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WT-Int. Crude - $27.78
WTIC Posted - $25.25

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

TUESDAY
March 28, 2000
Vol. 51 No. 283
10 Pages 50¢

Home Of Mary Braziel

H.E.P.A. poised to sue Air Force

By Wade Warren
SDN Managing Editor

While the number of people might not have been what the H.E.P.A. had hoped for in the group's first general membership meeting Monday, supporters may find comfort in a paraphrase of an old saying: "It's not the quantity on your team, but the quality of players."

Organizers were hoping for 1,200 people – just over 300 were in attendance – to hear how they could help with the fight against the Air Force plan to add training flights of B-1 and B-52 bombers over an eight-county area that includes Scurry County.

And all 300 present appeared to be ready to aid in the fight the group says will ruin the quality of life for everyone in a 3,254 square-mile area of the proposed flight-training area.

To no one's surprise, those in attendance found out that a court fight to suppress the flight plans will be costly.

Rancher John Oudt said he estimated the cost of a lawsuit against the Air Force to run up to $400,000.

"If we are forced to go to trial to stop the Air Force plan, it will cost us from $250,000 to $400,000," Oudt said.

Oudt said the board of directors of H.E.P.A. has already given its approval to file suit, if necessary. "And we are committed to raise money to meet the challenge."

Oudt said some $160,000 had already been raised before Monday's meeting. "We've had five people give us $25,000 each."

Now that number is six.

Long-time Kermit-area rancher and champion of private property rights, Tom Linebery, gave the group another $25,000 check during the meeting.

Linebery, who is 89, told the crowd, which gave him a standing ovation when his donation was announced, that "with what little time I have left, I will fight for our property rights."

Buster Welch, president and founder of H.E.P.A., said this morning that the group will file suit "the minute the Air Force files their record of decision."

That could be as early as this week as Major John Boyles said today that he is expecting word on the final plan from the Pentagon before the end of the week.

Welch, Oudt, and Santa Fe attorney Frank Bond all addressed the group, as did Lubbock real estate appraiser, Sam Middleton.

Middleton said he has been selling ranches in this area, but not to ranchers.

"Sales of ranches now are driven totally by recreation," said Middleton. "If the recreation buyers are eliminated by the Air Force flights, then you won't get much for your land."

Welch has said many times that he is for a strong, well-trained Air Force, but it should not be at the expense of private land owners.

Welch says his greatest fear is that the quality of life in this area will be ruined if the Air Force is allowed to proceed.

"We're more important than any spotted owls," said Welch.

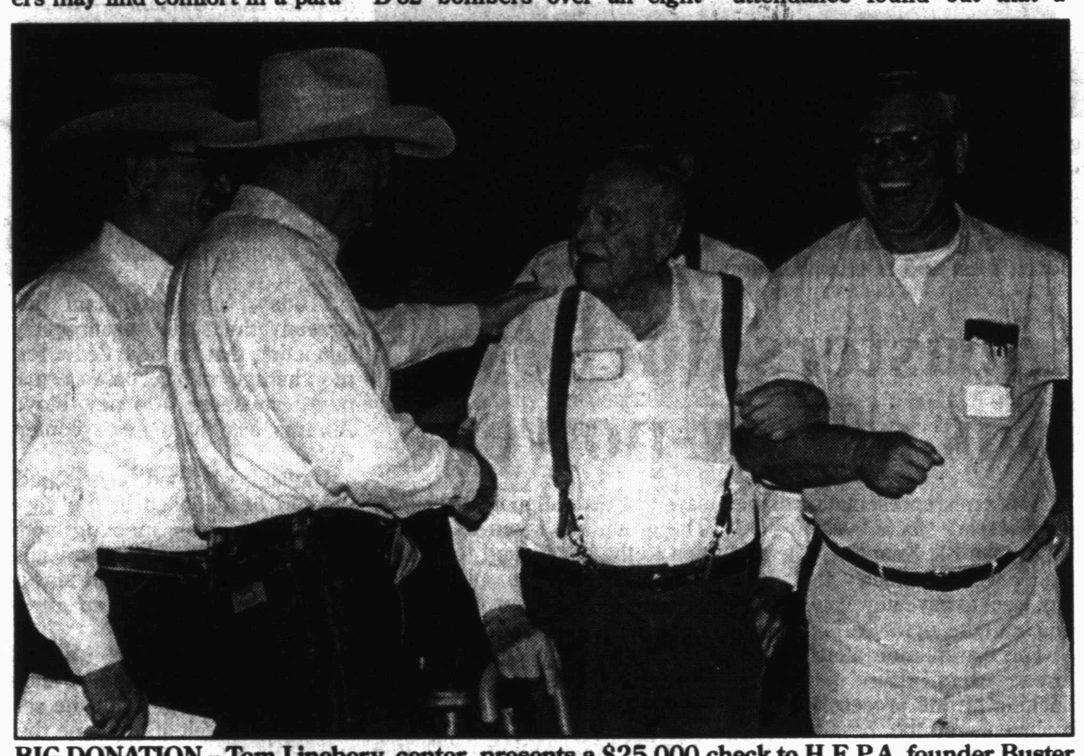
Bond, who will lead the legal team for H.E.P.A. if a lawsuit is filed, said the group must stand together.

"If we don't stand up to the Air Force now, we won't be able to stand at all," said Bond. "They (the Air Force) have a team of attorneys which will make your head swim. But behind me, will be all of you."

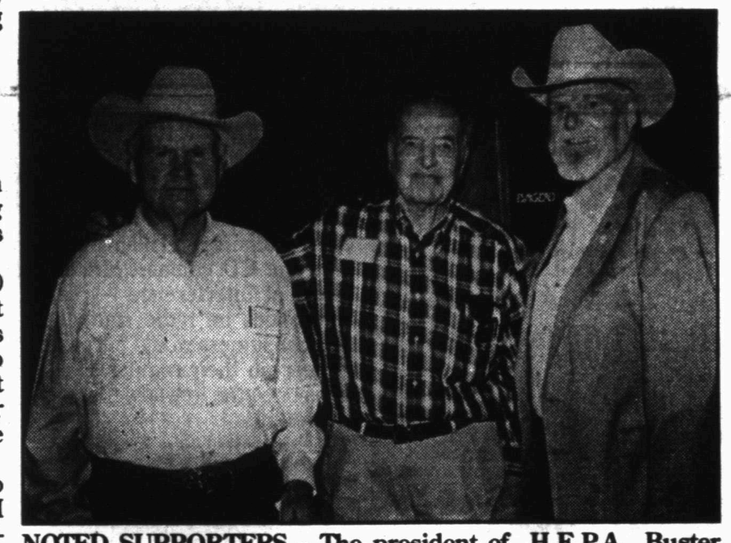
Entertainer Red Steagall performed, and also told the group that ranchers and landowners must protect what is theirs in order to preserve it for future generations.

A final decision on the flight-training was expected earlier this month, but a protest by the city of Lubbock delayed the announcement.

Bond said Lubbock officials have now withdrawn their protest with the understanding that the city's concerns about impact on commercial aviation will be addressed at a later date.



BIG DONATION – Tom Linebery, center, presents a $25,000 check to H.E.P.A. founder Buster Welch during Monday night's meeting at the Wagon Wheel Ranch. Others shown are John Oudt, far left, and Doug Grimes, right, of the Linebery-Scarborough Foundation – a group promoting property rights. (SDN Photo by Wade Warren)



NOTED SUPPORTERS – The president of H.E.P.A., Buster Welch, visits with two of those in attendance at Monday's meeting. Shown with Welch are legendary Brownwood High School football coach Gordon Wood, center, and entertainer Red Steagall. (SDN Staff Photo)

THE SDN COLUMN
By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "If at first you don't succeed, try management."

Sometimes it is impossible to give an answer, much less a concise one.

In the Ask Us feature, it's our staff's goal to go to the source for the answer, and to present it as briefly and directly as possible. Often a "yes" or "no" is sufficient.

There are times when it is impossible to answer an inquiry when someone asks us to get into the minds of a board made up of six or seven people.

"What were they thinking..." "Would the board like to have..."

The same is often true of questions directed at the newspaper. For example, we recently announced that the home-delivery price of the newspaper would increase 25 cents per month to help the carriers offset the increased cost of gasoline at the pumps.

Since the Snyder Daily News is delivered 26 times a month, it was noted that the 25-cent increase represented less than a penny a day for delivery.

There's not been an avalanche of calls, but there have been enough to warrant at least a further explanation and "answer" to the most-often-asked question.

"If gas prices go down, will the price increase be rescinded?

The brief Ask Us answer is "maybe, but probably not."

First, fuel is only one component of determining the price for the newspaper. The two more important elements of newspaper pricing is P&P – paper and people.

Newsprint (the paper on which newspapers are printed) has been steadily increasing the past six months. More increases have been announced. Also, the cost of freight to Snyder is impacted by higher fuel costs.

The cost of labor increases with inflation. Proposed hikes in the minimum wage affects the costs of putting out a newspaper, and the minimum wage has an upward influence on higher wages as well.

Despite efforts of all business to hold down costs, newspapers too have to deal with normal inflation. Insurance, utilities, interest rates, printed forms, repairs, maintenance and expected donations - as well as local, state and federal taxes - are just some of the elements of the price-setting equation.

When all is said and done, there is hope that there is enough profit to operate another month. It's not our intent to be a non-profit organization.

Since the penny-per-day increase is going to the carrier, it is possible that the SDN would actually have to shoulder some of the increase for up to a year.

For example, a person who had a year's subscription paid up, the increase would not be effective for 12 months. However, the carrier gets credit for the increase starting April 1.

We thank you for asking...and for reading.

District sets up reserve

By Joyce May
SDN Staff Writer

Scurry County Appraisal District board of directors voted to set up a reserve for replacement and contingency fund with carryover from the 1999 appraisal budget.

A total of $23,558.79 was left from the 1999 budget.

From that amount, $2,000 was taken to cover increases in health insurance costs in 2000 and $2,500 was used to purchase a new printer for the office.

The board agreed this morning to set aside some $6,000 for maintenance costs to repair the building.

Chief Appraiser Larry Crooks said the exterior of the building has cracks and water is leaking inside the building, resulting in damage to interior walls.

Crooks said he has contacted two contractors and both said it will be necessary to fill in the large cracks with some type of mortar and then paint over the building with a sealant.

The board directed Crooks to also check with a company that specializes in masonry work.

With those expenses subtracted, $13,053 is left over and will be placed in the reserve for replacement and contingency items.

The purpose of the reserves would be to set aside money each year in anticipation of replacing equipment, such as computers and printers.

For instance, the IBM AS400 computer the appraisal district just purchased cost $28,800. It's estimated life is eight years, so there is the possibility the district may need to purchase another computer somewhere down the road, Crooks said.

"I think it's good business to set aside so much," he added. "I think it is a better way to anticipate what is going to happen."

The reserves could also be used in the event the appraisal district must go to court to settle a disagreement on valuation.

The carryover funds could be credited back to each of the taxing entities that fund the appraisal district. However, if in the future the district needs to purchase equipment or has some other large expense, the taxing entities would have to come up with the money.

"If we run into these expenses later on, they'd have to pay on them anyway," board member Ross Carroll Jr. said.

In other business, board members signed the oath of office and elected officers.

Harold Lacik again will serve as chairman and Carroll will serve as vice chairman. Joe Flowers, who is new to the board, was elected secretary.

Joe Hefner, Donald Tate and Sid Wall were re-appointed to serve on the agriculture advisory board, as recommended by Chief Appraiser Larry Crooks.

The advisory board assists the

See DISTRICT Page 9

Les Woods named regional director



Les Woods

Les Woods, the warden who opened the Price Daniel Unit in 1987, has been promoted to regional director by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Woods, senior warden at the Allread Unit in Wichita Falls, becomes the Region II regional director with the oversight of 15 units in the Palestine area. The regional office is located at Tennessee Colony.

"It's an awesome responsbility," Woods said. "But we have good people all over and I am looking forward to the challenge."

Woods moved to Snyder in April, 1989 to begin preparation for the August opening of the Daniel unit, the first TDCJ facility to open in West Texas.

Woods served as Daniel unit warden until September, 1993 when he became warden of the McConnell Unit in Beeville. He opened the Allread unit in Wichita Falls in 1995.

Bob Parker, a former assistant warden at the Daniel unit, will replace Woods in Wichita Falls. Parker has been serving as warden of the Lynaugh unit in Fort Stockton.

Price Daniel lockdown is over

The lockdown of the Price Daniel Unit ended at 5 p.m. Monday, according to Senior Warden Wilhelmenia Howard.

"We found some items that could be used as weapons, but most of the contraband found is what we classify as "nuisance contraband," the warden said.

"The lockdown gave us an opportunity to really clean up the unit," she added.

Howard said some tobacco products were found – the use is banned in prison units by the staff and inmates – but were in common areas of the unit.

"It was really impossible to tell who the tobacco belonged to," said Howard. "We're just glad it's over so we can get our community units back working in town."

Donate today until 7 p.m....

Blood drive is continuing

The community wide blood drive continues through 7 this evening in the First Baptist Church Family Life Center.

On Wednesday, the donations will be taken at Western Texas College from 8 a.m. until noon and at Cogdell Memorial Hospital from 2 to 6 p.m.

Price Daniel Unit employees will have the chance to donate blood Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Cogdell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and the Scurry County Advisory Council for United Blood Services sponsor the blood drive.

ASK US

Q—How does the present level at Lake Thomas compare to the same time last year?

A—Last year, the lake was 3.26 percent full. Today, the percentage is 15.66.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Monday, 79 degrees; low, 52; 7 a.m. Tuesday, 56; no precipitation; total for 2000, 7.31 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, partly cloudy; low 45-50; W wind 10-20 mph. Wednesday, partly cloudy, cooler. High mid to upper 70s. NW wind 10-15 mph.



Sabrina Fuentes
Cooler

Sunset: 7:01 p.m.
Sunrise: 6:36 a.m.
Of 87 days in 2000, the sun has shown 85 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Champions believe in themselves, even when others do not.

MAR 28 2000

Yosemite National Park to be kept wild under plan

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Nearly 95 percent of Yosemite National Park, more than 704,000 acres, is wilderness. Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt wants more.

Babbitt on Monday outlined a long-awaited development plan that he says will restore and protect the splendor of the park that stretches along California's eastern flank.

The 500-page draft summary called the Yosemite Valley Plan seeks to scale back parking, move buildings, remove roads, reduce campsites and establish a 150-foot wide protected zone along most of the Merced River.

Some environmentalists say the plan doesn't go far enough. Others who use the park for recreation fear it will mean restrictions.

At the heart of the plan is a shuttle bus system that would ferry day visitors in from three expanded lots at the main entrances, reducing the flow of traffic by 60 percent.

The plan also calls for converting a portion of a popular road through the valley into a bike and foot trail and studying for five years how the valley's habitats are affected by current crowds.

"This is not about turning people away from the park," Babbitt said. "The problem is not that there's too many people. The problem is there's too many cars."

If approved by the National Park Service, the plan would be the culmination of a 20-year battle to reduce human footprints in the seven-mile long, one-mile wide Yosemite Valley, the main destination for park visitors.

The process is far from over. Babbitt encouraged supporters and critics to make their voices heard during the 90-day comment period beginning April 7.

Set aside in 1890, Yosemite's alpine wilderness, groves of Giant Sequoias and Yosemite Valley draw nearly 4 million visitors a year and 7,000 cars on a busy summer day.

"I really think the plan finds an elegant balance between park protection and visitor use and enjoyment," said Jay Watson, regional director for The Wilderness Society, which played a lead role in the proposal. "The Park Service should be applauded for listening to the public in putting this thing together."

But other environmental groups, including the Sierra Club, said the draft report was released too early, before the separate Merced River Plan has been finalized.

"The Merced River forms the heart of the valley ... There isn't a way to evaluate the Yosemite Plan until the river plan is done," said Sierra Club spokeswoman Joyce Eden.

The Yosemite draft reflects the somewhat controversial mission by federal land managers to protect wildlife and habitats — sometimes at the expense of visitor freedom or by excluding snowmobiles, jet skis, tour planes and other recreational vehicles.

"They do pollute the environment and just the use of them is skyrocketing," said Elaine Sevy, a park service spokeswoman.



SECOND PLACE — Snyder High School students placed second at the district UIL academic meet held at Howard College Saturday. Back row, from left, Wade Ashby, Trevor Kerr, Ryan McAnally, Lyndell Lee, Cole McLeod, Trey Gorman; middle row, Cara Best, Alesha Miller, Justin Guy, Melinda Langham, Liz Brown, D'Ann Hager, Kaycee Marricle, Tiffany Sutter; front row, Jenny Mayer, Laura Greenwood, Angie Showmake, Amber Haarmeyer, Jennifer Bell, Sandra Nussey; Not pictured are Rebecca West and Michael Gibson. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

FCC, broadcasters duel over radio stations of low-power

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal regulators and broadcasters are waging an unusually public battle over a plan to license hundreds of microradio stations, each side accusing the other of using misleading information to prove their point.

Broadcasters and others say that the creation of these low-power radio stations — operating at 10 and 100 watts — would cause serious interference with regular full-power FM radio stations.

But top officials at the Federal Communications Commission called a news conference Monday to rebut those allegations. They said a CD that the National Association of Broadcasters circulated on Capitol Hill is misleading. The CD contains simulated levels of interference — songs and voices on radio stations — that consumers would purportedly hear on their regular FM stations once the low-power stations are set up.

"It is a misrepresentation of the engineering facts," said FCC Chairman Bill Kennard. "Clearly, you have an industry that does not want to have new voices coming onto the airwaves."

The commission attacked the broadcasters' claims as it was kicking off the process to select recipients of the new licenses. Applications for the first batch of channels will be accepted in May.

FCC engineers did their own demonstration to show that even with a radio signal strength much higher than what they are permitting, people listening to FM stations on their portable, clock or home radios would not hear significant interference or any cross-talk at all.

"Interference claims are nothing new at the FCC," said FCC Commissioner Gloria Tristani. She stressed that the agency took a conservative approach in giving the green light for the low-power program.

But the broadcasting lobby says that tests support its claims. The group has taken its opposition to the courts and to Capitol Hill, where it has gained the backing of a number of lawmakers. Legislation to undo the FCC's rules implementing low-power radio has been introduced in the Senate and is winding through the House.

"The undeniable fact is that hundreds of thousands of radio listeners will experience additional interference as a result of" low-power radio, said NAB spokesman Dennis Wharton. The association has added to its Web site audio interference samples.

NAB is not the only group that has raised questions about the plan. National Public Radio has asked the FCC to delay implementation of the plan, fearing that it could interfere with radio reading services for the blind and visually impaired. Such services are carried on subcarrier channels.

Scientists find gene needed to fatten up

NEW YORK (AP) — Scientists have created strains of mice that can eat a high-fat diet without getting chubby using a single gene that might lead to a new obesity treatment for people.

In its normal form, the gene, called HMGIC, apparently helps mice make more cells to store fat when they have been eating a fatty diet, researchers said. But the mice in the experiment had a defective version of the gene.

They apparently failed to create storage cells in response to the high-fat diet, and so avoided putting on weight, the researchers said in the April issue of the journal Nature Genetics.

The finding could lead to a human obesity treatment if scientists can find a drug that interferes with the effect of the normal HMGIC gene, said Kiran Chada, a biochemistry professor at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and senior author of the paper. He is also president of a company formed to develop products related to the gene.

Dr. Bradford Lowell, an obesity expert at Harvard Medical School, said it will take a lot more work to find out how promising Chada's approach would be for humans.

Dr. Rudy Leibel, an obesity expert at Columbia University in New York, said if a person's supply of fat-storing cells were restricted, fat might build up in the liver instead. That could seriously interfere with liver function, he said.

Chada said he has seen no sign of fatty liver buildup in the mice.

Mice born with the genetic defect develop only about 10 percent of the normal amount of body fat but are otherwise normal, Chada said. Mutant mice that ate a high-fat diet for six months didn't put on any more weight than mutants that ate a standard diet.

Normal mice, in contrast, did become obese on the high-fat diet. All three groups of mice ate about the same amount.

On the Net: Journal site: http://www.journal.com/ng

Legal battle over exhibit nears its end

NEW YORK (AP) — The city and the Brooklyn Museum of Art have reached a truce in a heated six-month legal battle sparked by an exhibit featuring a dung-decorated painting of the Virgin Mary.

In a settlement signed Monday and approved by U.S. District Judge Nina Gershon, both sides agreed to drop dueling lawsuits over the "Sensation" exhibit and pay their own legal fees.

The judge specifically barred Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and the city from inflicting "any punishment, retaliation, discrimination or sanction of any kind" against the museum.

The deal also commits the city to spend $5.8 million over two years for a museum renovation project.

The settlement came six months after Giuliani — calling the painting "sick" — froze an annual $7.2 million operating subsidy for the museum, then sued in state court to evict it from its city-owned site.

The judge declared the sanctions unconstitutional late last year in a preliminary order restoring funding. The mayor refused to back down and appealed her decision.

"Today, Mayor Giuliani has agreed that the preliminary injunction that he ridiculed a few months ago will become permanent," museum attorney Floyd Abrams said at a news conference.

Giuliani, who had been scheduled to be deposed in the case next week, was meeting with Republican leaders in Albany and raising funds in Cleveland for his U.S. Senate bid and had no immediate response.

Corporation Counsel Michael Hess insisted the administration was "very gratified" with the settlement. "We felt at this time that it was time to end the hostilities on both sides," he said.

Museum officials, meanwhile, portrayed the agreement as a resounding victory for the museum — and for free speech. Abrams characterized the City Hall offensive as "one of the most dangerous assaults on the First Amendment" that he had seen as a veteran constitutional lawyer.

On the Net: http://www.brooklynart.org

16 children hurt

CROSBY (AP) — A school bus skidded on a slick road and rolled onto its side this morning, slightly injuring 16 students.

The 16, out of 31 children on board, were taken to hospitals as a precaution, Crosby Independent School District spokeswoman Sue Heaslet said. The accident happened between 7 and 7:30 a.m.

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Berry's World

TV RATINGS FOR NBA GAMES ARE DOWN 20 PERCENT. ANY SUGGESTIONS?

EASY, MAN! PUT SOME PROFESSIONAL WRESTLERS ON THE TEAM AND HAVE CHEERLEADERS DO A STRIPTEASE.



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A CHRIST-CENTERED PRESCHOOL PROGRAM OFFERED FOR AGES 1-5

PRE-REGISTRATION
FOR THE 2000-2001 SCHOOL YEAR
BEGINS
MONDAY, APRIL 3
9:00 A.M.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
1701 27TH STREET 915/573-7401

Mother's Day Out
Pre-registration

for the 2000-2001 School Year



Begins
Monday, April 3
9:00 a.m.

Ages 3 months- 5 years

First Baptist Church
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915/573-7401

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Ask For Connie or Rachael

Lifestyles

Garc

By The Asso

Your shoppin den goes beyo and soil. These items on the ma

— Bamboo Not to grow, Supply Compan strong, flexible resistant trellise other structure firm offers the some, such as b 5-foot, 10-inch po foot poles, $44.9 boo stakes, $10. cord with a tac (400 feet, $11.9 structures. If yo fences or gates, structural bam poles, 1-11/2 inc $29.95). You can ing or reviewing ing Bamboo Fen es" bulletin, whic

Nutri

Can vitam

DEAR DR. BL is the connectio carotene and lung plement contains min A and, althoug my father, who did years, died from C.S. San Diego, Ca

Dear C.S.: Th carotene raises the cer is a bit much carrot-colored com many vegetables h ated with a decreas cancers. Nonethe about such a conne made, due prima study published in land Journal of M another example needs a little persp to understand exac about. One thing The headlines may your interest, but t the information in t

The study was co land using 29,133 n and 69 years of ag pants were recruite survey and assign receiving either be milligrams, or abou 1.5 carrots), synth (50 milligrams), bot were smokers, hav of 20.4 cigarettes smoked for an a years before the st The supplements six years and the in cancer was recor showed that taking or vitamin E suppl decrease the risk There was, howeve dence of lung canc only took the beta c ment.

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Lung cancers ar for at least five year long as several d symptoms surface toms of lung cance coughing, weigh



Homer Anderson
Minister

Paul wrote, Christ have pu appearance m were evil. For prayed for the ised. It was a He would be li not recognize However, it is Christ is realiz lives. He is rea life." In Christ we have put o

Gardeners' shopping list more than plants

By The Associated Press

Your shopping list for the garden goes beyond plants, seeds and soil. These are some new items on the market:

— Bamboo in your garden? Not to grow, says Gardener's Supply Company, but to use for strong, flexible, naturally rot-resistant trellises, supports and other structures. The catalog firm offers the basics and then some, such as bamboo poles (12 5-foot, 10-inch poles, $14.95; 50 7-foot poles, $44.95; 25 3-foot bamboo stakes, $10.50) and lashing cord with a tacky wax coating (400 feet, $11.95) to secure the structures. If you want to form fences or gates, consider thick structural bamboo (10 6-foot poles, 1-11/2 inches in diameter, $29.95). You can start by requesting or reviewing online the "Making Bamboo Fences and Trellises" bulletin, which has ideas and advice for making your bamboo project. For catalogs, orders, or the bulletin, call 1 (800) 955-3370; Web site is gardeners.com.

— Poly is the great impersonator for durable Stone Edge lawn edging and Deco-Garden fencing from Ames-True Temper. Choose the edging in natural, terra cotta, or slate gray; the low fencing comes in Promotional, Wrought Iron, and Cape Cod stylings. Each pack ($5.95) has four 2-foot sections, which can be installed with a mallet.

— Just as Velcro made fastening things easier in clothing and gadgets, so it does in the garden. Velcro Plant Ties (30-foot by 1/2-inch roll, $2.55) are the hook-and-loop solution for controlling, staking, and training plants in the garden. Because it's reusable, it can be adjusted as the plants grow.

— Little gardens are big. Gardeners building miniature water gardens, model railroad layouts, water ponds and waterfalls in their yards might find small-scale tools from V&B Manufacturing Company useful for working in small spaces — digging small drainage ditches, ponds, track beds, and other tasks. The Mini-Groundbreakers Landscaping Tools ($13) have multi-tasking toolheads that can help them work in different spaces and from different positions without changing tools.

— Women with small hands often find standard-size garden equipment a bit of a slog. The Garden Gals line from Garden Pals, Inc., includes a new Deluxe Mini Lopper ($19.99) that has drop-forged steel bypass cutting blades with 11/2-inch cutting capacity and shock-absorbing neoprene bumper. The lightweight aluminum handles and molded grip handles help reduce stress and fatigue on hands and wrists, the company says. For pruning jobs, there's a bypass pruner ($13.95) with a 5/8-inch cutting diameter, fitted for a woman's hands or the senior who needs less grip stress. The firm also offers new heavy-duty canvas gardening gloves with leather palms ($4.99).

— Perhaps your back or your knees complain if you squat down there to plug in bulbs or move plants already in the garden. You're still standing with the Bulb Hound Planter ($24.95) from Hound Dog, a long-handled gadget that lets you cut and refill holes with a squeeze on the handles. It also lets you scoop up and move existing growths.

— Leaf blowers are a cause with anti-noise people, so finding one that doesn't disturb the peace can help keep your neighbors friendly. The Solo Model 470 backpack blower ($399) puts out less than 65 decibels measured from 50 feet away, at about half the speed of most blowers on the market, according to the manufacturer. The intake and exhaust design helps the blower operate effectively at a lower rpm rate, which also increases fuel efficiency. It also has an anti-vibration system and padded backrest for the comfort of the user.

— A practical two-in-one is Ryobi's cordless hedge trimmer/grass shears combo kit ($99) with one battery and charger to serve both. The shears have single-action 4-inch replaceable blades, while the trimmer uses 18-inch replaceable blades. The battery-charger in the kit, HT12VS, also fits Ryobi's cordless drill, so the user can easily switch batteries between the tools. Supplementary batteries are $39.

Nutrition By Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Can vitamin A cause cancer?

DEAR DR. BLONZ: How solid is the connection between beta carotene and lung cancer? My supplement contains this form of vitamin A and, although I don't smoke, my father, who did smoke for many years, died from lung cancer. — C.S. San Diego, Calif.

Dear C.S.: The idea that beta carotene raises the risk of lung cancer is a bit much to swallow. This carrot-colored compound found in many vegetables has been associated with a decreased risk of many cancers. Nonetheless, concerns about such a connection have been made, due primarily to a 1994 study published in the New England Journal of Medicine. This is another example of a study that needs a little perspective in order to understand exactly what it is all about. One thing appears certain: The headlines may have sparked your interest, but they don't reflect the information in the research.

The study was conducted in Finland using 29,133 men between 50 and 69 years of age. The participants were recruited from a postal survey and assigned to groups receiving either beta carotene (20 milligrams, or about the amount in 1.5 carrots), synthetic vitamin E (50 milligrams), both or neither. All were smokers, having an average of 20.4 cigarettes a day. They'd smoked for an average of 35.9 years before the start of the study. The supplements were taken for six years and the incidence of lung cancer was recorded. The data showed that taking beta carotene or vitamin E supplements did not decrease the risk of lung cancer. There was, however, a higher incidence of lung cancer in those who only took the beta carotene supplement.

How can we explain this? Simply put, cancer stems from a "mistake" in a cell's DNA, the inherited genetic blueprint that tells a cell what to do. Substances that alter genes fall into two categories: Mutagens cause genetic changes that may or may not lead to cancer, and carcinogens alter genes in ways known to cause cancer.

Tobacco is a very powerful carcinogen, and inhaled smoke comes in direct contact with sensitive lung tissues. Normally, the lungs secrete mucus to trap dust and other inhaled particles. The healthy lung then shuttles the mucus out of the lungs through a series of cilia, or hairs. Tobacco smoke causes a breakdown in this self-cleaning system. The mucus then tends to collect in the lungs, resulting in a hacking "smokers' cough."

Lung cancers are often present for at least five years, and maybe as long as several decades, before symptoms surface. Early symptoms of lung cancer, which include coughing, weight loss and decreased appetite, are often disregarded as normal side effects from smoking. The fact that fewer than one out of 10 lung cancer patients survive for five years once diagnosed is a testimony to the virulence of the disease.

Beta carotene is not an all-powerful anti-cancer agent. It's a nutrient, an antioxidant, and it can help the immune system — all qualities that help in the fight against cancer and other diseases. Many studies have found that the incidence of lung cancer decreases as the level of beta carotene in the body goes up. Beta carotene, however, has never shown any ability to remove a cancer once it has already set up shop — especially a cancer as virulent as lung cancer.

Then there's the question of diet. Northern Finland has a very short growing season. The Finnish diet is marked by an excess of fatty foods and alcohol and a shortage of fresh fruits and vegetables — the dietary source of the antioxidant nutrients.

A well-nourished body should have a daily supply of many antioxidant nutrients, including vitamin C, E, beta carotene and a host of others found in fruits and vegetables. They each do different things, but together they produce a powerful synergy. You cannot rely on one and feel that you've covered all your bases.

Finally, there's the question of the length of the study and the smoking history of the participants. Given the fact that the participants smoked for 36 years before their first treatment, it's reasonable to assume that many of the participants already had cancer in their lungs before the study began.

Good nutrition can help protect us, but it cannot make us invincible. Long-term exposures to cancer risk factors such as tobacco are going to take their toll, regardless of what foods we eat or supplements we take.

It wouldn't have been adequate fodder for front-page headlines, but the story should have read: "Men who are heavy smokers and who have smoked for many decades cannot protect themselves from lung cancer by merely taking beta-carotene or vitamin E capsules for six years."

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

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

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Community Calendar

TUESDAY

American Cancer Society; board room of Cogdell Memorial Hospital; 5 p.m.

ABCL Open Pairs Duplicate Bridge; Snyder Country Club; 7 p.m.

AA Beginner's Meeting-Open; Snyder Park Club, 1212 37th Street; 7 p.m.

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-8268, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th and Ave. M; for more information call 573-4203, 573-8626, 573-2101 or 573-0695; 8 p.m.

TOPS TX56 (take off pounds sensibly); weigh-in and meeting 5 to 6 p.m.; 2501 35th. For more information call Phillis Leatherwood at 573-6105.

WEDNESDAY

Storytime at the Scurry County Library for 4- and 5-year-olds; 10 a.m.

Spiritual Solutions for Living Problems Book Study; Snyder Park Club; 6 p.m.

Just For Today NA, open meeting; Park Club; for information, call 574-1292 or 573-8018 p.m.

THURSDAY

Al-Anon brown bag; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 574-1292, 573-2101 or 573-0695; noon to 1 p.m.

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

Deep Creek Cloggers lesson; American Legion; 6:30 to 8 p.m.

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; for information call 573-8268, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

Nuestra Nueva Esperanza AA; Park Club; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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

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

Cornelius-Dodson House; open by appointment, call 573-9742.

Scurry County AA closed meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8268, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

Just For Today NA open meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-0949 or 573-8018; 7 p.m.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



North 03-28-00
♠ A J 9 8
♥ A Q 5 4 2
♦ 8 4 3
♣ 2

West
♠ 6 5 4 2
♥ 10 7 3
♦ J 9
♣ K Q J 9

East
♠ 3
♥ K J 9 8
♦ Q 10 7 6
♣ 10 8 5 4

South
♠ K Q 10 7
♥ 6
♦ A K 5 2
♣ A 7 6 3

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♥	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♣ K

Tuesday, March 28, 2000

One lap after another

By Phillip Alder

F. Scott Fitzgerald (what was his full name?), in an undated letter, claimed that "all good writing is..." what?

Long-distance swimmers in pools do laps, up one way, back in the opposite direction; up one way, back in the opposite direction. There is a declarer-play technique like that; I'm sure you know which one. It is correct to use it in today's deal, but some preliminary strokes must be taken first.

How would you plan the play in six spades? West leads the club king.

North is worth game on the second round. However, a modern player would jump to four clubs, a splinter bid showing game values in spades with at most one club. Here, though, that might persuade West to lead a trump, which kills the contract! Modern isn't always best.

The deal sets up perfectly for a crossruff. However, when planning that approach, you must cash all your side-suit winners first. So, win with the club ace and play off the ace-king of diamonds. Then, because you need four heart ruffs in hand, play a heart to dummy's ace. Finally, ruff a heart, ruff a club, ruff a heart, ruff a club, ruff a heart, ruff a club, and ruff a heart. That is the first 11 tricks in, and dummy still holds the trump ace.

If you don't take those diamond tricks at the beginning, West will discard his diamonds while you take the last two heart ruffs. Then, he will ruff in when you try to cash those tricks.

Francis Scott Key Fitzgerald wrote, "All good writing is swimming under water and holding your breath."

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Warm, loving, responsive care can develop a child's ability to control emotions. The ability to feel joy, grief, anger, and love doesn't appear by magic. It is learned by association with others.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: March 27 — Thomas Cartwright, Felicia Ybarra, Annie Lee, Elizabeth Wall, Louise Woolever, Robyn Belcher and Patsy Mapes.

DISMISSALS: Pamela Jones, Maxwell Porter, Melissa Stout, Robyn Belcher, Martha Johnson of Hermleigh and Patsy Kelley.

CENSUS: 38 (Med./Surg.-10, Long-term Care-24, ICU-2, OB-1 and Nursery-1)

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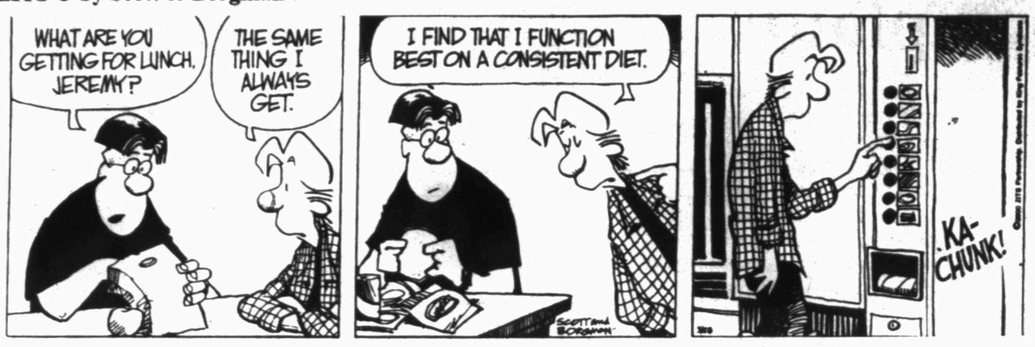


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Mon. - Fri. 8:05 a.m. "Five Minutes With the Master" KSNY 101.5 FM
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Paul wrote, "For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (Galatians 3:27). Before Christ's appearance men feared to meet God because their deeds were evil. For hundreds of years the Jews dreamed of and prayed for the coming of the Messiah whom God had promised. It was a tragedy that their preconceived ideas of what He would be like blinded the eyes of most of them. They did not recognize Him when He came.
However, it is wonderful to live in this time when our hope in Christ is realized! He has come into the world, and into our lives. He is real, He is here, and the joy we know is a "tree of life." In Christ we are God's children, we have a new dress, we have put on Christ!

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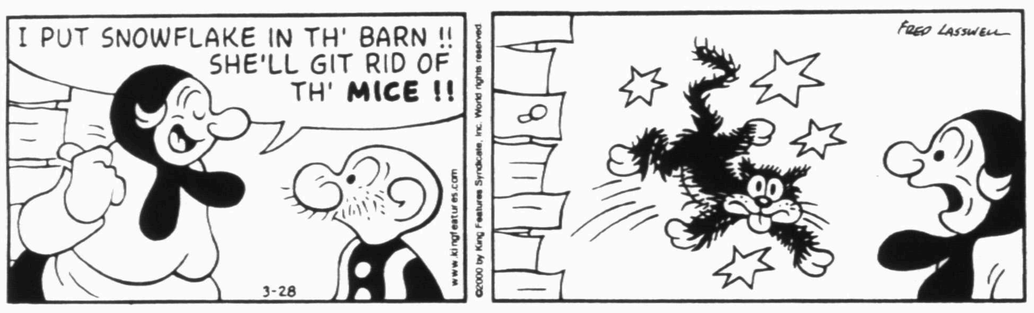
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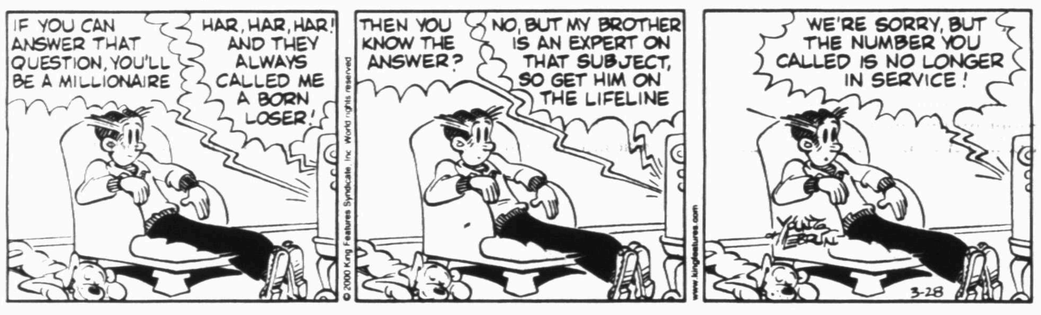
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BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell



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NEA Crossword Puzzle

1 "Christina's World" painter
6 Nonprofit org.
10 Actress Hepburn
12 Planks
14 Builds castles in the air
15 Dislodge from a chair
16 German one
17 "East" end
19 Antitoxins
20 Orbit point
23 They're mentioned in wills
26 Everything
27 Was ahead
30 French region
32 Realm
34 "Wizard of Oz" character (2 wds.)
35 Type of sleeve
36 JFK vehicle
37 Paid athlete
39 Cook the
42 Dwell
45 Joyful
46 Furry stole
49 Retaliate for
51 — — flow (back and forth)
54 Kind of plant
55 Gave a name to
56 Bakery buy
57 Surmise

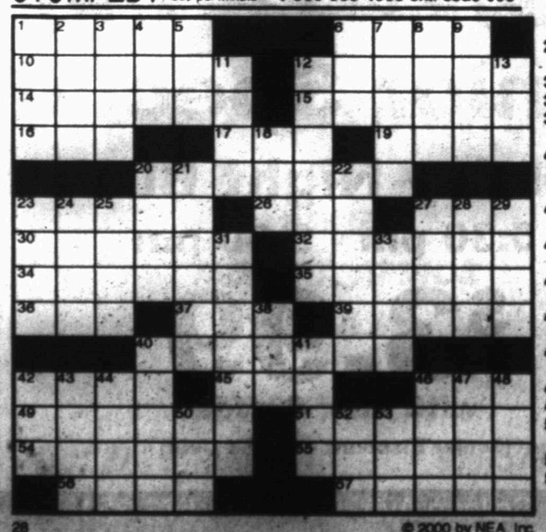
DOWN

1 Walk in water
2 Cosmonaut Gagarin
3 Paradise
4 Singing syllable
5 Skirt bottom
6 Over there
7 Billiard shot
8 Canadian Indian
9 Hebrew month
11 River in Belgium



12 Messed up
13 RR depot
18 Narrow inlet
20 Baby carriage
21 Fire — (emergency exit)
22 Thriller writer Leonard
23 Bonnets and boaters
24 Yale students
25 "— It Romantic?"
27 Capital of Peru
28 Historical time periods
29 Fender mishap
31 Angered
33 Trudge
38 Man-mouse connector
40 Barbra Streisand movie
41 Russian negative
42 Baby's sitting spot
43 Actor Novello
44 Presidential prerogative
46 Cotton bundle
47 Small bills
48 Does sums
50 Salon purchase
52 Large
53 Energy unit (abbr.)

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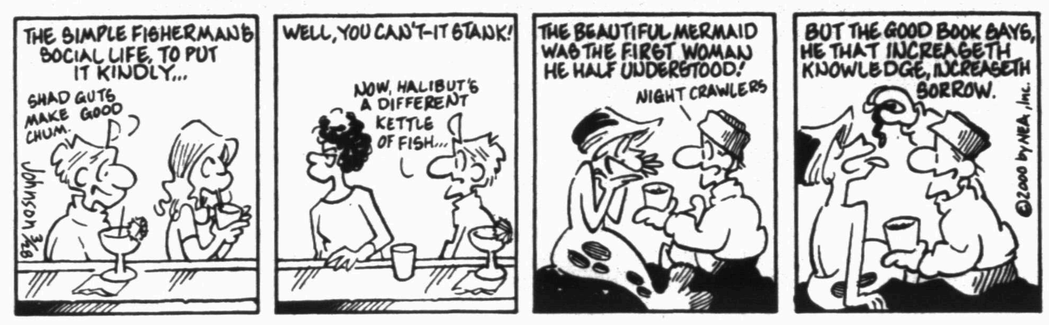


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"Harry across the street says we've got a big silver thing parked on our roof."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



SPORTS

Lady Vols hold off Lady Raiders, 57-44

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Tennessee owes its latest Final Four trip to All-American Tamika Catchings.

Limping heavily due to a sprained ankle and unable to shoot well, Catchings still managed to do a little bit of everything Monday night in helping Tennessee hold off Texas Tech 57-44 in the NCAA Mideast Regional championship.

The victory sends Tennessee (31-3) into the the national semifinals for a record 12th time after a one year's absence. The Lady Vols will play Rutgers, a 59-51 winner over Georgia, in Philadelphia on Friday night.

Catchings struggled and hit just 2-of-11 from the floor as Texas Tech focused on stopping her. But she matched her career-high by grabbing 16 rebounds and added six assists and three steals. She even took two charges.

Catchings' performance cost Texas Tech coach Marsha Sharp a trip to the second Final Four of her career. She won the 1993 national title with Sheryl Swoopes in her first visit.

"She is the player of the year, and players of the year tend to make plays in a lot of different ways that hurt people. She hurt us on the boards a lot. It's just those little things that separate teams this time of year. When you got a player like that, they normally can bail you out," Sharp said.

Catchings did just that even though it looked like she might miss the rest of the game when she went down in a heap midway through the first half. She rolled her right ankle after missing a jumper.

Summitt feared that Catchings ripped up her right knee until trainer Jenny Moshak started working on Catchings' ankle in front of a silent crowd filled with Tennessee fans.

She quickly turned her attention to helping her players figure out how to survive without Catchings and center Michelle Snow, who was in foul trouble. Catchings headed to the locker room, where a doctor examined her ankle, and she missed seven minutes before returning with a heavily taped ankle.

Texas Tech took its first lead of the game, at 23-21, just before Catchings re-entered the game with her father, former NBA player Harvey Catchings, watching anxiously from the stands.

The Lady Vols rallied to tie the game at 25 at halftime, and they opened the second half with a 12-4 run to take the lead. Texas Tech (28-5) closed to 42-40 with 8:37 left on Aleah Johnson's basket. Semeka Randall scored six of her 12 points in a 10-2 spurt that sealed the victory for Tennessee.

"I guess we just forgot about her," Johnson said. "Some players step up, some don't, and she was the one that stepped up in that run."

Johnson led Texas Tech with 12 points. Plenette Pierson had all 10 of her points in the first half.

With head coach still hospitalized...

Tigers open 5-4A play tonight

When Snyder takes to the diamond for tonight's district opener at Moffett Field, it will be a much different ballclub from the one that opened 5-4A play 12 months ago.

Only two starters remain from last year's team, and in addition to the seven new names in the line-up, it will be a different skipper calling the shots tonight against Fort Stockton.

Snyder head coach Roland Herrera remains hospitalized in Lubbock, after suffering chest pains during Saturday's contest at Frenship. Taking over head coaching duties until his return will be asst. coach Charlie Bollinger.

But despite all the changes, Bollinger believes the Tigers are ready for the Panthers.

"I don't think any of this will have a negative effect on the team," said Bollinger. "They're ready to play and get on with district. The last time I talked to Roland, he was pretty down about not being here for the game, and he said to tell the guys to play hard. If anything, it could have a positive effect on the team. It gives them some inspiration, and extra incentive to play well for their head coach."

Ralph Ramon draws the start on the mound for Snyder, and will be joined by six other newcomers to district play.

Today's Local Schedule

Baseball
Fort Stockton at Snyder varsity, 7:30
Baseball
Ira at Lubbock Christian, 5 p.m.
Softball
Sweetwater at Snyder, JV at 4, varsity at 6 p.m.
Golf
Western Texas at Midland tourney

Ramon, Duane Allred, R.J. Hernandez, Collin Jones, Adam Beck, Brian Gordon and Sonny Cumbie, who missed almost all of last season with an arm injury, weren't in the starting line-up for last year's district opener, but will get the nod tonight.

Center fielder Matthew Grimmett and shortstop Josh Ward will be the only Tigers to make their second consecutive start in the 5-4A opener.

Snyder enters the game with a mark of 7-10, but records don't mean anything once district rolls around, according to Bollinger.

"We have to go out and just play our game," Bollinger said. "It's a whole new season. Wins and losses don't start counting until tonight. We've been our own worst enemy in a few games so far, so we have to settle down and play like we're capable of playing."

As for game-time strategy, the Tigers' plan won't differ without Herrera in the dugout.

"There's not a lot of difference in the way Roland and I like to do things," Bollinger stated. "When a situation arises where I need to make a decision, I have to do what I feel is best to help the team win."

On the injury front, Snyder will still be without the services of Bebos Martinez who suffered a broken thumb early in the season.

Also absent in tonight's line-up will be sophomore Brandon McGuire. McGuire had recently moved into the designated hitter's slot, but was struck in the back with a line drive over the weekend, resulting in a blood clot in his kidney. McGuire was to have seen a specialist this morning, and his status for the remainder of the schedule is unknown.

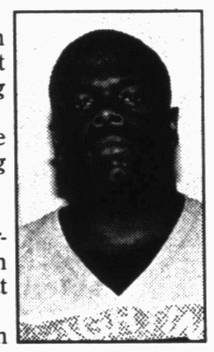
Tonight's contest gets underway at 7:30 at Moffett Field.

The Tigers continue district action Friday when they visit Sweetwater at 7 p.m.

Power lifting...

Johnson eighth at state

KILLEEN — Snyder's Tremaine Johnson ran up against some strong competition at the state power lifting meet.



Johnson

Johnson tallied a personal best in the squat competition to finish eighth overall in the 275-pound classification.

The SHS junior posted 315 pounds in the bench press and 505 in the dead lift, for a total weight of 1,360 pounds.

The winner in Johnson's weight class registered a total lift of over 1,600 pounds.

"There were some very strong kids there," said Snyder coach Joe Granato. "But any time you compete against the best, you learn something. Tremaine saw what it takes to win at that level and that was good for him. He did a tremendous job all year long, and did all he was capable of at the state meet."

Johnson qualified for the state meet by finishing near the top in his weight class, during regional competition.

Sports Briefs

Senior league sign-ups

Registration for Snyder Senior Baseball League will be held this evening from 5 until 8 at Caprock Securities. Also, Senior League is in need of board members. Anyone interested in serving on the board, or helping in any capacity, should contact Joel Hook at 573-4872 or 573-5213.

Pitching clinics held weekly

Fastpitch softball pitching clinics will be held every Wednesday. Class size is limited. For more information, contact Herman Martinez at 573-0390.

Softball tourney scheduled

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church will host a men's softball tournament April 14-16 at Winston Field.

Deadline to enter is April 12, and entry fee is $110 per team. Trophies will be awarded to the top four teams.

For more information, call Ricky Garcia at 573-5996, Henry Ramos at 573-2037, or Ygnacio Benitez at 573-6401.

NBA players file charge

NEW YORK (AP) — Claiming the NBA's use of locker room cameras is an illegal change in working conditions, the league's players filed an unfair labor practice charge with the National Labor Relations Board.

The union also wants to stop the NBA from using boom microphones in team huddles during timeouts.

Sutton holds off Woods

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Hal Sutton hit 17 of 18 greens on one of the most demanding courses for a one-stroke victory over Tiger Woods in the rain-delayed Players Championship.

Sutton finished with a 1-under 71 to finish at 278, and became only the fourth player to go wire-to-wire in the tournament. Woods also shot a final-round 71, and finished in the Top 2 for the 10th time in 11 events on the PGA Tour.

Nick Price (67) finished at 284 on Sunday, and wound up sharing third place with Jeff Maggert (68), Colin Montgomerie (70), Robert Damron (70) and Scott Dunlap (70).

Tagliabue wants end to violence

PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue isn't concerned about the league's image. He just wants the violence to stop.

That was the backdrop against which the NFL opened its annual spring meeting. On-field issues have given way to more disturbing problems, the most serious of which are murder charges against two players.

Lindros removed as captain

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The Philadelphia Flyers replaced Eric Lindros as captain, denying the move had anything to do with his criticism of the team in treating his latest concussion.

Eric Desjardins succeeded Lindros, who had been captain since 1994. The Flyers say the move is permanent.

Snyder JV falls to Big Spring, 6-3

A fast start by Big Spring was too much for Snyder to overcome Monday, as the Steers toppled the Tigers, 6-3, in junior varsity action at Moffett Field.

Big Spring scored all six of its runs, before the Tigers got on the board.

Snyder scratched out a pair of runs in the fourth, and another in the sixth, but couldn't close the gap.

Tiger hurler Shay Franks surrendered five hits through seven innings of work, while striking out nine Steers.

Jared Boyd paced Snyder at the plate, belting a double and a single. Josh Heaton added a double, and Patrick Vantine slapped a pair of singles.

Stephen Ortegon, Shay Franks, Craig Bowen and Riki Dorsett notched one single apiece.

Snyder will be back on the diamond Saturday when it hosts a doubleheader with Andrews at 1 p.m.

SHS frosh whip Rotan, 12-2

Snyder pounded out 13 hits, and limited Rotan to only one, to rout the Yellowhammers, 12-2, Monday in freshman baseball action at Moffett Field.

Pitchers Logan Hill and Adrian Perez combined to throw the one-hitter.

The Tigers scored three runs in each of the first three innings, before closing out the game on the 10-run rule in the fifth.

Billy Pena led the Tigers' onslaught with three doubles. Tyler Pollard also slapped three hits, all of them singles, while Randall Rich belted a double and a single.

Patrick Alderete had notched a pair of singles, with Perez, Chance Greenwood and Britt Harbin posting one single each.

Snyder's next outing will be Saturday when it visits Andrews for a doubleheader at 1 p.m.

Women's NCAA Tournament

All Times EST
EAST REGIONAL
Regional Championship
Monday, March 27
Connecticut 86, LSU 71

MIDEAST REGIONAL
Regional Championship
Monday, March 27
Tennessee 57, Texas Tech 44

MIDWEST REGIONAL
Regional Championship
Monday, March 27
Penn State 86, Louisiana Tech 65

WEST REGIONAL
Regional Championship
Monday, March 27
Rutgers 59, Georgia 51

THE FINAL FOUR
At First Union Center
Philadelphia
National Semifinals
Friday, March 31
Tennessee (32-3) vs. Rutgers (26-7), 7 or 9 p.m.
Connecticut (34-1) vs. Penn State (30-4), 7 or 9 p.m.
National Championship
Sunday, April 2
Semifinal winners, 9 p.m.

NIT Glance

All Times EST
Semifinals
Tuesday, March 28
North Carolina State (20-12) vs. Wake Forest (20-14), 7 p.m.
Penn State (18-15) vs. Notre Dame (21-14), 9 p.m.

Men's Final Four

All Times EST
THE FINAL FOUR
At The RCA Dome
Indianapolis
National Semifinals
Saturday, April 1
Wisconsin (22-13) vs. Michigan State (30-7), 5:42 p.m.
North Carolina (22-13) vs. Florida (28-7), 30 minutes after first game
National Championship
Monday, April 3
Semifinal winners, 9:18 p.m.

National Basketball Association

All Times EST
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	43	26	.623	—
New York	43	26	.623	—
Philadelphia	41	28	.594	2
Orlando	35	36	.493	9
Boston	30	40	.429	13½
New Jersey	29	40	.420	14
Washington	25	46	.352	19

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Indiana	47	23	.671	—
Toronto	39	30	.565	7½
Charlotte	38	31	.551	8½
Detroit	36	33	.522	10½
Milwaukee	33	37	.471	14
Cleveland	27	42	.391	19½
Atlanta	25	44	.362	21½
Chicago	14	55	.203	32½

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Utah	47	22	.681	—
x-San Antonio	45	25	.643	2½
x-Minnesota	43	26	.623	4
Dallas	30	40	.429	17½
Denver	28	42	.400	19½
Houston	26	44	.371	21½
Vancouver	19	50	.275	28

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-L.A. Lakers	59	12	.831	—
x-Portland	51	18	.739	7
x-Phoenix	45	24	.652	13
Sacramento	40	29	.580	18
Seattle	40	30	.571	18½
Golden State	17	53	.243	41½
L.A. Clippers	14	57	.197	45

x-clinched playoff berth

Monday's Games
San Antonio 90, Seattle 82
Dallas 113, Utah 105
Tuesday's Games
Toronto at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Phoenix vs. Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Denver at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Indiana at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
New York at Sacramento, 8 p.m.
Golden State at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Portland, 10:30 p.m.
Dallas at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.
Wednesday's Games
Denver at Washington, 7 p.m.
Charlotte at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Utah, 9 p.m.
New York at Seattle, 10 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

THIS WEEK'S FEATURES
1971 Chevy El Camino ..... EXTRA NICE!
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1996 Buick Roadmaster Loaded ..... ONE OWNER!
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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS
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Vehicle

1987 Gladiator Conversion van. $2,000 or reasonable offer. 573-4726

1990 Plymouth Sundance, good tires, good work or school car. $1,600 Call 573-2222.

1996 Olds. Aurora 4-dr, loaded, leather seats, sun roof, excellent condition. $15,500. Must See!! 915-338-4881.

Business Opportunity

Monogramming & Embroidery Business for sale. Call 915-573-1639.

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$15.90 for 5 days, get 6th day FREE! 15 words or less

Employment

Part-time Counter Help needed, 11a.m.–2p.m. Apply in person @ Lota' Burger.

Secretarial position: Computer/basic office skills required. Salary: $7/hr. Pick up application–Park Village Apts. 4400 Ave. U.

Farmers Column

AG SPRAY SERVICE
Have Rig Will Travel!!
It's Time–Pre-Emergence
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Recreational Vehicles

14' Glastron Bass Boat w/50hp motor. 1997 Polaris Jet Ski. 574-8004.

Pop-Up 1983 Rockwall, $1,400. See at 2900 Ave. U (in back). 573-2318 after 5 p.m.

Classified The link between buyer and seller 573-5486

Recreational Vehicles

1999 Sea Doo GSX, fuel injected, 782cc, used only once, red/grey, garage kept. $6,500.
1995 Jet ski X2, 650 cc, seldom used, $2,500.
2 rail trailer with 14" wheels, tool box, gas can rack, $1,000.
Entire package, $9,500. Call **573-9001** or 573-0774. See at Jack's Used Cars, 1212 25th.

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Marcy Power II weight bench w/weights, 1 month old, $300. Easter confetti eggs, $3.00/doz. 573-5103.

Paper end rolls for sale at Snyder Daily News. Prices vary by size. Great to cover tables, pack items when moving etc.

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$29.00
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FREE: 8 week old 1/2 Collie, 1/2 Lab. Call 573-6569 after 5pm.

Pomeranian puppy, 7 weeks old, AKC registered. Ready for loving family. **573-0258**

Want To Buy

Want to buy: small generator power plant, new or used. Call 573-3911.

Apartments For Rent

1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments. Furnished or unfurnished. All bills paid, no pets. $250-up. 573-5773.

1 Bedroom Furnished apartment. All bills paid. Rent by 2 weeks or month. 573-5879, 573-3279, 728-8482.

2 bedroom apartment for rent. Good location, reasonable. Call 573-0996.

Apartments For Rent

Field Crest Apartments
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1 bedroom/1 bath - $265 (very big bedroom)
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573-1488

Houses For Rent

1104 28th, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, garage, CH/A, $335/mo., $150/dep. **573-2219.**

1 bedroom, 1 bath house for rent. 3108½ Ave. V. $195/mo., $100/dep. 573-5312.

2 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A, references required. 2907 Ave. V. 573-9068

2 bedroom, partially furnished house for rent. $200/mo. plus $100/dep. Call 573-5911 after 4:30p.m.

3-1½, fenced backyard. 2803 Ave. X. Need references. Call **573-8739.**

3904 Eastridge, 3-2-2, newly painted, CH/A, nice backyard. $450/mo., $150/dep. Call 573-2219.

FOR RENT OR SALE
4103 Denison, 2-1-1, Excellent Condition, CH/A, New Roof, Great Location. $400/mo., $275/dep. Call 573-9502.

HOUSES FOR RENT
3789 Highland 3-2 ..... $425
Sarah Jamison 573-4028
Elizabeth Potts Realtors 573-8505

Several 2 & 3 bedroom houses & Mobile Homes, CH/CA. Rent or owner finance. Hud approved. 573-2251.

PLAY IT SMART ... GET INTO THE CLASSIFIEDS

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

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Houses For Rent

Small 1 bedroom house, $175 plus bills.

2 bedroom house, $350, water paid. 27th & Y, 573-7008.

Mobile Homes For Rent

2-2 on 3 lots, city utilities, water well for garden, storage. Sell/Rent. 573-2251 after 5p.m.

3 Bedroom Mobile Homes for rent. $250/month. 573-1711.

For Rent: 2 bedroom mobile home. Stove & refrigerator furnished, CH/A, water paid. **573-2893.**

Small Mobile Home. One person, all bills paid. $275/mo.

Also small mobile home. One person, all bills paid. $200/mo. 2709 Ave. O. 573-2101.

Mobile Homes

***Abandoned Doublewide 1-800-755-9133.**

Abandoned Doublewide 1 Acre. **653-1152**

ABANDONED HOME Take over payment! Call **915-669-2924**

Brand new 3 bedroom $18,500. 1-800-755-9133

By Owner – Beautiful doublewide, on 2 acres, in country. Call Laura @ 915-665-3544.

Cute Little House. Very Affordable. Call 915-673-7353.

Mobile Homes

Clearance Sale. 18 USED Homes. Must Sell, Make Offer. Wholesale Dealers Welcome. **653-1152.** A-1 Homes.

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Horse Lovers Dream Home, on 5 Acres. Possible Owner Carry. Call Brendan 915-721-2101.

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Any time is the right time to use the classified ads. Call today!

Cemetery Plots

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Real Estate

2-1-1 House, CA, fenced yard, new roof, newly painted trim. 573-0807, leave message.

2BR house w/garage apartment plus 2 mobile homes & water well. Excellent rental property. 573-2101

For Sale: 402 31st. Nice home, 3-1, carpet, lots of storage, walk-in closets. Call **573-5629.**

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Real Estate

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4301 Lubbock A real Doll House $65T
2408 Towle Park Rd. 4-3½-3 .... $100's
2218 Sunset 2-1-1..... Will Lease or Sell
2803 38th Brick 3-1-1 ..... Lease or Sell
3726 Avondale Neat 3-1-cp ... $30's
3201 Ave. U .... Cozy & Cute $30's
3012 Ave. W Older Home/Corner $30s
2307 27th Street 3-1 ..... $19T
2704 Ave. G 2-1 ..... $17T
3606 Hill 3-2-1 Will Look at Offers!
Brick 2 bd w/Loft Room CH/A $30's
3702 Sunset 3-1-Den..... $38T
3402 Irving 3-1-FP..... $43.5T
2803 38th 3-1-CH/A..... $31.5T
2200 21st 2-1-1 & 1 + Acre. . $35T
3608 Irving 3-1-1 Corner Lot... $39
3303 Irving 4-2-2 ..... $112T
2803 Denison 3-2-2 Reduced. $80T
Dunn 80 Acre Farm Barn/Well
Dunn 146 Acres, 93 A's CRP, Barn /Well
Country D.W. 3-2-1cp Ready For Animals
RENTAL: 2-2-1 Good Location! ..... Call

Debbie Miller 573-2075
Faye Blackledge 573-1223
Broker/Owner
Joan Tate 573-8773
Dolores Jones 573-5308
Broker/Owner

STEVENSON REAL ESTATE
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573-5612 or 573-1755
Bill Dryden Broker/Owner

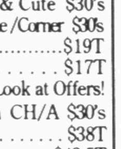
N. Hwy 208 2-1 ..... $25T
2310 Sunset 2-1-1 ..... $24.5T
2311 40th 3-1-1 ..... $25T
110 35th 3-2-1 ..... $31T
2113 Ave. I 3-2-Shop..... $30T
Investment Property 2 Houses $25T
312 36th Street 2-1-1 ..... $17.5T
3810 Noble Drive 2-1 ..... $12.5T
2211 27th 4-2..... $39.5T
118 Milburn 2-1-cp $12.5T
1901 29th 3-2-1 ..... $20's

HUD HOMES LISTED!
Commercial Lots-Bldgs-Acreage

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Doris Beard 573-8480
Bill Dryden 573-9739

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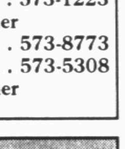
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4004 Eastridge 3-1-1 Only $26.5T
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Ford Spikes Owner/Broker
573-8571 573-3452

1.74 A's 3-2-2 Basement 1500 sq. ft. Barn ..$70T
Ira ISD Nice Country Home Great Barns & Pens
12 miles South of Snyder ..... 3-1-3¼1+Detached
Neat Starter Home 3163 2nd St. 2-1-1 ..... $22.5T
Reduced Large Home 3-1-3¼2+Den ..2111 43rd
2 Acres w/Doublewide Very Nice..... 3-2-2+Sheds
Good Location 3-1-1 3726 Avondale..... $32.5T
Hermleigh 880 Harlan Ave. 3-2-2 ..... $38T
228 Acres 3-1 Brick $80T
3-1-3¼-1 1901 29th Street..... $27T
Reduced-LOVELY 4-2-2 3303 Irving $112
ATTRACTIVE! 4-2-2 2211 27th St. $42T
3-2-2 4005 Eastridge $30T
5 Acres 2 Story Ira ISD 4-1-3¼ $50T
COMM. YARD & RES. 9 Acres..... $150T
Colorado City 445 Acres 3-2-2cp..... $60T

HUD LISTINGS
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Doris S. Spikes..... 573-6602

Real Estate

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For results, use Snyder Daily News Classified ads. 573-5486

Federal judge rules Choate chairman of Reform Party

WASHINGTON (AP) — With his chairmanship of the Reform Party upheld by a federal judge, Pat Choate is moving to stabilize the fractured third party with plans to raise $1 million in the next several months and to reach out to his vanquished rival.

"The door is open," Choate said after Monday's ruling. "Our goals are the same."

But there was no sign that Jack Gargan, who fought Choate for the chairmanship, would accept the gesture. In an interview minutes after U.S. District Judge Norman K. Moon ordered a halt to his activities, Gargan vowed to leave the party and take his supporters with him.

"This is no party, this is somebody's little fiefdom," said Gargan, an ally of Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura, who recently quit the party. "There will be a huge exodus from the party at this point."

Moon's ruling Monday that the chairmanship belongs to Choate, Ross Perot's 1996 presidential running mate, ended a tug-of-war that had weakened the party's standing in the 2000 campaign.

"This will now allow us to go forth and mount a competitive race for the White House this fall," Choate said after the ruling in Lynchburg, Va.

Today, he was announcing plans to move the party's headquarters to Washington and to raise $1 million by the time of the August convention.

Moon ordered Gargan and Treasurer Ronn Young to stop all activities relating to those positions, including soliciting donations, spending the party's money, operating an official Web site and planning a convention. The party would suffer "irreparable injury" if the two men continued, the judge said.

Gargan said he would leave the party after 10 years helping build it.

"In a way, I've won. This has been a rat's nest for me. This has been eight months of hell," he said.

A rowdy meeting of party leaders in Nashville, Tenn., last month elected Choate to replace Gargan. But Gargan argued in court that the meeting was convened illegally and that the vote to oust him and install Choate was invalid.

In his opinion, Moon rejected all of Gargan's arguments. Citing the party's constitution and Robert's Rules of Order, a handbook on parliamentary procedure.

Vote

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	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp s	32½	31⅝	32	5-16 + 1 3-16
AT&T Corp	60⅜	59	5-16	59¾ — 9-16
Albertsons	28 11-16	27⅞		28⅜ — 1-16
Alltel	65⅛	63⅜	63	11-16 — 2 1-16
AmerOnline s	74 3-16	71		72⅛ — 2¼
AndarkPtr	34¼	33	7-16	34 + 5-16
AtlRichfld	78½	77¼		77⅜ — ⅝
ATMOS Egy	17	16⅝	16	15-16 — 5-16
Aviall	8 11-16	8	7-16	8 7-16 — 3-16
BP Amoco s	49 7-16	48	11-16	48¾ — ¼
BakerHughes	28 13-16	26	13-16	28 9-16 + ¾
Bank of Amer	54 11-16	52⅝	54	11-16 + 9-16
BellAtl	60 13-16	59	11-16	60¼ — ⅜
BellSouth	45½	44½	45	7-16 + ¼
Beth Steel	6 1-16	5¾	5	13-16 — ⅜
BurlNoSFe	22 5-16	22⅛		22¼ + 1-16
CBS Corp	60 15-16	60⅜		60¾ — ¼
Caterpillar	39⅛	38	5-16	38 11-16 — ⅜
CenSoWst	17⅞	17½		17¾ — ⅛
Chevron	85 3-16	83	9-16	85 3-16 + ⅝
Citigroup s	60 13-16	59	1-16	60⅝ + 9-16
Coastal	43⅝	43⅛		43½ — ¼
CocaCola	46½	45	11-16	46⅜ + 1⅛
ColgatePal s	56 5-16		53⅜	56 5-16 + 2⅛
ComclMetals	27 9-16	27	9-16	27 9-16 + 1-16
CooperIn	34	33	3-16	33⅝ — 5-16
DaimlrChry	66⅛	65	9-16	66 — 1 3-16
DallSemicn s	43	41	5-16	42 — 15-16
DeltaAirl	55	53	3-16	54½ + 2½
Dillards Inc	16⅛	15¾		16
DowChem	114	108	5-16	113⅝ + 4 9-16
DuPont	54⅝	53⅛	54	9-16 + 13-16
EastmanChem	45⅛	43	15-16	44 13-16 + 1
EstKodak	56⅜	55	9-16	56 3-16 + 9-16
EDS Corp	71¾	70	9-16	71 11-16 + 13-16
Entergy	20⅛	19¾		20 1-16 + 1-16
ExxonMobil	77	75⅛	76	13-16 + 1-16
FstBksAm	18	18		18 + ⅛
Flowers	13⅜	13		13 3-16 + 1-16
FordMotor	44¼	43	11-16	44 3-16
GTE Cp	70¾	69⅜		70⅛ — ⅝
GenDynam	47 15-16	47		47 15-16 + ⅛
GenElec	158	156	5-16	157⅝ — 5-16
GenMills s	34⅝	34⅛		34⅝ + ½
GenMotors	84⅞	84	3-16	84⅜ — 1¼
GaPacGP s	39⅛	37	13-16	38 1-16 — 5-16
GlobalMar	25 11-16	24	9-16	25 1-16 + 1-16
Goodrich	27 5-16	27		27 5-16
Goodyear s	23¾	23	9-16	23⅛ — 7-16
GtAtlPac	18 13-16	18	5-16	18⅝ + ¾
Halliburtn	39⅜	37	9-16	38 7-16 + 5-16
Hanson ADS	34¼	34		34 — ⅛
HarteHanks	21⅝	21	5-16	21⅜ + 1-16
HomeDepot s	65 3-16	63		65 + ⅝
HoneywellIntl	48 3-16	47	3-16	48⅛ + ⅛
IBM s	127	124	⅝	125 5-16 — 1½
IntlPaper	39 13-16	38	¼	38⅝ + ¼
JohnsonJn	70⅞	69	⅜	70 13-16 + ⅜
K mart	9 13-16	9	9-16	9 13-16 + ¼
Kroger Co s	17 9-16	17		17½ + 1-16
Litton	40¾	39	⅛	39 9-16 — 15-16
LockheedM	18¾	18	1-16	18¾ + 15-16
Lowes Cos	53 15-16	52	13-16	53¾ + 5-16
Lubys	9¾	9	9-16	9 9-16 + 1-16
LucentTech	66 7-16	64	⅛	65⅞ + ⅛
MayDeptStr	29 5-16	27	¾	29 5-16 + ½
MediaOne	83⅛	82	11-16	83 5-16 — ⅜
Medtronic s	57⅞	55	¾	56⅜ — ⅛
Monsanto	46⅞	46	⅛	46¼ — 9-16
MorganJP	134¼	129	½	134 + 2⅜
Motorola	168	161	½	167⅞ + 4⅜
NCR Corp	42 7-16	41	¾	42 7-16 + 15-16
Navistar	40⅛	38	13-16	40⅛ + ⅛
Penney JC	14⅞	14	9-16	14 13-16 + ¼
PepBoys	6 7-16	6	5-16	6¾
PepsiCo	32 1-16	31	9-16	32 1-16 + ⅛
PhelpDodge	47½	46	¾	46 11-16 — 1-16
PhilipPet	43 9-16	42	¾	43¼ + ¼
PilgrmPrd B	6½	6	7-16	6 7-16 — 1-16
Polaroid	25 3-16	24	9-16	25 + ⅛
Praxair	40⅛	38	1-16	40 + 1 13-16
ProctGamb	55⅞	55	3-16	55 11-16 + 7-16
PubS NwMx	15⅝	15¼	15	7-16 — 7-16
ReliantEngy	22⅜	22	3-16	22 5-16 — 1-16
RoyalDut	56 5-16	55	9-16	56 1-16 + 7-16
SBC Comm	43 1-16	42	⅜	42⅞ — 5-16
SaraLee	17 7-16	17¼		17⅜ — ¼
Scripps EW	45 11-16	45	7-16	45 9-16 — 1-16
SearsRoeb	30⅛	29	9-16	30 + 5-16
SherwinW	22 5-16	21⅝		22 5-16 + ⅜
SmithkdBchm	64 3-16	62⅜	62	15-16 — 2 1-16
SouthernCo	22 3-16	21	13-16	22 1-16
SwstAirl s	20¼	19⅞		20¼ + ⅝
SprintFON s	60 15-16	59	7-16	60 15-16 + 13-16
SprintPCS s	65 15-16	64		64 3-16 — 1 3-16
Sunoco Inc	27 9-16	26¾		27 9-16 + ⅞
TNP Ent	43 11-16	43	11-16	43 11-16
Tandy s	49⅝	48⅛		49⅝ + ¼
TempleInland	47¾	46	11-16	46¾ — 9-16
Texaco	51 13-16	50	11-16	51¼ — 1-16
TexInd	33 9-16	33	3-16	33 9-16 + 5-16
TexasInst s	180⅞	175½		178 11-16 — 2¼
Tex Util	30½	29¾		29⅞ — 5-16
Textron	59 15-16	58	1-16	59 11-16 + 1 13-16
TriconGlbR	29¾	29		29½ — 3-16
TrinityInds	22 1-16	21	3-16	21¼ — 1¼
TritonEngy	34 11-16	33	15-16	34 3-16 + 11-16
TylerTech	6⅛	5	13-16	6⅛ + ⅜
US West Inc	73⅜	72	3-16	73 + ⅞
USX-Marathn	23⅝	22¾		23 — ¼
USX-USS	22¼	21	13-16	22 — ⅜
UnCarbde	56 7-16	53⅞		56 7-16 + 2 3-16
UnionPacif	38 11-16	38⅜		38 7-16 — ¼
UnitedTech s	58 3-16	57		58 3-16 + ¾
Unocal	28 1-16	27	1-16	27⅝ + ½
Venator Grp	8¼	8	1-16	8⅛ — 1-16
WalMart	55 9-16	54	9-16	55 7-16
WellsFargo	41¼	40¼	40	15-16 + 7-16
WstnGasRs	15¾	15	9-16	15 11-16 + ¼
WinnDixie	18¼	17⅞	17	15-16 + ⅜
Xerox Cp	27⅜	26⅞		27 + ⅛

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GTE	69 9/16	-1 3/16
SBC Comm.	42 3/4	-7/16
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MAR 28 2000

DreamWorks gets first best-picture Oscar

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Hollywood's youngest studio, DreamWorks SKG, finally has its best-picture Oscar. Ironically, the studio's famous co-founder didn't earn it.

Freshman director Sam Mendes piloted "American Beauty" to five Oscars rather than one of the world's best-known filmmakers, DreamWorks co-founder Steven Spielberg.

Even so, the folks at DreamWorks couldn't be happier — it's been a tough few years in the entertainment-making business.

"DreamWorks is about making things that Steven, David or myself have a passion about," said Jeffrey Katzenberg, who co-founded DreamWorks with Spielberg and music mogul David Geffen. "It's about supporting something we believe in."

The Academy Awards triumph Sunday was even headier since DreamWorks was denied the best-picture award a year ago, when Spielberg's World War II epic "Saving Private Ryan" lost to "Shakespeare in Love."

Sweetening the victory, the movie beat two best-picture nominees from Disney and one from Disney-owned Miramax, the distributor of "Shakespeare in Love."

With a modest budget of $15 million, "American Beauty" has turned in big profits, topping $108 million domestically. In addition to best-picture honors, the film also won Oscars for Mendes, actor Kevin Spacey, screenwriter Alan Ball and cinematographer Conrad L. Hall.

The movie's triumph was an artistic fulfillment of the promise that surrounded the formation of DreamWorks in 1994. Yet the prevailing wisdom in Hollywood is that the studio needs less dream and more works.

"It does seem to me to be a mission impossible to start a studio. Nobody's done it in 50-plus years," said Kim Masters, whose new book "The Keys to the Kingdom: How Michael Eisner Lost His Grip" details DreamWorks' hits and misses.

Unlike Hollywood's seven long-established major studios, which have decades of movies and TV shows in the vaults, DreamWorks lacks a library of titles to help drive revenue.

The studio also has been unable to get production up in the range of the 15 or 20 films a year that other big distributors release. DreamWorks released half a dozen movies in 1999, though this year it plans seven movies out by summer.

"Saving Private Ryan" was a bona fide blockbuster, taking in $215 million. But Spielberg's first film under the DreamWorks banner, "Amistad," was a commercial dud, grossing just $44 million.

And Spielberg remains a free agent under his non-exclusive arrangement with DreamWorks. He continues to pick and choose potential directing projects under development at rival studios.

Other DreamWorks films also had disappointing runs, including "The Peacemaker" and "Small Soldiers."

DreamWorks' asteroid flick "Deep Impact" was a hit with $141 million in 1998, though Disney did better a few months later with its own meteor movie "Armageddon." Likewise, Disney's digitally animated insect picture "A Bug's Life" out-performed DreamWorks' creepy-crawly movie "Antz."

Katzenberg, who shepherded Disney's return to animation mastery with "Beauty and the Beast" and "The Lion King," mustered only respectable returns for DreamWorks' first animated film, "The Prince of Egypt," which grossed less than a third of what "The Lion King" took in.

Television production also has languished. The costly "Ink" went bust, as did the comedy "Champs" and the drama "High Incident." DreamWorks' one TV success, "Spin City," recently lost star Michael J. Fox, who quit the series because of his battle with Parkinson's disease.

On the Net:
Official Academy Awards Site: http://www.oscar.com
DreamWorks: http://www.dreamworks.com
Miramax: http://www.miramax.com
Disney: http://www.disney.go.com

Boston drops case against ex-convict

BOSTON (AP) — Prosecutors have issued an apology and dropped their case against a man who spent five years in prison after being convicted of killing a 9-year-old boy counting Halloween candy.

Donnell Johnson had been released in November after information came to light questioning his convictions, but prosecutors refused until Monday to seek dismissal of the charges.

Suffolk County District Attorney Ralph Martin said prosecutors made a mistake in seeking two convictions against Johnson for the shooting of Jermaine Goffigan in 1994.

Johnson "was not involved in the murder," Martin said.

"It wasn't an easy decision to relay to the (Goffigan) family. But it was the right decision," Martin said, adding the Goffigan family still believes Johnson is the killer.

Investigators have received new information that caused them to disregard witness accounts that formed the basis of the original prosecutions against Johnson, Martin said.

Martin did not detail the new information, but said a grand jury investigation is ongoing.

Goffigan was killed on his birthday while returning from a Halloween party when two youths approached a group and fired into the crowd. Johnson said he was at home watching television at the time.

A lawyer for the 22-year-old Johnson said his client was not available for comment Monday.

Johnson, who always maintained his innocence, hopes the decision to drop charges will allow him to get on with his life, the lawyer, Stephen Hrones, said moments after Martin's announcement.

"It's not so much that he can say he's vindicated. It means on college and job applications he's not going to have to say he's a convicted murderer," Hrones said.

Johnson was indicted in 1994 and convicted by a juvenile court judge two years later of first-degree murder. Eight months later, he was again convicted in a jury trial.

Boston Police Commissioner Paul Evans said investigators are pursuing other leads and already have new suspects in the killing.

Best actor recognition said historically scarce for blacks

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Michael Clarke Duncan may not have his supporting actor Oscar, but he hopes his recent Academy Award-nomination gets him something else: leading-man status.

Duncan has uphill climb. Roles that get black performers into the best actor category have been scarce in an industry that has often relegated them to playing either the villain or victim, critics say.

Even when black actors and actresses do get nominated, they have traditionally been overlooked. Sidney Poitier is the only black performer to win the top acting Oscar, in 1964 for "Lilies of the Field."

"I don't think there are enough quality roles. And that's what we need to be doing," said Duncan, the star of the supernatural prison saga "The Green Mile."

While Hollywood has duly recognized work steeped in racial sensitivity, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences rarely rewards those performances outside the supporting actor or actress categories.

No black woman has ever won the best actress category, though some have been nominated. Most notable was Whoopi Goldberg for 1985's "The Color Purple," another example critics point to of the Oscars recognizing, but not rewarding, a film about black suffering.

"The real issue is that black people are not part of the good old boy network of writers directors and producers. If that changed, you'd see the role of black actors changing," said Thomas Rideout, the director of a National Association for the Advancement of Colored People program in Los Angeles aimed at getting blacks started in the entertainment industry.

Denzel Washington was up for best actor this year for his tempestuous performance in "The Hurricane," playing middleweight boxer Rubin Carter, who spent 20 years in prison for a triple-slaying until a judge overturned the conviction.

Washington is one of the few A-list black actors whose status transcends his skin color, enabling him to attract leading-man roles in major productions that are normally reserved for white actors — such as last year's thriller "The Bone Collector."

However, he gets attention at Oscar time traditionally for films involving black oppression. His only win was for a supporting role as a runaway slave turned union soldier in "Glory."

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Widowed spouses get over their grief with get-up-and-go

DEAR ABBY: The letter from "Hurting in Lake Forest, Calif.," the widower who felt isolated by family and friends after his wife's death, prompts this letter.

The fact is, most people don't know how to deal with someone experiencing grief. Most people don't call after a death because they don't know what to say. They are afraid they might "upset" the person who is grieving by mentioning the deceased. They don't know what to do if the person gets upset or begins to cry. These people need to know that the person who is grieving is feeling sad anyway, and talking about their loved one doesn't make them feel worse, but better (eventually). "Hurting" said it all by pointing out that his friends and family have disappeared at a time when he needs them the most.

Grief is a process for each individual. There are many normal emotions associated with grief, including anger, sadness, guilt, confusion and denial. It is important for everyone to know — grievers and supporters alike — that it is OK to feel and express all of those emotions.

Please tell your readers, the next time they know someone is experiencing grief, to PICK UP THE PHONE OR PAY A VISIT! It may be the only one the grieving person receives. — **GRIEF EDUCATOR IN LOUISIANA**

DEAR EDUCATOR: There is wisdom in your letter, and I hope it enlightens those who need it. There is a great deal of discomfort about death in our society. Some people act as if death is contagious. Others are embarrassed by grieving and don't know what to say, so they say nothing. However, a kind word can soothe an aching heart. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Please tell "Hurting in Lake Forest" there are many ways to deal with widowhood. My husband passed away two years ago. We had lots of friends we socialized with frequently. I don't know if the women were afraid they'd have to pay for my meal, but after the funeral, all of them disappeared.

I joined a health club, began volunteering at the local hospital and began a new life for myself. Now I'm enjoying new friendships — and so can the widower in Lake Forest. — **LIVING WELL IN TUCSON**

DEAR LIVING WELL: Bravo! Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Tied to every ending is a new beginning. I couldn't boil water without burning it when my wife died. I had to learn how to cook in order to survive. Eating alone was no fun, so I invited a couple for dinner and was the brunt of good-natured jokes and kidding about the mess I made in the kitchen. However, they helped me clean the mess and gave me an "E" for effort.

I continued to extend invitations, and this resulted in dinner invitations at the rate of about two for one. I'm still clumsy in the kitchen, but I get the job done. At age 73 (and still single) I am still having dinner parties and being invited out a couple of nights a week. — **NEWPORT BEACH BOB**

DEAR BOB: You're right; it's important to reach out instead of waiting to be taken care of. Other suggestions sent by readers for "Hurting in Lake Forest" included: joining a grief support group; checking with the Veterans of Foreign Wars and attending military reunions — or anything that gets you out of the house and puts you in contact with other people; joining AARP's Widowed Person's Service; joining a little theater group; taking classes at a community college; volunteering in schools, libraries, hospitals, shelters and charities. The choices are endless.

**

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Today is the 88th day of 2000 and the ninth day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1834, the U.S. Senate voted to censure President Andrew Jackson for failing to provide it with documents concerning the Bank of the United States.

On this day in 1922, the first microfilm reading device was invented by Bradley Fiske of Washington, D.C.

On this day in 1979, radioactive vapors were released by accident at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant near Middletown, Pa.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Saint Teresa of Avila (1515-1582), religious reformer; Maxim Gorki (1868-1936), writer; Nelson Algren (1909-1981), writer; Edmund S. Muskie (1914-1996), U.S. politician; Freddie Bartholomew (1924-1992), actor; Dianne Wiest (1948-), actress, is 52; Reba McEntire (1955-), singer, is 45.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1973, Wilt Chamberlain played his last pro basketball game.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Observation is a passive science, experimentation an active science." — Claude Bernard

TODAY'S MOON: Day after last quarter (March 27).

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Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Normal white-cell counts can vary

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm 65, never sick and take no medicines. Recent routine blood tests showed a cholesterol of 291 and a blood count of 3400. Are these levels OK?

DEAR READER: By modern standards, a serum cholesterol of 291 is above the normal range (up to 200), even for a person your age. Although cholesterol levels tend to rise as we grow older, yours is clearly too high. You should address this issue with either diet, medicines or both. Start with a low-cholesterol diet, re-check your cholesterol in a month or two, and then decide — with your doctor's help — about the necessity for cholesterol-lowering drugs. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Understanding Cholesterol." 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.

Now to the second part of your question. I assume that you mean your white-blood-cell count is 3400. This is slightly below the normal range of 4000 to 9000 seen in most people. Older people sometimes show low white-cell counts; if you are otherwise healthy, this is probably normal for you. Or the low count could be a lab error. Like the cholesterol level, it should be repeated at a later date.

As I have repeatedly stated in this column, the experienced physician learns to avoid relying excessively on single lab values in assessing health, because people vary and laboratory technicians, being human, can make mistakes. In addition, the "normal" range of values was developed with a 95 percent confidence level. This means that 95 percent of healthy people fall within the normal range. It also means that 5 percent of healthy people won't. Therefore, all things considered, your doctor probably assumed that you are among the healthy people whose white-cell count falls slightly outside the normal range. If you are never sick and feel well, I think that you needn't worry. To make absolutely sure, however, ask your doctor.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have seen several doctors because of a back injury. As background for potential litigation, I obtained copies of my medical records. What a mess! According to these records, I was born four years before my father and seven years after my son, was injured two years before my actual injury, sought medical care six months before the injury and had X-rays of my ankle. How can these people continue to practice medicine?

DEAR READER: Sounds like a real comedy of errors to me. Someone desperately needs lessons in how to take a valid medical history. I can understand a little confusion in any medical record, but the systematic foul-ups in yours take first prize.

I suggest that you pack up your medical records and find a practitioner who will get the real story down on paper, with accurate dates. Sooner or later, those original doctors are going to make a gargantuan mistake. You don't want to be a part of that.

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Judge to delay Microsoft verdict

WASHINGTON (AP) — The judge in the Microsoft antitrust trial has formally agreed to postpone delivering his verdict, people close to the case said today. The move suggests tempered optimism that lawyers could successfully negotiate a settlement.

Lawyers on all sides were notified late Monday that U.S. District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson had formally agreed to the delay and a new mediation schedule that allows for further negotiations until about April 7.

Sources close to the case said earlier that sufficient progress between the sides and a court-appointed mediator was likely to persuade Jackson to hold back plans for delivering a verdict.

Jackson has signaled he will rule strongly against Microsoft. Last November, he issued the first phase of his judgment with harsh findings that accepted nearly all allegations of illegal anti-competitive behavior by the company.

Assistant Attorney General Joel Klein flew to New York for an unrelated meeting Monday night at Columbia University. Officials from Microsoft and the attorney general's office declined to comment.

Shares of Microsoft dropped in trading Monday over the latest uncertainties, finishing regular trading on the Nasdaq Stock Market down $7.621/2 to $104.061/4.

Two killed in Georgia school bus crash

TENNGA, Ga. (AP) — A train slammed into a school bus this morning at an ungated crossing near the Georgia-Tennessee line, splitting it in two and killing two children. The five other elementary school pupils on board were critically injured.

No one on the CSX freight train was injured.

The Murray County school bus was picking up children to go to Northwest Elementary School north of Chatsworth. The full-size bus had crossed into Polk County, Tenn., to turn around when it was struck by the train at about 7 a.m.

The collision "sounded like damn thunder or a bomb blown up," said said Joe Brown, who lives about 300 feet away and helped rescue the victims.

The bus split, with the cab portion driven about 100 yards along the track and the frame of the bus pushed 30 yards. Some of the wreckage ended up across the state line in Georgia, Keeton said.

Some of the children were ejected from the bus, Brown said. One of the two children killed was his niece, he said.

There is a sign but no signal lights or bars at the crossing. The track curves through pine trees in hilly terrain, making it difficult for a train's crew to see the crossing, Brown said. He said the weather was mostly clear.

The train's engineer told investigators he blew his whistle as he approached the intersection and applied his emergency brake as soon as he saw the bus, said Ken Uselton, the Tennessee state trooper who investigated the accident.

Five children, ages 5 to 9, were in critical condition at Erlanger Medical Center in Chattanooga, spokeswoman Sharon Kayhill said.

The bus driver was in stable condition at Murray County Medical Center in Chatsworth.

Ownby said the school bus usually goes 100 feet into Tennessee to turn around in a church parking lot.

Her grandson, 7-year-old Zachary Matthews, rides the bus in the afternoons but she drives him to school in the mornings, she said. "He didn't go this morning," she said. "He's upset over all his little buddies."

Northwest Elementary maintained its regular schedule today. Three counselors were at the school, although most children were not told of the accident, school secretary Tommie Brown said.

"We feel like that's best for the children, just having a regular day of classes," she said.

Kathy Burns, a spokeswoman for CSX, said the train was bound from Cincinnati to Tampa, Fla.

High court cuts police power to carry out some searches

WASHINGTON (AP) — Police generally cannot stop and search someone for a gun based on an anonymous tip accurately describing only that person's location and clothing, the Supreme Court ruled unanimously today.

The justices said Miami police acted unlawfully in 1995 when they searched and arrested a juvenile, identified in court records as J.L., who was carrying a gun.

Police had received an anonymous tip that three black youths were standing in front of a pawn shop and that the one in a plaid shirt was carrying a concealed gun.

"The question is whether an anonymous tip ... is, without more, sufficient to justify a police officer's stop and frisk of that person," Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg wrote for the court. "We hold that it is not."

Ginsburg added: "Unlike a tip from a known informant whose reputation can be assessed and who can be held responsible if her allegations turn out to be fabricated, an anonymous tip alone seldom demonstrates the informant's basis of knowledge or veracity."

Any resulting search violates that person's Fourth Amendment right against unreasonable police searches and seizures, the court said. The gun seized from J.L. therefore should not have been used as evidence against him, it said.

Today's decision upheld a Florida Supreme Court ruling that had thrown out J.L.'s conviction.

The nation's highest court 32 years ago ruled that police can stop and frisk someone without a court warrant if they reasonably believe the person has committed or is about to commit a crime. Today's decision does not affect that ruling.

It states that an anonymous tip most often cannot be the basis of a reasonable belief of wrongdoing.

Ginsburg said the court was stopping short of saying whether anonymous tips can spark lawful police searches when "the danger alleged ... might be so great as to justify a search even without a showing of reliability."

She said a report of a person carrying a bomb would not necessarily have to "bear the indicia of reliability we demand for a report of a person carrying a firearm before police can constitutionally conduct a frisk."

Police also might get more leeway "where the reasonable expectation of Fourth Amendment privacy is diminished, such as airports and schools," Ginsburg said.

On the Net: For the decision: http://supct.law.cornell.edu/supct/ Click on "this month's decisions."

Warrants send one to jail on Monday

Outstanding warrants sent a 25-year-old man to jail Monday.

Department of Public Safety troopers arrested the subject at 2:34 p.m., four miles north on U.S. Hwy. 84 on Lubbock DPS warrants for speeding and failure to appear.

City officers worked a minor mishap at 2:58 p.m. in the 1700 block of 17th Street. Involved in the accident was a 1990 Ford Taurus driven by Alecia Avinia, 45, of 212 Elm Street that struck a gas meter owned by TXU Electric and Gas.

Obituaries

Robert Wood

1962-2000

MERKEL – Robert Del Wood, a former resident of Snyder, died Sunday, March 26, in a Fort Stockton hospital.

Graveside service for Mr. Wood, 37, is set for 10 a.m. Friday in the White Church Cemetery in Taylor County. Arrangements are under the direction of Starbuck Funeral Home in Merkel.

Born Aug. 11, 1962, Mr. Wood had lived in Snyder from 1978-84 and was an oilfield worker. A member of the National Guard from 1982-84, he was a member of the Tree of Life Church.

A brother, Bobby Joe Wood, died in 1986.

Survivors include his parents, Bob and Georgie Wood of San Angelo and formerly of Snyder; a son, Woody Del Wood of West Virginia; an uncle, Tom Watkins; two grandchildren; and two special friends, Kenneth Blackwell and Kay Green, both of Snyder.

Personal, Professional Service

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Adam Gonzales Sr.

1925-2000

ODESSA — Adam S. Gonzales Sr., the father of three Snyder residents, died Sunday March 26, in Deerings Nursing Home in Odessa.

Funeral service for Mr. Gonzales, 74, is set for 2 p.m. Wednesday, in the First Baptist Church with Revs. J.M. Garcia, Joel Amaro and Juan Gaona officiating. Interment will follow in Sunset Memorial Gardens.

A prayer service is set for 7 p.m. today in the Frank W. Wilson Funeral Directors Chapel.

Born on Aug. 9, 1925 in Roswell, N.M., he moved to Odessa from Corpus Christi in 1957 and married Francisco Montoya on March 13, 1959 in Odessa. Mr. Gonzales retired in 1985 as a tire serviceman with General Tire and was a member of Primera Iglesia Bautista.

He was preceded in death by his parents; Rev. E.P. and Andrea Gonzales; a son, Edward Gonzales; and three brothers, David, Regino and Daniel Gonzales.

Survivors include his wife, Francisca M. Gonzales of Odessa; five sons, Robert Joe Gonzales, Adam Gonzales Jr., Javier Gonzales, Jaime Gonzales and Joe Gonzales, all of Odessa; five brothers, Gregorio Gonzales, OK Gonzales and Ismael Gonzales, all of Snyder, Hiram Gonzales of Midland and Raul Gonzales of Oklahoma City; three sisters, Juanita Cadena of Snyder, Eva Morin of Corpus Christi and Ruth Arauza of Abilene; and 14 grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Primera Iglesia Baustista, 2211 West 22nd, Odessa 79763.

May Kelly

1910-2000

SAN ANGELO – May Kelly, the sister of Irene Nelson of Snyder, died Friday, March 24, in Doctor's Hospital in Dallas.

Graveside service for Mrs. Nelson, 89, was held Monday in the Fairmount Cemetery. Dr. Kenneth Patrick of Baptist Memorial Center, officiated.

Born July 27, 1910 near Kaufman, she was married to Daniel Ashton Kelly who preceded her in death.

The Kellys formerly ranched in the Sonora area. A former resident of Stephenville, Mrs. Kelly was active in the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and the Carlton Texas chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star.

She also was preceded in death by her parents, John and Allie Nelson; two sisters, Alice Oliver and Grace Cranfill; and a brother, James Nelson.

Survivors also include a daughter, Helen Drake of Dallas; two stepdaughters, Margaret McDonald of Ranger and Elizabeth Jones of Wichita Falls; a brother, Marvin Nelson of Merkel; four grandsons; and numerous great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

District

Continued From Page 1

appraisal district with information to calculate agriculture values.

In other action, all existing contracts were ratified. The action is routine and is done every two years with the seating of a new board.

In a similar item, the board also approved the general and reappraisal policies, with a few noted changes. The policies have already been adopted, so the action is to assure that the board is aware of the policies.

The board is legally required to look over the contracts and policies, even though there is actually only one new board member.

In other business, the board approved the bills payable and reviewed collection reports for November through February.

Board members present included Lacik, Carroll, Fred Cross and Rona Sikes. Walter Stirl was absent.

Sikes is a non-voting board member. State law requires the county's tax-assessor collector to serve on the appraisal district board.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Cancer board meeting

The board of directors of the Scurry County unit of the American Cancer Society will meet at 5 p.m. today in the Cogdell Hospital board room.

Genealogical society

The Scurry County Genealogical Society will meet at 7 this evening at the Scurry County Library. Sherry Merritt will present the second part of the program, "Computer Use in Genealogy."

Parent education class

East Elementary is hosting a series of parent education classes from 6-7 p.m. each Tuesday in the school library. The topic tonight is "Expanding Your Child's Reading Ability." Refreshments are served. For more information, call 573-1769.

Free tax help

There is free tax help for low income and elderly people each Wednesday at the Snyder Senior Center by an IRS-trained counselor. Times are from 9 a.m. until noon and 1-3 p.m. Call 573-4035 or 573-3822 for additional information.

Tee-ball sign ups

Sign up times are Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for five and six-year-old tee-ball, and seven-year-old coach-pitch tee ball. Times are 4-7 p.m. at the Boys and Girls Club. Fee is $30 per player.

Immunization clinic

Scurry County Health unit's next immunization clinic is Thursday. Dates in April are every Thursday from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:30-4 p.m.

FBC worship service

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

Choir boosters

SHS choir boosters will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday in the choir room to discuss plans for the choir banquet to be held April 18.

Masonic awards night

Scurry Masonic Lodge 706 will have a 25-year pin awards night at 7 p.m. Friday. All Masons and their families are invited. Refreshments will be served.

County Demo convention

The Scurry County Democratic Party will conduct its county convention at 10 a.m. Saturday in the Scurry County Library.

Apostolic Faith concert

Apostolic Faith Bible College will perform at 7 p.m. next Tuesday at the Apostolic Faith Church, 2506 25th St.

WIC recipients

WIC recipients who have failed to pick up March vouchers need to contact the WIC office at Outreach Health Services before Friday. For more information, call 573-0191.

King's Kids pre-registration

Pre-registration for King's Kids and Mother's Day Out for the 2000-01 school year begins Monday. King's Kids is offered Mondays and Wednesday for ages 1-5, and Mother's Day Out is Friday for ages three months to five years. Call the First Baptist Church for more information at 573-7401.

Joy School registration

Pre-registration for the Eastside Church of Christ Joy School will be from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. on next Tuesday in the East foyer of the church. For additional information, call 573-3554.

Sausage festival

St. Elizabeth Sausage Festival is set for Sunday, April 9, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Parish Center. Tickets are available at the door for $6 for adults and take-outs, and $3 for children under 12. The sausage dinner with all the trimmings is all-you-can eat. The festival will also have game booths, raffles and a country store. Sausage sold by the pound is $2.75 uncooked and $3.75 cooked.

Golden K fish fry

The Golden K Kiwanis will host a fish fry from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Sunday, April 9, at the Senior Citizens Center. Plates, including carryouts, are $6.50 each. Children under six may eat free.

Building fund sale

Lighthouse Assembly of God Church is accepting items of any kind for its building fund sale. The church will pick up items. Call 573-5124 or 573-2947.

1990 SHS reunion

The 1990 senior class of SHS is planning a 10-year reunion in July. If you are a graduate, or have contact with a graduate, contact Anne Osborn @Echostar.com, or call Jennifer Pate at 915-223-9110 in San Angelo, or contact Shelley LaRoux at 574-1826, or mail information to 3209 40th St.

WTC basic education classes

Adult basic education classes at Western Texas College are taught Tuesday and Thursday from 8-11 a.m., and from 6-9 p.m. Classes include G.E.D. and E.S.L. refresher courses. For additional information, call 573-8511, ext. 322.

Snyder Neighbors Sharing

SNS is in need of workers and monetary donations for the April 29 work day. For more information, contact Thomas Fogleman at 573-3538, or Sam Robertson at 573-4053.

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Monday by the Texas Lottery:
3-14-21-24-37

Pick 3

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

MAR 8 2000

Home milk delivery available in parts of U.S.

WEST FARGO, N.D. (AP) — Troy Miller steps lightly onto the dark porch, careful not to let the frozen snow crunch too loudly under his feet. When he does speak, it's barely above a whisper.

"This guy's a policeman," he says, carefully placing two half-gallon cartons of milk on the porch. "I've been delivering to his family for years."

Then, as quietly as he approached — he walks almost on tiptoe — Miller makes his way back to his white truck with its big engine humming quietly, and heads down the darkened street.

It's 5 a.m. The sun is still a solid hour from poking over the horizon. Miller, 32, is not quite halfway through his daily delivery route, dropping off milk, butter and eggs to his customers.

Yes, the milkman still cometh. Often seen as a throwback to a time before supermarkets and convenience stores, milk deliverers still make their rounds in a world of 'I need it now.'

"It's an interesting job," said Miller, a driver for McCann's Home Dairy of Fargo. "There's a quiet solitude about it that I like. ... I've got two little boys at home. This is often the only quiet time I get."

Francis McCann has operated McCann's Home Dairy for 12 years. His four drivers and fleet of trucks serve about 1,600 households in the Fargo area.

Business is stronger than ever, McCann said. Instead of signaling the end of milk delivery, the busy 21st century has actually helped boost profits since so many families are on the go.

"It's like there's a little elf that comes and replaces your milk twice a week, a little tooth fairy of sorts," said Sarah Gackle, a mother of four who runs a day care service. "You never see him, but you know he's been there."

Gackle has been a customer of McCann's for about seven years. She pays slightly more for home delivery — about 15 cents per half-gallon more than at the grocery — but she's happy to pay it.

"That's a deal," she said. "Fifteen cents more to have it delivered to my door? I call that a bargain."

Like most customers, Gackle has a standing order for a certain number of milk cartons each week. But if she needs more — or less — she can call McCann the night before or just leave a note tacked to her front door.

The estimated 12 to 30 companies nationwide that still deliver milk to homes represents a tiny part of the $18 billion worth of milk sold annually, but experts say their popularity has grown strongest in urban areas of the Northeast.

"Life is getting so hectic that people are looking for ways to free up their time. They don't want to spend 20 minutes in a line at the grocery store if they don't have to," said Jim Carroll, president of the International Home Delivery Association.

Vidalia onion prices expected to rise

ATLANTA (AP) — Shoppers looking forward to Georgia's sweet Vidalia onions may be left with a bitter taste when they see higher prices and later delivery this year.

Prices may be up about 10 cents a pound because farmers in the 20-county southeast Georgia region where the famed onions grow are peeling back production.

"We can only harvest so many onions, physically. We had more onions planted last year than what we could get packaged. We don't need that many, so we had to cut back," said Delbert Bland, who operates a 2,600-acre farm south of Reidsville.

State agriculture figures indicate Georgia farmers planted 14,918 acres of Vidalias this year, compared with 15,500 acres in 1999 and 16,000 in 1998.

Farmers usually sell Vidalias to grocers at about 50 cents a pound, and the consumer typically pays around 69 cents. Consumer prices this year could go as high as 79 cents a pound, Bland said.

But University of Georgia extension economist Bill Thomas said prices should also stabilize. "Hopefully, it will help maintain a steadier price at the grocery store," he said.

The first crop of Vidalias will also likely hit the shelves a little later this year.

Last year, four producers were fined by the Georgia Department of Agriculture for distributing green onions as fresh Vidalias, said Bobby Harris, assistant commissioner of the marketing division. Onions harvested too early do not have the quality or shelf life of mature onions, he said.

"Farmers tell me they'll cooperate and try to uphold the integrity of the Vidalia onion" this year, Harris said.

The Vidalia Onion Committee, which oversees marketing and research on the famous onions, also is urging farmers to avoid trying to compete with Texas onion farmers by getting their onions to market early.

If Georgia farmers hold off a little, it will also help alleviate consumer confusion between Texas onions and Vidalias, said Tina Wheeler, executive director of the committee. She said keeping consumers clear on the difference is her group's focus this year.

Bland said the first Vidalias should hit the market around April 25.

The onion committee will spend $65,000 to promote Vidalias through magazine, television and radio interviews in Boston, New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and the Washington, D.C./Baltimore area.

"We're conducting a big promotion this year unlike any we've ever conducted," Wheeler said.

Vidalias are planted in November and grow through the winter. They are harvested in April and shipped fresh from April to early June. Onions not shipped by then are stored in coolers and shipped up until October, or whenever supplies are exhausted.

Georgia's famous onions are grown in and around Vidalia, where the onion was first grown in 1931. In 1986, the Legislature established a 20-county region as the only district where onions could be labeled Vidalia onions.

The crop is one of the state's most valuable, bringing in about $60 million a year.

On the Web:
City of Vidalia ttp://www.vidalia-ga.com

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Wednesday, March 29, 2000
In the year ahead you may participate more than usual in more activities that involve clubs, groups or large organizations — all of which will lead you to greener pasture.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Conversations with friends today may turn out to be more meaningful than usual. Be open-minded and receptive, because some valuable information could be exchanged. Aries, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing $2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper. P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) If you attempt to spread yourself too thin, little of substance will be achieved today. Focus all your efforts and energies only on your most meaningful objective.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Take measures today to broaden your horizons and additional opportunities could start to come your way. New interests will enable you to meet new people and garner new knowledge.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Shifting conditions actually tend to work for your ultimate benefit today, not the other way around. Thus, do not be anxious or concerned should your situation change.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Try to keep in mind today that there are always two sides to every story. If your forget this, you could jump to an erroneous conclusion when told something second hand.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) So that you don't take on something that's a bit too complicated for you to handle on your own, be especially cognizant today of your skills, capabilities and talents.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Don't be foolish enough today to talk about something you want kept secret to a person you know from experience always lets the cat out of the bag, no matter how interested the person is.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Don't begin things you know you won't have time to complete today, because anything you leave dangling could cause you some headaches tomorrow. Make sure you tie up all loose ends.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) If you're restless today, chances are it'll be more mentally induced than physically. This malady can be assuaged, however, if you involve yourself in mind-stimulating activities.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) There's a strong chance your wallet could spring a leak today if you throw prudence to the winds and go all out satisfying yourself with nonessential purchases.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) To be a leader, you must first look and behave like one. If you hope to inspire or lead others, be sure your behavior and appearance is up to that test.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Provided they are assessed and used in a logical fashion, your intuition and hunches could play a valuable role in your affairs today. Taken alone, however, they may count for nothing.

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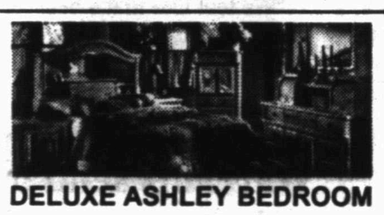
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END OF MONTH

SPRING FLING SALE

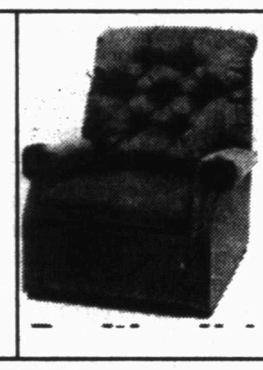
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Large dresser, mirror, chest, night stand and beautiful spread headboard Reg. $1499.95
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In choice of colors includes back, side rails and bedding
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Stackable bunk beds in honey pine finish. Includes new foam bunkies
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Complete with pad. Choice of colors, opens to sleep 2 people
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By AHC, opens with twin size mattress, nice cover.
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5 PC. OAK DINING ROOM SET
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Lots of storage space, nice woodgrain finish
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With 3 recliners and full size sleeper in rich black man-made leather
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SALE $1299

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Glass top table with 4 sturdy chairs. Priced in the box.
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Several colors to choose from. Priced in the box.
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SALE $128

5 PC CONVERSATIONAL PIT GROUP
Includes 2 sofas, loveseat and 2 ottomans, nice cover
Reg. $699.95
SALE $548



BEAUTIFUL QUEEN ANNE STYLE SOFA & LOVESEAT
In beautiful decorator cover - cherry legs Reg. $799.95
SALE $588

TRUCKLOAD MATTRESS SALE
15 YEAR WARRANTY SET - MARKET SPECIAL

	Reg.	SALE
Twin Size Set	$299	$138
Full Size Set	$349	$178
Queen Size Set	$449	$228
King Size Set	$599	$278

15 YEAR WARRANTY PILLOW TOP SET CYBER REST

	Reg.	SALE
Full Size Set	$499.95	$258
Queen Size Set	$599.95	$298
King Size Set	$799.95	$398

WAREHOUSE FURNITURE

VARSITY SQUARE, NEXT TO ECKERD DRUG, SNYDER, TEXAS
STORE HOURS: 10 A.M. TO 6 P.M. MON. - SAT.

No Money Down
No Interest or Payment
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