrol boats early today.

"I can confirm that three small Royal Navy patrol boats and eight crew have been out of communication since the early hours of this morning," said a British military spokesman in Basra, Iraq, said on condition of anonymity. "It is not unusual for the Royal Navy to be patrolling the Shatt-al-Arab."

The Iranian TV report said crew members were carrying maps and weapons. It also said the ships were confiscated about 11 a.m. between the Bahmanshir and Arvand rivers, which would put them in the Shatt-al-Arab waterway east of the Iraqi city of Faw.

Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Tue 6/22	Wed 6/23	Thu 6/24
80/63	85/66	90/67
Thunderstorms, especially early in the day. High near 80F.	Morning clouds followed by afternoon sun.	Plenty of sun. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the upper 60s.
Sunrise 6:37 AM Sunset 8:55 PM	Sunrise 6:37 AM Sunset 8:55 PM	Sunrise 6:37 AM Sunset 8:55 PM

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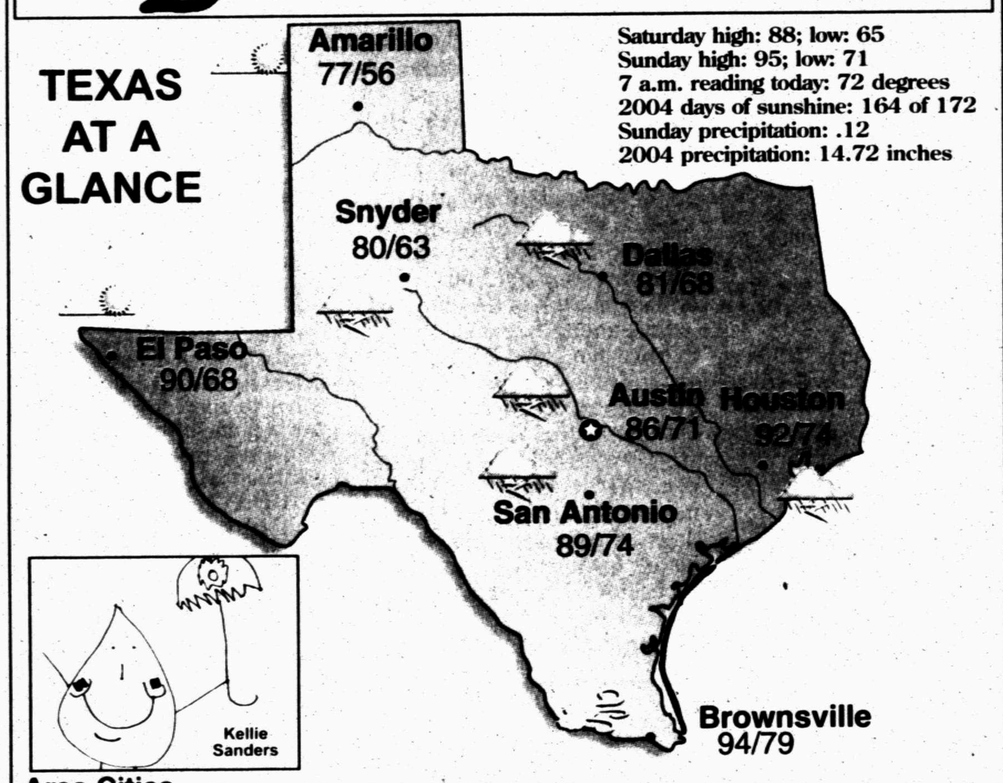

Saturday high: 88; low: 65
Sunday high: 95; low: 71
7 a.m. reading today: 72 degrees
2004 days of sunshine: 164 of 172
Sunday precipitation: .12
2004 precipitation: 14.72 inches

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	79	64	t-storm	El Paso	90	68	pt sunny	Midland	83	64	t-storm
Amarillo	77	56	pt sunny	Fort Stockton	85	66	t-storm	Raymondville	95	77	pt sunny
Austin	86	71	t-storm	Gainesville	78	63	t-storm	Rosenberg	92	74	t-storm
Beaumont	90	74	t-storm	Greenville	79	65	t-storm	San Antonio	89	74	t-storm
Brownsville	94	79	windy	Houston	92	74	t-storm	San Marcos	87	72	t-storm
Brownwood	81	66	t-storm	Kingsville	94	76	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	82	65	t-storm
Corpus Christi	91	78	pt sunny	Livingston	90	70	t-storm	Sweetwater	80	64	t-storm
Corsicana	81	68	t-storm	Longview	85	68	t-storm	Tyler	85	67	t-storm
Dallas	81	68	t-storm	Lubbock	79	61	t-storm	Weatherford	79	64	t-storm
Del Rio	90	74	t-storm	Lufkin	88	71	t-storm	Wichita Falls	81	61	t-storm

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	85	70	t-storm	Houston	92	74	t-storm	Phoenix	102	79	sunny
Boston	76	63	t-storm	Los Angeles	73	62	mst sunny	San Francisco	68	54	windy
Chicago	73	55	pt sunny	Miami	92	80	t-storm	Seattle	85	60	sunny
Dallas	81	68	t-storm	Minneapolis	74	54	mst sunny	St. Louis	78	59	rain
Denver	72	52	t-storm	New York	80	70	t-storm	Washington, DC	87	71	t-storm

Moon Phases

New	First	Full	Last
Jun 17	Jun 25	Jul 2	Jul 9

UV Index

Tue 6/22	Wed 6/23	Thu 6/24
High	Extreme	Extreme

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

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Obituaries

Mary Lowery

1919-2004

Mary Elizabeth Lowery, longtime Snyder resident, died Saturday, June 19, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital after a lengthy illness.

Graveside service for Mrs. Lowery, 84, is set for 10 a.m. Tuesday in the Snyder Cemetery with Dennis Haralson officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mrs. Lowery

Born Aug. 31, 1919 in Okmulgee, Okla., she married H.D. "Buster" Lowery on July 23, 1938 in Oklahoma. He died Jan. 2, 1971.

Except for a few years, Mrs. Lowery had lived in Snyder since 1949, moving from Okmulgee. She was a homemaker, worked as a bookkeeper in her husband's construction business and was a member of North College Avenue Baptist Church.

She also was preceded in death by a brother, Hal Medford; and a grandson, David Kight.

Survivors include two daughters, Betty Hataway and Jane Kight, both of Snyder; a son and daughter-in-law, H.D. "Sonny" and Louise Lowery of Snyder; a sister, Dorothy Thompson of Breckenridge; five grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Brownie Hill

1934-2004

CASPER, Wyo. — Brownie Conger Hill, a former Scurry County resident, died Sunday, June 20, in Casper after a sudden illness.

Mrs. Hill

Funeral service for Mrs. Hill, 69, is scheduled for Saturday in the Memorial Chapel in Casper.

Born Nov. 28, 1934 in Cross Plains, she married H.T. Hill on Dec. 22, 1949 in Hamlin. He died April 26, 1983. She also was preceded in death by a daughter, Tammy Stallion.

A member of the Catholic Church, she had just retired as church secretary. She also was a member of the Mother Cabrini Circle.

Mrs. Hill had lived in Casper since 1971, moving from California. She had also lived in Hamlin.

Survivors include three daughters and sons-in-law, Vicky and John Rowland of Snyder; Helen and Glenn Kranzler of Mirana, Ariz., and Rojeana and Guy Nirenberg of Casper; three sons, Howard Hill of Florida, Howell Hill of South Dakota and Shane Hill of Littlefield; 27 grandchildren; 35 great-grandchildren; and numerous brothers and sisters.

Personal, Professional Service
BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME
3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Friendly Flower Shop
3203 1/2 College Ave
325-573-3851

COUNTRYPLACE
Floral & Gifts
4213 College
325-573-1817

WCFH
Independently Owned & Operated
WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME
200 East 37th St.
Snyder, Texas
325-573-6200