INSIDE

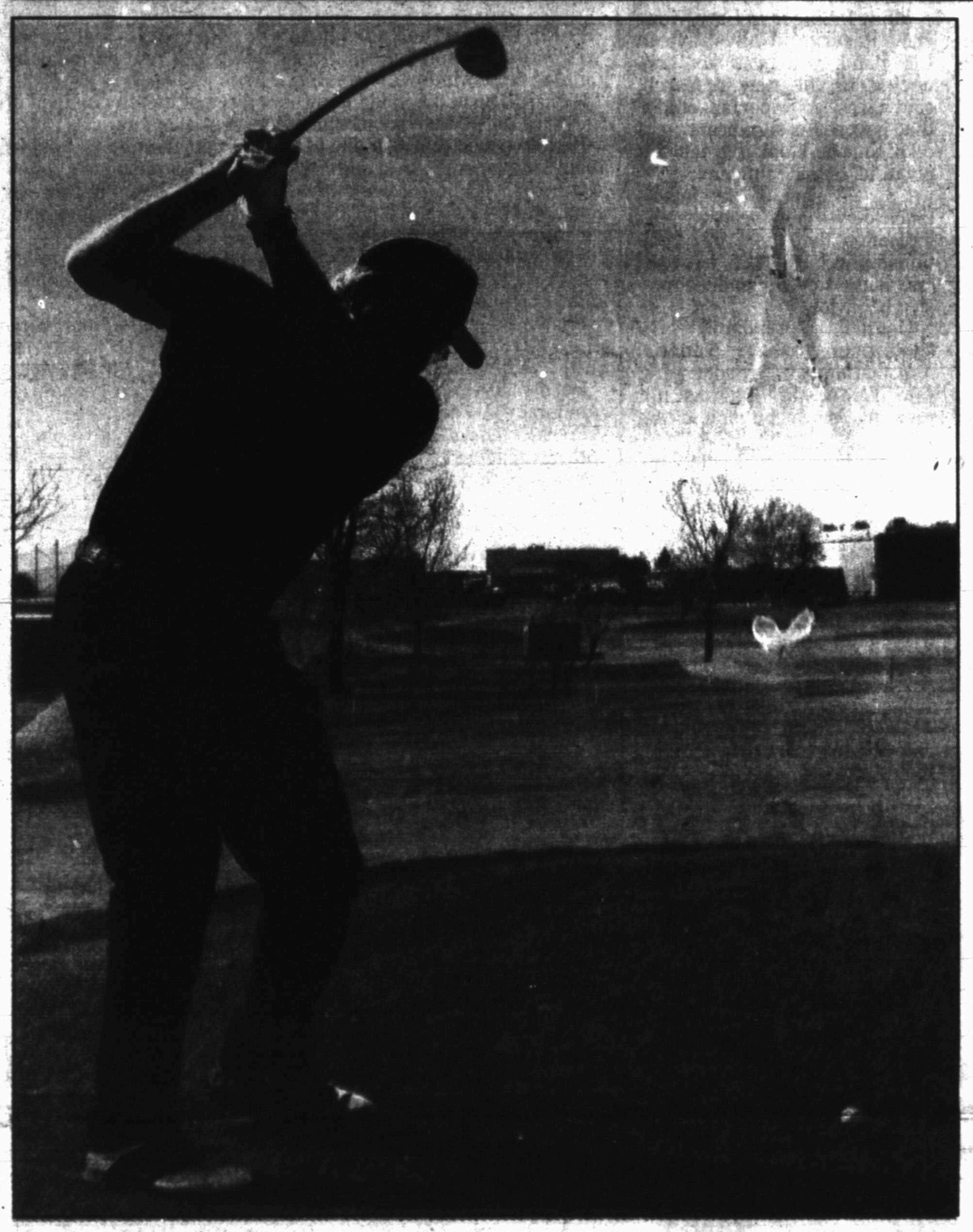
WT-Int. Crude - $25.88
WTiC Posted - $22.50
Natural Gas - $3.330

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY

March 28, 2002
Vol. 53 No. 283
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Becky Phillips



TEEING OFF — Clint Gregory, teeing off on No. 9 at Western Texas College, was one of several local residents taking advantage of today's warmer temperatures in advance of Friday's forecast of rain. (SDN Staff Photo)

Only person charged in terrorist attacks will face death penalty

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department told a court today it will seek the death penalty against Zacarias Moussaoui, the only person charged in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks against New York and Washington.

Moussaoui deserves to die because he helped plot "the largest loss of life resulting from a criminal act in the history of the United States," prosecutors said in a filing with the trial judge in suburban Alexandria, Va.

Moussaoui, 33, a French citizen of Moroccan descent, is charged with conspiring with Osama bin Laden, the hijackers and others to commit the Sept. 11 attacks that killed more than 3,000 people. He is scheduled for trial this fall.

Four of the six counts brought against Moussaoui carry a maximum sentence of death.

The decision came after weeks of deliberations inside the Justice Department and carries international implications, especially in Europe, where the terrorism investigation continues in several countries that oppose capital punishment.

Moussaoui's home country, France, asked Ashcroft not to seek the death penalty and noted the French would not have to cooperate with U.S. authorities on the investigation if the death penalty was invoked.

Attorney General John Ashcroft, visiting in Miami when the court was notified, asked American allies to continue their cooperation despite their misgivings.

"We ask our counterparts in the international community to respect our sovereignty, and we respect theirs," Ashcroft said. "To the extent that they can cooperate and help us, we welcome that cooperation."

The decision didn't surprise Moussaoui's mother, who accused U.S. officials of "looking for someone's head" in the Sept. 11 attacks.

"I was sure," Aicha Moussaoui said in France, referring to the expectation her son would face capital punishment. "My son is a scapegoat. They can't find the people who are truly responsible for this crime."

The government said in its court filing that it would seek to prove that Moussaoui committed the offenses.

Schools, government closing for holiday

Area students will enjoy an extended weekend due to the Easter holiday Sunday.

Snyder ISD campuses were to release students at 2 p.m. today and the students report back to class Tuesday morning.

Hermleigh students get out at the regular time today, but will have a four-day weekend, getting back on schedule Tuesday.

Ira classes end at noon Friday and reconvene Tuesday as well.

Western Texas College students do not have classes Friday and the campus is closed, but classes get back underway Monday.

Some local financial institutions will observe holiday hours.

West Texas State Bank, Snyder National Bank and Texas Savings Bank are to lock their doors at noon Friday.

American State Bank and First American Bank will observe regular office hours.

Scurry County courthouse and Snyder city hall will be closed Friday. Both open again Monday.

Both the county library and museum close Friday and reopen Monday.

The landfill will be open Friday and closed Saturday.

The Texas Workforce Commission will observe regular business hours and mail will be delivered as usual through the weekend.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Allowances for kids never do as much harm as allowances made for them."

There's a tee-shirt slogan that claims that people who aren't living on the edge are taking up too much space.

We supposed the slogan is referring to folks who won't take unnecessary chances – doing stuff like bungee jumping, bailing out of airplanes, hang-gliding and rattlesnake hunting.

A news release received here at the office reveals another chance at a not-so-cheap thrill.

Storm Chasing Adventure Tours is for vacationers eager to experience thunderstorms, lighting and tornadoes.

The firm's owner said the goal is to locate twisters as part of its tour program while at the same time providing early warnings about potentially destructive storms to local authorities.

Last year, Storm Chasing Adventure Tours were positioned to allow guests to witness seven tornadoes and dozens of super cell thunderstorms while traveling throughout tornado alley.

The tour's owner says this type of vacation seems to appeal to individuals who enjoy the excitement of being on the open road without any set schedule or destination other than a target storm plotting area.

Cost ranges from $1,700 to just under $3,000, food not included.

The past four years, the tour began in Texas and Oklahoma in May before moving to more western areas of Colorado and Nebraska during June and July.

The tour not only appeals to thrill-seekers but to folks with common interest in the severe weather phenomena.

It might be a tourism idea for Snyder. Maybe there are folks who would pay to come and experience a good sandstorm.

While here waiting for the dust to blow in from the West, we could sell 'em tickets to the Ritz where they could hear some famous West Texas weather stories.

Like the visitor who asked a West Texas cowboy if there were ever any tornadoes in these parts.

The cowboy answered, "Yea, we had one a while back, but it ran into a sandstorm outside of town and got ripped to pieces."

And they could learn about the Yankee who asked if the wind blows this way all the time.

The native Texan answered, "Nope, sometimes it blows the other way."

Today in Andrews...

Students seeking top marks in UIL contests

Snyder High School scholastic competitors are in Andrews today for the District 4-4A UIL contest.

SHS students competing in the accounting category are Tyler Kerr, Charlie Gorman and Kate Wright.

Entered in calculator applications are Kerissa Ship, John Bell, Kim Cooper and Codi Nichols.

Crystal Garcia, Jeremee Lester and Anna Williams will compete in computer applications.

Three SHS students have signed up for computer science — Laura Billinglsey, Glenn Burns and Josh Payne.

Current issues and events will have four SHS contestants — Dustin Whitson, Molly Mason, Glenn Burns and Austin McCormack.

SHS students in literary criticism include Mandy Burns, Meagan Langham, Adrienne Garcia and Rachel Cave.

Josh Kemp and Payne will compete in mathematics and number sense.

Ready writing will have three from SHS — Ryan McAnally, Cody Beaver and Nicholas Landes.

Snyder will be well represented in speech events. Jaci Smith, Mason and Austin McCormack compete in informative speaking. P.K. Fritz will substitute.

Three SHS students will compete in poetry interpretation — Blake Robertson, Sara Cantu and Erin Cooley. Paul Jackson will substitute.

Smith, Will Davis and Fritz are entered in the Lincoln Douglas Debate.

Persuasive speaking contestants are Will Davis, Jacinda Judah, and Fritz. Scott Gilliland will substitute.

In prose interpretation, SHS contestants are Cole McLeod, Clark Reed and Joanna Burk. Paul Jackson will substitute.

Science contest entrants from Snyder are Matthew Kerr, Dustin Whitson, Kellie Dodson, Kemp and Lilli Valdez.

Entered in spelling and vocabulary are Wendy Proffitt, Patrick Jones, Kentara McDonald and Paige Anderson.

Snyder High has four entered in journalism events. In news writing, contestants are Christy Essery, Jeff Stanfield, Ashley Edwards and Burk.

Competing in feature writing are Haley Elkins, Burk and Kasey Wemken. Stacey Garcia will substitute.

Editorial writing contestants are Elkins, Burk and Jeff Stanfield. Wemken will substitute.

Entered in headline writing are Essery, Garcia and Edwards.

Sponsors include Diane Arnold, journalism; JoAnn Cotton, ready writing; Wynola Early, computer science; Ron Hester, Lincoln-Douglas Debate; Lynda McCormack, speech events; Shad Nachlinger, current issues & events and literary criticism; Lynda Patterson, computer applications; Christy Smith, spelling and vocabulary; Phyllis Smith, accounting; Darlene Stokes, mathematics events; and Thomas Strayhorn, science.

Pilots looking to ground the Airbus

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal safety officials are reviewing a request by eight American Airlines pilots to ground the Airbus A300-600, one of which crashed in New York last year.

Spokesmen for the Federal Aviation Administration and National Transportation Safety Board said they have received a 70-page report from the pilots.

"Serious consideration must be given to grounding the entire A300-600 fleet until its airworthiness can be assured," said a letter accompanying the report, signed by eight pilots. A copy of the report was obtained by The Associated Press.

American Airlines and Airbus Industries say the plane is safe.

Holy Week Services end

Snyder's Holy Week Services will conclude Friday morning with a breakfast at First United Methodist Church.

The breakfast will be served beginning at 7 o'clock by members of the church.

Rev. Buddy Payne, pastor of the church, will deliver the final message of the Holy Week Services.

The public is invited to the service and the breakfast that is sponsored by the Ministerial Alliance of Scurry County.

A free will offering will be taken at the morning service to support the ministries conducted by the alliance.

ASK US

Q—How much did the county spend on the open meetings lawsuit?

A—The last bill approved by the commissioners' court brought the total to $65,988.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 76 degrees; low, 45; 7 a.m. Thursday, 49; no precipitation; total for 2002, 2.77 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, cloudy, low 55-60; SW winds 5-15 mph. Friday, cloudy, slight rain chance; high around 75; S winds 10-20 mph. Friday night, low around 45, cloudy, 90% rain chance.



Macey Rodriguez
Rain chance

Sunset:
7 p.m.
Sunrise:
6:36 a.m.
Of 86 days in 2002, the sun has shone 82 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Never mistake motion for action.
—Ernest Hemingway

MAR 28 2002

Study says teen-agers who watch more TV are more prone to acting violently

WASHINGTON (AP) — Teen-agers who watch more than an hour of television a day during early adolescence are more likely to be violent in later years, researchers say.

The rate of violence, including assaults, fights and robberies, increases dramatically if daily TV time exceeds three hours, according to researchers who studied more than 700 people for 17 years.

"Our findings suggest that, at least during early adolescence, responsible parents should avoid permitting their children to watch more than one hour of television a day," said Jeffrey G. Johnson of Columbia University and the New York State Psychiatric Institute.

"The evidence has gotten to the point where it's overwhelming," said Johnson, who led the team of researchers studying families in two upstate New York counties.

The work is the latest to associate aggression with television viewing. But while other studies have linked watching violent television to later aggressive behavior, Johnson said this is the first to investigate the total amount of time individuals spent watching and to follow those people over many years.

"I was surprised to see a five-fold increase in aggressive behavior from less than one hour to three or more hours," Johnson said in a telephone interview.

The study is appearing in Friday's issue of the journal Science.

Among youths who watched less than an hour of television daily at age 14, just 5.7 percent were involved in aggressive acts by the ages of 16 to 22, the study found.

For those who watched between one and three hours, the aggression rate jumped to 22.5 percent, and the rate was 28.8 percent for those who watched more than three hours, the study found.

The effect was most pronounced for boys with rates of 8.9 percent committing aggressive acts for those who watched less than an hour of TV at age 14, 32.5 percent for one to three hours and 45.2 percent for those watching more than three hours of television. For girls the rates were 2.3 percent, 11.8 percent and 12.7 percent, respectively.

A researcher whose 1998 analysis found increased violent behavior in youths who watched more than six hours of television daily welcomed the report.

Mark I. Singer of Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, who was not connected to the new research, said it was "an important study" that covered a significant period of time and took into account potential outside influences.

He said part of the importance of the new report is the indication that there is a relationship in both sexes between television viewing and aggressive behavior.

Dennis Wharton, a spokesman for the National Association of Broadcasters, said Wednesday he has not seen the study but found the results surprising.

In a commentary accompanying the report, Craig A. Anderson and Brad J. Bushman of Iowa State University said the findings were "important evidence showing that extensive TV viewing among adolescents and young adults is associated with subsequent aggressive acts."

The effects are "not trivial" and suggest it may be worthwhile to restrict the viewing time of adolescents, they wrote.

events

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Pick 3

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

1-2-8

Lotto Texas

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

28-33-35-39-41-45

(twenty-eight, thirty-three, thirty-five, thirty-nine, forty-one, forty-five)

Estimated Lotto Texas jackpot: $15 million

French man who shot 8 city council members jumps out of a window

PARIS (AP) — The French man who shot to death eight members of a city council in suburban Paris killed himself today by jumping out a window, police said.

Richard Durn, 33, killed eight members of the city council of Nanterre on Wednesday morning, injuring 19 others.

He told police during a day of interrogation he often "thought about killing someone and killing himself afterward."

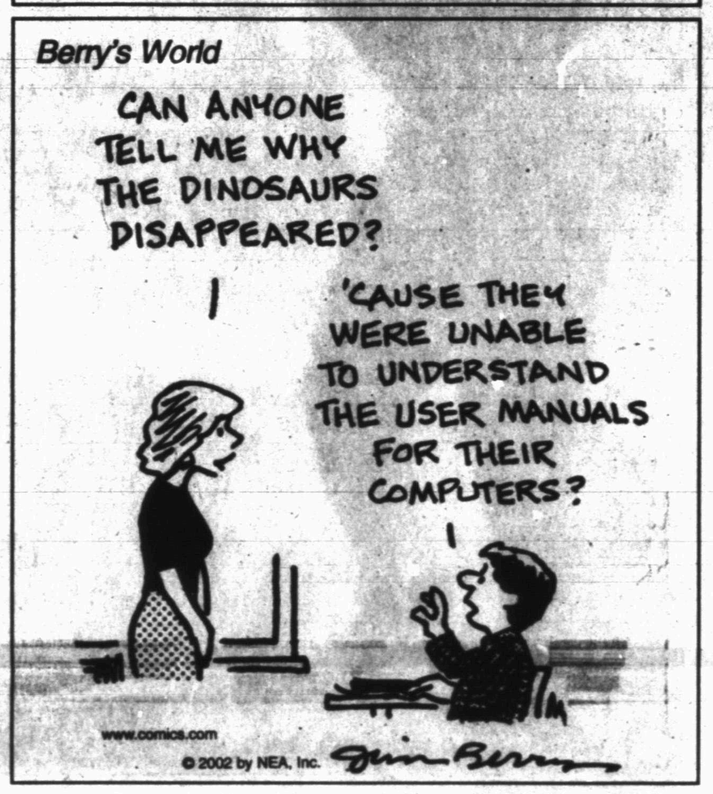
Durn killed himself while in police custody, jumping from an upper story window of a police building in Paris, authorities said. Details were still incomplete.

After the shooting spree, Nanterre Mayor Jacqueline Fraysse said the attacker yelled out, "Kill me, kill me" as he was subdued in the council chamber in the Paris suburb.

France 2 television had reported that police found a 13-page letter at the man's home recounting a failed life, saying he was disgusted with himself and Nanterre and wanted police to kill him.

Durn's 65-year-old mother, Stephanie, said her son began psychotherapy in 1990, asking the therapist to "Help me to die."

President Jacques Chirac and Prime Minister Lionel Jospin — both contenders in the presidential election less than a month away — made pre-dawn visits to the scene.



Date Book

Thursday, March 28, 2002

Today is the 87th day of 2002 and the 9th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1834, the U.S. Senate voted for the first time in its history to censure a president. It declared that Andrew Jackson inappropriately removed federal deposits from the Bank of the United States.

On this day in 1930, the ancient Turkish city of Constantinople changed its name to Istanbul.

On this day in 1979, an accident occurred at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant near Harrisburg, Pa. This caused widespread concern about the safety of nuclear power.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: August Anheuser Busch, Jr. (1899 - 1989), Budweiser founder; Maxim Gorky (1868 - 1936), writer; Nelson Algren (1909 - 1981), writer; Edmund S. Muskie (1914 - 1996), U.S. politician; Freddie Bartholomew (1924 - 1992), actor; Dianne Wiest (1948 -), actress, is 54; Reba McEntire (1955 -), singer, is 47; Julia Stiles (1981 -), actress, is 21.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1950, the City College of New York became the first and only college basketball squad to win both the NCAA and NIT tournaments in one year. Bradley College was the victim in the finals both times — 69-61 in the NIT final, and 71-68 in the NCAA final.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "The basic hero of our books should be labor; that is, man organized by the processes of labor." - Maxim Gorky, speech at the Writer's Congress, 1934.

TODAY'S MOON: Full moon (March 28)

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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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Wade Warren, Managing Editor
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ROUND UP GREAT DEALS DURING TRUCK MONTH!

TRUCK MONTH
STAMPEDE OF SAVINGS

$2,500 CASH BACK OR 0.0%* APR Financing for 36 months
2002 Ford F-150
XL 4x2 Regular Cab

$2,000 CASH BACK OR 0.0%* APR Financing for 36 months
2002 Ford Ranger

$2,500 CASH BACK OR 0.0%* APR Financing for 36 months
2002 Ford Excursion
4-Door

$2,500 CASH BACK OR 0.0%* APR Financing for 36 months
2002 Ford Expedition

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NOT ALL CUSTOMERS WILL QUALIFY FOR LOWEST PAYMENT. SEE DEALER TO SEE IF YOU QUALIFY. *0.0% Ford Credit APR Financing for 36 months at $27.77 per month, per $1,000 financed with 10% down. Offer subject to change at any time. Must take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 4/08/02. Excludes F-150 SuperCrew and Lightning. Residency restrictions apply. See dealer for details.

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Many Plants To Choose From
Six Greenhouses Full Of Color
Petunias, Geraniums, Begonias, Moss Rose, Snapdragons, Dianthus & More
Great Everyday Low Prices!
Annuals, Perennials, Hanging Baskets
Tomato & Pepper Plants and Herbs
Open 9 to 6 on Good Friday
We will be closed on Easter Sunday
Located 3 miles east of Ira on FM 1606 - Phone 573-4479
Monday - Friday 1-6, Saturday 9-6, Sunday 1-6

Lifetyle

EASTER PA
residents on
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Ice cream fir
around 1559.



EASTER PARTY — The Easter Bunny (Elois Davis) entertained residents on the long-term care floor at Cogdell Memorial Hospital Tuesday. The costume was bought for her in Michigan by her son, James Davis. Elois and her husband, Wade, are residents of CMH fourth floor. They remember a time when they handed out 4,000 eggs in eight schools in Snyder and Hermleigh. Residents made egg decorations. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)



GUILD MEMBERS IN CONTEST — Yvonne Nunn, Virginia Wade and Pam Mauldin, members of the Mesquite Country Writers Guild from left, won awards in a recent contest. Nunn won first with her "Petunias In a Whiskey Barrel;" Wade received a second with "Winter Day;" and Mauldin received a third with "My Daughter Fair." (Contributed Photo)

Ice cream first appeared in Italy around 1559.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



	North	03-28-02
	♠ Q J 4	
	♥ 7 3	
	♦ A 6 2	
	♣ A J 5 4 2	
West		East
♠ 8 7 6		♠ 5 3
♥ 10		♥ Q J 9 4
♦ K 10 8 7 4 3		♦ Q J 9
♣ K 8 3		♣ Q 10 9 7
	South	
	♠ A K 10 9 2	
	♥ A K 8 6 5 2	
	♦ 5	
	♣ 6	

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

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

Opening lead: ♠ 8

Thursday, March 28, 2002

Settle for the slam you're in

By Phillip Alder

Do you agree with this comment by Virginia Woolf? "One cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well."

I would be inclined to add "play bridge well." Although many feel differently, I cannot play good bridge on an empty stomach.

At the bridge table, it normally pays not to be greedy; make your contract without worrying about overtricks. (In duplicate pair events, overtricks can be very important. However, when in a slam, usually you should play as safely as possible.) If you were South in this deal, how would you plan the play in either six spades or seven spades?

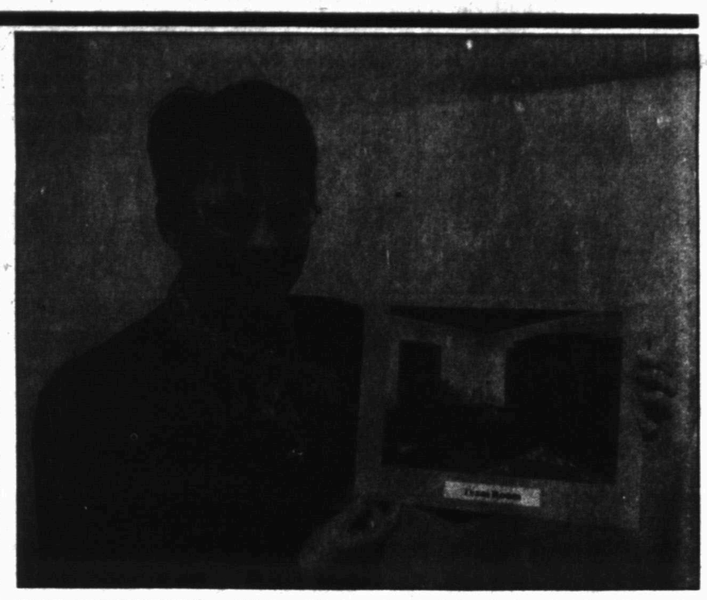
South's sequence, bidding hearts first, then spades twice, shows a strong hand with 5-6 in the majors. (With equal length in the majors, open one spade.)

Seven spades is a good contract, needing the hearts to split 3-2. Win the first trick and cash the two top hearts. Here, disaster strikes and you grumble about bad luck.

In six spades, though, maybe you thought about establishing dummy's club jack. You could do that, but it would yield only 11 tricks: three spades, two hearts, one diamond, two clubs, and three club ruffs in hand. Instead, you should establish your heart suit, but accommodate a bad split. After winning the trump lead (preferably in the dummy) and taking the heart ace, continue with a low heart.

Probably East will return his remaining trump, but win in hand, ruff a heart with dummy's spade queen, cash the diamond ace, ruff a diamond in hand, draw the remaining trump, and claim.

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DAR PROGRAM — Helen Hatter has visited the Period Rooms in the DAR Museum in Washington, D.C. and presented a program to members of Martin Preuitt Jr. Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution. The rooms, she said, depict lifestyles from several pre and post revolutionary eras. The Texas Room is a replica of a bedroom in a Texas German immigrant cottage, originally built in Columbus, Tex., and later moved to Alleyton. Focal points include wall stenciling, an ancient art dating back to the beginnings of recorded history. The meeting was held at The Shack. The next meeting will be held April 6 with DAR honoring the Good Citizen of the Year. (SDN Staff Photo)

Authorities pull plug on 'peep show'

ONNELLSVILLE, Pa. (AP) — Authorities pulled the plug on a car dealership's "peep show" after they discovered its owners were letting people pick up chicks.

As part of an advertising campaign, two Ford dealerships south of Pittsburgh lured people into showrooms with large signs inviting people to stop by and "peep in" to see their cars.

For their trouble, window shoppers could walk home with their own week-old baby chickens.

Fayette County humane officers shut down the program after hearing about it from the county's Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

"We really didn't think we were doing anything wrong," said Jim Davies, vice president of the dealership.

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

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

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

Scurry Charter Chapter ABWA; MAWC; 7 p.m.

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

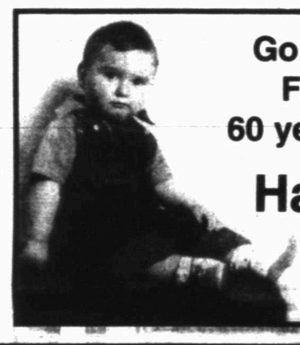
FRIDAY

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

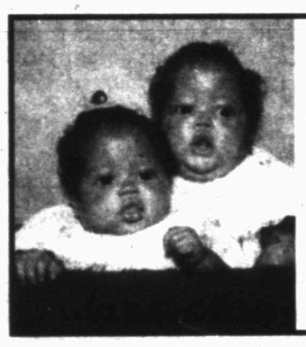
Blood pressures will be taken at Cogdell Hospital Home Health Services, 1800 Cogdell Blvd., Suite B; 1-2 p.m.

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

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



Go by B&F Well Service
Friday and wish this
60 year old little dumplin' a
Happy Birthday
Love
Your Family



Guess Who Is "16" Today



The Following Financial Institutions In Observance Of

Easter

Will Have The Following Holiday Business Hours

Please Transact Your Business Accordingly

Texas Savings Bank
Close at noon on Friday

West Texas State Bank
Close at noon on Friday

Snyder National Bank
Close at noon on Friday

American State Bank
Regular hours on Friday

Birthday Bash CASH!



If You Were Born
August 23, 1957 You Are A Winner!

Must Claim Prize By Friday, March 29, 2002
by 5:00 p.m. in person at Snyder Daily Ne ws.

All You Have To Do Is Come To
The Snyder Daily News And
Claim Your Birthday Bash Cash.

Proper Identification Needed

Today's Birthday Bash Cash $60

Bash Cash value increases $10 when there is no winner.

Thursday Birthday Bash Cash Numbers

0 8 - 2 3 - 5 7
Month Day Year

Deadline 5 p.m. Friday, March 29, 2002

New Birthday Bash Cash Numbers In The Weekend Edition Of The Snyder Daily News

HOW TO PLAY:
-You win if BASH CASH numbers match your birthday in sequence.
-Each BASH CASH starts with $50.
-BASH CASH increases $10 each time there is no winner.
-NEW BASH CASH numbers will be published Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday Editions of The Snyder Daily News.

ELIGIBILITY:
-Resident of Scurry County
-Must be at least 16 year old.
-Employees of the Snyder Daily News , their spouses and children are not eligible.

TO CLAIM BIRTHDAY BASH CASH
-Prize must be claimed in person by deadline.
-In case of multi-winners prize will be divided equally.
- Prize is claimed at Snyder Daily News, 3600 College Ave.
-Must provide proof of birthday and legal residence.
-Proof: driver's license, voter registration card, birth certificate, phone book, utility bill or other documentation.

It Pays To Read The
Snyder Daily News
3600 College Ave.
To Subscribe Call 573-5486

MAR 28 2002

ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman



THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



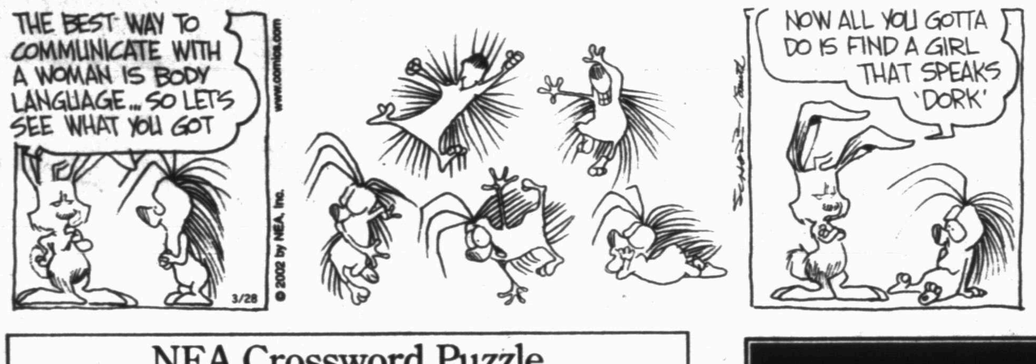
BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell



BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun



THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 "Have — — day!"
6 College major
10 Skullcap
12 Attic
14 Dwell upon
15 Think highly of
16 Busy
18 Tablet
19 Peace Prize city
21 Simon or Diamond
23 Regulation
24 "Pipe down!"
26 Rolaids rival
29 Summer, to Pierre
30 NATO cousin
32 Pacific island
34 Animal that barks
36 "Sesame Street" network
37 Haul into court
38 Sts. and aves.
40 — — rut
42 Hostel
43 Gallop or canter
45 Type size
47 Virus infection
50 Nonwinners
52 Rodeo rope
54 Ate hungrily
58 Mystery writer Cross
59 Oomph
60 Tundra animals
61 Footlights

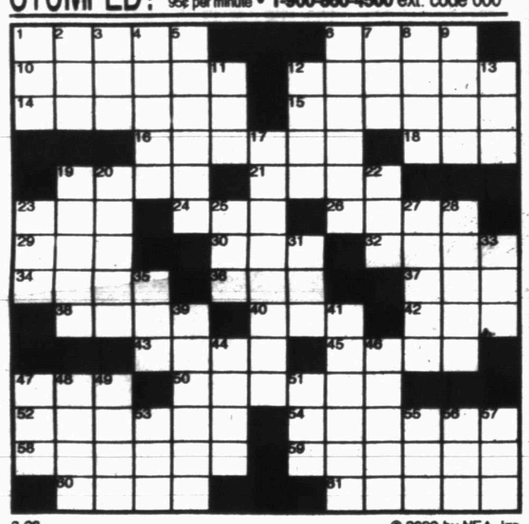
DOWN

1 Stomach muscles
2 Obtain
3 Paddle cousin
4 Tatum or Ryan
5 Nightclubs
6 Succeeded (2 wds.)
7 Rocker part
8 Stumble
9 Zeus' wife
11 Guess (abbr.)
12 Donated—
13 Slugger Williams
17 Settles
19 Tom Mix movie
20 Exude moisture
22 Carry
23 "— Miserables"
25 Leap
27 Face the —
28 Resort amenity
31 Nine-digit ID
33 Chess pieces
35 Table part
39 Dieters' repasts
41 Kitchen wear
44 Tiny bit
46 Cay
47 Gulf st.
48 Glittery fabric
49 River to the Caspian
51 Fleecy animal
53 Pen's contents
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Answer to Previous Puzzle

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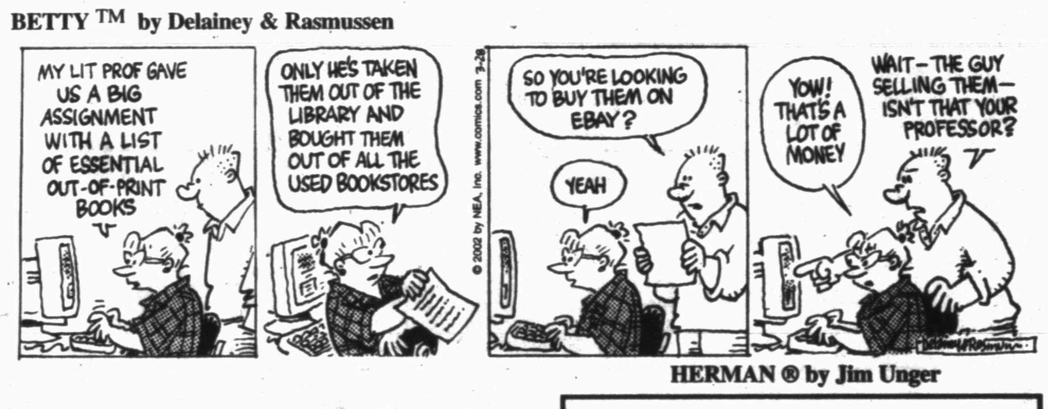
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"Stay there, I got the wrong one."

Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"I GUESS YOU CAN TELL WHAT KIND OF DAY WE HAD."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



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SPORTS

Snyder teams split games at Little Dribblers tourney

Snyder teams went 1-1 on the opening night of the Regional Little Dribblers Tournament.

Snyder rolled over Andrews II, 55-23, to remain in the winners' bracket of the senior division. In the major division, Snyder II was edged by Levelland II, 24-21.

Chris Smith poured in 11 points, and Dustyn Williams added 10 more to pace Snyder's senior squad. Reno Cruz had eight points to lead Andrews.

Garrett Pinson tallied eight points for Snyder. Eric Martinez and Barrett Bowlin dropped in six points apiece. Tyler Hogan and Blake Scott notched four each. Corbin Clements drained three points. Jamie Arnold finished with two, and Jason Cave chipped in one.

In the other senior division game, Plainview I knocked off Levelland II, 58-42. Keenon Udley had 13 points to pace Plainview. David Young's 11 points was tops for Levelland.

In the major division, Kadrian Groage poured in 11 points to anchor Snyder in its setback to Levelland.

Tyler McCormack and Jesse Conner posted four points each, and Ryan Gonzales finished with two. Colt Nickels had seven points to lead Levelland.

In the other major division match-up, Andrews I took care of Plainview II, 37-26. Andrews' Kerry Moore dropped in 12 points, and Plainview's Jonathan Lopez tallied nine.

Competition in the junior division tips off today when Snyder I takes on Plainview II at 4:45. Snyder II faces Levelland I at 7:15. Both games are at Travis Gym.

On tap today in the major division, Snyder I takes on Big Spring at 6, and Snyder II faces Plainview II in an elimination game at 8:30. Both games are at the SHS gym.

The tournament continues Friday, with the championship round in each division scheduled for Saturday night.

Teams from Snyder, Andrews, Levelland, Plainview and Big Spring are taking part in the event. All games are played at either Travis Gym or Snyder High School.

Bulldogs roll over ACHS

IRA — The Ira Bulldogs belted out 10 hits and played five innings of error-free baseball to knock off Abilene Christian High School, 11-0.

It was the Bulldogs' (8-4) final tune-up before opening district play Tuesday at home against Roby.

Josh Gutierrez surrendered only three hits through the first three frames, before giving way to Jase Olvera for the final two innings. Olvera allowed one hit and fanned six.

At the plate, Olvera and Jerry Jamison busted home runs to pace the Bulldogs. Jake Barnes slapped two doubles. Gutierrez and Cole Shafer also doubled.

"We're hitting the ball pretty well right now," said Ira coach Bubba Edwards. "It's taken us a while to come around at the plate, but we're finally starting to show what we're capable of."

Sports Briefs

Teenage baseball sign-ups

Players interested in registering for teenage league baseball can do so through Wednesday by calling 573-8048. Boys who will be 13 by July 31 and not 17 by Aug. 1 are eligible.

WGA play day begins

The Women's Golf Association of Snyder Country Club will hold its first play day at 9 a.m. Tuesday. A business meeting and luncheon is also scheduled. For more information, call the SCC pro shop at 573-7101.

Girls basketball camp scheduled

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

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

Williams sisters to meet in semifinals

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. (AP) — Serena Williams, who has beaten her older sister Venus only once in six meetings, will try again in the semifinals of the Nasdaq-100 Open.

Serena, seeded eighth, routed two-time champion Martina Hingis 6-4, 6-0.

No. 1-seeded Jennifer Capriati beat Tatiana Panova 6-2, 6-0. Capriati's opponent Thursday will be No. 5 Monica Seles, who completed an all-American final four by defeating No. 4 Kim Clijsters 4-6, 6-3, 6-3.

Andre Agassi became the first men's semifinalist, beating Nicolas Lapentti. On Friday, Agassi will play 1998 champion Marcelo Rios, who swept Juan Ignacio Chela.

Top-seeded Lleyton Hewitt needed only 10 minutes to win three games and complete a rain-interrupted fourth-round victory over American James Blake. Hewitt's opponent will be Marat Safin, who beat qualifier Fernando Gonzalez.

Expos release Canseco

JUPITER, Fla. (AP) — Jose Canseco will not reach his goal of 500 home runs with the Montreal Expos.

Canseco was given his release by the Expos after being told he would not be an everyday player. Canseco, 37, hit .200 with three home runs and five RBIs in 14 spring training games.

The former AL MVP has 462 home runs, making him 22nd on the career list.

Cubs, Marlins make six-player trade

MELBOURNE, Fla. (AP) — The Chicago Cubs got a much-needed closer in Antonio Alfonseca. The Florida Marlins got some much-wanted payroll flexibility.

The Cubs, desperate for a relief ace since Tom Gordon was injured, acquired Alfonseca and pitcher Matt Clement from the Marlins in a six-player trade.

Florida got pitcher Julian Tavarez and three minor leaguers — pitchers Jose Cueto and Dontrelle Willis and catcher Ryan Jorgensen.

Pacers fined and suspended for fight

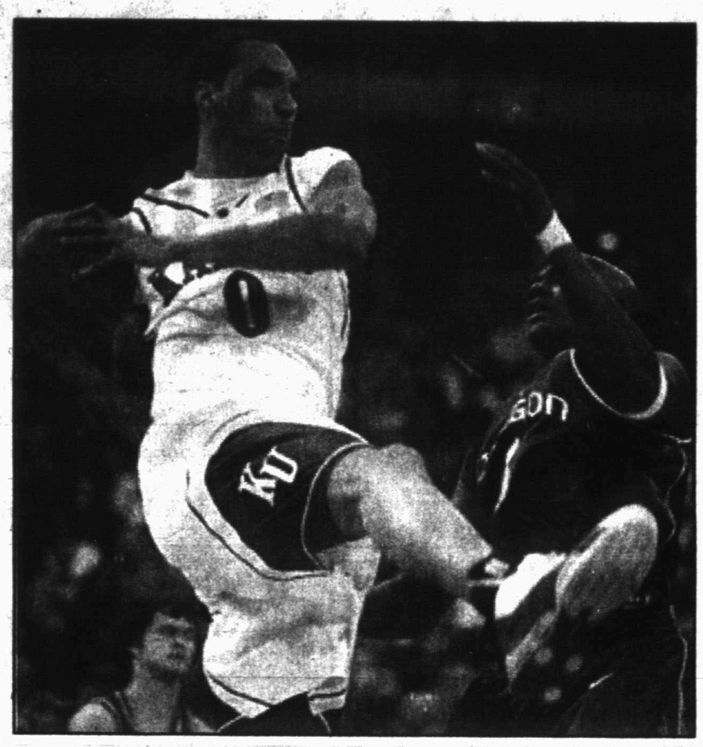
NEW YORK (AP) — Jermaine O'Neal of the Indiana Pacers was suspended for two games without pay and fined $10,000 by the NBA for throwing punches, and three teammates received automatic one-game bans for leaving the bench in a game against Detroit on Tuesday.

O'Neal threw an elbow at Corliss Williamson, who was not suspended, but the league fined him $5,000 for throwing the ball at O'Neal's head.

Pacers Johnathan Bender, Primoz Brezec and Bruno Sundov left the bench and were suspended for one game each without pay and fined $5,000.

Rhodes charged with domestic abuse

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Running back Dominic Rhodes of the Indianapolis Colts was charged with domestic abuse after he was accused of hitting and shoving the woman he lives with. An initial hearing was set for April 8 in Marion Superior Court.



JAYHAWK JUMP — Kansas' Drew Gooden rips down a rebound during the Jayhawks' victory over Oregon in the regional finals. Kansas squares off with Maryland in a national semifinal game Saturday in Atlanta. (AP Photo)

Final Four weekend equals big money for Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Sports fans call the NCAA men's basketball tournament March Madness. Las Vegas casinos just call it profitable.

Sports books are in the middle of what's arguably their biggest betting season as the single-elimination tournament prepares for this weekend's Final Four.

Fans make their way to Las Vegas throughout March, crowding sports books and hotel rooms and filling trash cans with losing betting slips.

Chris Johnson of Lincoln City, Ore., said he and his college buddies make meeting on the Strip for the NCAA tournament an annual event.

Gripping betting slips in one hand and a complimentary beer in the other, the 28-year-old insurance salesman and Duke University fan watched Indiana beat his Blue Devils on the bank of big screens overhead as he lounged in the Stardust hotel-casino's sports book.

He lost his $20 parlay bet on Duke when the Hoosiers upset the favorite 74-73, but Johnson didn't care.

"I've got action all weekend," he said. "That's why I like to come here to watch the games. Even if you don't care about the teams that are playing, having a bet on them makes it interesting. You can't do this anywhere else."

Unlike the biggest sports betting event of the year — the Super Bowl — the NCAA tournament is spread over three weekends, meaning more hotel rooms, meals and drinks, oddsmakers and hotel-casino operators said.

"Overall, it's not bigger as far as the handle as the Super Bowl, but it's bigger as far as the volume of people and days and excitement," said John Avello, race and sports book director for Bally's and Paris Las Vegas hotel-casinos. Handle is the total amount bet.

Avello said that betting interest seems to grow every year.

"We probably had the biggest crowd I've ever seen for those four days," he said, referring to the tournament's first weekend. "From Thursday morning to Sunday until about 4 p.m., it was just mayhem."

Neither state gambling regulators nor Las Vegas tourism officials calculate how much is bet on the games or the tournament's nongambling economic benefit for the city. By comparison, Nevada sports books saw more than $71 million in betting action on the Super Bowl.

"March is certainly one of the city's strongest months for a combination of reasons," said Kevin Bagger, a senior researcher for the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority. "The weather is outstanding, there's the Winston Cup NASCAR event and March Madness."

Casino sports books use beer specials and a variety of proposition bets as well as special parties to lure bettors. Avello said collegiate basketball fans filled the 1,100-seat Paris showroom to catch the 65-team tournament opener. "It was just spectacular," he said.

One Las Vegas neighborhood casino sports book ran a free contest for anyone guessing all the teams to make the "Sweet 16." No one won the $5,000 prize, but four of the 1,768 participants picked 15 of 16 to win $1,000 each.

The NCAA tournament continues to be a great event for Las Vegas, Avello said.

"If you can't make it to the games themselves, this is the place you should be."

A college betting ban proposal backed by the NCAA pending in Congress could change all that.

"It would probably make people bet more on pro sports, because they're not going to stop betting," said Andy DeLuca, sports book manager for the Sahara hotel-casino on the Las Vegas Strip. "But it would definitely hurt the bottom line."

The NCAA and other advocates say a betting ban would help preserve the integrity of college sports and discourage athletes from point shaving. Critics counter that the ban would drive all college sports wagering to illegal bookies and make it harder to detect fixed games.

Men's Final Four

By The Associated Press
All Times EST
THE FINAL FOUR
At The Georgia Dome
Atlanta
National Semifinals
Saturday, March 30
Indiana (24-11) vs. Oklahoma (31-4), 6:07 p.m.
Maryland (30-4) vs. Kansas (33-3), 40 minutes after the first
National Championship
Monday, April 1
Semifinal winners, 9:18 p.m.

Women's Final Four

By The Associated Press
All Times EST
THE FINAL FOUR
At The Alamodome
San Antonio
National Semifinals
Friday, March 29
Duke (31-3) vs. Oklahoma (31-3), 7 p.m.
Connecticut (37-0) vs. Tennessee (29-4), 30 minutes following first game
National Championship
Sunday, March 31
Semifinal winners, 8:30 p.m.

NIT Glance

By The Associated Press
All Times EST
Championship Round
Thursday, March 28
At Madison Square Garden
New York
Third Place
Temple (18-15) vs. Syracuse (23-12), 6:30 p.m.
Championship
Memphis (26-9) vs. South Carolina (22-14), 9 p.m.

National Basketball Association

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
x-New Jersey	46	26	.639	—
Boston	41	31	.569	5
Orlando	38	33	.535	7½
Philadelphia	37	33	.529	8
Washington	33	38	.465	12½
Miami	31	39	.443	14
New York	27	43	.386	18
Central Division				
Detroit	42	29	.592	—
Milwaukee	37	32	.536	4
Charlotte	37	33	.529	4½
Indiana	35	35	.500	6½
Toronto	33	38	.465	9
Atlanta	29	41	.414	12½
Cleveland	25	46	.352	17
Chicago	17	54	.239	25
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
x-Dallas	49	21	.700	—
x-San Antonio	49	22	.690	½
Minnesota	42	28	.600	7
Utah	39	32	.549	10½
Houston	26	44	.371	23
Denver	21	48	.304	27½
Memphis	18	53	.254	31½
Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Sacramento	50	19	.725	—
x-L.A. Lakers	50	21	.704	1
Portland	44	27	.620	7
Seattle	41	31	.569	10½
L.A. Clippers	36	36	.500	15½
Phoenix	33	38	.465	18
Golden State	18	53	.254	33

x-cliriched playoff spot

Wednesday's Games
Charlotte 111, Orlando 104
Boston 102, Golden State 99
New York 89, Detroit 82
Toronto 81, Miami 80
New Jersey 88, Philadelphia 80
Phoenix 118, L.A. Lakers 106
Seattle 96, Memphis 82
Portland 98, San Antonio 93
Thursday's Games
Toronto at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Denver at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Philadelphia at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Utah, 9 p.m.
Sacramento at Houston, 9 p.m.
Friday's Games
Milwaukee at Washington, 7 p.m.
Dallas at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Indiana at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Golden State at Detroit, 8 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
San Antonio at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Portland at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

Arkansas to name new coach

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — Arkansas' search for a new basketball coach is over.

The university scheduled a news conference this afternoon to announce its choice to succeed Nolan Richardson, with Stan Heath of Kent State a leading candidate.

Kent State also scheduled a news conference for earlier in the afternoon although the subject was not disclosed.

Heath was in Fayetteville on Tuesday and was the only candidate given a personal tour of Walton Arena by Arkansas athletic director Frank Broyles. In addition, university officials held a reception for Heath and his wife.

Heath, whose Golden Flashes reached the final eight of the NCAA tournament, also visited West Virginia on Wednesday to talk about the Mountaineers' vacancy.

Arkansas fired Richardson on March 1, four days after he said for a second time he wanted to be bought out, criticized fans and reporters and said he was treated differently because he is black.

A half-dozen coaches were interviewed by Arkansas through Wednesday. Tommy Boyer, chairman of the 14-member committee assembled to help pick a new coach, said Wednesday night that as many as a half-dozen more could be interviewed when committee members travel to Atlanta for the Final Four.

Illinois coach Bill Self, once considered a strong candidate, is now out of the running.

"He is not a candidate," Boyer said. "He has never been offered the job."

Self said Wednesday he is concentrating on his job at Illinois and "any reports connecting me to the Arkansas job are not accurate."

Fresh from strong showings in the NCAA tournament, Heath and Steve McClain of Wyoming interviewed Tuesday, as did Arkansas State coach Dickey Nutt, the brother of Arkansas football coach Houston Nutt.

Texans looking at Rice as site for scrimmage

HOUSTON (AP) — Rice University athletic officials are talking to the Houston Texans about being the host site for an Aug. 2 practice and scrimmage between the Texans and the Dallas Cowboys.

Both the Texans and Cowboys have agreed on a scrimmage in Houston on that date, and both head coaches have said they want to play on grass.

Rice Stadium has an artificial turf, but Rice's renovated track and soccer stadium has a grass field.

"Our soccer and track facility has a brand new field, but not a lot of seats. If 5,000 seats are inadequate, we would have to bring in some bleachers," said Rice athletic director Bobby May.

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COLORADO CITY - Colorado City Feed & Seed (915)728-5071 11:00-12:00 p.m.
SNYDER - Ezell-Key Feed Store (915)573-6691 12:30-1:30 p.m.
ROBY - Terry's Gin, Inc (915)776-2257 2:30-3:30 p.m.
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ORDINANCE NO. 899

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SNYDER, TEXAS, TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGISTRATION OF THE RETAIL ELECTRIC PROVIDERS, REQUIRING LOCAL REGISTRATION OF RETAIL ELECTRIC PROVIDERS PURSUANT TO SECTION 39.358 OF THE TEXAS UTILITIES CODE; PROVIDING FOR A REGISTRATION FEE; PROVIDING FOR THE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF REGISTRATION FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH THIS ORDINANCE OR CHAPTER 39 OF THE TEXAS UTILITIES; AND PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, A PENALTY CLAUSE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Section 3. Penalties

(a) Any registrant who has not been granted an extension of time for remittance of a fee due who fails to remit any fee imposed under subsection (d) of Section 1 prior to January 31 shall pay a penalty of $10.00.

(b) Any registrant who has not been granted an extension of time for remittance of a fee due, and fails to pay any delinquent remittance on or before a period of 30 days following the date on which the fee becomes delinquent shall pay a second delinquency penalty of $15.00 plus the amount of fee and the amount of the penalty first imposed.

(c) Any REP that remains delinquent in the payment of annual registration fees after March 31 shall be subject to having registration suspended.

Fort Worth skyscraper remains an eyesore

FORT WORTH (AP) — A plywood-covered skyscraper stands as the lone, stark reminder of the tornado that ravaged downtown two years ago.

The 37-story tower that once housed Bank One, 200 attorneys' offices and the upscale Reata restaurant was to be demolished last summer. But the project was delayed after asbestos removal took longer than planned and nearby business owners complained that an implosion would hurl debris into their buildings.

Meanwhile, most of the other 360 businesses damaged after the March 28, 2000, twister have rebuilt, repaired and recovered. In fact, many were up and running within a year.

"It's business as usual, and if anything, the city is better," said Gil Stotler of the Fort Worth Convention & Visitors Bureau. Its building sustained minor damage in the Tarrant County storms that killed five people — none downtown — and caused $450 million in damage.

"Rarely do people even ask about the tornado anymore," Stotler added. "(The damaged skyscraper) probably has its picture taken by tourists more than any other downtown building, but I try to sell it as the world's largest birdhouse."

An eyesore is what many city officials, businesses and residents call the shuttered building, which went up in the early 1970s to house the old Fort Worth National Bank.

Most of its 3,540 windows were boarded soon after the tornado to keep glass and other debris from falling onto the street.

But now Fort Worth Fire Department officials are worried that the 2-year-old plywood could catch fire or blow away during spring winds. They may take action against the building owners if they find safety hazards, said Pat Svacina, a city spokesman.

Five months after the twister, Loutex Fort Worth said it was selling the building because repairs would be too costly. Fine Line Diversified Realty, headed by Fort Worth financier Ed Bass, bought it for $3.8 million in March 2001.

The new owners then obtained a city demolition permit, which allows only asbestos removal and other preparation work. During that part of the project, workers carved holes in the window boards.

Building owners have not applied for an implosion permit from the city.

Lydia Guajardo, spokeswoman for Sundance Square Development, a Bass family entity, said Wednesday that there are no plans for the building. She declined further comment.

Among those worried about the effects of a demolition are members of First Christian Church, which has unique stained-glass windows. The ornate church, built in 1914 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is half a block south of the skyscraper.

"These windows can't be replaced," said Betty Mann, associate minister. "And we've heard that (implosion) rubble could be five stories high. That's a lot higher than our structure."

Meanwhile, Bank One recently opened its new 12-story brick building on what had been a parking lot beside its former home.

Reata, which spent nearly $1 million in repairs and reopened on the skyscraper's 35th floor a few weeks after the tornado, is set for trial in November for its lawsuit against Loutex.

Reata plans to open its new downtown restaurant in May at the former Caravan of Dreams nightclub.

"It's been such a tough year," said Mike Evans, Reata's co-owner. "I can't tell you how good it feels to be opening back up. It's like waiting for your wedding or the birth of a child."

New genetic variation test may help women

By The Associated Press

Researchers say there could be a simple way to pinpoint women who can lower their risk of heart disease by taking estrogen.

Doctors could test for a common genetic variation that appears to boost estrogen's effect on HDL, the so-called good cholesterol, they reported in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine.

Estrogen supplements are taken by millions of women to relieve hot flashes and other symptoms of menopause, and it was long assumed the pills also prevented heart disease by improving cholesterol levels. But recent studies have questioned whether there's an across-the-board benefit, adding to the confusion about who should get estrogen and for how long.

In a study done at Wake Forest University School of Medicine, researchers found that women with a specific version of a gene had double the increase of HDL when taking estrogen. The study was too small to show if the increase actually helped women's hearts, said researcher Dr. David M. Herrington.

"We don't yet know for sure whether this dramatic increase in HDL translates into a reduction in risk for heart disease. But it certainly is very promising," he said.

If the heart benefits are confirmed, Herrington said, doctors could do a simple genetic test to find out if their patients have the gene variant. The results could help them decide whether to recommend hormone supplements and how much to prescribe.

"Hormone replacement therapy may no longer be considered a one-size-fits-all proposition," Herrington said. "This may actually really help doctors individualize the way they treat women."

The researchers analyzed DNA from 309 postmenopausal women with heart disease who were given either hormones or a dummy pill and followed for three years. They looked for variations in a gene that plays a key role in how the body's cells react to estrogen.

One particular variant was found in nearly 20 percent of the women taking hormones. Those women had a 27 percent increase in good cholesterol, compared with a 13 percent increase in the other women taking hormones. LDL, the bad cholesterol, decreased but the gene variant did not appear to make a significant difference.

Whether the gene makes women more sensitive to the other effects of estrogen isn't known, Herrington said. Hormones are used to prevent brittle bones and treat the symptoms of menopause such as hot flashes, night sweats and vaginal dryness. But long-term use of hormones may increase the risk of breast cancer.

Dr. Ronald M. Krauss, who wrote an accompanying editorial, said the study is a step toward explaining why some women show more of an HDL response to estrogen than others.

"Ideally, what you really want is to see whether or not in the end women who have this variant, who take estrogen, are actually healthier as a result of taking estrogen," said Krauss of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California. "Those studies can and hopefully will be done."

In the meantime, Herrington said doctors should follow the American Heart Association recommendation that women should not take hormones solely to prevent heart disease.

Angioplasty with stents are recommended

By The Associated Press

Heart attack patients who get an emergency angioplasty to open a blocked artery should routinely have a stent inserted, too, to keep the blood vessel from clogging up again, a large study concludes.

Previous studies have found that balloon angioplasty is superior to clot-dissolving drugs when it comes to treating heart attacks, offering better survival and fewer complications.

Nevertheless, the artery can clog up again after angioplasty, and the new study was undertaken to see if stents or a blood-thinning drug improved the outcome. A stent is a wire-mesh tube used to keep an artery propped open.

The research on 2,082 patients showed angioplasty and stents are more effective than angioplasty alone. Without a stent, patients were twice as likely to have problems and need a second procedure.

"What we've established in this study is that stenting should be the routine therapy to treat patients with heart attacks," said Dr. Gregg Stone of the Cardiovascular Research Foundation and Lenox Hill Heart and Vascular Institute in New York.

Angioplasties are done on about a million Americans each year, mostly as routine treatment for chest pain. Doctors thread balloon-tipped catheters into a blocked artery and inflate the balloon to open it up. Doctors often leave behind a stent.

Some studies, though, had raised doubts about using stents on heart attack victims.

The new study, reported in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine, was conducted at 76 hospitals in North and South America and Europe. Patients were given one of four treatments: angioplasty alone; angioplasty and the clot-blocking drug ReoPro; angioplasty and a stent; or angioplasty plus a stent and ReoPro.

The study was partly funded by Guidant, which makes the stent, and Lilly Research Laboratories, which distributes ReoPro. Most of the authors of the study have received research money or been consultants to the companies.

The research found there was no significant difference between the groups in rates of death, stroke or a second heart attack. The difference was in scar tissue filling up the artery again, requiring either surgery or a second angioplasty. After six months, the rate for a second procedure ranged from 16 percent for angioplasty alone to 5 percent for stent and the drug.

Stone said ReoPro helped in the first 30 days but did not seem to make that much difference in outcomes at six months.

Dr. David Faxon, president of the Dallas-based American Heart Association, said stents are already used in about 70 percent of angioplasties overall and their use for heart attacks is less of a concern now than when the study began in 1997. Drug-coated stents now being tested show promise of making them even more effective, he said.

The study is "probably not likely to change practice much, but it does give much better justification for what the practice is doing," said Faxon, one of the many doctors who participated in the study.

Since only about a quarter of U.S. hospitals can perform angioplasties, Stone said ambulances should be allowed to take heart attack victims to those hospitals just as they take people with major injuries to trauma centers.

In a commentary in the journal, Drs. Richard A. Lange and L. David Hillis of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas noted that it has not been determined whether stents are cost-effective or the best option for patients who are in shock or have small arteries.

Arthur Andersen looks for new leader

CHICAGO (AP) — Top partners for Arthur Andersen LLP, desperate to prevent the company from collapsing, are pressing their efforts to find a new leader and negotiate the possible sale of Andersen's non-audit businesses.

A day after Joseph Berardino quit as chief executive of Andersen Worldwide — the legal entity that includes the U.S. firm Arthur Andersen — the troubled company remained wracked by uncertainty amid dwindling hope for its survival.

A successor to Berardino won't be chosen until next week at the earliest, spokesman Charlie Leonard said. Andersen Worldwide's governance requires that the 18-member board of partners meet to take such an action, and Leonard said no meeting is scheduled until Tuesday in London.

Many partners see former Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker as Andersen's best chance to stay alive. But Volcker's rescue plan, which calls for him to install and head an independent governing board, appears to be on hold unless the government abandons a criminal indictment of Andersen for destroying documents related to bankrupt audit client Enron Corp.

But Justice Department spokesman Bryan Sierra said neither Berardino's resignation nor Volcker's proposal changes the government's plans to prepare for trial May 6.

The Chicago-based firm's 1,700 U.S. partners, who don't have a direct say in a successor, huddled in conference rooms at Andersen offices across the country Wednesday to discuss strategy and the possible sales of various non-auditing units to its rivals.

By late afternoon, no major decisions had been made or deals consummated, several said, and the mood remained as tense as before Berardino's resignation.

"The organization is incredibly nervous about its future," said New York-based partner Jack Gelman.

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu and KPMG are among the suitors for some of Andersen's U.S. businesses. Andersen's tax partners met in Chicago to discuss a Deloitte term sheet to acquire its tax business, according to a partner who spoke on condition of anonymity.

However, in Australia, Deloitte backed out of talks with Andersen Australia. Instead, Ernst & Young Australia agreed with Andersen Australia to integrate their businesses.

Rival firms also have been courting Andersen's partners, who can't leave without significant complications unless the partners vote to eliminate their noncompete clause.

Asked about talks Wednesday, Deloitte spokesman Matthew Batters issued a statement saying the accounting firm will work with regulatory agencies "for an orderly transition of clients and people if Andersen cannot continue as a free-standing firm."

All previous attempts to broker sales of Andersen units have faltered, largely over the issue of Andersen's huge liability from Enron lawsuits.

"We all would like to see Andersen survive this," Doug DeRito, a tax partner in the Atlanta office, said of the attempts to peddle Andersen units. "But I think we need to be responsible and consider other viable options to protect the jobs of 28,000 employees in the U.S."

The flood of Andersen client losses continued Wednesday. Sysco Corp., a $22 billion food-service marketer and distributor, was the biggest new defection. Andersen has now lost at least 85 public audit clients this year — a majority of them this month.

New Jersey's Casino Control Commission also voted 5-0 to force casinos and their parent companies to sever ties with Andersen by May 15, rejecting arguments that the company's New Jersey unit should not be punished for the actions of a few Andersen "rogues" elsewhere.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	26.58	25.75	26.40	+ .70
AOL TimeWrn	23.99	23.65	23.96	+ .36
AT&T Corp s	15.60	15.37	15.60	+ .15
Albertsons	33.13	32.90	33.01	+ .20
Alltel	55.70	55.31	55.42	+ .21
AmEl Pw	46.60	45.67	46.39	+ .39
AndarkPtr	57.20	56.55	56.99	—.03
ATMOS Egy	24.50	24.20	24.20	
Aviall	8.80	8.71	8.80	—.01
BP PLC	53.47	53.03	53.47	+ .58
BakerHughes	38.50	37.60	38.06	—.14
Bank of Amer	69.61	68.53	68.89	+ .09
BellSouth	37.70	36.92	37.56	+ .66
vjBeth Steel	.51	.48	.51	+ .05
BurlNoSFe	30.64	30.39	30.61	+ .36
Caterpillar	57.80	57.28	57.55	+ .06
ChevronTex	91.19	90.00	90.78	+ .28
Citigroup	50.49	49.82	50.20	+ .20
CocaCola	52.29	52.04	52.18	—.11
ColgatePal	57.53	56.95	57.40	+ .09
ComclMetals	41.56	41.20	41.53	+ .33
CooperIn	41.85	41.55	41.76	+ .26
DaimlrChry	46.01	45.52	45.82	+ .62
DeltaAirl	32.90	32.45	32.87	+ .61
Dillards Inc	24.30	23.80	23.92	—.17
DowChem	33.25	32.75	32.77	—.41
DuPont	48.83	48.36	48.44	+ .07
EastmanChem	49.50	49.04	49.11	+ .12
EstKodak	31.45	31.08	31.21	+ .21
EDS Corp	58.14	57.40	57.94	+ .61
Entergy	43.80	43.00	43.78	+ .77
ExxonMobil s	44.29	43.85	44.16	+ .21
FstBksAm	40.50	40.50	40.50	—.20
FootLocker	16.11	15.80	16.09	+ .34
GenDynam	95.58	94.72	95.22	—.02
GenElec	37.85	37.40	37.83	+ .38
GenMills	49.36	48.61	49.15	+ .27
GenMotors	61.40	60.87	60.95	+ .62
GaPacific	30.45	29.82	30.35	—.02
Goodrich	31.95	31.68	31.78	+ .11
Goodyear	26.25	25.08	25.96	+ .76
GtAtlPac	27.36	27.12	27.27	—.09
Halliburtn	17.25	16.91	17.15	+ .02
Hanson ADS	37.90	37.70	37.90	+ .26
HarteHanks	31.10	30.60	31.04	+ .29
HomeDepot	49.10	48.55	48.76	—.50
Honeywellntl	38.76	38.33	38.69	+ .39
IBM	104.88	103.39	104.75	+ 1.36
IntlPaper	43.25	42.80	42.97	+ .11
JohnsonJn s	65.50	65.14	65.25	+ .11
vjK mart	1.62	1.55	1.58	—.09
KinderMorg	48.40	48.05	48.37	+ .12
Kroger Co	22.36	22.12	22.20	—.10
LockheedM	58.50	58.21	58.48	+ .33
Lowes Cos s	44.00	43.37	43.43	—.27
Lubys	6.86	6.70	6.71	—.15
LucentTech	4.66	4.43	4.57	+ .23
MarathonOil	28.90	28.66	28.80	+ .01
MayDeptStr	35.05	34.84	34.94	—.15
Medtronic	44.75	44.26	44.31	—.24
Motorola	14.11	13.71	14.07	+ .32
NCR Corp	45.30	44.25	45.20	+ .84
Navistar	44.45	43.17	44.39	+ .92
PNM Rescs	30.56	30.43	30.51	+ .06
Penney JC	20.85	20.25	20.81	+ .37
PepBoys	16.60	16.45	16.53	+ .09
PepsiCo	51.44	50.85	51.34	+ .29
Pharmacia	45.41	45.20	45.27	+ .23
PhelpDodge	42.20	41.67	42.06	+ .40
PhilipPet	62.88	62.45	62.68	—.01
PilgrmPrd B	14.19	14.00	14.11	+ .06
Praxair	59.99	59.53	59.96	+ .61
ProctGamb	90.29	89.80	90.20	+ .18
RadioShack	30.01	29.78	29.88	—.12
ReliantEngy	26.30	25.63	26.28	+ .43
RoyalDut	54.59	54.30	54.58	+ .48
SBC Comm	38.24	37.85	38.23	+ .58
SaraLee	21.00	20.90	20.94	—.04
Scripps EW	81.75	81.45	81.50	—.05
SearsRoeb	50.81	50.54	50.69	+ .24
SherwinW	28.70	28.24	28.35	—.25
SouthernCo s	26.90	26.55	26.68	+ .02
SwstAirl	19.34	19.15	19.30	+ .10
SprintFON	14.91	14.65	14.84	+ .11
SprintPCS	10.34	10.05	10.07	+ .01
Sunoco Inc	40.29	39.93	40.10	—.44
TXU Corp	55.20	54.42	54.93	+ .53
TempleInland	57.00	56.70	56.74	—.18
TexInd	42.10	41.80	41.95	+ .18
TexasInst	33.95	33.21	33.60	+ .50
Textron	51.09	50.25	51.09	+ .76
TriconGlbR	59.70	58.70	59.18	—.57
TrinityInds	24.40	24.20	24.25	—.25
TylerTech	5.80	5.60	5.74	+ .16
UnionPacif	62.09	61.61	62.05	+ .47
USSteel	18.60	18.37	18.46	+ .21
UnitedTech	75.35	73.80	74.99	+ 1.24
Unocal	39.14	38.90	39.01	+ .17
VerizonComm	46.40	45.61	46.24	+ .69
WalMart	62.17	61.82	61.92	—.08
WellsFargo	49.95	49.34	49.50	—.13
WstnGasRs	36.95	36.52	36.85	—.05
WinnDixie	16.21	16.11	16.19	—.02
Xerox Cp	10.87	10.63	10.66	—.07

Ask Hollywood

by Holly Wood

What's up with Crowe's tantrum?

Q: Gladiator-boy Russell Crowe threw a hissy fit, kicking over chairs, etc., in England at an awards ceremony when the producer cut his acceptance speech short recently. My question is, who does this guy think he is? — **J.H., New York, N.Y.**

A: Apparently, at that moment he thought he was Triple H of the World Wrestling Federation.

Crowe made headlines in late February when he got physical with the producer of the British Academy of Film and Television awards ceremony. Crowe won the best actor award for his role as a schizophrenic mathematician in "A Beautiful Mind," and the televised version of his acceptance speech was cut because the show was running long. He pushed the show's producer and berated him publicly. Crowe later apologized for his behavior.

Q: I watch the Food Network just so I can enjoy the cooking and showmanship of the talented Emeril Lagasse. Please tell me about him.

Also, I seem to remember a movie with Ricky Schroder and William Holden. Ricky's parents die when their mobile home goes over a cliff, and a roaming Holden is reluctant to let the new orphan tag along. Is there such a movie? Is it available on VHS? — **J.M. Donora, Pa.**

A: Bam! Lagasse grew up in Fall River, Mass., and he declined a music scholarship to attend the Johnson and Wales University culinary program, where he earned a doctorate. His first restaurant opened in 1990, and today he owns six — three in New Orleans, two in Las Vegas and one in Orlando. He loves to cook Portugese kale soup, roast chicken stuffed with sausage as well as pasta with truffles. When he's in the mood for comfort food, he loves green beans with bacon, pasta bolognese and potato dishes. He studied in Paris and Lyon, France, before working in several restaurants in New York, Philadelphia and Boston. Lagasse is 42 years old, and he is married.

For more information, check out the Food Network's Web site at http://www.foodtv.com, where you can find info on other Food Network shows and the motherload of recipes, including recipes for Lagasse's cheese scalloped potatoes, Yorkshire pudding, vegetable quesadillas ... I'd better get off this train of thought.

The Holden/Schroder film you're thinking of is "The Earthling," released in 1980 — a year before Holden's death. It's available at http://www.amazon.com for $7.95. You can also get it at Movies Unlimited for $14.24. Call (800) 668-4344, or check out their Web site at http://www.moviesunlimited.com.

Q: My husband and I are great fans of "Trading Spaces" on TLC and just loved Alex McLeod, the hostess of the show. Paige Davis is the new hostess, and we really want to know what happened to Alex. Why did she leave, and where is she now? — **P.B., Humble, Texas**

A: McLeod left the show because she wanted to be an actress. She hasn't been in anything recently, but I'm sure she's trying.

TRIVIA: • Emeril Lagasse's childhood hero was Red Sox hall-of-famer Carl Yastremski.

(Send your questions to Ask Holly Wood, c/o Newspaper Enterprise Association, 200 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016, or write to HollyWood85@hotmail.com. Because of the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.)

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MAR 28 2002

Dudley Moore dies at age 66

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — Dudley Moore, whose comedy contained a touch of melancholy, always said he was driven to success by his mother's rejection in the acting business and his own feelings of inferiority.

Moore got the last laugh, pouring his personal pain into humor for the stage, TV, records, music and even made himself into an unlikely Hollywood heartthrob in films such as "Arthur," and "10."

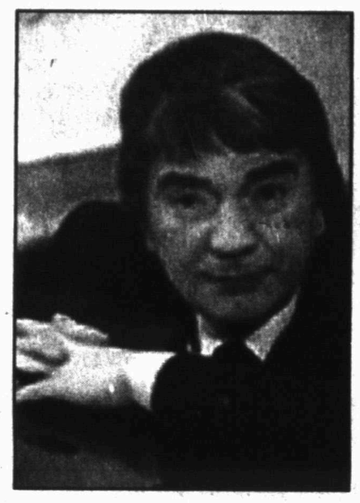
"He had a little-boy-lost quality about him, which women loved, and there was always something slightly forlorn about Dudley, even when he was being funny," said Michael Parkinson, a British talk-show host.

Moore died Wednesday at a friend's home in Plainfield of pneumonia stemming from progressive supranuclear palsy, a rare and incurable brain disorder. He was 66.

Before breaking into film, the 5-foot-21/2-inch classically trained pianist found success in comedy revues in London and on Broadway as part of a legendary British troupe that included the surrealist comic talent Peter Cook.

In the 1979 movie "10," the cuddly Englishman played a musician in the midst of a mid-life crisis determined to marry a perfect woman, embodied by Bo Derek.

His film career peaked in 1981 with the smash "Arthur," in which he played a rich drunk who falls for a struggling waitress played by Liza Minnelli. He was nominated for a best actor



Dudley Moore

Oscar, and co-star John Gielgud, who played Arthur's butler, won the supporting actor Oscar.

"I am deeply saddened by the death of my dear friend, Dudley Moore," Minnelli said in a statement. "He was a unique individual that was multitalented. He could make the world laugh and brought joy to millions."

Moore's other films included "Foul Play," 1978; "Lovesick," 1983; "Unfaithfully Yours," 1984; "Best Defense," 1984; "Arthur 2: On the Rocks," 1988; and "Crazy People," 1990.

Moore confessed to being driven by feelings of inferiority because of his height and working-class origins in Dagenham, East London. He also spoke of the pain of being rejected by his mother because he was born with a deformed left foot.

Comedians, he said in an interview with Newsday in 1980, are often driven by such feelings. "I guess if I'd been able to hit somebody in the nose, I wouldn't have been a comic," he said.

Music gave Moore his entrance to public performance, first as a chorister and organist in his church, then in 1960 as a young Oxford graduate recruited for the four-man comedy revue "Beyond the Fringe."

"Fringe," which played two years in London before moving to Broadway, was perhaps one of the greatest assemblies of young comic talent in Britain in the 20th century. Moore was teamed with Cook; Alan Bennett, later a successful playwright; and Jonathan Miller.

Moore and Cook formed a fast friendship and later teamed on television as Dud and Pete on "Not Only... but Also," a sketch comedy series. They also plumbed the depths of taste and decency in a series of recordings as "Derek and Clive."

Cook and Moore made their screen debuts in "The Wrong Box" in 1966 and followed up the next year with another success, "Bedazzled," a film remade in 2000.

Moore and Cook teamed again in 1971 for a comedy revue titled "Beyond the Fridge," which was a success in London and a smash two years later on Broadway, retitled "Good Evening." The pair won a special Tony Award for their "unique contribution to the theater of comedy."

Big screen success came after Moore settled in Southern California and met director Blake Edwards in a therapy group. When George Segal walked out of Edwards' production of "10," the director turned to Moore.

While his comedy brought him the most attention, he was a talented pianist, with degrees in music and composition from Oxford. In 1992, he performed with the New World Symphony in Miami and other orchestras.

"I can't imagine not having music in my life, playing for myself or for other people. If I was asked, 'Which would you give up?' I'd have to say acting," he said in 1988.

Moore was married four times, to Suzy Kendall in 1958, Tuesday Weld in 1975, Brogan Lane in 1988 and Nicole Rothschild in 1994. He had a son, Patrick, by his second marriage and a son, Nicholas, by his fourth.

Milton Berle dies at home at age 93

LOS ANGELES (AP) — It was 1948 when a nearly middle-aged funnyman who had grown up in vaudeville decided to take a chance on a new entertainment medium. Neither television nor Milton Berle would ever be the same.

The acerbic, cigar-smoking comedian whose pioneering comedy-variety show changed the face of television, died Wednesday at home, surrounded by his wife and family. Berle, who was 93, had been diagnosed with colon cancer last year and had recently been under hospice care.



Milton Berle

Until a stroke forced his retirement about two years ago, "Mr. Television" had been a performance dynamo, starring in films, night clubs, on radio, the Broadway stage and in vaudeville during a career that began at age 5.

"What a remarkable man, what a remarkable career," Bob Hope and his wife, Dolores, said in a statement. "Eighty-eight years in show business, a brilliant comedian, an accomplished actor, a lifelong friend."

Although Berle was nearly 40 when the groundbreaking "Texaco Star Theater" debuted on June 8, 1948, it had never been his nature to resist trying something new.

"Too many people simply give up too easily," he once said. "You have to keep the desire to forge ahead, and you have to be able to take the bruises of unsuccess. Success is just one long street fight."

In his debut season, Berle's show was watched on four out of every five television sets in the nation, and "Uncle Miltie" quickly became the new medium's highest-paid funnyman.

Every Tuesday night, when the show would air, movie theaters across the nation would go dark and store owners would put up signs announcing: "Closed tonight to watch Milton Berle."

The program's popularity spurred sales of television sets and helped make the new technology a medium for the masses.

Jane Seymour launches clothing line

NEW YORK (AP) — Jane Seymour, who wore 19th-century period costumes as television's "Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman," now has her own signature line of contemporary clothing.

Seymour's designs are featured in the Crossing Pointe catalog and Web site. Many of the printed fabrics are soft-colored florals inspired by Seymour's paintings.

Garments in the collection — which range from sizes 6 to 22 — are intended to flatter all shapes. "This isn't necessarily runway-friendly clothes, they're real-woman friendly," she said.

"I have had weight problems at different points in my life and I know the tricks," the 51-year-old actress told The Associated Press.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Friday, March 29, 2002

Adopt a more positive attitude, and noticeable improvements in all your affairs will lie in the year ahead. Your largest gains could come from situations Lady Luck handles.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — A close friend could be instrumental in changing your outlook on something that disturbed you. With the veil lifted, you'll be able to feel good about things again. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that'll govern you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Spend time with friends who think in progressive terms, and it could inspire you to come up with some ingenious conceptions of your own. It could be a fulfilling experience.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Friends could play a more important role in your personal affairs. Fortunately, in all but one experience, their input will be constructive.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Your self-esteem could be greatly lifted as a result of the kind way you handle a situation, where you choose to satisfy the needs of another above your own.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Spend time with persons whose ideas you respect, and it could turn out to be a very positive experience. They could help you achieve a good change of heart and attitude about things.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Your best asset is your ability to transform outmoded things into something newer and more functional. This could include relationships, as well as items.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — There are two reasons why you're great to be around. One, you'll let people do their own thing and two, if they have nothing to offer, you'll inspire them to come up with something.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — It's fine to desire beautiful things, but it will help you deal more profitably with others in acquiring what you want if you think in bottom line terms.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Good for you for starting to look for positive reasons to help you change a bad opinion you've had of someone you know socially. You know there's good in everybody.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Two areas where you are likely to show the greatest gains are career and finances. In a few instances matters may be interrelated, but that won't be so in all cases.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — It could be difficult for you to be a follower, so don't fight it. Do what your instincts direct. Speak up and take charge of things.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — It isn't always too wise to rely on your feelings to direct your thinking, but your sensitivities could be more accurate than your logical evaluations.

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Diseases spread by sex often hide undiscovered

DEAR ABBY: I want to respond to "Hurt and Mad in Okemos, Mich.," who wants to sue her boyfriend, "Mack," for giving her a sexually transmitted disease (STD).

It sounds like she may have HPV (human papilloma virus), responsible for most abnormal Pap smears. The HPV is often microscopic on the cervix and the penis. With good gynecologic treatment and follow-up, "Hurt and Mad" could expect a favorable long-term response.

Mack may well be truthful when he says that he did not know he had an STD. I tell my patients that until they are willing to wear a wedding ring, they should use a condom. This includes women who are on birth control pills.

Thanks for allowing me to help, Abby. — **FRANK E. OLIVER, M.D., DALLAS**

DEAR DR. OLIVER: Thank you for volunteering. Although condoms do not provide 100 percent protection against sexually transmitted diseases, they are far better than nothing at all.

**

DEAR ABBY: As an OB/GYN advice nurse, I address many concerns about STDs. It is estimated that more than one in 10 adults have the HPV virus. Once this virus is contracted, it never goes away.

The warts that the HPV causes may come and go. It is difficult to determine who transmitted the virus because the incubation period may be more than a year. Also, the first outbreak may be mild and go unnoticed. Often a male gets the warts behind his scrotum where they can go undetected for a long period of time. Thus, this virus may be spread innocently.

The most worrisome fact about HPV is that it is spread by skin-to-skin contact. This means a condom will not necessarily protect one from this sexually transmitted disease. There is no cure, but the warts may be removed when outbreaks occur.

Genital herpes is another virus that is spread by skin-to-skin contact. No condom will help if the lesions are not covered completely by the condom. It is important to know that a cold sore on the mouth is also the herpes virus. During oral sex this virus can spread to the genitals and vice versa.

In the heat of the moment, all rational thought tends to go out the window. Not only teen-agers, but adults as well should be aware of what the consequences may be.

Insisting on a complete physical exam for a new partner before beginning a sexual relationship — and getting the result in writing — is really the only safe sex. — **MYRENE GROSCOST-RANTA, R.N., WESTLAKE, OHIO**

DEAR MYRENE: That's true. And individuals who are not assertive enough to insist on it should abstain from having sex. To do otherwise is to play "STD roulette."

**

DEAR ABBY: I have a warning. Digital microwave ovens are dangerous for memory-impaired people.

My elderly mother punched in what she thought was 8 minutes. She actually hit the 8 twice — 88 minutes, and then dozed off.

The microwave was seared and the food turned to dust. It could have caused a terrible tragedy.

I immediately removed the microwave and bought one with a 30-minute dial timer. They are less expensive and much safer. Digital timers can be confusing. Elderly people are more familiar with dials. Thanks for letting me tell my story. — **ANDREA GOWEN, SEAL BEACH, CALIF.**

DEAR ANDREA: I'm glad you did. Your letter may avert a tragedy.

**

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.

**

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Arab leaders back Saudi peace plan

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Arab leaders endorsed a Saudi peace plan offering Israel "normal relations" in exchange for withdrawal from all occupied Arab land and a "fair solution" for Palestinian refugees, Lebanon's foreign minister announced today at an Arab summit.

The peace initiative also called for a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

Once Israel fulfills the Arab demands, "the Arab-Israeli conflict would be considered finished and (the parties) would enter into a peace treaty and achieving security for all countries of the region and establish normal relations with Israel," Lebanese Foreign Minister Mahmoud Hammoud said.

Raanan Gissin, an adviser to Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, called the Arab offer "a very interesting development, something that should be pursued." Gissin said Arab states should now enter into direct negotiations with Israel, perhaps at a follow-up conference to the Beirut gathering.

A text of the formal resolution was not immediately released. Arab League decisions traditionally are by consensus, meaning hard-liners like Syria and Iraq signed on along with moderates like Egypt and Jordan. Hammoud said the plan had been endorsed during the closed session; he mentioned no dissenting voices.

The United States praised the overture when Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah presented it to the Arab summit during its opening session Wednesday. A committee finalized a text ahead of today's session.

Hammoud said the proposal calls for a "fair solution" to the problem of Palestinian refugees based on U.N. resolution 194, which says Palestinians should be allowed to return home or receive compensation. Recognition of the right of refugees to return to land in Israel has been a long-standing Arab demand — but the term "fair solution" appeared to leave room for negotiations.

Israel has ruled out allowing Palestinians who lost their homes in 1947 to return, fearing that if they did the state's Jewish character would be undermined.

The opening day of the summit Wednesday was stormy. Three key leaders were absent, and the Palestinians walked out protesting Lebanon's refusal to let Yasser Arafat address the leaders by satellite from the West Bank, which he was prevented by Israel from leaving for the summit.

Aid relief getting through in Afghan

NAHRIN, Afghanistan (AP) — Food, medicine, tents and other aid supplies began pouring into the quake-shattered northern Afghan region around Nahrin today after workers used explosives to clear roads leading to the stricken area.

Afghanistan observed a national day of mourning for the victims, although the death toll in Monday's powerful temblor was unclear. Officials said it was in the hundreds, not the thousands as originally feared.

A strong aftershock Wednesday sent boulders tumbling across mountain roads, temporarily blocking efforts to rush relief supplies to tens of thousands Afghans left homeless by a devastating quake this week. But aid workers said boulders blocking main routes had been blasted apart with explosives overnight and that the relief effort was now in full swing.

"Everything is moving along quite well," said Sherine Zaghow, an aid coordinator for the French relief agency ACTED. "The roads have been cleared and distribution has begin."

The 6.1-magnitude quake struck nearly 80 villages in a mountainous region nine miles in radius, leaving 100,000 people either cut off from food supplies or homeless. The United Nations said the death toll, at 600 confirmed dead on Wednesday, was expected to reach 800-1,200.

By Afghan standards, aid reached the quake-stricken Hindu Kush region with remarkable speed — assisted by U.S. forces in Afghanistan to battle Taliban and al-Qaida forces and international peacekeepers whose first job is maintaining security in the capital, Kabul.

"We're here, obviously, for a combat mission, but when this unfortunate accident happened, we were standing by with our coalition partners," said Maj. Leanne Smullen, who accompanied two U.S. Chinook helicopters from Bagram air base laden on Wednesday with U.N. medical supplies and tents. The crew also evacuated one injured person.

Three Chinooks landed in Nahrin early today loaded with wheat, blankets, California dates, water, and Army rations. U.S. soldiers jumped out of the choppers and circled them as aid was unloaded, providing cover in case of attack.

"It's never too much to be too safe. It's very possible we could have al-Qaida or Taliban that we don't know about in the area," said Marine Capt. Steven O'Connor, a military spokesman.

A Russian mobile hospital unit was on its way from Tajikistan, Interfax news agency reported. The International Security Assistance Force in Kabul was to bring a mobile medical unit later in the day, along with four doctors and eight medics. Pakistan dispatched a C-130 transport plane to Afghanistan carrying tents.

Economy grew at 1.7% rate

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. economy, which fell into recession in early 2001, was already bouncing back in the final three months of the year, growing at an annual rate of 1.7 percent.

The latest reading on the gross domestic product, the broadest measure of the economy's health, shows the expansion was at a faster pace than the government previously estimated, the Commerce Department said today.

The government initially estimated that the economy grew at tiny 0.2 percent rate in the fourth quarter, and a month ago that was revised to a 1.4 percent rate.

today's upward revision to the GDP largely reflected an improved trade picture, which was less of a drag on growth in the fourth quarter.

While the 1.7 percent growth rate is still considered below par, it nonetheless marks a remarkable turnaround for the economy, which shrank at a 1.3 percent rate in the third quarter, following the jolt of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

On Wall Street, stocks moved higher. The Dow Jones industrial average gained 51 points and the Nasdaq index was 21 points in the first hour of trading.

Many economists estimate the GDP, which measures the total output of goods and services produced within the United States, continues to improve in the current quarter.

Merrill Lynch predicts economic growth in the January-March quarter could be at a sizzling rate of 5 percent to 6 percent. Others forecast a rate in the 4 percent range; some expect 3 percent. Growth should be helped along as the Federal Reserve's 11 interest rate cuts last year make their way through the economy.

Special operations member dies in training accident

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (AP) — A special operations forces member was killed and another serviceman was wounded today when a land mine exploded during a training mission near the U.S. base here.

The special operations forces member, whose name was being held until the next of kin is notified, stepped on a mine, said Gunnery Sgt. Charles Portman at U.S. Central Command.

The other serviceman's wound was not considered life-threatening.

The accident happened at 8:30 a.m.

Gas station burglary reported

Burglary

Detectives are investigating a burglary at the Phillips 66 gas station on Coliseum Dr. Taken in the break-in were tobacco products and a small amount of cash.

At 4:20 a.m. today, an unknown caller reported a broken door at the station and officers responded and submitted an offense report for burglary of a business.

Arrest

Snyder officers arrested a 21-year-old man Wednesday on municipal court warrants for failure to appear before a judge on an original charge of bail jumping and for consuming alcohol as a minor.

Criminal mischief

Dink Foree reported a window being shot out at KSNY, 2301 Ave. R, and a report for criminal mischief was submitted.

Jerry Owen reported vandalism to the old IGA Grocery building at 4100 College Ave. A report for Class A criminal mischief was filed.

Danny Allen requested officers at 812 26th Street at 3 a.m. Thursday after finding damage done to his vehicle.

Criminal trespass

A man requested officers at his home on 20th Street at 2 p.m. Wednesday in reference to a woman being there who was not welcome. Officers arrived at the location and issued a criminal trespass warning to the woman.

Theft of identity

A woman contacted officers at 5 p.m. Wednesday to report someone using a man's social security number illegally. Officers submitted an offense report for theft of identity.

Close patrol

A woman requested officers check her residence on Peyton Ave. during the night after hearing noises on her roof. A close patrol was initiated until morning.

Gas drive offs

A clerk at Rip Griffin's Truck Stop reported a diesel drive off at 8 a.m. Wednesday in the amount of $38.28. Officers located the pickup and a passenger advised she would return to the station and pay for the fuel.

A drive off was reported from Tiger-Mart just before 6 p.m. Wednesday and the clerk provided officers with a description of the vehicle.

An employee at Town and Country East reported a vehicle with New Mexico license plates left the station without paying for fuel.

Obituaries

Stella Jones

1908-2002

Stella Jones of Snyder died Thursday, March 28, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

Service for Mrs. Jones, 93, are pending at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mrs. Jones, born on July 26, 1908 in Rotan, has two sons, Rodney Summers and Royce Summers, both of Snyder.

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Tammy Rodgers

1964-2002

HOBBS, N.M. — Tammy Renee Rodgers, the sister of Gary Wheeler of Snyder, died Saturday, March 23.

Funeral service for Mrs. Rodgers, 37, is set for 10 a.m. Friday in the Belvue Baptist Church with the Rev. Garvin Vaughan officiating. Burial will follow in the Prairie Haven Memorial Park.

Born July 19, 1964 in Hobbs, she was a life-long resident of the community and a member of the Belvue Baptist Church.

Survivors include a son, Billy Wayne Rodgers of Hobbs; her mother and stepfather, Deloris and Max Gilmore of Hobbs; her grandmother, Mable Brown of Hobbs; a sister, Misty Dawn Emig of Christoval; and another brother, J.D. Oliver of San Angelo.

'Maundy' services tonight

Continuing the spirit of ecumenism that has existed this week with the Holy Week services sponsored by the Ministerial Alliance, the First Presbyterian Church and the First Christian Church will celebrate Maundy Thursday with a joint worship service at 7 p.m. today at the First Presbyterian Church.

In addition to the Lord's Supper, there will be a foot washing. All who do not have a Maundy Thursday service in their own church are invited to attend. If you plan to participate in the foot washing, please wear shoes that are easy to get out of and into.

Births

Chad and Tabitha Carter of Abilene announce the birth of their daughter, Avery Sky, on March 20 in Hendrick Medical Center.

Paternal grandparents are Mike and Kay Carter of Snyder and maternal grandmother is Dora Gilbreth of Abilene.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Snyder Tiger football booster club

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

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.

Easter service

Calvary Baptist Church will have a Easter Services Sunday morning with Sunday School at 9:45, the adult choir presenting "Lamb of God" at 10:50, and CBC children presenting "Amazing Grace" at 6 p.m.

Easter services

You are invited to Easter Services at 6:30 a.m. for sunrise at 5505 Mountain View Round Top and/or 11 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church located at 28th St. and Ave. R.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 p.m. Monday is "Stop the Miracles," followed by "Bible Inspiration and Authority."

Scurry Masonic Lodge 706

Scurry Masonic Lodge will have its stated meeting at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday. All Master Masons are invited.

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 an 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. next Thursday 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 needs 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.

Discovery School

Discovery School will be providing summer childcare from 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. for children ages birth to 10 years. For more information call 573-4770.

Cancer treatment transportation

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

MAR 28 2002

U.S. airman sentenced to nearly three years for rape

NAHA, Japan (AP) — A U.S. airman was sentenced to nearly three years in a Japanese prison today for raping a woman on the southern island of Okinawa, an area simmering with tension over the thousands of U.S. troops based there.

Air Force Staff Sgt. Timothy Woodland went on trial last September after being charged with raping a 20-year old Japanese woman in a parking lot outside a popular Okinawa nightclub on June 29.

The incident attracted intense media coverage in Japan, where a series of military-related crimes over the years on Okinawa has heightened tensions with residents.

It also raised pressure on the Japanese government to revise an agreement with Washington that lets U.S. authorities hold military personnel suspected of crimes until formally charged by prosecutors.

U.S. officials refused to hand Woodland over to police for four days after a warrant was issued for his arrest.

Prosecutors had demanded a three-year prison sentence for Woodland, who was tried at the District Court in Naha, Okinawa's capital city. But Woodland was sentenced today to two years and eight months in a prison near Tokyo.

Court official Takashi Hamada said a sentence lighter than that sought by prosecutors is not unusual in Japan for a case involving a first offender.

The airman pleaded innocent to the charge, which normally carries a prison sentence of two to 15 years, saying that he had consensual sex with the woman. His home town and the name of the woman have not been released.

The victim, who testified by video linkup so she would not have to face Woodland in court, testified that she resisted his advances and added that she hoped he would be sent to prison so she would "never have to see him again."

Annette M. Eddie-Callagain, one of Woodland's lawyers, said she would advise him to appeal the decision.

"As far as the defense team is concerned, we are shocked because we were totally expecting a not guilty verdict," she said.

The incident stoked resentment against U.S. troops in Okinawa, which still has painful memories of the 1995 rape of a local schoolgirl by three American servicemen. That crime sparked huge protests.

Okinawa, about 1,000 miles southwest of Tokyo, is home to almost half of the approximately 50,000 American troops stationed in Japan.

Low-key ambassador draws fire from British newspapers

LONDON (AP) — Like President Bush — a laid-back Texan who raised eyebrows in the world of international diplomacy — U.S. Ambassador William Farish is facing accusations that he is too rich, too relaxed and too low-key for his high-profile job.

"America's invisible envoy" is how London's Evening Standard newspaper described Farish this week. The paper cited unnamed "experts" as expressing concern about the multimillionaire horse-breeder's lack of visibility.

The U.S. Embassy says the allegations are nonsense.

The newspaper said Farish "has adopted a low-key, almost anonymous profile" since taking up his post in July.

"More likely to be seen at a racecourse ... than in a TV studio or on a speaker's podium, Farish has turned the public face of the representative of the most powerful country on Earth into a shadow of its former self," the paper said.

Farish, a Houston native and president of the Houston-based W.S. Farish & Co., attended memorials and made television appearances after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, but has had fewer public engagements in the last several months. The U.S. Embassy's Web site lists 10 speeches or statements by the ambassador since Sept. 11, with a four-month gap between Nov. 9 and March 21.

In contrast, Farish's predecessor Philip Lader made more regular appearances in the British media.

Acquaintances say Farish is a quiet man who wants to keep his personal life private and prefers to work — effectively — behind the scenes.

"Some ambassadors see their role as standing in front of television cameras and giving media interviews left and right," said U.S. Embassy spokesman Lee McClenny. "Others believe it is better to work behind the scenes on the nuts and bolts of diplomacy."

The ambassador's main asset is high-level political connections in Britain and the United States. Houston-born Farish is a lifelong friend of the Bush family and donated more than $100,000 to the last presidential campaign.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Nutrients may be altered by prolonged cooking

DEAR DR. GOTT: My friend is convinced that extended cooking of vegetables and soup bones destroys vitamins and minerals. Therefore, does homemade vegetable soup made from beef broth and vegetables have much nutritional value?

DEAR READER: This is a subject destined to aggravate most grandmothers who have traditionally believed that home-cooked, slowly simmered soups are rich in vitamins. Unfortunately, your friend is correct — in theory. Heating does destroy many vitamins (but not minerals). It's a question of degree; without a doubt, prolonged cooking at high temperatures does reduce the nutritional value of foods.

However, soups prepared at home from "scratch" are so delicious that many nutritional deficiencies are more than compensated for by taste and enjoyment. Also, most home cooks disdain additives, thickeners and synthetic flavor-enhancers, all of which are added to commercial soups.

I advise you to continue treating yourself to home-cooked products. Any nutritional disadvantage can easily be overcome by eating a balanced, well-rounded diet.

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: After suffering from cough, fatigue and muscular aches, my husband was diagnosed with pulmonary histoplasmosis. A lung biopsy shows that he is in the process of healing. How long will his recovery take?

DEAR READER: Histoplasmosis is a fungus that occurs worldwide, but is especially common in the Mississippi and Ohio River valleys in the United States. The fungus spores are present in soil and can infect the lungs when spore-containing dust is inhaled.

About 90 percent of all histoplasmosis cases are insignificant. The fungus causes a limited pulmonary infection resembling the flu, with cough, fever, malaise and shadows on the chest X-ray. Patients recover without treatment; in fact, years may pass before the consequences of the infection (lung scarring) are discovered, usually in routine chest X-ray examinations.

Of the remaining 10 percent, only about half require treatment, usually because of an immune deficiency that permits the fungus to spread to the liver or bone marrow. For example, patients with AIDS are especially prone to a progressive and virulent form of histoplasmosis.

About 5 percent of patients have illness that is severe but clears completely without therapy.

The diagnosis is difficult to establish in patients who live in endemic areas, such as St. Louis, where up to 80 percent of healthy people have had the infection, so blood tests are not reliable in identifying which patients have acute histoplasmosis. In such instances, biopsy and culture of affected tissue may be necessary.

Previous infection can reactivate if, at a later time, the patient becomes ill from another disease that stresses the immune system.

Although your husband is showing signs of recovery, the process may take months. At this point, he probably does not need treatment with anti-fungal drugs. Histoplasmosis will not lead to any long-term serious health consequences, once healing is complete.

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Police bust 2 illegal aliens after suspects made IDs

MARYLAND HEIGHTS, Mo. (AP) — Two illegal aliens were arrested after an undercover operation in which an informant obtained fake identification for some of the FBI's most wanted criminals, police said.

Juan Moreno Aldama and Jose Luis Hernandez-Sanchez made false identification for hundreds of people across the St. Louis area as part of one of the region's biggest counterfeiting rings, authorities said.

Maryland Heights police said that for $110 each, their informer was able to purchase 26 sets of false IDs. The sets included Social Security and Immigration and Naturalization Service resident alien cards.

Aldama, 30, and Hernandez-Sanchez, 21, are charged with 10 counts each of forgery, a felony.

"We take this very seriously in light of 9-11," said Detective Sgt. Joe Delia. "This is just an example of how easy it is to get a new identification."

Delia said customers buying the fake IDs probably used the false documents to get legitimate identifications, such as Missouri driver's licenses.

Police said their informant met Hernandez-Sanchez in February at a coffee shop and provided a photo, name and $110. In return, the suspect gave him a Social Security card and a resident alien card, police said.

The informant returned in March with a list of 25 names and photos. Ten were of suspected terrorists, murderers and rapists taken from the FBI's lists.

On March 26, police said, Hernandez-Sanchez provided the identifications.

Police said Aldama was the leader of the operation. They found hundreds of blank forged federal identifications, blank California driver's licenses and laminating equipment.



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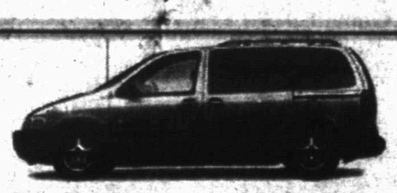
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