THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

FRIDAY

April 13, 2001
Vol. 52 No. 297
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Sara Cantu

INSIDE

Texas lottery results 2
Dear Abby 3
District track continues 5
Church directory 8
Obituaries 9

WT-Int. Crude - $28.28
WTIC Posted - $25.00
Natural Gas - $5.559

IT'S FRIDAY THE 13TH

By Joyce May
Staff Writer

It's that day again. The one that conjures up the superstitious side in many whether they want to admit it or not.



Ricky Beights

The thirteenth day of the month has fallen on a Friday, and for many that is an unlucky combination.

Others, however, dismiss any misfortune associated with the day or the number.

"It's Good Friday. It couldn't be a bad day," Ricky Beights said.

Asked if he was superstitious, Beights replied, "Not at all. It's just another day to me."

Some questioned said that they didn't give the day much thought unless something unfortunate happened or if they ran across a sign of bad luck — like a feline with the misfortune of being born with ebony fur.

"I don't really think about it unless I'm going down the road and see a black cat. Then I think, 'Oh God! It's Friday the thirteenth,'" said Belia Romero.



Belia Romero

Of course most everyone knows that a black cat crossing your path brings bad luck. To avoid a curse, one should turn around. If that's impossible, Debra Banks knows just what to do.

"If you see a black cat and you can't turn around because you're in traffic or whatever, you just spit. Roll your window down and spit out the window," she said.



Debra Banks

"I've done that before."

Romero was asked if she would walk under a ladder, another sure way, according to legend, to bring bad luck.

"I will not," she said, not hesitating. "I will go around." After a moment of thought, Romero added, "I say I'm not superstitious, but I guess I am."

Lauri Henderson is a non-believer in bad luck or superstitious lore.

"All I can say about Friday the thirteenth is that I don't believe it's what you call a bad luck day. Your luck is how you make it."



Lauri Henderson

As for walking under ladders, black cats and broken mirrors bringing seven years bad luck, Henderson said she doesn't buy it.

"I don't believe in superstitions. They are just superstitions."

The origins of why Friday and the number 13 are considered unlucky, especially in combination, vary.

Some of the most popular traditions hold that Biblical events such as Eve's tempting Adam with an apple, the Flood, the confusion at the Tower of Babel and the death of Jesus Christ all took place on Friday.

The number thirteen has been called the "devil's dozen," and it is considered unlucky to host a dinner party with 13 guests seated. One source of this belief is that there were 13 seated at the Last Supper — Jesus and the 12 disciples — and that the thirteenth, Judas Iscariot, was the one who betrayed Christ and shortly thereafter killed himself.

Now, whether today causes you any problems or not, we'll have to wait and see.

But be prepared, there's another dreaded day coming Monday — income tax filing day.

...AND MONDAY IS THE DEADLINE FOR FILING INCOME TAX



REMINISCING — Snyder football coach David Baugh (seated) talks with former SHS player Sonny Cumbie, while Baugh's wife Jean visits with assistant coach Tommy Doyle at Thursday night's David Baugh Appreciation Banquet at Towle Park Barn. Baugh is retiring after 13 years as head football coach and athletic director at Snyder High School. (SDN Staff Photo)

Coach Baugh honored

Good food, good friends and some good old-fashioned story telling filled Towle Park Barn for Thursday night's David Baugh Appreciation Banquet.

The event, which was held in honor of the Snyder High School who is retiring after 13 years on the Tigers' sideline, started with a steak dinner and culminated with a heart-felt thank you from Coach Baugh.

"I was able to work for a great administration. I was blessed with an outstanding coaching staff. And I was fortunate enough to have players who always put out the effort to be the best that they could be," Baugh said. "I am truly thankful for all of these things.

"And I want to thank everybody who came here tonight. You're not just fans, because I consider everybody that joined us here as my friends. So thanks to everybody for being a fan and a friend."

Former Texas Tech and NFL linebacker E.J. Holub served as guest speaker.

Holub, who played in two Super Bowls, talked about the important role coaches play in the lives of high school athletes.

"Coaches can have a tremendous impact on kids," Holub said. "Snyder has been lucky to have a guy like David who served a good role model and mentor to its high school athletes."

City manager John Gayle presented Baugh with a proclamation from Mayor Dayton Robertson proclaiming Thursday as "David Baugh Day" in Snyder.

The story telling picked up when a video presentation was shown, with Baugh's assistants, various co-workers and friends spinning tales about the long-time coach.

The coach and his wife Jean also received gifts purchased with money donated by SISD employees and members of the community.



E. J. Holub
...guest speaker

Resident killed in Lubbock accident Thursday night

A 48-year-old Snyder man died Thursday night when his motorcycle collided with a pickup truck in southwest Lubbock.

Gary Sharp of 204 35th Street was pronounced dead at the scene by Lubbock County Medical Examiner Robert Byers.

Sharp was operating a 1999 motorcycle eastbound on FM 1585 when a westbound 1999 pickup driven by Anthony Davis of Lubbock failed to yield right of way while making a left turn onto Frankfurt Ave.

Investigating DPS trooper Chris Burns said the pickup turned and was hit in the right front panel by the motorcycle.

The accident occurred about 7:34 p.m. Sharp was an employee of TXU Gas in Snyder.

Services are pending at Wright Colonial Funeral Home.

Snyder man sent to TDCJ for eight years as probation revoked

A 35-year-old Snyder man will spend eight years in prison following a guilty plea and revocation of probation entered Thursday in 132nd District Court.

A second man was placed on probation for five years following a guilty plea for felony theft.

Daniel Salazar of 2310 41st Street pleaded guilty to a Jan. 27 offense of driving while intoxicated. Salazar, who has two prior convictions in Scurry County for DWI, saw his 10-year probated sentence in 1995 revoked by District Judge Ernie Armstrong.

Salazar will now serve two eight-year terms concurrently in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Forty-[illegible] year old [illegible] Greer of 3104 Ave. L pleaded guilty to felony theft and was assessed a two-year sentence in a TDCJ state jail facility, probated for five years.

Greer, a former supervisor with American Building Maintenance, was charged with filling out a time sheet for a ghost employee and then cashing the payroll checks.

ABM is the contractor for custodial service at Western Texas College. The theft scheme, court records show, occurred over a 11-month period starting in January, 2000.

Greer also was fined $250 and ordered to make $11,133.40 in restitution to ABM.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Public business is public business."

Just a reminder, Texas does have an open meeting law. It provides for an executive or closed sessions only under certain conditions, and we have no problem with those exemptions.

However we do take exception with a suggestion by one member of the Scurry County Commissioners' Court who said, "We (the commissioners) need to discuss this thing so we don't get out on a limb. We don't need to fight this battle in public."

The county and all its facilities – including the coliseum — belong to the taxpayers, and public exchange of ideas is not only healthy — it's the law.

Annual warning on Friday the 13th.

The Infernal Revenue Service says don't make out tax payments to the IRS.

Should your check fall into the wrong hands, "IRS" easily can be changed to "MRS" followed by the thief's name.

Instead, it is suggested that checks be made to the U.S. Treasury.

Racking up the honors...

SHS' one-act play troupe continues to advance and four individuals received individual honors last week in area competition. They were **Matt Coronado, Brandon McCraw, Hayli Henderson** and **Mark Haines.**

Congratulations to Lady Tiger **Ashley Delce** who inked a basketball scholarship with South Plains College in Levelland.

And WTC rodeo team picked up lots of hardware last weekend by winning both the boys and girls titles. First place finishes by WTC included **B.J. Scott, Rawley McFarland, J.W. Todd** and **Tibba Smith.**

Both boys and girls golf teams earned the right to advance to the regional meet. Andra Lancaster was runner-up in the medalist race.

The Tigers captured the district title for the first time since 1993 and that championship quintet includes runner-up medalist **Landon Day, Levi Mandrell, Clinton Calmes, Zach Starnes** and **Stafford Gray.**

Heading to regional for SHS are netters **Ryan Gibson** and partner **Allen Smith** in boys doubles and **Patricia Vargas** in girls singles.

And more to come...

The District 4-A track and field meet is underway today, Snyder's major league Little Dribblers All-Stars are at the national tournament in Plainview, Ira Bulldogs baseball team remains undefeated in district play and the Lady Tigers softball team is still in the thick of the district hunt.

WTSB holds shareholder's meeting here

Officers and directors were re-elected in conjuction with Thursday's annual shareholders meeting of West Texas State Bank.

Bill Parker was re-elected president and chief executive officer, while Martin Brooks will remain as chairman of the board.

Other directors are Bill Eiland, John Greene, Terry Martin, R. C. Patton, James Brown, Harold Denson, Dale Stuard and Dan Cotton.

Officers include Derwin Thompson, senior vice president and cashier, Forrest Pendleton, senior vice president, Shawn Ragland and John Shirley, vice presidents.

Assistant vice presidents are Anita Clinkinbeard and Jana Eubank. Assistant cashiers are Joyce Pace, Todd Sorrells and Jennifer Voss.

Today is holiday for schools

Snyder and Hermleigh schools will report to class as usual Monday while Ira schools will enjoy another day off.

All three school districts are out today.

For Snyder ISD, today was slated as a bad weather make-up day, but the school did have to use it.

At Ira, the school is closed for Good Friday and Monday is a bad weather day.

Today is the Easter Holiday at Hermleigh and it will be in session Monday for a bad weather day.

ASK US

Q—Who is Dyess Air Force Base named after?

A—Lt. Col. William Edwin Dyess, an Albany native. He was awarded the Legion of Merit, Silver Star and Flying Cross in World War II.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Thursday, 72 degrees; low 45; 7 a.m. Friday, 53; no precipitation; total for 2001, 5.33 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, mostly cloudy, 40% rain chance, low around 60, SE wind, 10-20 mph. Saturday, becoming partly cloudy, slight rain chance, high 85-90, SE wind 5-15 mph.



Joe Gallegas
Rain Chance

Sunset:
8:11 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:17 a.m.

Of 102 days in 2001, the sun has shone 90 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Constant kindness can accomplish much. As the sun makes ice melt, kindness causes misunderstanding, mistrust, and hostility to evaporate.
—Albert Schweitzer

APR 13 2001



2001 Chevrolet Malibu CP 2488



$15,697

Silver, Auto Trans, Keyless Entry

MSRP	$18,935
Rebate	$1,750
Discount	$1,488
Your Price	$15,697

2001 Chevrolet Impala CP 2569



$18,999

CD Player, Onstar, Alum. Wh.

MSRP	$21,775
Rebate	$1,000
Discount	$1,776
Your Price	$18,999

2001 Chevy Tracker CP C2853



$16,215

CD Player, Power Windows/Locks

MSRP	$19,601
Rebate	$2,500
Discount	$886
Your Price	$16,215

2001 Pontiac Grand Am PT 2887



$17,999

Moonroof, Loaded

MSRP	$20,395
Rebate	$1,750
Discount	$646
Your Price	$17,999

2001 Pontiac Firebird PT 2734



$19,600

T-Tops, Auto Trans, Loaded

MSRP	$22,980
Rebate	$1,500
Discount	$1,880
Your Price	$19 600

2001 Pontiac Firebird OT1



$16,896

V-6, 5 Speed

MSRP	$19,300
Rebate	$1,500
Discount	$904
Your Price	$16,896

2001 Buick Century B2500



$18,550

CD & Cass., Power Seat

MSRP	$21,600
Rebate	$1,250
Discount	$1,800
Your Price	$18,550

2001 Buick LeSabre B2847



$22,836

Prestige Package

MSRP	$27,076
Rebate	$1500
Discount	$2,740
Your Price	$22,836

2001 Buick LeSabre B3206



$21,977

Power Drivers Seat

MSRP	$24,915
Rebate	$1,500
Discount	$1,438
Your Price	$21,977

2001 Buick Park Ave. B2876



$29,998

Prestige Package

MSRP	$35,672
Rebate	$2,000
Discount	$3,674
Your Price	$29,998

GMC Quad Door Stepside G2537

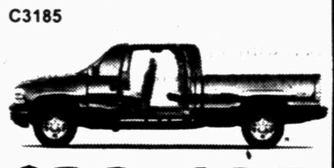


$25,662

SLT, Leather, Loaded

MSRP	$31,433
Rebate	$1,000
Discount	$4,771
Your Price	$25,662

Chev Quad Door LS C3185

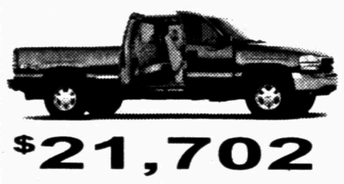


$20,485

Power Windows/Locks, Auto

MSRP	$24,593
Rebate	$1,000
Discount	$3,108
Your Price	$20,485

GMC Quad Door LS G326



$21,702

V-8, Power Windows/Locks

MSRP	$26,271
Rebate	$1,000
Discount	$3,569
Your Price	$21,702

GMC Quad Door G2733



$24,974

SLT Leather

MSRP	$30,638
Rebate	$1,000
Discount	$4,664
Your Price	$24,974

2001 GMC Jimmy G2370



$21,835

MSRP	$28,953
Rebate	$3,500
Discount	$3,618
Your Price	$21,835

2001 Chev Z71 Quad Dr. TC3073



$25,888

Alum. Wheels, Power Win./Locks

MSRP	$30,603
Rebate	$1,000
Discount	$3,715
Your Price	$25,888

2001 S10 Ext. Cab C2963



$14,995

Auto, 3rd Door, Tilt/Cruise

MSRP	$18,825
Rebate	$2,250
Discount	$1,580
Your Price	$14,995

2001 S10 Reg. Cab TC3145



$13,250

Tilt, Cruise, Auto

MSRP	$15,915
Rebate	$1,750
Discount	$915
Your Price	$13,250

1999 Lincoln Towncar C2054A, 33K, One Owner, Must See $21,500
2000 Olds Alero A2746, 22K, 4 Dr., Nice $12,500
2-2000 Chevy Cavalier 2 Dr., 18K Miles, Nice Cars $9,900
1999 Chevy Camaro P5728, 6K Miles, V-6, Automatic $16,500
1995 Ford Escort School Car $4,500
2000 Chevy Lumina A4072, Power Windows/Locks, A/C $12,500
1995 Chevy Corsica 75K Miles $5,500
2000 Blazer 4 Door White/Tan, 18 K Miles, Loaded $19,500
1999 Pontiac Sunfire 2 Door Lt. Blue, 17K Miles, Must See $11,500
2000 Ford Crew Cab P9915, Power Stroke, XLT, One Owner $25,000
2001 Chevy Tahoe A0222, New Body Style, 13K Miles $28,500
1997 Dodge Shortbed P3886A, V-8, Power Windows/Locks $12,500

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State

Teen found with gun; three others suspected in burglary

LUBBOCK (AP) — A 15-year-old girl found with a loaded semi-automatic handgun in her waistband was arrested at a Lubbock junior high on Thursday.

Authorities said they suspect she and three other teens broke into a home and returned to school.

Officers who went to Alderson Junior High following the burglary of a Lubbock home found another loaded handgun inside a second teen's locker along with three bottles of liquor.

There was no evidence that either of the girls planned to use the guns, police spokesman Bill Morgan told the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal.

"These were just people concealing what they had stolen," Morgan told the newspaper.

Superintendent Jack Clemmons said possessing a gun on campus is an expellable offense.

"It is our intent to expel those girls for some period of time," he said.

An east Lubbock resident reported that thieves had broken a window of her home and stolen jewelry, guns and three bottles of liquor about 2 p.m. Thursday.

Based on the information provided by the woman, officers headed to the junior high, where they located four suspects. Three of the suspects were 15 years old and the fourth was 14, Morgan said.

Morgan said the girls remain in juvenile detention and face possible burglary and weapons charges.

Police in San Antonio crack 13-year-old drive-by slaying

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — More than a decade had passed since a fatal drive-by shooting, with the investigation stalled until Central Texas law officers received a tip.

Robert Estrada was arrested Saturday and charged in the April 4, 1988 murder of Rene Morales. Her murder case has been in the department longer than some detectives who have handled it.

Estrada, 36, was held Friday in the Bexar County jail in lieu of a $200,000 bond.

"We really had to blow the dust off from this one," Lt. Dan Akeroyd told the San Antonio Express-News in today's editions. "It really was a long time. I don't think most of us were even here" in the homicide unit.

Investigators attempted to unravel the case, but struggled because of a lack of leads or evidence.

"We just couldn't make the connection to the Morales case at all," Akeroyd said. "Again, we really had nothing to go on at all from the very start."

But for many years, police unknowingly had in their possession the same gun they now believe was used in Morales' death.

They later seized the weapon on an unrelated case of unlawful possession of a firearm, but the case was dropped and the gun was returned to its owner.

Police wouldn't reveal the name of the gun owner, but court records show Estrada was arrested on unlawful possession of a firearm charges two months after the shooting.

But it was an anonymous tip that led police to an eyewitness who singled out Estrada.

Police also recovered physical evidence they say links Estrada to the murder, but wouldn't reveal details of the evidence.

events

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Thursday by the Texas Lottery:

3-27-2-33-16

Pick 3

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

2-6-4

Berry's World



Date Book

Friday, April 13, 2001

Today is the 103rd day of 2001 and the 25th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1796, the first elephant in North America arrived in New York City. It came from Bengal, India.

On this day in 1869, George Westinghouse received a patent on air brakes that he had designed.

On this day in 1960, the first American navigation satellite, Transit 1-B, was placed in orbit.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826), U.S. president; F.W. Woolworth (1852-1919), merchant; Samuel Beckett (1906-1989), playwright; Eudora Welty (1909-), writer, is 92; Howard K[illegible] Wilson (1937-), playwright, is 64; Al Green (1946-), singer, is 55.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1975, Lee Elder became the first African-American golfer to compete in the Masters tournament.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "The events in our lives happen in a sequence in time, but in their significance to ourselves they find their own order." — Eudora Welty

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (April 7) and last quarter (April 15).

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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Published each Sunday morning and each evening, except Saturday, by Snyder Publishing Co., Inc., 3600 College Ave., Snyder, Texas 79549.

Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Snyder, Texas, Publication Number USPS611-520.

POSTMASTER send change of address to P.O. Box 949, Snyder, Texas, 79550.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By carrier in Snyder, $9.25 per month.

By mail in Scurry and adjoining counties, one year $88.80 balance of Texas and out of state $113.85.

Roy McQueen, Publisher
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National

Bric

By Phillip

North
♠ A 8
♥ A
♦ K 3

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

South
♠ K
♥ 7 2
♦ A
♣ K

Vulnerable
Dealer: Sou

South	West	
1 ♣	Pass	1
1 ♠	Pass	2
3 ♣	Pass	3
4 NT	Pass	5
5 NT	Pass	6
7 ♠	Pass	

Opening lea

Friday, Apr

Finding a
to all the t

By Phillip Alde
Bridgers count:
Four five six sev
Ten jack queen
— Bill Beebe, B

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and fishing for thr
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or second-bid suit.

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with your king (or
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dummy's spade ac
power of your 10 a
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spades.)

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Cuban wins

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Church Ad
Easter S
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2405 35th
Snyder,
573-2

Deputy believed he hit one gunman

DENVER (AP) — A sheriff's deputy who was the first officer at Columbine and who traded shots with one of the gunmen believed he may have hit the shooter, according to newly released documents.

Deputy Neil Gardner, assigned to the Jefferson County high school, was eating lunch in his car in a nearby parking lot when the April 20, 1999, assault began. He drove to the southwest parking lot, jumped out and took cover behind the driver's side of a Chevrolet Blazer, according to a transcript of an interview done the day of the shootings.

The 94-page transcript and a CD-ROM of interviews with five other officers who fired their guns were made public Thursday after a judge ordered their release.

Much of the information from Gardner's two-hour interview is known. The officer, though, told a sheriff's detective the evening of the shootings that he believed the person who shot at him in the parking lot was Dylan Klebold.

Klebold and Eric Harris fatally shot a teacher and 12 fellow students and wounded 23 others before killing themselves in the attack.

The report released last year said Eric Harris was the shooter crouching outside the school's west doors and firing across the parking lot at Gardner.

Gardner said the shooter was tall, about 6 feet, skinny, with collar-length hair and was wearing a blue flack jacket and baseball cap on backward. Klebold was wearing a dark T-shirt and a cap backward on a videotape from a camera in the school cafeteria. He was much taller than Harris and had longer hair.

Sheriff's Sgt. Mike Julian said he couldn't explain the discrepancy between the transcript and report.

"On face value, whatever the transcript says he responded to investigators, that's what he said he saw," Julian said.

Gardner said he fired four times at the shooter, who appeared to be reloading. He said the first shot appeared to spin the person around and "either hit him or it came real close."

A summary of Klebold's autopsy has been released, but not the full report. There is no indication in that summary or in Harris's autopsy report of gunshot wounds besides massive head wounds that were apparently self-inflicted.

Denver-area lawyer James Rouse sued on behalf of victims' families for release of the report on the investigation by the Jefferson County sheriff's office.

"I suspect there's still more stuff there in some format. Some day we'll know," Rouse said.

Jefferson County District Judge Brooke Jackson last week ordered the release of a draft request for a warrant to search Harris' home a year before the massacre. The affidavit was drafted after allegations that Harris was threatening people over the Internet and making pipe bombs, but was never submitted to a judge or the district attorney.

Columbine families suing the sheriff's office claim the department botched the response to the assault and could have prevented the rampage if officers would have investigated complaints about Harris.

UPS worker settles lawsuit with Teamsters

MIAMI (AP) — A United Parcel Service employee stabbed by union members for working during a strike has settled his lawsuit against the Teamsters.

Former University of Miami linebacker Roderick Carter settled the case against Teamsters Local 769 on Wednesday for an undisclosed amount of money, his lawyers announced Thursday.

"The union knew this was a case where it was caught red handed," said Stefan Gleason, vice president of the National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation. The foundation represented Carter in the suit.

Gleason could not reveal any details of the settlement because of a confidentiality agreement, but he said the settlement would "send a message that union violence does not pay."

Union leaders did not immediately return phone calls for comment Thursday.

Carter continued to drive a UPS truck during the union's two-week national strike in August 1997. A day after he told a television reporter that he needed to work to support his family, he was pulled from his truck and stabbed with an ice pick.

Carter, who currently works as a UPS supervisor, was unable to work for nearly two months after the attack.

Union funds were used to bail out the six assailants, all of whom were later convicted of various charges.

The night the interview aired, the Carters received a threatening call and several hang-up calls. The calls were traced to the home of Anthony Cannestro Sr., then president of Local 769.

Carter's lawsuit accused the union of encouraging violence against employees who crossed the picket line. Sworn statements showed that three union leaders authorized "ambulatory pickets," in which union members would follow non-striking workers on their routes to harass and intimidate them, the right-to-work foundation said.

Union officials also told members the union would provide bail bonds and legal representation if they were arrested, the foundation said.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 04-13-01
♠ A 8 7 4
♥ A Q J 4
♦ K 3 2
♣ A 5

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

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

South
♠ K Q 10 5
♥ 7 2
♦ A
♣ K Q J 10 9 8

Vulnerable: North-South
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♠	Pass
5 NT	Pass	6 ♦	Pass
7 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♦ Q

Friday, April 13, 2001

Finding a route to all the tricks

By Phillip Alder

Bridgers count: two three
Four five six seven eight nine
Ten jack queen king ace
— Bill Beebe, Bethlehem, Pa.

Yesterday, we started to look at fourth-suit forcing. This responder's rebid artificially announces at least game-going values and, often, uncertainty about direction. These are the common reasons for employing fourth-suit forcing: A desire to reach three no-trump but no stopper in the fourth suit (with a stopper, you could bid no-trump yourself); five cards in your major and fishing for three-card support; or slam interest in partner's first-bid or second-bid suit.

North's two-diamond rebid is fourth-suit forcing. Here the responder wishes to make a slam-try in spades, showing a hand too strong just to jump to four spades on the second round.

Knowing about the powerful hand opposite, South uses Blackwood before bidding seven spades.

West leads the diamond queen.

Declarer must play the trump suit without loss. Missing one honor only — the jack — you should start with your king (or queen). If everyone plays low, you should cross to dummy's spade ace, retaining the power of your 10 and here picking up the suit without loss.

However, East might deflect declarer by dropping his spade nine at trick two. (Agreed, South should have bid seven no-trump. Then he could have run some clubs first, before committing himself in spades.)

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Cuban wins Grammy

NEW YORK (AP) — Chucho Valdes couldn't go to the Grammys, so the Grammy has come to him.

The Cuban pianist, who is featured in the upcoming movie "Calle 54," won a Grammy for best Latin jazz album for "Live at the Village Vanguard" in February. But he was unable to attend the ceremony in Los Angeles because he was performing in Cuba with Herbie Hancock.

So as he opened a weeklong set at the Village Vanguard on Tuesday night, he was presented with the award by the chairman of the Recording Academy, Phil Ramone, as Harry Belafonte and Danny Glover watched.

Through a translator, Valdes said he was overwhelmed by the achievement.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Co-worker's wedding is no cause for celebration

DEAR ABBY: One of my coworkers is being married next month and has invited most of the office to her wedding. I had planned on buying her a gift, but probably won't attend. We are not close. She has been very difficult to work with. She's possibly the most two-faced person I have ever known.

I have overheard this woman putting me down to co-workers, clients and vendors during the entire 4 1/2 years we have worked together. I am seriously considering leaving this company because of her. My supervisor has told me on several occasions that I am "on my own with her."

Today she had the nerve to drop a very broad hint that she would like an office wedding shower. I am this company's office manager, and organizing such an event would be up to me.

I am almost 50 years old, have worked at several other companies, and have never heard of an "office wedding shower." Aside from my strong dislike for this co-worker, I want to do what is correct. What do you recommend? — **AWAITING ADVICE IN WASHINGTON STATE**

DEAR AWAITING: Since your heart isn't in it (and with good reason), don't allow yourself to be maneuvered into arranging a shower. To get yourself off the hook, see if someone she's closer to would care to host a shower for her outside of office hours.

**

DEAR ABBY: I would like to tell "A Friend in Chicago," who was concerned because a family refused to take their 92-year-old grandmother to the doctor, that there is an agency serving people over 60.

In 1965, the Older Americans Act was enacted by Congress. It allocated funding for numerous "Area Agencies on Aging" across the United States. They are listed in local phone books. They provide resources for transportation, home-delivered meals, respite care, income tax preparation, medication assistance, flu shots, heating and cooling assistance, homemaker services, housing, legal assistance, where to report suspected neglect or exploitation of elderly persons, and more.

They also help coordinate recreational activities, such as senior games: bowling tournaments, track, basketball free throw, golf, shuffleboard, and more. Senior centers across America provide numerous activities and services for both active and homebound seniors. They will, if asked, also provide daily telephone reassurance calls and/or weekly visits to ensure the safety and well-being of the senior in question. — **JENNIFER E. RABALAIS, SOUTHWEST TENNESSEE AREA AGENCY ON AGING**

DEAR JENNIFER: I'm sure many people will be surprised and relieved to know that so much help is so close at hand. Thank you for writing.

**

DEAR ABBY: We are a group of senior women who enjoy dining out.

After a good meal, one of our menfolk likes to seek out the young hostesses, encircle their waists, look deep into their eyes and tell them what a great meal he's had.

What do you think of this behavior? — **DAILY FLORIDA READER**

DEAR FLORIDA READER: I think he wants some free dessert.

**

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

**

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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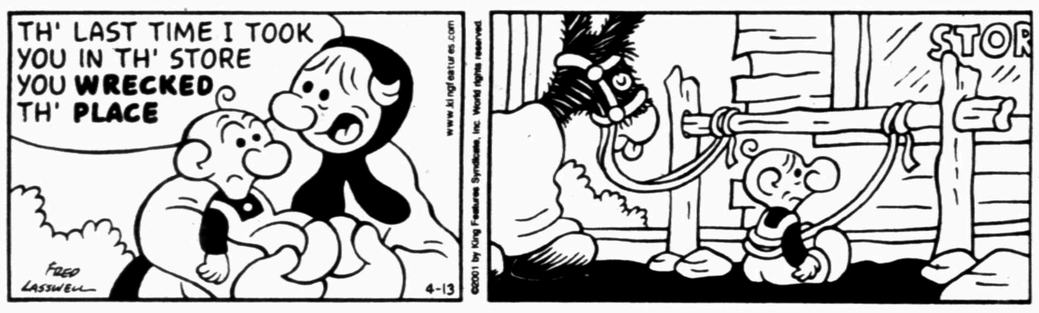
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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 German sub
6 Slippery fishes
10 Owner of Sam Simeon
12 Apparition
14 Coat type
15 New York City area
16 Fedora, e.g.
17 Author Levin
19 Bites
20 Ladies
23 Direction reversal
26 Actor Gibson
27 Actress Novak
30 Spanish lady
32 Flightless bird
34 Fabulous monster
35 Sleep noises
36 Unit of mass
37 Math abbr.
39 Inventor Howe
40 Atmospheric conditions
42 Architect Saarinen
45 Author Umberto —
46 Ms. Zadora
49 Like many ski sweaters
51 Stockings
54 Sign up for the Army
55 Become apparent
56 Dispatched
57 Garden flower

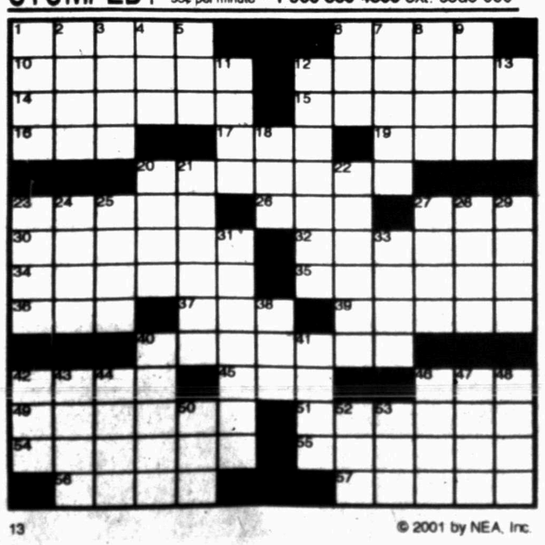
DOWN

1 "No"
2 Actor Lugosi
3 Kiln
4 Museum fill
5 Mao — -tung
6 Period of time
7 Makes money
8 Leslie Caron role
9 Stride
11 Decorate
12 Ahab and company
13 Brit. Navy abbr.
18 He sheep
20 Pond critter
21 Sign up for classes
22 Hawk
23 Food org.
24 Duration
25 Two-toed sloth
27 Singer — Te Kanawa
28 Virginia willow
29 Naval meal
31 Like Coleridge's mariner
33 Lacquered metalware
38 Roman 2,100
40 Secretary of State Powell
41 First-rate (2 wds.)
42 She sheep
43 Long times
44 Starlet's quest
46 Harbor
47 "Picnic" author
48 Jacob's son
50 Superlative ending
52 Singer Sumac
53 Bandleader Brown

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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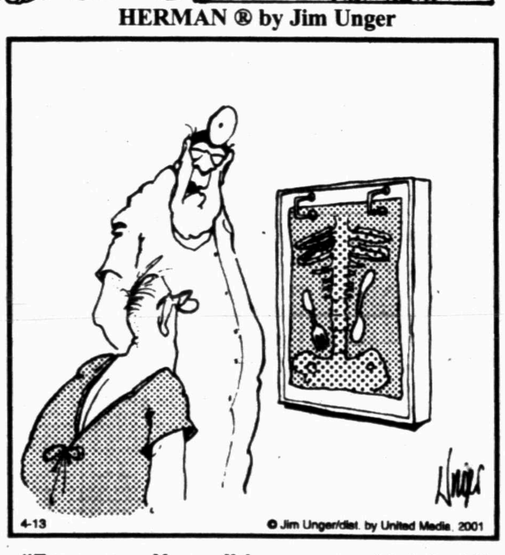
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Snyder Daily News Comics

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SPORTS

Close competition in store at district meet

With five of 16 events completed at the District 4-4A track meet, Snyder sits atop the boys' standings, but Lubbock Estacado is poised to make a charge in today's final events.

Snyder tallied 47 points in Thursday's competition to grab the early lead at Tiger Stadium, with Lake View sitting a close second.

The favored Matadors accumulated only 10½ points through the first five events, but qualified 12 runners for today's finals, and will field the meet's fastest relay teams.

In the girls' competition, Snyder garnered 10 points through three events to sit fifth. Big Spring heads the girls' standings with 22 points.

The Snyder boys were spurred by the performances of seniors Mark Medley and Jared Thornhill, two state qualifiers from a year ago.

Medley captured his second consecutive district title in the shot put with a toss of 57-6. The SHS senior has won the shot put and discus events in every meet he's entered this season. The discus is scheduled for today.

Thornhill, who finished second in the pole at last year's district and regional meets, earned the top spot on Thursday. Thornhill cleared 15-7 to set a school record.

DISTRICT 4-4A TRACK MEET
at Tiger Stadium
TODAY
Running Finals

2:00 — 4x100M relay
2:20 — 800M run
2:40 — 100M hurdles
2:50 — 110M hurdles
3:00 — 100M dash
3:20 — 4x200M relay
3:30 — 400M dash
3:50 — 300M hurdles
4:10 — 200M dash
4:30 — 1,600M run
5:10 — 4x400M relay

SHS senior Jesse Haines posted eight points with a second-place finish after clearing 12-6.

Two-time defending state champion Sage Thames of Frenship, severely hampered by a hamstring injury, failed to clear the bar in three attempts.

The Tigers continued to add to their lead when Wade Pinson took third in the high jump, with Jamall Pruitt grabbing fourth. Corey Clay was fifth in the long jump.

In the only running final on Thursday, Snyder's Rudy Martinez held the lead in the 3,200 with one lap to go, before Frenship's Josh Hawkins made a pass on the backstretch and sprinted home with the win. Martinez finished second.

While Estacado sent 12 runners to the finals, the Tigers qualified 10.

Pinson and Jason Guynes advanced to the finals in both hurdles events, with Michael Murphrey making it in the 300 hurdles.

Matthew Grimmett qualified in the 100 and 200. He'll be joined in the 100 by teammate Edwin James. Clay and Josh Arizmendi advanced in the 400.

There were no preliminary heats in the relays.

The Lady Tigers 10 points came in the triple jump where Loryn Brown and Cameron Mackey set personal records to finish third and fourth. Brown leaped 35-7, while Mackey's distance was 34-8½.

The Lady Tigers qualified for four spots in today's finals.

Brown advanced in both hurdles events. Callie Bane also advanced in the 100 hurdles, and Mackey made it in the 100.

The top two finishers in each event earn a trip to the Region I-4A meet April 27-28 in San Angelo.

DISTRICT 4-4A TRACK MEET
at Tiger Stadium

BOYS

Team standings through 5 of 16 events: 1. Snyder 47, 2. Lake View 40, 3. Levelland 22.25, 4. Frenship 22, 5. Estacado 10.50, 6. Plainview 6, 7. Big Spring 5, 8. Andrews 2.25.

Field Events

Shot put: 1. Mark Medley, Snyder, 57-6; 2. Ben Lyons, Lake View, 57-4 1/2; 3. Brandon Davidson, Frenship, 53-4 1/2; 4. Scotty Mitchell, Levelland, 51-6 1/4; 5. Nathan Cates, Frenship, 48-9 1/2; 6. Carlos Estrada, Lake View, 48-5 1/4.

Long jump: 1. Donald Kinney, Estacado, 22-9 1/2; 2. Demetrik Hallman, Lake View, 22-3; 3. Jason Tezano, Levelland, 21-6 3/4; 4. Juamar Hall, Lake View, 21-3 1/4; 5. Corey Clay, Snyder, 21-3; 6. Alston Graves, Levelland, 21-0 3/4.

Pole vault: 1. Jared Thornhill, Snyder, 15-7; 2. Jesse Haines, Snyder, 12-6; 3. Zack Morris, Plainview, 11-6; 4. Kyland Wegner, Big Spring, 11-6; 5. Jon Link, Andrews, 11-0; 6. Michael Ruiz, Lake View, 11-0.

High jump: 1. Tim Walker, Lake View, 6-6; 2. Jason Tezano, Levelland, 6-2; 3. Wade Pinson, Snyder, 6-0; 4. (tie) Jamall Pruitt, Snyder and Alston Graves, Levelland, 6-0; 6. (tie) Antione Sheppard, Estacado, Derek Butter, Estacado, Luke McNeely, Levelland and Nathan Tompkins, Andrews, 5-10.

Running Events

3,200: 1. Josh Hawkins, Frenship, 10:04.18; 2. Rudy Martinez, Snyder, 10:14.27; 3. Ruben Solis, Lake View, 10:20.87; 4. Trent Gary, Frenship, 10:25.52; 5. Roger Tarango, Lake View, 10:27.97; 6. Michael Martinez, Big Spring, 10:30.17.

Qualifiers for Running Finals

110 hurdles: 1. Wade Pinson, Snyder, 14.74; 2. Josh Hadley, Andrews, 14.80; 3. Thomas Howard, Estacado, 14.98; 4. Bryan Scott, Estacado, 15.12; 5. Kendrick Smith, Estacado, 15.63; 6. Travis McMillan, Lake View, 15.86; 7. Eddie Carrasco, Andrews, 15.94; 8. Jason Guynes, Snyder, 16.26.

100: 1. Antione Sheppard, Estacado, 10.37; 2. Demetrik Hallman, Lake View, 10.93; 3. Tremaine Carr, Estacado, 10.96; 4. Edwin James, Snyder, 10.99; 5. Tyree Williams, Big Spring, 11.02; 6. Matthew Grimmett, Snyder, 11.12; 7. Curtis Miller, Plainview, 11.13; 8. Tyler Christian, Andrews, 11.14.

400: 1. Chris Scott, Estacado, 48.93; 2. Quinton Bolden, Estacado, 50.15; 3. Josh Arizmendi, Snyder, 50.76; 4. Anthony Trotty, Estacado, 50.96; 5. Abel Gonzales, Lake View, 51.12; 6. Cesar Bueno, Andrews, 52.08; 7. Corey Clay, Snyder, 52.14; 8. Tarrell Johnson, Plainview, 53.67.

300 hurdles: 1. Howard Thomas, Estacado, 39.90; 2. Kendrick Smith, Estacado, 40.21; 3. Bryan Scott, Estacado, 40.68; 4. Josh Hadley, Andrews, 40.94; 5. Eddie Carrasco, Andrews, 41.32; 6. Wade Pinson, Snyder, 41.42; 7. Jason Guynes, Snyder, 42.48; 8. Michael Murphrey, Snyder, 42.64.

200: 1. Antione Sjeppard, Estacado, 21.78; 2. Demetrik Hallman, Lake View, 22.40; 3. Matthew Grimmett, Snyder, 22.71; 4. Zack Morris, Plainview, 22.74; 5. Jarret Evans, Lake View, 22.77; 6. Tyler Christian, Andrews, 22.98; 7. David Thomas, Frenship, 23.20; 8. Tyree Williams, Big Spring, 23.26.

GIRLS

Team standings through 3 of 16 events: 1. Big Spring 22, 2. Levelland 16, 3. Frenship 15, 4. Andrews 11, 5. (tie) Snyder and Estacado 10, 7. Plainview 9, 8. Lake View 0.

Field Events

Discus: 1. Cierra Butler, Big Spring, 121-3; 2. Tojinay Thompson, Plainview, 114-3; 3. Callie Christian, Andrews, 114-2; 4. Amber Mayes, Big Spring, 113-5; 5. Mika Robertson, Levelland, 108-11; 6. Amanda Milam, Frenship, 105-4.

Triple jump: 1. Shatoya Hill, Estacado, 37-4; 2. Karissa Magers, Big Spring, 36-6 3/4; 3. Loryn Brown, Snyder, 35-7; 4. Cameron Mackey, Snyder, 34-8 1/2; 5. Lavon Green, Levelland, 34-8 1/4; 6. Nitra Woods, Andrews, 33-4 1/4.

Running Events

3,200: 1. Susan Munoz, Levelland, 12:35.65; 2. Anna Hagood, Frenship, 12:52.05; 3. Emily Gilbert, Frenship, 13:05.13; 4. Katie Fariss, Andrews, 13:09.02; 5. Melinda Chapa, Levelland, 13:11.47; 6. Letty Munoz, Plainview, 13:27.78.

Qualifiers for Running Finals

100 hurdles: 1. Dora Taylor, Estacado, 15.44; 2. Jalyn Mathews, Andrews, 16.07; 3. Rachelle Guinn, Big Spring, 16.41; 4. Amanda Phillips, Lake View, 16.53; 5. Chelsea Churchwell, Big Spring, 16.64; 6. Loryn Brown, Snyder, 16.74; 7. Rebeka Ferguson, Levelland, 17.12; 8. Callie Bane, Snyder, 17.40.

100: 1. Dana Davis, Estacado, 12.43; 2. Melissa Forth, Big Spring, 12.46; 3. Amber Rose, Levelland, 12.56; 4. Nitra Woods, Andrews, 12.59; 5. Latonda Fennell, Plainview, 12.86; 6. Ashley Jackson, Levelland, 12.95; 7. Crystal Landrum, Levelland, 13.01; 8. Cameron Mackey, Snyder, 13.08.

400: 1. Jackie Wren, Frenship, 1:01.12; 2. Lavon Green, Levelland, 1:01.93; 3. Trachia Dottin, Estacado, 1:03.28; 4. Latoria Lee, Estacado, 1:04.57; 5. Judy Delhierro, Andrews, 1:04.75; 6. Jeneane Richard, Big Spring, 1:04.76; 7. Danielle Wilson, Levelland, 1:06.10; 8. Taylor Leatherwood, Frenship, 1:06.98.

300 hurdles: 1. Dora Taylor, Estacado, 46.93; 2. Rebeka Ferguson, Levelland, 47.18; 3. Liz Kessler, Andrews, 47.53; 4. Jalyn Mathews, Andrews, 48.14; 5. Amanda Phillips, Lake View, 48.58; 6. Tabitha Davis, Andrews, 49.18; 7. Loryn Brown, Snyder, 50.85; 8. Chelsea Churchwell, Big Spring, 52.78.

200: 1. Karissa Magers, Big Spring, 26.00; 2. Dana Davis, Estacado, 26.20; 3. Katie Goines, Plainview, 26.56; 4. Ashley Jackson, Levelland, 26.60; 5. Keelee Gresham, Levelland, 26.71; 6. Amber Menefee, Andrews, 27.08; 7. Shatoya Hill, Estacado, 27.17; 8. Shaquinna Powell, Estacado, 27.22.



GO — Snyder's Lacrystal Brooks springs from the blocks during track action at Tiger Stadium. The district meet continues today. (SDN Staff Photo)

Tigers hope to end skid against Frenship

The Snyder Tigers hope to break their recent skid when they visit Wolfforth today for a match-up with district-leading Frenship. The contest gets underway at 5 o'clock.

Snyder (11-9) has dropped five of its last six outings to slip to 4-5 in the district standings. Frenship (17-7) enters with a league-best mark of 8-1.

Frenship won the first meeting, 3-0, and will send Ken Bice back to the mound for today's tilt. Three weeks ago, Bice limited Snyder to only four hits and registered 13 strikeouts.

Tito Alaniz is the expected SHS starter. The junior left-hander is 4-4 on the year with an ERA of 1.098.

Snyder will be without the services of pitcher Jase Olvera. The junior, who played at Ira High School the past two seasons, transferred back to the 1A school earlier this week.

Following today's game, Snyder is in action again at 7 p.m. Tuesday when it hosts Big Spring at Moffett Field.

The Snyder Lady Tiger softball squad hits the diamond at 1 p.m. Saturday when it hosts Estacado at Cates Field.

The Lady Tigers are coming off their second setback of the district season, after dropping Wednesday's contest with Big Spring, 4-1.

Snyder (16-11) sports a 9-2 league record and holds down second place in the district standings.

The Lady Tigers face Plainview on Tuesday, before wrapping up the regular season next Friday against Andrews.

Major League Baseball

National League
All Times EDT

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	6	2	.750	—
Montreal	6	3	.667	½
New York	4	5	.444	2½
Atlanta	4	6	.400	3
Florida	2	6	.250	4

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	6	3	.667	—
Chicago	5	4	.556	1
St. Louis	5	4	.556	1
Pittsburgh	4	5	.444	2
Cincinnati	4	6	.400	2½
Milwaukee	4	6	.400	2½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	6	3	.667	—
Los Angeles	6	4	.600	½
Colorado	4	5	.444	2
San Diego	4	5	.444	2
Arizona	3	6	.333	3

Thursday's Games

Colorado 6, St. Louis 4
Milwaukee 12, Houston 4
San Diego 8, San Francisco 3
Cincinnati 11, Pittsburgh 6
N.Y. Mets 1, Atlanta 0, 10 innings
Los Angeles 5, Arizona 4

Friday's Games

Pittsburgh (Arroyo 1-0) at Chicago Cubs (Bere 1-0), 3:20 p.m.
Florida (Dempster 1-0) at Montreal (Vazquez 1-0), 7:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Fernandez 1-1) at N.Y. Mets (Trachsel 0-1), 7:10 p.m.
Philadelphia (Wolf 0-0) at Atlanta (Glavine 0-1), 7:35 p.m.
San Francisco (Rueter 1-0) at Milwaukee (Wright 1-1), 8:05 p.m.
Houston (Bottenfield 0-1) at St. Louis (Kile 1-1), 8:10 p.m.
Arizona (Johnson 1-1) at Colorado (Bohanon 0-1), 9:05 p.m.
Los Angeles (Park 2-0) at San Diego (Williams 1-1), 10:05 p.m.

American League
All Times EDT

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	7	2	.778	—
Toronto	7	3	.700	½
Boston	6	3	.667	1
Baltimore	4	5	.444	3
Tampa Bay	2	7	.222	5

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	6	2	.750	—
Chicago	4	4	.500	2
Cleveland	4	5	.444	2½
Detroit	3	6	.333	3½
Kansas City	2	7	.222	4½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	7	2	.778	—
Anaheim	5	4	.556	2
Texas	4	6	.400	3½
Oakland	2	7	.222	5

Thursday's Games

Seattle 7, Oakland 3
Kansas City at Toronto, ppd., roof damage
Boston 8, Baltimore 2
Cleveland 5, Detroit 3
Anaheim 13, Texas 3

Friday's Games

Kansas City (Suppan 1-1) at Toronto (Michalak 1-0), 4:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Hernandez 0-1) at Boston (Crawford 1-0), 6:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Lopez 1-1) at Baltimore (Hentgen 0-0), 7:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Sabathia 0-0) at Detroit (Weaver 1-1), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Buehrle 0-1) at Minnesota (Redman 0-1), 8:05 p.m.
Texas (Davis 0-1) at Oakland (Lidle 0-0), 10:05 p.m.
Seattle (Tomko 0-0) at Anaheim (Schoeneweis 1-1), 10:05 p.m.

NHL Playoffs

All Times EDT
(Best-of-7)
Wednesday, April 11

Buffalo 2, Philadelphia 1, Buffalo leads series 1-0
Detroit 5, Los Angeles 3, Detroit leads series 1-0
Dallas 2, Edmonton 1, OT, Dallas leads series 1-0

Thursday, April 12

St. Louis 3, San Jose 1, St. Louis leads series 1-0
New Jersey 5, Carolina 1, New Jersey leads series 1-0
Washington 1, Pittsburgh 0, Washington leads series 1-0
Colorado 5, Vancouver 4, Colorado leads series 1-0

Friday, April 13

Toronto at Ottawa, 7 p.m.

Saturday, April 14

Pittsburgh at Washington, 1 p.m.
Buffalo at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
Los Angeles at Detroit, 1 p.m.
San Jose at St. Louis, 1 p.m.
Edmonton at Dallas, 4 p.m.
Toronto at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Vancouver at Colorado, 10 p.m.

Sunday, April 15

Carolina at New Jersey, 3 p.m.
Dallas at Edmonton, 8 p.m.
Detroit at Los Angeles, 11:30 p.m.

National Basketball Association

All Times EDT
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
z-Philadelphia	54	25	.684	—
x-Miami	48	30	.615	5½
x-New York	46	32	.590	7½
x-Orlando	42	36	.538	11½
Boston	35	44	.443	19
New Jersey	26	53	.329	28
Washington	18	60	.231	35½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Milwaukee	50	29	.633	—
x-Toronto	44	34	.564	5½
x-Charlotte	43	36	.544	7
x-Indiana	38	40	.487	11½
Detroit	31	47	.397	18½
Cleveland	27	51	.346	22½
Atlanta	24	54	.308	25½
Chicago	13	65	.167	36½

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-San Antonio	56	23	.709	—
x-Utah	51	27	.654	4½
x-Dallas	49	29	.628	6½
x-Minnesota	46	32	.590	9½
Houston	42	37	.532	14
Denver	38	40	.487	17½
Vancouver	22	57	.278	34

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Sacramento	54	24	.692	—
x-L.A. Lakers	54	26	.675	1
x-Portland	50	29	.633	4½
x-Phoenix	48	30	.615	6
Seattle	43	36	.544	11½
L.A. Clippers	28	50	.359	26
Golden State	17	61	.218	37

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division
z-clinched conference

Thursday's Games

Charlotte 88, New Jersey 78
Milwaukee 115, Utah 93
Orlando 101, Philadelphia 77
Sacramento 107, San Antonio 105, OT
Portland 100, Vancouver 87
L.A. Lakers 119, Minnesota 102

Friday's Games

Orlando at Washington, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Cleveland at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Miami at Toronto, 8 p.m.
Boston at Indiana, 8 p.m.
Utah at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Golden State at Denver, 9 p.m.
Seattle at Phoenix, 10 p.m.
Houston at Portland, 10 p.m.
Minnesota at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

Local team bows out of tourney

PLAINVIEW — Snyder Major ran up against a pair of stalwarts in the first two rounds of the Little Dribblers National Tournament.

Snyder fell to Brenham, 44-34, before dropping a 44-26 decision to Levelland to end its hopes for a national title.

In the opener, the local squad held a 23-15 lead at halftime, before Brenham knotted the tally with an 11-3 run in the third quarter.

Brenham continued its streak in the final stanza, outscoring Snyder 18-8 to grab the win.

Lance Day and Brent Bollinger poured in eight points each to pace Snyder.

Corbin Clements added six points, with Pedro Villa and Brooks Gafford dropping in four apiece. Ryan Mitchell posted three points, and Jamie Arnold chipped in one.

The loss forced a match-up with Levelland in an elimination game.

Snyder trailed by five points after one quarter, and by nine at halftime. Levelland capped its victory with a 14-6 stretch in the fourth quarter.

Cody Burney's eight points led Snyder's effort. Mitchell tallied five points, and Villa, Clements and Gafford accounted for three each. Bollinger and Tyler Driggers dropped in two apiece.

Angels pound Rangers, 13-3

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Troy Glaus homered and drove in four runs Thursday night as the Anaheim Angels had a pair of five-run innings in routing the Texas Rangers 13-3.

Glaus, whose 14 homers against Texas are his most against an opponent, capped a five-run sixth against an overworked bullpen with a two-run shot off Jonathan Johnson.

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Snyder vs Big Spring Friday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m on Channel 2
Snyder vs Estacado Saturday, April 14 at 7:00 p.m. on Channel 2
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MOVIES

TOMCATS R
★★★★★ Mediatrip.com/tomcats, Starring Jerry O'Connell, Jake Busey, Shannon Elizabeth, Michael Delaney (O'Connell) must get his best friend, Kyle, to wed within 30 days in order to win a bet and to save himself from financial ruin. Things get complicated when Michael falls for Natalie Parker, the woman he propositioned to be Kyle's bride.

SOMEONE LIKE YOU PG13
★★★ Starring Ashley Judd, Greg Kinnear, Hugh Jackman, Marisa Tomei. www.someonelikeyoumovie.com The most appealing romantic comedy this year! Jane Goodale is recently dumped by her boyfriend. Jane surveys her love life, does some research, and comes up with a philosophy that compares gender relations to the behaviors of wildlife.

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3774 Dalton Dr. Lg Home 3-1¾+1cp $37.5T

Doris Spikes.....573-6602

Elizabeth Potts
Realtor
573-8505
Temi Matthies, Owner/Broker

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3704 Muriel 2bdrm Sell or Lease...Call
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Animal calls dominate blotter

• ***Stray dogs***

A woman called police at 7:53 a.m. Thursday concerning a stray brown and white basset hound at large in the 3400 block of Avenue U. The dog was taken to the animal shelter.

An officer was requested in the 3500 block of Kola at 8:05 a.m. in reference to a bird dog and a German Shepherd running at large. The officer was unable to locate the canines.

At 8:57 a.m., a report was made of a stray dog on a woman's property in the 900 block of 23rd Street. The animal was also taken to the animal shelter.

An officer was called to the Plaza Truck Stop at 9:08 a.m. Thursday in reference to a vicious dog trying to bite a customer. The animal was not located.

Another dog was taken to the animal shelter at 9:38 a.m. Thursday after a woman complained of a stray dog on her front porch in the 3200 block of Avenue L.

• ***Cat shot***

Annette Hernandez called police at 11:45 a.m. Thursday to report that a neighbor had shot her cat with a pellet gun. The neighbor was contacted and advised of the complaint.

• ***Donkeys out***

Rita Mize notified dispatchers at 2:11 p.m. that four donkeys had entered her property at 8905 FM 644. Another call concerning the donkeys was received at 3:04 p.m. in reference to the animals running at large. The owner was finally contacted at 6:37 p.m. Thursday after Mize reported the donkeys being out again.

• ***Possible hazard***

A citizen called dispatchers at 7:28 a.m. Thursday concerned about an old refrigerator just off North College that was possibly a hazard to children. An officer spoke with the owner of the refrigerator, and the old appliance had its seal and latch removed and was not a hazard.

• ***Loud music***

Officers spoke with a man concerning loud music at 11 p.m. Thursday in the 600 block of 32nd Street after a complaint was received.

Another complaint was made at 1:29 a.m. in reference to loud music coming from a vehicle in the area of 20th Street and Coleman. A man was contacted and asked to turn down the music.

• ***Arrests***

A 44-year-old man was arrested at 1:46 p.m. Thursday in the Wal-Mart parking lot. The subject had warrants for speeding, failure to appear and theft by check.

Public intoxication landed a 19-year-old man in jail at 2:25 a.m. today.

Births

Patricia Graham of Snyder announces the birth of her son at 4:31 a.m. on April 10 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. He weighed eight pounds, 12 ounces.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: April 13-Erasmo Andrade and Edward Barkowsky.

DISMISSALS: Patricia Graham and baby boy, Jeffrey Mason, Bobbie McShan and Coy Mebane.

CENSUS: 43 (Med./Surg.-19 and Long-term Care-24).

Record reflects mood

NEW YORK (AP) — Expect a different kind of rhyme from Darryl McDaniels, better known as DMC of Run DMC, when his debut album is released later this year.

McDaniels says his new record reflects the mellow mood he's in these days. He describes it as "Bob Dylan meets Neil Young and the Rolling Stones."

McDaniels, 36, contributed very little to Run DMC's new record, "Crown Royal," which is filled with collaborations with such hot young artists as Kid Rock and Limp Bizkit's Fred Durst. McDaniels said he stopped working on the record because he's not into that kind of music anymore.

"I wanted to work with Sheryl Crow," he told The Associated Press. "I wanted to work with Eric Clapton."

APR 13 2001

Snyder Devotional Page

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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

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This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of Exodus intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times.

MOSES AND PLAGUES OF EGYPT

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Difficult negotiations loom with China over spy plane incident

WASHINGTON (AP) — The mood is apt to be somber and chances of a quick fix virtually nil when U.S. and Chinese officials meet next week to discuss the collision of an American surveillance plane with a Chinese fighter jet.

Sharply at odds over the facts, the dispute is roiling already difficult relations between Washington and Beijing. The crew returned to the United States and a joyous welcome Thursday but the aircraft remains in Chinese hands with no sign it will be returned anytime soon.

Since then, senior Pentagon officials in Washington and American diplomats in Beijing have anonymously told the press a host of details that they say have come from the debriefing of crew members and will bolster their version of how the accident happened.

The crew said their plane was flying level, on autopilot, on a fixed course and altitude over the South China Sea April 1 when the Chinese plane struck from underneath, Pentagon officials said. The Navy plane fell 8,000 feet after the collision. That account is consistent with previous administration statements and appears to contradict China's assertion that the U.S. plane swerved into the Chinese F-8 interceptor.

The pilot, Lt. Shane Osborn, also said the crew had put on parachutes and that he was thinking about ditching the plane at sea before he made the emergency landing on Hainan island attempt a landing. He also told Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld in a phone conversation Thursday that he tried to contact Chinese air traffic control 15 to 20 times after the collision but heard no response, the Pentagon official said. He said it was unclear whether the Chinese didn't answer or answered and couldn't be heard.

In Beijing, a U.S. diplomat said today that Osborn had made 15 to 25 attempts Chinese controllers.

A second Pentagon official said the U.S. military believes it has even more ammunition for its contention of how the accident occurred — photos and videotapes that it has not yet released showing frighteningly aggressive maneuvers made in the past by Chinese pilots.

U.S. military officials intend to take up with their Chinese counterparts what the senior official called the tailing of American aircraft and potential safety problems.

Obituaries

Patricia Stahl

1937-2001

Patricia Ann Stahl, a life-long resident of Scurry County, died Thursday, April 12, at her home in Hermleigh after a lengthy illness.

Funeral service for Mrs. Stahl, 63, is set for 2 p.m. Saturday in the Hermleigh First Baptist Church with Dr. Rex Reynolds, pastor, officiating.



Patricia Stahl

Burial will follow in the Lone Wolf Cemetery under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born May 21, 1937 in Scurry County, she married Bert Stahl on Nov. 25, 1955 in Hermleigh. She was member of the Hermleigh First Baptist Church and had served as clerk for 14 years. Mrs. Stahl had worked as a secretary for the Scurry County Farm Bureau for 44 years, retiring in January.

Survivors include her husband, Bert Stahl of the home; two sons and daughters-in-law, Ricky and Terri Stahl and Tim and Michale Stahl, all of Snyder; a sister and brother-in-law, Margie and Mickey Rose of Abilene; six grandchildren, Chris Stahl, Levi Stahl, Barry Stahl, Shainna Stahl, Jason McMillan and Aron Stanley; one niece; and one nephew.

Honorary pallbearers will be the board members of the Scurry County Texas Farm Bureau.

Family visitation will be held from 6 to 8 this evening at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home. Memorials may be made to the Community Care Hospice or the American Cancer Society.

Pauline House

1915-2001

Erma Pauline House, a resident of Snyder since 1924, died Wednesday, April 11, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital following a lengthy illness.



Pauline House

Funeral service for Mrs. House, 85, is set for 2:30 p.m. Sunday in Trinity United Methodist Church. The Revs. Lloyd Stice and James Merrell will officiate. Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens.

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

Born June 23, 1915 in Mena, Ark. She came to Texas, settling in Snyder in 1924, with her parents and eight siblings. She married Raymond House on Oct. 27, 1934 in Snyder. A homemaker, Mrs. House was a member of the Trinity United Methodist Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents, James Asa and Lenora Gatlin; two sisters; and four brothers.

Survivors include her husband, Raymond House of Snyder; three sons and daughters-in-law, Milton and Patsy House of Odessa, Larry and Carolyn House and Jerry and Rita House, all of Snyder; two sisters, Opal Evans of Brownwood and Edna Mearse of Snyder; 14 grandchildren; and 22 great-grandchildren.

Grandsons will serve as pallbearers. Family visitation will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Saturday at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Personal, Professional Service

BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME

3101 College Ave. 573-5454

James Sawyer

1934-2001

James Paul Sawyer of Kerrville, a former Snyder resident, died Wednesday, April 11, in a Kerrville hospital.

Graveside service for Mr. Sawyer, 66, is set for 10:30 a.m. Monday in Hillside Memorial Gardens. The Rev. Charles Day, pastor of Avenue D Baptist Church, will officiate. Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mr. Sawyer was born Oct. 11, 1934 in Scurry County. He was married on July 21, 1955 in Tucumcari, N.M. A resident of Kerrville the past six years, he also had lived 29 years in Alaska where he worked in construction.

Survivors include his wife, Lou Sawyer of Kerrville; a son, Jimmy Sawyer of Kerrville; a daughter, Diane Brewster of Soldotna, Ark.; three sisters and brothers-in-law, Dorothy and Buford Newton of Odessa, Kaye and Mike Wardlaw of Canyon and Janice and Joe Cates of Midland; three grandsons; and nieces and nephews.

Family visitation will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

Myrna Crow

1939-2001

Myrna Crow, a native of Scurry County, died Thursday, April 12, in Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene following a lengthy illness.

Funeral service for Mrs. Crow, 61, is set for 11 a.m. Saturday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Charles Lindsey, minister of the Big Lake Church of Christ, will officiate. Burial will follow in the Snyder Cemetery.

Born Oct. 26, 1939 in Scurry County, she married George Crow on Jan. 17, 1958 in Snyder.

Mrs. Crow, a homemaker and secretary, had lived in the Big Lake-Barnhart area for about 10 years. A member of the Big Lake Church of Christ, Mrs. Crow had also lived in Seminole for 20 years.

Survivors include her husband, George Crow of Barnhart; two daughters and sons-in-law, Janna and Ronnie Cook and Alissa and Marlin Scott, all of Stanton; a son, Michael Crow of Midland; two sisters, Joy Richardson and Lynn Bosley, both of Snyder; a brother, E.J. Moore of Paragould, Ark., and six grandchildren.

Friends are contributing to the Texas Cancer Center, 1957 Antilly Road in Abilene, 79606.

Mary Jamison

1942-2001

Mary Elizabeth Jamison of Snyder died Sunday, April 8, in Kristi Lee Manor in Colorado City.

Mrs. Jamison, 58, will be cremated. A memorial service is set for 10:30 a.m. Saturday in the First Baptist Church. Hospice chaplain Walter McCall will officiate and arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.



Mary Jamison

She was born Aug. 5, 1942 in Arkansas and had worked as a bookkeeper and was in the Coast Guard for a short time. Moving to Snyder in 1999, she had worked at Western Texas College as a dorm clerk.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Tina and Russell Cearley of Snyder; her parents, Lester and Virginia Riegel of Sacramento, Calif.; a sister and brother-in-law, Linda and Roger Hagedorn of Sacramento; a brother and sister-in-law, John and Linda Riegel of Santa Rosa, Calif.; three grandchildren, Tarra Cearley of Florida, Donald Wright and his wife, Mary, of Snyder, and Mariah Cearley of Snyder; three nieces, Michelle, Lisa and Christine; and three great-grandchildren.

Troy Stewart

1941-2001

A memorial service for Troy Calvin Stewart, 59, is set for 4 p.m. Saturday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Mike Henson, pastor of the First Baptist Church, will officiate. Cremation is planned.

Mr. Stewart, a resident of Snyder since October, died Thursday, April 12, at his home.

Born Aug. 18, 1941 in Shelby, Miss., he married Betty Fenton on Aug. 26, 1962 in San Diego, Calif.

Mr. Stewart moved to Snyder from Indio, Calif., owned a rental business and was a member of the Jehovah Witness Kingdom Hall.

He was preceded in death by his father; one brother and one sister.

Survivors include his wife, Betty Stewart of Indio; two daughters, Samantha Jones of LaQuinta, Calif., and Sonna Koken of Homeland, Colo.; two sons, Reagan Stewart of Washington State and Troy Allen Stewart of Pagosa Springs, Colo.; his mother, Faye Stewart of Sweetwater; 13 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Katie Evans

1907-2001

ABILENE – Katie Bell Evans, the mother of Hub Evans of Snyder, died Thursday, April 12, in an Abilene hospital.

Funeral service for Mrs. Evans, 93, is set for 3 p.m. Saturday in the Elliott-Hamil Funeral Home Chapel with Charles Beebe officiating. Burial will follow in Elmwood Memorial Park.

Born in Hamburg, Ark., she married Rufus Hubbard "Hub" Evans Sr. on June 28, 1925. He died in 1998.

She also was preceded in death by a son, Joe Merle Evans in 1982; four brothers; a sister; a granddaughter; and a great-granddaughter.

Mrs. Evans moved to Abilene from Nacogdoches in 1927. She was a homemaker and a member of the Southside Church of Christ.

Survivors include two other sons, Allen Evans of Thurber and Jim Evans of McAllen; a daughter, Janice Smith of View; 13 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

Gary Sharp

1953-2001

Services are pending at Wright Colonial Funeral Home for Gary C. Sharp of Snyder.

Mr. Sharp, 48, died from injuries sustained in a motorcycle-truck wreck Thursday, April 12, in Lubbock.

Mr. Sharp was employed by TXU Gas Co. He was born on Jan. 1, 1953 and is survived by his wife, Margie, of the home, three children, and one grandchild.

WCFH

Independently Owned & Operated

WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME

200 East 37th St. Snyder, Texas

915-573-6200

FOR INFORMATION GO TO WWW.AMERICANMEMORIALS.COM

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

VFW car wash

The Veterans of Foreign Wars will sponsor a car wash at Wal-Mart Saturday starting at 9 a.m. Also an enchilada luncheon will be served from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, April 21, at West Elementary cafeteria.

Easter egg hunt

Walmart will have an Easter egg hunt at 11 a.m. Saturday for children ages 1-10. The cost is a $1 donation which will benefit the Children's Miracle Network. The children will also have a chance to win a bike or Wal-Mart Gift Card.

Country and gospel music

Country and Gospel music is set for 6 p.m. Saturday at the Senior Citizens Center. Call 573-3996 for more information.

Brown bag lunch

A brown bag lunch will be hosted by Western Texas college at noon Monday in the Fine Arts Gallery. Michael Gibson will perform musical selections on the piano. The public is invited.

Community coalition

The community coalition will meet at 6 p.m. Monday at the Snyder Area Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

Bible study tapes

Bible study videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 p.m. Monday is "God Has Spoken Through the Prophets," followed by "Called to a Holy Calling."

Mexican salad supper

Hermleigh's Relay for Life team will host a Mexican salad supper at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Hermleigh school cafeteria. Cost is $5 for adults and $2.50 for children under 12. Tickets will be sold for a wooden glider donated by Brice and Joyce Fuqua. Other items will be auctioned, and all proceeds go to the American Cancer Society. In addition, a booster club meeting will follow the dinner at 7:30 to discuss the all-activities banquet. Parents of junior and senior high students are asked to attend.

WTC spring formal

WTC will hold a Fantasy Voyage spring formal starting at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Student Center. Cost of the dinner for non-campus students is $6. Admission to the dance that starts at 9 a.m. is free. Photos will be taken from 8-10 p.m. and cost is $10 per couple.

Fair meeting

The Scurry County Fair Association will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the chamber of commerce office. Anyone interested in getting the fair started again is invited.

FBC worship service

The First Baptist Church worship service airs at 3 p.m. each Thursday on TV Channel 2.

West family reading night

West Elementary will have only three more family reading nights this school year. The sessions will be from 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, and May 3 and May 10. New sessions have been added. Childcare and refreshments are provided.

Alzheimer support group

The Alzheimer family support group meets at 6 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at Snyder Oaks Care Center.

Parents of seniors

Parents of SHS seniors should send $20 for the steak supper and all-night party for the Class of 2001 to P.O. Box 768 in Snyder.

Adult basic education classes

Adult basic education classes at WTC are held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. until noon, and from 6-9 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. Classes include E.S.L., GED and refresher courses. Certified teachers and Spanish-speaking aides teach these classes. Test sessions are slated April 20 and April 27. Call 573-8511, ext. 322.

Senior citizens swimnastics

Snyder Senior Citizen Center swimnastics is held from 1-2 p.m. on Thursdays, and from 10-11 a.m. on Mondays. For additional information, call 573-4035.

WTC swimming pool

The WTC swimming pool is now open for public use. Lap swimming: M-F 6:30-8 a.m., and 12-1 p.m. Open swimming: M-TH 7-9 p.m. Cost is $2 per person or $50 for a semester pass. The pool is also available for parties on Fridays and Saturdays. For more information, contact Lisa Christensen at 573-8511, ext. 290.

Cancer treatment transportation

Transportation for cancer patients is available every day free of charge to Lubbock, Abilene or Midland. For more information, call Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993 or Blakely Fargason at 574-8041. If not home, leave message on answering machine.

Floods plague Midwest states

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — The Midwest's swollen rivers weren't expected to crest as high as earlier feared, forecasters said today. But with many rivers above flood stage and still rising, residents weren't taking chances.

Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura helped pile sandbags in Moorhead, Minn., as residents along the Red River fought to shore up emergency dikes and protect homes and businesses.

"I think what you offer them is: 'Jump in and help them,'" Ventura said Thursday, urging more people to help out. "I think that's the best encouragement."

Fargo officials reported only minor problems overnight, but remained on alert.

"We think everything is done, for the most part," Mayor Bruce Furness said today. "We need to remain vigilant and watch this."

To the south, Breckenridge, Minn., Mayor Cliff Barth said crews were working to fix a sanitary sewer main that probably broke due to a weak pipe under pressure from flooding.

Barth said it would be repaired by Saturday. The 3,600 residents were asked to cut water usage

APR 13 2001

Hundreds of thousands of tax cheats allowed to slide

NEW YORK (AP) — The Internal Revenue Service has virtually given up trying to go after more than a million tax delinquents — a move that effectively wrote off more than $2.5 billion in taxes owed to the government last year alone, The New York Times reported today.

Citing documents provided by an unidentified IRS executive, the Times reported that more than one-third of the 3 million Americans who are late on tax payments have had their cases sent to an inactive file since June 1999, when the IRS decided to stop pursuing them. Last year, 668,018 cases were sent to the file compared to 98 cases in 1998, the documents said.

Some of the cases involved tens of thousands of dollars. But the IRS defined them as too small to pursue given the agency's resources, said David A. Mader, assistant deputy commissioner of the IRS.

From 1992 to 2000, the IRS' staff was reduced from 115,000 to 97,000 while the number of tax returns filed increased by 10 percent. During that period, the number of audits the agency performs fell by two-thirds and seizures of property to pay back taxes declined by 99 percent.

On Thursday, the newly created, independent IRS Oversight Board reported that the IRS budget increase proposed by President Bush is too little to address agency problems ranging from outmoded computers to declining enforcement activity.

The board said in its 24-page report that the agency's budget for the fiscal year that begins Oct. 1 should be $10.2 billion, or nearly 9 percent higher than Bush's request of $9.4 billion.

"It is well known that the IRS is broken," said the board's chairman, Larry Levitan, a former partner at Andersen Consulting. "Service to taxpayers is inadequate and enforcement levels have dropped to a dangerous level, giving the impression that it's easy to get away with cheating."

The board, created by Congress in 1998 to help manage the IRS, urged lawmakers to approve more than $1.2 billion to cover the next two years of work in modernizing the agency's antiquated computer system. Bush recommended almost $400 million for the 2002 fiscal year for the technology account.

Bush's budget also would result in 1,300 fewer employees hired than the board recommended to end a decade-long staff reduction that has contributed to the sharp drop in audits and other enforcement activities and prevented the IRS from providing proper taxpayer service. At the same time, the board said, demand is increasing for services such as taxpayer education, traffic at walk-in sites and phone calls.

In a written statement, Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill said Bush's budget "requested adequate resources to fund necessary IRS improvements." It represents a 7 percent increase over the year before, he added.

"I am confident that the amount in the president's budget will allow the IRS to provide America's taxpayers with better quality service and help to enforce the tax law with integrity and fairness," O'Neill said.

Boycott of tests being organized

SCARSDALE, N.Y. (AP) — Saying standardized tests are ineffective and superficial, some parents in this upscale New York City suburb are planning to keep their children home during state assessment exams this spring.

Deborah Rapaport, a leader of the boycott campaign, said she hopes up to half of the approximately 300 eighth-graders at Scarsdale Middle School will stay home when the tests are given starting next month.

"The standardized tests are almost entirely a measure of very superficial knowledge," Rapaport said. "They don't measure real learning, real understanding."

The effort is part of a nationwide movement to resist what critics see as an overuse of standardized tests in the name of raising educational standards. Opponents say the exams force teachers to emphasize only material that will be tested instead of developing a deeper, more well-balanced curriculum.

Alan Ray, a spokesman for the state Education Department, said the purpose of the tests is to identify students who need remedial help.

"We never advise anyone to teach to the test," Ray said.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Saturday, April 14, 2001

There are strong indications that you could get involved in a venture in the year ahead that will open up all kinds of other possibilities for you. Something good will come out of each.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Don't let any problem stop your forward progress, even if the control appears to be in someone else's hands. Step in and take the initiative to right the situation.

Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Use your talent for unwinding situations others have left in a mess to benefit all today. Don't get angry. Direct all that energy to create a positive conclusion.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Sometimes closely observing the successful ways of others goes right over our heads. Today, however, another person's techniques can be discerned and used advantageously by you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Because you're likely to be actively motivated today, you'll put out the necessary effort needed to achieve the material compensation you desire.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Don't stand back watching another wallow in despair. Use your ability to inspire this person out of a negative perspective and into a positive frame of mind that could help him or her.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) If you lie around waiting for chance to make things occur, you'll be idle for a long time. Get yourself stimulated to change things for the better by authoring your own script.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Everything depends upon the company you keep today. If you choose to share your time with a do-nothing, that's what you'll accomplish. Find an exciting individual who loves to be on the go.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Instead of focusing on the old, get your mind and energy geared to progressive projects that offer rewards. Entrepreneurial endeavors can reap substantial returns today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) When it comes to social activities today, you're the one who is going to have to be the motivating force. Others don't possess your enthusiasm to get things rolling.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) If there are obstacles strewn in your path today, pick them up and toss them aside. Once the path is clear, it'll be smooth going all the way.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) The secret to success today is to dwell in the realm of positive expectations. By doing so, you'll encourage inspiration and creative thoughts to take over and make your day.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) An involvement that could be meaningful to you financially should be given top priority today. The chances of working out all the bugs are better then ever.

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Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Give an injury some time to heal

DEAR DR. GOTT: Last summer, while doing heavy gardening, I pulled a muscle in my groin. My doctor, a urologist and an orthopedist all agreed that this injury was painful but trivial and would heal. Thus far, it hasn't. I'm still in pain. Why does the healing take so long?

DEAR READER: Probably because in the daily routine of walking, bending, driving and so forth, you repeatedly stress the strained tissues, which really never get a fair chance to rest and heal. Try reducing your activity and using an anti-inflammatory drug, such as Motrin or Advil. If this strategy doesn't work, consider a course of physical therapy.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My friend, who has two children, ages 13 and 11, claims that when her children get sick, it's "usually a virus that no medicine cures. It just has to work its way out."

It seems to me that modern medicine should see things differently and have a drug for cure. Isn't there a tonic to bolster children's immune systems?

DEAR READER: Sorry, but your friend is right on the money. Most illnesses in both children and adults are caused by viral infections for which there is no panacea. In fact, even with something as ubiquitous as middle ear infections in children, studies have shown that 90 percent of kids get better without antibiotics.

Most people are surprised to learn that most self-limited virus infections — such as the common cold, upper respiratory ailments and gastroenteritis — cure themselves within about five days. Treatment consists of medicine to alleviate symptoms, such as fever, while the body's immune system combats and overcomes the microorganisms.

There are exceptions, of course. Illnesses lasting more than a week or those that cause severe symptoms (such as headache and unrelenting fever) should be brought to a doctor's attention. But, by and large, children overcome the trivial, common afflictions by getting more rest, increasing fluid consumption and taking it easy. At the present time, there is no universal potion that will prevent children — or adults, for that matter — from catching these self-limiting illnesses.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My sister has been diagnosed with Shy-Drager syndrome. We are told there is no cure. What is this rare disease?

DEAR READER: Shy-Drager syndrome is an extremely uncommon neurological disorder marked by widespread nerve malfunction leading to tremors, difficulty walking, low blood pressure when standing, incontinence, decreased sweating and trouble breathing. The cause of the disease is unknown, but may be a genetic abnormality. Treatment includes drugs to stimulate the deficient nerves and constrict the flabby blood vessels. Although there is no cure, the affliction is treatable.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I had an infection at the root of one tooth. I was put on antibiotics and had many attacks of atrial flutter and atrial fibrillation. I had to be treated several times. Finally the tooth was removed, but I had months of major problems resulting from it. Please tell your readers about the danger of neglecting such an important problem.

DEAR READER: Although dental infections would be an unusual cause of heartbeat disorders such as atrial flutter or fibrillation, I appreciate your taking the time to write about your experiences. Certainly, infections can temporarily upset body metabolism and should be treated promptly.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Understanding Heart Disease." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

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