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WT-Int. Crude - $34.93
WTIC Posted - $31.75
Natural Gas - $5.150

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

TUESDAY

March 18, 2003
Vol. 54 No. 275
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Jessie Keller

Countdown to war: 48, 47, 46, 45...

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a countdown toward war, President Bush is ready to order a massive military strike against Iraq if Saddam Hussein refuses to surrender power by a deadline of 7 p.m. Wednesday. Wary of retaliation, Bush braced Americans for possible terrorist attacks.

Today, Iraq's leadership rejected Bush's ultimatum. Iraqi television said the decision was made in a joint meeting of the Revolution Command Council, Iraq's highest executive body, and the leadership of the ruling Baath party. Saddam chaired the meeting, it said.

Saddam's elder son, Odai Hussein, said in a statement that Bush is "unstable" and "should give up power in America with his family."

White House spokesman Ari Fleischer responded that "Iraq has made a series of mistakes, including arming themselves with weapons of mass destruction that have brought this crisis upon itself.

"This is the latest mistake Iraq could make. It would be Saddam's final mistake," Fleischer said. "The president still hopes he will take the ultimatum seriously and leave the country."

But Fleischer would not rule out a U.S. attack before Bush's 48-hour clock ran out if the Iraqi leader rejects the exile offer. "Saddam Hussein has to figure out what this means," he said.

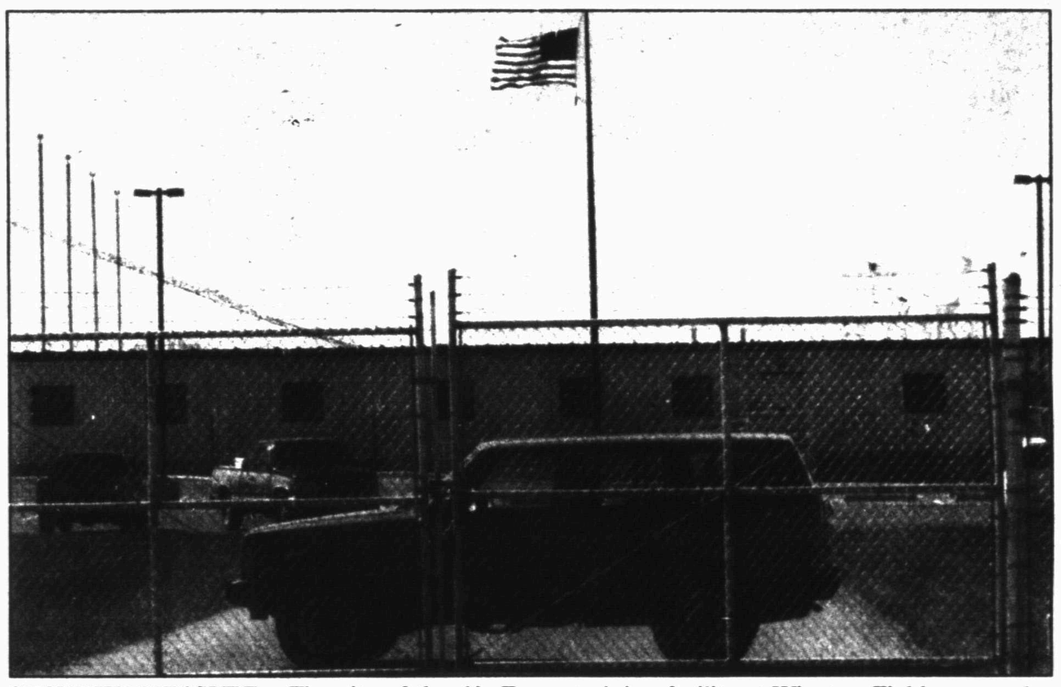
Bush was spending the day in a White House protected by increased security measures, calling allies and trying to recruit partners for the war. He also met with Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, as he has each day.

He was making several calls to world leaders, including Russian President Vladimir Putin, who has condemned military action against Iraq. Shortly before the call, Russia's lower house of parliament decided to indefinitely put off a vote to ratify a U.S.-Russia nuclear arms treaty because of the threat of war in Iraq.

Bush, in a prime-time speech Monday night, vowed to strike Iraq with "the full force and might" of the U.S. military unless Saddam and his two sons leave Iraq within 48 hours. More than 250,000 American forces are poised for action in the Persian Gulf. "The tyrant will soon be gone," the president pledged

Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle charged that a collapse of the administration's diplomatic efforts had brought an unneeded war.

"I'm saddened, saddened that this president failed so miserably at diplomacy that we're now forced to war," Daschle said in a speech Monday.



SECURITY MEASURE – The site of the Air Force training facility at Winston Field was under increased security this morning following President Bush's speech last night and the raising of the nation's security level. Dwight Williams, chief of air space at Dyess AFB, said this is to ensure no one gets on the AHNTECH grounds unannounced. (SDN Staff Photo)

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "The ability to laugh at one's self is a first indication of true honesty."

Stephen Henry, newspaper friend up at Levelland, has lived in a home with four women most of his life.

In addition to his wife, the Henrys have three daughters — all of them blonde. Steve said he started collecting dumb blonde jokes years ago — and today — even his grown daughters continue to send them to him.

She was so blonde...

—She thought a quarterback was a refund.

—She believed General Motors was in the army.

—She thought Meow Mix was a CD for cats.

And at the bottom of an application where it said "sign here," she wrote "Tarus."

She was sooo blonde...

—She took a ruler to bed to see how long she slept.

—She sent a fax with a stamp on it.

—Under "education" on her job application she wrote, "Hooked on Phonics."

She was soooooo blonde...

—She tripped over a cordless phone.

—She spent 20 minutes staring at the orange juice carton because it said "Concentrate."

—She told her friend to meet her at the corner of "Walk" and "Don't Walk."

—She asked for a price check at the dollar store.

—She tried to put M&Ms in alphabetical order.

She was sooooooooo blonde...

—She studied for a blood test.

—She thought she needed a token to get on "Soul Train."

—She sold her car for gas money.

—When she heard that 90 percent of all crimes occur around the home, she moved.

—She thought if she spoke her mind, she'd be speechless.

—She believed that she could only use her AM radio in the morning.

—She had a shirt that said "TGIF" which she thought stood for "This Goes In Front."

—She called the phone company to report that her phone was infected with telemarketers.

Bid let for ball field dirt work

By Brian Brisendine
SDN Staff Writer

Construction of the Western Texas College sports complex, after months of delays, is expected to get underway this week.

WTC trustees awarded Earthco of Big Spring the bid for the first phase of the complex.

The bid of $112,404 was less than half the amount bid by Grimmett Bros. and rejected at last month's board meeting.

Project architects had estimated the work should cost about $115,000.

"This is more in line with what we were told to expect and we are excited to be able to move forward," said WTC President Dr. Greg Williams.

Dr. Williams, as part of the monthly president's report, told the board he is confident of the college's position.

"I know that there are a lot of questions in the community about our sports complex and I want to make it clear that I feel better than ever about that project. I feel stronger than ever that we will get this done and that we will get it done right. This is well worth the effort and will pay for itself in the long run."

The president also said WTC "has no problems with Scurry County" and that the entities will work together to host tournaments in the future and will "work together to make Snyder a more attractive community."

In other business, 63 contracts were renewed. Three staffers were not included on the list for renewal. These included Dennis Noblett, development director for the past two years, and Albert Conde, longtime director of the physical plant. Also not renewed was the contract of Robert Adams, associate professor of history and Spanish, who has indicated he plans to retire at the end of the semester for health reasons.

In the past, WTC has discussed outsourcing the maintenance department, but no formal decision has been made. Noblett's primary role has been in fundraising.

Dr. Willliams this morning refused to comment on the non-renewal of contracts.

In other personnel matters, the board accepted the resignation of Elisabeth Pankle, English and ESL instructor.

Britt Canada, dean of information technology, told the board about possible ramifications of state-mandated budget cuts.

Canada said TIF grants are under fire. WTC has received more than a quarter of a million dollars in TIF monies since 1998.

Canada said it's too early to tell what will be cut.

Dr. Williams also informed the board that WTC could receive a $900,000 matching grant to renovate the Health and Physical Education building.

The renovation could include modern facilities and additional classrooms. The grant would come from the Dodge Foundation in Abilene.

Also discussed was a course of action should the state reduce the mandated 7 percent budget cuts.

Dr. Williams said it is possible the cut ordered in January could be reduced to four percent and that WTC could get back about $100,000 of the allocated funds it cut.

"We could get this money back and we can do a couple different things," the president said. "We can add it to our reserves or we could put it toward our sports complex and finance less through the banks."

The board opted, if the money is received, to increase the reserves, which are currently around $500,000.

DCOS holds brief meeting

Directors of the Development Corporation of Snyder (DCOS) held its regular monthly meeting this morning with a light agenda.

Executive Director John DeLille reported that UCO Textiles is in the process of installing new equipment that could result in 25 new jobs at the facility.

DeLille said 30 people are currently employed at the textile mill.

DeLille also said the spice plant located at the former Walls Industries building had closed, and that the equipment had been moved out.

"We will try to help market the building for a new business," added DeLille.

Future of doctors' clinic focus of talks

By Wade Warren
SDN Managing Editor

Changes are coming at Covenant's Family Healthcare facility in Snyder, but the extent of those changes and how they will affect local healthcare services remains only a guess.

But in hopes of maintaining the present number of physicians in the community, the Cogdell Memorial Hospital board, Scurry County commissioners' court, three local physicians and representatives of Covenant began discussing the local take-over of the clinic Monday night.

Hospital administrator George Parsley presented a financial model prefaced with a statement that it was just a place to begin the discussion.

Parsley said more information is needed before the hospital board could make a decision concerning the clinic.

"This is all very new to all of us," Parsley said. He added that some physicians had expressed some concerns about the proposed plan.

"They said they were concerned about the financial impact upon the hospital and themselves." Parsley noted that if the hospital did take over the clinic, it would try to maintain all six physicians who currently practice there.

Parsley presented a pro-forma prepared by Covenant that indicates the clinic could generate some $2,404,895 in revenue and expenses of $2,284,315 annually.

Parsley emphasized that not all expenses were listed in the expense column, including the cost of leasing the building.

"We expect it to be a break-even situation."

Parsley said increased ancillary services provided by the hospital and an increased patient load by the physicians would help fund the facility and make up the difference between doctors' present guaranteed incomes and what is being proposed.

"We also have access to an income stream that Covenant can't get to because of their organizational structure," said Parsley, explaining that Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement would be much higher for a hospital-operated clinic.

When asked about what he thought about the hospital breaking even on the facility, Dr. Tom Kerr said he believes the county should plan on a loss.

"I'm betting the county would take some kind of loss," said Dr. Kerr. "But it might break even."

These facts are known:

- Three physician's contracts are up for renewal with Covenant in the next four months.

Jim Bullard, a Covenant representative, said as those contracts run out, they would not be renewed. "Or if they are, they will not be renewed at their present levels."

Board member Dink Foree questioned how much it would cost to keep the physicians at the clinic if the hospital took it over.

Parsley said the pro-forma indicated a total annual outlay from the hospital for the physicians to be $1.1 million.

This includes $752,000 in salaries, $211,000 in fringe benefits and $148,000 in malpractice insurance.

Parsley also said the initial plan calls for the physicians to remain Covenant employees in order for them to keep additional benefits that Cogdell could not afford to pay and the county would reimburse Covenant for the $1.1 million.

- Covenant has no plans to close the clinic, although it could operate it with fewer physicians.

"Whatever we need to do in the best interest of everybody is what we will do," said Bullard. "We want to be completely open with everyone. We want the transition to be good for everyone.

"Snyder is very fortunate to have tremendous physicians. And we want this to be a win-win situation."

- Local physicians are not interested in leasing the facility as a group, as is being proposed in Andrews.

"Dr. (Jim) Burleson and I have talked about that, and my gut feeling is no," said Dr. Bid Cooper. "Not with a $4,000 per month cost just to operate the facility."

Parsley summed up the meeting by stating that he was not making a recommendation on the facility based on information presented Monday night.

"We need to see the details that back up the financial model," said Parsley. "We also need to sit down with each physician to discuss their potential income under the model."

Parsley also said the board needed at least a five-year forecast on the plan in order to make a decision.

Hospital board members also were presented with a revised strategic planning process that will be considered for approval later this month.

Monday's was a called meeting of the hospital board and Carl Williams presided. Board members present were Foree, Bill Voss, Terry Williams, Dr. Charles Church and Bo Robinson.

The commissioners' court was also in a formal meeting, having recessed from its morning session.

In attendance were County Judge Rod Waller and commissioners Howard Limmer, Ralph Trevey, Jerry House and Chloanne Lindsey. Also present was county auditor Charlie Bell.

Physicians present were Drs. Kerr, Cooper, Marcia Odall and Clinton Wolboldt.

ASK US

Q—When was the last time a Big 12 team won the NCAA men's basketball tournament?

A—Never. Kansas won the national title in 1988 as a member of the Big Eight.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Tina Cearly...

...has lived in Snyder five years after moving back from New Orleans, La. She is a substitute caller for the Snyder schools. Her husband is Russell Cearley and they have a daughter, Mariah. Tina enjoys being with her daughter, music, and beading. She is a third generation collector of music albums and decorative pigs.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

If you think you can, you can. And if you think you can't, you're right.
—Mary Kay Ash

MAR 18 2003

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Scurry community services fair

The community services fair is being held from 4-6 p.m. today at 2800 2nd Street. Free hot dogs, drinks and door prizes will be available and it is hosted by Scurry Community Services.

Emmaus community meeting

The Mesquite Country Emmaus community meeting will be held at 7 this evening at The Word is Life Deliverance Church, 312 Coliseum Drive. Babe chicks meet at 6 p.m.

Benefit basketball game

Snyder Junior High will host a students-faculty basketball game at 7:30 tonight to benefit the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Admission is $2 and a concession will be available.

West Elementary pictures

Student casual and group pictures will be taken at West Elementary on Wednesday.

Free income tax help

Free income tax help is available for persons earning low to moderate incomes. There is no age restriction. Assistance is available from 9 a.m.-noon, and 1-3 p.m. each Wednesday at the Senior Center, 2603 Ave. M.

Girls Softball Assocation

Girls Softball Association is in need of umpires. Anyone interested should meet at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at the BP Pipeline office at 2311 Ave. K. A board meeting will follow at 7:30 p.m.

Lenten worship services

The First Presbyterian Church will hold Lenten worship services at 6 p.m. every Wednesday through April 9. Anyone wishing to observe Lent is welcome to attend.

Antique tractor, equipment club

Interested persons are invited to an organizational meeting for an antique tractor and equipment club at 7 p.m. Thursday at Jack's Roadboring. For more information, call Lawton Taylor at 573-4414.

FBC services televised

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

GED pre-registration, testing dates

Mandatory pre-registration for the GED test will be Thursday at the GED testing center at WTC, Building 7B, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. The math segment of the GED will begin at 8 a.m. on Friday. For more information, call Molly Kattes, 573-2919, or Emily Hataway, 573-8511, ext. 297, or 574-2112.

Parenting seminar

All interested persons are invited to a parenting seminar at Central Elementary at 3 p.m. Thursday. Chris Bane, Snyder ISD nurse, will present a program on health needs of children and how to encourage good health habits. Child care will be provided.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 p.m. Monday is "Three Ways Satan Tries to Destroy," followed by "Christianity is a Miracle."

VSB training clinic

The Mitchell-Scurry Baptist Association will host a Vacation Bible School training clinic from 9 a.m. until noon Saturday, March 29, at Colonial Hill Baptist Church. This year's theme is "The Great Kingdom Caper." For more information call the area office at 573-1803 or Patsy Day at 573-0971.

SHS senior activities

Senior parents need to send in their $20 as soon as possible. Also, the three pictures of your senior student are needed by April 4. Both the money and the pictures can be left at the SHS office.

Senior water aerobics

Senior water aerobics will be held from 10-11 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the WTC pool.

Trees still available

The Soil and Water Conservation office still has several varieties of trees available at $1 each. These include Lace Bark Elm, Sand Plum, Honeylocust, and Aromatic Sumac. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Relay for Life cookbooks

The cookbooks of the Cogdell Memorial Hospital Relay for Life team are now available for a $10 donation. All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society. Call Becky Craig at 573-2472, Jo Schooler at 573-7807 or 573-6374.

Relay for Life teams needed

Teams are now being recruited for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life in Scurry County to be held April 25-26 at Tiger Stadium. For more information, contact Margaret Presswood, recruitment chairperson, at 573-4873.

WTC adult basic education classes

Adult basic education classes at WTC will be held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. until noon, and from 6-9 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. Classes include E.S. L., GED and refresher courses. Certified teachers and Spanish speaking aides teach the classes. Call 573-8511, ext. 322.

Cancer treatment transportation

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

FBC support groups

Support groups dealing with divorce, death, cancer or caring for elderly parents meet at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at the First Baptist Church educational building. A special group for students facing these problems is held at the same time.



READ ACROSS AMERICA — The Ira kindergarten, first and second graders celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday recently. They had a special cake and members of the eighth grade class read stories to them. Eighth grader Aryn Calley is holding up the cake. (Contributed Photo)

Committee hears pros, cons of loosening teachers contract laws

AUSTIN (AP) — School administrators, citing lengthy and expensive legal battles, on Monday voiced support for legislation that would make it easier to fire teachers.

Karen Soehnge of the Texas Association of School Administrators said current laws make it cumbersome when districts decide not to renew a teacher's contract because of poor performance.

"Most teachers have nothing to fear about this legislation," Soehnge said. "This legislation is not anti-teacher. It's pro-educator and pro-student."

Educators disputed those claims, saying Texas' laws already makes it simple to keep from rehiring unqualified teachers. If the laws are followed, schools can get rid of bad teachers in a matter of days and sometimes without any legal costs, said Pamela Parker, an attorney with the Association of Texas Professional Educators.

Right now, teachers must receive 45 days' notice if their contract is not renewed. In addition, they are entitled to a hearing and appeals.

If lawmakers change the laws, political pressure at local school districts such as criticism from parents, administrators or other teachers could lead to a teacher losing his job, Parker said.

If the measures pass, teachers are still protected by the U.S. Constitution if they believe they've been wrongly fired, argued Chris Borreca, a member of the Council of School Attorneys.

Opponents also said the bills, including one by House Public Education Chairman Kent Grusendorf, would worsen Texas' teacher shortage.

One proposed measure by Grusendorf, R-Arlington, would authorize a district to keep from renewing a teacher's contract if the principal determines it is "in the best interests of the school's students."

Both sides passionately argued their cases at a hearing of a subcommittee established by Grusendorf to study his and similar bills.

Ron May, president of the HEB Independent School District board, said it took his district three years and thousands in legal fees to fire a teacher accused of sleeping in the classroom.

He'd do away with all teachers contracts if he had his way, May said. "The greatest contract we have is with our kids."

Ted Melina Raab, a lobbyist for the Texas Federation of Teachers, said proponents only have anecdotal proof that the current laws don't work.

"When you're looking at what's best for the schoolchildren of Texas, I would suggest that you base that on real evidence," Raab said.

The legislation would eliminate current due-process protections, such as the right to a hearing and the right to appeal the termination to higher authorities, up to the state commissioner of education.

Grusendorf has said it would give schools the ability "to weed out the few bad apples."

Others worry the legislation would allow districts to fire experienced, veteran teachers to save money by hiring younger educators.

Grusendorf's teacher contract bill is HB 1132.

Date Book

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Today is the 77th day of 2003 and the 87th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1931, Schick Inc. marketed the first electric razor.

On this day in 1945, Japan began sending young Japanese men on Kamikaze missions, flying bomb-laden planes into their targets — usually ships.

On this day in 1957, "Tales of Wells Fargo" made its television debut.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: John Caldwell Calhoun (1782-1850), U.S. vice president; Grover Cleveland (1837-1908), U.S. president; William H. Johnson (1901-1970), artist; John Updike (1932-), writer, is 71; Queen Latifah (Dana Owens) (1970-), rap artist, actress, is 33.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1995, Michael Jordan announced his return to basketball after a 17-month break. After returning, he led the Chicago Bulls to three more NBA championships.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Dreams come true; without that possibility, nature would not incite us to have them." — John Updike

TODAY'S MOON: Full moon (March 18).

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Charges to be dropped after one year

CENTRAL ISLIP, N.Y. (AP) — A Long Island judge ruled that criminal charges against actress Yancy Butler will be dropped in a year if she continues to stay out of trouble.

Butler, 32, star of the recently canceled TNT series "Witchblade," filed court papers showing she had completed a 28-day inpatient alcoholism treatment program and continues to participate in outpatient treatment, said Robert Clifford, a spokesman for Suffolk County District Attorney Thomas Spota.

Butler was arrested Jan. 2 following a fracas at her uncle's Hauppauge home. The altercation allegedly involved Butler's father, Joe, former drummer for the '60s folk-rock band, The Lovin' Spoonful. She was charged with criminal contempt for violating an order of protection, and two counts of harassment.

events

LOTTO TEXAS

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Monday's Lottery Numbers
Pick 3
(Day)-8-0-1
(Night) 3-1-3
Cash Five
2-19-32-34-37

Limiting lawsuits studied

AUSTIN (AP) — Awards in medical malpractice lawsuits have increased sharply in recent years, but mostly because of economic damages for lost wages and medical care, not pain-and-suffering, consumer groups said Monday.

A study conducted by Public Citizen and released jointly with Consumers Union and Texas Watch, charted about 10,000 cases in Texas between 1987-2000.

The report, which looked at data filed with the Texas Department of Insurance, said economic damages — such as awards for medical expenses and future earnings lost— rose from $88 million in 1988 to $315 million in 1999 before dipping slightly again the next year.

The study also said that non-economic damages, such as pain and suffering awards, stayed between $55 million and $85 million over the same time before dropping below $40 million in 2000.

The percentage of payouts in which non-economic damages were awarded fell from 40 percent in 1988 to about 10 percent in 2000, according to the study.

The report was the latest round in a tough legislative fight over whether to place a $250,000 cap on pain-and-suffering and other non-economic damages awards in medical malpractice lawsuits.

The House is expected this week to debate a massive lawsuit reform bill that limits damage awards against doctors and gives business more protections in liability cases.

Gov. Rick Perry has already given the medical malpractice issue "emergency" status to allow lawmakers to pass a bill that he can quickly sign into law.

Doctors and insurance companies blame a "lawsuit lottery" of frivolous claims and the potential for wild jury verdicts as the reason Texas physicians pay some of the highest medical malpractice premiums in the country.

They warn the high costs are forcing some doctors to close their practices or move to other states, limiting health care for sick Texans.

One of the insurance carriers, the Texas Medical Liability Trust, has said it would cut rates by 12 percent if a cap is imposed.

Consumer groups and trial lawyers, however, say the cap would only punish legitimate claims.

Reggie James, director of Consumers Union's Southwest Regional Office, said the report shows that a cap would have little effect in lowering premiums. According to the report, most of the money paid out is in other areas.

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Wade Warren, Managing Editor
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Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

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A "Special Thanks" to all the Fire Departments and Volunteers for their service.

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Rent to Own 573-6606

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TUESDAY NIGHT 5:30-8:00 p.m.
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$4.49 with coffee or tea
WEDNESDAY NIGHT 5:30-8:00 p.m.
KIDS 99¢ BUFFET
13 Years & Under with Adult Buffet at Reg. Price
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Featuring Our New White Sauce Pizzas & Pepperoni Wraps

We Accept Local Competitors Coupons And We Will Meet Or Beat Any Other Special

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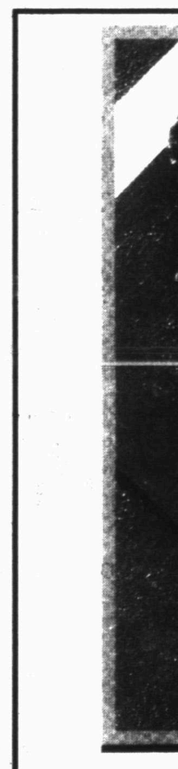
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By Phill

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BRIDAL SHOWER — Jodi Dennis, bride-elect of Cory Mandrell, was honoree at a bridal shower March 16 at the East Side Church of Christ. Cory and Jodi are planning a May 17 wedding. From left are Pat Dennis, paternal grandmother of the future bride; Joann McCormick, her maternal grandmother; Marci Dennis, her mother; the honoree; Joni Mandrell, mother of the prospective groom; JJ Mandrell, his sister; and Joyce Smith, his maternal grandmother from Las Cruces, N.M. (Contributed Photo)

Gardening: From concrete to roses

By MELANIE COFFEE

CHICAGO (AP) — Pass under the elevated tracks, by a sprinkling of old homes and a vacant lot littered with paper and broken glass. Around the corner blossoms the Garden of Peace and Love.

The plentiful garden of vegetables and flowers brings new life and color to North Lawndale, one of Chicago's blighted neighborhoods.

"I love the beauty of it. People come, and they admire it," said Mildred Harris, who helped produce the garden about 10 years ago. "People should want to keep something that God created and enjoy the beauty of the grass, the flowers."

Harris, 81, moved to the city's West Side in 1950, when she was a member of one of two black families in the mostly white neighborhood. She watched over the years as the demographics of the area changed and time took its toll on many of the buildings.

A dilapidated apartment building used to sit where the Garden of Peace and Love now blooms. City officials tore the building down, creating yet another vacant lot in the area.

Members of the street's block club wanted to fix the eyesore.

"People used to use it as a parking lot and put old raggedy cars on it and anything else they just didn't want, so we decided to clean it up and make a nice garden," said Vernell McFadden.

A nice garden, indeed.

It is about 125 feet long and nearly 60 feet wide. It's filled with tomatoes, okra, green beans, swiss chard, cucumbers, carrots, peppers and other vegetables. There also are rose bushes, butterfly bushes, hibiscus and day lilies.

Planting seeds, watering the garden, mowing the lawn and other duties are doled out to about 10 helpers and other garden volunteers.

"The people who work in the garden can have access to food in the garden," Harris said.

The vegetables also are given to some in the neighborhood who request them.

However, about five years ago residents had to put up a 6-foot fence around the Garden of Peace and Love because people would tear through it, stealing vegetables and leaving a mess for the block club members to clean up.

"We can't afford to get out there and grow the garden and sweat, and then have people ravage the garden," Harris said.

Although now there's a padlock on the gate and only members of the block club have the keys, residents want everyone to be able to enjoy the garden, which is equipped with a gazebo and benches.

It is handicapped-accessible, and young children from an elementary school just blocks away often take field trips there to learn about the vegetation.

And on some summer afternoons Harris and McFadden have picnics for the neighborhood children to teach them how to knit, crochet or improve their reading skills.

"I really love to work with young people," Harris said. "I'm hoping they will want to have gardens of their own. I wish it would motivate people to want better things."

Before the spring, members of the block club meet at the neighborhood pizza parlor and decide what they want to plant for the coming year.

They start cultivating the land at the first hint of spring, or "whenever somebody gets an itch to get out there and work in the garden," Harris said.

The most popular items are tomatoes, peppers, carrots and collard greens.

Harris said she enjoys planting new items because people learn about foods they've never eaten before.

"They tell me they don't like swiss chard, but if you mix it with mustard and turnip greens, you find that it's good," said Harris, a soft-spoken, pepper-haired woman who is known for giving advice.

The garden receives grants that range from $500 to $1,500 from the Steans Family Foundation, which helps community gardens in the North Lawndale neighborhood.

The Garden of Peace and Love is one of about a dozen community garden projects the foundation assists.

Community Calendar

TUESDAY

Weight Watchers meeting; Colonial Hill Baptist Church; for more information call Kathy at 573-1289 during the evening; weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m.

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

Beginners' AA open meeting; Snyder Park Club, 1212 37th Street; 573-8268, 574-1292 or 573-1141; 7 p.m.

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th and Ave. M; for more information call 573-3733, 573-2101 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

TOPS TX56 (take off pounds sensibly); weigh-in and meeting 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; Trinity United Methodist Church. For more information call Phillis Leatherwood at 573-6105.

WEDNESDAY

Cosmorama Study Club; "Janell Pollard and Friends," program; marge Mathis, Mary Jimm Floyd and JoAn Stewart, hostesses; 4 p.m.

NA Just For Today, open meeting; Park Club; for information, call 573-1438; 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

Cogdell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary; board room; all members are urged to attend; 10 a.m.

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

Snyder Chapter 450 Order of the Eastern Star; Masonic Hall, 1912 35th Street; 7:30 p.m.

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

AA Big Book Study; closed meeting; contact numbers are 574-8015, 574-1292 or 573-1141; 7 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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

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

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

Hermleigh Community Center Family Night; 6:30 p.m.

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

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club; 573-3733, 573-2101 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

NA-Just For Today open meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-1438; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

Scurry County AA open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 574-1292 or 573-9458; 10 a.m.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



North 03-18-03
♠ Q J 6 3
♥ K 2
♦ A K 7
♣ Q J 8 3

West
♠ A 2
♥ J 10 9 7 4
♦ 9 8 6 3
♣ K 2

East
♠ 8 5
♥ 8 6 5 3
♦ 10 4 2
♣ A 7 6 4

South
♠ K 10 9 7 4
♥ A Q
♦ Q J 5
♣ 10 9 5

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	3 NT	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♥ J

It is easy to make stupid plays at the bridge table — if one is not thinking. In this deal, you are sitting West, so cover up the East and South hands. Against four spades, you lead the heart jack: two, three (discouraging), queen. Declarer plays a low spade toward the dummy. How would you plan the defense?

North's three-no-trump response conventionally announced a game-forcing spade raise with at least four trumps.

Most players would play low without thinking. It is the natural thing to do. But then declarer wins in the dummy, plays another trump, and loses only three black-suit tricks.

Instead of automatically doing the natural thing, stop to count the points. Dummy has 16 and you have eight. Declarer presumably has at least 12 for his opening bid. So, your partner has at most four points. Which useful card could he hold? Only the club ace. So, you should rush in with the spade ace and switch to the club king — bingo! Your third-round club ruff is the defense's fourth trick.

If you didn't find this play, you aren't necessarily stupid. You just played too quickly, without thinking. But now resolve not to make the same mistake again. And always count the points.

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Tuesday, March 18, 2003

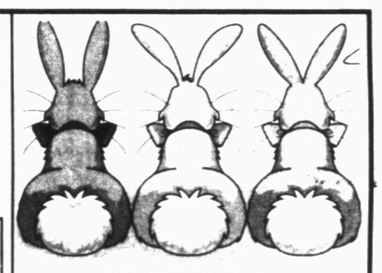
Did he read his own books?

By Phillip Alder

Have you heard of James Welles, from Pompano Beach, Fla.? He wrote two books, "The Story of Stupidity" and "Understanding Stupidity." Last year, he made a date in an Internet chat room with a 15-year-old girl. However, the underage girl turned out to be a 40-year-old vice officer, who arrested Welles. Maybe he should have read his own books.

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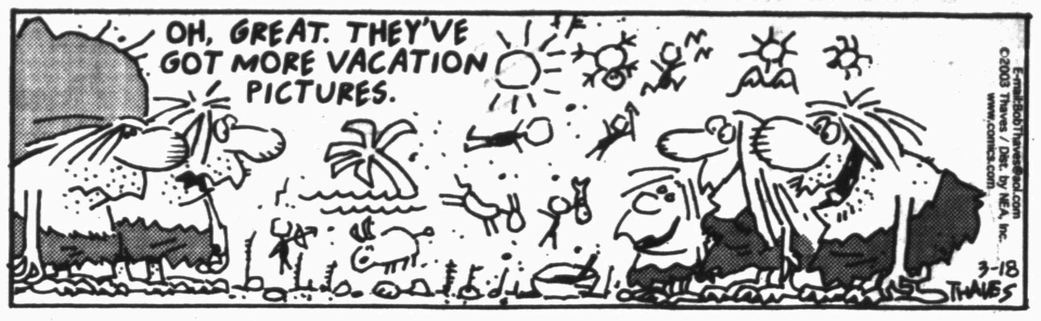
ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman



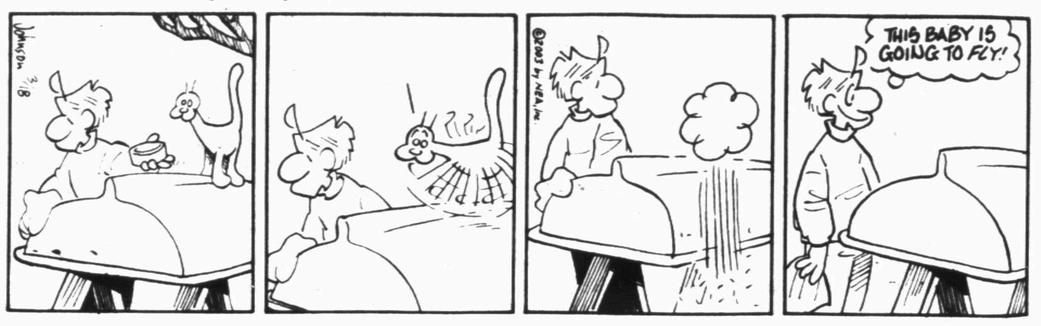
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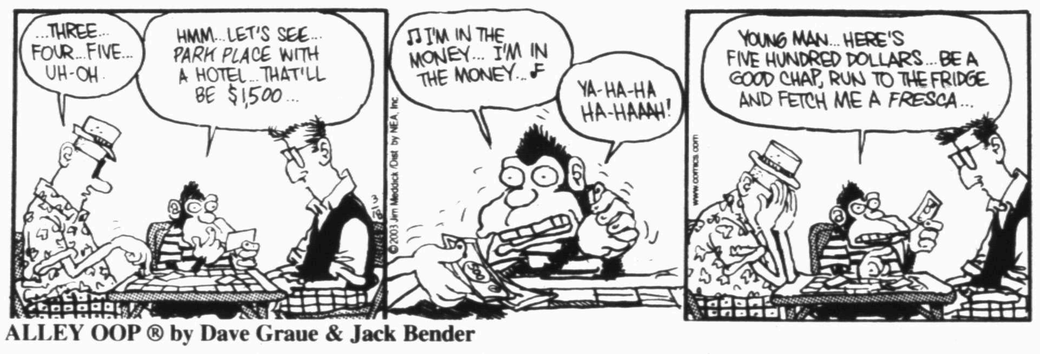
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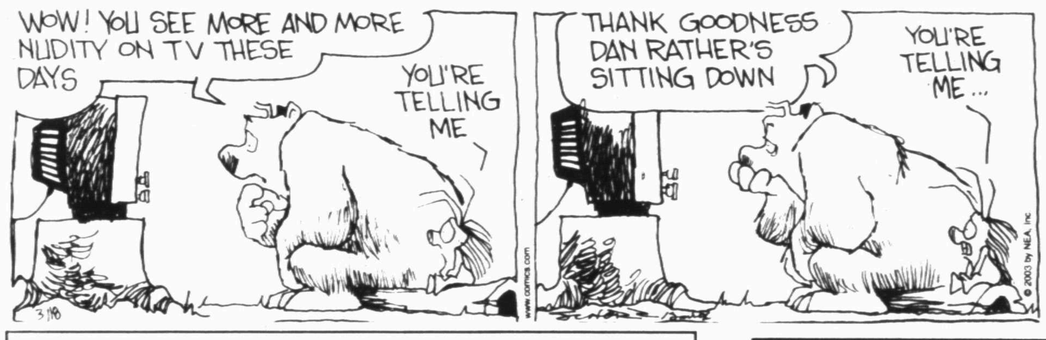
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THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Travel guide
4 Mr. Cheney
8 Bullfight yell
11 Monsieur's summer
12 Shaft
13 Remote
14 Thing in law
15 Walk or trot
16 Alien space-craft?
17 Emptiness
19 Poetic contraction
21 Quarry
22 Crippled
25 Thrifty
29 Shoe width
31 Tortoise rival
34 Promoted maj.
35 Roll up
36 Pre-owned
37 — Diamond Phillips
38 Fixes a squeak
39 Egg layer
40 Mel Gibson role (2 wds.)
42 Cash givers
44 — over (capsize)
47 KLM datum
49 Violin kin
51 Dateless
54 500 sheets
56 Propane
57 Dinner checks
58 Cheat sheet
59 Band's need
60 Birthday no.
61 Moon ring
62 Sprinted

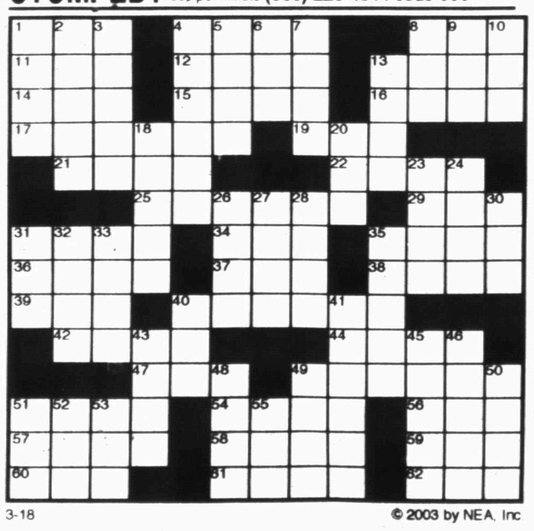
DOWN

1 TV's — Griffin
2 Varsity (hyph.)
3 "Home Alone" actor
4 More fuzzy
5 Quiz
6 Yale alum
7 Tennis pro — Sampras
8 Rancid
9 Southeast Asian
10 Uh's cousins
13 Faint glow
18 Hungry
20 Pipe fitting
23 Molokai neighbor
24 Scruggs of bluegrass
26 West Coast sch.
27 Well-behaved
28 Grad
30 Pacino and Unser
31 "Say what?"
32 Toward the ocean
33 Landlord's fee
35 Tricked
40 Wyo. clock setting
41 With hands on hips
43 Ryan and Tilly
45 — Allan Poe
46 Pack animal
48 Foot part
49 Go belly-up
50 Sports channel
51 Farm enclosure
52 La Brea — Pits
53 Tummy muscles
55 Geologic division

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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Snyder Daily News
Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



"Quick, take a look! There's a guy walking out of our house carrying the TV."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



SPORTS

If war begins this week...

NCAA may postpone tourney

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The NCAA will carefully explore all of its options in deciding whether to postpone the men's and women's basketball tournaments if the United States goes to war with Iraq this week.

"We have to arrive at a position that makes the most sense for the NCAA, but we don't want a tyrant to run our lives," NCAA president Myles Brand said Monday night.

The NCAA men's tournament would be the first big sports event affected by any conflict in Iraq. The first game, between North Carolina-Asheville and Texas Southern, is scheduled for tonight in Dayton, Ohio.

The rest of the first round begins Thursday, which would be after the 48-hour deadline President Bush set Monday night for Saddam Hussein to leave Iraq or face war.

The women's tournament begins Saturday.

Brand acknowledged Monday for the first time that the NCAA was checking the availability of arenas and hotels for the days after first and second-round games are scheduled to be completed. That would give the officials more flexibility in making a decision about postponements for the basketball tournaments — and other national championships.

"We don't know when it will start, and we have to be respectful of our men and women in uniform," Brand said following an NCAA town hall meeting on sportsmanship that was sponsored by Indianapolis television station WISH.

"On the other hand, I think we have to be very careful not to let Saddam Hussein control our lives. We have to balance those," he said.

The primary consideration, Brand said, would be the safety of the athletes and fans.

Brand — then president at Indiana University — and the NCAA faced similar decisions in 2001 following the Sept. 11 attacks on New York City and the Pentagon — weighing security against urgings to maintain normality amid fears of terrorism.

Then, Brand postponed the Hoosiers' football game against Kentucky. The next day, the NCAA called off all of its events scheduled that weekend.

This time, Brand said that any decision would be made in consultation with federal authorities and security officials and that his office would make the final call.

Brand said his office has been in contact with the Homeland Security Department and security officials as it finishes contingency plans. He declined to give details about the plans, saying they would be announced as events take place.

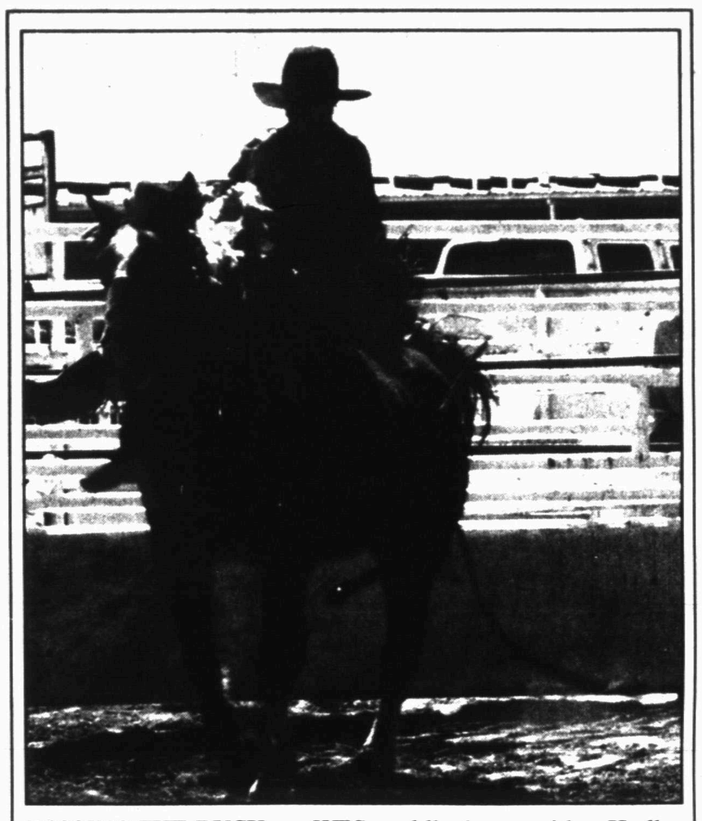
He also said there has been no determination about changes in television coverage.

CBS holds the rights to the men's tournament, but the network, which is owned by Viacom, has discussed switching the games to ESPN if CBS needs more air time for war coverage.

ESPN and ESPN2 already are scheduled to show the women's tournament. NCAA vice president Donna Noonan said Sunday that she had been assured by ESPN that the women's games would not be affected.

If a deal cannot be reached with ESPN, the games could be shown on other Viacom-owned networks such as such as MTV, UPN, BET or TNN.

Brand said other championships, such as those in men's and women's swimming and diving and men's and women's ice hockey, would also have to be considered.



PASSING THE BUCK — WTC saddle bronc rider Hadley Hunting of Idaho rides a new saddle bronc at practice. The rodeo team begins its spring season Thursday at Odessa College. (SDN Staff Photo)

WTC saddles up for spring

After a successful fall season, the Western Texas College riders and ropers are healthy and eager to get the spring schedule underway.

"We are looking good," said rodeo coach Greg Rhodes. "I'm pretty pleased with the way we're doing things. The girls' horses are healthy, and the girls look realy good. It's just a matter of translating it into performances."

The women's team was hindered late in the fall season because several horses suffered slight injuries, forcing them to ride unfamiliar steeds in events.

WTC has the top three riders in the region in Steven Tanner, Trent Cormier and Tyson Thompson.

Thomspon is coming off a minor surgery on his thumb, and has participated in rodeos the past two weekends.

"He's getting back into the groove," Rhodes said. "We should come out good this semester. I'm happy with they way they are approaching their jobs. There's a certain mentality about this group — they are geared up and focused."

Rhodes said the team is excited to get started this weekend at Odessa.

"I'm pretty confident we will do well," he said.

Barrel racer Randus London said she felt good after an off-season of work.

"I just bought a new horse for barrel racing, so I hope it goes good," she said. "I tried to regroup in the off season to get better in my other events. I think we'll do good this year."

London also competes in breakaway roping and goat-tying.

Bronc rider Sam Spreadborough spent his off season doing professional rodeos.

"The horses in the pros are better, and there's a lot more money," he said. He said he wanted to improve on his draws from last year.

"I want to get something done this semester," he said.

The team will be at the Odessa College rodeo Thursday through Saturday, before returning home for the WTC rodeo March 27-29 at Scurry County Coliseum.

Lady Tigers ready for district after winning at Eula tourney

The Snyder Lady Tigers got a final tune-up for district play Saturday, claiming the Eula tournament with three convincing victories.



Fisk

Shortstop Shelley Fisk was named tournament MVP, and Kelsi Johnson, Ashley Martinez and Valerie Hernandez earned spots on the All-tournament team.

A day after head coach Shelly Hayes voiced her displeasure with the team's play, the Lady Tigers (24-3) responded with three one-sided wins.

"The girls woke up Saturday," Hayes said. "I told them that everyone gets up to play Snyder, and right now you aren't playing good softball. I told them to go out and show that you are the best, and they got their heads together and got after it."

In the quarterfinals, Jacque Alvarez (8-1) pitched five outstanding innings, giving up just two hits and striking out seven in a 5-0 shutout of Coleman.

Fisk smashed a two-run homer, and Hernandez was three-for-three with three singles.

Martinez, holding down the clean-up slot for injured catcher Chaelyn Robinson, was two-for-three.

Johnson added a two-run double in the victory.

In the semifinal tilt, the Lady Tigers trounced Jim Ned, 6-1, behind four RBI from Martinez.



Hernandez

Johnson (8-1) threw four innings, striking out five.

Jim Ned wanted no part of Fisk, as she was intentionally walked three times.

With Hernandez on third during one intentional pass, Fisk alertly raced to second, forcing the catcher to decide between throwing her out, or holding the runner at third.

Martinez promptly smoked a single for two of her four RBI.



Johnson

Missy Vasquez drilled two singles in the lead-off spot, and Hernandez ripped a two-run double to round out the scoring.

Third sacker Dara Chambers popped a single and laid down a sacrifice bunt to put two runners in scoring position for Hernandez.

Martinez polished off Graham, 8-1, to give Snyder the tournament trophy.

She pitched a six-inning complete game, fanning six while allowing just three hits.

Fisk hammered a two-run bomb and a two-run single in going three-for-three and securing MVP honors.

"Graham must not have been paying attention to how Jim Ned pitched her," Hayes said.

Rachel Clanton, Chambers, Johnson and Hernandez each had key hits, and Martinez contributed an RBI ground-out.

The Lady Tigers open district tonight as favorites in the newly aligned 3-3A district. Hayes said this district is not nearly as tough as the one the team competed in last season.

The Lady Tigers have loads of experience and baseball savvy, and boasts the best pitching staff in the district.

"They aren't overpowering pitchers, but they have good placement," Hayes said. "I would rather have control pitchers."

Hayes said the team's defense also gives them the edge.

She said Merkel would be the Lady Tigers' toughest competition, as they have quality pitching, also.

"I saw them last weekend, and they are going to be good," she said. "They have good pitchers and they're scrappy. It will probably be us and Merkel (as the district leaders)."



Martinez

She said the Sweetwater squad has a core group of hitters, but feels that Johnson, Martinez and Alvarez are good enough to keep them off-balance. She said Sweetwater's weakness is the same one Lubbock Cooper, Denver City and Lamesa encounter — lack of pitching.

Hayes said she does not approach district tilts any differently than other games.

"We approach every game the same way," she said. "All the games and tournaments have been to prepare us for district. As far as what we've done up until now, the records don't matter. We're 0-0."

Today's game will get underway at 5 p.m., with the junior varsity contest following at 6:30.

NIT Pairings

Opening Round
Monday, March 17

Iowa 62, Valparaiso 60

Tuesday, March 18

Villanova (15-15) at Siena (19-10), 7 p.m.
Boston College (18-11) at Fairfield (19-11), 7:30 p.m.
Drexel (19-11) at Temple (15-15), 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 19

Illinois-Chicago (21-8) at Western Michigan (19-10), 7 p.m.
College of Charleston (24-7) at Kent State (21-9), 7 p.m.
Providence (16-13) at Richmond (16-12), 7:30 p.m.
Wichita State (18-11) at Iowa State (16-13), 8 p.m.

First Round
Tuesday, March 18

Georgetown (15-14) at Tennessee (17-11), 7 p.m.
DePaul (16-12) at North Carolina (17-15), 9 p.m.

Wednesday, March 19

Ohio State (17-14) at Georgia Tech (14-14), 7 p.m.
Brown (17-11) at Virginia (15-15), 7:30 p.m.
Seton Hall (17-12) at Rhode Island (19-10), 7:30 p.m.
Boston U. (20-10) at St. John's (16-13), 7:30 p.m.
Louisiana-Lafayette (20-9) at UAB (19-12), 8 p.m.
Minnesota (16-12) at Saint Louis (16-13), 8:10 p.m.
Eastern Washington (18-12) at Wyoming (20-10), 9 p.m.
Nevada (18-13) at Texas Tech (18-12), 9:30 p.m.
UC Santa Barbara (18-13) at San Diego State (15-13), 10 p.m.
Hawaii (18-11) at UNLV (21-10), 11:59 p.m.

TBA

Iowa (16-13) vs. Wichita State-Iowa State winner
Villanova-Siena winner vs. Illinois-Chicago-Western Michigan winner
Drexel-Temple winner vs. Boston College-Fairfield winner
College of Charleston-Kent State winner vs. Providence-Richmond winner

Sports Briefs

UCLA fires Lavin

LOS ANGELES (AP) — UCLA dismissed men's basketball coach Steve Lavin after the team's first losing season in 55 years, a move widely anticipated for months by everyone, including Lavin.

Lavin went 145-78 in seven years and took the Bruins to the final 16 of the NCAA tournament five times in six years, a feat matched only by Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski.

Mota, Piazza fined for brawl

New York Mets star Mike Piazza and Los Angeles reliever Guillermo Mota each were suspended for five games and fined for their roles in a bench-clearing brawl last week during an exhibition game.

The suspensions are to start on opening day.

Golf booster club

The golf booster club will meet Thursday night at 7:30 in the jr. high auditorium. All parents of high school and jr. high golfers should attend.

Ira booster club

The Ira booster club will meet Wednesday night at 8:30 in the school cafeteria.

Babe Ruth sign-ups

Babe Ruth League sign-ups will take place March 26-27 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., and on March 29 from 9 a.m. until noon in front of the baseball field house.

Any coaches interested contact Dwayne Murdock at 573-2207 or Larry Price at 573-0440.

Area Sports Calendar

TODAY

Baseball: Snyder vs. Lubbock Cooper, 7 p.m.
Softball: Snyder varsity at Sweetwater, district opener, 5 p.m.
Snyder JV at Sweetwater, district opener, 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

Baseball: WTC vs. Hardin-Simmons, DH, 1 p.m.

FRIDAY

Baseball: Snyder varsity at Lamesa, district opener, 4:30 p.m.
Ira at Hamlin, 4 p.m.
WTC vs. Trinidad JC, noon.
Ira at Roby, 4 p.m.
Softball: Snyder varsity vs. Lubbock Cooper, 5 p.m.
Snyder JV vs. Lubbock Cooper, 6:30 p.m.
WTC vs. Midland College, DH, 4 p.m.
Tennis: Snyder tournament.

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FOR AS LOW AS $2.50 PER DAY
($65 per month)
You Can Advertise Your Services In The
BUSINESS DIRECTORY
Call 573-5486

Catering

DUNN-RIGHT BBQ
CATERING
Specializing in Briskets & Ribs
Homemade Sauce
•Weddings •Anniversaries
•Reunions • Private Parties
Call Kerry Clay
(915) 573-8349
725-3533 (mobile)

Lee's Construction
"No Job Too Small"
Residential
Remodeling & Repair
STEVE LEE
Snyder, Texas
79549
915/573-2709
Mobile
915/725-3165

SPARLIN CONSTRUCTION
Welding *Metal Buildings*
Fabrication *Carpentry*
Fencing *Painting*
Bud Sparlin
574-2206 573-9752
or 575-4182
2701 48th St.
Snyder, TX
79549

CIRCLE M WELDING
•Welding •Residential
•Fabrication •Roustabout
•Concrete Work
•Backhoe Services
Office: **915-573-8005**
Fax: **915-573-8047**
7365 West Hwy. 180 Snyder, TX 79549

HAYS CONSTRUCTION
Paint Interior/Exterior
Remodeling/Framing
Drywall/Siding
Call Anytime For A Free Estimate
Thomas Ashley **574-1448** David Hays

Electric

DALE'S ELECTRIC
We Do All Kinds Of Electrical Work New & Repairs
403 33rd St.
573-5330
Mobile 338-1227
Dale Swigert

Business Hours
Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
CLASSIFIED DEADLINE
Tuesday through Friday
4:00 p.m. prior day
For Sunday & Monday
3:00 p.m. Friday
Snyder Daily News
3600 College Ave.
P.O. Box 949
Snyder, Texas 79550

For Classified Power
Call 573-5486
573-0044 (Fax)

ERRORS
Advertisers Should Check Their Ad On The First Day of Insertion!
The Snyder Daily News cannot be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. Claims cannot be considered unless made within 5 days from date of first publication. No allowance can be made when errors do not materially affect the value of the advertisement. All ads are cash unless customer has an established advertising account with The Snyder Daily News.
The Publisher is not responsible for copy omissions, typographical errors, or any unintentional error that may occur further than to correct it in the next issue after it is brought to his attention.

Insurance

Stewart
Insurance Services
• GREAT RATES
• GREAT SERVICE
All Lines of Insurance
904 26th St. Snyder, TX
573-8401

A PROUD PAST WITH A SOLID FUTURE
GERMANIA SINCE 1896
Property • Auto • Life Insurance
KUBENA INSURANCE AGENCY
915-863-2754
Marsha Kubena, Agent

Masonry

Straight Line Masonry
*Brick *Block *Stone
*Custom Fireplaces
Residential/Commercial
Repairs - Houses
Retaining Walls
Free Estimates
Paul Dickerhoff
573-0258

Painting

West Painting
Interior, Exterior Painting
Drywall, Acoustical Ceilings
Wallpapering
30 Years Experience
Owner: Richard West
573-2490
207-0408 (mobile)

Plumbing

Plumbing Repair Service
Telephone
(915) 573-3085
Coventry Plumbing
M-19955
1311 College Ave. Snyder, Texas 79549
Jim Coventry Owner

The SDN Business Directory Gives You The Most Exposure For Your Advertising $$

Roofing

CARDINAL BUILDERS
Snyder, Texas
For All Your Roofing Needs
COMPOSITION, WOOD & METAL
FREE ESTIMATES
GARY BURT, Owner
573-1562

Storage Rentals

New storage units now available in downtown **Hermleigh**, located at 688 Harlan Ave.
J & K Rentals
573-0859
or come by 3609 W. Hwy 180 for more information.
12x30 units & other sizes available in **Snyder**

North Ave. E Storage Buildings
10' x 20'
DAVID HOLT
573-3255

Tree & Lawn Services

M M TREEMASTERS
• Tree & Shrub Trimming, Pruning & Shaping
• Deep Root Fertilization Injection
• Bucket Truck for those high to reach spots
• Trees & Shrubs Planted & more
21 yrs. experience. References available.
915-573-4937

HINTON C & S
Complete Field, Lawn & Irrigation Service
(915) 573-0878

Internet Service

Bullard's Internet Service
Dell "white box" computers
Check our prices!
Local support. Something new. Dell prices with no long waits on hold trying to get help!
• *Local Storefront, New Computers, Repairs Upgrades, Software, Networking*
• *If you are our customer, we fix your Internet problems for free*
3405 College Ave.
573-4801

Legal Notice

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)

District: Abilene
Contract 0693-03-035 for PLANG, STRS, C&G, FLX BS, STORM SWR & HMAC in SCURRY County will be opened on April 01, 2003 at 1:00 p.m. at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or District Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 9420

State Office

Construction Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

District Office (s)

Abilene District
District Engineer
4250 N. Clack
Abilene, Texas 79604-0150
Phone: 915-676-6800

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex or national origin.

Lost & Found

FOUND
Small female dog, black & tan. Part Terrier & Chihuahua.
573-7285

Vehicles

1972 Mercedes 250
Sell for parts. Needs transmission & radiator. $1,300
118 E. 23rd 1-806-828-4997

1994 F-250 4x4 diesel, 5 speed, manuel transmission, single cab, heavy bumpers.
• 573-0975 after 6p.m.

1999 Pontiac Grand AM, red, 10 disc CD player, 45,000 miles Great condition! $9,000
573-0877 after 6p.m.

Chevrolet 2001 Crew Cab P/U with 4-wheel drive, loaded. 37,000 miles. See at 3403 College Ave. Call 573-7646 (days) or 573-3465 (nights) for more info.

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

Vehicles

Chevy Z71 ext. cab pickup. Good condition, runs great! To see call 573-1077.

Motorcycles

'95 model Honda Shadow motorcycle, 1100CC. 17,232 miles $6,000 573-3874

Business Opportunity

ABSOLUTE GOLD MINE!
60 vending machines with excellent locations.
All for $10,995 800-234-6982

Business Services

Professional w/25 years healthcare experience seeking private duty for elderly, hospice, or disabled person. Excellent references and license available. Call 915-728-9389 or leave message. Can provide part-time or full-time help.

R & J CONSTRUCTION
Metal buildings, Roofs
Carports & Fences
John Green 573-3976

Tilling–Leveling
Front-end loader, Walk-behind tiller, Tractor tiller, Small acreage plowed. 915-573-8264

WILL HAUL
Clean your garage or house.
Will move furniture.
For estimates call
Tim **573-3047**

Antique Restoring
& Furniture Refinishing
Re-gluing & Veneering
Free Estimates, Work Guaranteed
863-2342 Hermleigh, TX

Duke and Son
Concrete, Masonry, House Leveling, Patchwork (brick & concrete). 573-5911, 573-2477

HANDYMAN
Painting, Yard work, Repair work, Hauling, Fence work, etc.
573-3894 725-2151

Employment

A&B Transport, Inc. is now taking applications, in the Snyder area, for pump and vacuum truck drivers. For appointment call 915-573-0068.

Experienced maintenance person, AC certified preferred. Apply in person, Western Crest Apartments, 3901 Ave. O. *No phone calls.*

Experienced salad preparation person needed. Apply in person @ Rudy's, 4604 College. *No phone calls.*

HIRING IMMEDIATELY!
Truck drivers needed with oilfield experience. Must be able to travel. No need to relocate. Class A CDL, good driving record a must. Call 1-800-588-2669 Mon.–Fri., 8a.m.–5p.m.

PART-TIME NURSERY WORKER
for First Baptist church. Must be able to work during Sunday Worship Services. If interested, please pick up an application at 1701 27th St.

Midwestern Services, Inc.
The Tank Cleaning Professionals
Tank Cleaners Needed
Applications are currently being accepted.
70% Out of Town Travel is required.
For more information call (915) 573-6666.
Hourly wage and bonuses. 100% drug free.
EOE

Classified Ads $17.55 for 5 days, get the 6th day FREE!!
15 words or less
(Excluding Garage Sales & Displays)
Ads must be in by 3:00p.m. the day before you want them in the paper!

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Instructions

Big Spring Driver's Ed
Big Spring Mall
Registering now for
Spring March 24th
& Summer June 1st classes.
Call 915-270-4610.
(license # C1200)

Farmer's Column

HAY FOR SALE
Square or Round
Alfalfa, Coastal & Wheat
Ross Preston
573-1217 725-9444

M-Farmall tractor, new tires, recent overhaul, 3-point on gas. 573-6975 after 6p.m.

Recreational Vehicles

***1988** Pace Arrow motor home, clean, low mileage.
***1998** Sea Doo, 3 seat jet ski.
***Golf** Cart
***2000** Chevy 1500 Series pickup
573-6702, 575-2605

Merchandise

A O K I lost 40 pounds in 2 months. Stay healthy. 888-445-4719

CONVALESCENT NEEDS
Wheel Chairs, Walkers, Canes, Home Blood Pressure Kits, etc.
Sales & Rentals
3706 College **573-7582**

Couch & recliner in good shape. $50 each. 573-1937

DISH NETWORK
UP TO 2 RECEIVERS FREE WITH INSTALL.
CREDIT CARD REQUIRED.
OR 1 RECEIVER $79,
2 RECEIVERS $129.
PROGRAMMING STARTS $12.50 FOR 1ST YEAR, NO CREDIT CARD REQUIRED.
CALL 575-0990
FOR MORE INFO.

FIREWOOD!! Mesquite!
Local cutter. Part seasoned.
24"-22"-20"-18". Some split.
Delivered. **573-1216**

GUARANTEED USED APPLIANCES
Washers, Dryers, Refrigerators, Ranges & Freezers
WESTERN AUTO 2510 Ave. R

Nice oak wood 6 pc. dinette set. 574-1843, ask for Rosa.

A O K Work From Home
P/T $500–$1,500 month
F/T $2,000–$8,000 month
888-278-2857

CAROL'S
CRITTER CORNER
Fish - Birds - Small Animals
BOOK NOOK
Buy - Sell - Trade Paperbacks
BABY...and Before
Maternity Wear/Infant Care
1809 25th 573-0990

Dogs, Pets, Etc.

½ **Rottweiler, female** 16 weeks, w/2nd shots, tail docked, $95. 207-0507, 863-2797

Apartments For Rent

Furnished 1 bedroom apartment for rent. Nice & clean. Located in Hermleigh. Call 863-2700.

NEW RATES! $300/mo.
2-bedroom, furnished or unfurnished. All bills & cable paid.
No pets. 573-5773.

Fieldcrest Apartments
Under New Ownership
1 bedroom/1 bath - $290
(very big bedroom)
2 bedroom/1+ bath - $310
***We pay water**
***You pay electricity**
***$100 security deposit**
***No application fee**
700 E. 37th
(across from coliseum)
573-3519

Apartments For Rent

Western Crest & Windridge Village
3901 Ave. O
Snyder, TX
573-1488
Quality Living At An Affordable Price
1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
Pool
2 Bedrooms, 2 bath
W/D Connections, Pool & Playground

Houses For Rent

2 bedroom brick duplex, new paint, CH/A, appliances. 573-1012 or 575-0580

2-1½-2, brick, CH/A, stove, washer/dryer hook-ups, covered patio, fenced yard, $450/mo. plus deposit. 915-573-5525

Mobile Homes

1st time home buyer or single parent program. EZ Financing We tote the note. 888-539-7780

3-2-2cp doublewide, 6 fenced lots, trees, water well, $40,000. Will finance, good credit. 959 N. Ave. R 573-2251

Been Turned Down?
Stop throwing away your money on rent. We'll tote the note.
Se habla espanol. 800-830-3515

Call our 24 hour credit hotline to see if you qualify for a home loan. 800-375-8739

Good job, rental history, car note. 2 out of 3 will put you in a home. We tote the note. 800-830-3515

Need a home now? Don't wait. Use your tax refund. We tote the note. 800-830-3515

New 2003 16' wide, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. $1000 down, $171.95 per month* 888-539-7780 *$19,900 sale price, 5% on $18,900 to finance 240 months, 9.5 APR.

Real Estate

Available April 1st
For sale or lease, 3-1-1, CH/A, dishwasher, stove. 3202 40th
817-598-9047 915-868-0289

Beautiful Brick Home
Newly updated 3 bdrm-2bth, CH/A, fireplace, 2-car garage, large corner lot, new 6 ft. privacy fence. 3014 El Paso 573-6496

I Buy Houses.
Call 338-3341.

BY OWNER
LARGE OPEN LIVING AREA.
EXCELLENT CONDITION.
NICELY LANDSCAPED.
5603 CEDAR CREEK DR.
573-9780

OWNER FINANCE
***134 20th Place**, 2-1-1, fenced, storage shed, low down payment, $402/mo. total, 20 years (915) 207-0506

JACK & JACK
Realtors
611 Coliseum Dr
Ford Spikes, Owner/Broker
573-8571 573-3452

8.2 Acres 2-1¾-2, office, and basement, Shop, Barns, Out Buildings $92T
Ira ISD 3-2-2cp, storage, appliances, .25 Acre
Gorgeous Home 1986 Sq. Ft. on 12 + Acres
222 32nd St. 3-1 .....$22.5T
Shop Bldg. + 3 Lots 407 College & 2-1 Merrill
Stock Farm 146 Acres Near Dermott
5 Business Shopping Complex 606 Coliseum
Nice Storm Cellar 3-2-2cp 314 36th $37.5T
3-1¾-1cp brick starter home .....207 36th St.
Good Floor Plan 3-1¾-2 4006 Jacksboro $54.9T
80 acres 5 mi. SE of Hermleigh, 3-2-2 + office + shop & out building.....Call
Fisher Co. 11.59 acres plus older house approx. 19 miles east of Snyder.....Call
Stonewall Co. 1,315 acre cattle operation. Water well + 6 earth tanks. Deer, quail, turkey & hogs.....Call
We Will Work For YOU!
We Need Listings
Doris Spikes.....573-6602

Little ads get big results!

Not a cheap high, just an easy way to die

The Scurry County Anti-Drug Connection is joining with other awareness coalitions and agencies this week in alerting the public about the dangers of inhalant abuse.

March 16-22 is designated as National Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week, and The Connection, which was established through a state grant given to the Snyder Area Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, has various activities planned.

Staff members will be making presentations at service clubs, area schools and civic organizations. Informational flyers also will be passed out in the community including to local retailers who sale possible inhalant products. This month's focus of *Footprints* and *Impressions*, the two newsletters distributed to area schools monthly by SACADA, is also on inhalant abuse.

"It is our desire to help keep families informed and attuned to the many problems facing our young people today," Valene Ford, Anti-Drug Connection coordinator, said. "Inhalant abuse is popular with young people because of the availability."

Alerting parents and young people to the deadly practice is critical.

Terms for using inhalants include huffing, sniffing and bagging as soda cans, socks, and even lunch bags are used as paraphernalia. There are more than 1,000 products that can be abused including gasoline, Freon, degreasers, correction fluid, hair spray, whipping cream, spray paint, various glues, air fresheners and cooking spray.

Inhalant use is particularly common among the 10-12 age bracket.

Young people in the 12-17 age group most commonly use gasoline and lighter fluid, followed by glue. Young adults in the 18-25 age bracket most commonly use nitrous oxide or "whippets."

Using inhalants is like playing Russian Roulette," Ford said. "Users can die the first time, the 10th time or the 100th time they use."

Other effects of inhalant abuse include damage to the brain, respiratory system, liver or kidneys, plus short-term memory loss and hearing impairments.

Signs and symptoms of inhalant abuse include paint or stains on body or clothing, chemical-soaked rags, bags or socks, spots or sores on the mouth, red or runny eyes or nose, chemical breath odor, drunk dizzy or dazed appearance, nausea, loss of appetite, anxiety, excitability or irritability.

If groups or organizations would like more information, or would like to have a program presented, call 574-1931 or 573-1141.

Attempted break-in spoiled by officers

Arrests

Snyder officer Kyle Burleson reported at 11:30 p.m. Monday that he saw two subjects running from Northeast Elementary.

Burleson pursued the subjects and apprehended one of them, while another officer caught the second.

An 18-year-old man and a 19-year-old man were taken into custody for attempted burglary of a building.

The men were attempting to enter the building through a window when Burleson spotted them, but entry wasn't made and no damage was reported.

Theft

Sammy Ward requested an officer at Cogdell Hospital at 3:30 p.m. Monday to report the theft of dentures. He reported that the dentures were taken from his room between Feb. 18-20.

He said he would contact his lawyer and CMH employees advised they would search for the dentures.

Criminal mischief

A woman reported a broken window at the TDCJ parole office just before 9 p.m. Monday. Officers advised a report for Class B criminal mischief would be submitted.

Gas drive off

A clerk at Snyder One Stop reported a gas drive off at 5:40 p.m. Monday in the amount of $23.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	1.87	1.66	1.72	+ .08
AOL TimeWrn	11.98	11.60	11.68	— .05
AT&T Corp rs	17.46	16.94	16.95	— .28
Albertsons	19.37	18.73	18.76	— .52
Alltel	45.13	44.28	44.41	— .67
AmEl Pw	22.20	21.93	22.11	+ .04
AndarkPtr	43.80	42.97	43.76	+ .23
ATMOS Egy	21.74	21.41	21.41	— .17
Aviall	7.28	7.07	7.28	+ .06
BP PLC	39.45	38.27	38.96	— .49
BakerHughes	29.14	28.60	29.10	— .04
Bank of Amer	69.30	68.70	68.77	— .35
BellSouth	23.00	22.73	22.93	+ .14
BurlNoSFe	24.76	24.25	24.58	+ .04
Caterpillar	50.68	49.67	50.13	— .10
CenterPoint	6.49	6.27	6.30	+ .01
ChevronTex	64.99	64.06	64.64	— .07
Citigroup	34.80	34.00	34.64	+ .44
CocaCola	41.02	40.32	40.35	— .64
ColgatePal	53.69	53.24	53.28	— .47
CmclMetals s	13.66	13.46	13.47	+ .01
ConocoPhill	51.00	49.70	50.06	— .94
Cooper Inds	37.95	37.58	37.61	— .15
DaimlrChry	29.63	28.84	29.10	+ .10
DeltaAirl	8.85	8.46	8.65	+ .09
Dillards Inc	13.68	13.36	13.59	+ .30
DowChem	28.79	28.23	28.29	— .08
DuPont	39.75	39.20	39.50	+ .80
EastmanChem	30.39	29.71	29.81	
EstKodak	30.50	29.91	30.23	— .05
EDS Corp	15.99	15.58	15.80	— .05
Entergy	48.10	47.85	47.98	
ExxonMobil	35.10	34.62	34.88	— .17
FootLocker	10.37	10.14	10.15	— .15
GenDynam	57.60	56.30	57.32	+ 1.06
GenElec	26.52	25.95	26.09	— .18
GenMills	44.91	44.00	44.26	— .33
GenMotors	34.00	33.15	34.00	+ .79
GaPacific	15.21	14.71	14.75	— .15
Goodrich	15.10	14.50	14.87	+ .23
Goodyear	4.05	3.50	3.99	— .08
GtAtlPac	4.55	4.45	4.51	— .09
Halliburtn	20.10	19.90	20.05	+ .05
Hanson ADS	25.21	25.08	25.21	+ .58
HarteHanks s	18.80	18.30	18.57	— .03
HomeDepot	24.15	23.33	23.78	— .12
HoneywellIntl	24.00	23.29	23.68	+ .23
IBM	83.20	81.49	81.99	— .47
IntlPaper	36.96	36.53	36.65	— .01
JohnsonJn	56.91	55.90	56.63	+ .24
KinderMorg	44.51	43.95	44.41	+ .11
Kroger Co	13.90	13.38	13.39	— .09
LockheedM	48.00	47.00	47.15	+ .20
Lowes Cos	40.24	39.15	39.90	— .20
Lubys	1.28	1.12	1.28	+ .11
LucentTech	1.65	1.57	1.59	+ .01
MarathonOil	22.90	22.50	22.79	— .10
MayDeptStr	20.81	20.15	20.52	+ .03
Medtronic	46.40	45.62	46.11	+ .01
Motorola	8.65	8.42	8.54	+ .01
NCR Corp	19.35	18.95	19.02	— .28
Navistar	25.86	25.10	25.41	— .09
PNM Rescs	22.10	21.72	21.73	— .32
Penney JC	20.71	20.42	20.57	— .14
PepBoys	7.25	6.95	7.25	+ .38
PepsiCo	40.40	39.55	39.73	— .67
Pharmacia	41.88	41.30	41.59	+ .20
PhelpDodge	33.96	33.41	33.58	+ .08
PilgrmPrd B	8.22	8.03	8.03	— .27
Praxair	57.36	56.06	56.22	— .37
ProctGamb	86.47	85.19	86.25	+ .75
RadioShack	20.84	20.39	20.70	— .14
RoyalDut	40.39	39.68	39.99	— .16
SBC Comm	22.00	21.47	21.55	— .19
SaraLee	19.51	19.10	19.19	— .31
Scripps EW	78.87	77.90	78.44	+ .44
SearsRoeb	20.90	20.00	20.60	+ .73
SherwinW	26.85	26.55	26.67	+ .18
SouthernCo	28.90	28.46	28.74	— .11
SwstAirl	13.99	13.75	13.87	+ .22
SprintFON	11.85	11.64	11.65	
SprintPCS	4.17	4.02	4.10	+ .07
Sunoco Inc	37.10	36.50	36.55	— .55
TXU Corp	17.53	17.30	17.42	+ .16
TempleInland	41.37	40.79	41.00	+ .04
TexInd	18.36	18.19	18.26	+ .11
TexasInst	18.40	17.85	18.14	— .12
Textron	35.47	34.76	35.06	+ .33
TrinityInds	17.25	16.88	16.89	— .28
TylerTech	3.78	3.58	3.72	+ .04
UnionPacif	55.20	54.60	54.81	+ .08
USSteel	10.85	10.54	10.71	+ .09
UnitedTech	62.00	60.69	61.70	+ .72
Unocal	25.61	25.15	25.43	— .18
VerizonComm	36.24	35.49	35.70	— .30
WalMart	52.95	51.49	52.16	+ .19
WellsFargo	47.14	46.50	46.89	+ .04
WstnGasRs	31.90	31.55	31.75	— .15
WinnDixie	12.74	12.42	12.46	— .18
Xerox Cp	9.05	8.90	9.02	— .01
YumBrands s	24.92	24.37	24.52	— .23

LEGAL NOTICE

AVISO DE RECIBO DE SOLICITUD E INTENTO DE OBTENER UNA RENOVACION DE PERMISO DE CALIDAD DE AIRE

PERMISO NUM. 18349

SOLICITUD. Ezell-Key Grain Co., Inc., P.O. Box 1062, Snyder, Texas, 79550, se ha registrado con la Comision de Calidad Ambiental de Texas (TCEQ o Texas Commission on Environmental Quality) para la renovación de un Permiso Calidad de Aire Núm. 18349 el cual autorizará continuar el funcionamiento de la facilidad del procesamiento del grano en 3101 U.S. Highway 84, Snyder, Condado de Scurry, Tejas. La instalación existente va a emitir los siguientes contaminantes atmosféricos: los recintos orgánicos, de óxido de nitrógeno,de bióxido de azufre, el monóxido orgánico de carbón, y de recintos inclusive micras de menos de 10 de cuestión de particula en el diametro.

Esta solicitude fue sometida al TCEQ en Enero 29, 2003. La solicitud está disponible para revisarse y copiarse en la Oficina Central del TCEQ, en la Oficina Regional del TCEQ en Abilene, y en Contado de Scurry la Biblioteca, 1916 la Calle 23, Snyder, Condado de Scurry, Tejas. El archivo del cumplimiento de las leyes de la instalación, si existe, estará disponible para el publico en la Oficina Regional del TCEQ en Abilene.

El director ejecutivo del TCEQ ha determinado que la solicitud se halla administrativamente completa y conducirá un alálisis técnico de la solicitud.

LISTA DE CORREO Usted puede solicitar que se le ponga en una lista de correo para recibir información adicional de esta solicitud solicitando a la Oficina del Chief Clerk en la dirección a continuación.

COMENTARIOS PUBLICOS/JUNTA PUBLICA Usted puede someter comentarios públicos, solicitar una junta pública sobre esta solicitud, o solicitar una audiencia en controversia a la Oficina del Chief Clerk en la dirección a continuación. El TCEQ considerara todos los comentarios publicos en el desarollo de una decisión final en esta solicitud. El plazo limite para someter sus comentarios es 15 dias después de la publicación de este aviso. Después del plazo límite para los comentarios públicos, el director ejecutivo preparará una respuesta a todos los comentarios públicos relevantes ye materiales o de otro modo significativos.

El propósito de una junta pública es para proveer la oportunidad de someter comentarios, o para preguntar sobre la solicitud. Una junta pública sobre la solicitud se llevará a cabo si el director ejecutivo determina que existe un grado significativo de interés público en la solicitud o si la solicita un legislador local. Una junta pública no es considerada una audiencia en controversia.

Si sólo se reciben comentarios sobre esta solicitud, la respuesta a los comentarios, junto con aviso de la decisión del director ejecutivo sobre la solicutud, será enviada por correo a todos aquellos que hallan sometido sus comentarios o solicitado que se les incluyera en la lista de correo para esta solicitud.

Se la petición para una audiencia a tiempo, el director ejecutivo emitirá una decision preliminar después del análisis técnico. El Aviso de la Solicitud y de la Decisión Preliminar serán entonces publicados y enviados por correo a todos los que estén en la lista de correo de esta solicitud. Ese aviso contendrá el plazo final para someter comentarios públicos y peticiones para una junta pública.

Después del plazo final para someter comentarios públicos subsecuentes a cualquier Aviso de la Solicitud y de la Decisión Preliminar, el director ejecutivo considerará los comentarios y preparará una respuesta a todos los comentarios públicos relevantes y materiales, o significativos. La respuesta a los comentarios, junto con la decisión del director ejecutivo sobre la solicitud, serán entonces enviadas por correo a todas aquellos que hallan sometido comentarios públicos o que hallna peticionado para estar en la lista de correo sobre esta solicitud.

OPORTUNIDAD PARA UNA AUDIENCIA EN CONTROVERSIA Usted puede peticionar una audiencia en controversia. Una audiencia en controversia es un proceso legal semejante a un a un juicio civil en una corte de diirito estatal. A no ser que una petición por escrito para una audiencia en controversia se halla sometido dentro de 15 días después de la publicación de este avaso, el director ejecutivo puede que apruebe la solicitud. Si no se reciben peticiones para una audiencia en controversia dentro de este período de 15 días, no habrá mas oportunidad para peticionar una audiencia en controversia. Una audiencia en controversia sólo se otorgará basada en asuntos en controversia que sean relevantes y materiales a la decisión de los Comisionados sobre la solicitud. Amedás, la Comisión sólo concederá una audiencia en controversia en esos asuntos que fueron presentados durante el período de los comentarios públicos y que no se retiraron.

Una persona que pueda ser afectada por las emisiones de contaminantes atmosféricos de la instalación tiene derecho a peticionar una audiencia en controversia. Para solicitar una audiencia en contryversia, usted deberá proporcionar lo siguiente: (1) su nombre (o, para un grupo o asociacion, su representante oficial), dirección postal, número de teléfono durante el día, y número de fax, si hay; (2) el nombre del solicitante y el número de permiso; (3) la oración en inglés "I/we request a contested case hearing;" (4) una descripción especifica de cómo le perjudicaría la solicitud y las emisiones atmosféricas de una manera que no es común con los miembros del público en general; (5) la localización y distancia de su propiedad en relación a la instalación; y (6) una descripción de cómo usted usa la propiedad que podiera ser afectada por la instalación. Si la petición es hecha por un grupo o asociaciones, el o la miembro o miembros que tienen derecho a pedir una audiencia en controversia y los intereses que el grupo o asociación quieran protejer deberán también ser identificados. Usted también podrá someter sus propuestas de ajustes a la solicitud o permiso qu puedan satisfacer sus preocupaciones. Peticiones para una audiencia en controversia deberán someterse por escrito dentro de 15 días después de las publicación de este aviso a la Oficina del Chief Clerk, en la dirección a continuación.

Si una petición para una audiencia en controversia se recibe a tiempo, aviso adicional será dado. Después de que se cierren todos los períodos aplicables de comentarios y peticiones, el director ejecutivo mandará la solicitud y todas las peticiones de audiencia en crontroversia a los Comisionados del TCEQ para su consideración en una junta de Comisionados en su itinerario. Si se concede una audiencia en controversia se, el objeto de la audiencia en controversia será limitado a los asuntos de hecho en disputa relevantes y materiales a la calidad del aire, que hayan surgido durante el período de comentarios. Asuntos como el valor de la propiedad, ruido, seguridad de tráfico, y zonas municipales estan fuera de lo que la Comisión tiene la juridicción de considerar en este proceso.

INFORMACION Comentarios públicos por escrito, peticiones para una junta pública, o peticiones para una audiencia en controversia deberán someterse a la Oficina del Chief Clerk, MC-105, TCEQ P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Tejas 78711-3087. Para más información sobre esta solicitud o el proceso de permisos, por favor llame a la Oficina de Asistencia Publica, gratis, al 1-800-687-4040. Información general sobre el TCEQ se puede encontrar en el www.TCEQ.state.tx.us.

Más información también puede obtenerse de Ezell-Key Grain Co., Inc., en la dirección escrita anteriormente o llamando al señorita Anissa Morton, Enviro-Ag Engineering, Inc., en el (806) 353-6123.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN AIR PERMIT RENEWAL

AIR QUALITY PERMIT NO. 18349

APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION Ezell-Key Grain Co., Inc., P.O. Box 1062, Snyder, Texas, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for renewal of Air Quality Permit No. 18349 which would authorize continued operation of a Grain Processing Facility located at 3101 U.S. Highway 84, Snyder, Scurry County, Texas. The following air contaminants will be evaluated for authorization: organic compounds, nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, and particulate matter including matter less than 10 microns in diameter.

This application was submitted to the TCEQ on January 29, 2003. The application is available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ central office, the TCEQ Abilene regional office, and the Scurry County Library, 1916 23rd Street, Snyder, Scurry County, Texas. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review in the Abilene Regional office of the TCEQ.

The TCEQ executive director has determined that application is administratively complete and will conduct technical review of the application.

PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments, a request for a public meeting, or request a contested case hearing to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. The TCEQ will consider all public comments in developing a final decision on the application. **The deadline to submit public comments is 15 days after newspaper notice is published.** After the deadline for public comments, the executive director will prepare a response to all relevant and material or significant public comments.

The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or ask questions about the application. A public meeting about the application may be held if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislature. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

If only comments are received on the application, the response to comments, along with notice of the executive director's action on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted comments or is on the mailing list for this application.

If a hearing request is timely filed, the executive director will complete the technical review, may issue a preliminary decision on the application, and a Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision may be published and mailed to those who are on the mailing list for this application. That notice will contain the final deadline for submitting public comments.

After the final deadline for public comments following any required Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. If comments are received, the response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will then be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or is on a mailing list for this application.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED HEARING You may request a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court. Unless a written request for a contested hearing is filed within 15 days from this notice, the executive director may approve the application. If no hearing request is received within this 15-day period, no further opportunity for hearing will be provided. A contested case hearing will only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on those issues raised during the public comment period and not withdrawn.

A person who may be affected by emissions of air contaminants from the facility is entitled to request a hearing. If requesting a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, daytime phone number, and fax number, if any; (2) applicant's name and permit number; (3) the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing;" (4) a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the application and air emissions from the facility in a way not common to the general public; (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the facility; and (6) a description of how you use the property which may be impacted by the facility. If the request is made by a group or association, the one or more members who have standing to request a hearing, and the interests which the group or association seeks to protect, must also be identified. You may also submit your proposed adjustments to the application/permit which would satisfy your concerns. Requests for a contested case hearing must be submitted in writing within 15 days following this notice to the Office of the Chief Clerk, at the address below.

If a hearing request is timely filed, additional notice may be provided. Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the executive director will forward the application and any requests for contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact relating to relevant and material air quality concerns raised during the comment period. Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside the Commission's jurisdiction to address in this proceeding.

MAILING LIST In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices for this specific application mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk by sending a written request to the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

INFORMATION Written public comments or requests for a public meeting or contested case hearing should be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. For more information about this permit application or permitting process, please call the Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. General information regarding the TCEQ can be found at www.tceq.state.tx.us.

Further information may also be obtained from Ezell-Key Grain Co., Inc., at the address stated above or by calling Ms. Anissa Morton, Enviro-Ag Engineering, Inc., at (806)353-6123.

MAR 18 2003

Gov. Perry thinks CHIP will remain in place

AUSTIN (AP) — Some lawmakers have suggested the Children's Health Insurance Program must be sacrificed because of the state's budget troubles, but Gov. Rick Perry said Monday he believes the low-cost insurance will remain in place.

"I think the CHIP program is going to continue," Perry said.

The Republican governor offered a different view than some GOP lawmakers.

Last week, some House budget writers recommended CHIP be abolished in Texas to keep money available for the state's most destitute residents, including 460,000 elderly and disabled people who receive Medicaid drug benefits.

Rep. Arlene Wohlgemuth, R-Burleson, who leads the budget subcommittee on health and human services that recommended axing CHIP, defended her committee's action last week but said she hopes legislators ultimately can find the money to save some or all of the Children's Health Insurance Program.

Eliminating the program would save the state $428 million over the next two years, but about $1 billion in matching federal funds would be lost.

RAZORS EDGE

Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn on Monday shot down rumors that she plans to revise the state's revenue estimate to show a shortfall billions larger than the current $9.9 billion.

"There are numbers floating around at the Capitol that are simply numbers floating around at the Capitol," Strayhorn said.

But the state's chief money manager warned that several months of down sales tax collections and the threat of war may mean more bad news for the 2004-05 budget.

"I continue to not see the light at the end of the tunnel," Strayhorn said. "We are on razors edge and I continue to be concerned."

She said when February's receipts are tallied by the first of April, she'll be able to say for sure if the estimate will have to be updated.

Strayhorn told a gathering of the Mortgage Bankers Association that as far as she's concerned no amount of bad budget news is enough to warrant new taxes.

Government simply must cut spending, she said, adding that her office would release a second round of cost-cutting recommendations as soon as next week. She refused to detail the ideas, saying only "many of these recommendations will rock boats and make waves."

The group also heard Strayhorn's desire to change state laws that prohibit home equity lending in Texas, the only state in the nation to do so.

Texans could save a combined $741 million annually through lower interest and federal tax deductions if the state constitution was changed to allow homeowners to open lines of credit based on their home's equity, she said.

LANDING JOBS

Gov. Rick Perry again spoke out about his proposal to help lure businesses to Texas through a new "enterprise fund" and by concentrating economic development activities in the governor's office instead of a separate agency.

Perry told an economic development forum that he wants to move $390 million from the state's so-called rainy day fund into the enterprise fund. "Texas cannot afford to play the waiting game when it comes to economic development," Perry said.

Also in his speech, he again stressed his positions opposing new taxes and favoring "real substantive tort reform," which he said would help create jobs.

CLEANING HOUSE

With a $9.9 billion shortfall plaguing lawmakers trying to write the next state budget, Rep. David Swinford, R-Amarillo, may be a fiscal savior.

The chairman of the new government reform committee filed a bill that would drastically reorganize state government, including eliminating agencies and consolidating others.

For example, the Structural Pest Control Board would be abolished and its duties taken over by the Department of Agriculture. Texas' many health and human services-related offices would be consolidated.

The 60-page bill also directs agencies such as the Texas Department of Transportation to expand its Web services such as renewing drivers licenses online.

House Bill 2, considered a shell that will be updated throughout the session, did not have a price tag, but House budget writers and House Speaker Tom Craddick have been assuring critics of proposed budget cuts that the savings could be enough to plug some pretty deep holes, including a $3 billion chop to public education.

A Senate committee is doing similar work.

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

The Texas governor would be barred from accepting campaign contributions while deciding whether to veto a bill or sign it into law under legislation approved by a Senate Committee on Monday.

The approval comes after Gov. Rick Perry was criticized for taking contributions during the 20-day veto period after the 2001 session. Governors, who are the only ones who can veto a bill or sign it into law, use the time to review bills passed by lawmakers.

The ban also would apply to all statewide office holders and state lawmakers.

Current law restricts contributions during the 30 days before a legislative session and during its 140 days of meetings.

Perry has said he would accept a veto-period ban if passed by lawmakers, but that he didn't think accepting campaign contributions during that time created the appearance of a conflict of interest. He has said he often has financial supporters on both sides of bills.

Perry killed so many bills on the night of June 17, 2001, the final day of consideration, that politicos dubbed it the "Father's Day Massacre."

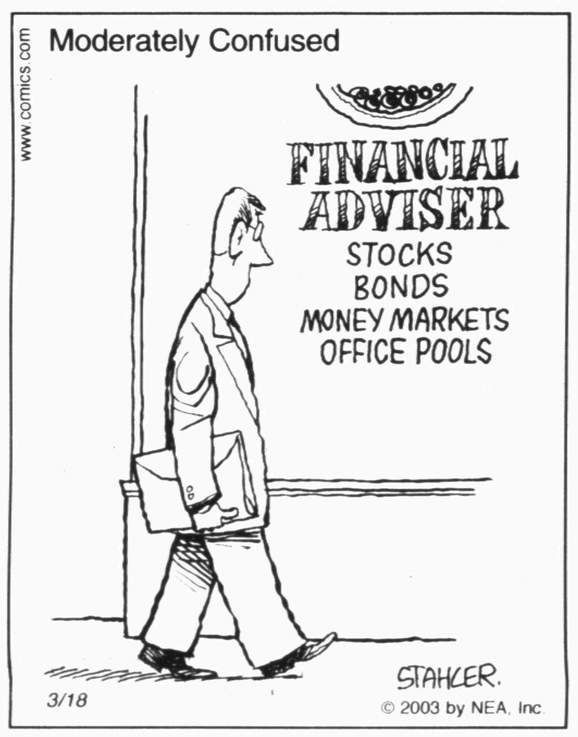
The bill now goes to the full Senate.

FRESHMAN INITIATION

House members on Monday had a little fun at the expense of rookie Rep. Byron Cook, R-Corsicana, who was laying out his first bill. The legislation would abolish the County Court of Law in Navarro County. From the chamber's back microphone, about a dozen more experienced legislators asked Cook various routine yet good-natured questions as his fellow freshman lawmakers gathered around him at the front microphone. Rep. Trey Martinez-Fischer, D-San Antonio, used the opportunity to bring up a controversial comment made by freshman Rep. Debbie Riddle, R-Houston. Two weeks ago, Riddle said the idea that government provide free health care and education "comes from Moscow, from Russia. It comes straight out of the pit of hell." Martinez-Fisher asked Cook if his fellow freshmen were "from the pit of hell?" After a few gasps, Cook responded with a chuckle, "Yes, they are." His bill received unanimous preliminary approval but not before House Speaker Tom Craddick, R-Midland, had the last word to Democrats chiding the mostly GOP rookie class: "They have more votes than you all do."

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

"When the sales tax catches cold, we get pneumonia." — Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn describing the seriousness of consistently down state sales tax collections.



Today's chuckle

New Mexico woman hits it big in lottery

VIRDEN, N.M. (AP) — In the village of Virden, population 143, people still talk about when Linda McClure won $30,000 in the state lottery.

A year later, minus one day, another Virden resident, Deborah Morrow, has hit it big, winning $20,000 with a New Mexico Lottery Cash Zone scratch ticket, lottery officials announced Sunday.



Morrow said she narrowly missed winning last year.

"I was going to buy the very same ticket Linda did," Morrow said in a statement. "But I was running late for a wedding and decided not to stop. Linda went in a few minutes later, bought the ticket and won."

Both winning tickets were bought from the same store, The Line, on the New Mexico-Arizona line.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Wednesday, March 19, 2003

A couple of events and happenings could turn out to be of tremendous significance for you in the year ahead and completely revise your philosophical outlook. Your new views will strengthen your character and expectations.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — If financial developments have presently been running in your favor, now is the time to try to do something constructive. It's a period where you can lock things down to your satisfaction.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Set the example today and be willing to make concessions when dealing with others. Associates will respond in kind and act upon the cues you give them.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Today is a much better day for financial transactions than yesterday was. Now is the time to capitalize on those exchanges you held off on hoping they would multiply.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — A situation may arise today where you find yourself up against someone who usually ends up outshining his or her competitors. This time you may have the edge.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Conditions in general finally look good for you, so don't do anything today to rock the boat. Flow with events as they unfold instead of doing anything that would alter their course.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Although some people with whom you may be dealing today might lack direction and purpose, you won't let that hamper you. You know what you want and, more importantly, you know how to get it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Something profitable could spring loose for you today, but it won't be from out of the blue. It will come from hard work and preparation.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — You possess a marvelous faculty today for taking the ideas or others and reconstructing them into something extremely promising for yourself. This could occur in two instances.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — There is a good chance you could be drawn into a situation today that has strong competitive elements involved. Fortunately for you, the odds will be tilted in your favor.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Someone who might turn out to be of considerable significance to you could enter your life at this time. This person might be introduced to you today by an old friend.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Clearly define your objectives today and your chances for achieving them will be excellent. Be definite regarding your goals and don't let outside influences draw you off target.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — If you have faith in yourself and your ideas today, no minor setback will be able to cloud your thinking or make you less effective at what you're attempting.

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Bouquet and garter toss: Variations on a theme

DEAR ABBY: A young married woman said she and her mother were at odds about the tradition of tossing the bouquet and bride's garter at weddings. You said, "Because catching a bouquet or garter is no guarantee the person will be the next to marry (it's 'up for grabs'), I see no reason why any guest should be excluded."

Well, I disagree! I perform disc jockey and video services for weddings. I have seen little girls and boys with bloody noses, skinned knees and elbows, etc. Would you send an 8-year-old to play football at your local college? For liability reasons, I specifically note in my contract that if the bride insists on including guests under 16, I am not liable for injuries. Insurance companies don't like to cover stupidity.

Please rethink this one, Abby! — **BRENT YACIW, WESLEY CHAPEL, FLA.**

DEAR BRENT: Your point is well taken. I received a ton of terrific mail on tossing wedding bouquets and garters, and will share as much of it as possible:

DEAR ABBY: The custom is tacky and should be eliminated. It's embarrassing to singles who are dragged onto the floor by well-meaning friends and family. It's almost as bad as watching the new couple smash cake in each other's face. — **J.H., MELROSE, N.Y.**

DEAR ABBY: When I married, I had a candy toss for anyone 12 or under. It worked wonderfully. The kids had fun and were part of the festivities. — **JENNIFER IN FREMONT, OHIO**

DEAR ABBY: For guests 16 and under, we tossed a teddy bear dressed like a bride, and did the same for the boys with a groom bear. — **BECKY IN HURST, TEXAS**

DEAR ABBY: I am a florist. Many brides order a small bouquet to toss to the little girls, and they either toss their own bouquet or an extra (large) one to the big girls. — **RON D., BELLEVILLE, ILL.**

DEAR ABBY: The custom is, whoever catches the garter must put it high on the leg of the woman who catches the bouquet. At one wedding I attended, a 9-year-old boy caught the garter and then sat at the feet of the lady who caught the bouquet and sobbed for 10 minutes because he was so humiliated. Children should not be subjected to this. — **KATHY IN FORT LEE, N.J.**

DEAR ABBY: As the mother of two little girls, I do not want anyone touching their legs. As a wedding DJ, here's how I handle the garter toss: I have the little girl sit in a chair with her arms out and her hands in a prayer position. I then give the male the garter and he has three chances to toss it over her hands. No one is touched, and it's perfectly innocent. The kids love it. Remember, kids are just adults in training. — **LORI LEE, A DJ IN HORSEHEADS, N.Y.**

DEAR ABBY: I have been a caterer for more than 20 years. A classy alternative is this one: The bridal couple asks all married guests to stand. Then, in multiples of five or 10 years, they are asked to sit down when asked the length of their marriage. The couple married the longest is awarded the bouquet and garter to the applause of everyone. — **MIKE F., ANKENY, IOWA**

DEAR READERS: I learn so much from you. Thank you for all your suggestions, and for the privilege of doing a job I love. — **ABBY**

**

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby — Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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DAILY SPECIALS

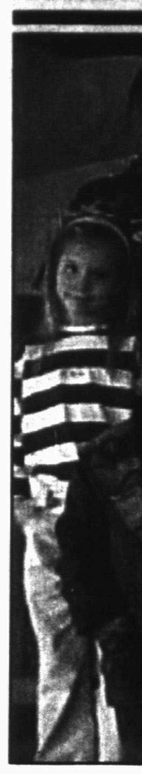
TUESDAY - Hamburger, fries & tea $5.00
WEDNESDAY - 4 Chicken Strips, fries & tea $5.95
THURSDAY - Chopped Beef, fries or chips, & tea $4.95
FRIDAY - Chicken Fried Steak, fries or baked potato and tea $6.00

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Local/N



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STANFIELD PROGRAM — Stanfield second graders in Carolyn Martin's and Elvira Gonzales' classes presented a program recently. Martin's students (top picture) are top row from left, Fabian Gutierrez, Brandon Davis, Jonathan Torres, Zachary Simpson, Cade Towery and Ramiro Medrano; middle row, Jessica Sawyer, Mark Sosa, Shane Robbins, Ti'Shara Young, Kylie Bell, Crystle Simmons and Courtney Pollard; bottom row, Malinda Martinez, Faith Overton, Alexandra Luevano, Christopher Brasher and Urbano Martinez. Daniel Allen and Destiny Garza are not pictured. Mrs. Gonzales' students (bottom picture) are top row from left, Hector Torres, Joseph Hernandez, Dariela Garcia, Servando Gonzales, Julietta Hernandez and Janell Espinoza; second row, Aby Sanchez, Sonia Cabrera, Orlando Murillo and Ector Gonzales; third row, Jennifer Facio, Cesar Torres, Alma Cabrera, Jaqueline Rubio and Misael Arellano; bottom row, Gerardo Robles, Jose Torres, Rodolfo Rodriguez and Rebecca Chacon. (Contributed Photos)

South Texas twins join Navy

HARLINGEN (AP) — South Texas twins who were determined to follow military careers are both in the Navy, with at least one destined for the Middle East.

The parents of Stevie and Yvette Benitez have printed their names on the trim above the front door of their white frame house, along with the words "U.S. Navy." American flags are in the two front windows.

Steven Benitez, who goes by "Stevie" at home, is stationed at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii but is expected to be deployed to the Middle East in August. Meanwhile, Yvette is still undergoing training.

Walls of Stevie's bedroom are covered with Navy posters, including his favorite which reads, "Life, liberty and the pursuit of all who threaten it."

"All he talks about is his country. He's very proud," his mother, Elvira Benitez, told the Valley Morning Star in Harlingen for today's editions. "He says he's going to re-enlist and re-enlist until they kick him out."

She said the 19-year-old twins installed a screen saver on the family computer with a picture of the U.S. flag and a bald eagle to help their parents think of them.

They have now been in the military for more than a year.

Elvira Benitez and her husband, Santos, want to add a sign at their home with a saying, "Pray for Our Troops," and photographs of the twins.

"They think alike," Santos said.

His eyes moistened as he spoke of the children that call him "Tito."

"You like your country, you have to fight for it," he recalled Stevie Benitez saying to him.

Elvira Benitez said she knows that the country might soon go to war and this frightens her.

"We will do anything it takes to show the kids that we support them," she said. "It's all about support."

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Is it muscle spasms or a spinal disc problem?

DEAR DR. GOTT: How can I determine if my chronic back pain is caused by muscle spasms or a spinal disc problem?

DEAR READER: I doubt that you can. But your doctor should be able to differentiate these two common causes of back pain. A thorough examination — plus appropriate imaging studies — should tell the tale. Back spasms ordinarily have their own pattern (localized pain worsened by movement and exercise), whereas disc problems usually cause pain that radiates into the buttocks and thighs. See your physician for assistance.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Managing Chronic Pain." Other readers who would like a copy should send a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope and $2 to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Please show respect for your female readers and stop using the cliche "rule of thumb." Thank you.

DEAR READER: There is some debate in etymological circles about whether the rule of thumb refers to an old English common law that husbands could only beat their wives with a stick no wider than a thumb or that experienced carpenters didn't need rulers, but could use a "rule of thumb." However, I have a rule. Avoid cliches like the plague. (That's supposed to be funny. Did you get it?)

I agree to stop using the term, which — as you said — is a cliche.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My mother's physician prescribed tonic water for her leg cramps. My daughter, an R.N., works in a children's hospital where they prescribe tonic water for youngsters who experience leg cramps at night. The tonic works. What does it contain to prevent muscle cramps?

DEAR READER: Quinine.

This compound has been used for decades as preventive therapy for nocturnal leg cramps. While it is not universally effective, it is a safe and inexpensive expedient. Tonic water contains relatively small amounts of quinine, which is available by prescription in much larger quantities.

DEAR DR. GOTT: A reader recently commented that she enjoyed your book "No House Calls" and was disappointed that it is no longer in print. You may want to let your readers know that it is available on at least two Web sites that specialize in out-of-print books: barnesandnoble.com and abebooks.com. Personally, I'm looking forward to receiving your new book ("Windows of 'Sconset on Nantucket Island"). My husband and I are both big fans of Nantucket and you.

I have a professional question. I am a mother and wife, 35, who had mononucleosis two years ago. I still have extreme, disabling fatigue, nausea, bruising and joint pain. My blood tests ruled out anemia, lupus, leukemia and thyroid disease. What can I do?

DEAR READER: First of all, thank you for your compliments and the Web sites. I was not aware of them.

Second, the Nantucket book, which has led to wonderful enthusiasm, is available to readers at a markdown. Send $14 to Ice Island Press, P.O. Box 433, Lakeville, CT 06039, and your book will be in the mail within 24 hours.

Finally, your professional question. Your symptoms may be difficult to diagnose. However, I see from your letterhead that you reside in Connecticut, where Lyme disease is not only prevalent, it's epidemic. I recommend that you ask your doctor to order a Lyme blood test, called a Western blot. If you do have this disease, the test will show it, and you can receive antibiotic therapy.

Thanks for writing.

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Because two of Mary Todd Lincoln's brothers were Confederate soldiers, she was accused by some of being a spy for the South during the Civil War.

Man executed for killing fellow soldier

TERRE HAUTE, Ind. (AP) — A decorated Gulf War veteran who claimed his exposure to Iraqi nerve gas caused him to rape and kill a female soldier was executed by injection today at a federal prison.

Louis Jones Jr., 53, died by injection at the U.S. Penitentiary near Terre Haute after President Bush and the U.S. Supreme Court refused his two final requests that they intervene.

Jones was the third person — after Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh and drug kingpin Juan Garza — put to death by the federal government resumed executions in 2001 after a 38-year suspension.

Jones, who had no prior criminal record, admitted kidnapping 19-year-old Pvt. Tracie Joy McBride from Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo, raping her and beating her to death with a tire iron. His attorneys said exposure to the gas caused severe brain damage that led him to kill.

As the execution time neared, about a dozen death penalty opponents held a candlelight vigil near the prison. No death penalty supporters were present.

A sign leaning against a fence in front of the group said, "The tragic irony: As we rush recklessly to war with Iraq we are killing a veteran of the first Gulf War."

The White House and the high court refused Monday to block the execution after reviewing Jones' nerve gas claims. White House officials declined to explain Bush's decision, and the court did not comment.

Attorney Timothy Floyd said his client had been hopeful as he awaited word on whether Bush would consider his request to commute his death sentence to life in prison.

"He was really remarkably strong and I think at peace with whatever happens. I attribute that to his deep faith — I think that's sustained him through this," Floyd said before Bush's decision was announced.

Federal prosecutors and McBride's family in Centerville, Minn., opposed Jones' clemency request, pointing to evidence of his aggressive behavior before the Gulf War, including four incidents in which he beat up coworkers or fellow soldiers.

Following his Gulf War service, Jones was promoted to master sergeant and honored with a Meritorious Service Award. Jones killed McBride in 1995, two years after his honorable discharge from the Army.

The federal government handled the prosecution because McBride was abducted from a military base. During his trial, defense experts testified Jones suffered brain damage from abuse as a child and post-traumatic stress from his combat tours.

In December 2000, after his conviction, the Pentagon informed Jones that he, along with about 130,000 other soldiers, may have been exposed to low levels of nerve gas wafting from a weapons depot troops destroyed near the southern Iraqi city of Khamisiyah in March 1991.

Two dogs kill girl

LUCINDA, Pa. (AP) — A 2-year-old girl was fatally mauled by two Rottweilers that escaped their cage, and state police Monday were trying to determine if criminal charges should be filed.

Lillie Krajewski of Buffalo, N.Y., was visiting her grandmother, in Lucinda, about 70 miles northeast of Pittsburgh, when the attack occurred Sunday.

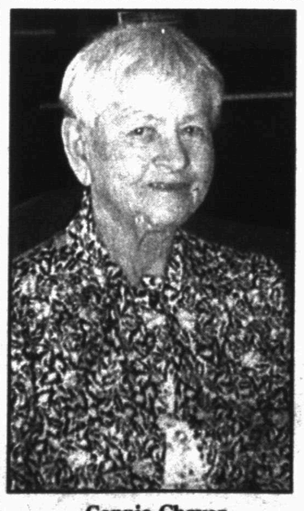
The dogs are owned by the child's uncle, Roger Hansen, who refused comment Monday except to say he wasn't sure how the animals escaped.

Part of the investigation will include determining how the dogs were able to get out of their cage, said Clarion County District Attorney Mark Aaron. He said the dogs would be euthanized.

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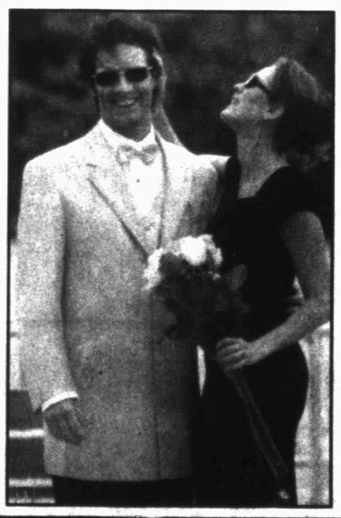


Connie Chavez

The resident of the week is Connie Chavez. Mrs. Chavez is 78 years old and has been a resident of Snyder Oaks Care Center for 1 year. Mrs. Chavez has 8 children, 27 grandchildren and lots of great-grandchildren. Connie attends a lot of the activities. We are glad to have Mrs. Chavez as part of the Snyder Oaks Community.

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Dale Huff, Minister

37th Street Church of Christ
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Christian Responsibility

What is our responsibility in times like this? Christians sincerely ask that question as our nation faces war and conflict. There are many aspects to the questions and issues surrounding war. It is good and important to ask and answer those questions from the Bible. By the time this article reaches your home, the conflict may already be engaged. What can we do? What should we do?

The words of the apostle Paul in I Timothy 2:1-6 may give us the best word for today:

> I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone- for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all men - the testimony given in its proper time.

Today is a day to pray for all those in authority that their decisions may lead to peace. We should pray, if the conflict has begun, that it will end quickly with as little loss of life as is possible. We should pray that God will protect all people involved in the conflict, knowing that God loves all men. Recognizing that God wants all men to be saved and that Christ gave himself as a ransom for all men, we should pray that doors may be opened for more people in the world to believe in and obey Jesus. In the end, that is the only real solution to the problems facing all of us.

Dale Huff

MAR 18 2003

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Obituaries

Fred Bullard

1921-2003

Fred Bullard, longtime Scurry County rancher and businessman, died Monday, March 17, in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock after a sudden illness.

Service for Mr. Bullard, 81, is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in the First United Methodist Church. The Rev. Miller Robinson, retired Baptist minister, will officiate. Burial will follow in the Snyder Cemetery under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

He was born on July 17, 1921 in Memphis, Tex.

Survivors include his wife, Jean Bullard of Snyder; two sons, Drew Bullard of Snyder and Tommy Bullard of Woodstock, N.Y.; and a sister, Florene Merritt of Snyder.

Gladys Sturdivant

1924-2003

Gladys Marie Sturdivant, a longtime Snyder resident, died Monday, March 17, in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock.

Funeral service for Mrs. Sturdivant, 78, is set for 10 a.m. Thursday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Michael Pigg, First Church of the Nazarene pastor, will officiate. Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens.



Sturdivant

Born Oct. 10, 1924 in Hale County, she married Charles Sturdivant on July 13, 1940 in Snyder. He died in 1976.

A homemaker, Mrs. Sturdivant had been a resident of Snyder since 1928 and was a member of the Church of Christ.

She was preceded in death by a son, Gary Sturdivant.

Survivors include three sons, Jimmy Sturdivant of Snyder, Roy Sturdivant of Hammond, La., and Wayne Sturdivant of Beaumont; 11 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Family visitation will be held from 6-7 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

Helen Hoyle

1922-2003

Helen Louise Hoyle, longtime Scurry County resident, died Sunday, March 16, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital after a brief illness.

Funeral service for Mrs. Hoyle is set for 11 a.m. Wednesday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel with Jack Bryant, Kingdom Hall Jehovah Witness elder, officiating. Burial will follow in the Snyder Cemetery.



Helen Hoyle

Born Jan. 28, 1922 in China Grove, she married Hallie Dale Hoyle on June 1, 1946. He died Oct. 10, 1985.

A homemaker, Mrs. Hoyle had lived in Snyder most of her life. She resided in Taft, Calif., for 10 years before returning to Snyder in 1996. She was a Jehovah Witness.

She also was preceded in death by three brothers and four sisters.

Survivors include three sons and daughters-in-law, Michael and Melissa Hoyle of Snyder, Jimmy Dale and Veeann Hoyle of Kilgore and Billy Jack and Karen Ellison of Benbrook; a brother, Lloyd Farmer of Taft; a sister, Lois Thompson of Taft; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Jack Casey, Danny Guerero, Gary Bryant, John Settles, Freddie Fontes and Bruce Miller.

Visitation will be from 6-8 this evening at the funeral home.

Personal, Professional Service

BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME

3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Bessie McCauley

1923-2003

Bessie L. McCauley, 79, died Sunday, March 16, in Mitchell County Hospital in Colorado City.



Mrs. McCauley

Funeral service for Mrs. McCauley, 79, is set for 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Cliff Griffith, pastor of the Union Baptist Church, and the Rev. Chris McCauley, a nephew, will officiate. Burial will follow in the Snyder Cemetery.

Born Aug. 14, 1923 in Bell County, she married Eddie Milton McCauley on Dec. 2, 1939 in Gail. He died April 15, 1973.

She also was preceded in death by a daughter, Wanda Lindsey; her parents, H.O. and Lela Gill; two brothers, Sonny and James Gill; and two great-grandsons.

Mrs. McCauley was a homemaker and a member of the Union Baptist Church.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Doris and Ray Jones of Hermleigh; two sons, Robert McCauley and Don McCauley and his wife, Linda, all of Snyder; a son-in-law, Jessie Lindsey of Ira; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Louise and Harvey Stevens of Snyder and Cherry and Clint Hembree of Union; a brother and sister-in-law, Ed and Dorothy Gill of Snyder; 12 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Visitation will be held from 6 to 8 this evening at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Ollie Kidd

1922-2003

Ollie Irene Kidd of Loraine died Sunday, March 16, in Mitchell County Hospital in Colorado City.



Ollie Kidd

Funeral service for Mrs. Kidd, 80, is set for 11 a.m. Wednesday in the Loraine Baptist Church with the Rev. Bryan Waddell, pastor, officiating. Burial will follow in the Lone Wolf Cemetery under the direction of Wright Colonial Funeral Home.

Born Nov. 15, 1922 in Poolville, Tex., she married Wilson P. Kidd on Sept. 21, 1940. He preceded her in death as did two sisters, Inez Oneta Prince and Iva Nell Barker; and four brothers, Samuel Hollis Chandler, Donald Doyle Chandler, Floyd Carroll Chandler and Leonard Wallace Chandler.

A homemaker, Mrs. Kidd had been a resident of Loraine since 1940 and was a member of the Loraine Baptist Church.

Survivors include two daughters, Margaret Jean Hale of Spicewood and Barbara Ilene Long of Savannah, Ga.; a brother, M.L. Chandler of Snyder; four grandchildren, Joe Bill Hale, Dustan Ray Hale, Ronda Janelle Brunton and Brandon Jay Long; three great-grandchildren, Cody Dane Hale, Hattie Marie Hale and Kelsea Janelle Thompkins.

The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 this evening at Wright Colonial Funeral Home.

Irene Beinhauer

1917-2003

Irene Lucille Beinhauer, longtime Hermleigh area resident, died Sunday, March 16, in Abilene Regional Hospital following a lengthy illness.

Service for Mrs. Beinhauer, 86, is set for 4 p.m. Wednesday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Gwana Segaran, pastor of the Roscoe Lutheran Church, will officiate. Burial will follow in the Roscoe Cemetery.

Born Feb. 27, 1917 in Victoria, she married Victor Beinhauer on Dec. 3, 1938 in Roscoe. She was a homemaker and a member of the Lutheran Church.

Survivors include her husband, Victor Beinhauer of Hermleigh; a daughter, Carol Mitchell of San Angelo; a son, Travis Beinhauer of Hamilton; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Becky Sharp

1962-2003

LONGVIEW — Becky Sharp, a native of Snyder, died Friday, March 14, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

Funeral service for Mrs. Sharp, 40, is set for 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Rader Funeral Home Chapel with Ron Elkins and Charles Groce officiating. Burial will follow in Rosewood Park.

Born Aug. 1, 1962 in Snyder, she was a homemaker and a Baptist.

She was preceded in death by a son, Donavan Gerald Sharp; and her grandparents, Vernon and Nina Duncan.

Survivors include husband, Randy Sharp of Longview; a daughter, Jennifer Laurens of Longview; a son, Jeffrey Laurens of Longview; her parents, Mike and Kathy Welsh of Longview and formerly of Snyder; four uncles, Tommy Welsh of Snyder, Barry, Cary and Gary Welsh, all of Odessa; and three grandsons.

Lee Jones

1954-2003

HOLTS SUMMIT, Mo. — Audry Lee Jones, a former resident of Snyder, died Sunday, March 16, at St. Mary's Health Center.

Funeral service for Mr. Jones, 48, is set for noon Wednesday in the Houser-Millard Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Frank Whitney officiating. Private graveside service will be held.

Born Nov. 17, 1954 in Memphis, Tenn., he was a graduate of Bartlett High School and attended Union College in Tennessee.

Mr. Jones was the food service director for Great Western Dining at Western Texas College from 1996 to December 2002. From 1994-95 he was owner of the Bourbon Street Café.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Audry and Annie Sue Jones; and a brother, Larry Glover.

Survivors include two brothers, Gary Jones of Holts Summit and Dale Jones of Duncan, Okla.

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Wesson ties for seventh place at regional bee

Three Scurry County students spelled at the regional bee in Lubbock on March 8.

J.W. Wesson, Snyder Junior High School 7th grader and son of Jay and Tammy Wesson, tied for seventh place.

Also competing were Julian Fuentes, Hermleigh sixth grader, and John Martini, Ira fifth grader. Fuentes is the son of Mike and Erlinda Fuentes. Martini's parents are Mike and Michelle Martini.

For the first time this year each school district in the county could send a representative to the regional bee.

USDA increases security to protect food supply

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Agriculture Department on Tuesday told food processors and farmers to increase security in light of the heightened terror alert.

"Our experts have provided security guidelines for producers, processors and food providers in order to strengthen systems at the local level," said Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman.

The government raised the terror level from yellow to orange on Monday, indicating there's a high risk of terrorism against American interests. It was elevated as the nation prepared for a possible attack on Iraq.

Security has been increased at key USDA buildings, such as laboratories. Veneman also said emergency response teams at the department have been put on standby in case of a terrorist attack.

Snyder man gets four year term

A 30-year-old Snyder man was sentenced to four years in prison today after entering a plea of guilty for assault, family violence.

Jury selection in the trial was to have begun this morning.

Raymond Medrano Vera Jr. of 1303½ 23rd St. pleaded guilty to the charge of hitting a family member on Aug. 25.

He was indicted last September.

Judge Ernie Armstrong handed down the sentence.

District Attorney Dana Cooley prosecuted the case, and Bradley C. Miles of San Angelo represented the defendant.

Hotel-motel tax grants approved

The Snyder Chamber of Commerce board of directors Monday approved two hotel-motel grants totaling $2,000.

They approved a request from Bernhard Bartels on behalf of the horseshoe organization for $1,000 to be used for an upcoming tournament.

The request for $1,000 by the WTC Rodeo Booster Club also was approved.

Executive director Donna Fowler said plans for the Western Swing Festival to be held in June include a cookbook. Program advertisements are being sold and she said anyone is welcome to submit recipes for the cookbook.

She also said Christmas ornaments, owned by the city, need to be stored in a different place due to the space needed for a new fire truck.

Directors approved building on to the chamber's storage building near the chamber office to store the decorations.

Board president Mike Thornton presided and members in attendance were Darren Jackson, David Harrell, Elois Pruitt, Jeffery Martin, Dr. Greg Williams, Ann Smartt, Elliott Cox, Billy Grimmett, Paula McWilliams, Anita Talbott and David Boyd. Staff members included Fowler and assistant director Sandra Salinas.

Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

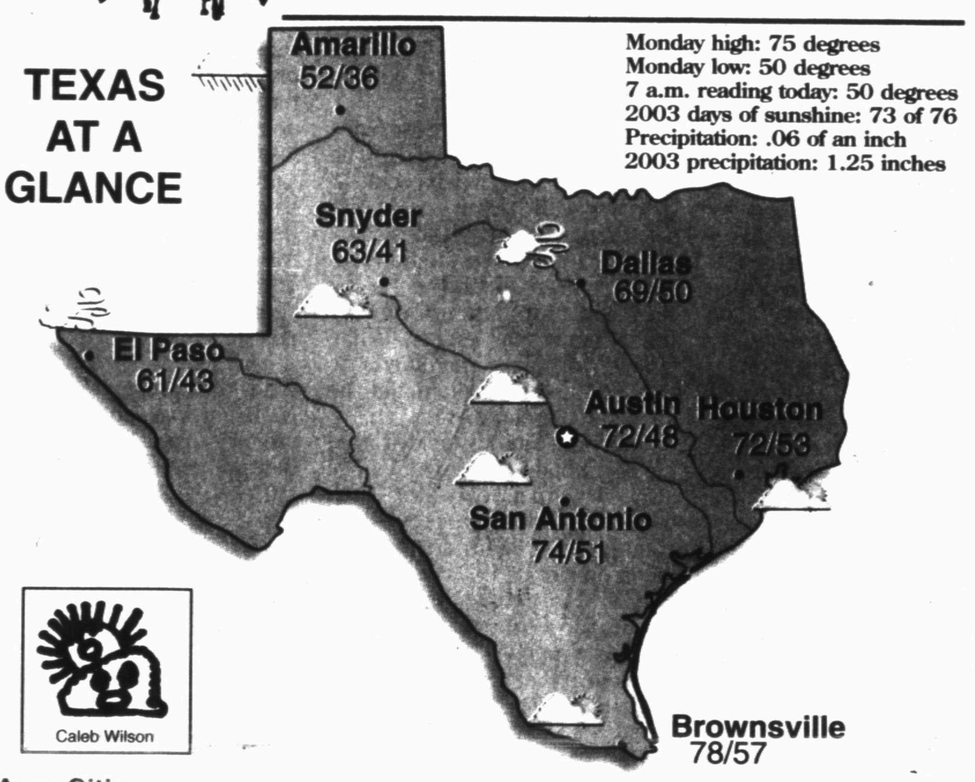
Wed 3/19	Thu 3/20	Fri 3/21
63/41	64/33	69/37
Partly cloudy skies. High 63F. Winds WSW at 15 to 25 mph.	Partial sunshine. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the low 30s.	Thunderstorms developing in the afternoon.
Sunrise 6:49 AM / Sunset 6:54 PM	Sunrise 6:48 AM / Sunset 6:55 PM	Sunrise 6:46 AM / Sunset 6:56 PM

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TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Monday high: 75 degrees
Monday low: 50 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 50 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 73 of 76
Precipitation: .06 of an inch
2003 precipitation: 1.25 inches

Caleb Wilson

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	65	46	windy	El Paso	61	43	windy	Midland	66	44	windy
Amarillo	52	36	rain	Fort Stockton	68	46	windy	Raymondville	79	54	pt sunny
Austin	72	48	pt sunny	Gainesville	66	44	pt sunny	Rosenberg	73	52	pt sunny
Beaumont	72	52	pt sunny	Greenville	67	45	windy	San Antonio	74	51	pt sunny
Brownsville	78	57	pt sunny	Houston	72	53	pt sunny	San Marcos	73	49	windy
Brownwood	71	47	windy	Kingsville	78	52	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	68	45	windy
Corpus Christi	74	54	pt sunny	Livingston	71	46	pt sunny	Sweetwater	67	43	windy
Corsicana	68	49	windy	Longview	71	46	pt sunny	Tyler	71	49	windy
Dallas	69	50	windy	Lubbock	61	40	windy	Weatherford	68	44	windy
Del Rio	76	53	windy	Lufkin	71	49	mst sunny	Wichita Falls	67	45	pt sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	72	57	t-storm	Houston	72	53	pt sunny	Phoenix	66	51	pt sunny
Boston	38	29	mst sunny	Los Angeles	67	50	mst sunny	San Francisco	62	51	pt sunny
Chicago	50	42	t-storm	Miami	90	77	pt sunny	Seattle	59	44	rain
Dallas	69	50	windy	Minneapolis	41	35	mixed	St. Louis	67	47	t-storm
Denver	34	28	snow	New York	44	32	pt sunny	Washington, DC	47	37	cloudy

Moon Phases

Full	Last	New	First
Mar 18	Mar 25	Apr 1	Apr 9

UV Index

Wed 3/19	Thu 3/20	Fri 3/21
High	High	High

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV index showing the need for greater skin protection. 0 — 11

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