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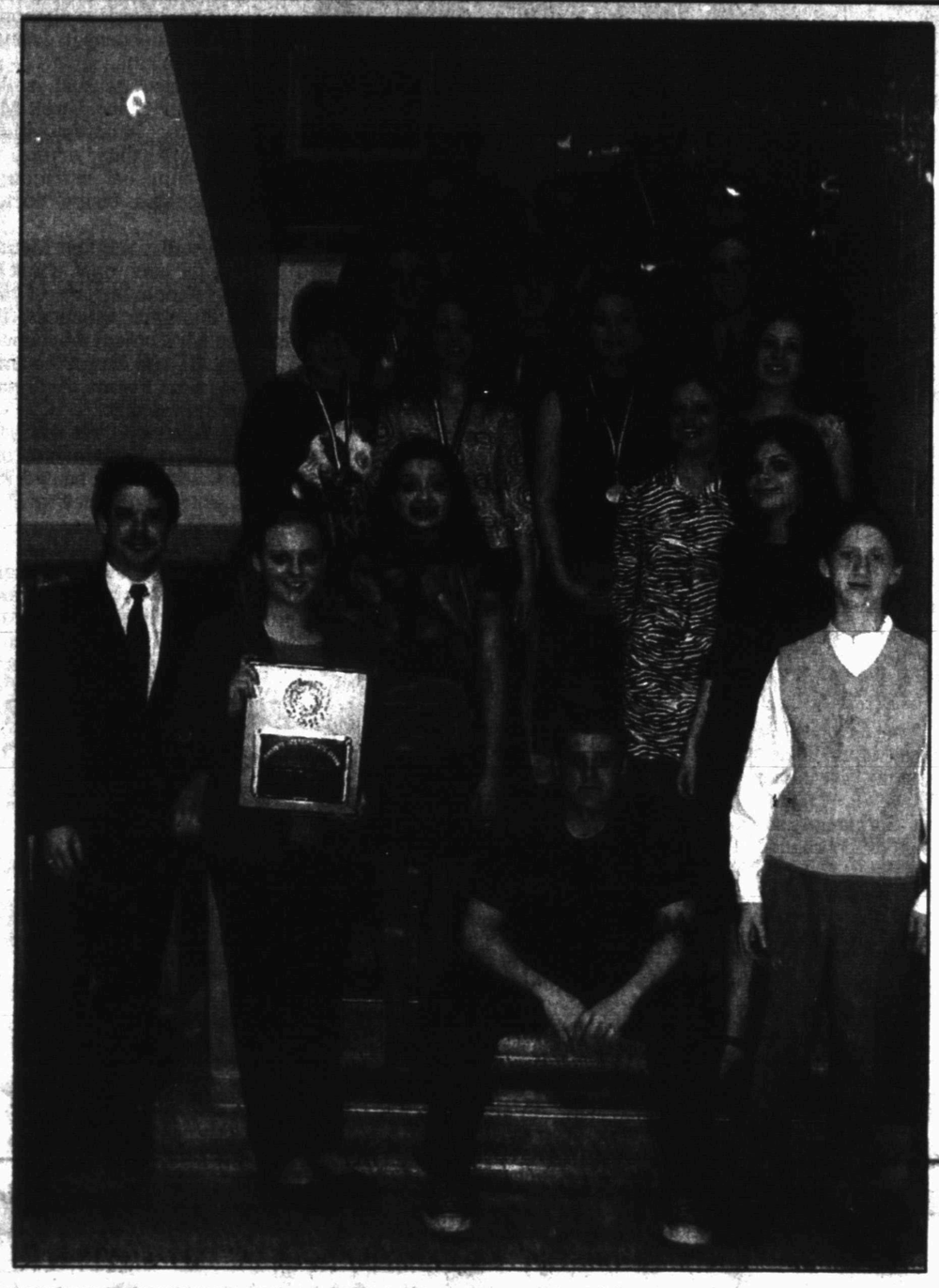
Natural Gas - $3.585

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY
March 27, 2002
Vol. 53 No. 282
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Don Snider



DISTRICT CHAMPS — Snyder High School drama students advanced from District 4-4A one-act play competition Tuesday night. Brad Vincent is the drama director. Students include Tanner Beard, Kendall Brewster, Joanna Burk, Sara Cantu, Caleb Durham, Haley Elkins, Hayli Henderson, Malorye Miller, Sterling Millhollon, Clark Reed, RJ Sanders, Bobby Sands, Jeff Scott, Nicole Slaboda, Bret McClendon, Brandy Birkenfeld, Justin Cox, Josh Proctor. Eric Courtney, Amber Alexander and Shawn Atkins are not pictured. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Julius' march to capital city still on track

Snyder High School drama students climbed another rung on the one-act ladder Tuesday night, advancing from the District 4-4A contest along with Levelland High School.

SHS hosted the competition and plays were performed at Worsham Auditorium.

Snyder also garnered seven individual awards - including top acting honors for Bobby Sands, who played Julius Caesar; and Hayli Henderson as Cassius.

Clark Reed and Tanner Beard both earned places on the all-star cast - Reed for his portrayal of Brutus and Beard as Antony.

Honorable mention all-star cast awards were presented to Haley Elkins and Joanna Burk. Elkins is Casca and Burk is Pindarus.

Snyder also earned a technical award as Josh Proctor was awarded top stage crew recognition.

Levelland High School's *The Shadow Box* also advanced and Andrews High School's *Inherit The Wind* was named the alternate. Frenship High School's *Dancers* also competed.

Two Andrews students, Nathan Rawls and Lane Haygood received honorable mention recognition. Also receiving honorable mention nods were Jasmine Franco and Trisha Britton of Levelland. Two Frenship students, Jeff Conn and Mariah Lee, also earned honorable mention.

Others on the all-star cast include Karolyn Burns and Jerred Tochterman of Andrews, Devin Pressly and Abby Baggett of Levelland, and Amber Sutton and Hannah Stewart of Frenship.

Other technical awards include: John David Culberson of Andrews, lights; Tori Glazner of Levelland, stage manager; and John Reedy of Levelland, sound.

Critic judge was Jim Mammarella of San Antonio College.

Beth Bowen directed the district contest and Ron Hester served as the stage manager. Others helping back stage were Josh Heaton, lights; Justin Cox, Josh Proctor, Jerry Ashley and Tracy Adams was the timekeeper.

Vincent and his thespians now turn their attention to next week's area contest. They will again have the home stage advantage as SHS will host the 4A contest on Friday and the 5A contest on Saturday.

Snyder students and their roles include Tanner Beard as Antony; Kendall Brewster as Lucius; Joanna Burk as Pindarus; Sara Cantu as Portia; Caleb Durham as the soothsayer and Lucius; Haley Elkins as Casca; Hayli Henderson as Cassius; Malorye Miller as Calpurnia; Sterling Millhollon as Decius; Clark Reed as Brutus; RJ Sanders as Octavius; Bobby Sands as Julius Caesar; Jeff Scott as Metellus; Nicole Slaboda as Volumnius; and Bret McClendon as a soldier.

Members of the crew include Brandy Birkenfeld as the production manager; Justin Cox, technical director; Josh Proctor and Eric Courtney, production assistants; Amber Alexander, costumes and fabrics; Shawn Atkins, understudy and production assistant; and Bret McClendon, stage manager. Since McClendon has a role in the play, Birkenfeld assumed his duties on the crew.

THE SDN COLUMN
By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "People are one of the leading causes of statistics."

Referees and umpires must have easy jobs – look at all the people in the stands willing to help 'em.

Basketball referees are accustomed to taking verbal abuse, but they rarely count on getting locked up.

Last month, when Snyder was hosting high school basketball games, visiting fans got a little hot.

At halftime, some of the fans from Wall and Tahoka looked up some of the chamber of commerce Gold Coaters and wanted to know who to see about turning down the thermostat.

Gold Coaters Elois Pruitt and Ernie Sears started the search for the coliseum staff.

The Gold Coaters found the door to the office locked. About that time, they heard loud knocking. Then somebody came from the gym floor and asked if they knew where the Zebras were, it was time for the second half tipoff.

The knocking continued. Elois went around and looked into the office and spied the two refs banging on an inside door, trying to get out.

There was no door handle. Elois and Ernie couldn't break it in, but along came one of Snyder's policeman who finally freed the two refs.

When the striped-shirted pair finally got back on the hardwoods, they got a standing ovation from the fans.

The following story would fit for any youth activity — basketball, baseball, football, etc.

At one point during a game, the coach called one of his young players over and asked him if he understood what cooperation and teamwork meant.

The little boy nodded in the affirmative.

"Do you understand that what matters is whether we win together as a team?"

The little guy said he did.

"So," the coach continued, "when a strike is called, or you are out at first, you don't argue or curse or attack the umpire. Do you understand that?"

Again, the kid nodded and said, "Yes."

"Good," replied the coach. "Now go over there and explain that to your mom and dad."

Enron ties...

PaineWebber clients file suit against firm

HOUSTON (AP) — Clients have filed a federal lawsuit against UBS PaineWebber, accusing the investment bank of making "manipulative and deceptive" recommendations to investors to buy and sell shares of Enron Corp. last year.

The lawsuit was filed earlier this month in U.S. District Court in Houston on behalf of PaineWebber clients who invested in Enron.

The lawsuit alleges the firm did not adequately warn them last fall of the Houston-based energy trader's worsening financial condition.

The Houston Chronicle reported in today's editions that the lawsuit alleges UBS PaineWebber did not want to jeopardize its arrangements to provide services to Enron employees and executives.

"In fact, PaineWebber directly lied to its clients for its own pecuniary gain by failing to reveal adverse information which it knew about Enron," the suit contends.

UBS PaineWebber officials said they intend to fight the lawsuit, calling it "completely without merit."

The lawsuit arose from allegations of a former Houston-based UBS PaineWebber broker who said he was fired for telling clients to sell their Enron stock last summer. The suit contends the firm discouraged Enron shareholders from selling their stock as it helped dozens of Enron executives sell millions of dollars in stock throughout 2001.

The broker, Chung Wu, filed a statement with his industry's self-regulatory body last summer. He alleged Enron pressured the firm to fire him because he advised clients to be wary and sell some of the stock after former Enron chief executive Jeff Skilling left the company.

UBS PaineWebber had close ties to Enron in recent years. It underwrote initial public offerings of stock for two Enron spin-offs.

Guilty plea sends one to state lockup

A 43-year-old Snyder man will serve 14 months in the state prison system following a guilty plea entered Monday in 132nd District Court.

Charles Wayne Cobb of 2807 Ave. I pleaded guilty to possession of a controlled substance, cocaine, on Oct. 27, 2001.

District Judge Ernie Armstrong sentenced Cobb to serve 14 months in a TDCJ state jail facility.

Students have opportunity to get extra credit

Dates for Snyder Independent School District's testing by exam will be June 25-27 and July 1-3.

The deadline for registering for these tests is Thursday, April 11.

The Texas Education Code and a new State Board of Education rule requires that any student be granted the opportunity to take an examination to be "accelerated" to a higher grade level, or to receive credit for a course not yet taken in school.

The district will give a student in the primary grades credit for a grade level and advance the student one grade on the basis of an exam for acceleration based on three criteria.

The criteria includes scoring in the 90th percentile or above in language arts, mathematics, science and social studies, a district representative recommends that the student be advanced, and the student's parents or guardian gives written approval of the advancement.

Students in grades 6-12 must be given credit for an academic subject in which they have no prior instruction if the student scores 90 percent on a criterion-referenced test for the course.

Interested parents and students should contact Dr. Melissa Jones at the SISD administration office, 2901 37th St., or by calling 573-5401.

Rev. Wilson to deliver Holy Week message

The final noon Holy Week Service will be Thursday and the week's event will conclude Friday with a 7 a.m. breakfast.

Rev. Wilson

Thursday's service will be at the First Presbyterian Church and Friday's will be at First United Methodist Church.

Along with the message delivered Thursday by Rev. Brenda Wilson, pastor of the First Christian Church, a meal will be served by representatives of her church and Trinity United Methodist Church.

Rev. Buddy Payne, pastor of First United Methodist Church, will deliver the message Friday morning and members of his church will provide breakfast.

The public is invited to the services, hosted by members of The Ministerial Alliance of Scurry County.

A free will offering is taken at each service to support the ministries conducted by the alliance.

ASK US

Q—Is the junior high doing away with the computer literacy program next year?

A—SISD Supt. Gayle Lomax said a decision on the program has not yet been made.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Tuesday, 57 degrees; low, 29; 7 a.m. Wednesday, 45; no precipitation; total for 2002, 2.77 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, cloudy, low 50-55; S winds 5-15 mph. Thursday, cloudy, high 75-80; S winds 5-15 mph; becoming W by p.m. Thursday night, cloudy, low around 55.

Savannah Valdez
Cloudy

Sunset:
7 p.m.
Sunrise:
6:37 a.m.
Of 85 days in 2002, the sun has shone 81 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember what you said.
—Mark Twain

MAR 27 2002

National Geographic to film 3 sons when they climb Everest

NEW YORK (AP) — National Geographic said it will film the sons of three of the 20th century's most notable mountaineers when they climb Mount Everest to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first ascent to the world's tallest peak.

The expedition of Peter Hillary, Jamling Norgay and Brent Bishop will be filmed for a two-hour documentary called "Surviving Everest," the National Geographic Society said in a news release Tuesday. The program is scheduled to air on the National Geographic Channel in May 2003.

Everest was first conquered in 1953 by New Zealander Sir Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay. Ten years later, National Geographic staffer Barry Bishop and four other climbers became the first Americans to scale the mountain.

The film will document the expedition of the younger Hillary, Norgay and Bishop as they try to relive the achievements of their fathers.

The trio is in Nepal preparing for the climb, which is scheduled for May, National Geographic spokeswoman Johnna Miller said.

They will be joined by Peter Athans — the expedition leader, who has climbed Everest six times — and other mountaineers. Hillary first climbed Everest in 1990, Bishop in 1994 and Norgay in 1996.

Terry Garcia, executive vice president of mission programs for National Geographic, said the purpose of the documentary is to create awareness of one of the most remote and inaccessible regions of the world.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS — Seven Snyder High School students earned awards at the District 4-4A one-act play contest Tuesday at Worsham Auditorium. Back row from left, Josh Proctor, stage crew award; Hayli Henderson, best actress; and Clark Reed, all-star cast. Middle row, from left, Bobby Sands, best actor; Haley Elkins, honorable mention all-star cast; Tanner Beard, all-star cast. Joanna Burk, in front, honorable mention all-star cast. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Woman has four identical daughters

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — A mother gave birth to four identical quadruplet girls, a phenomenon that only happens in every 1-in-11 million births.

What is also unusual is that Ornsee Khamsa and Verek Muy conceived the children without the aid of fertility drugs, an extremely unusual situation in cases of multiple births, doctors said.

Born Monday at Sutter Memorial Hospital after only about 30 weeks gestation, the largest baby weighs 2 pounds, 8 ounces. The smallest is 2 pounds, 5 ounces. Khamsa, 22, and Muy, 20, named the newborns Preana, Audreana, Natalie and Melody.

The couple, who live with relatives in West Sacramento, also have a 4-year-old son named Raymond. They said they plan to marry soon.

Specialists monitored the girls for the first 48 hours for signs of trouble, including respiratory distress and other complications common in premature infants.

events

LOTTO TEXAS™

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Pick 3

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

5-1-2

Cash Five

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

1-5-9-21-23

Texas Two Step

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

2-17-27-28

Bonus number 16

Estimated jackpot: $1,250,000

Suspended officer has second case

HOUSTON (AP) — One of four Baytown police officers temporarily relieved of regular duties following the death of a man in their custody, is under review for a second case in which he used force.

Patrolman Bert Dillow, one of the four being investigated by a grand jury in the Jan. 20 death of Luis Torres, was the only one of the four placed on administrative leave with pay.

The others — Sgt. Rodney Evans and patrolmen Micah Aldred and Chad Billeaud — were placed on desk duty.

Interim Police Chief Byron Jones said Dillow was placed on more restrictive status because he "was involved in a separate internal affairs investigation." He would not give details.

However, Dillow's attorney, Burt Springer, said Jones was being "overly cautious" in taking the action.

In an incident since Torres' death, Dillow used force to help subdue an individual, Springer said.

"That individual never registered a complaint," Springer said. "Nobody was injured. It is a police-initiated review to be on the safe side."

Dillow had his knee next to Torres' neck, which Harris County Medical Examiner Dr. Joye Carter said was bruised as officers struggled with Torres while trying to handcuff him.

Carter ruled that Torres' death during the struggle was a homicide resulting from mechanical asphyxiation and blunt trauma.

The attorney representing the Torres family, Michael Solar, has complained that the family had simply telephoned for an ambulance to treat Luis Torres' high blood pressure.

Solar has also been critical of reports that Torres was intoxicated and armed, since no drugs or alcohol were found in his system and no weapon was found.

Jones said officers who arrested Torres had "limited knowledge" from radio reports.

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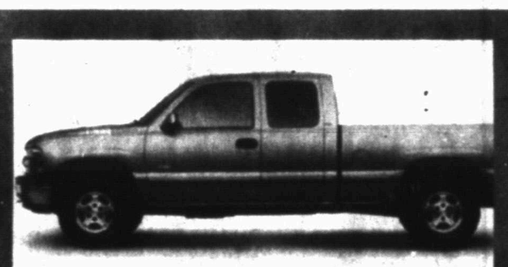
Smart Buy, Cash Price $23,485.22, Cash or Trade Down $6,532.63, 51% Res., Based on 15K yr., Final Pmt. $13,377.81,APR @ 8.50%, Term 36 Months WAC



2002 Silverado LS Ext.
$199 mo.
#C4265, Vortec 4300 V-6, A/C, AM/FM/Stereo CD Player, Chrome Wheels
Smart Buy, Cash Price $25,536.00, Cash or Trade Down $6,657.67, 51% Res., Based on 15K yr., Final Pmt. $13,023.36,APR @ 8.50%, Term 36 Months WAC

2002 Silverado 1500 Reg Cab
$175 mo.
#C4259, 5 Speed, Cruise, AM/FM/ CD Player
Smart Buy, Cash Price $17,150.30, Cash or Trade Down $4,392.55, 52% Res., Based on 15K yr., Final Pmt. $10,060.96,APR @ 8.50%, Term 36 Months WAC

2002 Fleetside Chevy Pickup
$150 mo.
#CS3803, Tinted Glass, Auto, Aluminum Wheels, Tilt, Cruise
Smart Buy, Cash Price $14,993.44, Cash or Trade Down $5,265.20, 43% Res., Based on 15K yr., Final Pmt. $7,069.20,APR @ 5.50%, Term 36 Months WAC

2002 Ext. Cab 1/2 Ton
#C4299 $21, 584
MSRP $26,231
Discount $2,645
Rebate $2,002
Price $21,584
SAVE $4647

2002 Reg. Cab TxOK
#C4259 $15,261
MSRP $18,348
Discount $1,085
Rebate $2,002
Price $15,261
SAVE $3087

2002 S10 Reg. Cab
#CS3803 $12,115
MSRP $16,040
Discount $1,923
Rebate $2,002
Price $12,115
SAVE $3925

2002 Z71 Ext. Cab
#TC4272 $25,993
MSRP $30,661
Discount $2,666
Rebate $2,002
Price $25,993
SAVE $4,668

2002 Montana Extended
#G3790 $22,340
MSRP $28,350
Discount $3008
Rebate $3,002
Price $22,340
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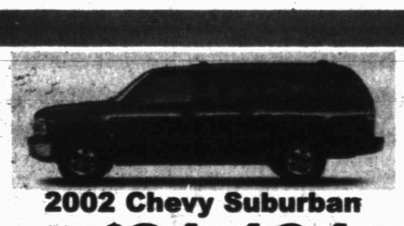

2002 Chevy Suburban
#C4152 $31,104
MSRP $36,958
Discount $4,354
Rebate $1,500
Price $31,104
SAVE $5854

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Local/News

Gov.

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By Abigail

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Gov. Perry unveils his education plan

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — Study hard and don't drop out of school.

That's the message Gov. Rick Perry gave on Tuesday as he toured South Texas touting his five-point plan for improving the Texas education system.

In Brownsville, Perry outlined his plan to lower high school dropout rates.

"I'm here today to talk to you and the students and the people about something I consider to be very important to every child in the state of Texas. And that is finishing school," Perry said. "A high school degree is no longer a goal, but a necessity."

Last school year, 23,457 students dropped out of Texas schools, according to information provided by the governor's office.

"(The students) are not just dropping out of school, they're dropping out on their future," he said, adding that students leave school for a variety of reasons, including work and family obligations.

Perry said his program will cost an estimated $200 million a year, with the bulk of the funds coming from the federal government, including the Leaving No Child Behind Education program, he said.

The governor was accompanied by Felipe Alanis, a native of the Rio Grande Valley who is the new commissioner of the Texas Education Agency.

Perry said he wants to establish new mentoring, summer school and after-school programs that "specialize in helping young men and women who are more prone to be dropout oriented, more at risk."

The governor lauded a ninth-grade initiative program that tries to raise graduation rates by lowering retention and dropout rates. But he said he wants to expand it to "fund early intervention programs for students in other grades so that we're not fighting this important battle too late."

He said flexible methods for allowing students to earn credits will motivate students who would otherwise be inclined to stop their education early to drop out.

Perry said the state needs more counselors, especially at schools with high dropout rates, saying they can provide the extra attention that students need to stay focused.

"These reforms will help us build on the tremendous success that we have made in Texas schools," he said. "I think it's time to take this success to the next level, making sure that every child has the help and the attention we need to succeed."

The governor's Web site provides an outline of Perry's five-point plan that calls for an "early start" for pre-school children, which will focus on pre-reading skills development.

FREERIDE BAND — The FREERIDE BAND, composed of six Abilene area high school boys, will perform the best of the fifties, sixties and seventies dance music from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday at the VFW. Reservations are suggested. Call 573-5338. FREERIDE t-shirts and personally autographed photos will be available. Band members from left are Nick Whitaker, 18, vocal and guitar: Reasal Baucum, 17, vocal and drums; Blake Starks, 17, vocal and keyboard; Cole Mashburn, 18, vocal and lead guitar; Zack Richards, 17, vocal and bass; Zach Harmon, 15, vocal, guitar and keyboard. The FREERIDE BAND has been playing on weekends for the past two years. For more information, contact the group at FREERIDE@Prodigy.net. (Contributed Photo)

Fire chief dies 10 days after shooting

ROSWELL, N.M. (AP) — Roswell's central fire station turned into a somber place with the news of Fire Chief Louis Jones's death.

Firefighters at the station were staring at each other in disbelief that Jones, who was shot March 16 after an explosion at a Roswell home, had died Tuesday at a Lubbock, Texas, hospital.

Jones, 46, had been taken off a life support system because of an infection and "he was not able to survive," said city public relations officer Clarissa Gonzalez Vaughn.

Vaughn remembered Jones as "a mountain of a man."

"He was a very big man, in top physical shape, and it was one of the things he pushed the firefighters to do, to stay in top physical shape," she said.

Jones and three other people, including a 3-year-old boy, were shot after a man with a history of mental problems set fire to his girlfriend's home, police said.

Professor ready to call off Asian boycott

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP) — A professor who urged Asian-Americans not to apply for jobs at U.S. nuclear weapons laboratories in response to the firing of Wen Ho Lee says he's ready to call off the protest in exchange for promised workplace changes.

Ling-Chi Wang said Tuesday he is prepared to start a recruiting drive if an agreement to change hiring practices and improve working conditions, now pending before officials in Washington, is finalized.

"I think the labs realized they had a real serious problem," said Wang, who initiated the boycott two years ago.

The plan was submitted on Monday by the Los Alamos, Livermore and Sandia laboratories to the National Nuclear Security Administration for approval, Los Alamos spokesman John Gustafson said.

Gustafson would not discuss the plan's contents. Wang said he had not read the final draft and could not comment on specifics.

In general, he said, he expects it to address racial profiling and discrimination as well as recruitment, retention and salary parity, and provide for promotion and research opportunities for minority employees.

Lee, a naturalized U.S. citizen who was born in Taiwan, was arrested in 1999 and indicted on 59 felony counts alleging he transferred nuclear weapons information to portable computer tapes. The nuclear scientist denied passing secrets and was never charged with espionage.

The government's case ultimately fell apart, and after nine months in solitary confinement, Lee pleaded guilty to a single count of downloading sensitive material and was freed. The judge in the case apologized to Lee.

Lee's supporters claimed he was a victim of racial profiling.

The boycott was endorsed by Asian-Pacific Americans in Higher Education and the Association of Asian American Studies.

After the boycott took effect, a number of Asians left the labs and officials reported fewer applications from Asian graduate students.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Story of teen's accident still exerts powerful pull

DEAR ABBY: A senior girl at my school was tragically killed in a car accident over Super Bowl weekend. She wasn't wearing her seatbelt and was thrown from the car. The car rolled on top of her and crushed her. Her boyfriend was with her. I heard that before she died, he took her hand and she told him she loved him. It just blew me away. My cousin was killed a year ago in much the same way.

My family has read your articles for years, but one touched us deeply. It was an essay about a teen who was killed in a car accident, and he was only 17. I am only 17 and so was the girl who died. Please print it again to remind us of the fact that we're only mortal and should cherish every waking day. **— BARRY W. IN KENNEWICK, WASH.**

DEAR BARRY: That piece is titled, "Please God, I'm Only 17," and it's the most requested piece in the history of the column. Young people have written to me to confirm that it made them think twice about their driving habits and encouraged them to be careful. You are right; it should run at least once a year, so here it is:

PLEASE GOD, I'M ONLY 17

The day I died was an ordinary school day. How I wish I had taken the bus. But I was too cool for the bus. I remember how I wheedled the car out of Mom. "Special favor," I pleaded. "All the kids drive."

When the 2:50 bell rang, I threw all my books in the locker. I was free until 8:40 tomorrow morning! I ran to the parking lot, excited at the thought of driving a car and being my own boss. Free!

It doesn't matter how the accident happened. I was goofing off — going too fast — taking crazy chances. But I was enjoying my freedom and having fun. The last thing I remember was passing an old lady who seemed to be going awfully slow. I heard the deafening crash and felt a terrible jolt. Glass and steel flew everywhere. My whole body seemed to be turning inside out. I heard myself scream.

Suddenly I awakened; it was very quiet. A police officer was standing over me. Then I saw a doctor. My body was mangled. I was saturated with blood. Pieces of jagged glass were sticking out all over. Strange that I couldn't feel anything.

Hey, don't pull that sheet over my head! I can't be dead. I'm only 17. I've got a date tonight. I'm supposed to grow up and have a wonderful life. I haven't lived yet. I can't be dead!

Later I was placed in a drawer. My folks had to identify me. Why did they have to see me like this? Why did I have to look at Mom's eyes when she faced the most terrible ordeal of her life? Dad suddenly looked like an old man. He told the man in charge, "Yes, he is my son."

The funeral was a weird experience. I saw all my relatives and friends walk toward the casket. They passed by, one by one, and looked at me with the saddest eyes I've ever seen. Some of my buddies were crying. A few of the girls touched my hand and sobbed as they walked away.

Please — somebody — wake me up! Get me out of here! I can't bear to see my mom and dad so broken up. My grandparents are so racked with grief they can hardly walk. My brothers and sisters are like zombies. They move like robots. In a daze, everybody. No one can believe this. And I can't believe it, either.

Please don't bury me! I'm not dead! I have a lot of living to do! I want to laugh and run again. I want to sing and dance. Please don't put me in the ground. I promise if you give me one more chance, God, I'll be the most careful driver in the whole world. All I want is one more chance!

Please, God, I'm only 17!

**

**

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

**

**

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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Date Book

Tuesday, March 26, 2002

Today is the 85th day of 2002 and the 7th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1827, composer Ludwig van Beethoven died in Vienna.

On this day in 1885, the first commercial film for motion pictures was produced by the Eastman Dry Plate and Film Company.

On this day in 1953, Dr. Jonas Salk announced that he had successfully completed testing on a vaccine for polio.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Robert Frost (1874 - 1963), poet; Tennessee Williams (1911 - 1983), playwright; Sandra Day O'Connor (1930 -), U.S. Supreme Court justice, is 72; Leonard Nimoy (1931 -), actor, is 71; James Caan (1940 -), actor, is 62; Erica Jong (1942 -), writer, is 60; Bob Woodward (1943 -), journalist, is 59; Diana Ross (1944 -), singer/actress, is 58; Steven Tyler (1948 -), Aerosmith singer, is 54; Martin Short (1950 -), actor, is 52; Marcus Allen (1960 -), football star, is 42; Amy Smart (1976 -), actress, is 26.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1931, Leo Bentley from Lorain, Ohio, bowled three consecutive perfect games.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "...many of these people have their reputations as reporters and analysts because they are on television, batting around conventional wisdom. A lot of these people have never reported a story. I'm not going to name some of my colleagues who are very well-known for their television presentation — but they wouldn't know new information or how to report a story if it came up and bit them." **— Bob Woodward**

TODAY'S MOON: Between the first quarter (March 21) and the full moon (March 28).

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Berry's World

Look in Sunday's Paper

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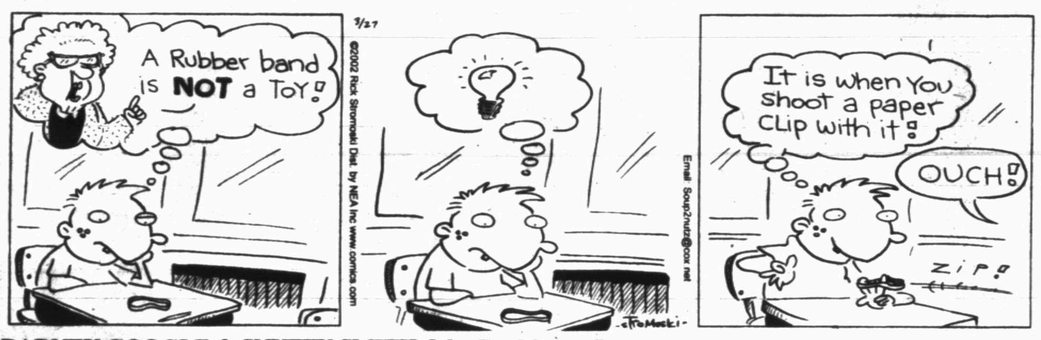
MAR 27 2002

ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman

THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom

SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



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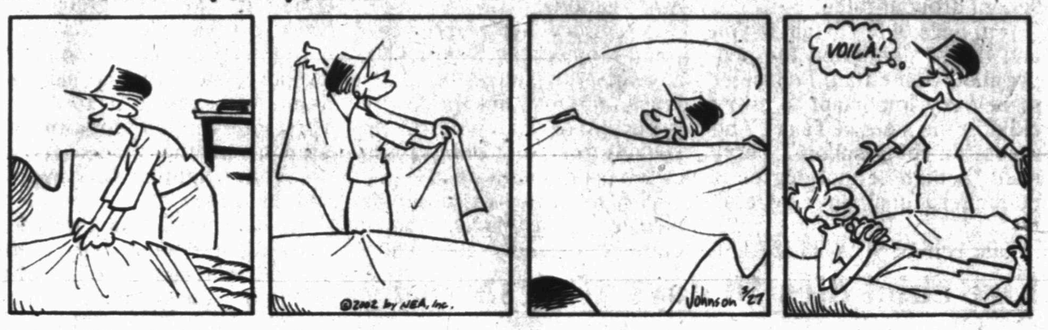

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"When you hit the other car, you swallowed the air bag."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Deep ditches
6 Wish for
11 Sock hops
12 Money manager
13 Canvas user
14 Fleet of warships
15 Lots and lots
16 Dress style
17 Kachina doll maker
18 Slippery fish
19 Cough syrup meas.
23 Unconscious state
25 Shaggy beasts
26 "When We Was —"
29 Bride's walkway
32 Belittle (slang)
33 Fiesta shout
34 Orange or banana
35 CPR expert
36 Corn servings
38 Line on a map
40 Billboard
41 Desire
42 Encourage
46 Roman poet
48 Certain beneficiaries
49 Open a gift
52 Diva Maria
53 Connoisseurs
54 Garment part
55 Bosc and Anjou
56 Lingerie item

DOWN

1 Explorer Polo
2 Ready for use (2 wds.)
3 Sour-tasting
4 D'Urberville girl
5 JFK rival
6 Tall tale
7 Antagonism
8 Rap-sheet letters
9 Tulip color
10 Gun gp.
11 Bolt
12 Pitch water
16 Surveyed
18 Qatar ruler
20 Commanded
21 Nonfat milk
22 Attention getter
24 Numskull
26 Rivals
27 Kyrgyzstan mountains
28 Freighter hazard
30 Mane possessor
31 Plato's H
37 Noisy sleeper
39 Fenced
41 Sharp barks
43 Ticked off
44 Extra benefit
45 To be, to Caesar
47 Commuter vehicles
48 Robust
49 Referee
50 Kilt-wearer's no
51 Harpers Ferry st.
52 Wisconsin hrs.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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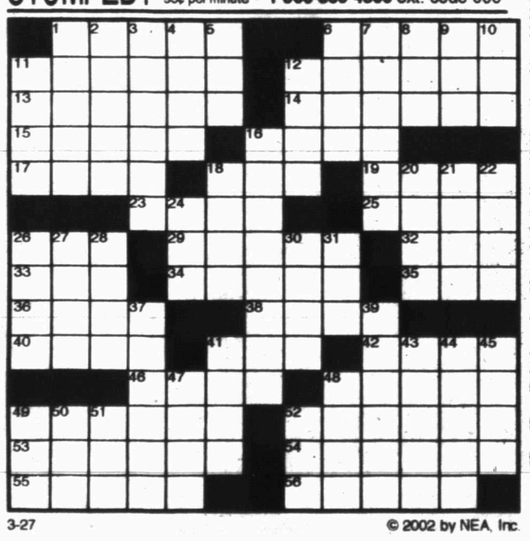

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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"MY MOM SAYS I'M EVEN CUTER WHEN I'M ASLEEP."

Lad

By Eric D
Sports

ANDREWS —
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past Snyder, 5-4, i
softball showdown
at Lady Mustang
The setback dr
Tigers into a tie
with Lake View
Andrews remaine
Big Spring for the
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coach Shelly Hay
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MAJOR ALL-STA
All-Stars are, fro
Travis Hatfield,
row are Dustin
Bollinger and Ry
Lance Day. (Cont

JUNIOR HOOPS
Junior All-Stars a
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JUNIOR DIVISION
Snyder 1
J-1
Plainview 2
Andrews
J-2
Levelland 2
Levelland 1
J-3
Snyder 2
Plainview 1
J-4
Big Spring
Loser 1
J-7
Loser 2
Loser
Loser 3
J-8
Loser 4
Loser
MAJOR DIVISION
Andrews 1
M-2
Plainview 2
Levelland 1
M-3
Andrews 2
Snyder 1
M-4
Big Spring
Plainvie
Levelland 2
M-1
Snyder 2
Loser 3
M-10
Loser 5
Loser 7
Loser 1
M-6
Loser 2
Loser 4

SPORTS

Lady Tigers go cold in 5-4 setback

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

ANDREWS — Over the final four innings, Snyder's bats went cold and Andrews' defense stiffened up. The swap in momentum gave the Lady Mustangs the room it needed to rescue a victory.

Andrews manufactured a run in each of the last four innings to slip past Snyder, 5-4, in a District 4-4A softball showdown Tuesday night at Lady Mustang Field.

The setback dropped the Lady Tigers into a tie for third place with Lake View at 5-2, while Andrews remained locked with Big Spring for the top spot.

"We've put ourselves in a position where every game from here on out is a big one," said SHS coach Shelly Hayes. "We knew this game wasn't going to make or break our season. We just have to take care of business from here on out."

Snyder was stymied at the plate by Andrews pitcher Amy Burnett. The sophomore limited the Lady Tigers to only four hits and registered 16 strikeouts.

Despite Burnett's dominance, Snyder managed to grab a 4-1 lead through three innings thanks to some shaky play in the field by Andrews.

The Lady Tigers knotted the game at 1-1 in the second when they scored their first run on no hits and two errors.

Two more errors and a walk loaded the bases with two outs in the third before Valerie Hernandez drove a single into center field.

Dara Chambers and Missy Vasquez scored easily on the play, and when Candace Menefee misplayed the ball, Chaelyn Robinson raced home for a 4-1 advantage.

Unfortunately for Snyder, Hernandez' hit would be its last until the final frame. Burnett fanned eight of the next 10 batters she faced.

Andrews cut the lead to 4-2 in the fourth on a walk and two hits. In the fifth, Kasi Lightfoot's double plated another Lady Mustang run to close the gap to 4-3.

Andrews pulled even in the sixth when the Lady Tigers committed their only two errors of the night, and the Lady Mustangs laid down a pair of bunt singles.

Andrews capped the game in the bottom of the seventh when Judy Hart blooped a single to right field, went all the way to third on a bunt, and scored on a Sonya Figarroa base hit down the left-field line.

"I thought our bunt coverage wasn't very good. But the difference in the game was our lack of hitting," Hayes said. "After the third inning, we stopped hitting.

"I give Andrews a lot of credit because their pitcher was good, and they were very patient at the plate. We weren't as patient, and it hurt us in the end."

Ashley Martinez pitched all seven frames for Snyder, surrendering 14 hits and three walks to go along with five strikeouts.

The Lady Tigers hit the road Thursday to face Levelland before hosting a key match-up Tuesday with Lake View. The Maidens are the only other team to topple Snyder during district play.

"That game Tuesday with Lake View is going to be a big one," Hayes remarked. "I think Lake View should expect a different game this time around. Our girls are still pretty mad about losing that first one."

Snyder	ab	r	h	bi
Freeman c	4	0	1	0
Chambers 3b	4	1	1	0
Fisk ss	4	0	0	0
Vasquez dh	3	1	1	0
Robinson cf	2	1	0	0
A.Martinez p	3	0	0	0
Hernandez 2b	3	1	1	2
L.Martinez rf	3	0	0	0
Johnson lf	3	0	0	0
Totals	29	4	4	2

Andrews	ab	r	h	bi
Menefee cf	5	0	3	0
Figarroa rf	5	1	2	1
Padgett 1b	3	0	1	0
Baeza 3b	4	0	2	1
Hicks lf	4	1	1	0
Lightfoot 2b	3	1	2	1
Burnett p	3	0	1	0
Corbin dh	4	0	0	0
Waldron ss	2	2	1	0
Hart ph	1	0	1	1
Totals	34	5	14	4

Snyder	0	1	3	0	0	0	0—	4	4	2
Andrews	1	0	0	1	1	1	1—	5	14	5

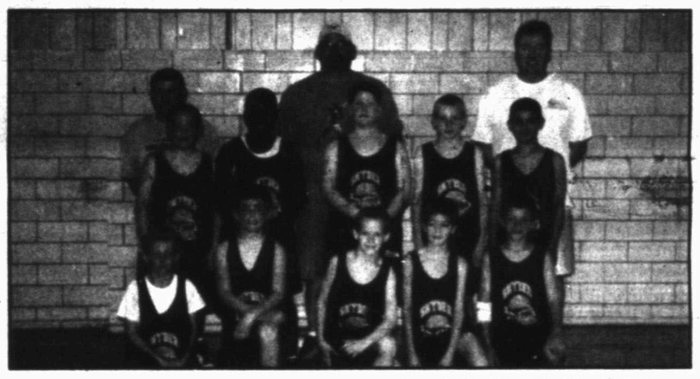
Two out when winning run scored.
LOB - Snyder 5, Andrews 10. 2B - Andrews, Baeza, Lightfoot, Burnett.

Snyder	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
A.Martinez	6 2/3	14	5	4	3	5
Andrews	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Burnett	7	4	4	0	1	16

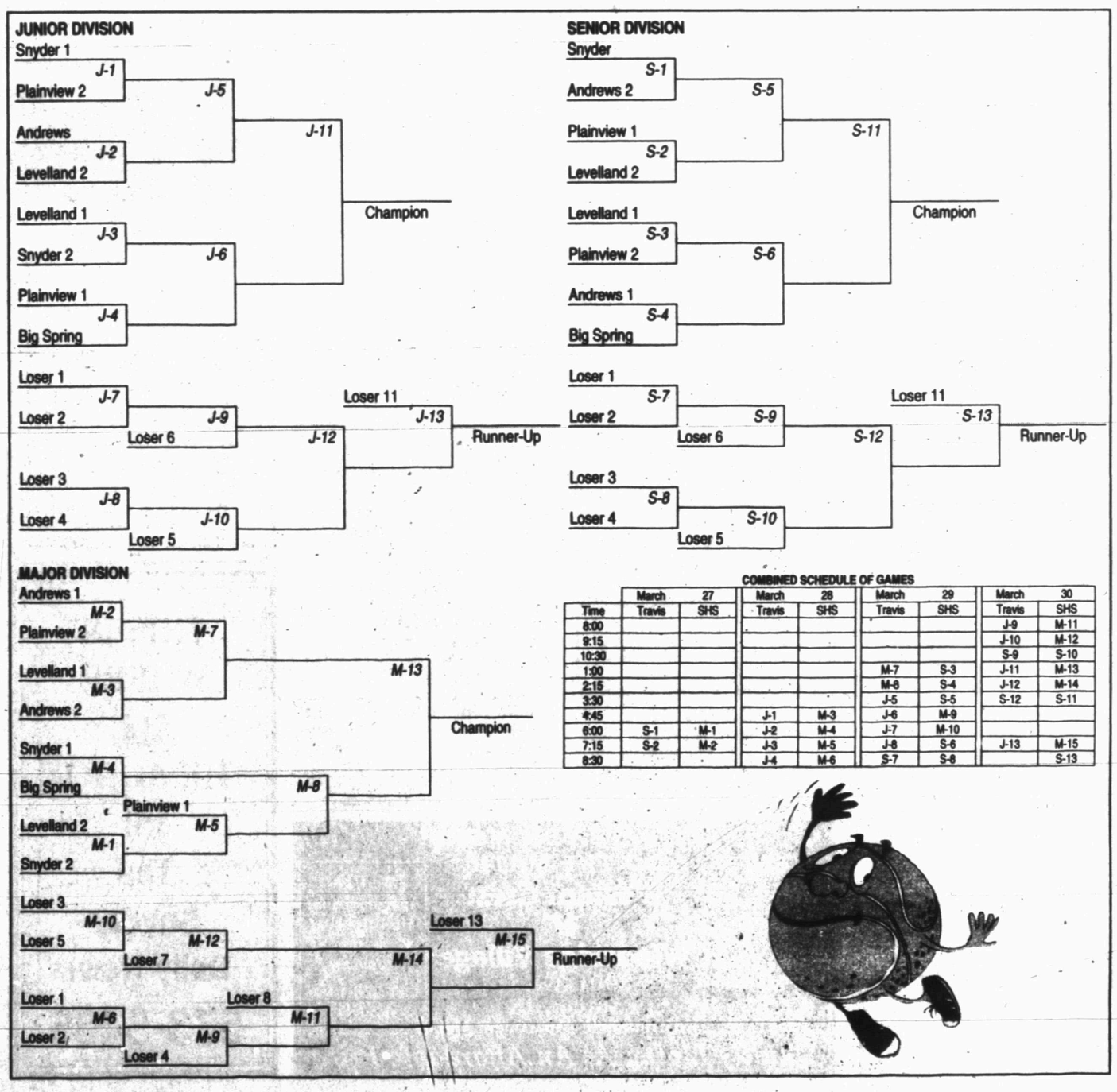
MAJOR ALL-STARS — Members of the Snyder "Gold" Major All-Stars are, front from left, Brandon Jones, Colton Brewster, Travis Hatfield, Rance Dunn and Cord Welsh. On the second row are Dustin Murdock, Lance Day, Brooks Gafford, Brent Bollinger and Ryan Claxton. Coaches are Russell Gafford and Lance Day. (Contributed Photo)

JUNIOR HOOPSTERS — Members of the Snyder "Black" Junior All-Stars are, from left, Kennon Ward, Seth Cotton, Kelton Garcia, Dakota Carroll, Kaden Seale, Alex Escobedo, Quintin Bass, Steven Juarez, Brandon Lunsford and Nick Zajicek. (Contributed Photo)

MAJOR DRIBBLERS — Members of the Snyder "Black" Major All-Stars are, from left, Ryan Gonzales, Jesse Conner, Craig Robertson, Riley Davis, Coach Teddy Murray, Tyler McCormack, Adrian Groage, Coach Dayton Robertson, Blane Knipe, Bubba Perales, Rudy Martinez and Jared Cave. (Contributed Photo)



GOLD ALL-STARS — Members of the Snyder "Gold" Junior All-Stars are, front from left, Anthony Taylor, Jake Crenwelge, Ty Burton, Matthew Rios and Shade Roemisch. On the second row are Rey Juarez, T.J. Wright, Kenyon Gafford, Kylor Fine and Alex Hernandez. Coaches are Reyes Juarez, Scott Crenwelge and Russell Gafford. (Contributed Photo)



COMBINED SCHEDULE OF GAMES

	March 27		March 28		March 29		March 30	
Time	Travis	SHS	Travis	SHS	Travis	SHS	Travis	SHS
8:00							J-9	M-11
9:15							J-10	M-12
10:30							S-9	S-10
1:00					M-7	S-3	J-11	M-13
2:15					M-6	S-4	J-12	M-14
3:30					J-5	S-5	S-12	S-11
4:45			J-1	M-3	J-6	M-9		
6:00	S-1	M-1	J-2	M-4	J-7	M-10		
7:15	S-2	M-2	J-3	M-5	J-8	S-6	J-13	M-15
8:30			J-4	M-6	S-7	S-8		S-13

Tigers top 'Dogs, 6-4

All of the scoring came in two innings, but Snyder's one outburst did more damage than Plainview's.

The Snyder Tigers scored six runs in the fourth inning Tuesday night to remain unbeaten in District 4-4A with a 6-4 victory over Plainview at Moffett Field.

The Tigers improved to 17-6-1 on the year and 5-0 in league play. Snyder and Andrews share the top spot in the standings with the two teams scheduled to meet Tuesday at Andrews.

Plainview grabbed the early lead with four runs in the third before Snyder rallied in the fourth.

Shay Franks, Tyler Trout and Tito Alaniz teamed up on the mound to surrender only three hits. Snyder also made three errors.

Junior Billy Pena belted a double for the Tigers' only extra-base hit of the night.

Snyder is in action again at 7 p.m. Friday when it hosts Estacado at Moffett Field.

Team	District W	District L	Season W	Season L
Snyder	5	0	17	6
Andrews	5	0	12	2
Frenship	4	1	14	5
Big Spring	2	3	5	12
Lake View	1	4	6	11
Estacado	1	4	5	11
Levelland	1	4	5	13
Plainview	1	4	8	11

Tuesday's results: Snyder 6, Plainview 4; Andrews 4, Estacado 2; Frenship 12, Levelland 2; Big Spring 7, Lake View 3.

SHS boys widen gap in district tourney

The two teams giving chase swapped places, but the Snyder Tigers remained out front in the District 4-4A boys golf tournament.

Snyder followed up its 312 on Saturday with a 305 Tuesday at Western Texas College to open up a 21-stroke lead on the field.

Andrews, which was third after the first round, charged into second place Tuesday with a 316. Frenship carded a second-round 324 to slip to third, with the rest of the field falling farther back.

"We played well and that's what you have to do on your home course," said Coach Matt Glenn. "You can't let teams come to your place and make up ground, and we didn't."

Junior Stafford Gray fired a 73 to pace the Tigers' second round in which all five players finished under 80.

Juniors Brady Reed and Zach Starnes fired a pair of 77s. Clinton Calmes turned in a 78, and Britt Sharrock finished with a 79.

Snyder will try to maintain its 21-stroke advantage over the final two rounds of the tournament. Play resumes April 8 at Plainview before wrapping up April 13 at Andrews.

Mavs edge Bucks in OT

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Nick Van Exel scored all 17 of his points in the fourth quarter and overtime as the Dallas Mavericks overcame a 17-point deficit and beat the short-handed Milwaukee Bucks 112-106 Tuesday night.

Van Exel scored 13 points in the fourth quarter, including a 3-pointer with 1:27 left that tied it at 95. He missed a shot from the right baseline with 14 seconds left in regulation but Dirk Nowitzki got the rebound. Steve Finley, who led the Mavericks with 36 points, missed a 3-pointer at the buzzer.

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BID NOTICE
The City of Snyder is accepting sealed bids for the purchase of 3/4" and 1" water meters. The bids will be received until Wednesday, April 10th at 3:30 p.m.. The opening will be at the City Hall in the Accounting Department. The City of Snyder reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

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573-5486

Free markets are working to correct abuses

WASHINGTON (AP) — Alan Greenspan, long a supporter of less government regulation, says the marketplace already is correcting the worst abuses exposed by the collapse of Enron Corp.

In the Federal Reserve chairman's most extensive comments on the biggest corporate bankruptcy filing in U.S. history, Greenspan urged a significant change in how stock options are treated but otherwise cautioned against over-regulation.

Greenspan told his audience at New York University on Tuesday that it would be a mistake to see a need for a "significant expansion of regulation."

He said stronger investor scrutiny after Enron's December collapse already has imposed needed market discipline on corporate accounting practices.

"The sharp decline in stock and bond prices following Enron's collapse has chastened many of the uncritical practitioners of questionable accounting," Greenspan said.

He said companies whose earnings are reported "free of spin" are being rewarded.

"Corporate reputation is fortunately re-emerging out of the ashes of the Enron debacle as a significant economic value," the Fed chairman said.

"Corporate governance has doubtless already measurably improved as a result of this greater market discipline in the wake of recent events," he said.

Greenspan repeated a recommendation he made to Congress this month that it require companies to count stock options they reward top executives and other employees as company expenses.

The proposed change, being pushed in legislation sponsored by Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., already sparked a lobbying campaign in opposition led by executives of many high-tech firms.

Enron executives reaped millions of dollars in profits by cashing in stock options before the company's share prices plummeted. Critics contend the lure of huge stock windfalls created incentive for the executives to hide the company's real status with questionable accounting practices.

Greenspan said current accounting rules, which do not require stock options to be charged as company expenses, allow many corporations to inflate reported earnings. A Federal Reserve staff study, he said, estimated that annual corporate earnings growth between 1995 and 2000 was 2.5 percentage points higher for larger corporations because they did not have to count options as expenses.

Greenspan said a switch to expensing options would not bar companies from using the often highly lucrative incentives to attract top talent but would ensure that its impact on the company would be properly reflected.

Since a large number of U.S. companies have used stock options, a change requiring that they be counted as expenses would cause many to report lowered earnings. Current rules require companies only to report the cost of providing options as footnotes in their annual reports.

A requirement that stock options be counted as expenses was the major regulatory change Greenspan outlined in his speech. Otherwise, he cautioned Congress against passing too many new laws, saying the marketplace should be allowed to work.

Greenspan said one change that probably would occur without government interference was increased use of databases to track past recommendations that brokerage firms have made about various companies.

Critics have charged that analysts at big brokerage firms failed to alert investors to the problems at Enron because they did not want to lose stock underwriting business with the company.

Greenspan said some method undoubtedly would occur in the aftermath of Enron that would allow investors to measure the success of past recommendations.

"I venture to say that with such transparency, the current upward bias of analysts' earnings projections would diminish rather rapidly, because investment firms are well aware that security analysis without credibility has no market value," Greenspan said.

Greenspan made no mention in his speech about the current state of the economy or the Fed's decision last week to leave interest rates unchanged.

The Fed changed a forward-pointing portion of its announcement to indicate that it no longer saw economic weakness as the greatest threat facing the economy.

Many analysts believe the Fed will begin in coming months to raise interest rates to keep the rebounding economy from sparking inflation pressures.

On the Net: Federal Reserve: http://www.federalreserve.gov

Medicare, SS are stable in spite of recession

WASHINGTON (AP) — Social Security and Medicare are still running out of cash, but despite the recession the two retirement programs have grown a little bit stronger.

Trustees for the programs reported Tuesday the projected insolvency date for the Medicare trust fund was extended to 2030, a year later than earlier estimates. Social Security is expected to run out of money by 2041, three years later than previous projections.

The Bush administration quickly pointed to the numbers as proof that changes are needed to bolster the programs before baby boomers reach retirement age. Republicans have been eager to legislate changes in Medicare, including a limited prescription drug benefit for older people, before Congress adjourns this year.

But Democratic Sen. Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts, chairman of the Senate's health committee, said the numbers prove that Medicare is solvent for another three decades — despite Republican demands for widespread changes now.

"These estimates discredit (the administration's) claims that Medicare needs radical surgery to privatize the program and force senior citizens into HMOs," said Kennedy, chairman of the Senate's Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. He said the numbers show Congress's "top priority should be enactment of a Medicare prescription drug benefit."

Republicans insisted on adjustments sooner rather than later.

"This reprieve provides little comfort as the programs continue to face substantial financial challenges in the not-too-distant future that need to be addressed at the earliest opportunity," said Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill, a trustee for both programs.

Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson, another trustee, said: "We cannot be so irresponsible we leave this problem for the next generation."

Trustees also predicted that Social Security will begin to dip into its trust funds a year later, in 2017, when it is expected to begin paying out more in benefits than it collects in payroll taxes. The year that Medicare is projected to begin dipping into its trust fund remained at 2016.

The improvements were attributed to healthy gains in productivity, a key ingredient to the economy's long-run vitality.

"The economy has weathered a relatively brief and mild recession," said Lynn Reaser, chief economist for Banc of America Capital Management. "As a result, the overall revenue sources for Medicare and Social Security out 15 or 30 years have not been impacted significantly."

Still Reaser cautioned, "The point remains that at some time both of these trust funds will be out of money."

Over the past several years, the strong economy has helped to extend the time before either trust fund is expected to run out of cash.

But the gains, as Reaser noted, don't hide that both Medicare and Social Security are ill-prepared to deal with the baby boomer population, now close to retirement age.

The number of older people is expected to double by 2030.

Congress has promised to look at costly Medicare changes this year, including the prescription drug benefit for seniors. But those plans could be derailed by the cost of the war against terrorism. Further complicating the political landscape are this fall's congressional elections.

The prospect for Social Security changes may be dimmer.

Retired sheriff's deputy kills four children, then himself

MERCED, Calif. (AP) — Instead of reflecting on Holy Week, students at Our Lady of Mercy School crowded into a gym to pray for four peers killed at home by their despondent father.

Some clasped their hands and wept during the Mass on Tuesday after learning that John Hogan, a former sheriff's deputy, fatally shot his 5-year-old daughter and three teen-age stepchildren and then killed himself while his ex-wife was out jogging.

At Golden Valley High School, where two of the victims attended school, students scribbled messages about their grief on a huge banner.

"They were bright and full of hope and positive, with terrific senses of humor," said Brenda Feehan, principal of the Our Lady of Mercy, the Roman Catholic elementary school two of the children had attended. "It doesn't make sense."

Hogan, a former Santa Clara County sheriff's deputy, was distraught over his divorce with Christine McFadden, the mother of all four children, authorities said.

He placed an early morning phone call to a Santa Clara deputy he used to work with and left a message, saying he was bankrupt and sounding depressed, said Assistant Merced Sheriff Henry Strength.

While his ex-wife was out for an early morning run with a neighbor, Hogan entered the house and began shooting with a .40-caliber handgun.

When McFadden, a veterinarian, returned just after 7 a.m., she found her 17-year-old daughter lying dead in a hallway and rushed next door to call for help, said Merced Sheriff's Sgt. Tom Cavallero.

Accompanied by deputies, she found her three other children and her ex-husband dead in separate bedrooms. The other victims appeared to have been sleeping.

Hogan's body was in the master bedroom, his hands clutching his dead 5-year-old daughter, Michelle Hogan.

"No word can explain walking through that," said sheriff's commander Mark Pazin. "I can't put it into words, it's horrifying."

Melanie Willis, 17, and Stanley Willis, 15, were students at Golden Valley. Stuart Willis, 14, was an eighth grader and Michelle was in preschool at Our Lady of Mercy.

Three firms targeted in suit seeking slavery reparations

NEW YORK (AP) — A woman whose ancestors were slaves sued three companies for allegedly profiting from slavery for nearly two centuries — a long-simmering concept that could pick up steam if more blacks are allowed to join the lawsuits.

Plaintiffs' lawyers said the lawsuits were the first to seek slavery reparations from private companies. They were filed against the Aetna insurance company, the FleetBoston financial services group and railroad giant CSX on behalf of the 35 million American descendants of African slaves.

At a news conference announcing the lawsuits Tuesday, Deadria Farmer-Paellmann said she spent five years researching the topic after writing on her law school application that her dream was to build the case that would win slavery reparations.

She said she became interested in the quest as she listened to her grandparents, including descriptions of her great-great-grandmother's escape from a rice plantation on the eve of the Civil War, when she stole a boat and ran away, surviving two weeks in swamps. Farmer-Paellmann graduated from law school in 2000.

"My grandfather always talked about the 40 acres and a mule we were promised and never given," said Farmer-Paellmann, who was the only plaintiff identified in the lawsuits.

The three suits, which seek unspecified damages, claimed that as many as 1,000 unidentified corporations may have benefited from slavery between 1619 and 1865. The lawsuits seek class-action status and could be expanded to include more companies.

Lawyer Ed Fagan said a series of Holocaust lawsuits he helped settle for $8 billion had blazed the legal trail for the slavery action by setting a precedent in making banks and insurance companies pay damage to victims.

Any damages won from the lawsuit would be put into a fund to improve health, education and housing opportunities for blacks, said attorney Roger Wareham.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Thursday, March 28, 2002

Your chances to fulfill your ambitious goals in the year ahead look good. You'll be willing to work hard and long for them, but try to maintain a good balance between work and fun.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Your judgment is good, but only when you have a chance to take into account all considerations. Rushing to judgment could have you tripping over hidden flaws. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — If you don't first believe in yourself and your abilities to get things done, you'll find excuses to not even try to accomplish anything. Trust your abilities.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Rise above anyone among your friends or associates who attempts to make waves. By keeping your head, you'll keep your dignity intact as well.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Dig deep within yourself for truth in all things and success won't elude you, especially if someone attempts to lay blame at your feet. Facts will protect you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Keep your priorities in order or else you could allow an opposing opinion of someone else's get to you and jeopardize a relationship. Agree to disagree and get on with things.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Someone with whom you have to deal with could attempt to use intimidating tactics in order to get what she or he wants out of you. The facts will tell you otherwise, so abide by them.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Demands won't cut it — you'll have to be logical and reasonable if you want support from your mate, especially on issues where you've disagreed previously.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Persons who take you for granted aren't apt to get any assistance from you. Only those who are truly in need will be offered what you have to give. You'll know the difference.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Plan your activities with groups that include only those with whom you feel at ease. Getting involved with persons with whom you've once had trouble should be avoided.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Should there be a big variance between your priorities and those of someone with whom you're involved, it could create conditions not beneficial to either. Go your own way.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Be conscious of the fact that things you normally might overlook in others could be very irritating to you. You should be able to control this so that things can run smoothly.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Just because some obstacles and frustrations may be present at the onset of the business day doesn't mean you can't get past them. Regroup and get a fresh start.

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Bridge

By Phillip Alder

Deception is a difficult drill

By Phillip Alder

Francois, Duc de La Rochefoucauld, wrote, "The height of cleverness is being able to conceal it."

That is so true! When you first meet two of my best friends, you do not notice anything extraordinary, but after talking with them for a short while, you realize they are very intelligent. Oh that we were all like that.

In bridge, there are clever plays to conceal our holdings, but they are hard to find because we are not trained to be underhanded and deceptive. How did East defeat this three-no-trump contract after West led the spade three?

That was some lead by West. However, as North didn't investigate a major-suit fit, and because West had such a lousy hand, it was reasonable to attack in one of the majors, hoping to find partner's long suit.

If East takes his four spade tricks before casting adrift with the heart jack, what would South do next? He should cash his red-suit winners, learning that West began with three spades, at least three hearts, and five diamonds. So, West has at most two clubs. Declarer should play a club to dummy's king, then return a club, claiming when the queen pops up.

However, now imagine that East takes only three spade tricks, keeping the eight in his pocket, before shifting to the heart jack. What would South make of that?

Surely South would assume West had led from 10-fourth of spades. And if so, the contract would be safe if declarer cashes his club ace and leads a second club, finessing dummy's jack when West plays low. However, disaster strikes. That nefarious East produces both the club queen and spade eight to defeat the contract.

Opening lead: SPADES 3

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03-27-02

North
♠ Q 7 4
♥ K 2
♦ Q 6 3
♣ K J 9 8 5

West
♠ 10 5 3
♥ 6 5 3
♦ 10 8 7 5 2
♣ 6 3

East
♠ A K J 8
♥ J 10 9 7 4
♦ J 9
♣ Q 4

South
♠ 9 6 2
♥ A Q 8
♦ A K 4
♣ A 10 7 2

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♠ 3

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	26.30	25.17	25.72	—.36
AOL TimeWrn	23.70	22.98	23.45	+.15
AT&T Corp s	15.36	15.00	15.27	+.12
Albertsons	32.61	32.30	32.53	
Alltel	55.51	54.00	55.50	+1.30
AmEl Pw	45.72	45.10	45.65	+.38
AndarkPtr	57.10	55.89	56.81	+1.37
ATMOS Egy	24.49	24.00	24.21	+.26
Aviall	8.79	8.65	8.75	+.07
BP PLC	52.75	52.25	52.70	+.84
BakerHughes	38.53	37.70	37.88	+.38
Bank of Amer	69.38	68.30	69.10	—.02
BellSouth	37.30	36.94	37.17	+.17
vjBeth Steel	.49	.41	.49	+.10
BurlNoSFe	30.34	29.75	30.30	+.39
Caterpillar	57.80	56.30	57.46	+1.21
ChevronTex	90.00	89.58	89.96	+.96
Citigroup	50.12	49.15	49.97	+.82
CocaCola	52.20	51.85	52.03	—.57
ColgatePal	57.03	56.60	56.60	—.07
ComclMetals	40.85	40.25	40.73	+.28
CooperIn	41.80	41.30	41.51	+.16
DaimlrChry	45.83	45.05	45.38	—1.17
DeltaAirl	32.95	32.00	32.60	—.19
Dillards Inc	23.80	23.52	23.67	—.10
DowChem	33.45	32.72	33.43	+.73
DuPont	48.34	47.64	48.14	+.63
EastmanChem	48.95	48.72	48.95	+.25
EstKodak	31.30	31.10	31.27	—.06
EDS Corp	58.10	56.90	57.48	—.48
Entergy	43.05	42.80	43.01	—.02
ExxonMobil s	44.10	43.58	43.96	+.22
FootLocker	15.99	15.65	15.75	+.08
GenDynam	96.20	93.24	95.84	+2.58
GenElec	37.60	37.05	37.51	+.20
GenMills	49.34	49.15	49.30	+.16
GenMotors	60.05	59.27	59.93	+.78
GaPacific	30.50	30.24	30.48	—.04
Goodrich	31.54	30.42	31.52	+1.20
Goodyear	25.10	24.54	25.04	+.41
GtAtlPac	27.20	26.85	27.00	+.30
Halliburtn	16.97	16.55	16.90	+.55
Hanson ADS	38.10	37.74	37.84	—.56
HarteHanks	30.65	30.55	30.60	+.11
HomeDepot	49.14	48.30	48.45	—.55
Honeywellntl	38.49	38.05	38.30	+.11
IBM	103.79	102.50	102.97	+.07
IntlPaper	42.99	42.43	42.96	+.57
JohnsonJn s	65.14	64.82	65.06	+.35
vjK mart	1.68	1.65	1.65	—.04
KinderMorg	48.00	47.77	48.00	+.05
Kroger Co	22.30	22.02	22.16	—.04
LockheedM	59.97	57.65	59.58	+2.35
Lowes Cos s	44.15	43.65	43.78	—.17
Lubys	6.80	6.65	6.80	+.11
LucentTech	4.42	4.28	4.35	+.03
MarathonOil	28.90	28.64	28.78	+.27
MayDeptStr	35.10	34.90	34.90	—.16
Medtronic	44.23	43.75	43.93	—.10
Motorola	13.80	13.50	13.63	—.01
NCR Corp	44.10	43.00	43.83	+.35
Navistar	43.16	42.32	42.95	+.63
PNM Rescs	30.07	29.78	30.04	+.26
Penney JC	20.65	20.05	20.15	—.35
PepBoys	16.70	16.49	16.67	+.17
PepsiCo	51.89	51.51	51.59	—.36
Pharmacia	45.05	44.83	45.02	+.18
PhelpDodge	41.61	41.06	41.61	+.67
PhillipPet	62.33	61.50	62.28	+.90
PilgrmPrd B	13.92	13.80	13.81	—.04
Praxair	58.90	58.10	58.69	+.51
ProctGamb	89.66	88.85	89.30	—.15
RadioShack	29.68	29.35	29.44	—.19
ReliantEngy	25.48	25.16	25.40	+.05
RoyalDut	54.22	53.77	54.09	+.64
SBC Comm	38.26	37.90	38.02	—.32
SaraLee	21.00	20.87	20.97	—.01
Scripps EW	81.30	80.90	81.30	+.16
SearsRoeb	50.53	49.60	50.46	+.21
SherwinW	28.40	28.12	28.31	—.08
SouthernCo s	26.69	26.49	26.59	—.06
SwstAirl	19.43	19.05	19.31	—.17
SprintFON	14.91	14.36	14.62	—.14
SprintPCS	10.30	9.92	10.05	—.25
Sunoco Inc	41.14	40.25	40.81	+.79
TXU Corp	54.14	53.86	53.98	+.11
TempleInland	57.15	56.60	57.06	+.02
TexInd	42.10	41.20	41.95	+.81
TexasInst	33.50	32.75	32.95	—.57
Textron	50.57	49.75	50.48	+.64
TriconGlbR	59.84	58.65	59.70	+.82
TrinityInds	24.26	24.08	24.26	+.26
TylerTech	5.77	5.40	5.60	—.27
UnionPacif	61.51	60.50	61.30	+1.00
USSteel	17.98	17.42	17.93	+.93
UnitedTech	73.30	71.78	73.25	+1.25
Unocal	39.00	38.47	38.90	+.67
VerizonComm	46.00	45.60	45.77	—.19
WalMart	62.20	61.62	61.88	—.29
WellsFargo	49.79	49.15	49.72	+.57
WstnGasRs	37.50	36.13	37.35	+1.32
WinnDixie	16.30	16.11	16.26	+.01
Xerox Cp	10.89	10.48	10.81	+.28

MAR 27 2002

Scurry County Country

Ag Talk

By Rep. Charlie Stenholm, 17th District

Farm Bill Negotiations

I wish I could report that significant progress has been made on the farm bill since last week. Unfortunately, the House and Senate negotiations have gone slowly and we were not able to complete a bill in time for the Easter recess. In fact, we are far from that point.

In saying this, I am reminded of the advice that legendary House Speaker Sam Rayburn gave to LBJ some years ago. Speaker Rayburn told LBJ, "Lyndon, let me tell you something about Congress. The Republicans aren't the enemy. The Senate, that's the enemy."

These words have seemed to take on new meaning as the House has tried to get the Senate to begin moving the farm bill, but my frustration with the Senate actually goes back several months.

The House worked very hard and took considerable time and effort to write a farm bill that met the competing needs of agriculture, while keeping within the budget.

While the House passed a good bill last October, we watched as the Senate took another four months to do so. The end result was a bill that is three times the length of the House bill, and spends more money than is allowed under the budget.

Last week, I mentioned that House Members and Senators met on March 13 to work out differences between the two farm bills.

This meeting followed several weeks of preparation by House and Senate staff. Despite the need to move forward to finish the farm bill, the Senate spent the past week dragging its feet, canceling meetings, and generally not accomplishing anything.

These delays have guaranteed that we would not have a bill ready for the president to sign by Easter, a goal set by the House Agriculture Committee.

On Tuesday, March 19, we finally convinced our Senate colleagues to accept a budget framework that stays within the $73.5 billion established by last year's budget.

The Senate version would have spent $80 billion, exceeding the limit set by the budget. In fact, I am not entirely convinced that some of our Senate colleagues understand the importance of staying within this figure, and I am hopeful this will become clear to them in the weeks ahead.

Having a budget framework means that we can now write future agriculture policy and, hopefully, complete the conference by early April.

Setting a budget framework was essential in order to determine how to direct spending for commodities, conservation, nutrition, agricultural research and the other sections of the farm bill.

Without a budget framework under which to proceed, it would take ten times as long to write a final farm bill. Let me add that some of the talk coming out of the Senate has been difficult to understand.

One senator said he still hopes to increase the funding for conservation and nutrition, adding that this would be a big help to the farmers and ranchers who have been hit by low prices.

I think it would be great if we could spend more for conservation and nutrition, but I guess I don't understand how this will increase the profits that farmers and ranchers receive for their commodities.

There are more than 300 issues that still must be resolved between the two bills. Among these issues are details regarding conservation and environmental programs, commodity loan rate differences, acreage bases, and target price/safety net price levels.

Particularly controversial are the Senate's limit on farm program payments.

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West Central Texas Council of Governments

Diversified

By Greg Gruben, County Extension Agent

Why Conserve Water

Did you know?

•That approximately 80 percent of the earth's surface is covered with water.

•Only 1 percent of this is fresh water we can use.

•The remaining water is 97 percent saltwater and 2 percent frozen in glaciers.

•The earth's water supply is limited.

•Water moves in a never-ending cycle as natural recycles and reuses water.

•The total amount of water on earth has remained constant for thousands of years.

•We are using water at a rate faster than is being recharged for future use.

•We must do out part to conserve water.

Texas' conventional freshwater suppliers are already 75 to 80 percent developed. The more efficient use of our precious water resources through water conservation and reuse holds a real potential to both preserve and extend limited water supplies and to save Texans real money.

The cost of expanding water supplies and treating wastewater is rapidly increasing. Texans now spend more than one billion dollars each year on new or expanded water supply and wastewater treatment facilities just to keep up with growth and to replace worn-out systems. Despite increasing expenditures, water supplies will still be inadequate to meet future demands in some parts of Texas.

When Texas saves water the largest saver is you, the customer. Consider that even a 10 to 15 percent reduction in personal water use can save Texas' water and sewer rate-payers billions of dollars during the next 50 years. However, now is the time for each person to begin to save water. By saving water in your own home and landscape, you will save money for yourself and water for generations of Texans to come.

For more information on water conservation, please contact the Scurry County office of the Texas Cooperative Extension at 573-5423.

Scurrying Around Snyder

Beth Davidson, CEA—Family and Consumer Science, 2605 Florence St, Snyder, Texas 79549

(Editor's Note: This is the third in a series on child abuse.)

A Car is Not a Child's Toy

From 1996 through 2000 in the United States, more than 120 children — most of them age 3 or younger — died from heat stroke after being trapped in a car.

In the summer of 1999, an average of one child every four days died after being trapped in a car parked in the sweltering heat.

Remove Potential Hazards:

- Ways to keep kids safe around cars
- Never leave your child unattended in a car, even if the windows are down and windshield shade is in place.
- Make sure all children leave the vehicle when you reach your destination. Don't overlook sleeping infants.
- Make sure that the seat belt and seat surface are not too hot before buckling up your child.
- When you and your children exit the car, place a windshield shade in front and back windows to help cut down the heat.
- Make sure that kids' arms, legs, fingers and toes are safely inside before closing doors.
- Always lock your doors and trunk, even at home. Children playing in the car could get trapped.
- Keep your car keys out of children's reach and sight.
- Keep the rear fold-down seats closed to prevent kids from getting into the trunk from inside the car.
- Contact your auto dealership about getting your vehicle retrofitted with a trunk release mechanism.
- If your child gets locked inside a car, get them out as soon as possible. If you can't get them out, call 911 immediately.

Safety in the heat

Many parents think they can leave a child in a vehicle if they are just running a quick errand. But excessive heat is much more dangerous for children than it is for adults. A young child's body's core temperature can increase three to five times faster than that of an adult, making them much more vulnerable to heat stroke. Heat stroke can lead to permanent injury or death.

Remember that the interior of a car can reach dangerously high temperatures in just a few minutes. When the outside temperature is 93 degrees, the temperature inside your car can get up to 125 degrees in just 20 minutes — even with a window cracked. So even if you're only going to be gone a few minutes, you should never leave your child alone in a car.

Remember too, that seat belts and seat surfaces get uncomfortably hot. Be careful when buckling the kids in after returning to the car. Hot metal buckles can burn kids' sensitive skin. And it's always a good idea to make sure kids' arms and legs are safely inside before closing doors.

Safety in Your Driveway

Parked cars can be especially hazardous for kids. Always lock your doors. Children are naturally curious and can find ways into cars, but they can't always find their way out. More than a third of last year's heat-related deaths among children occurred when they crawled into unlocked cars and became trapped.

Trunks are for Elephants, Not for Children

Kids may think of a car as a fun hiding place, but it is easy to get trapped there. Trunks have very little ventilation and often no handles inside for the child to open the trunk.

It's Up To You To Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect — Take It Personally

Market Reports

Lubbock

The Lubbock Stockyards, Inc. had a run of 1,063 head of cattle for the Thursday, March 14, sale. Cows were $2 cheaper. Yearlings and calves were $2 to $3 cheaper. Trading and demand were good.

Slaughter cows
(High dressing — cutters — utilities: 42-50
Canner and low cutters: 33-41
Slaughter bulls: 55-65
Feeder steers — choice:
300-400: 90-115
400-500: 85-100
500-600: 80-93
600-700: 75-84
700-800: 72-78.50
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 90-105
400-500: 80-100
500-600: 75-80
600-700: 70-77.50
700-800: 69-73.50
Feeder Bulls — good and choice:
500-600: 73-85
700-800: 65-72.50
Cow and calf pairs:
Good: 700-880
Grade: 500-675
Springers: 350-710
Baby calves: 50-175
Doodlers: 200-275

Colorado City

The Colorado City Livestock Auction had a run of 1,234 head of cattle for the Saturday, March 23, sale. Feeder steers and heifers $1 to $3 lower. Slaughter cows steady to $2 lower and bulls were $1 lower. Bred cows and pairs were steady. Trading was active and demand good.

Feeder steers:
200-300: 121-130
300-400: 112.50-117
400-500: 97-100
500-600: 83-88
600-700: 74-80
Feeder heifers:
200-300: 113-122
300-400: 99-108
400-500: 86-91
500-600: 78.50-81.50
600-700: 72-74
Replacement cows:
Bred cows (3-6 years old): 540-685
Bred cows (2-7 months): 450-570
Cow & calf pairs: 710-810
Aged pairs: 635-715
Slaughter cows:
Breakers: 1000-1250 Lbs.: 36.50-42.25
Boners: 1000-1200 Lbs. 41-45.50
Lean: 900-1200 Lbs.: 37.50-41.25
800-1000 Lbs.: 32.50-36.50
Under 750 Lb.: 32.50-36.50
Slaughter bulls:
Yield Grade 1-2: 1300-2100 Lbs.: 54.25-56
High dressing: 1000-1300 Lbs.: 61.50-64
Low dressing: 1000-1300 Lbs.: 41-50

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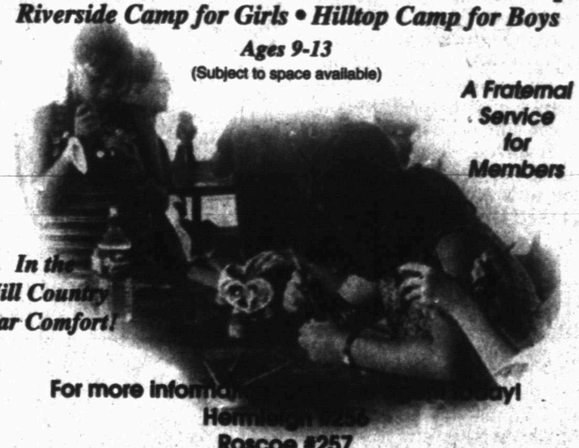
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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Gunman kills eight at Paris meeting

NANTERRE, France (AP) — A part-time school hall monitor armed with semiautomatic pistols sat silently through a six-hour city council meeting today, then rose and methodically killed eight city officials. As he was restrained he shouted: "Kill me, kill me!"

Nineteen people in the city council chamber were wounded in the attack in the Paris suburb of Nanterre.

A shocked Prime Minister Lionel Jospin, who rushed to the scene in the early morning darkness, called the shooting rampage "a case of furious dementia."

It is "a horrifying tragedy that harms democracy — a city council meeting in action," Jospin said.

President Jacques Chirac, who met with grieving family members, called the events "a completely unimaginable drama."

Rightist presidential candidate Alain Madelin called the shooting, "This American-style byproduct, we wished not to have in France."

Officials said police arrested 33-year-old Richard Durn who often attended council meetings. The officials said Durn did not speak as shot his victims, nor did he make a statement as he was arrested. The officials said they knew of no motive.

Acquaintances said Durn had trouble keeping a job. He collected unemployment and worked part-time at a nearby elementary school as a hall monitor, Le Monde newspaper reported. He also volunteered at the local branch of France's Human Rights League.

"There was nothing to suggest this man would do such an act, he had never drawn attention to himself," Michel Tubiana, the league's president, was quoted in Le Monde.

The attacker fired two semi-automatic Glock pistols and was also armed with a Smith & Wesson revolver, which was never used, police said. Some 50 shells were scattered on the floor of the meeting room after the fusillade.

Bush signs campaign finance overhaul

GREENVILLE, S.C. (AP) — Without fanfare, President Bush signed landmark campaign finance legislation today as he opened an aggressive multimillion-dollar fund-raising swing. Within hours, multiple lawsuits challenged the new law.

"This legislation, although far from perfect, will improve the current financing system for federal campaigns," Bush said in a written statement released after White House aides telephoned bill sponsors with news of the signing.

Here, on the first stop of his quick swing through South Carolina and Georgia gathering $3 million for Republican candidates, Bush denied that his low-key enactment of the bill was any kind of statement on his ambivalence toward it.

"I wouldn't have signed it if I was really unhappy," Bush told reporters as he met with emergency and rescue workers at a Greenville fire station.

He said he saw no contradiction in signing the bill on a day of heavy fund raising. "I'm not going to lay down my arms. I'm going to participate in the system."

Back in Washington, the National Rifle Association was first in line to file its legal challenge at the federal courthouse a few blocks from the White House.

The legislation "eviscerates the core protections of the First Amendment by prohibiting, on pain on criminal punishment, political speech," said a legal complaint filed on behalf of the NRA and its political victory fund.

Bush had already said he would stay out of the inevitable litigation.

"This legislation is the culmination of more than six years of debate among a vast array of legislators, citizens and groups. ... It does represent progress in this often-contentious area of public policy debate," Bush said in his written statement.

"Taken as a whole, this bill improves the current system of financing for federal campaigns and therefore I have signed it into law."

That's not how the NRA saw it.

"We are proud to be one of the first plaintiffs to formally ask the federal court to invalidate these new limits on the political speech of ordinary citizens because we believe that this law cannot be allowed to stand, not even for a moment," NRA executive vice president Wayne LaPierre said in a statement on the association's lawsuit.

Afghan leader says 1,000 were killed in powerful earthquake

NAHRIN, Afghanistan (AP) — Strong aftershocks jolted mountain villages today, setting off landslides that blocked relief convoys trying to reach earthquake survivors who were burying their dead and searching the rubble for survivors. The United Nations said the death toll appeared less than first feared.

The today temblors, one aftershock measuring magnitude-5.4, rumbled through villages at the base of the snowcapped Hindu Kush mountains. A 6.1 quake Monday devastated Nahrin and many surrounding villages 105 miles north of Kabul.

Interim Afghan leader Hamid Karzai flew to the stricken region and said about 1,000 people died. U.N. disaster relief officials said the final count probably would be somewhat lower.

Reena Ghelani of the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said an onsite investigation of 42 villages indicated the death toll was probably under 800. No foreigners were believed among the dead.

Afghan officials initially estimated up to 1,800 people had died. In Kabul, Red Cross spokeswoman Caroline Douilliez said about 730 bodies had been recovered from the wreckage, and that 500 of them had already been buried.

Aid workers estimated up to 30,000 people were homeless, as aftershocks continued to jolt the majestic Hindu Kush.

Five killed, 20 injured in fiery head-on crash

IXONIA, Wis. (AP) — A senior citizens' trip to the Milwaukee botanical gardens turned into a fiery tragedy when their chartered bus slammed headfirst into a delivery van, killing five people and injuring 20.

The impact shattered the bus windows and its bucket seats were tossed around. Two of the 15 elderly passengers were thrown from the bus and landed on the roadway.

The blue-and-white bus carrying 22 people crashed into a ditch 30 feet from the collision, killing Myrtle Neis, 82, Ruth Breitzmann, 84, and the bus driver, Carol A. Benisch, 61.

"You could see people collapsed," said Mike Leslie, 21, who witnessed the accident on state Highway 16, 30 miles west of Milwaukee. "People on top of each other. The bus driver was trapped. ... People were trapped on the floor and they couldn't get out."

A 91-year-old woman died of her injuries at Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital early today, said John Riegert, a hospital spokesman. The woman's name was not immediately released.

The van burst into flames, killing the driver, Michael S. McNally, 35, of Mukwonago. Ixonia Fire Chief Bruce Degner said cleaning solutions in the van fueled the blaze.

Twenty people were taken to area hospitals with injuries, including a firefighter who injured his hand fighting the blaze. Four elderly women and one man remained in critical condition late Tuesday, hospital officials said.

Degner said some of the passengers were only semiconscious and most had serious injuries. "They were just sitting there wondering what happened," he said.

The bus, from the Marquardt Village retirement home in Watertown, was traveling to Milwaukee with four staff members and a volunteer, said Kyran Clark, the home's executive director.

"This is absolutely unheard of in our town," said Sophie Traeger, 77, who lives in Watertown. "When you have a hole this big, you're going to know it and it's going to be hard to get over."

Leslie was driving behind the van when it turned left onto Highway 16.

Obituaries

Mary Lou Landes

1947-2002

ABILENE — Mary Lou Landes, sister-in-law of Gary Landes of Snyder, died Sunday, March 24, in an Abilene hospital.

A memorial service for Mrs. Landes, 54, is set for 6 p.m. Thursday in Pioneer Drive Baptist Church in Abilene with David McQueen officiating. Elliott-Hamil Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Visitation will be from 5-9 this evening at the funeral home.

Born Sept. 14, 1947 in Rotan, she was a 1966 graduate of Roby High School. She moved to Abilene five years ago from Rule and was employed by State National Bank.

She married Ronald Landes in Rotan on Aug. 12, 1965. Mrs. Landes was a member of Beltway Park Baptist Church, the Downtown Kiwanis Club and the Abilene Chamber of Commerce Red Coats. She was a volunteer with Meals on Wheels and active in Cross Country Emmaus.

Her parents, Arnold and Ludora Campbell Neeley; and two brothers; Archie Neeley and Billy Neeley, preceded her in death.

Survivors include her husband, Ronald Landes of Abilene; two daughters, Lori Krackau and her husband, Charles, of New Braunfels, and Traci King of Abilene; her in-laws, Loys and Dorothy Landes of Rotan; three grandchildren, Cade of New Braunfels and Kendell and Kelsey of Abilene.

The family suggests memorials to Meals on Wheels, Box 503 in Abilene, 79604; Cross Country Emmaus Scholarship Fund, Box 505 in Knox City, 79529; or the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Box 297153 in Houston, 77297.

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Man arrested following brief pursuit

Arrests

Snyder police officer Jason McMillan late Tuesday night was involved in a brief pursuit of a suspect in a GMC van.

McMillan advised at 11:43 p.m. that he was trailing the vehicle northbound near 16th Street and Ave. M.

The driver, Jimmy Dale Norvell, 41, of 2416 Gilmore continued on U.S. 84 and was stopped near Ennis Creek Rd.

Norvell was arrested for felony charges of evading arrest in a motor vehicle and also for outstanding Ector County warrants for Class B theft by check.

He was taken to Scurry County Jail and his vehicle was towed.

A 55-year-old man was taken into custody from a residence on 29th Street Tuesday night for Class A assault and family violence.

Theft

A woman reported her engagement ring stolen Monday morning and officers submitted an offense report for Class A theft.

Close patrol

A woman on Ave. L reported kids hiding in her backyard Tuesday night. Officers responded and spoke with the woman's husband, who advised the kids were hiding from the occupants of a white car driving in the area. A close patrol was initiated.

Gas drive off

A clerk at Town and Country East reported a gas drive off worth $7.70 Tuesday afternoon. A description of the vehicle and its driver was given to police.

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Snyder Tiger football booster club

The Snyder football booster club will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday in the film room. Parents and the public are invited to attend.

FBC services televised

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

First Church of the Nazarene

The First Church of the Nazarene will have an Easter egg hunt following the Easter Sunday service that begins at 10:45 a.m.

Hermleigh Cemetery

The Hermleigh Cemetery Association will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Hermleigh Community Center. Anyone interested is welcome.

Gateway Family Services

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

Relay for Life lunch

The Scurry County Courthouse team that is entered in the Relay for Life to raise funds for the American Cancer Society will have lunch available for the public at 11:30 every Wednesday on the first floor of the courthouse.

Free income tax help

Free income tax aid for low to middle income citizens of any age is available each Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon, and 1-3 p.m. at the senior center located at 2603 Ave. M.

Joy School pre-registration

Pre-registration for the fall semester will be from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Thursday, April 4, at 201 31st St. Registration fee is $40. For more information, call 573-3554.

Sausage festival

St. Elizabeth's annual all-you-can-eat sausage festival will be from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 7. Tickets will be sold at the door and adult tickets are $6.50, children 12 and under are $3.50, and all take-outs are $6.50. Sausage by the pound is $4 cooked and $3 uncooked.

Alzheimer's meeting

A representative from the Alzheimer's Association of Midland will speak at a 6 p.m. meeting Tuesday, April 9, at Colonial Hill Baptist Church. Please use the northeast entrance.

SHS class of 1992 reunion

The 1992 class of Snyder High School is needing addresses for classmates. Call Melanie at 573-4022, Julie at 573-1634 or Amy at 573-4793. The reunion will be held at the end of July.

Windbreak trees

The Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District has windbreak trees available for sale. Extra hardwood trees are $1 each and Evergreens are $2.25. Call 573-6317 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

American Legion membership drive

The American Legion is holding its membership drive and if you or a family member served in the military, you could be eligible for membership in the American Legion, Ladies Auxiliary or Sons of American Legion. Call 573-4082, 573-6542 or 574-6805 for more information.

Adult basic education classes

Adult basic education classes taught by certified teachers and Spanish-speaking aides are held at WTC from 8 a.m. until noon Tuesday through Thursday, and from 6-9 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. Classes include G.E.D., E.S.L., and refresher courses. For more information call 573-8511, ext. 322.

WTC pool hours

Lap swim: M-F, 6:30-8 a.m. and noon to 1 p.m.; open swim, M-TH 7-9 p.m. Memberships for the semester: $50. The swimming pool is also available for rental, contact Lisa Christensen, ext. 290.

Seniors swimnastics

Swimnastics for senior citizens on Tuesday and Thursdays is held from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Western Texas College pool.

ESL, GED classes

Classes for E.S.L., GED and computers are held at 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Region 14 classroom at 4200 College Ave. For more information, call 574-6012.

First carrier to deploy after 9-11 ends 6-month mission

NORFOLK, Va. (AP)— After six months of putting in grueling hours in the war against terrorism, the crew of the first aircraft carrier to deploy after Sept. 11 returned home today to cheers of "USA! USA! USA!" from thousands of relatives and friends.

Sailors lined the rails as the USS Theodore Roosevelt pulled into the Norfolk Naval Station shortly after 9 a.m., ending a 189-day cruise that included air strikes against Afghanistan.

Adm. Robert J. Natter, commander in chief of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet, flew on board as the ship neared shore to thank the crew for a job well done.

"We still have 30 ships out there and thousands of shipmates who continue to do the job," he added. He noted that the carrier did not lose any crew to enemy action during the mission, adding, "I give credit to the fact that everybody's head was in the game."

At the Norfolk Naval Station, thousands began gathering on the pier as early as 6 a.m., many carrying flowers or American flags. As the ship pulled into view, the crowd roared.

Relatives of Shawn Etheridge, 21, a nuclear reactor technician, carried a sign reading, "Welcome Home Shawn! We salute you and the T.R. crew for your courage, honor and commitment. Congratulations on a job well done."

MAR 27 2002

Austin socialite sues brother in dad's slaying

DALLAS (AP) — Chuck Mayhew, scion of a wealthy industrialist, admits to a history of mental illness and alcohol dependency. He concedes that he has shot dogs and cattle for fun. He doesn't even deny repeatedly threatening to kill his father.

But the Longview man insists he did not shoot Charles Mayhew in the head while he slept in his Sunnyvale bed.

"I've never, never laid a hand on my father," Mayhew said in a deposition earlier this year.

Mayhew's sister, Amanda Mayhew Dealey, believes otherwise. Although the Dallas County Sheriff's Department has never accumulated enough evidence to seek an indictment, Dealey is suing Chuck Mayhew in Dallas civil court in the wrongful death of her 81-year-old father.

The 51-year-old Austin socialite says she will prove Chuck Mayhew had both opportunity and motive in the March 1, 1998, slaying. She seeks at least $5 million from her 49-year-old brother.

Because her suit is a civil matter, the jury will not be asked to find guilt, a term used in criminal prosecutions. Dealey's lawyers must prove to the jury only that it is more likely than not that Mayhew killed his father. If the jury agrees, it may levy damages but not prison time.

Opening statements in the civil trial are expected to begin today.

The lawsuit is unusual because it is reaching a courtroom before criminal charges have been filed. Typically, as in the O.J. Simpson case, such civil trials follow completion of a criminal proceeding.

However, a former senior minister of Dallas' First United Methodist Church was held financially liable in 1988 for injuries to his wife and assessed damages of about $18 million. Four years later, Walker Railey was found innocent in a criminal trial of choking his wife to a near-comatose state.

Mayhew's lawyers call the case against their client circumstantial, at best. Mayhew, meanwhile, has countersued, accusing his sister of defamation.

"Chuck and his father had a volatile relationship," said defense attorney Bill Hommel. "They argued a lot. But there was nobody closer to his father.

"It is a big leap to presume he would have taken the life of the one person in the world he was closest to."

Dealey's lawyers say they will play audiotapes of the son, a world-class sports shooter, threatening to kill his father, along with a videotaped deposition of the defendant acknowledging numerous threats.

"When Chuck's father denied him what he wanted, Chuck would threaten to kill him," the lawsuit alleges.

Dealey was formerly married to Joe Dealey Jr., who is the son of the late former Dallas Morning News president and publisher Joe M. Dealey Sr. She is also an investor and civic activist in Austin.

Dealey's attorney, Steve Sumner, said his client is not seeking financial gain.

"It's not the money," he said. "It is the fact that she believes body and soul her dad wanted Chuck to be held accountable if he murdered him."

He said the older man told several people, including law enforcement, that he feared for his life.

Sumner suggests the slaying resulted from years of bad feelings between the men that revolved around a protracted legal battle over a land development project.

Charles Mayhew, a former mayor of Sunnyvale, and his son were partners in a company they formed to subdivide about 1,200 acres of land to build 5,000 houses. The project was blocked by a Sunnyvale ordinance that required home lots to be one acre or larger. In 1987, the Mayhews sued, claiming the ordinance discriminated against middle-class homeowners.

The Mayhews won an $8.5 million judgment against the Dallas suburb in 1992, but the decision was overturned on appeal.

The financial stress of the legal battle was a constant source of friction between Mayhew and his son, court records show. Their relationship deteriorated further in March 1995 after the elder man accepted his son's resignation from the partnership. Chuck Mayhew said his offer to quit had not been serious.

At the time of his death, the elder Mayhew was taking steps to remove his son as a beneficiary on his life insurance policy, Sumner said. Chuck Mayhew was deeply in debt and dependent on his father for support.

'Springer' guest convicted in slaying

SARASOTA, Fla. (AP) — A man was convicted of killing his ex-wife hours after they and another woman were featured on a "Jerry Springer Show" episode about love triangles.

Ralf Panitz, 42, was found guilty of second-degree murder Tuesday night in the slaying of Nancy Campbell-Panitz, 52. Jurors, who deliberated for 18 hours over two days, also convicted him of violating a domestic violence order.

Panitz could face up to life in prison when he is sentenced in May.

Campbell-Panitz was beaten and choked on July 24, 2000, shortly after the airing of an episode of the Springer show featuring her being confronted by her ex-husband and his current wife, Eleanor. The show had been taped in May.

Prosecutors said they believe the killing was touched off by Panitz's anger at being barred by a judge from living in his ex-wife's house. The couple had been divorced since 1999 but continued living together off and on, even after Panitz secretly married Eleanor in March 2000.

Prosecutors won the convictions after a 10-day trial in which defense attorney Geoffrey Fieger, whose previous clients include Dr. Jack Kevorkian, presented a series of high-profile criminologists who testified there hadn't been a murder at all.

Fieger argued that Campbell-Panitz died from a heart attack suffered during a fight with someone, but not his client.

Fieger blasted jurors following the verdict, saying they "made up evidence" because none existed linking Panitz to the death.

Prosecutors, though, said 18 bloody footprints matched a shoe Panitz owned and his DNA was found under his ex-wife's fingernails. Detectives said Campbell-Panitz's face was so badly beaten she was unidentifiable to a deputy who had seen her earlier the same day.

Assistant Sarasota County State Attorney Charlie Roberts said he was satisfied with the second-degree murder charge. At one point, prosecutors had charged Panitz with that crime, but upgraded it under a Florida law which makes a killing accompanied by another felony first-degree murder.

"I always felt the facts were the fact and you can't change the facts and you can't change common sense," Roberts said.

Eleanor Panitz said the verdict would be appealed.

"I will never give up trying to see my husband is a free man because in my heart I do not believe he did this," she said.

The slaying capped a dysfunctional drama in which the German house painter bounced between his ex-wife and wife, often moving in with one the same day he dumped another.

The trio spent months filing a flurry of domestic violence allegations against each other and appeared on the Springer show episode titled "Secret Mistresses Confronted," where the audience jeered as Campbell-Panitz was ridiculed as being "fat" and "old."

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Alternative therapy for diabetes is not effective

DEAR DR. GOTT: Will lecithin and chromium lower the blood sugar level in a diabetic?

DEAR READER: No. The high blood sugar that characterizes diabetes can be lowered only by one or all of the following methods: strict dieting, weight loss (for obese patients), exercise, oral medication or insulin injections (for severe diabetes).

Lecithin is not classified as a vitamin, despite the claims of the health food industry. The body can manufacture it. High doses of supplemental lecithin have not been shown to possess health benefits.

Although chromium (a trace mineral needed to maintain normal blood sugar levels in conjunction with insulin) is essential for metabolism, it is plentiful in most foods, including meat, cheese, grains, eggs and fresh fruit.

Therefore, chromium supplements are not required. The Recommended Dietary Allowance is 50-200 micrograms, an amount readily available in a well-balanced diet. Chromium poisoning occurs at doses above 50 milligrams a day and causes liver and kidney damage.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: I take 400 IU of vitamin E daily for Peyronie's disease. What is your opinion of this?

DEAR READER: Peyronie's disease, a progressive affliction marked by shrinkage and contraction of part of the penis, leads to deviation of the erect organ to one side, pain and difficulty with intercourse. The cause is unknown.

Traditional treatment includes cortisone infections into the shrunken area, ultrasound therapy or surgical removal of the constricting tissue.

Vitamin E supplements enjoyed some popularity years ago because the therapy was simple, cheap, safe, appeared to improve symptoms of Peyronie's disease and was believed to have cardiovascular benefits. However, these consequences were subsequently shown to be unpredictable - in part, perhaps, because some patients with Peyronie's disease improved spontaneously, without any treatment whatsoever.

Therefore, while vitamin E therapy will do no harm, it is not considered to be especially helpful either. My view is that you should be under the care of a urologist, who can assess the extent of your affliction and suggest appropriate treatment.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a woman, 45, with spina bifida occulta at the base of my spine. I've been taking pain pills for 24 years and am now on disability. I have no other health problems. Should I see a chiropractor?

DEAR READER: Spina bifida is a congenital abnormality of the spine, marked by defective closure of the vertebral column. The severity of the disorder varies considerably. On one extreme, there is a completely exposed spine (usually leading to death); on the other extreme, there are few or no symptoms (spina bifida occulta).

Usually, people with this mild form experience chronic back pain because the spinal abnormality is associated with muscle spasm. Physical therapy, special back exercises and hot compresses often relieve symptoms; pain medication may be necessary. Because the discomfort of spina bifida is muscular in origin, chiropractic manipulation may help control it. Give the chiropractor a try.

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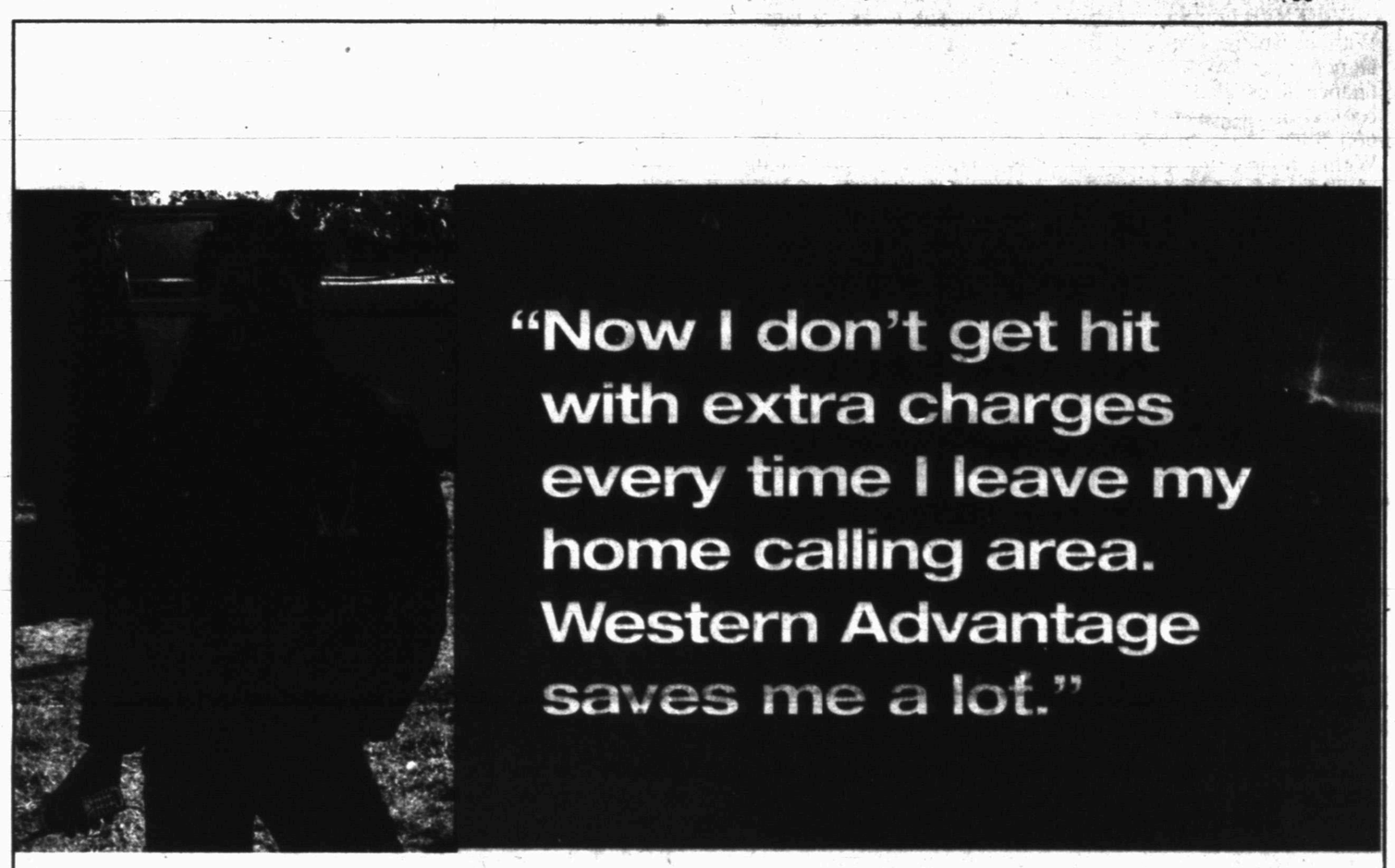

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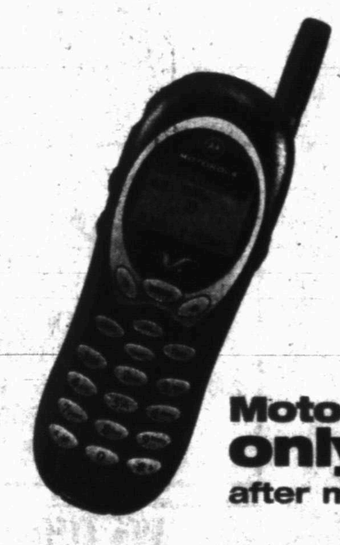

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