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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY
April 7, 1999
Vol. 50 No. 289
10 Pages 50¢
Home Of Korbin Deere

Three key positions filled by Snyder school trustees

Girls' basketball coach, Stanfield principal, maintenance director

Following a one-hour executive session Tuesday evening, Snyder ISD board of trustees followed the recommendation of Supt. Gayle Lomax and hired a girls basketball coach, a principal for Stanfield Elementary School and a transportation and maintenance director.

Current Frenship High School girls basketball coach Sam Tipton will take over the same duties at SHS as soon as he is released from his contract at Frenship.

That could be as early as Monday, according to Frenship school officials.

Tipton was also named to the newly-created position of girls athletic coordinator and will be working with a one-year contract at an annual salary of $48,000.

Tipton will not have any classroom duties.

The vote for Tipton was 5-2, with trustees Mike Levens and Janet Stribling voting against the motion to hire Tipton as both coach and girls athletic coordinator.

Tipton will be replacing Rick Archer who resigned at the end of last basketball season.

Trustees unanimously voted to hire Jean McMillon as principal at Stanfield Elementary.

McMillon, who is currently a vocational counselor in the district, will be paid $47,500 and will have a two-year contract.

She has been with the local district for nine years. She has also taught in Winters and Sweetwater.

She is taking the place of Lois Boles who resigned from the post earlier this spring.

Mike Carter was hired on a unanimous vote as the transportation and maintenance director at a salary of $42,000.

Carter currently works for Big Country Electric Cooperative and had worked previously for the San Angelo Independent School District as director of roads and grounds.

Carter is replacing Lawton Taylor who resigned effective the end of this school year and has a two-year contract.

In the only other action item Tuesday evening, the trustees appointed Sammie Jarrell, Bobbie Taylor, Francene Noah and Lee Ann Shields as election clerks for the May 1 school board election.

Asst. Supt. for Finance Lee McNair reported briefly on legislative action affecting school finances.

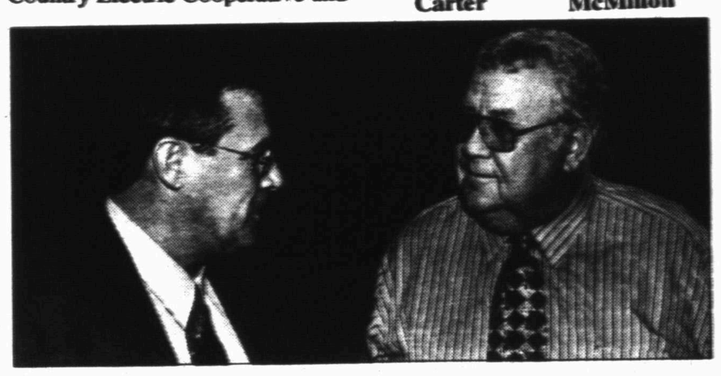
McNair said the legislature is exploring several school finance bills, but none have been passed.

Responding to a question from board president Mark McCormick as to whether funding to help oil-stricken communities has been passed, or is just talk at this time, McNair said nothing definite has been decided by the lawmakers.

McCormick presided at the meeting and all board members were present to include Stribling, Levens, Richard Chambers, Luann Burleson, Bill Moss and Glenn Clarady.

Mike Carter

Jean McMillon



NEW COACH — Snyder High School's new girls basketball coach Sam Tipton, left, visits with SISD trustee Bill Moss following Tuesday night's board meeting. (SDN Staff Photo)

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Wil'power is refraining to ask how tne guy got his black eye."

Guess you can describe it as a 'whale of a deal for Dell.'

Had any homeowner in Snyder received a tax bill for a quarter-million dollars, it would result in sudden death — from a heart attack.

At $256,561, Michael and Suan Dell's tax bill for their home is nearly twice the total price of the average home in Austin.

But now, they are smiling all the way to the bank.

Dell, founder of Dell Computers Corp., has the most expensive home in Austin. Actually at $12 million, the steel and limestone residence has a higher appraised value than any other house in the state.

That's saying a lot when you consider there are folks like Jerry Jones, owner of the Dallas Cowboys, and Ross Perot, who wants to trade his house for the White House.

With an appraised value of $545 a square foot, the 22,000-square foot abode is assessed at a rate that is more than one and a half times greater than any other residential or commercial property in the county. The average home is assessed just under $100 a square foot.

The revised assessment of the Dell home is significantly lower than the district's original $22.5 million, but higher than the $6 million proposed by the Dells.

Tax appraisers freely admit that the original assessments were based on second-hand information, since appraisers were not allowed on the property — for security reasons.

Designed by a New York architect, the Dells' three-story house includes eight bedrooms, eight bathrooms, a conference room, commercial-grade kitchen, exercise room, tennis courts and an indoor pool. We understand the master bathroom comes complete with a fireplace.

With that kind of space, it looks like you could hide in one of the toilets, and the tax man could never find you.

But with the tax bill cut in half, Dell — a college dropout — is back figuring out to make more money so he can pay more taxes.

An ad that purportedly ran in the New York Times was handed to us at the coffee shop. It read:

"For Sale By Owner. Complete set of Encyclopedia Britannica. 45 volumes. Excellent condition. $1,000 or best offer. No longer needed. Got married last weekend. Wife knows everything."

Say two trustees...

'No' votes based on dollars

The vote to hire Sam Tipton as the new girls basketball coach and to assume the new position of girls athletic coordinator drew two no votes Tuesday night, but both trustees who cast the votes emphasized they were not voting against Tipton, himself.

"It just has to do with money," said trustee Mike Levens. "I'm not for sure that we're not going to have to lay some people off, and here we create a new position at an additional cost of some $3,000," said Levens.

Tipton will be paid $48,000, but without the added responsibilities of the entire girls program, the pay would have been $45,460.

Levens said he did not see the necessity of having a girls athletic coordinator and added that the board did not lower David Baugh's salary. Baugh is athletic director and head football coach.

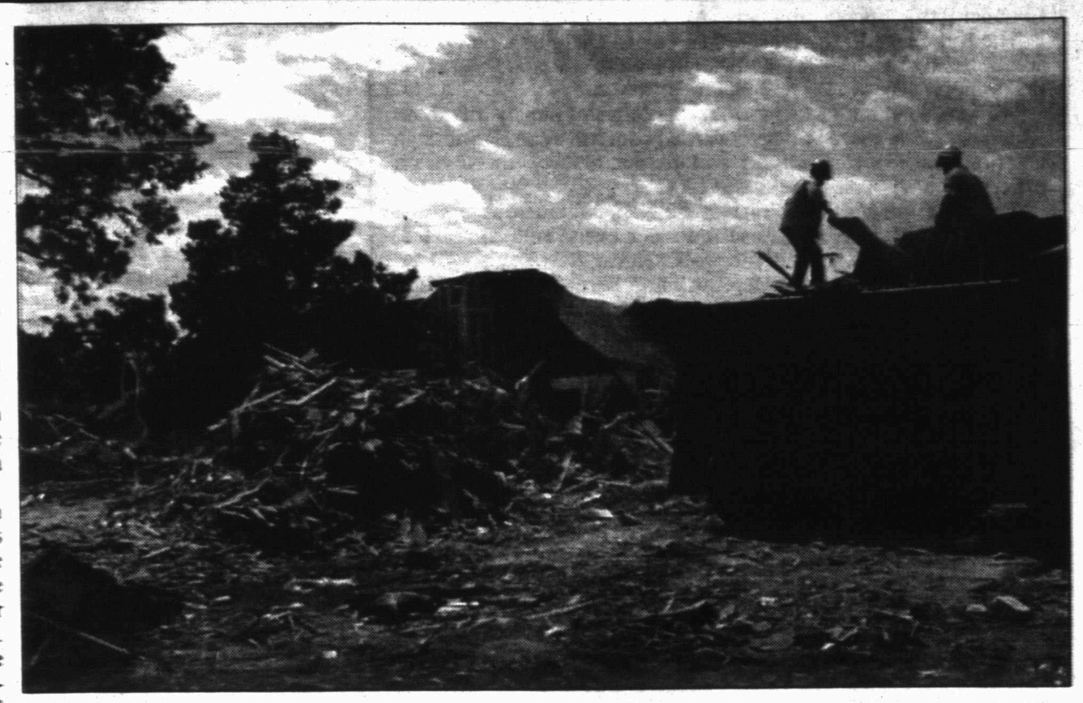
"I emphasize that I think Sam is an excellent coach and is bringing excellent credentials to the girls basketball program. But I just don't think we need to spend any extra money," said Levens.

Levens' feelings were echoed by Stribling.

"We don't have the money to splurge on anything extra and I think the coordinator's job is extra not to have any classroom responsibilities," said Stribling.

"It's not anything against Coach Tipton. But right now, his salary just seems like 'extra,' Stribling said.

"From all indications, Coach Tipton will provide us with a top-notch program...it's just the extra money," Stribling added.



FORMER HOSPITAL DEMOLISHED — A vacant structure located on the corner of 26th Street and Avenue F which was once housed Snyder's hospital was demolished Tuesday at the order of the City. City workers Curt Sharp and Tony Guerra assisted in clearing the debris. (SDN Staff Photo)

Wall team garners top prize in local meats judging event

Western Texas College's agriculture department hosted its fifth meats judging contest Tuesday for high school and 4-H students.

Some 21 teams competed, each with four members. When students' scores were the same, other "scores within scores" were used to determine rankings.

Awards were presented to the top five teams, the top 10 overall individuals and the top five individuals in both placings and retail I.D. categories.

Wall claimed the top team spot with 1,658 points. Sweetwater was second with 1,647 points, followed by Plainview, third with 1,645 points; Spur, fourth, with 1,640 points, and Wylie #1, fifth place with 1,601 points.

The top 10 individual awards went to Jessica Williams of Sweetwater, first with 572 points; Tamala Shields of Anson, second with 564 points; Jason Derrington of Plainview, third with 557 points; Carrie Weishuhn of Wall, fourth with 555 points; and Hillarye Hightower of Spur, fifth with 552 points.

Others were Briannie Halfmann of Wall, sixth with 552 points; John Kellermeier of Wall, seventh place with 551 points; Julie Robinson of Lubbock Monterey, eighth with 548 points; Ashley Miles of Sweetwater, ninth with 548 points; and Stefanie Drennan of Spur, 10th with 547 points.

The top five students in placings were Kaely Blay of Jim Ned, first with 298 points; Tamala Shields of Anson, second with 297 points; Jessica Williams of Sweetwater, third with 295 points; Justin Derrington of Plainview, fourth with 294 points; Jimma Chapman of Wylie, fifth with 294 points.

The top five individuals in retail I.D. were John Kellermeier of Wall, first with 234 points; Jason Derrington of Plainview, second with 232 points; Briannie Halfmann of Wall, third with 232 points; Jimmy Hendrix of Sweetwater, fourth with 232 points; and Jessica Williams of Sweetwater and Carrie Weishuhn of Wall who tied for fifth place with 232 points each.

WTC's meat judging team served as judges.

Three SHS choirs to compete at Tech

Three Snyder High School choirs, a total of 139 students, will compete in UIL concert and sight reading competition Thursday at Texas Tech University.

The choirs are under the direction of Ronda Haire.

The Girls Choir will perform at 9:40 a.m., the Concert Choir at 11:40 a.m. and the A Cappella Choir at 2:40 p.m.

In sight reading, each choir is given a new piece of music and six minutes to study it, without singing a note aloud. At the end of the six minutes, the choir must sing the song unaccompanied by instruments.

The director is then given two minutes to discuss the song with the students to correct any problems that might have occurred in the first reading. The students will then be given a second opportunity to sing the song. Three judges will assign the choir a rating and the three ratings will be averaged to determine the score.

A I-rating in both concert and sight reading are required to win sweepstakes honors.

Counts to introduce economic alliance bill

State Rep. David Counts Thursday will introduce legislation in the Texas House of Representtives that would give a newly-formed regional economic development alliance the authorization to incorporate.

Members of the six-county alliance, which is being described as the "Texas, Mexico and Orient Corridor," include Scurry, Jones, Fisher, Nolan, Howard and Mitchell.

Scurry County Commissioners voted 2-0 March 15 to join the alliance which hopes to make this area of West Texas a "distribution hub" for major companies transporting out of Mexico and from the West Coast port areas.

The bill hopes to amend the Development Corporation Act of 1979 to allow two or more counties that are adjacent or have common interests to create a county alliance to authorize the creation of a corporation.

AF hearing set today

The Air Force has scheduled the second of five public meetings concerning proposed low-level flight training patterns today at Snyder High School.

The meeting will get underway at 5 p.m. and citizens will have the opportunity to voice their concerns about the proposal.

A meeting held in Abilene Tuesday night drew less than four dozen people and only five chose to make public comments.

The Air Force's plan to fly over Scurry and adjoining counties is being strongly opposed by the Heritage Environmental Preservation Association which is based in Snyder.

Indictments result in two arrests Tuesday

City police officer Trey Wilson arrested 41-year-old Adam Rodriguez Sosa Tuesday afternoon following his indictment Monday by the Scurry County grand jury.

Sosa of 2405 30th St., is charged with the Feb. 14, 1999 offense of destroying property valued at more than $1,500 belonging to Angelina Gutierrez.

Sosa was released from jail after posting $5,000 bond.

Another person indicted by the grand jury Monday was also arrested Tuesday afternoon.

Naomi Cristine Stephens, 64, of 2653 North Highway 208, was booked into jail at 2:24 p.m. and was released after posting $5,000 bond.

Stephens is charged with stealing $17,980 from Snyder National Bank while serving as a motor bank teller.

ASK US

Q—How is the grand jury selected?

A—The district judge appoints a grand jury commission of three people which in turn selects 20 county residents from the voter registration list or the phone book. The first 12 who qualify then serve on the grand jury.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Tuesday, 82 degrees; low, 39; 7 a.m. Wednesday, 57; no precipitation; total for 1999, 2.97 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, cloudy, 30% rain chance. Breezy, low, lower 60s. S winds 15-25 mph, gusty, becoming W late. Thursday, sunny, windy. High, lower 80s. W winds 20-30 mph, gusty.

Blane Knipe
Windy

Sunset: 8:07 p.m.
Sunrise: 7:24 a.m.
Of 96 days in 1999, the sun has shone 90 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

"The merit in action lies in finishing it to the end."

Genghis Khan

APR 07 1999

Second annual MS Walk slated Saturday in Snyder

The MS Walk is just around the corner. The second annual Multiple Sclerosis Walk will be set Saturday at Towle Park.

Snyder is again hosting the event, following a successful first walk in 1998.

"The inaugural event held in April 1998 was a huge success, said Damon Kennedy, walk coordinator. "Our walk was among the most successful in our division which included Midland, Odessa, Lubbock, Big Spring and San Angelo."

The National MS Society invites you to again be a part of the solution and to register for the 1999 MS Walk at 9 a.m. Saturday at the armory. The walk will begin at 10 a.m.

Walkers need not raise enormous amounts of money, but those who raise $75 or more will be rewarded with MS Walk T-Shirts. In addition, the top fund-raisers will be awarded by the division offices.

The walk will start and finish at the National Guard Armory in Towle Park. Walkers will raise funds for every mile completed. Team captains are needed for walk teams. Rest stops will be provided for walkers, and at the finish line, participants are invited to attend a hamburger cookout with soft drinks and entertainment.

Major sponsors for the 1999 Walk include KSNY, YZ Industries, Southern Electric, West Texas State Bank and Bryant Septic Tank.

"We were overwhelmed by the support for last year's walk," Kennedy said. "We are looking forward to another successful event."

For more than 50 years, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society has fought to free people from the devastating and unpredictable effects of MS.

Anyone wishing to become a part of the upcoming Walk either as a walker, volunteer or sponsor may contact Kennedy at 806-792-6173.

Brochures are available at various businesses in the community.

The state tree of Alaska is the Sitka spruce.

New Jersey is also known as the Garden State.

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Substitute deregulation bill introduced

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas consumers would be able to choose a new electric provider by 2002 under legislation unveiled Tuesday that gives utilities more flexibility in collecting old debts.

The bill by Rep. Steve Wolens, D-Dallas, is a revision of a Senate bill that passed overwhelmingly last month. The House State Affairs Committee, which Wolens chairs, will tackle the bill next week.

"Unless a restructuring bill passes this year, many investors won't put their money at risk in the Texas electric market, and those jobs and projects will go somewhere else," Wolens said.

Electric deregulation would mean that most Texans would be able to shop around for a new utility company like they do for long-distance service. Supporters of competition say it would bring consumers lower prices and better service.

"Restructuring the electric industry to allow greater competition and customer choice will push our electric rates and bills lower and increase the quality of the services and features available to electric customers," Wolens said.

Wolens' bill gives utilities several options for collecting stranded costs — or old debts typically associated with power plants. This issue has been key to the deregulation debate.

The bill eliminates the option of using a bond process — securitization — to recover the debts. Consumer advocates had protested this process, saying it could allow the utilities to collect more money than they deserved.

"No state has allowed a utility to securitize a majority of their stranded costs," said Janee Briesemeister, senior policy analyst for Consumers Union.

Chris Schein, spokesman for Dallas-based TU Electric, said he objected to provisions in the bill that would force utilities to freeze their rates.

"We are for fair competition and this bill isn't fair to consumers," Schein said.

Wolens said his bill would also provide additional incentives for utilities to reduce pollution from power plants and require most to use an increasing amount of renewable energy.

The electric deregulation bill is SB7.

George Jones hospitalized

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — George Jones is back in the hospital, two weeks after being released following a near-fatal car crash.

The country singer was taken to Vanderbilt University Medical Center on Tuesday and was listed in fair condition.

"He was readmitted to Vanderbilt for an irregular heartbeat," said Wes Vause, spokesman for Asylum Records, Jones' record company. "They think it could be due to dehydration."

Jones, 67, spent two weeks at Vanderbilt after nearly dying March 6 when he crashed his sport utility vehicle into a bridge near his Franklin home. He went home March 19.

Famed for country music hits like "He Stopped Loving Her Today," Jones suffered a collapsed lung and severely lacerated liver in the crash.

Victory to host Weidel Family

The Weidel Family will be in concert at 7 p.m. Saturday at Victory Baptist Church.

The Weidel Family is a true singing family. Alton and Brenda Weidel have been singing together since they met in college and married.

They worked in Snyder for four years at Faith Baptist Church with the late Rev. Buck Hatfield. They travel with their two daughters, Jana, 20, and Jocelyn, 18 and a senior at Mansfield High School.

They travel the southwest from Arizona and Nevada across to Alabama and up into Kentucky over to Missouri and Kansas and as far south as the Mexican border and all points in between.

They sing purely southern gospel music. The public is invited.

Beauchamp graduates

Marine Pfc. Paxton S. Beauchamp, son of Paxton L.and Lisa J. Beauchamp of Snyder, was recently graduated from Basic Combat Engineer Course and was meritoriously promoted to his present rank.

The 1998 graduate of Snyder High School joined the Marine Corps in August 1998.

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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Wade Warren, Managing Editor
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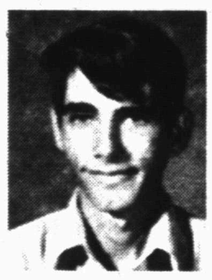
5. 
Landes
Home Furnishings
2112 25th Street
573-2141

6.
Fast Oil Change
Mark & Angie Strickland
417 27th Street
(Ave E & 25th Street)
915-573-9643

7.
TIGER FANATICS
Rudy's
4604 College
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Member FDIC

9.
Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home
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2619 College Avenue
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1-800-725-9305
Time & Temperature
573-0270
Member FDIC

Faces From The Past Entry Week 62
1. Cutting Edge _____
2. Computer Solutions _____
3. American State Bank _____
4. Betty's Bernina _____
5. Landes Home Furn. _____
6. Fast Oil Change _____
7. Rudy's Restaurant _____
8. West Texas State Bank _____
9. Bell-Cypert-Seale _____
10. Snyder Savings & Loan _____
Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

In each advertisement you will find a face from the past. Identify the faces on the entry blank opposite the name of the sponsoring business. **Bring or mail the entry blank to the Snyder Daily News, 3600 College, PO Box 949.** The deadline for entering is 5 p.m. Monday before the next contest appears on Wednesday. The weekly prize winner will be drawn from all the correct entries. The winner will be notified. This week's faces will be identified in next week's contest. Only one entry per person, and please do not make copies of the entry blank. Employees of the SDN are not eligible to enter.

Last Week's Photos: 1. Jerri Murphy Riley 2. Wayne Loper 3. David Stokes 4. Donnie Durst 5. Gary Durst 6. Bobby Davis 7. Darlene Abbot Stokes 8. Sammy L. Harrison 9. Terri Murphy 10. Diane Braziel

WELCOME NAPA ribbon cutting cere include Toby Roem another location to (Staff Photo by Jo

Dear A

Homeowne

DEAR ABBY: I wo insurance company in The amount of unclai refunds we have is You'd be shocked at h ple sell their homes a never contact their insurance company t policy. When the mai marked "undeliverabl is canceled — and n times, a return premi insured. Of course, checks are also retur information is availab addresses.

Additionally, many cel a policy fail to incl address in their lett refunds are returned ance company.

Abby, please spre that people who have s the last five years and their insurance comp their policy, should co

Insur OKs

AUSTIN (AP) — auto insurance rat would lower premi ing up the marke competition, indus told House law Tuesday.

The House Insura tee is considering away with t "benchmark" syste state Department o set auto insurance ra

Consumer groups say such a move consumers a valuab determine whether o fair rates.

Allowing auto companies to set th would create price and save consumers or more, said Wil president of Progre Mutual Insurance C

"Most people w absurd if the state for food, or telev automobiles, or consumer goods. W it make sense for where hundreds of ready to compete fo of millions of c doesn't," Graves sa

The Department currently uses a w data, including profits and the num filed against it, to d the average rate sh or lowered.

The insurance then sets a "benchm 52 territories arou what the average — and the insurers between 30 perc

BA
•Automo
•Lawn & G
•Tract
•Comme
McCORMICK M
2401 Ave. Q

WELCOME NAPA — Snyder Chamber of Commerce Gold Coats welcomed NAPA Auto Parts at a ribbon cutting ceremony Tuesday at 1905 35th Steet. Johnny Reed is the manager and employees include Toby Roemer, Debra Cline and Kristi Nachlinger. NAPA Auto Parts recently moved from another location to 1905 35th Street and are involved in a grand opening, tool and filter sale today. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

House debates four bills

AUSTIN (AP) — The House State Affairs Committee left pending on Wednesday four bills that would strengthen the state's policy on open government.

Among the legislation considered was a bill to close what critics call a legal loophole regarding sports venues that allowed the Harris County-Houston Sports Authority to hold committee meetings in private in 1997.

The authority's finance and construction committees met under an exemption in the open meetings law that if government bodies did not "deliberate," they were not actually "meeting," as defined by the law.

"I was disappointed when they had those closed meetings...(because) that kind of thing undermines public confidence," said Rep. Debra Danburg, D-Houston, bill sponsor.

Other legislation included:

— A bill by Rep. Roberto Gutierrez, D-McAllen, that would require that any proposed real property transaction between governmental bodies be deliberated in an open meeting.

— A bill by Rep. Scott Hochberg, D-Houston, that would take preventative measures to ensure that charter schools could not bypass the open records and open meetings statutes that apply to public schools.

— A bill by Rep. Bob Glaze, D-Gilmer, that would apply the open meetings and records laws to parties that either hold contracts or receive certain grants from the state.

"As we transfer more government functions to the private sector, it is important to figure out if privatization is working," said Tom "Smitty" Smith.

The real property transactions bill is HB 1862.

The sports venue bill is HB 2114.

The open-enrollment charter school bill is HB 2551.

The contract bill is HB 2557.

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY

Just For Today NA, open meeting; Park Club; for information, call 573-0949 or 573-8018; 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

Snyder Palette Clubn; airport terminal bldg. on W. 37th;Cathy Lubke of San Angelo will instruct in watercolors; hostess, Marie Dollins; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

LLL Club; fellowship hall of First Baptist Church; 9:30 a.m.

Noah Project-West advisory committee; MAWC; noon.

Al-Anon brown bag; Park Club in Winston Park; for information, call 573-4203, 573-8626, 573-2101 or 573-0695; noon to 1 p.m.

Horseshoe Pitching For Fun; houseshoe courts, located at the coliseum; everybody welcome, for further information, call 573-9762; 3 p.m.

Just For Today NA; Park Club; for information, call 573-0949 or 573-8018; 6 p.m.

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

Canyon Gun Club; 1910 25th Street; 7:30 p.m.

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; for information, call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

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

Quick Vinegar Weight Loss Shocks Woman

Ms. Jeanne Galend

Now Ms. Galend has reason to smile. She found an easy way to lose pounds without pills, diets or calorie counting. Her secret? The healthy vinegar plan. *"I dropped 30 pounds so fast it scared me,"* she writes. Just a few tablespoons of vinegar daily will have you feeling and looking better as you melt away unhealthy pounds. For FREE information packet without obligation, write to: The Vinegar Plan, Dept. FD4267, 718-12th St. N.W., Box 24500, Canton, Ohio 44701. To help us cover printing and postage, $1 would be appreciated, but not necessary. ©1998 TCO FD0200S02

EARTH DAY - APRIL 22nd
'Make Snyder Brighter'

City wide Clean-up Campaign APRIL 20TH THRU 23RD. Utilize free dump truck service provided inside the city limits by cleaning up over this weekend and next weekend.

Watch for additional information!

THESE SERVICES ARE FOR INDIVIDUALS, NOT TO BE USED BY PERSONS IN THE BUSINESS OF DEMOLITION OR CLEAN-UP AND WILL BE LIMITED TO 1 (ONE) LOAD PER RESIDENCE OR BUSINESS.

Sponsored by
City of Snyder
Snyder Chamber of Commerce
Snyder Beautification Committee

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

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Homeowners moving on may be leaving money behind

DEAR ABBY: I work for a major insurance company in the Midwest. The amount of unclaimed premium refunds we have is unbelievable. You'd be shocked at how many people sell their homes and move, and never contact their homeowner's insurance company to cancel their policy. When the mail comes back marked "undeliverable," the policy is canceled — and nine out of 10 times, a return premium is due the insured. Of course, the refund checks are also returned since no information is available on current addresses.

Additionally, many who do cancel a policy fail to include their new address in their letter — so any refunds are returned to the insurance company.

Abby, please spread the word that people who have sold a home in the last five years and didn't contact their insurance company to cancel their policy, should contact the company since there may be unclaimed funds.

REFUND WATCHDOG
IN MINNESOTA

DEAR WATCHDOG: Obviously, many people are unaware that the unused portion of their homeowner's insurance policy is refundable. Thank you for bringing this potential windfall to the attention of my readers.

***

DEAR ABBY: In the next few months, my wife and I will celebrate our 70th wedding anniversary. I have been retired for many years, so I'm qualified to offer suggestions to husbands who have retired:

Husbands, you worked for years in servitude to a boss who gave you orders. Don't feel guilty for the pleasure you get from reading his obituary. After retirement, you have a new boss — your wife. She doesn't issue orders; she uses diplomacy. For example: "We should wash the windows." "We should clean the cellar and garage." "We should trim those high bushes."

Husbands, you will soon learn that "we" means, "Honey, you ..." I advise you not to mutter. Your wife may be hard of hearing, but you'll discover that muttering comes in loud and clear to her. Develop a hard-of-hearing act. When your wife says, "Honey, I couldn't sleep last night, so I was thinking we should ..." quickly begin your act. If you don't, you'll be sorry.

Your new boss will say she doesn't understand finances and turn the job over to you. But don't try sneaking anything into the pile of bills. She'll catch you.

Abby, please do not reveal my name or address. My wife is an avid Dear Abby reader, and I'd like to reach our 70th wedding anniversary in one piece.

OVER 90 IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR OVER 90: You may be over 90, but your wife has you "going like 60." I'd advise her to put on the brakes, but the regimen seems to agree with you. May you both enjoy a happy, healthy 70th anniversary and more. I'm sure many retired couples will identify with your letter.

***

CONFIDENTIAL TO "SHOPPED 'TIL I DROPPED IN MISSOURI": Don't take it personally. You are not alone. The late, unforgettable Erma Bombeck wrote: "I won't come right out and say my husband is a man who's difficult to buy for. I will only tell you that every time we give him a gift, we leave all the tags on, the sales slip between the tissue, and draw directions on how to get to the store where we bought it."

***

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

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Insurance industry OKs deregulation

AUSTIN (AP) — Deregulating auto insurance rates in Texas would lower premiums by opening up the market to greater competition, industry officials told House lawmakers on Tuesday.

The House Insurance Committee is considering a bill to do away with the current "benchmark" system used by the state Department of Insurance to set auto insurance rates.

Consumer groups, meanwhile, say such a move would deny consumers a valuable tool used to determine whether or not they pay fair rates.

Allowing auto insurance companies to set their own rates would create price competition and save consumers $500 million or more, said William Graves, president of Progressive County Mutual Insurance Co.

"Most people would think it absurd if the state set the prices for food, or television sets or automobiles, or many other consumer goods. Why then, does it make sense for car insurance, where hundreds of companies are ready to compete for the business of millions of consumers? It doesn't," Graves said.

The Department of Insurance currently uses a wide range of data, including a company's profits and the number of claims filed against it, to decide whether the average rate should be raised or lowered.

The insurance commissioner then sets a "benchmark" rate for 52 territories around the state— what the average rate should be — and the insurers can set rates between 30 percent below or above that.

While much of the insurance industry is regulated by the department, some companies classified as county mutuals are not. Those companies, including Progressive, serve about 25 percent of the market.

Critics of the benchmark system say it relies on outdated data to current rates.

"The current benchmark system for setting auto rates is expensive, burdensome and lacking in credibility," said Jerry Johns, president of Southwestern Insurance Information Services, and industry trade group.

"It is so meaningless that many insurers do not even participate in the hearings which ultimately set auto insurance prices," Johns said.

The deregulation bill is HB1637.

The auto insurance mileage bill is HB3099.

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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Greatest
7 Ideal place
13 Wander in a store
14 Exclusive right
15 Vent
16 Slow-moving animals
17 "— — my brother's keeper?"
18 Make a choice
20 Female sandpiper
21 Like many tales
23 TV's — Peeples
24 Antitoxins
25 Actress Carter
27 Hamburger garnish
29 Alley —
31 Kind of bread
32 Actor Brynner
33 Carpenter's tool
34 Provided with a place to sleep
37 Promontory
40 Slippery fishes
41 Kinds of 16 Across
43 Old-style newspaper process
45 School support org.
46 What tailors do
47 Detachable collar
48 Canadian capital
51 In good working order
54 Grow more intense
55 That is to say
56 Not on course
57 Rock singer Knight

Answer to Previous Puzzle

G	H	O	S	T	S		I	N	A	P	E	T
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T	I	T	L	E	S		D	E	R	M	I	S

DOWN

1 German submarine
2 Eisenhower's predecessor
3 Capable of spontaneous motion
4 Wise bird
5 Opp. of NNW
6 Dakota Indian
7 On a higher floor
8 Chess expert Mikhail
9 Ear: prefix
10 Seabird
11 Belong
12 Befuddled
19 Backup singer for 57 Across
22 — of London
24 Shish kebab necessity
26 Clamorous
28 Shade of blue
30 Agreeable
34 More acceptable
35 Click beetle
36 Fade out
38 Cried
39 Quietly
40 Epic poem
42 Moved back and forth
44 Follows orders
49 Timber tree
50 Old English rune
52 Actor Mineo
53 Doctors' grp.

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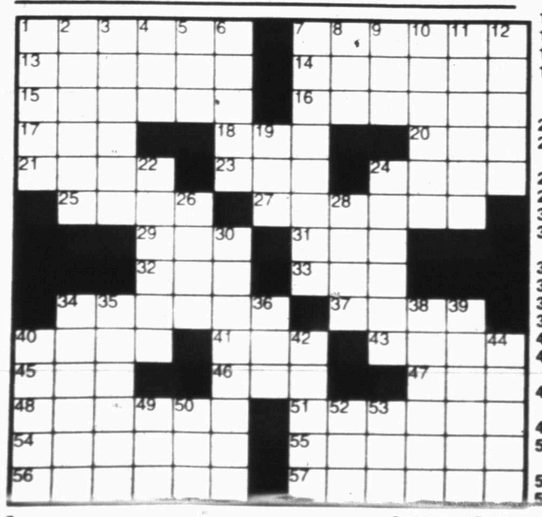

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During the Civil War, there were about four times as many Union soldiers as there were Confederate soldiers.

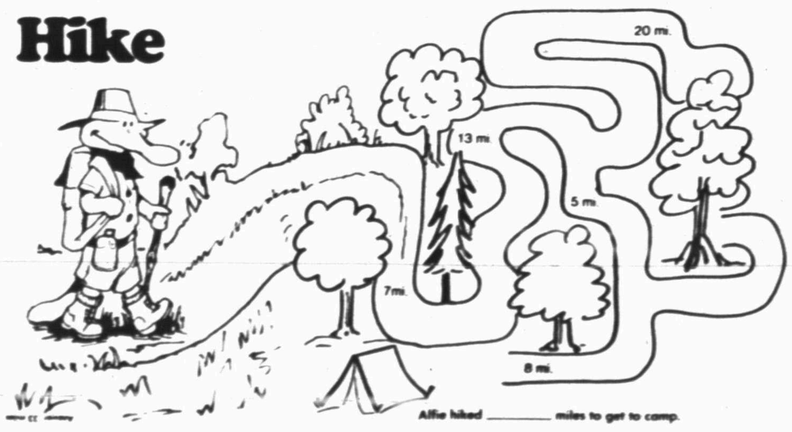
Iceland is called the Land of Frost and Fire because large glaciers lie next to steaming hot springs, geysers and volcanoes.

HERMAN® by Jim Unger

"Here, let me know if these work and I'll give them a try myself."

Take a Hike

Alaska is often called the *Last Frontier* because much of the state is not fully settled. Many tourists visit Alaska each year to enjoy the great outdoors. Backpackers, hikers and campers delight in the tundra, rushing streams, forested hills and wildlife. Alfie is about to leave for a hiking trip. He is not sure how many miles he will have to travel to get to the campsite. Can you help Alfie get to the camp and come up with the total number of miles he traveled to get there?



Alfie hiked _____ miles to get to camp.

"MR. WILSON SAYS ANTIQUES AREN'T WHAT THEY USED TO BE."

Upset...

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7:30 match-u

Snyder
Pena 2b
Grimmett cf
Rodgers ss
Hook p
Shields dh
Ward 3b
Mandrell 1b
Bedell lf
Martinez ph
Ramon c
Wilson p
Totals

Big Spring
Choate cf
Clements 1b
Owens ss
Guinn c
Aguirre 2b
Hernandez dh
Knykendall 3b
Solis rf
Carnero ph
Olson lf
Totals

Snyder _____
Big Spring ____

DP - Big Spri
Spring 6. 2B -
Snyder
Hook
Wilson
Big Spring
Bamert

SPORTS

Upset...

Tigers get tripped by Steers, 7-1

BIG SPRING — The Snyder Tigers entered Tuesday's contest at Steer Park with all the confidence that comes with being defending regional semifinalists and current district leaders.

But early in the ballgame Big Spring seized something that the Tigers wouldn't have all day — momentum.

The Steers grabbed a 2-1 lead in the first inning and Snyder never got its offense on track as Big Spring shocked the Tigers by handing them their first district setback, 7-1.

For the Steers, it was only their third win of the season, but second in 5-4A competition. Snyder falls to 15-7 on the year and finds itself tied with Big Spring for second place in the standings at 2-1.

"We can't dwell on this game," Snyder coach Roland Herrera said. "This thing is a long way from being over. There's still seven ballgames left. We have to get back to work and be ready to play on Friday."

Big Spring hurler Clint Bamert was masterful on the hill. The right-hander surrendered just four hits, two of them to Snyder's senior short stop Matt Rodgers, and struck out six Tigers.

After playing two error-free contests to begin the district season, Snyder committed two miscues in the opening frame which led to a pair of Big Spring runs.

The Steers added another in the second inning and got the first three men aboard in the third to chase Snyder starter Clint Hook from the mound.

Senior Wes Wilson pitched the final three innings in relief, surrendering just one hit and two runs.

The Tigers left nine base runners stranded, thanks in part to Bamert's pitching and two Big Spring double plays.

"Bamert did a good job against us," said Herrera. "He kept us off balance with his offspeed pitches and we weren't very selective at times."

Trailing 7-1 in their final at bat, the Tigers threatened to extend the ballgame.

Wilson and pitch hitter Bebos Martinez reached base, before Johnny Pena hit a fly ball to left field for the first out of the inning.

Next up, pinch hitter Brad Roemisch drew a walk, before Bamert buckled down to strike out Rodgers and Hook, ending Snyder's threat.

The Tigers posted their only run of the game in the first inning when Matthew Grimmett reached base on a fielder's choice, then stole second.

Matt Rodgers followed with his first of two base hits, this one to right field, allowing Grimmett to cross the plate with Snyder's lone run.

The Tigers will be looking to get back on track Friday night when they host Lake View in a 7:30 match-up at Moffett Field.

Snyder	ab	r	h	bi
Pena 2b	3	0	0	0
Grimmett cf	3	1	0	0
Rodgers ss	4	0	2	1
Hook p	4	0	0	0
Shields dh	2	0	0	0
Ward 3b	3	0	1	0
Mandrell 1b	2	0	0	0
Bedell lf	1	0	0	0
Martinez ph	1	0	0	0
Ramon c	2	0	0	0
Wilson p	1	0	1	0
Totals	26	1	4	1

Big Spring	ab	r	h	bi
Choate cf	3	2	2	1
Clements 1b	2	1	0	0
Owens ss	4	0	0	1
Guinn c	4	0	0	1
Aguirre 2b	3	0	0	1
Hernandez dh	2	0	0	0
Kuykendall 3b	3	2	1	0
Solis rf	2	1	1	1
Carnero ph	1	0	1	1
Olson lf	2	1	1	0
Totals	26	7	6	6

Snyder ..... 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 — 1 4 3
Big Spring .... 2 1 0 2 1 1 x — 7 6 4

DP - Big Spring 2. LOB - Snyder 9, Big Spring 6. 2B - Choate, Solis.

Snyder	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Hook	3	5	5	4	1	2
Wilson	3	1	2	1	1	4
Big Spring	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**
Bamert	7	4	1	1	4	6

WGA OFFICERS — Officers for the Women's Golf Association of Snyder Country Club are, front row from left, Peggy Hardin, treasurer, and Gwen Sealy, parliamentarian. On the back row are Dolores Jones, secretary, Jo Sterling, president, Stacy Reed, first-vice president, Juanita Hester, second-vice president, and Colleen Duke, reporter. (SDN Staff Photo)

Lady Tigers fall to Andrews

The Lady Mustangs didn't need any help, but they got plenty of it anyway from the Lady Tigers.

Snyder committed five errors and Andrews scored 10 unearned runs as the Lady Tigers dropped a District 5-4A softball contest, 13-4.

The setback leaves the Lady Tigers at 4-3 in league play and 15-9 overall, while the Lady Mustangs keep their unblemished district mark at 7-0 and improve to 16-6 on the season.

"We hit the ball better this time than we did the last time we played them," Snyder coach Carmen Bohannon said. "We had six hits but only four runs, and they had eight hits but 13 runs. The errors just killed us."

With the score knotted at 2-2 in the fifth, Andrews posted seven runs to take control.

After the first batter reached base, two consecutive errors loaded the bases, before Sandy Acosta doubled to drive in two runs.

Following a single and a walk, Nicki Baeza blasted a triple to keep the rally alive. By the time Snyder retired the side, the Lady Mustangs had seized a 9-2 lead.

Courtney Rinehart started on the mound for Snyder, going just over an inning, before Kristin Martinez finished the game in relief.

Martinez gave up 11 runs, but only one of them was earned, while surrendering six hits.

Martinez also paced the Lady Tigers at the plate, belting two doubles, while Cameron Mackey slapped a triple. Christy Tomlinson, Darcee Purcell and Jennifer Newman finished the night with one single apiece.

Snyder, still holding a share of second place, will look to fortify its playoff position Friday when it travels to Ft. Stockton for a 6 p.m. match-up.

Astros blast Chicago

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Astros hit the home runs, not Sammy Sosa.

Sosa went 0-for-4 and struck out three times in his 1999 debut, and Houston started its final season at the Astrodome by beating the Chicago Cubs 4-2 Tuesday night.

Carl Everett and Richard Hidalgo hit consecutive homers in the fourth inning, and Shane Reynolds (1-0) made the lead the stand up with relief help.

Sosa hit his 66th and final home run last year at the Astrodome on Sept. 25. Mark McGwire then outhomered Sosa 5-0 during the rest of the season to win the homer race with 70.

Sosa didn't come close to a homer this time. He took a called third strike to end the first inning and was called out for running inside the first-base line after hitting a dribbled to Reynolds in the fourth.

Reynolds got Sosa to chase an outside pitch for a third strike in the sixth. Reliever Scott Elarton fanned Sosa in the eighth.

Reynolds pitched six innings, gave up two runs and struck out seven.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Boston	1	0	1.000	-
Baltimore	1	0	1.000	-
NewYork	1	1	.500	½
TampaBay	0	1	.000	1
Toronto	0	1	.000	1

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Chicago	2	0	1.000	-
Minnesota	1	0	1.000	½
Detroit	1	1	.500	1
Cleveland	0	1	.000	1½
KansasCity	0	1	.000	1½

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Anaheim	1	0	1.000	-
Oakland	1	1	.500	½
Texas	1	1	.500	½
Seattle	0	2	.000	1½

Tuesday's Games

Minnesota 6, Toronto 1
Texas 6, Detroit 0
Chicago 11, Seattle 3
New York 7, Oakland 4
Anaheim 6, Cleveland 5

Wednesday's Games

New York (Mendoza 10-2) at Oakland (Haynes 11-9), 4:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Saunders 6-15) at Baltimore (Guzman 10-16), 7:05 p.m.
Boston (Saberhagen 15-8) at Kansas City (Rosado 8-11), 8:05 p.m.
Toronto (Wells 18-4) at Minnesota (Lincoln 0-0), 8:05 p.m.
Detroit (Blair 5-16) at Texas (Clark 9-14), 8:35 p.m.
Chicago (Snyder 7-2) at Seattle (Garcia 0-0), 10:35 p.m.
Cleveland (Burba 15-10) at Anaheim (Hill 9-6), 10:35 p.m.

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	1	1	.500	-
Florida	1	1	.500	-
Montreal	1	1	.500	-
NewYork	1	1	.500	-
Philadelphia	1	1	.500	-

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	1	0	1.000	-
Milwaukee	1	0	1.000	-
Pittsburgh	1	1	.500	½
Chicago	0	1	.000	1
St.Louis	0	1	.000	1
Cincinnati	0	2	.000	1½

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
LosAngeles	2	0	1.000	-
SanFrancisco	2	0	1.000	-
Colorado	1	1	.500	1
SanDiego	1	1	.500	1
Arizona	0	2	.000	2

Tuesday's Games

San Diego 4, Colorado 3
Pittsburgh 8, Montreal 2
New York 12, Florida 3
San Francisco 7, Cincinnati 6
Atlanta 11, Philadelphia 3
Houston 4, Chicago 2
Los Angeles 3, Arizona 2, 10 innings

Wednesday's Games

San Francisco (Ortiz 4-4) at Cincinnati (Avery 10-7), 12:35 p.m.
Montreal (Vazquez 5-15) at Pittsburgh (Schourek 7-6), 1:35 p.m.
Colorado (Wright 9-14) at San Diego (Williams 0-0), 5:05 p.m.
New York (Jones 9-9) at Florida (Sanchez 7-9), 7:05 p.m.
Philadelphia (Loewer 7-8) at Atlanta (Smoltz 17-3), 7:40 p.m.
Chicago (Tapani 19-9) at Houston (Hampton 11-7), 8:05 p.m.
Milwaukee (Woodard 10-12) at St. Louis (Bottenfield 4-6), 8:10 p.m.
Arizona (Benes 14-13) at Los Angeles (Valdes 11-10), 10:35 p.m.

Lady Tiger coach...

Tipton takes reins of girls programs

The search for a girls basketball coach at Snyder High School has come to an end.

Sam Tipton, who left Frenship as the winningest coach in school history, will take over the reins of the Lady Tigers, beginning Monday.

Tipton replaces Rick Archer who resigned following Snyder's first trip to the playoffs in 19 years.

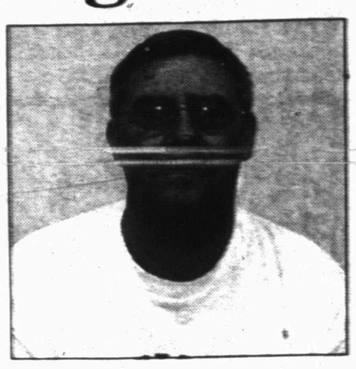
In addition to his basketball duties, Tipton will head up all Lady Tiger athletic programs as girls athletic coordinator.

"Snyder has the type of people, in both its administration and student body, to be successful in every endeavor," said Tipton. "And that's our goal, to be successful in every sport, not just basketball. If the Snyder girls are going to play tiddly-winks, then they're going to be the best there is. There isn't one sport that is more important than another. We want to be successful in every aspect of the girls program."

Tipton tallied a 233-159 record during his 14-year tenure at Frenship, winning two district titles and three times being named district coach of the year.

Two things that helped draw Tipton to Snyder was the administration and the community.

"The first thing that impressed me was David Baugh and how he handled things as athletic director," Tipton said. "Then Gayle Lomax and the entire administration was very positive about the things I wanted to do.



Sam Tipton

"The other thing that really impressed me was the community. I wanted to move back to a community where the twon is centered around the school and the citizens really back the athletic programs."

Tipton begins his duties Monday morning, evaluating athletes and getting acquainted with the girls.

"Every athlete wants to be good," the new Lady Tiger coach said. "And I've always been impressed the effort that the Snyder girls give on the floor. I want to take the success Snyder has had in the past and build on it. We have an opportunity to be successful in everything we do."

Tipton is a graduate of Gruver High School and received degrees from Baptist Christian College and West Texas A&M University. He has a wife, Audree, a son, Drew and a daughter, Tawnya.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	26	10	.722	-
Miami	21	11	.656	3
NewYork	18	16	.529	7
Philadelphia	17	16	.515	7½
Washington	13	20	.394	11½
Boston	10	22	.313	14
NewJersey	9	24	.273	15½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	23	11	.676	-
Atlanta	22	13	.629	1½
Detroit	20	14	.588	3
Milwaukee	19	14	.576	3½
Toronto	18	15	.545	4½
Cleveland	17	15	.531	5
Charlotte	12	20	.375	10
Chicago	10	24	.294	13

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	24	8	.750	-
SanAntonio	23	10	.697	1½
Houston	23	11	.676	2
Minnesota	20	13	.606	4½
Dallas	11	23	.324	14
Denver	10	25	.286	15½
Vancouver	6	28	.176	19

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland	27	6	.818	-
L.A.Lakers	23	13	.639	5½
Seattle	16	17	.485	11
Phoenix	16	18	.471	11½
Sacramento	15	19	.441	12½
GoldenState	14	20	.412	13½
L.A.Clippers	3	30	.091	24

Tuesday's Games

Philadelphia 95, Milwaukee 87
Miami 92, Toronto 70
Cleveland 96, Chicago 89
Orlando 81, New York 72
New Jersey 97, Washington 93
Houston 111, Golden State 74
Sacramento 112, Seattle 106, OT
Portland 98, Vancouver 89
Phoenix 88, L.A. Clippers 83
Utah 106, L.A. Lakers 93

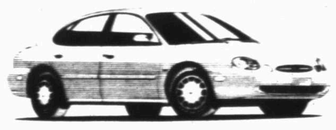
Wednesday's Games

Washington at Boston, 7 p.m.
New York at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Dallas at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
Indiana at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Denver at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Minnesota at Phoenix, 10 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.

Thursday's Games

Boston at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Orlando at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Golden State at Utah, 9 p.m.
Portland at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Minnesota at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

Used Cars



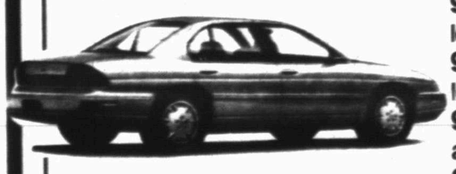
98 Ford Taurus SE pow. win., pow. locks, V6, Driftwood, 39K $12,595
93 Merc. Gr. Marquis LS driftwood, all pow., 1 owner, 65K $9,595
95 Buick Lesabre Custom sandstone, V6, 1 owner, 31K $13,595
96 Buick Century Custom lt. blue, V6, 1 owner, 35K $11,595
97 Chev. Cavalier 4 door, auto, cruise, 4 cyl., black, 77K $6,595
97 Pont. Firebird teal green, cd, V6, auto, 16K $14,595
98 Ford Mustang white, V6, cd, 1 owner, 4,000 miles $14,595
94 Merc. Cougar aqua, V6, bucket seats, 63K $6,995
93 Ford Probe red, bucket seats, auto, exc. cond., 83K $5,995
97 Pont. Gr. Am GT 2 dr., V6, metallic green, 1 owner, 16K . $12,595

Spring $ Into Savings

Used Trucks

97 Chev. Reg. Cab shortbed, V6, auto, 1 owner, 37K $13,995
98 Chev. x-cab Z71 white, 350, auto, silverado, 1 owner, 26K $23,595
94 Chev. x-cab silverado, V8, auto, split bench, blue $13,995
97 Chev. x-cab silverado, 350, auto, buckets, 1 owner, must see $19,995
94 Chev. S-10 Pickup 5 spd., 73K, air, green, great price $6,595
97 Ford Ranger auto, cruise, tilt, white $11,595
97 Chev. Blazer LS 51K, pow. win/locks, cruise, tilt $15,995
97 Ford F150 XLT green, buckets, 4.6 V8, auto 1 owner, 19K $18,595

Program Cars



98 Buick Lesabre white, V6, pow. win/locks/seats $15,595
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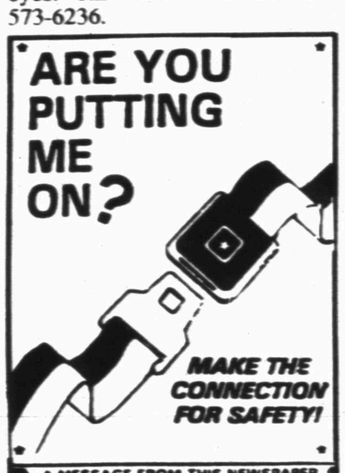

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To lower cholesterol...

Merck wants to sell drug without prescription

NEW YORK (AP) — What's worse — letting millions of Americans go untreated for high cholesterol or allowing consumers to buy a potent cholesterol-lowering drug without a doctor's guidance?

It is a dilemma posed by Merck & Co.'s proposition to sell its cholesterol-busting drug Mevacor without a physician's prescription.

Federal regulators will take a close look at the plan because Mevacor, in its prescription strength, carries a small chance of liver damage. Users must have blood tests to check for problems when they begin taking Mevacor at that strength.

Merck wouldn't disclose details of its plan except to say research is under way. It hasn't yet applied to the Food and Drug Administration, which could order research that would delay the move for months or years. The FDA rejected the concept of over-the-counter cholesterol drugs in 1997.

Experts said the company's biggest challenge will be to come up with a dosage that would be effective, with no need for follow-up tests.

"This would be wonderful for the public," said Charlie Inlander, president of the People's Medical Society, a consumer group based in Allentown, Pa. "As long as its safe and effective, why shouldn't we have it?"

Doctors have believed for decades that high cholesterol contributes to heart disease by causing a buildup of fatty plaque in coronary arteries that robs the heart of oxygen.

Experts estimate that only one-third of the 13 million Americans with symptoms of heart disease are taking anti-cholesterol drugs. An additional 16 million with high cholesterol, but no symptoms of heart disease, are untreated.

Studies suggest that the new class of cholesterol-lowering medicines — like Mevacor, Zocor and Pravachol — inhibit an enzyme in the liver that the body uses to produce cholesterol.

Consumers can already buy a low-dosage form of Mevacor's active ingredient in an herbal product called Cholestin, which is available without a prescription.

An over-the-counter version of Mevacor would likely increase usage because patients would not have to visit a doctor and because its price would drop. A monthly supply of Mevacor now costs about $150.

Dr. Rodman Starke, executive vice president of the American Heart Association, voiced concern over Merck's proposal and said cholesterol drugs should always be taken under a doctor's care.

Moving the drug to non-prescription status would disqualify it from insurance coverage. But consumer advocates note most seniors, who are the biggest users of Mevacor, already lack coverage for drugs.

Merck has good business reasons for examining a change to Mevacor.

As late as 1995, the drug was the world's best-selling anti-cholesterol drug. It has since lost its profit punch as newer drugs proved more potent.

Last year, Mevacor had global sales of $745 million, down 32 percent from 1997. It's now the fourth most widely sold cholesterol drug.

Mevacor also loses its 20 years of patent protection in June 2002, making it susceptible to competition from cheaper generics.

Some analysts say Merck's plan is a long shot.

"The FDA is never going to approve an OTC (over-the-counter) product that relies on a patient's own volition to get liver tests," said Alex Zisson, with Hambrecht & Quist.

But Dr. Bernard Gersh, a consultant in cardiovascular diseases at the Mayo Clinic, said the idea has merit.

"Mevacor is as safe a drug as aspirin," he said.

Sexual assault case referred to DA's office

An alleged report of sexual assault of a 14-year-old female has been referred to the district attorney's office for prosecution.

An offense report for sexual assault was filed in the sheriff's office Tuesday morning, after being referred to the office by Snyder Police.

City officers originally filed an offense report March 31 after a man came to the police department to report the incident when he learned his daughter might be pregnant.

The case was turned over to deputies after it was learned the alleged incident occurred in the county.

In other activity Tuesday, one adult was arrested and three juvenile subjects taken into custody Tuesday.

Department of Public Safety troopers took a 17-year-old male into custody at 4:24 p.m. in the 3700 block of Avenue E for no drivers license and reckless driving.

The three juveniles were taken into custody by officers and an offense report for possession of marijuana filed at 9:42 p.m. in the 1500 block of Avenue N.

Bob Hammack requested an officer at 10:48 a.m. in the 2700 block of 45th Street in reference to reporting the theft of tools. An offense report for Class B theft was submitted.

An offense report for runaway was filed at 1:10 a.m. today in reference to a 15-year-old female not returning home.

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Red. Neat 3-1 Detached Garage...$30.5T.
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3-2-2cp Nice/Large Hermleigh....$52.5T.
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Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 04-09-99
♠ A 10
♥ 9 8
♦ 7 6 5 4
♣ 8 7 6 4 3

West
♠ J 9 8 4
♥ Q J 10 3
♦ Q J 9
♣ J 10

East
♠ Q 7 6 5 3
♥ 7 6 5 4 2
♦ 3
♣ A 5

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

Vulnerable: North-South
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♥ Q

The fastest gun in the East

By Phillip Alder

Who is the fastest declarer? There are a few candidates — Martin Hoffman and Jeff Meckstroth come to mind — but my vote goes to Alan Sontag, from Gaithersburg, Md. He won the Bermuda Bowl world championship in 1983, and has many national titles. Almost before the dummy has appeared, he's off and running. (Sensible defenders request a timeout because their neurons don't move at the relativistic velocities of Sontag's.) Sometimes, though, speed is dangerous. How did Sontag go down in three no trump?

Sontag's two-no-trump rebid showed a balanced 23-24 points. True, he had only 22 high-card points, but that good five-card suit and all those aces and kings made the hand noticeably stronger.

After winning with the heart king, declarer cashed his top diamonds, getting the bad news. He continued with the club king: 10, three, ace. Back came a heart, West correctly unblocking the 10 to keep communication with his partner. Sontag led a spade to dummy's ace, called for a club and, playing the odds, finessed his nine. West won with his jack, cashed the diamond queen, and reverted to hearts: two down.

Unlucky, yet suppose declarer plays a spade to dummy's ace at trick two, followed by a club toward his hand. Here, if East wins with the ace, South unblocks the nine and has 10 tricks: two spades, two hearts, two diamonds and four clubs. If East ducks, declarer switches to diamonds, building nine tricks via two spades, two hearts, four diamonds and one club. Finally, if the clubs are unfavorable, the contract still makes if diamonds are 2-2.

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Request for children's info deleted from Gore's Web site

WASHINGTON (AP) — Al Gore, the presidential candidate most closely associated with technology savvy, launched his campaign into cyberspace — and nearly stumbled over the nettlesome problem of Internet privacy.

Gore's campaign rushed Tuesday to remove from its new Web site questions asking children for their names, e-mail addresses and zip codes — a practice soon to be outlawed on some Internet sites by legislation Congress approved last year.

The campaign stripped the questions from the "Just for Kids" section of its Web site less than one hour before the pages were published Tuesday on the Internet, after The Associated Press raised questions about them during a preview for news organizations.

A new privacy law, signed by President Clinton last year, generally prohibits asking children such questions on commercial Web sites unless companies first obtain a parent's permission.

The law takes effect in 2001, although federal regulators — who have yet to determine how they will enforce the ban — indicated Tuesday it won't cover campaign Internet sites.

As originally designed, Gore's Web site offered children the opportunity to receive campaign materials electronically if they submitted their first and last name, e-mail address and zip code. They also could send Gore questions via e-mail.

The site also included a link to a privacy statement — rare among the Web pages of any of the presidential candidates — with specific suggestions for children, such as warning them not to give out personal information without a parent's permission.

Campaign officials maintain that their original version would not have violated the new privacy law, but they decided to remove the questions anyway — except for asking children their first name.

Kids can still electronically send questions to Gore, who promised to reply to one or two each day on the Web. But the campaign added a warning to "PLEASE ask your parents if it is OK to give us the following information before you submit questions."

Gore's campaign manager, Craig Smith, said he ordered the changes after talking with lawyers and considering his own feelings as a father. Smith's children helped work on Gore's "Just for Kids" pages.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEWYORK(AP)

High	Low	Last		
AMR Corp s	67 3-16	66	66 11-16	+ 1
AT&T Corp	84 5-16	81⅛	83 15-16	+3 13-16
AT&T Corp wi	56 3-16	54⅞	56⅛	+ 2¼
AirTouch	99½	98 15-16	99⅛	+ ⅛
Albertsons	51 11-16	50 13-16	50 13-16	— ½
AlldSignal	52¼	51 9-16	51⅞	+ 7-16
Alltel	65 15-16	65¼	65 15-16	+ ¾
AmOnline s	173	163¼	164	— 3½
AmStores	31 9-16	30 11-16	30 11-16	—11-16
Ameritech	63¾	61½	63¼	+1 5-16
AndarkPtr s	37 3-16	36	36 3-16	— 9-16
ArmcoInc	4 11-16	4 7-16	4 7-16	— ⅛
AtlRichfld	74 5-16	73¼	74 3-16	+13-16
ATMOS Egy	24	2424	—	1-16
Aviall	15 13-16	15 11-16	15 11-16	
BP Amoco	97⅞	96⅞	97⅛	+15-16
BakerHughes	22 13-16	22 1-16	22 3-16	— ⅛
BankAmerica	72⅛	70¼	71⅛	+ 2⅛
BellAtl s	53 11-16	52 9-16	53 7-16	+ 1⅛
BellSouth s	43⅛	42⅞	43 3-16	+1 1-16
BethSteel	8 9-16	8 7-16	8 7-16	+ 1-16
BurlNoSFe s	32	31½	31⅞	+ 5-16
CBS Corp	44 15-16	43½	43¾	+ 1-16
Caterpillar	48 15-16	48⅞	48⅞	
CenSoWst	23¾	23 7-16	23½	
Chevron	89 13-16	89⅛	89 5-16	— ¼
Citigroup	70 1-16	68¼	70	+ 3
Coastal s	33¾	33 1-16	33½	— 7-16
CocaCola	59 11-16	58⅛	58 3-16	— 1⅛
ColgatePalm	94⅛	93½	93⅝	— ⅛
ComclMetals	20 15-16	20 3-16	20⅞	+11-16
CooperIn	44⅞	43¾	44⅞	+ ⅛
CyprusAmax	11⅞	11 11-16	11 11-16	— 1-16
DaimlrChry n	90 11-16	90½	90 5-16	+ 1-16
DalSemicn	42⅞	42	42 1-16	+ 1-16
DeltaAirl s	70¼	69⅝	70	+ ⅜
Dillards Inc	25¾	2525	—	¼
DowChem	95 1-16	94¼	95	+ 9-16
DuPont	58⅝	57⅞	57 11-16	— 9-16
EastmanChem	42¼	40⅞	40⅞	—1 7-16
EstKodak	63⅛	62 5-16	62 5-16	— ⅜
EDS Corp	49⅞	48 9-16	48⅞	— 3-16
Entergy	28⅜	28 5-16	28 7-16	— ¼
Exxon	72 11-16	71 11-16	72⅛	— 5-16
Flowers	24 15-16	24¾	24¾	— 5-16
FordMotor	60⅞	58 11-16	60 1-16	+1 13-16
GTE Cp	61⅞	60⅝	61⅜	+1 1-16
GenDynam	66½	65 13-16	66¼	— 1-16
GenElec	114⅞	112 5-16	112⅞	—15-16
GenMills	76½	75½	76	1-16+ ⅜
GenMotors	92 3-16	89½	90⅛	— 7-16
GaPacGP	79 5-16	77⅛	78	13-16+ ⅛
GlobalMar	11⅞	10¾	10	13-16— 9-16
Goodrich	34⅞	33 13-16	34	5-16+ 1-16
Goodyear s	51	15-16	51	5-16 51 5-16
GtAtlPac	29 11-16	29 1-16	29	7-16+ ¼
Halliburta	36 15-16	35⅞	35	15-16—15-16
Hanson ADS	43⅞	43	3-16	43 5-16+ ⅛
HarteHanks	28¼	28	28	1-16+ 1-16
HomeDepot	63¾	62⅛	63	3-16+15-16
IBM	184⅞	181	5-16	181⅛— 1½
IntlPaper	44⅛	43⅞	43	15-16+ 5-16
JohnsonJn	95⅛	93⅞	94	13-16+ 9-16
K mart	16 7-16	16	1-16	16 1-16— ⅛
Kroger Co	60 15-16	60⅛	60⅜	— ⅛
Litton	55 7-16	55	5-16	55⅜+ ⅛
LockheedM s	36 15-16	36⅛	36	9-16+ ⅛
Lowes Cos s	62¾	62⅛	62⅜	+ ½
Lubys	16 9-16	16½	16	9-16+ 5-16
LucentTech s	67	64⅛	64⅜	— ¼
MayDeptStr s	39 7-16	39	3-16	39 3-16— 5-16
MediaOne	68 13-16	67	1-16	68⅛+ 1¼
Medtronic	70 13-16	69⅞	70	7-16+1 7-16
Mobil	91⅜	90⅞	91	1-16— 3-16
Monsanto	45 7-16	44	13-16	44⅞— ½
MorganJP	126 7-16	124	126⅛	+2 3-16
Motorola	78 5-16	77	9-16	77⅜+ ¼
NCR Corp	48 15-16	47½	47½	—1 9-16
Navistar	43 13-16	42⅞	42	11-16— 1
Penney JC	40¼	39	13-16	39 15-16— ⅛
PennzEnrgy s	9⅞	9	7-16	9⅜+ ⅛
PepBoys	16	15¾	15	15-16— 1-16
PepsiCo	38¼	37⅞	37⅞	— ⅜
PhelpDodge	50⅞	49	15-16	50 + 1-16
PhilipPet	47⅛	47	1-16	47 9-16+ 1-16
PilgrmPrd B	16⅜	16¼	16¼	
Polaroid	20 5-16	19⅞	19	15-16— 3-16
Praxair	35 13-16	35	5-16	35 11-16+ 7-16
ProctGamb	100⅞	98	3-16	98⅞— 2⅜
PubSNwMx	17 7-16	17	5-16	17⅜
ReliantEngy	26⅛	25¾	26	— ½
RoyalDut	53¼	52	11-16	53 1-16+ ½
SBC Comm	51⅞	50	5-16	51⅜+ 1¼
SaraLee s	23⅜	23⅛	23	7-16— 5-16
Scripps EW	43⅞	43½	43½	— 3-16
SearsRoeb	44½	44	3-16	44¼— 1-16
SherwinW	28½	28¼	28¼	— 3-16
SmithklBchm	73¾	72¼	73	— ⅜
SouthernCo	23 1-16	22⅞	22⅞	+ ⅛
SwstAirl s	31	30⅞	30⅞	+ ½
SprintFON n	105⅞	103⅞	105⅛	+ 9-16
SprintPCS n	54¼	52⅞	54	3-16+ ⅞
Sunoco Inc	35 15-16	35	5-16	35⅜— 7-16
TNP Ent	28⅞	28¼	28	11-16— ⅛
Tandy	66¼	65⅛	66⅛	+ 1⅛
TempleInland	62⅛	62⅛	62⅛	— ⅛
Tenneco	28¼	27⅞	27	15-16
Texaco	56⅛	55⅞	55	13-16— 9-16
TexInd	24¼	24	24	1-16— 1-16
TexasInst	114 9-16	108	9-16	108⅞— 2⅞
TexUtil	41¼	40⅞	40	11-16— ⅜
Textron	79 15-16	78¼	79⅜	+1 1-16
TriconGlbR	72⅞	7272	—	5-16
TrinityInds	29¼	28⅞	29⅛	+ ⅛
TritonEngy	7⅜	7⅛	7⅛	— ¼
Tyler	4 3⅞	3	15-16	+ 1-16
US West Inc	56 15-16	56	56	11-16+ ⅛
USX-Marathn	27⅞	27	5-16	27 5-16— ⅛
USX-USS	24 1-16	23	11-16	24 + ¼
UnCarbde	47¼	46¼	46½	— 3-16
UnionPacif	51 15-16	51	7-16	51 7-16+ 1-16
UnitedTech	136 7-16	135	5-16	135 11-16+ 5-16
Unocal	37 3-16	3737	+	3-16
Venator Grp	7 3-16	77⅛	+	3-16
WalMart	97½	96	3-16	97⅛+1 7-16
WalMart wi	48 13-16	48⅞	48⅞	+ ⅜
WellsFargo	38 11-16	38⅛	38	9-16+11-16
WstnGasRs	8	3-16	88⅛	+ ⅛
WinnDixie	37 3-16	35⅞	36⅛	+ 5-16
Xerox Cp s	58 11-16	57⅞	58	+ ⅛

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Beatrice Garza, Amy Murphy, Wilmoth Dressler of Midland, Effie Elliott and Amanda Martinez.

DISMISSALS: Wilmoth Dressler, Effie Elliott, Amanda Martinez, Austin Davis, Dorothy Gill, Betty Rawlings and Josie Yanez and baby girl.

CENSUS: 47 (Med., Surg.-16, Long-term Care-25, OB-3, Nursery-3).

Births

Devin Hodges announces the birth of his brother, Niklaus Glenn Hodges. He was born at 9:37 a.m. on April 1 in Mitchell County Hospital. Niklaus weighed seven pounds, 14 ounces.

Maternal grandparents are Bill and Anita Wilson of Snyder and paternal grandparents are Glenda Freeman of Snyder and Keith and Kathy Hodges of Burleson.

Beatrice Garza of Snyder announces the birth of her daughter weighing six pounds, 11½ ounces. She was born at 12:17 p.m. on April 6 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

Jimmy and Amy Murphy of Snyder are parents of a son born at 2:55 p.m. on April 6 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. He weighed six pounds, 15 ounces.

Dr. Gott by Peter Gott, M.D.

Nothing wrong with masturbation

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I wish to inform you that masturbation is harmful. I find that medical doctors are poorly informed about the consequences of this act, which can lead to mental and physical destruction. I practiced veterinary medicine for 30 years before taking a job in a state hospital for the insane. I saw talented adults and healthy animals become skin and bones because they used all their energies masturbating.

DEAR READER: Nonsense. I hope you were taking care of insane animals, not humans. Otherwise, you should have been a resident, not a staff member.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have been diagnosed with painful calcium deposits in my Achilles' tendon. I'm 73. What can I do?

DEAR READER: You have at least five options:

1. Ignore the condition and use heat, heel pads and cushioned shoes.

2. Try over-the-counter pain medication, such as ibuprofen. A few days of treatment may reduce your discomfort and allow you a freer range of motion. In my experience, however, you will eventually need professional attention.

3. Ask your doctor to prescribe anti-inflammatory drugs — such as Motrin, Lodine or Voltaren — that may reduce the pain and irritation.

4. Have a cortisone injection into the painful deposit. This procedure is considered routine by most orthopedic surgeons and is usually quite effective when oral medication doesn't work.

5. Have the calcium removed. This form of surgery is ordinarily the last resort, because it is expensive, a nuisance and (for awhile) painful. Nonetheless, removal of calcium spurs may enable you to remain independent, active and pain-free for many more years.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I am periodically hard of hearing. At these times, I hold my nose, close my mouth and blow hard. This causes an audible click — and my hearing returns. What should I do?

DEAR READER: Your periodic hearing loss seems to be due to a malfunction of the ears' venting mechanism, the two tiny Eustachian tubes that connect the middle-ear chambers to an area behind the nose. These tubes serve to equalize pressure between the outside world and the closed compartments of the middle ear. When the Eustachian tubes remain closed, pressure alterations make hearing difficult, as happens during decompression in airplane flights. I urge you to see an ear-nose-and-throat specialist; his or her advice would benefit you tremendously.

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

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DR. GOTT

PETER GOTT, M.D.

APR 07 1999

Scurry County Country

Cotton growers' crop management plans didn't work

LUBBOCK — Most cotton producers on the Texas Plains saw their crop management strategies lead to naught last year, due to the withering drought. If dry conditions persist again this year, producers should think about "retooling" their crop management strategies, two agronomists and an irrigation specialist told farmers at a March crops conference-expo here.

"I wouldn't be too pessimistic about the chances for a repeat of last year's drought ... not yet anyway," said Dr. Dan Krieg, South Plains farmer and a Texas Tech University professor of plant and soil science. "We didn't receive much winter rainfall, but we normally average less than 5 inches of rainfall from November through April in the Lubbock area.

"What we count on is getting up to 13 inches of rain between May and October, right during the cotton growing season. But even in the best rainfall years, keep in mind that our evaporation potential is four times greater than our normal average rainfall."

Most South Plains soils can hold 15 to 20 inches of moisture in the four-foot soil profile, Kreig said. But the Plains' high evaporation potential means producers should water their crop wisely and do all they can to preserve the land's limited moisture-holding capacity.

"Cotton reaches its peak water demand 90 to 100 days into the growing season, when the crop is in peak bloom," he added. "With average rainfall and a well capable of pumping 3 gallons per minute per acre, we can meet that water requirement.

"But there is no benefit in watering beyond peak bloom. In fact, research on the South Plains has shown that watering after peak bloom, when the first bolls begin to open, actually lowers the crop yield potential."

Retrofitting center pivot sprinklers to maximum irrigation efficiency and increase a crop's water use efficiency also aids crop survival during dry years, said Dr. Leon New, a Texas A&M professor of ag engineering and Extension irrigation specialist based in Amarillo. "If you haven't yet adopted Low Energy Precision Application (LEPA) technology on your pivots, I encourage you to do so.

"An LEPA pivot equipped with drag socks on its drop lines, running in a field with furrow dikes, achieves 95 to 98 percent irrigation efficiency. In other words, it loses only 2 to 3 percent of the water pumped to evaporation — it's the most efficient system we have."

LEPA systems equipped with bubble-nozzles are second irrigation efficiency, followed by LEPA system equipped with spray-nozzles, he said.

"LEPA Conversion and Management," a Texas Agricultural Extension Service publication (B-1691) written by Drs. New and Guy Fipps, explain how to convert center pivot for LEPA. It is available on the Internet (http://agpublications.tamu.edu/pubs/eengine/b1691.pdt) or through county Extension offices.

"Skip-row watering (irrigating every other row) is another good water management strategy. And if you are concerned about watering the crop uniformly, I recommend installing pressure regulators and pressure gauges on a pivot's drop lines," New said. "Pay close attention to the pivot's nozzles, too. You may get better results simply by re-nozzling one or two drops, or an entire pivot.

Re-evaluating all crop inputs is another way producers can stay competitive and survive another dry crop year, said Dr. Randy Boman, cotton agronomist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service in Lubbock.

"Don't buy and apply unecessary fertilizer. Know what's in your soil (run a thorough soil test) and apply only the nutrients your crop needs. Your soil test should check for nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, sulphur and zinc," he said. "Remember that it takes 50 to 60 pounds of actual nitrogen to produce each bale of cotton in your yield goal. And be sure to credit residual soil nitrates against the crop's nitrogen requirement. Don't apply more nitrogen than the crop needs."

Cattle raisers set up hotline

DALLAS (AP) — Got a beef with the beef industry? You might want to keep it to yourself unless you want a visit from a new Texas beef task force.

The Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association is setting up a hotline for people in the beef industry to call if they hear anyone disparaging their products.

Rob Hosford, spokesman for the Fort Worth-based association, said the hotline and a related task force will focus mostly on the news media that air or print such comments from beef critics.

"If we hear XYZ radio station carrying something about the beef industry, procedures and products that is derogatory, unfounded and untrue, with this task force we will send someone over there to re-educate, so the next time they talk they'll be talking from the right side of the ballpark," Hosford said.

The hotline was inspired by a billboard posted briefly in Amarillo last month that stated "Jesus was a vegetarian." The animal rights group People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals had planned to leave the sign up for 30 days, but the billboard company took it down after four days because the message sparked so much controversy in the heart of beef country.

Bruce Friedrich, PETA's vegetarian campaign coordinator, said he was not surprised Texas beef leaders have taken this approach.

"Clearly, they are running scared," Friedrich said. "All the propaganda in the world can't sanitize their product. Eating animals is catastrophic for the environment. We all know that."

Hosford said cattle raisers have no intention of infringing on anyone's right to free speech, and he knows some critics might continue to slam the beef industry even after a visit from the task force. He said the task force will use scientific data from university studies to make its point.

"We can't force our agenda on anyone. We're not going to try to do that," Hosford said. "We're just trying to inform people to make sure they have the correct facts."

Town & Country Topics

By Kathryn Roberts
County Extension Agent

Do your muscles need to be flexible?

Flexibility is being able to move your joints easily — not only joints like your elbows and knees, but also hidden joints like those in your spine. Stiffness, on the other hand, is not being able to move your joints easily.

Most people think you lose flexibility only when you get older, but stiffness doesn't always happen because of aging; it can come from not being active and not exercising. You need to be flexible enough to be active and to do the things you want to do, such as walking, running, or playing at your favorite hobbies and sports. When your muscles aren't used, they become weak and your joints become stiff.

Can you be as flexible as everyone else? Not really. How flexible you are is partly due to how your body is designed. Like cars, our bodies are designed in many different ways, and some bodies are more flexible than others.

Regular exercise helps to give you more flexibility, allows you to wiggle and jump as you wish, helps stop stiffness and injuries, and stops your joints from "freezing" in one position by making your muscles stronger. The best exercises for improving your flexibility are gentle bicycling, walking, aerobics, dance, and yoga. It's important that what you do must make your joints and muscles move and stretch.

Iron — Iron is found in your body's cells. Iron is important for the following functions:

*Iron makes up part of your red blood cells and part of your muscle cells.

*Iron makes up part of your immune system, which fights off illness.

*Iron helps make collagen, which helps in holding your cells together.

*Iron helps oxygen travel throughout your body.

The following fruits and vegetables are good sources of iron: green peas, kidney beans, lima beans, Navy beans, prune juice, sauerkraut, spinach and turnip greens.

Complex carbohydrates — You can think of complex carbohydrates as energy for your body. When you eat foods with a lot of starch, like potatoes, the enzymes in your mouth break down the starch into glucose. Glucose is absorbed by the walls of your small intestine where your blood then picks it up for energy. You need plenty of energy to grow, to work and to play.

Potatoes, beans and peas are good sources of complex carbohydrates.

Fiber — Many of us have heard of fiber. What is it and do we need to eat it? Fiber is that part of plant foods that can't be digested. Fiber benefits our bodies by helping us have regular bowel movements. It may help prevent diseases. Good sources of fiber are peas, corn, berries, raisins, apples and prunes.

Keeping an eye on Texas

Help keep young Texans safe and happy

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. The Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services has prepared an information kit detailing how Texans can help prevent child abuse in their communities. The kit can be downloaded free of charge at; http://www.tdprs.state.tx.us, or call 1-800-862-5252. Below are some suggestions for parents

Ways to Show Your Children You Care About Them

- Talk with them.
- Listen to what they have to say.
- Read to them.
- Include them in family decisions and experiences.
- Play a game together.
- Take time to laugh together.
- Tell them you love them every day.

Report child abuse 1-800-252-5400

SOURCES: Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (http://www.window.state.tx.us), Texas Departemnt of Protective and Regulatory Services, Children's Trust Fund of Texas, and Prevent Child Abuse Texas

Colorado City cattle auction

COLORADO CITY — The Colorado City Livestock Auction had a run of 303 head of cattle for the Saturday, April 3, sale. Feeder steers were steady. Heifers were steady to $2 higher. Slaughter cows and bulls were steady. Bred cows were $30/hd higher, pairs were $50/pr higher. Trading active and demand good.

Feeder Steers:
200 to 300: 102 to 108
300 to 400: 95 to 100.50
400 to 500: 84 to 89
500 to 600: 70 to 78
600 to 700: 74.50 to 78.50.
Feeder Heifers:
200 to 300: 90 to 95
300 to 400: 82 to 90
400 to 500: 77 to 84.
500 to 600: 73 to 76
Young bred cows: 490 to 575
Cows and calves: 365 to 480
Slaughter cows: high yielding: 35 to 37.
Slaughter bulls: low dressing: 41.25 to 44.

Lubbock cattle auction

LUBBOCK — The market at Lubbock had a run of 800 head of cattle for the Thursday, April 1, sale. Cows were $1 to $2 cheaper. Calves and yearlings were steady. Trading and demand were good.

Slaughter cows: (high dressing - cutters - utility) 35 to 40.50.
Canners and low cutters: 29 to 34
Slaughter bulls: 41 to 51.
Feeder steers choice:
300-400: 90-105
400-500: 80-92.50
500-600: 80-95
600-700: 70-82
700-800: 61-73.50
Feeder Heifers choice:
300-400: 80-92
400-500: 73-85
500-600: 65-75
600-700: 65-71
700-800: 60-66
Feeder bulls good and choice: 500-600, 70 to 81; 700-800, 65 to 70.
Cow and calf pairs: Good 550 to 725: Grade 450 to 525.
Springers: 350 to 575.
Baby calves: 75 to 150.
Doodlers 150 to 225

Matter of Fact

Susan Combs
Texas Agriculture Commissioner

As if we needed another reason to be optimistic about agriculture's future, the soothsayers looking at the Texas job market have some new numbers. There's good news for our industry – one that some pessimists would have you believe could lack in future job opportunities.

According to the Texas Workforce Commission, employment projections into the year 2006 show continued growth for "Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing." Almost 20 percent of the anticipated job growth will be in what we know as traditional agriculture (agricultural production, crops and livestock).

With a renewed emphasis on agribusiness development and value-added processing, the growth of jobs in processing, manufacturing, transportation and other related industries will also expand to keep up with the demands of a growing state population.

Texas' population is expected to grow to almost 34 million in the next 40 years. That's a lot of people to feed and clothe. And that's good news for career growth in agriculture.

Our industry continues to be diverse and provide opportunities beyond the farm and ranch. Challenging opportunities are there – and will be there – beyond the year 2000 for anyone looking for a career in agriculture.

So pessimists, beware. The projected job growth provides all of us in agriculture a foundation for optimism as we carry our vital and thriving industry into the next century.

2ND FRONT PAGE

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

NATO determined...

Milosevic must withdraw forces

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton dismissed Yugoslavia's cease-fire in Kosovo as a hollow promise and said today the United States and NATO are "determined to stay united and to persist until we prevail."

After two weeks of NATO airstrikes on Belgrade and strategic command centers of Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, Clinton said, the Western alliance is not about to ease up. Milosevic, whom Pentagon officials called "rattled" by the bombing campaign, declared a unilateral cease-fire of his security forces in the Kosovo province Tuesday.

"It is not enough now for Mr. Milosevic to say that his forces will cease fire on a Kosovo denied its freedom and devoid of its people," Clinton said today.

"He must withdraw his forces, let the refugees return, permit the deployment of an international security force. Nothing less will bring peace with security to the people of Kosovo."

The president touted NATO determination while Pentagon officials cast its military campaign as a success in shaking Milosevic and hurting morale among his armed forces, which are struggling with fuel and ammunition shortages and bombed-out command centers.

Serb air defenses remain a threat to NATO aircraft, however. Widely scattered tanks and troops accused of leading an ethnic cleansing campaign against ethnic Albanians in Kosovo are still proving difficult to strike despite a stepped-up allied air campaign that was taking advantage of clear skies today to hit more targets, U.S. officials said.

"We have evidence of units that had to go into holding operations or holding patterns because of shortages of, specifically, gas and ammo," said Rear Adm. Thomas Wilson, director of intelligence for the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He acknowledged few troops or tanks have been struck, mainly because they're hiding in mountainous terrain or are too close to innocent refugees.

The acting president of Cyprus said he would go to Belgrade today to work for the release of three U.S. soldiers who were captured by Serbs while patrolling the Yugoslav-Macedonian border. Dawn Reliford, sister of one of the three, Staff Sgt. Christopher J. Stone of Smiths Creek, Mich., said the family had been told of the effort by Pentagon officials.

The Cypriot official, Spyros Kyprianou, said he had conducted "informal consultations" for several days. In Washington, Sandy Berger, Clinton's national security adviser, said he was aware of the effort to gain the release of the three "but I can't confirm that is going to take place."

Wilson cited "anecdotal reports that morale is declining" in the Serb military following this past week's most devastating U.S. cruise missile and bomb strikes on army and police headquarters, fuel and ammunition depots throughout Yugoslavia and an intelligence training facility outside Belgrade. Wilson didn't offer any estimates of Serb military casualties.

In a sign that Milosevic is feeling the effects of NATO airstrikes that began March 24, he announced a unilateral cease-fire Tuesday and offered to allow ethnic Albanians back into Kosovo.

Some refugees moved to other countries

BLACE, Macedonia (AP) — Macedonian authorities early today emptied a border enclave where tens of thousands of Kosovo refugees had been trapped for days, taking some to NATO tent camps and shipping thousands of others off to Albania.

Aid workers expressed strong concern that the refugees had not been told where they were going, and that aid organizations had not been informed beforehand of plans for the mass transport.

The fate of a miles-long queue of ethnic Albanian refugees who had been waiting on the other side of Macedonia's frontier with Yugoslavia was not known, and there were fears they had been turned back to Kosovo.

Macedonia, flooded with more than 130,000 refugees since the NATO bombing campaign against Yugoslavia began two weeks ago, has said it can take in only about 20,000 of the arrivals, and wants the rest quickly shipped off to third countries.

The move to swiftly empty the teeming Blace encampment overnight came against a backdrop of growing tensions between Western aid and alliance officials and authorities in Macedonia, a former Yugoslav republic.

On Tuesday, Macedonia's prime minister, Ljubco Georgievski, sharply criticized NATO, saying the alliance had been "completely irresponsible" to ignore warnings that airstrikes on Yugoslavia could trigger a humanitarian disaster.

The United Nations and other Western aid agencies, for their part, have accused Macedonia of using bureaucratic delays to slow the influx of both refugees and aid.

Aid workers were sharply critical of the handling of the Blace evacuation, saying refugees were hustled away without being told where they were bound, and families in some instances were separated.

Death is ruled natural causes

Scurry County Judge Ricky Fritz pronounced 43-year-old J.C. "Jesse" Watson dead of natural causes at 3 p.m. Tuesday at Watson's 2308 Merrill residence.

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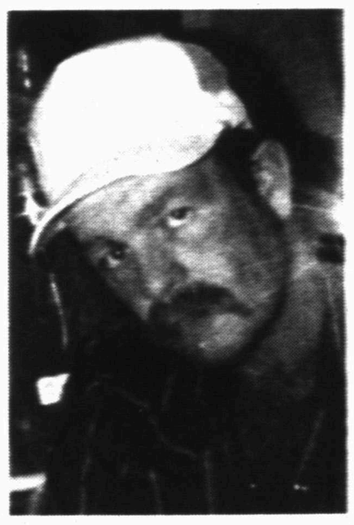
Obituaries



Jesse Watson

Jesse Watson

1955-1999

J.C. "Jesse" Watson, a life-long resident of Snyder, died Tuesday, April 6, at his home in Snyder.

Funeral service for Mr. Watson, 43, is set for 4 p.m. Thursday in the Wright Colonial Funeral Home Chapel. Officiating will be Robert Bailey, assisted by Malcolm Crawford. Burial will follow in the Snyder Cemetery.

Born Sept. 8, 1955 in Snyder, Mr. Watson was a truck driver.

Survivors include his wife, Candy Baggett of Snyder; three stepdaughters, Janet Hovland of Streamwood, Ill., Roxanne Davis of San Antonio and Kelly Story of Atlanta, Ga.; a stepson, James Grumbles of Round Rock; a sister, Wanda Susie Frazier of Colorado City; two nieces, Kim Roquemore of Colorado City and Misty Roquemore of Jacksonville, Fla; and eight grandchildren.

Family visitation is set for 6 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Free tax aid service

Free tax help is available each Wednesday at the Senior Center. Help is also available for shut-ins. Call 573-3822 or 573-4035.

Public hearing for bomber training

The Air Force will hold a public hearing on the proposed Realistic Bomber Training Initative (RBTI) on from 5-9 this evening in the Snyder High School auditorium.

Class of 1979

The SHS class of 1979 reunion planning committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in the home of Carrie Richardson at 2708 28th St.

Support groups

Four different support groups meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the First Baptist Church. The groups include divorce recovery, cancer-grief support group, a group for parents of teens and a group for adult-children caring for elderly parents. Child care is provided.

Sports banquet planning

All SHS Booster Club members and athletes' parents are invited to a meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday in the SHS Student Center to discuss plans for the sports banquet. For more information, call Chris Thornhill at 573-2272 or 573-8367.

FBC youth car wash

First Baptist Church youth will hold a car wash from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday at Wal-mart. All proceeds will be used for camp.

Gospel concert

Victory Baptist Church, 3303 Apple St., will present a free Southern Gospel Concert at 7 p.m. Saturday.

Golden K fish fry

Golden K Kiwanis Club fish fry will be held from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Sunday at the Senior Citizens Center. Cost is $6 for adults and children under 6 can eat free. Takeout plates will be available.

Southern Gospel group

First Church of the Nazarene will present "Lighthouse," a Southern Gospel group, at the 10:45 a.m. service and evening service Sunday. Lunch will follow the morning service, according to Pastor Mike Howard.

American Legion officers

The American Legion Layne Kite Post #181 will elect officers Monday.

SHS orientation

Parents of all 8th graders are urged to attend a meeting at 7 p.m. Monday in the Worsham Auditorium. Debbie Phillips, high school counselor, will provide information about registration, course seldctions and graduation requirements. All incoming freshmen are asked to bring registation materials that have previously been handed out.

Bible study tapes

Bible study video tapes air weekly on cable TV channel 2. The tapes to be shown at 7 p.m. Monday are "From a Cocoon to a Butterfly" followed by "Jesus Turned My Life Around."

Sausage festival

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church will host an all-you-can-eat sausage dinner from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 18, at the Parish Center. Tickets sold at the door are $6 for adults and all carryouts and $3 for children 12 and under. Sausage sold by the pound is $3.75 cooked and $2.75 uncooked.

VFW Post #8231

The local VFW post will elect officers Monday, April 19, during a 7 p.m. meeting.

1989 class reunion

The SHS 1989 class reunion committee is seeking addresses of former classmates for the 10-year reunion. Information is needed ASAP so it can be mailed out. Contact Christy Smith at 573-8392, or 573-1420 for additional information.

Relay for Life

Snyder's American Cancer Society will host the Relay for Life April 30-May 1 at Tiger Stadium. Sponsors, teams and volunteers for entertainment are needed. Contact Mark Cypert at 573-5454 or 573-5714.

Road to Recovery program

Volunteers are needed to take patients to Abilene or Lubbock one day a week for cancer treatment. Following approval by the American Cancer Society, drivers will be provided liability insurance and can be reimbursed for fuel expenses incurred for the trip. For more information, contact ACS Road to Recovery volunteer coordinator Martha Schiebel at 573-8626 and leave a message, or Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993.

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery, in order:
0-4-8

Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery:
18-24-25-29-35

Astro-Graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Thursday, April 8, 1999

The year ahead could turn out to be a very rewarding and profitable one for you. It will offer many wonderful opportunities, so long as you take care not to repeat old mistakes.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) If you begin to see that power is being heavily weighted against your favor when dealing with others today, don't aggravate or antagonize them by behaving in defiance. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Own up to any mistakes you might make today and accept the consequences. If you try to pin the blame on others, people will lose respect for you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Poking your nose into another person's business could get you in a lot of hot water today. The best rule of action is to keep your mind on your own affairs.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) If you do nothing but weigh and balance the problems at hand today, you'll get nowhere fast. Taking action is the only thing that is going to get you anywhere.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Be sure you totally grasp all the facts before you jump to any conclusions today, or you might find yourself being needlessly angry about something you totally misunderstand.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Extravagance could be your worse enemy today, so don't invite momentary whims to dilute your bank account. Maintain a firm hand over your budget and balance it with care.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Be especially on guard today if you think you're holding a handful of trump cards. Take nothing for granted, because you could forget to play it smart and end up being the loser.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Be careful not to be too gullible and believe everything you hear today. This is particularly true if it involves gossip about someone you like. It could be malicious fabrication.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Just because you're in the company of pals who can spend more lavishly than you today, there is no reason to try to keep up with them. Spend only what you can afford.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Associates could try to thwart your efforts today if your focus appears to be too self-serving. In order to achieve your aims, you must show you care about their interests, as well.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Acting on sketchy or unverified information is not too smart, and you know it! Subdue tendencies to impulsively proceed before you know what you're doing and where you're going today.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Wishful thinking should not be identified as truism today. Viewing developments through rose-colored glasses may make everything look pretty, but it won't change reality.

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Datebook

Wednesday, April 7, 1999

Today is the 97th day of 1999 and the 19th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1940, Booker T. Washington became the first African-American to be commemorated on a U.S. postage stamp.

On this day in 1949, "South Pacific," a musical by Rogers and Hammerstein, opened on Broadway. The production starred Mary Martin and Ezio Pinza.

On this day in 1970, John Wayne won the Oscar for Best Actor for his performance in "True Grit."

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: William Wordsworth (1770-1850), poet; Walter Winchell (1897-1972), journalist; Billie Holiday (1915-1959), singer; James Garner (1928-), actor, is 71; Jerry Brown (1938-), U.S. politician, is 61; Francis Ford Coppola (1939-), director, is 60; David Frost (1939-), TV personality, is 60; Tony Dorsett (1954-), football great, is 45.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1979, Ken Forsch of the Houston Astros pitched a no-hitter against Atlanta, 6-0.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Good evening, Mr. and Mrs. America and all the ships at sea! — Walter Winchell

TODAY'S MOON: Day before last quarter (April 8).

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U.S. may levy penalty duties on some goods

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States has been given the go-ahead to impose penalty tariffs on $191.4 million worth of European imports annually, getting to choose from a list that includes Scottish cashmere sweaters, fancy French handbags and German coffee makers.

The 100 percent tariffs, which are designed to eliminate the targeted products from U.S. stores, were awarded by the World Trade Organization on Tuesday as a fallout from a nasty trade war between the United States and Europe over bananas.

The WTO ruled that U.S. banana companies were suffering $191.4 million in lost sales annually because of unfair European restrictions that favor bananas grown in former European colonies in the Caribbean and Africa.

While this represented a reduction of nearly two-thirds from the original U.S. damage claim of $520 million, the Clinton administration said the smaller figure was still the largest damage award ever approved by the WTO, the Geneva-based organization that sets the rules for world trade.

"This decision is an important victory for the WTO dispute settlement process and sends a clear message that the WTO cannot be used to engage in endless litigation," U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky said.

EU officials said today that they would consult with member countries before deciding whether to appeal the WTO ruling. Officials said under WTO procedures, the United States has 10 days to submit a revised target list of products and during this time the EU has the option of appealing the ruling.

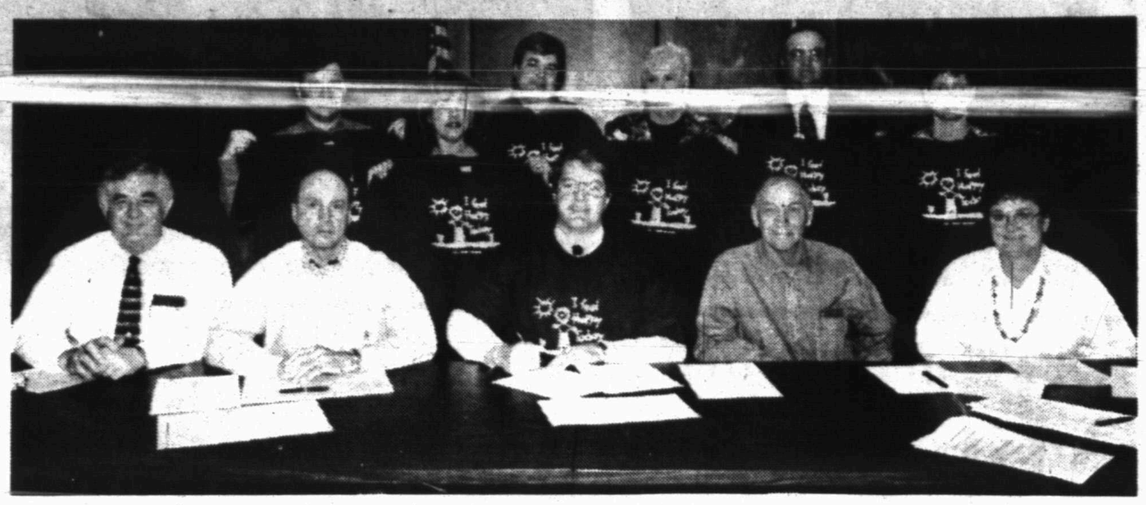
"We reserve the right to appeal," EU official Simon Fraser told reporters in Brussels. But he said the 15-nation EU had "no intention of dragging this out."

Barshefsky said the final list of targeted products would be selected from the original target list and would be published within the next few days in the Federal Register.

EU officials have charged political motivations were behind the U.S. determination to start a trade war over a product that accounts for a minuscule amount of trade between the world's two biggest trading partners.

Two American companies, Chiquita Brands International and Dole Food Co., grow their bananas on plantations in South America. Carl Lindner, the head of Chiquita, has been a major campaign contributor to both Democrats and Republicans.

The Clinton administration insisted that it has been fighting to uphold the principal that countries that lose cases before the WTO must either eliminate their unfair barriers or face economic penalties.



CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH — Scurry County Commissioners Court has signed a proclamation declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Present for the signing were (seated from left) Precinct 3 Commissioner Howard Limmer, Precinct 2 Commissioner Roy Idom, Judge Ricky Fritz, Precinct 1 Commissioner Ralph Trevey and Precinct 4 Commissioner Chloanne Lindsey. Standing are Child Welfare Board members Ben Murphy, Mary Ann Juarez, Bill Dickinson, Katy McHaney, Vick Miller and Chris Bane. In fiscal year 1998, 30,000 cases of child abuse and neglect were confirmed in Texas. (SDN Staff Photo)

Justice Dept. hires consultant

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department hired a Minneapolis law firm Tuesday as a consultant for its impending lawsuit against the tobacco industry. The firm helped Minnesota reach a $6.6 billion settlement with the industry last year.

The firm of Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi agreed to advise and assist Justice Department lawyers through June 30 at the substantially reduced rate of $75 per hour plus travel costs and expenses, according to Acting Assistant Attorney General David W. Ogden, who heads the department's tobacco litigation task force.

President Clinton announced in this year's State of the Union speech that the government had decided to sue the industry to recover money paid by federal health-insurance programs for treatment of tobacco-related illnesses. The Justice Department has requested $20 million from Congress in the fiscal year beginning next Oct. 1 to pay for 40 government lawyers to work on the case and for $5 million for expert witnesses.

The contract with the Minneapolis law firm runs through June 30 and sets a maximum payment of $81,760 through that date. The government said it could be extended if both parties agree.

The department emphasized that contract specifies only consulting services and does not contemplate any contingent fee payment to the law firm based on potential payments the industry might either agree or be ordered to make.

"At least for the foreseeable future, the litigation team itself will consist exclusively of Justice Department attorneys," Ogden said.

Mike Tyson signs record label deal

NEW YORK (AP) — Mike Tyson has reportedly signed a deal to create his own record company.

The former heavyweight champion, who is serving a one-year jail sentence for assaulting two motorists, signed the deal with Def Jam records, the Daily News reported Tuesday.

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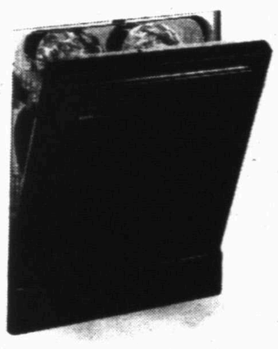
Kenmore vac with triple micron filtration and 4 on-board attachments.
38189



Kenmore dishwasher with 3-level Ultra Wash,™ America's best-cleaning dishwashing system. 15705
Reg. 439.99. Sale 399.99.
359.99 with 10% savings
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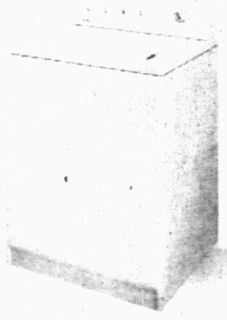
10% CASH BACK MAIL-IN REBATE
on all home appliances over $399†
plus...all vacuums and microwaves on sale*
sale prices good April 8 through April 10



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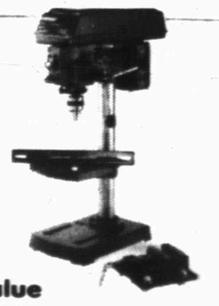
FINAL SAVINGS $105



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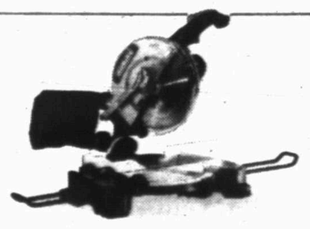

188.00
Special purchase
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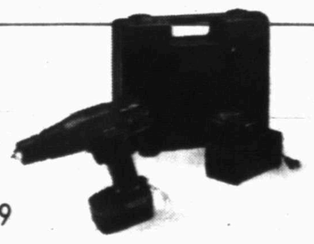
Craftsman 10-in. compound miter saw with accessories. 24310



119.99
Sears low price
Craftsman 13.2-volt cordless drill/driver kit. Variable speeds: 0-350/0-1200 RPM. 24-position clutch. 27157

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