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WT-Int. Crude - $30.42
WTIC Posted - $27.25
Natural Gas - $5.19

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

MONDAY
July 7, 2003
Vol. 55 No. 58
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Amanda Hartzog

To post-legislative conference...

Court's split vote sends JP packing

By Brian Brisendine
SDN Staff Writer

On a split vote by the commissioners' court this morning, Justice of the Peace Deborah Boyd was granted the $500 line-item transfer denied to her at the court's June 16 meeting.

Commissioners Howard Limmer and Chloanne Lindsey voiced opposition to the item and cast dissenting votes.

"I don't have anything against Deborah (Boyd)," Limmer said. "I just think that at some point we have to be more responsible with the money we're provided. I know it doesn't take long to spend $1,500 in a budget line, but we're in a budget crunch.

"I could go to schools and conferences all over the state and I'd like to go to more, but I don't have the money so I don't go."

County Judge Rod Waller cast the deciding vote in favor of the funds transfer, siding with commissioners Ralph Trevey and Jerry House for approval.

The JP's budget includes $1,500 annually for travel expense and Boyd uses her personal vehicle, but the amount has been depleted already.

Elected officials are required to obtain a certain number of continuing education hours each year and attend classes and seminars to do so.

Boyd told the court she already has her required hours for the year, but argued that she needs the funds to attend a post-legislative conference to study laws passed in the last legislative session.

Commissioner Trevey agreed with the JP that the conference is important.

"I think that the post-legislative conference is extremely important for us as elected officials," he said. "For us to limit a department head's ability to attend is not productive. The money the JP is asking for is already in her budget, she just wants to move it over."

Commissioner Lindsey said the $500 Boyd is requesting would not be enough to cover her expenses for the conference.

In other business, the court unanimously approved consolidating precinct polling places for the Sept. 13 constitution amendment election.

The ballot includes 22 proposed amendments, but voter turnout is traditionally low for constitutional elections and County Clerk Joan Bunch said it "makes good sense to consolidate the voting booths."

The Precinct 1 box will be on the north side of the coliseum, while Precinct 2 will vote at the library.

Precinct 3 will cast ballots at the Towle Park barn and Precinct 4 will vote on the south side of the coliseum.

A line-item transfer of $1,400 was approved for the county clerk's office and a budget amendment for $9,528 to purchase a shredder in Precinct 2 also was approved.

Minutes from a previous meeting were approved and bills were paid.

Waller presided and all members of the court were present.



DYESS SPEAKER — Maj. Bob Starr and Snyder Lions Club president Ted Crenwelge enjoy a light-hearted moment following the annual prayer breakfast July 4th. (Contributed Photo)

Bank deposits paint picture of healthy economy in Snyder

Total bank deposits in Snyder financial institutions again paint a picture of a healthy local economy.

Combined deposits at mid-year were $242.7 million, an increase of $25.5 million over the same time last year. When compared to the first quarter of 2003, deposits had increased $11.4 million.

The figures were based on call reports on June 30 at Snyder National Bank, West Texas State Bank, Texas Savings Bank and American State Bank. Only First American Bank does not report individual branch data.

Total deposits at Snyder National were $96.5 million, an increase of $12.2 million when compared to the $84.3 million on hand at mid-year in 2002. When compared to the end of 2003's first quarter, SNB deposits increased $4.1 million.

Deposits at West Texas State Bank were $80.1 million, an increase of $6.1 million compared to the first six months of 2002 and an increase of $4.1 million evaluated against the first three months of 2003.

At Texas Savings Bank, deposits totaled $37.9 million, an increase of $5 million compared to the first six months of last year and an increase of $1.6 over the past three months.

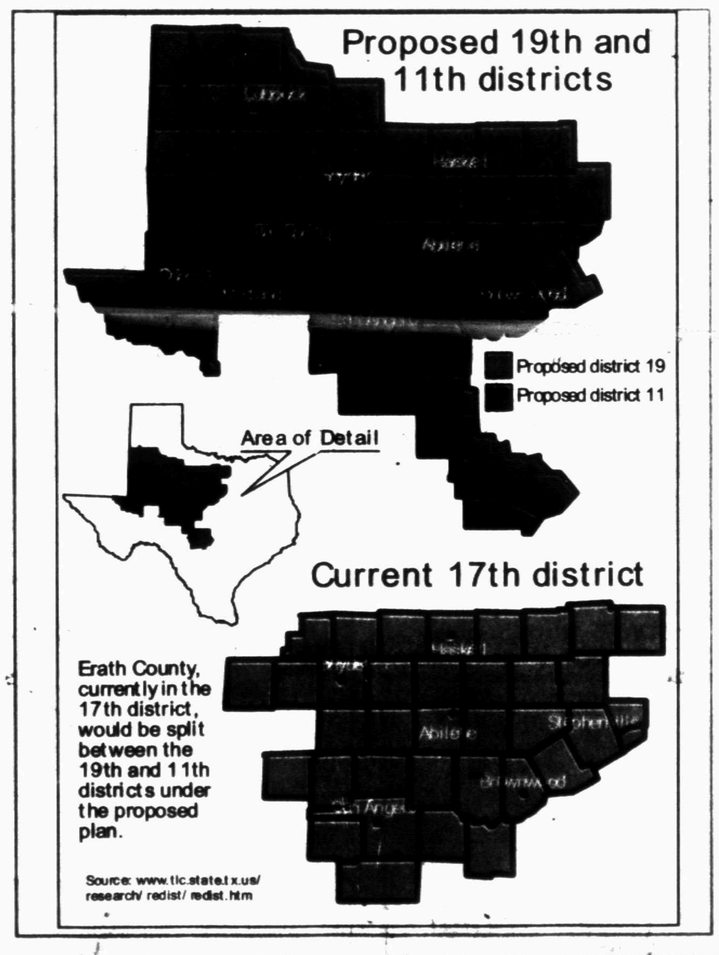
American State Bank reported deposits of $28.2 million, an increase of $2.2 million when compared to last mid-year, and a jump of $1.6 million since the end of the first quarter of this year.

Combined loans at Snyder National, West Texas and Texas Savings banks were $98.8 million at mid-year, compared to $97.9 million at the same time last year, an increase of $900,000.

Loans at Snyder National totaled $30 million, an increase of $4.2 million over the same time last year and an increase of $1.1 million since the close of this year's third quarter.

Total loans at WTSB were $34 million, a drop of $5.5 million over the past 12 months and a decline of $1.8 million when compared to loans reported at the close of last year's third quarter.

Loans at Texas Savings Bank totaled $34.8 million, an increase of $2.2 million compared to the close of the second quarter in 2002 and an increase of $1 million over the past three months.



Erath County, currently in the 17th district, would be split between the 19th and 11th districts under the proposed plan.

Source: www.tlc.state.tx.us/research/redist/redist.htm

Republicans push ahead with redistricting plans in Austin

AUSTIN (AP) — Only a week after the start of the special legislative session, Republicans are pushing ahead with a plan to redraw congressional boundaries and boost their party's numbers in Washington.

The measure was headed to the full House today where the fight is almost certain to get nasty.

When Republicans tried to push congressional redistricting toward a House vote during the spring regular session, 51 Democrats fled to Ardmore, Okla., to block a quorum and halt debate, killing the bill.

That tactic isn't expected this time.

"I don't have a problem with doing it, but I think that many of my colleagues have already put their careers at risk in the last walkout," said Rep. Jose Menendez, D-San Antonio.

The outnumbered Democrats have vowed to do their best to wage a fight, but they won't say exactly how.

The GOP is gunning for a grip on the 32-member Texas delegation in Congress. Democrats currently hold a 17-15 advantage, but Republicans — urged on by U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay of Sugar Land — say existing congressional boundaries don't allow for the election of Congress members who reflect the state's increasingly GOP voting patterns.

"We just want lines that are more fair than they are now," said state Rep. Mike Krusee, an Austin-area Republican on the House Redistricting Committee.

Democrats don't want to change the existing district lines.

In a mostly party line vote, the committee approved a congressional map Saturday proposed by Rep. Kent Grusendorf, R-Arlington. The plan, which builds on one previously offered by Republican Rep. Phil King of Weatherford, could send 21 Republicans from Texas to Congress.

Grusendorf said his plan is a fair one. He said it will allow for effective rural representation and improve on a previous Republican map by ensuring minority communities in Waco are not divided.

Most Democrats on the committee, though, criticized the plan, saying it will eliminate rural and minority representation across Texas.

Rep. Richard Raymond, D-Laredo, has accused Republican lawmakers of trying to create "political ghettos" where minorities have no voice.

Any redistricting plan must get approval from the U.S. Department of Justice that it is fair to minorities under the federal Voting Rights Act. New congressional lines also would be challenged in court.

The House Calendars Committee on Sunday set House floor debate on the bill today. Calendars Chair Beverly Woolley, a Houston Republican, said she expects a tense atmosphere.

"Judging by the committee hearings, I'm sure there will be lots of objections," Woolley said. "But I believe we've got a map that does represent the population of the state."

Raymond continuously has argued with Republicans on the redistricting committee and repeatedly suggested Chairman Joe Crabb, R-Atascocita, has discriminated against Hispanics during the process.

Raymond questioned whether public hearings provided sufficient access for Spanish speakers. He criticized Crabb for asking a Hispanic Korean War veteran who was testifying to provide his Social Security number. Most Democrats want to keep the existing congressional map drawn by a three-judge federal panel in 2001.

"The community of color is very well represented by the current members of Congress," said Rep. Pete Gallego, D-Alpine. "Redistricting is not the right thing to do at this point in time."

U.S. military experts in Liberia

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) — A team of U.S. military experts arrived in Liberia today to assess whether to deploy troops as part of an intervention force that would restore order to a nation torn by civil war.

A blue and white wide-bodied helicopter swept in over Monrovia's Atlantic coastline to alight on a helipad within the heavily-guarded walls of the U.S. embassy compound.

About a dozen soldiers in combat garb jumped out to be met by staffers from the U.S. embassy in Liberia.

Navy Capt. Roger Coldiron, leader of the 32-person team, told reporters that his mission is to "assess the security environment" in the country as well as study the humanitarian needs of its 3 million people — suffering greatly from more than a decade of civil strife.

"There is a security component," Coldiron added. "We want to be sure that whomever comes in is safe on the ground."

A decision on whether U.S. soldiers will join an intervention force shouldn't be expected today, U.S. Ambassador John W. Blaney told reporters. Coldiron said the mission would take as long as needed before making any recommendation.

Liberian President Charles Taylor, beset by rebels and indicted by a U.N.-backed war crimes court in Sierra Leone, said Sunday he would step down and take exile in Nigeria, but urged the United States to send peacekeepers to ensure an orderly transition.

Taylor gave no timeframe for when he would quit power and he did not specify whether the deployment of a peacekeeping force was a condition for his departure.

President Bush heads to Africa today for visits to five nations.

Finances on city's agenda for tonight

Snyder's city council will be crunching numbers at this evening's council meeting as several financial matters are on the agenda.

Besides continuing work on the city's 2003-2004 budget, the council will review the annual financial report, the management letter from the city's auditor, and the quarterly financial report.

The council also will review bids for employee health insurance.

An executive session is scheduled to discuss real estate matters.

The meeting is set for 6:30 in council chambers at city hall.

ASK US

Q—What state leads the nation in alcohol-related deaths?
A—Texas.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Heather Hall...

...moved to Snyder for the second time in December from Houston. She works at United Supermarket and she is the daughter of Cary and Ellen Hall. Cary works at Southern Electric and Ellen is a dispatcher at the Sheriff's office. When she's not at work, Heather enjoys deer hunting and working on the family ranch near Dermott. She hopes to join the Air Force soon.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

I learned growing up that there were two very important things that money couldn't buy — love and poverty. And my family had as much of both as no money could buy.
—Tommy Lasorda

JUL 07 2003

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

WTC holiday notice

Offices at Western Texas College are closed today. However, night classes will still be held.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 this evening is "How to Receive God and His Blessings," followed by "Are You Listening?"

Student success workshop

Snyder ISD will host a parent-child workshop from 10 a.m. until noon Wednesday at the Region 14 Education Service Center satellite office at 4300 College Ave. The make and take workshop is for children ages 3-5. For more information call 574-6012.

Cogdell open house

Cogdell Memorial Hospital will host an open house of the renovated emergency/admitting entrance, front lobby, surgery area, chapel and gift shop from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday.

SHS mini cheerleading camp

Registration for the July 28-31 SHS mini cheerleading camp, ages 4 to 12, is set for 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at the Humble Smith Building. The cost, including T-shirt, is $40 per camper with $10 off for second and third camper in family. All campers will perform at halftime of Snyder's first home football game. Call Rhonda Ward at 573-3475 for more information.

Nurses aide class

Due to low response, the orientation for the nurses aide class has been postponed until 2 p.m. Thursday. A certified nurses aide class will be held from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday until Aug. 16. Tuition is free and books may be purchased at WTC. For more information, call Maggie Barnes at 863-2426.

FBC services televised

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

JV cheerleader fundraiser

The JV cheerleaders will be selling Krispy Kreme doughnuts from 7 a.m. until 11 a.m. Friday for $6 a dozen at Wal-Mart. Call 573-1395 or 574-2995 to place orders.

Class of 1993 reunion

The SHS class of 1993 is planning a 10-year reunion Saturday. Classmate addresses are needed. Contact Catalina Jones at 573-5045, or e-mail class of 93shs@yahoo.com.

Country and gospel music

For country and gospel music come to the Senior Citizens Center at 6 p.m. Saturday.

Sunday lunch

Martha Ann Woman's Club will serve lunch beginning at 11:30 a.m. Sunday at the clubhouse, south of the hospital. Tickets cost $8.50 for adults and $4.50 for children. Call 573-3427 for tickets. Reservations needed no later than Saturday morning.

S.M.A.R.T. School

S.M.A.R.T School at Ira ISD with Carol Scott and Kim Allen will be held from 8-11:45 a.m. next Monday through Thursday. Transportation is available. Call 573-2628 to reserve your spot.

Senior swimnastics

Swimnastics for senior citizens is held from 10 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the WTC pool.

SHS football program ads

Advertisements are now being sold for the 2003 football program. Anyone interested in purchasing an ad can call Christy Smith at 573-6301.

Sonshine registration

Sonshine School at 37th St. Church of Christ is currently registering students for the fall semester. For more information, call director Wendy Barnett at 574-1960.

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.

Three injured when bridge collapses

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — A man and his 5-year-old twin grandsons were injured when the historic covered bridge they were walking across in the town of Wimer suddenly collapsed beneath them, authorities said.

Billy Haynes, 56, of Wimer, and his twin grandsons, Cleo and Mickey Harvey, were hurt when the bridge, built in 1892, crumpled Sunday afternoon in the small southern Oregon town.

All three were taken to Rogue Valley Medical Center in Medford.

Mickey Harvey was treated for his injuries and released, while Cleo Harvey underwent surgery for his injuries, according to the Jackson County sheriff's department. Billy Haynes was listed in critical condition and was in the intensive care unit Sunday night.

"I heard a crack, like a wooden baseball bat, and I turned around to see the roof — which is an A-frame type roof with shingles on it — and saw it disappear from eyesight. I got one step to the door to call 911, and I heard a louder crack and that's when the whole thing fell through," said Tom Rennert, who was working at the nearby Covered Bridge Market when he saw the bridge collapse.

The bridge spans about 100 feet across Evans Creek, which is about 40 feet below the bridge.

There were no vehicles on the bridge, which has a three-ton weight limit, when it collapsed, Sgt. Marty Clark said. It was unclear why the bridge collapsed, he said.

Fifteen people immediately went to rescue the trio, Rennert said.

"My wife is a nurse and I know you're not supposed to move injured people, but we were afraid the rest of the bridge was going to come down on them," Rennert said.

Immediately after the collapse, Haynes was conscious and able to give his rescuers the boys' mother's name and telephone number, Rennert said.

Rennert said the bridge was to undergo repair work.

"There were some repairs done on it a few years ago, and there was going to be some more work done on it but it had to pass through the county budget. It was going to happen next year, but I guess next year didn't come soon enough," Rennert said.

Police said at least one man was cited for trying to take shingles from the collapsed bridge, possibly as a souvenir of the historic structure.

Third congenital heart defect gene identified in new study

By The Associated Press

Scientists have identified a third gene that can cause congenital heart defects, a leading cause of death in newborns.

A malfunctioning version of the gene, called GATA4, can lead to defects in the formation of the walls that separate the four chambers of the heart.

Individuals from families with a history of the common heart defect already are being screened for the mutated gene. Such screenings can prepare them for the possibility their offspring are at risk.

The discovery also could lead to drug or genetic therapies that could fix the problem in fetuses, although such treatments are years away, said study co-author Dr. Deepak Srivastava, of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

Details of the discovery appeared Sunday on the Web site of the journal Nature.

About 25,000 babies born in the United States each year, or as many as one in 125 births, have a heart defect, according to the March of Dimes. Many defects require open heart surgery to repair.

Congenital heart defects could one day be preventable, said Srivastava.

"There is nothing worse than telling a parent on the day their child is born that there are problems," Srivastava told The Dallas Morning News. "But I think we are going to crack this thing."

American and Japanese researchers discovered the mutated gene while plumbing the genetic makeups of two multigenerational families plagued by heart defects. GATA4 mutations appeared in all family members with defects, but not in those without, nor did researchers find it in 3,000 unrelated individuals they screened.

The gene, which regulates a host of other genes, is the third known to play a role in heart defects. Researchers believe others remain to be discovered.

Eventually, the gene also could reveal a way of repairing the damage caused by heart attacks in adults, since it appears to regulate heart tissue growth, said Dr. Roberta Williams, a pediatric cardiologist at the University of Southern California who was not connected with the research.

Driver hits group of bicyclists in Florida

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — A motorist swerved over the center lane in a no-passing zone Sunday and plowed into a group of oncoming bicyclists, injuring 14 of them, officials said.

Joseph Pastore, 60, said he was trying to pass a slow-moving car when he struck the group on a two-lane residential road, said police spokesman George Kajtsa.

The 25 to 30 bicyclists were members of two clubs who were on a weekly outing.

It was unclear how fast Pastore was traveling or if his driver's license was valid. Kajtsa said investigators questioned him and initiated tests to see if he was impaired by alcohol or medication. Charges were pending the outcome of the investigation.

None of the bicyclists had life-threatening injuries, officials said.

—

The basic monetary unit of Saudi Arabia is the riyal, and its chief fractional unit is the halala.

—

Florida is the 27th state.

Today's chuckle

House shaped like giant shoe for sale

HELLAM, Pa. (AP) — House hunters and footwear fanatics, take note: A three-bedroom, two bath house that happens to be shaped like a giant shoe is up for sale.



The Haines Shoe House, a York County landmark near Route 30 in Hellam Township, was put on the market three weeks ago.

Ruth and Charles Miller are asking $129,000 for their well-heeled house.

"If it wouldn't be for my age I wouldn't even think of putting it on the market," said Ruth Miller, 77. "I'd like to find a young couple to come and give it a try."

The Shoe House was built in 1948 by central Pennsylvania shoe magnate Mahlon Haines, who used it to promote his 40-plus stores by giving away honeymoon weekends at the house. The company folded shortly after his death in 1962.

A local dentist bought the Shoe House and turned it into an ice cream parlor. He died in the mid-1980s and the house fell into disrepair.

Haines' granddaughter bought it in 1987 and renovated it, and Ruth Miller bought it in 1995.

"She came home and said, 'I bought a shoe,'" Charles Miller recalled.



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$10 off for 2nd or 3rd camper in family
Cost includes camp T-shirt.



CAMP DATES: MONDAY JULY 28TH THROUGH THURSDAY, JULY 31ST

All campers will perform at halftime of the first home Snyder Tiger Football Game.
More information call Rhonda Ward 573-3475

Woman and child rescued

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — A woman allegedly threw her twin infant sons off a bridge into the Mississippi River, then jumped in herself, screaming incoherently as she fell 75 feet to the water, police said.

Several people who were at the river's edge for the city's July Fourth fireworks display Friday jumped in after them. A man rescued one of the 11-month-old boys, then pulled the mother to safety with the help of others.

By then, the second boy had disappeared, said police Cmdr. Brian Coyle.

The body of a baby was found Sunday night about 17 miles downriver, and Dakota County Sheriff's dispatcher Jan Kaeder said officials were "all but technically sure it's the child." She said a coroner would make the final determination.

Naomi Gaines, 24, and the rescued boy were expected to recover.

Coyle said Gaines, who has no criminal record, could face charges as early as Monday. She also has a 7-year-old son and a 4-year-old daughter, neighbors said.

She dropped the twins over the 5-foot railing of a bridge, then climbed over and jumped, witnesses said.

Coyle said the unidentified man who led the rescue of Gaines and her son put himself in harm's way by swimming out into the powerful current.

"It was heroic," Coyle said. "I'm impressed that a citizen would jump into the river and do what he did."

Witnesses said the woman kept screaming and resisted her rescuers.

"We were just sitting there, and we heard her screaming," said Erin Mac, who was among thousands of people at the river's edge.

Date Book

Monday, July 7, 2003

Today is the 188th day of 2003 and the 17th day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1865, four people convicted of complicity with John Wilkes Booth in the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln were hanged.

On this day in 1949, "Dragnet," starring Jack Webb and Barton Yarborough, premiered on the NBC radio network.

On this day in 1981, President Ronald Reagan nominated Sandra Day O'Conner to be the first female U.S. Supreme Court justice. She was sworn in as an Associate Justice on Sept. 25, 1981.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Gustav Mahler (1860-1911), composer; Marc Chagall (1887-1985), artist; Doc Severinsen (1927-), musician, is 76; Dick Armey (1940-), U.S. congressman, is 63; Ringo Starr (1940-), musician, is 63.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1948, the Cleveland Indians signed Leroy "Satchel" Paige. Paige became the first African American to pitch in the major leagues.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "In our life there is a single color, as on an artist's palette, which provides the meaning of life and art. It is the color of love." — Marc Chagall

TODAY'S MOON: Between first quarter (July 6) and full moon (July 13).

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LOTTO TEXAS TEXAS LOTTERY RESULTS

Saturday's Lottery Numbers
Lotto Texas
AUSTIN (AP) — The winning numbers drawn in the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:
8-9-12-19-23
Bonus Ball: 41
Estimated jackpot: $18 million
Next Lotto Texas game: Wednesday night.
Cash Five
8-26-29-31-37
Pick 3
(Day) 8-0-1
(Night) 8-8-8

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Published each Sunday morning and each evening, except Saturday, by Snyder Publishing Co., Inc., 3600 College Ave., Snyder, Texas 79549.

Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Snyder, Texas, Publication Number USPS611-520.

POSTMASTER send change of address to P.O. Box 949, Snyder, Texas, 79550.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By carrier in Snyder, $9.25 per month.

By mail in Scurry and adjoining counties, one year $88.80 balance of Texas and out of state $113.85.

Roy McQueen, Publisher
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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Sight of boy alone in car weighs on witness' mind

DEAR ABBY: Yesterday I saw a little boy left alone in a parked car. The windows were rolled down about 2 inches. The child, probably 1 year old, was strapped in a child seat in the back of the vehicle. It was a hot day and the car was sitting in the sun.

I was going into the library, so I hoped that the parent would only be gone long enough to return a book. However, when I came out, the child was still there. I got into my car and was about to call the police, but before I did, the parent came out and drove away. I did jot down the license number.

I couldn't get the little boy out of my mind, so I phoned to report the incident to the police this afternoon. Perhaps it will keep that parent from doing it again. I know I should have taken action the moment I saw the child, and I feel guilty that I did not.

Abby, please remind your readers that children should NEVER be left alone in a car. Anyone who sees a child in an unattended car should phone the police immediately. I'm glad the baby didn't die because of my inaction. — **ILLINOIS PARENT**

DEAR ILLINOIS PARENT: Thank you for a timely reminder. Health experts warn that on a breezy day with the temperature only in the low 70s, the interior of a closed automobile can heat up to 125 degrees in 15 minutes. Even with the window cracked, a child could dehydrate within minutes — with deadly results. And the same goes for pets.

**

DEAR ABBY: I am a 17-year-old boy with a big problem. There's this girl, "Ashley," I really care about. But I don't know how to tell her. I took her to the junior prom and afterward we spent most of the night together — talking.

That night I realized how much Ashley and I have in common and how much I care for her. The trouble is, it's summer vacation, and it seems like she's always too busy to go out with me, or she already has plans.

We talk almost every day, but I need to see her and be with her. Abby, I know no one is perfect, but Ashley is the closest thing to it.

Yesterday I broke down and cried because I realized how much I want her to be mine. Can you please tell me what to do — and how to tell her my feelings? I ache inside. — **SMITTEN IN OHIO**

DEAR SMITTEN: Look at the bright side:

(1) Ashley obviously likes you. The two of you talk on the phone nearly every day. Tell her you really like her. It's a compliment and it's the truth.

(2) You shared a wonderful night at the prom. It is something the two of you will never forget.

Perhaps this will have to do for now. Summers fly by quickly, and soon you will have more school events to share. In the meantime, make plans with other friends and stay active. It will keep you from dwelling on the fact that you're not with Ashley as much as you'd like to be.

**

DEAR ABBY: Your recent letter regarding tattoos reminded me of an incident I'd like to share. Last year I, was in a nail salon in Hawaii, waiting for a manicure and a pedicure. Waiting with me were two ladies well into their 60s.

A girl of about 20 strolled in and sat down across the room from us. She was wearing a low-cut top, so we couldn't help but notice a prominent rose tattoo high on her breast.

One of the women leaned over to the rest of us and whispered, "Little does she know that when she's in her 50s, she'll have a long-stemmed rose!" — **KATHLEEN IN WASHINGTON STATE**

DEAR KATHLEEN: If you didn't laugh out loud, you deserve a bouquet of roses.

**

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

**

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

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Battle among hackers erupts on Internet

WASHINGTON (AP) — A battle among hackers erupted on the Internet Sunday as some factions disrupted a loosely coordinated "contest" among other groups trying to vandalize thousands of Web sites around the world.

Unknown attackers knocked offline for most of Sunday an independent security Web site, zone-h.org, that was verifying reports of online vandalism and being used by hackers to tally points for the competition. U.S. government and private technology experts warned last week that such vandalism was likely.

At least three such vigilante-style attacks forced the hacker organizer, who identified himself only as "Eleonora1/8673/8," to extend the contest until 6 p.m. EDT Sunday. But with disruptions preventing vandals from claiming credit for their breakins, some experts said it could be later this week before damage from this weekend's hacking would be known.

By late Sunday — with the zone-h.org Web site still offline — hackers had claimed responsibility for vandalizing hundreds of mostly obscure Web sites, such as ones for Security Title Co. and the Heart of Montana Realty Services, both of Bozeman, Mont.

"We're just a teeny little company," said Barb Asper, whose husband, Don, is one of the owners for Montana Realty. In a telephone interview, Don Asper called the attack "bothersome," before he and his wife contacted the firm's Web site provider to have the vandalized page replaced.

There were no reports of vandalism involving flagship Internet sites most consumers would recognize, a testament to improved online security over the past decade inside large corporations, government agencies and organizations.

"We at least knew it was coming," said Peter Allor of Internet Security Systems Inc., which distributed a warning Wednesday about the contest using an alert system for technology companies. "We took some efforts to harden our sites."

Internet Security Systems, citing the contest, had raised its alert level to its second notch, reflecting "increased vigilance."

But other security vendors, such as Symantec Corp., and even some government agencies downplayed the threats from Sunday's attacks. The U.S. Federal Computer Incident Response Center, an arm of the Department of Homeland Security, described the severity as "low," and the New York State Office of Cyber Security and Critical Infrastructure Coordination kept its alert level at its lowest setting all day Sunday.

Some of the relatively unknown Web sites vandalized Sunday, such as one for a church in California, were converted into informal reporting mechanisms for identifying other hacked sites.

Many security experts said the nickname of the hacker claiming responsibility for the contest, "Eleonora1/8673/8," was unfamiliar.

Large cat suspected in zoo bald eagle's death

WASHINGTON (AP) — Officials at the National Zoo suspect that a large cat got into a bald eagle's enclosure and killed the bird, perhaps already weakened by fierce storms and unable to fly.

It is the latest in a series of animal deaths at the zoo.

The male eagle died Friday morning, the same day that the zoo celebrated a new exhibit designed especially for bald eagles hurt in the wild.

The dead eagle was housed separately from the zoo's two new eagles that were donated by American Eagle Foundation based at singer Dolly Parton's Dollywood theme park in Pigeon Forge, Tenn.

The 21-year-old eagle, found by a zookeeper early Thursday, had severe puncture wounds to his abdomen and back, spokeswoman Julie Mason said. Zookeepers suspect a large cat crept into the cage and attacked the eagle, who could have been injured during Wednesday night's fierce rain storms.

"It very likely is a bobcat, but we haven't for a 100 percent identified it as a bobcat, but I think we're leaning toward that," said Bill Xanten, zoo general curator.

Xanten believes the eagle could not fly and the cat took advantage of the situation.

"Under ordinary circumstances, I find it really hard to believe that a cat would take on a full grown bald eagle," added Xanten.

The eagles are about 29 inches to 42 inches long, can weigh up to 15 pounds, and have a wing span of up to 8 feet, making them one of the largest birds in North America.

Park police took casts of paw prints in the bird's exhibit, which is about 24 feet high, 40 feet long and 15 feet deep. Experts were looking at the casts and planned to study the bite patterns on the bird, Xanten said. They also set up cameras and traps using fish as bait inside the bird cage, hoping to catch the predator.

Small feral cats, attracted by the eagle's fish meal, had been in the exhibit before, but there were no problems, Xanten said.

The zoo is in Rock Creek Park and bobcats can be found in Maryland and Virginia, Xanten added.

The death comes shortly before the start of an independent review, conducted at the request of Congress, into recent animal deaths at the zoo.

A bald eagle died last year after becoming infected with the West Nile virus. Two red pandas that ate rat poison died in January and two zebras starved to death in January 2000. There has been at least a dozen other deaths including a lion, orangutan and elephant.

Al Cecere, president of the foundation that previously cared for the zoo's newest bald eagles, said Sunday he was not worried about the birds' safety.

"Whenever you have an organization that cares for literally hundreds of animals you're going to have some deaths on occasion," Cecere said. "It's just sad that that happened, especially on the Fourth of July."



OPEN HOUSE

Cogdell Memorial Hospital

You are invited...

Open House

Emergency/Admitting Entrance
Front Lobby
Emergency/Surgery Waiting Rooms
Family Consult Room
Auxiliary Gift Shop
Sue Mize Chapel

D.M. Cogdell Memorial Hospital

1700 Cogdell Blvd.
Snyder, Texas

Wednesday, July 9, 2003
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

OPEN HOUSE

Automatic Attendant Telephone Answering Feature

Beginning Wednesday, July 9, 2003 Cogdell Memorial Hospital will implement an Automated Attendant (automatic answering) for our incoming telephone calls.

This system will give you the opportunity to select an extension from the most frequently called extensions and departments within the hospital, select an extension you already know, or stay on the line for an operator to assist you.

Through our hospital phone system, you may dial any phone within the hospital directly. You may also dial any patient room (if you know the room number) by dialing 574+7+room number (i.e. to reach Room 321 you would dial 574-7321). For your convenience, you may also dial the main hospital number (325) 573-6374 and follow the voice instruction to reach any extension in the hospital.

Magnets available during Open House and/or Admitting Desk!

Cogdell Memorial Hospital
325-573-6374

Department Directory
Area Code (325)

Administration	574-7437
Accounting	
General	574-7456
Patient Insurance	574-7452
Admitting	574-7354
Auxiliary	574-7468
Ambulatory Services/ Day Surgery	574-7162
Financial Counselor	574-7390
Home Health	574-7340
Human Resources	574-7226
Medical Records	574-7381
Nursing Administration	574-7240
Rehab	574-7259
Rural Health Clinic	574-2488
Specialty Clinic	574-7287

Patient Room
Dial 574 + 7 + Room Number

JUL 07 2003

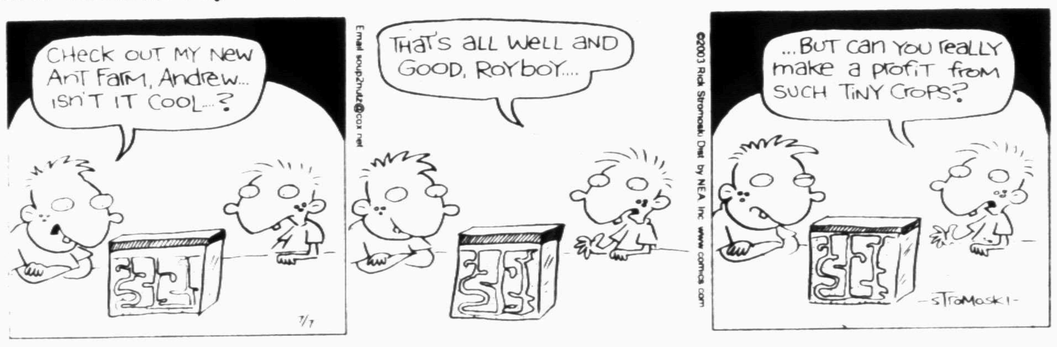
ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman



THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



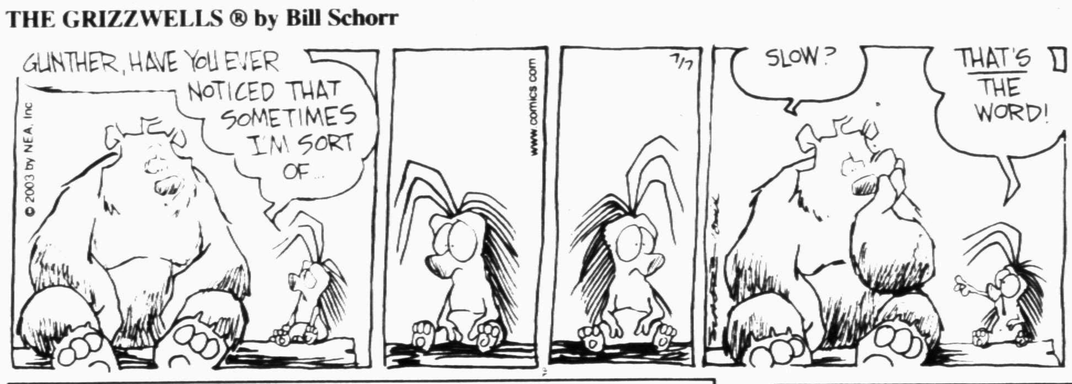
BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell



BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun



THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Put on
4 Approx. number
7 Quick punch
10 Still exist
11 Cut
13 — — glance
14 "Pow!"
15 Identical
16 Sprinkle
17 Yearned
19 Considers
21 John, in Aberdeen
22 Census info
23 Saunters
26 Twittered
30 Nautical position
31 Soup veggie
32 Mr. Gehrig
33 Two, in Tijuana
34 CTRL neighbor
35 Repair
36 Have doubts
39 Finance option
40 Baseball's Mel —
41 Yak
42 Moor
45 Father of geometry
48 Mammal's need
49 Agassi or Gide
51 Dog's bark
53 Wk. day
54 Taboos (hyph.)
55 Chap
56 Beverage
57 Deckhand
58 Kimono sash

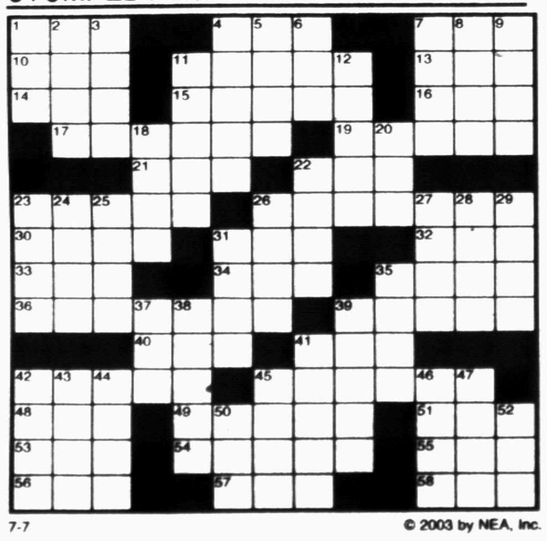
DOWN

1 Smidgen
2 Out loud
3 Fictional captain
4 DeGeneres sitcom
5 Uttered
6 Cluck of disapproval
7 Green stone
8 Quark's place
9 Rackets
11 Heroic tales
12 Beat around the bush
18 Winged Victory
20 Wide shoe size
22 At the drop of — —
23 Fat cats' bundles
24 Matty or Felipe
25 Minus
26 Stonehenge frequenter
27 Request
28 Many centuries
29 Kind of ranch
31 Agreement
35 Whimper
37 Food cooker
38 Actor — Hawke
39 Adds brandy
41 Impaneled one
42 Knife handle
43 Blarney Stone site
44 Soprano's solo
45 Writer — Ferber
46 "Othello" heavy
47 Trounce
50 "— on your life!"
52 Memo acronym

Answer to Previous Puzzle

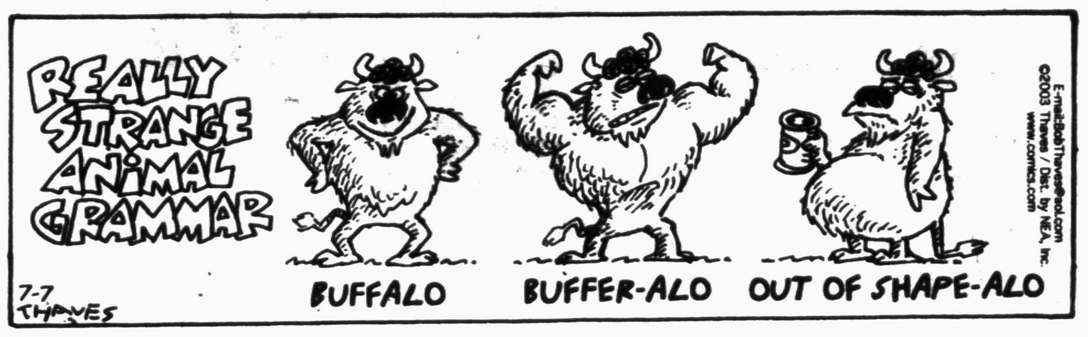
U	S	E	R		R	F	D		U	C	L	A
T	I	L	E		A	L	E		P	L	U	M
A	L	A	N		M	O	L	E	C	U	L	E
	K	N	E	W		R	U	M		B	U	N
			W	I	S	E	G	U	Y			
M	E	W		R	A	T	E		O	P	I	E
E	R	A	S	E	D				W	I	G	S
S	I	D	E				M	E	L	E	E	S
H	E	E	L		P	E	A	T		R	T	E
			F	O	R	S	O	O	K			
S	P	Y		R	E	P		N	A	P	S	
G	E	O	D	E	S	I	C		R	A	N	G
T	R	U	E		T	E	A		A	R	I	A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

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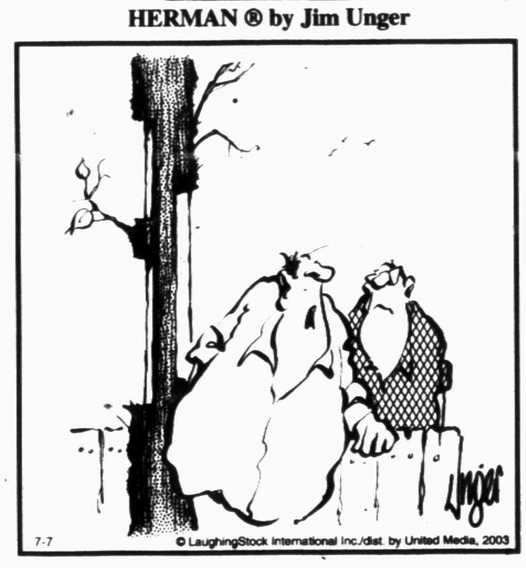
ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen



HERMAN ® by Jim Unger



"Your wife tells me you're making some bookshelves."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"SO, IF YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE PLAYING... DOES THAT MEAN YOU ALWAYS WIN?"

Snyder Daily News Comics

SPORTS

Snyder claims Rotan tourney

The Snyder Little League All-Stars used a six-run sixth inning to comeback from a 4-3 deficit Saturday to claim first place in the Rotan tournament, beating Key City, 9-4.

The 11- and 12-year-olds will play Eastland, the number two seed in the Dixie tournament, at 6 tonight in Rotan.

Snyder banged out 13 hits, including six in the final inning.

Jon Ryan Hernandez led off with a single and was doubled home by Rance Dunn to tie the game. After a walk to Seth Sanchez, Riley Davis belted a two-run double to put Snyder on top to stay.

Gage West was 2-for-4, including a two-run triple in the sixth. Dunn finished with a 3-for-4 day, belting a single and a solo home run to go with his double.

Benji Gutierrez and Rey Juarez each collected a single and a double.

Gutierrez pitched the complete game, allowing four runs on eight hits with four walks. He struck out seven in the contest.

The top two teams from the county tournaments advance to the District V final pool.

Snyder, the top seed, must wait for a ruling from the Little League governing body in Williamsport, Penn. to see which team from the Rotan tournament will join itin the final pool.

Snyder, Key City and Colorado City all shared a 2-1 record, and the tie-break was determined by runs-allowed. Snyder led with 13, followed by 16 from Colorado City and 20 from Key City.

However, Key City is protesting being left from the final pool, and is appealing the decision based on beating Colorado City head-to-head. A ruling is expected today.

Northern and Eastland claimed spots from the Dixie tournament.

MLB names All-Star teams...

Superstars get snubbed; 29 first-timers get All-Star nods

NEW YORK (AP) — Sammy Sosa, Roger Clemens and Pedro Martinez are out. Hideki Matsui, Jamie Moyer and Brendan Donnelly are in.

Twenty-nine of the 63 players picked Sunday for the new-look All-Star game are first-timers. It was the most new All-Stars since 30 were chosen for the 1988 game in Cincinnati.

Also among the first-timers were Kerry Wood, Mark Prior, Hank Blalock, Mark Mulder and Vernon Wells. But there wasn't room for rookies Dontrelle Willis and Rocco Baldelli in the July 15 game in Chicago.

Fresh faces aren't the only thing giving the All-Star game a new look. Following last year's messy 7-7, 11-inning tie in Milwaukee, baseball decided to give the league that wins the game home-field advantage in the World Series.

"In the past, the game has been an afterthought," seven-time All-Star Alex Rodriguez said. "A lot of times, by the sixth or seventh inning, the guys were showered, packed up and on their way back home. Hopefully, this year, the fans are going to get a much better game with a lot more intensity."

Players, managers and coaches also had a say in the teams for the first time since 1969, and rosters were expanded from 30 to 32 per league.

Seven players were picked for their first All-Star starts, including Marcus Giles, Troy Glaus, Javy Lopez and Edgar Renteria. Two Boone brothers — Cincinnati's Aaron and Seattle's Bret — also were picked for the game.

Sosa, who had been on the last five NL All-Star teams and six overall, was second among NL outfielders in totals released last Tuesday with 894,156 votes, trailing Barry Bonds (1,157,384) and ahead of Gary Sheffield (811,239) and Albert Pujols (793,109).

But after the final rush of voting, Pujols led with 2,030,702, followed by Bonds (1,919,116), Sheffield (1,533,278) and Sosa (1,390,355).

NL manager Dusty Baker, Sosa's manager on the Cubs, decided to bypass his top star.

"Since Sammy wasn't voted by the players or by the fans ... I think it might be a good idea that Sammy use this break and go underground," Baker said.

None of the big milestone players made it: Clemens got his 300th win and 4,000th strikeout, and Sosa and Rafael Palmeiro hit their 500th homers.

"Making those kinds of considerations is one of the hardest parts of doing this," AL manager Mike Scioscia said when asked why he bypassed Clemens, Martinez and David Wells. "I think what we have is a pretty good representation for the league. It doesn't mean they aren't good."

Several big names won't be at the game because of injuries — Randy Johnson, Curt Schilling, Mike Piazza, Vladimir Guerrero and Trevor Hoffman.

Also not selected were slumping stars — Derek Jeter, Greg Maddux, Tom Glavine and reigning AL MVP Miguel Tejada.

Elected to start in the AL were Carlos Delgado at first, Alfonso Soriano at second, Rodriguez at shortstop, Glaus at third, Jorge Posada at catcher, Edgar Martinez at designated hitter, and Ichiro Suzuki, Manny Ramirez and Matsui in the outfield.

Matsui was a nine-time All-Star in Japan.

"It certainly is different than the others because it's a different country. It will be a lasting memory," he said through an interpreter.

NL starters are Todd Helton at first, Giles at second, Renteria at shortstop, Scott Rolen at third, Lopez at catcher, and Pujols, Bonds and Sheffield in the outfield. Bonds will be going to his 12th All-Star game, his 10th as an elected starter.

Making the NL team as reserves in the new player vote were Jim Edmonds, Rafael Furcal, Andruw Jones, Paul Lo Duca, Mike Lowell, Richie Sexson, Jose Vidro and Preston Wilson.

Kevin Brown, Shawn Chacon, Prior, Woody Williams and Jason Schmidt were elected as starting pitchers, and John Smoltz, Eric Gagne and Billy Wagner were elected as relievers.

AL players elected reserves were Garret Anderson, Hank Blalock, Bret Boone, Nomar Garciaparra, Ramon Hernandez, Melvin Mora, Mike Sweeney and Wells.

Esteban Loaiza, Roy Halladay, Moyer, Mark Mulder and Barry Zito were elected as AL starting pitchers, and Brendan Donnelly, Keith Foulke and Eddie Guardado were elected as relievers.

Atlanta led the NL with seven players and St. Louis had five. Seattle had the most AL players with five, one more than Oakland. Three players each are starting from the Yankees and Cardinals.

Bryant arrested after woman accuses him of sexual assault

DENVER (AP) — Prosecutors are considering whether to file charges against Kobe Bryant after a woman accused the Los Angeles Lakers' star of sexual misconduct at a hotel near Vail.

The 24-year-old basketball player was released after turning himself in Friday and posting a $25,000 bond on suspicion of felony sexual assault, the Eagle County sheriff's office said Sunday.

The woman, who was not identified, told sheriff's deputies on Tuesday that Bryant sexually assaulted her the previous night in a hotel in the Edwards area. No other details were released about the case, which has been sealed by a judge.

The Denver Post reported today that Paul Pastoor, general manager for the Lodge and Spa at Cordillera, confirmed that Bryant stayed at the Edwards hotel. Bryant, who was not available for comment, was in the area to have arthroscopic surgery on his right knee Tuesday at the Steadman Hawkins Clinic.

"Kobe is innocent," Bryant's Denver-based lawyer, Pamela Mackey, told the Los Angeles Times. "Can you imagine being accused of this? It's awful."

After a series of interviews and a review of the physical evidence, investigators met with representatives for District Attorney Mark Hurlbert and concluded they had enough evidence for the felony sexual assault count, the sheriff's office said.

Hurlbert said Sunday night he hadn't made a decision on whether to file charges and had not yet seen the arrest report.

He said the sheriff's office asked a judge for an arrest warrant instead of requesting one through his office, the usual practice. In Colorado, police officers can make an arrest on suspicion of a crime but only the district attorney's office can file charges.

Valdes ends slump in Texas win

ARLINGTON (AP) — Ismael Valdes allowed one run and four hits in six innings, and Rafael Palmeiro hit his 510th career homer as the Texas Rangers beat Seattle 5-1 on Sunday night.

Texas took two of three from the Mariners over the weekend.

"It's a game that can be very contagious, both good and bad," said Rangers center fielder Doug Glanville, whose two-run single highlighted a three-run second. "Pitchers are throwing well and we're getting some timely hits, so hopefully it can continue."

Valdes (7-5) snapped a personal three-game losing streak, striking out three and walking one. In his three previous starts, he had a 16.05 ERA, but Valdes shut down Seattle, lowering his ERA for the season from 6.51 to 6.14.

"I don't know how many times I've asked myself what I was doing wrong," Valdes said. "My teammates helped make it happen tonight offensively and defensively."

Rangers manager Buck Showalter said the right-hander, 0-5 in his previous seven starts against Seattle, helped himself by working quickly.

"He's always been a quick-tempo guy, and tonight he had all his pitches at his disposal," Showalter said.

Rosman Garcia pitched two scoreless innings of relief and Francisco Cordero got three outs to finish it.

The Mariners (55-32) have a major league-best 31-15 road record but fell to 3-4 on the trip that concluded Sunday. It was the first losing trip of the season for the Mariners, who had an AL-high five All-Stars selected Sunday and had won or split their first six trips.

Seattle's offense sputtered against Texas, scoring seven runs with three extra base hits in the three games.

"You see what type of pitching Seattle has, but we showed we have some good arms too," Showalter said.

Mariners starter Gil Meche (10-4) had won six of his previous seven decisions, but he was gone after four innings in his shortest outing of the season.

Meche, pitching in front of family and friends from his native Louisiana, allowed five runs — four earned — on six hits and exited trailing 5-1.

Meche found out he hadn't made the All-Star team earlier in the day, but he said that had nothing to do with his poor outing.

Spurs begin courtship of Kidd

SAN ANTONIO (AP)— Superstar point guard Jason Kidd was in the Alamo City today after chartering a private jet for what he described as a one-night stayover. The San Antonio Spurs continued their attempts to woo him into making a more permanent return trip.

Kidd arrived with his wife, Joumana, on Sunday afternoon. They were greeted on the tarmac by Spurs coach Gregg Popovich and whisked in a black limousine van to a hotel where team officials had reserved accommodations for them.

The Spurs might be the only team with the money available to offer Kidd the kind of contract and teammates it would take to get him to leave the Meadowlands. Kidd earned $10 million this past season.

A backcourt of Kidd and Tony Parker playing with Tim Duncan might make San Antonio the early favorite for next season.

The New Jersey Nets were 26-56 the year before Kidd arrived. They were 101-63 in the two regular seasons that led to conference championships.

The Spurs' schedule for Kidd was light on Sunday, with the exception of dinner at Popovich's home. Team officials were expected to intensify their courtship of Kidd Monday.

But the Spurs may have some work left on selling French point guard Tony Parker, the team's second-leading scorer last season, on the idea of adding another point guard to their backcourt.

A league source told the San Antonio Express-News in today's editions that Parker's agent, Marc Fleisher, has urged the player to be more aggressive in expressing any concerns to Spurs officials.

Parker has said publicly that he is open to playing with Kidd. But privately he has told teammates and others that he has some concerns.

Sports Briefs

Football booster club

The football booster club will meet at 7 tonight in the film room.

Ladies play day

The SCGA hosts a ladies play day at 9 a.m. each Tuesday at Scurry County golf course. Format is low score on even holes.

Boys and Girls Club football camp

The SHS football players and coaches will host a camp Tuesday and Wednesday for ages 7-14 at the Scurry County Boys and Girls Club. The first 40 to sign up receive a free t-shirt. Cost of the camp is $10, with all proceeds benefiting the Boys and Girls Club. The camp will run from 10 a.m. until noon.

Hermleigh athletic physicals

All incoming sixth, ninth and 11th grade Hermleigh athletes are reminded to get a physical. Forms can be picked up at the high school and all paperwork must be completed prior to the physical.

Snyder athletic physicals

Physicals are required for students wishing to participate in SISD athletics. Those needing physicals include all incoming seventh, ninth and third-year high school students; all new students to SISD who plan to participate in athletics; any student who answered yes to questions 1, 4, 5, 6, or 7 on their medical history form; and any student who has not participates in athletics in the past.

The district will pay for physicals up until Aug. 1. With the following doctors: Raykov, Burleson, Cooper, Thompson and Wolboldt. Incoming seventh and ninth graders pick up physical forms at the doctor's office.

Major League Baseball

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	55	31	.640	—
Philadelphia	47	38	.553	7½
Montreal	47	41	.534	9
Florida	46	43	.517	10½
New York	39	47	.453	16

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	46	41	.529	—
Chicago	44	43	.506	2
Houston	44	43	.506	2
Cincinnati	40	46	.465	5½
Pittsburgh	38	46	.452	6½
Milwaukee	35	51	.407	10½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	53	34	.609	—
Arizona	48	39	.552	5
Los Angeles	46	40	.535	6½
Colorado	46	44	.511	8½
San Diego	32	57	.360	22

Sunday's Games

Atlanta 7, Montreal 5
N.Y. Mets 7, Cincinnati 5
Pittsburgh 8, Houston 3
Florida 6, Philadelphia 3
Milwaukee 3, Colorado 1
St. Louis 4, Chicago Cubs 1
San Francisco 3, San Diego 2
Arizona 2, Los Angeles 1

Today's Games

Philadelphia (Duckworth 3-2) at Montreal (L.Hernandez 7-6), 6:05 p.m.
Atlanta (Ramirez 7-2) at N.Y. Mets (Seo 5-4), 6:10 p.m.
Florida (Beckett 3-3) at Chicago Cubs (Clement 5-7), 7:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Dempster 2-5) at Houston (Oswalt 4-4), 7:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Wells 2-3) at Milwaukee (W.Franklin 4-5), 7:05 p.m.
Colorado (Jennings 8-6) at Arizona (Patterson 1-4), 8:35 p.m.
Los Angeles (Ashby 2-4) at San Diego (Ol.Perez 2-3), 9:05 p.m.
St. Louis (Stephenson 4-6) at San Francisco (J.Williams 3-1), 9:15 p.m.

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	53	33	.616	—
Boston	50	36	.581	3
Toronto	48	41	.539	6½
Baltimore	39	46	.459	13½
Tampa Bay	30	56	.349	23

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Kansas City	47	39	.547	—
Minnesota	44	43	.506	3½
Chicago	43	44	.494	4½
Cleveland	37	50	.425	10½
Detroit	21	65	.244	26

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	55	32	.632	—
Oakland	49	38	.563	6
Anaheim	44	42	.512	10½
Texas	35	52	.402	20

Sunday's Games

N.Y. Yankees 7, Boston 1
Chicago White Sox 11, Tampa Bay 3
Toronto 5, Baltimore 3, 10 innings
Cleveland 5, Minnesota 3, 10 innings
Kansas City 5, Detroit 3
Oakland 6, Anaheim 5
Texas 5, Seattle 1

Today's Game

Boston (P.Martinez 6-2) at N.Y. Yankees (Mussina 10-5), 12:05 p.m.

Tuesday's Games

Boston (Wakefield 6-3) at Toronto (Halladay 12-2), 6:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Weaver 4-6) at Cleveland (Traber 3-5), 6:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Garland 6-6) at Detroit (Ledezma 2-2), 6:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Lohse 6-6) at Texas (Mounce 1-2), 7:05 p.m.
Kansas City (May 2-4) at Anaheim (Lackey 6-7), 9:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Johnson 7-3) at Seattle (Pineiro 9-5), 9:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Bell 0-2) at Oakland (Zito 8-5), 9:05 p.m.

July 4 Scramble Results

July 4th Scramble Results
Scurry County Country Club
July 4, 2003

Team scores

1. Andra Lancaster, Cory Mandrell, Mike Dennis, John Velasquez — 57. 2. Joe LaRoux, Gayle Lomax, Buddy Powell, Kenny Miller — 58; 3. Levi Mandrell, Gary Smith, Timmy Clark, Matt Ornales — 59. 4. Cody Cox, Johnny Reed, Steve Wilson, Pinky Ferguson — 59; 5.(tie) Russell Fisk, John Reed, Suzy Reed, Dutch Stehley — 60. Thad Reese, John Bloom, Phillip Payblas, Tim Feltch — 60; 6.(tie) Billy Wayne Harris, Missy Lomax, Wes Wilson, Tom Woodward — 61. James Barnhill, Bob Hart, Reagan Key, Judy Moss — 61. 7. Eicke Perry, Randy Glasscock, Bobby Velasquez, Clint Wilson — 62. 8.(tie) Alton Patterson, Duane Seay, Nick Johnson, Wayne Glass — 64; Don Chandler, Glenn McLeod, David Beard, Mike McLeod — 64. 9. Wade Lancaster, Wes Key, Max Hildebrand, Don Sealy — 65.

Closest to Hole

Mike McLeod — #3; John Velasquez — #5; Phillip Payblas — #9.



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POSITION: TRIO (Upward Bound) Grant Director SALARY: Contingent upon qualifications. **DUTIES:** Responsible for overall implementation of the Upward Bound project including planning, administration, budgeting, and supervision of staff. Counseling responsibilities include coordinating and/or conducting all participant assessments to determine extent of academic and career advisory needs. **QUALIFICATIONS:** Master's degree in Education Counseling, Social Sciences, Public Administration or related field preferred. Experience working in higher education preferred. Experience administering federal grants and federal budgets preferred. Strong computer skills with some knowledge of educational software preferred. Knowledge of career workshops, educational assessment tests, and issues affecting academic potential of low-income and first-generation higher-education students preferred. Scurry County residency is preferred upon employment. **APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Position is open till filled. Review of applications will begin on August 4, 2003. **SEND APPLICATION/RESUME TO:** Human Resources, Western Texas College, 6200 College Avenue, Snyder, TX 79549-9502. Applications may be picked up in the WTC Payroll/HR office or printed from our website at www.wtc.edu **DATE OF EMPLOYMENT:** September 01, 2003.

WESTERN TEXAS COLLEGE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY INSTITUTION AND IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. APPLICATIONS ARE ACCEPTED AND CONSIDERED WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, CREED, SEX, AGE, NATIONAL ORIGIN, VETERAN'S STATUS, OR DISABILITY.

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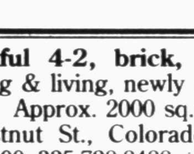


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Actor Buddy Ebsen dead at age 95

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Buddy Ebsen, the loose-limbed Broadway dancer who achieved stardom and riches in the television series "The Beverly Hillbillies" and "Barnaby Jones," a hospital official said today. He was 95.

Ebsen died Sunday morning at Torrance Memorial Medical Center in Torrance, said Pam Hope, an administrative nursing supervisor.

Ebsen and his sister Vilma danced through Broadway shows and MGM musicals of the 1930s. When she retired, Ebsen continued on his own, dancing with Shirley Temple and turning dramatic actor.

Except for an allergy to aluminum paint, he would have been one of the Yellow Brick Road quartet in the classic "The Wizard of Oz." After 10 days of filming, Ebsen, playing the Tin Man, fell ill because of the aluminum makeup on his skin and was replaced by Jack Haley.

Television brought Ebsen's amiable personality to the home screen, first as Fess Parker's sidekick in "Davy Crockett."

As Jed Clampett, the easygoing head of a newly rich Ozark family plunked down in snooty Beverly Hills, Ebsen became a national favorite. While scorned by most critics, "The Beverly Hillbillies" attracted as many as 60 million viewers on CBS between 1962 and 1971.

"As I recall, the only good notice was in the Saturday Review," Ebsen once said. "The critic said the show possessed 'social comment combined with a high Nielsen, an almost impossible achievement in these days.' I kinda liked that."

The show was still earning good ratings when it was canceled by CBS because advertisers shunned a series that attracted primarily a rural audience.

Ebsen returned to series TV in 1973 as "Barnaby Jones," a private investigator forced out of retirement to solve the murder of his son Hal, who had taken over the business.



Buddy Ebsen

"Barnaby Jones" also drew critical blasts. But Ebsen's folksy manner and a warm relationship with his daughter-in-law, played by Lee Meriwether, made the series a success.

"With such a glut of private-eye shows, I didn't see how another one could succeed," Ebsen once said. "I really thought the network was making a mistake." But the series clicked and lasted until 1980.

"I'm the luckiest actor alive," Ebsen said in 1978. "There's not anyone I'd trade jobs with right now."

Ebsen, who was 6 feet 3, jerked sodas until he landed a chorus job in the 1928 "Whoopee," starring Eddie Cantor. The dancer sent for his sister Vilma and they formed a dancing team that played vaudeville, supper clubs and shows such as "Flying Colors" and "Ziegfeld Follies."

A screen test led to an MGM contract for the dance team, and they were a hit in "Broadway Melody of 1936." Buddy's style was far removed from that of the reigning dance king of films, Fred Astaire. The angular Ebsen moved with a smooth, sliding shuffle, his arms gyrating like a wind-blown scarecrow. He made a charming partner with the tiny Shirley Temple in "Captain January."

His other films of the '30s included "Banjo on My Knee," "Four Girls in White," "Girl of the Golden West" (Jeanette MacDonald-Nelson Eddy) and "My Lucky Star" (Sonja Henie). His first dramatic role was in "Yellow Jack" with Robert Montgomery.

Ebsen was earning $2,000 a week at MGM in 1938, when studio boss Louis B. Mayer summoned him and announced: "Ebsen, in order to give you the parts you deserve, we must own you."

The dancer recalled that he replied: "I'll tell you what kind of a fool I am, Mr. Mayer, I can't be owned." He quit his contract, returning to touring as a dancer and playing Chicago for more than a year in a farce, "Good Night, Ladies." He served three years in the Coast Guard during World War II.

Ebsen toured in "Show Boat," then returned to Hollywood. Producers asked his agent: "Why hasn't he been working in pictures?" His luck began to change when director Norman Foster recommended him to Walt Disney to play Davy Crockett.

Disney had already chosen a young Texan, Fess Parker, for the role but he hired Ebsen as Crockett's partner. When the Crockett episodes were shown on the "Disneyland" series in 1954-55, both Parker and Ebsen became heroes. Millions of children began sporting coonskin hats and singing "The Ballad of Davy Crockett." "Davy Crockett" was also released to theaters.

Ebsen's later films included "Attack," "Breakfast at Tiffany's," "The Interns," "Mail Order Bride," "The One and Only Genuine Original Family Band."

In 1993, he made a cameo appearance as Barnaby Jones in the film version of "The Beverly Hillbillies."

Survivor contestant gets job on new show

NEW YORK (AP) — Lisa Shannon may have fallen short of winning a spot on "Survivor" but she didn't have to wait long for TV fame.

The 25-year-old advertising copywriter made an impact on casting directors when she applied to be a contestant on CBS's second installment of their dog-eat-dog series "Survivor."

Even though she was passed over for that show, Shannon's audition tape was brought out when the concept of the upcoming dating series "Cupid" was explored, said the Daily News. The show will feature Shannon dating 10 men until she finds the husband of her dream. Two of her friends act as filters for the would-be suitors and the show will award the eventual couple $1 million only if they stay married one year.

Three teen-agers arrested; plot fails

OAKLYN, N.J. (AP) — An alleged plot by three teenagers to kill their enemies and then target other victims at random unraveled when they tried to carjack a motorist and were arrested, authorities said.

"We could have had a disaster here in Oaklyn," Camden County Prosecutor Vincent Sarubbi said Sunday night after police said they uncovered the trio's cache of guns, knives and swords in this small town near Philadelphia.

Matthew Lovett, 18, was arrested along with two boys, ages 15 and 14, whose names were not released. They were charged with weapons offenses and attempted carjacking. An additional charge of attempted murder was expected to be filed against the trio, authorities said.

Lovett, who is accused of pointing a gun at the police officer who arrested him, also was charged with aggravated assault, Sarubbi said.

Authorities seized two rifles, a shotgun, two handguns, two swords, several knives and 2,000 rounds of ammunition. Additional weapons were found at Lovett's home. Sarubbi said the weapons belonged to Lovett's father and were legal.

A phone message left Sunday night with his father, Ron Lovett, was not returned. In an interview with CNN today, he described his son as a good youngster who became "kind of withdrawn" after his mother died nine years ago.

Lovett, who described himself as a gun collector and target shooter, said his son was never interested in guns. "I don't think he'd know how to use one," he said.

Sarubbi said the attacks had been planned over the course of several months. The suspects intended to target people at random once they had attacked specific victims, police said.

Sarubbi said three people believed to be intended victims were notified Sunday of the alleged plot. The prosecutor declined to identify them, but police indicated they were students.

Mathew Rich, 34, who reported the carjacking attempt, said he was leaving for work when he saw the three teens, dressed in trench coats and standing in front of Oaklyn Public School.

One crossed the street in front of him, opened his coat to reveal a handgun, then signaled for his friends. Rich said he drove around them, then notified police.

When Rich returned to the area after driving to the police station, he saw the weapons being confiscated.

"These guys were ready for a war," Rich said.



On Nutrition by Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Supplemental concerns

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I would like your comments about the GMP regulations that the FDA is trying to push through. I am concerned because I heard there is an attempt by the FDA to effectively limit my freedom of choice in purchasing vitamin supplements. Are you aware of this, and, if so, how can one send in a note of protest? — **I.J., Seattle, Wash.**

DEAR I.J.: Your concerns regarding health freedom are understandable, but in this case they are misplaced. I, for one, would be comforted to know that a supplement bottle stating that there are 50 milligrams of a particular substance in a capsule actually has that amount (and no more) in every capsule.

GMP stands for Good Manufacturing Practices, and they have been working their way through the government development-and-approval mill for a number of years. This set of regulations includes over 500 pages of specific rules dealing with the identity, purity, quality, strength and composition of ingredients, along with the manufacturing, packaging and storage of dietary supplements.

There are GMPs for foods, food additives, pharmaceuticals and even cosmetics, but there have never been any in place for dietary supplements. In clear and simple terms, this is a long-overdue consumer protection measure.

These regulations were proposed on March 13, 2002, and are now in a comment period until Aug. 11, 2003. This is the time during which the FDA seeks input from the public (defined as those not in the government). The complete set of GMPs is available online at www.cfsan.fda.gov/~lrd/fr030313.html.

One final point. The GMPs are concerned with the way dietary supplements are manufactured; they do not have any bearing on the safety and effectiveness of the supplements themselves.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I am 58, I watch my diet and walk for 35 to 40 minutes five days a week. I take Lipitor (10 milligrams) for high cholesterol every other day. My last checkup showed 182 milligrams for overall cholesterol, with HDL at 110, and LDL at 65. My triglycerides were 33. My doctor told me I should be taking a supplement called Q-10 (50 to 100 milligrams) every day to counteract the damage Lipitor does to cells. I take supplemental calcium, but in general I don't like supplements. I don't trust them because they're not regulated. Besides, they are too expensive! I don't want to pay $30 a month for Q-10 unless it's absolutely necessary. Must I take them to counteract the effect of Lipitor on my cells? Thank you for advising me. — **A Supplement Doubter, Oklahoma City, Okla.**

DEAR SUPPLEMENT DOUBTER: I complement you on your active lifestyle and the good numbers from your latest tests. The Q-10 your doctor referred to is co-enzyme Q-10, also known as CoQ10 and by its chemical name ubiquinone (you-BIK-qwih-nohn). CoQ10 is produced in our bodies and plays a key role in the basic chemical reactions involved with energy production at the cellular level. Lipitor (generic name atorvastatin) is a member of a family of cholesterol-lowering medications known as the statins. There are a number of statins, and they work by inhibiting an enzyme involved with the synthesis of cholesterol. The issue here is that the enzyme, known as HMG-CoA reductase, is the same enzyme the body uses to make its co-enzyme Q-10. This means that if the statin is doing its job against cholesterol, it is probably also having an impact on the body's CoQ10 level as well. Does this mean that those taking statins should also take supplementary CoQ10 as a precautionary measure? There is some evidence to support such an action, and CoQ10 is well tolerated. Unfortunately, the data on which to base a decision is theoretical and preliminary, so it has to be something you discuss with the physician most familiar with your particular situation. For more information on this issue, see the review articles in the Journal of the American College of Nutrition (December 2001) and the Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing (July 2002).

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

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

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	10.70	10.30	10.35	+ .22
AOL TimeWrn	16.70	16.42	16.65	+ .35
AT&T Corp	19.78	19.27	19.75	+ .33
Albertsons	19.53	19.37	19.49	+ .18
Alltel	50.31	49.85	49.93	+ .53
AmElPw	29.64	29.40	29.53	+ .23
AndarkPtr	43.84	43.05	43.18	— .68
ATMOS Egy	25.14	24.90	24.99	+ .11
Aviall	11.81	11.50	11.50	— .17
BP PLC	41.85	41.50	41.58	+ .18
BakerHughes	33.24	32.57	32.85	— .38
Bank of Amer	80.83	80.12	80.76	+ .75
BellSouth	27.74	27.40	27.66	+ .17
BurlNoSFe	29.35	28.85	29.21	+ .69
Caterpillar	57.30	56.15	56.90	+ 1.33
CenterPoint	8.22	8.10	8.22	+ .10
ChevronTex	73.03	72.15	72.86	+ .93
Citigroup	45.00	44.25	44.87	+ .99
CocaCola	46.35	46.08	46.25	+ .02
ColgatePal	58.26	57.86	58.12	+ .26
CmclMetals	18.46	18.29	18.36	+ .12
ConocoPhill	54.81	54.38	54.43	— .17
Cooper Inds	43.27	42.35	43.03	+ 1.00
DaimlrChry	37.11	36.53	36.89	+ 1.22
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Dillards Inc	13.75	13.55	13.63	— .04
DowChem	30.87	30.51	30.85	+ .24
DuPont	42.25	41.75	42.05	+ .47
EastmanChem	32.19	31.67	32.17	+ .67
EstKodak	27.88	26.77	27.72	+ .35
EDS Corp	22.20	21.95	22.01	+ .32
Entergy	53.99	53.60	53.88	+ .39
ExxonMobil	36.40	36.01	36.27	+ .21
FootLocker	13.29	12.96	13.10	+ .11
GenDynam	73.50	72.65	73.12	+ .52
GenElec	29.50	28.80	29.41	+ .86
GenMills	47.55	47.29	47.33	— .09
GenMotors	36.27	36.00	36.04	+ .26
GaPacific	20.01	19.33	20.00	+ .85
Goodrich	21.10	20.90	20.96	+ .06
Goodyear	5.57	5.40	5.54	+ .24
GtAtlPac	8.80	8.62	8.70	+ .10
Halliburtn	22.43	21.94	22.10	— .27
Hanson ADS	28.78	28.60	28.60	+ .30
HarteHanks	19.09	18.80	19.00	+ .23
HomeDepot	33.91	33.60	33.79	+ .39
Honeywellntl	28.10	27.61	27.93	+ .76
IBM	85.73	84.25	85.43	+ 1.48
IntlPaper	38.00	36.96	38.00	+ 1.20
JohnsonJn	53.68	53.10	53.31	+ .32
KinderMorg	54.34	53.97	53.97	— .15
Kroger Co	17.32	17.03	17.23	+ .35
LockheedM	48.95	48.50	48.58	+ .18
Lowes Cos	43.20	42.31	43.03	+ .91
Lubys	2.98	2.83	2.97	+ .33
LucentTech	2.07	2.03	2.05	+ .05
MarathonOil	26.65	26.37	26.53	+ .01
MayDeptStr	22.53	22.28	22.39	+ .32
Medtronic	48.09	47.50	47.50	— .05
Motorola	9.88	9.66	9.86	+ .29
NCR Corp	28.46	27.49	28.46	+ 1.14
Navistar	35.53	34.45	35.53	+ 1.08
PNM Rescs	27.29	27.08	27.28	+ .23
Penney JC	16.53	16.25	16.28	— .03
PepBoys	13.85	13.74	13.74	— .01
PepsiCo	44.66	44.15	44.54	+ .51
PhelpDodge	38.43	37.67	38.31	+ 1.02
PilgrmPrd B	10.04	9.85	10.00	+ .20
Praxair	61.90	61.06	61.82	+ 1.29
ProctGamb	91.09	90.10	90.92	+ .96
RadioShack	26.75	26.00	26.63	+ .57
RoyalDut	46.52	46.16	46.50	+ .35
SBC Comm	26.88	26.18	26.70	+ .47
SaraLee	19.47	19.27	19.35	+ .04
Scripps EW	89.25	88.85	88.85	+ .21
SearsRoeb	33.39	33.09	33.22	+ .14
SherwinW	27.44	27.17	27.44	+ .19
SouthernCo	30.47	30.27	30.47	+ .36
SwstAirl	17.59	17.19	17.56	+ .42
SprintFON	15.53	15.23	15.52	+ .30
SprintPCS	6.00	5.88	5.89	— .01
Sunoco Inc	38.09	37.66	37.73	— .19
TXU Corp	21.74	21.63	21.71	+ .04
TmpleInland	43.50	43.15	43.50	+ .45
TexInd	24.89	24.05	24.69	+ .68
TexasInst	18.79	18.08	18.69	+ .94
Textron	38.79	38.53	38.71	— .01
TrinityInds	19.19	18.68	19.14	+ .49
TylerTech	4.60	4.53	4.59	+ .08
UnionPacif	59.55	58.25	59.15	+ 1.35
USSteel	15.98	15.55	15.98	+ .37
UnitedTech	73.56	72.30	73.15	+ 1.71
Unocal	28.92	28.66	28.84	— .02
VerizonComm	40.25	39.75	40.04	+ .19
WalMart	56.37	55.54	56.30	+ 1.34
WellsFargo	51.51	51.18	51.36	+ .66
WstnGasRs	39.75	39.43	39.43	— .17
WinnDixie	12.63	12.50	12.51	
Xerox Cp	10.92	10.70	10.89	+ .24
YumBrands	30.38	29.95	30.29	+ .29

Democrats criticize comments by Bush

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats blasted President Bush on Sunday for his recent tough talk on Iraq. One White House hopeful said the leader of the free world sounded more like a gang leader.

Last week, Bush lashed out at those attacking American troops, saying "bring 'em on" as he vowed to stay the course in Iraq with a military capable of handling the situation.

Al Sharpton, the New York clergyman who's running for the Democratic nomination in 2004, demanded that Bush apologize to U.S. forces and their families.

"For the president to say, 'bring it on,' almost like daring and provoking Iraqis to kill American soldiers, he sounds more like a gang leader in South-Central L.A. than one that is trying to institute a policy of democracy and reconstruction in the world," Sharpton said on CBS' "Face the Nation."

The top Democrat on the Senate Armed Services Committee, Sen. Carl Levin of Michigan, agreed that Bush's tone was over the top.

"I think that it's perfectly proper for the president to say that he has confidence in our troops. But it seems to me unwise to engage in this kind of cocky rhetoric, because it's not going to be helpful ... either with our troops or in bringing in other countries into this issue," said Levin, speaking on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Republicans disagreed.

The Senate Intelligence Committee chairman, Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan., and Sen. John Warner, R-Va., chairman of the Armed Services panel, said the president was doing nothing more than rallying the troops.

"I probably would have said it another way, and I think the president would have too if he had a little more time to think about it," Roberts said on CNN's "Late Edition." But "I think that the statement was aimed more to the troops ..., saying, 'You're doing a good job. Keep up the good work. There is no peer to the American forces,' et cetera et cetera."

And Warner said on "Meet the Press" that Bush's message was simply that "'Each one of you, from the privates to the general, you've got the right stuff, the right training, and you know what to do.' It was not a taunting message."

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Tuesday, July 8, 2003

Group involvements can work out quite fortunately for you in the year ahead, especially if the team is made up of people who are creative and active. Cumulative thinking produces winners.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — You can be a hard person to beat in competitive endeavors. It's important, however, that you're not a sore winner.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Stand up for what you believe today, even if you have to go head-to-head with a person who is loud or arrogant. Your indignation will be the most resounding.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Picking the brains of others is one thing you do well. Take their ideas and adapt them to work for you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Think about the rewards you will get for putting more effort into your job rather than how hard you have to work and the task will become easier.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — You will not fit comfortably into a subordinate role today, so when you find yourself in a social situation, take control in a gracious and pleasing manner. Don't be harsh.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Something you've wanted to get out of the way for quite some time can be accomplished today. All it takes is a strong will.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — This is not a day to dilly-dally or wait upon others to make the arrangements. Pick up the phone and put things together yourself. Otherwise, nothing will come of it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — You can be fortunate in your financial affairs today. However, nothing will be gained unless you're enterprising enough to make things happen.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Supporters will be swayed by your enthusiasm, so if there is a cause you are promoting today, you had better be prepared to be both bold and dramatic in your presentation.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — You know how to get others to join whatever it is you are working on, and you can do this again today, but not if you have to give up control.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Friends will find your enthusiasm contagious today and could end up sticking to you like glue, which is fine if you're enjoying yourself. Once you tire, however, you'll want to be alone.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Persons in authority should know who deserves credit for an achievement, so if you have something to brag about, beat your chest without comparing yourself to others.

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Marine who served in Iraq killed in car crash

GREENVILLE, S.C. (AP) — A U.S. Marine who was part of the unit that helped rescue Army Pfc. Jessica Lynch died in a car crash on his first weekend home since returning from Iraq.

Josh Speer was killed when his car veered off the road, overturned several times and struck trees Sunday morning. The 21-year-old soldier was heading to see his fiancee.

Capt. Shawn Turner, a Marine Corps spokesman, said Speer served with the Marine unit that aided in Lynch's rescue. Turner said details of what Speer's unit did to help Lynch, the Army private captured by Iraqis, were unavailable.

Speer was wearing his seat belt, state Highway Patrol Lance Cpl. Dan Marsceau said.

Speer's family said he had returned home to Marietta on Thursday. Holly Coupe, his fiancee, said Speer wrote her from Iraq, promising that, "The first thing I do when I get back is put a ring on your finger."

The couple went to a local amusement park over the weekend, but she expected Speer to give her the ring when they were to go hiking next week.

"I lost him, but it's the Lord's will," Coupe said. "It's hard to accept, but I have to. He has bigger plans for him."

William Coupe, Holly's father, said he was proud of Speer. "Out of everybody you wan. your daughter to marry, he's the guy," he said. "I loved him like a son."

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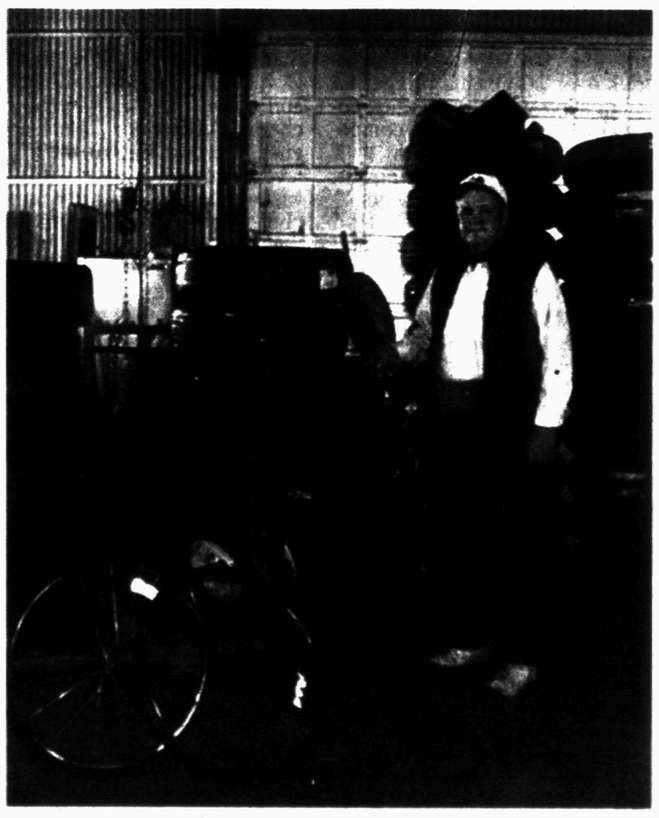
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Spotlight



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Arizona growers develop petite watermelon

PHOENIX (AP) — With its bulky size, the watermelon is usually reserved for big family meals and large picnics. But that could be changing, with two companies unveiling a downsized version aimed at people who might hesitate to buy the standard variety.

"It's the perfect melon for today's smaller families. Otherwise, they'd eat half of it (a regular watermelon) and throw away the other half," said Gary Koppenjan, spokesman for Seminis Seeds, an Oxnard, Calif.-based company that developed the "Bambino," one version of the petite melon.

"We chose a size that was easy to handle, an individual melon that can feed one or two people."

At about 6 pounds, the petite watermelons are roughly the size of a cantaloupe. Regular watermelons run about 15 to 25 pounds for the seedless variety and up to 30 pounds for those with seeds.

The smaller watermelon was a long time coming, and represents a new direction in the way produce companies develop fruits and vegetables.

Instead of growing a unique breed and then deciding how to advertise it, Seminis and Switzerland-based Syngenta Seeds — the world's top commercial seed producers — reversed the process.

They each collaborated with retailers, marketers and distributors and began with an idea they believed would draw widespread interest. They followed up with extensive polls and market research.

"We start with the consumer," said Bruce Axtman, president of the Perishables Group, which markets Syngenta's melon. "What do they want? Do they want better taste, or in this case, a smaller size? We think by doing this, we bring exciting new things to consumers."

It took roughly 10 years for food scientists to breed the melons, through a selective process that called for repeatedly growing melons that possessed the desired qualities — small size, deep red flesh, no seeds — without using genetic engineering.

Both melons sell for $3.99 each, making them a premium item compared to regular watermelons, which cost between $2.99 and $6.99. They debuted last year and are available nationwide.

Production of the Syngenta's "PureHearts" reached up to 200,000 melons a week this summer. Seminis would not reveal production numbers for the Bambino.

At a Safeway supermarket in Phoenix, 72 PureHeart watermelons sold out in about two days, said Israel Odeh, a Safeway employee.

"Not a lot of people have seen it," said Odeh, who's had customers ask him about the watermelons.

Dawn Ligidakis recently bought two PureHeart watermelons at Safeway.

"My 3-year-old really wanted it," Ligidakis said. "The produce guy cut it open in the store, and it was really sweet and it was really good."

Axtman estimated that the PureHearts make up about 2 percent of all watermelon in its first year of commercial production.

He hopes the percentage will jump in the next five years and follow the path of other popular products in the produce aisle, such as the bagged salad.

"It's always very exciting when you can give consumers another choice," said Wendy McManus, director of marketing for the National Watermelon Promotion Board. "When we reach a point when a consumer is deciding what kind of watermelon to buy, other than 'Will I buy it or not?,' it's a great thing."

That was the case in the late 1980s, when seedless watermelons were introduced. Now they make up about two-thirds of all watermelons grown in the United States.

Houston activist working to free man

HOUSTON (AP) — A man serving a 45-year sentence for the 1991 slaying of a gay man is getting help in his parole bid from an unlikely source: the person who helped send him to prison.

Ray Hill, one of Houston's most outspoken gay activists, is working to have Jon Buice released, believing the 29-year-old man has become a different person from the 17-year-old who stabbed to death Paul Broussard in the early morning hours of July 4, 1991. Hill has counseled Buice while he's been in prison, encouraging him to get college degrees and face up to his crime.

"I don't see any conflict at all," Hill told the Houston Chronicle. "From my position, what's most important is the safety of the people in the gay community. They (Buice and nine co-defendants) constituted a threat to that community. Time passes. Here it is 2003, and I think some of the guys, at least Jon, are ready to make social contributions and could well be an asset to the gay and lesbian community."

Broussard, a 27-year-old bank employee, and two friends were walking to their cars after leaving a gay nightclub when they were attacked.

Buice (pronounced "Bice") was among 10 students at what was then Conroe McCullough High School, in The Woodlands, who drove into Houston looking for homosexuals to harass. After spotting Broussard and his friends, the 10 began beating and kicking the three.

While his two friends escaped with minor injuries, Broussard suffered a broken rib, crushed testicles and two stab wounds in the chest and stomach, which officials said was the cause of death. Buice was the one who used a knife in the attack.

He accepted a deal from prosecutors for a 45-year prison term. Of the 10 defendants, five initially got prison time, with two others going to jail after violating their probation.

While Hill assisted police in getting tips that helped lead to the attackers, he said he never wanted Buice to receive such a stiff sentence.

"Certainly, the knife is an important factor here," Hill acknowledged. "But 45 years horrified me. We're talking about a 17-year-old kid here."

After Buice was sent to prison, Hill used his radio program, "The Prison Show," to ask to meet with him.

"He asked me why I was involved in Paul's murder. He conveyed understanding. He made me want dialogue," Buice said of their first meeting.

Buice began to listen to the radio program, and to Hill, who served time in prison for burglary and is also active in prisoner rights. During his program in April 1999, Hill read an apologetic letter written by Buice in which he apologized to the victim's family and the gay community.

"I've changed, but I can't change what I did," said Buice, who blamed his behavior as a teen in part on drugs and alcohol. "I do believe there are people who need to be given another chance. And I believe I can help other inmates the way Ray helped me."

The friendship between the two men is so strong that Hill, 62, recently named Buice to succeed him as host of his radio show.

But Hill has been called a traitor for supporting the parole bid and been publicly criticized by Broussard's mother, Nancy Rodriguez.

"Why give somebody a sentence if they're not going to serve it?" Rodriguez asked recently, after Buice was notified that the state parole board would be considering the case. "There's nothing he could say that would make any difference, and it's too late anyway."

Stritch's show is hit

SAN FRANSISCO (AP) — Even though Elaine Stritch's one-woman show about her life has had a successful national run, the actress didn't initially realize how good the material was.

"It's the best part I ever had," she said. "And you know what? I didn't realize it until the curtain went up opening night. I said, 'Hey! This is a part and a half!'"

"Elaine Stritch at Liberty" has been on tour for almost two years. It won a Tony Award in New York for special theatrical event and just finished a stop in Chicago. Toronto and San Francisco are next up.

"Liberty" is the story of Stritch's life in the theater, from her childhood in Detroit through some of her most memorable hits ("Bus Stop," "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?," "Company").

In the show, Stritch deals in songs and quips with her many loves, experiences and her battle with alcoholism.

"Most of my problems get laughs," Stritch told the San Francisco Chronicle. "But the reason they get laughs is because they're true.

"You never get a laugh unless you tell the truth, that I know for sure. Because you know what profession I'm in? It's the nakedest profession in the world, the profession of self-revelation."

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 07-07-03
♠ 10 6 5 3
♥ A
♦ Q 10 9 8 7 5
♣ A Q

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

East
♠ A Q 9 8 4
♥ Q J 9
♦ 6 2
♣ 8 7 4

South
♠ K 7
♥ K 8 7 4
♦ A J 4
♣ K J 5 2

Dealer: North
Vulnerable: North-South

South	West	North	East
		1 ♦	1 ♠
Dbl.	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♠ J

Monday, July 7, 2003

Why does bridge retain its appeal?

By Phillip Alder

One of the primary reasons bridge continues to fascinate players, experts and the less able alike is that one can almost never use the words "always" and "never." Although some 80 percent of deals are "textbook," it is the other 20 percent that sort out the best from the not so good, and keep everyone coming back for more.

This deal features a play that would be missed by many. Are you one of the few? You are the declarer in three no-trump. East has overcalled one spade. West leads the spade jack, and East signals encouragement with the nine. How would you plan the play?

South's double was negative, promising four hearts.

South won the first trick with the spade king, crossed to dummy with a heart, and confidently took the diamond finesse. However, West produced the king and returned his second spade: one down.

South immediately turned on East, "You overcalled with fewer than 10 points?"

East calmly shrugged his shoulders.

North was doubly unamused. First, he pointed out that five diamonds would have made. (South should have made a game-forcing two-spade cue-bid on the second round.) Then, North mentioned that three no-trump was cold too.

If South had ducked at trick one, he would have been safe. West could continue with his second spade, but dummy's 10-6 would provide a stopper in the suit, and when South took the failing diamond finesse, West would not have another spade to lead.

But how many players would even think of playing the spade seven at trick one?

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Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



We're all influenced by biological clocks

DEAR DR. GOTT: Why are some people more energetic during the day, while others perform better at night? I'm not asking about job efficiency. I am curious why even small children seem to set schedules for activity. Are certain genetics or hormones involved? Can a person's time clock be altered?

DEAR READER: Each of us operates under the influence of a "biological clock." This internal pattern determines, to a large degree, behavior, sleep cycles and wakefulness.

Often called "circadian rhythms," these hormonal/chemical factors interact with light and nerve tissue. Such rhythms are fascinating and provide sustained interest for medical scientists, who try to link them to certain illnesses.

For example, circadian rhythms are the reason most heart attacks and strokes occur during the morning hours, when circulation is slowed, metabolism is gearing up for the day and people are changing from a sleep cycle to an awake state. To my knowledge, genetics do not play a role in this pattern.

As we age, we become familiar with our biological clocks and adapt our behavior to them. This is why some people are more comfortable working day shifts, whereas other perfectly healthy folks prefer nighttime jobs. Once we adapt to our particular circadian rhythms, we are able to work and sleep in appropriate cycles.

Problems arise when we have to change these cycles. You may be familiar with the major consequence of such an abrupt alteration: jet lag. Also, people who are required to modify their working hours — changing from a day job to a night shift and back again, for example — suffer symptoms of fatigue, insomnia, irritability and stress.

Thus, humans need predictable schedules, to which their bodies adjust over time. Biological clocks can be "reset," but this may take several days. The worst scenario is the one marked by frequent disruptions in the sleep/awake schedule; it's better for health to adapt to one cycle and stick with it.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Sleep/Wake Disorders." 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 comment on testosterone therapy. My cousin uses it to try and cheat the aging process. Is he misguided?

DEAR READER: Yep.

Testosterone is male hormone. It should be prescribed and administered only by a health professional for specific conditions, such as a documented hormone deficiency.

Some studies have shown an increased risk of prostate cancer in men taking supplemental testosterone. It is not appropriate therapy for most cases of erectile dysfunction and will not — I repeat, will not — delay the normal aging process.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Many people today are using ear candles to remove wax from the ears. Is this a safe and effective procedure?

DEAR READER: In general, it's safe but ineffective. My otolaryngologist colleagues confirm that the process may soften earwax, but will not remove it.

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Oil Patch News

Scurry County

Kinder Morgan has completed the No. 7604 SACROC unit in the Kelly-Snyder field, four miles northwest of Snyder. The well was completed to produce six barrels of oil and 2,215 barrels of water. Perforations were from 6,643-7,089 feet and location is in Section 18, Block 1, J.P. Smith survey.

Garza County

Shenandoah Petroleum Corp. will drill the No. 313 Lott Trust in the Lazy JL field, 15 miles south of Post. Planned for a depth of 6,300 feet, drill site is in Section 13, Block 30, T7N, T&P survey.

Burk Royalty will drill the No. 11-4R Southeast Garza field unit, two miles southeast of Post. Planned depth is 3,500 feet and location is in Section 4, Block 5, K. Aycock survey.

Howard County

Permian Resources Inc. will drill the No. 4 H.R. Clay in the Howard-Glasscock field, three miles southeast of Forsan. Planned depth is for the recompletion project 3,300 feet, and location is in Section 155, Block 29, W&NW survey.

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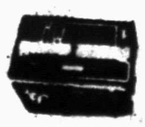
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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Commander: No extra troops needed

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite increasing attacks against Americans in postwar Iraq, no extra troops are needed there now, the war's retiring commander said today.

Gen. Tommy Franks said rising casualties among coalition occupation forces come in pursuit of "a worthy cause" — attempting to establish democracy in Iraq. And he agreed with the much criticized comment by President Bush, who taunted attackers with the phrase "Bring 'em on!"

"The sense that I have right now is that it's not time to send in additional troops," the four-star general told ABC's "Good Morning America" in an interview marking his retirement. "We want ... to continue to move forward with establishing security by working with the Iraqis."

There are some 145,000 Americans and 12,000 coalition forces including British, Poles and others in Iraq now. Up to 20,000 international soldiers will flow into Iraq to help, beginning later this month and concluding the deployments at the end of September, the Pentagon has said.

Franks' comments came as three more Americans died in Iraq, with a bomb attack on a military convoy in Baghdad early today killing one and gunmen slaying two others in attacks hours earlier.

Franks said conditions in Iraq keep changing and that coalition forces have been moving their operations to the action.

"The thing that ... I spend most time thinking about is the notion that could lead one to believe that these coalition forces in Iraq are sitting back and waiting for something ... for these criminals and these Fedayeen Saddam (paramilitary) elements to come and attack them — and that simply isn't the case," Franks said. "This is all about offensive operations in Iraq and that's what our troops are doing."

Coalition forces have staged numerous raids in recent weeks in special operations to root out remnants of the Saddam Hussein regime and loyalists believed involved in hit-and-run attacks against occupying forces and Iraqis who cooperate with them.

The attacks have increased. Some three dozen American and British troops have been killed since Bush declared major combat over in Iraq on May 1.

Franks, who was spending his last day in uniform today, lamented the deaths in Iraq — and the casualties resulting from the campaign in Afghanistan that he commanded against the Taliban and al-Qaida terrorists. He said the U.S. military actions became necessary after the al Qaida attacks in American on Sept. 11, 2001.

Putin: Russia won't give in to terrorism

MOSCOW (AP) — In the wake of twin suicide attacks at a Moscow rock festival, President Vladimir Putin vowed today that Russia would not give in to terrorism and asserted that Chechen rebels are supported by international groups.

The separatist rebels that have been fighting Russian forces for nearly four years in Chechnya are seen by officials as being behind the Saturday blasts that killed 15 people, including the two female bombers, and injured scores.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack, but news reports have said a passport was found at the site showing that one of the bombers was a Chechen.

Putin, in a meeting with his Cabinet, said "today, after the latest series of terrorist acts, we can say that the bandits active in Chechnya are not simply connected with international terrorist organizations, they have become an integral, maybe the most dangerous part, of the international web."

"No country in the world bows to the dictates of terrorists and Russia will not do so either," Putin said, according to the news agency Interfax. "We must pluck them out from the basements and caves where they are hiding and destroy them."

The statement echoed the harsh language that Putin used as prime minister in 1999, shortly before Russian forces swept back into Chechnya at the start of the second war in the republic in a decade.

The conflict has deteriorated into a bloody stalemate in which Russian forces pound rebel positions with artillery and air strikes while the rebels kill Russians in near-daily hit-and-run attacks.

The Kremlin has refused to negotiate with Chechnya's rebel president Aslan Maskhadov, and prominent human rights activist Lev Ponomaryov said today that policy only encourages "ultraradicals."

"Save the lives of tens and hundreds of future victims of 'living bombs' — demand the start of peaceful negotiations with Maskhadov," Ponomaryov, head of the For Human Rights group, said in a statement directed at Russian politicians.

The bombing of the rock festival was a grim reminder of how the sprawling Russian capital is vulnerable to terrorism. The bombing brought back painful memories of last October's raid on a Moscow theater by scores of Chechen rebels; 129 hostages died, almost all from effects of the narcotic gas that special forces pumped in to end the siege.

Moscow mayor Yuri Luzhkov declared Tuesday a day of mourning in the city, meaning that entertainment programs will not be shown on local television and comedies will not be performed in the city's theaters.

He also announced that relatives of those killed would receive $3,300 in compensation.

Births

Tim and Carla Guynes announce the birth of their son, Dustin Ray Guynes, at 12:32 a.m. on July 1 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. Dustin weighed six pounds.

Grandparents are Shirley Guynes of Snyder and the late Ray Guynes, and Roy and Betty White of Snyder. Great-grandmother is Mary Leatherwood of Snyder.

Congress back in Washington; faces tough issues this month

WASHINGTON (AP) — With lawmakers returning from their Independence Day recess, Congress faces such tough issues as the crisis in medical malpractice insurance while reaching for a historic deal on giving older Americans a prescription drug benefit.

A main task for the House and the Senate before they leave again in August for a month will be advancing the 13 spending bills needed to run the federal government in the budget year starting Oct. 1.

Total spending is to grow by 2.5 percent next year to $785 billion, but there's an ever-tighter squeeze on available money because of fast-rising defense and homeland security needs and shrinking tax receipts.

In the run-up to the 2004 election campaign, politics will enter into every vote. The spending bills in particular will give Democrats a forum for their argument that the Republican pursuit of tax cuts has saddled the nation with a budget deficit projected at $400 billion this year while leaving education, health, veterans and homeland security programs underfunded.

Republicans, in turn, are eager to get a new child tax-credit bill to President Bush before seeing their constituents in August. Under the $350 billion tax cut passed in May, middle-class families in late July will start receiving rebate checks worth up to $400 per child. But millions of families who don't earn enough to pay income taxes won't get anything. Different bills passed by the House and Senate would remedy that.

Congress also could soon send Bush a ban on the procedure opponents call "partial birth abortion" that Republicans have been seeking since winning the House in 1995. President Clinton twice vetoed similar legislation, but Bush is eager to sign it.

Passing the spending bills should be easier than last year, when Democrats controlled the Senate. It wasn't until February, five months after the fiscal year began, that the federal budget was completed.

But the GOP majorities in both the House and Senate are slim, and while Democrats are demanding more for social and security programs, conservative Republicans say they'll fight any backdoor efforts to boost spending.

In April, just two months after the budget was approved, Congress passed an $80 billion emergency measure to pay for the initial costs of the Iraq war and finance anti-terrorism programs. Another supplemental spending package is likely this year to help pay for natural disaster and security needs.

The first business before the House on its return today from the Independence Day break was a bill limiting medical malpractice awards.

Snyder officers arrest three

•Arrests

Snyder officers arrested a 20-year-old man in the 2900 block of College Ave. at 2:21 a.m. today for consumption of alcohol by a minor.

A man was taken into custody in the 2800 block of Ave. Q Saturday night for assault, family violence after his wife reported that he assaulted her. An offense report also was submitted for the incident.

A 17-year-old man was arrested at 1:20 a.m. Sunday morning on CR 126 for misdemeanor driving while intoxicated.

•Thefts

John Cline reported a theft in the 2900 block of Ave. U Saturday afternoon and a report for burglary of a building was submitted.

At 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Jennifer Johnson told officers she returned home to find her back door open and her husband's medication missing. A report for burglary of a residence was filed.

Bill Doucette reported the theft of two nail guns from his garage in the 4400 block of U.S. 84 and officers submitted a report for burglary of a building.

Helen Mock reported the theft of a cell phone charger from her garage.

A manager at United reported a female shoplifter at 7:30 p.m. Sunday. Officers advised a Class C theft report was submitted and the 33-year-old woman was issued a criminal trespass warning to stay away from the grocery store.

•Criminal mischief

A broken window was reported at the Towle Park pool Saturday afternoon and a criminal mischief report was filed.

An officer advised of graffiti at Snyder High School Sunday afternoon and contacted school officials with the information.

•Criminal trespass

Snyder officers issued a criminal trespass warning to a man at 8:15 a.m. Sunday ordering him to stay away from a residence in the 3700 block of Rose Circle.

•Gas drive off

A clerk at Skinny's on 37th Street reported a gas drive off in the amount of $11 Sunday morning.

A drive off worth $47.54 was reported from Town and Country North at 5 p.m. Sunday.

A $24 drive off was reported from Allsup's on College Ave. Sunday evening.

At 6:40 p.m. Sunday, a clerk at Town and Country North reported a drive off in the amount of $27.95.

Obituaries

Dee Maldanado

1941-2003

Delia "Dee" Maldanado, 61, of Snyder died Sunday, July 6, in North Hills Hospital in Fort Worth.

Services are pending at Wright Colonial Funeral Home.

Mrs. Maldanado was born on Sept. 17, 1941.

Floyd Fletcher

1925-2003

PLAINVILLE, Kan. — Floyd, M. Fletcher, father of Morris Jay Fletcher of Snyder, died Sunday, July 6, in the Hays Medical Center in Hays.

Service for Mr. Fletcher, 77, is set for 10 a.m. Tuesday in the Plainville Church of the Nazarene in Plainville. Burial will be in the Plainville Cemetery.

Born on Sept. 16, 1925 in Virgil, Kan., he married Maxine Simms in Plainville. Mr. Fletcher was a graduate of Plainville High School and worked as a pumper for Lario Oil & Gas Co. for 36 years, retiring in 1987.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Ruth Tatman Fletcher; a twin brother, Lloyd, and another brother, Feryl Fletcher; and two sisters, Audrey Morrow and Helen Agard.

Survivors also include his wife, Maxine Simms of Plainville; two daughters, Norma Lynn Lambeth of Salina, Kan., and Kay Ann Ray of Bethlehem, Ga.; three sisters, Mardell Young of Los Angeles, Calif., Faye Brinker of Long Beach, Calif., and Madeline Moran of Plainville, Kan.; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Personal, Professional Service

BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME

3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Independently Owned & Operated

WCFH

WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME

200 East 37th Street

Snyder, Texas

915-573-6200

Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

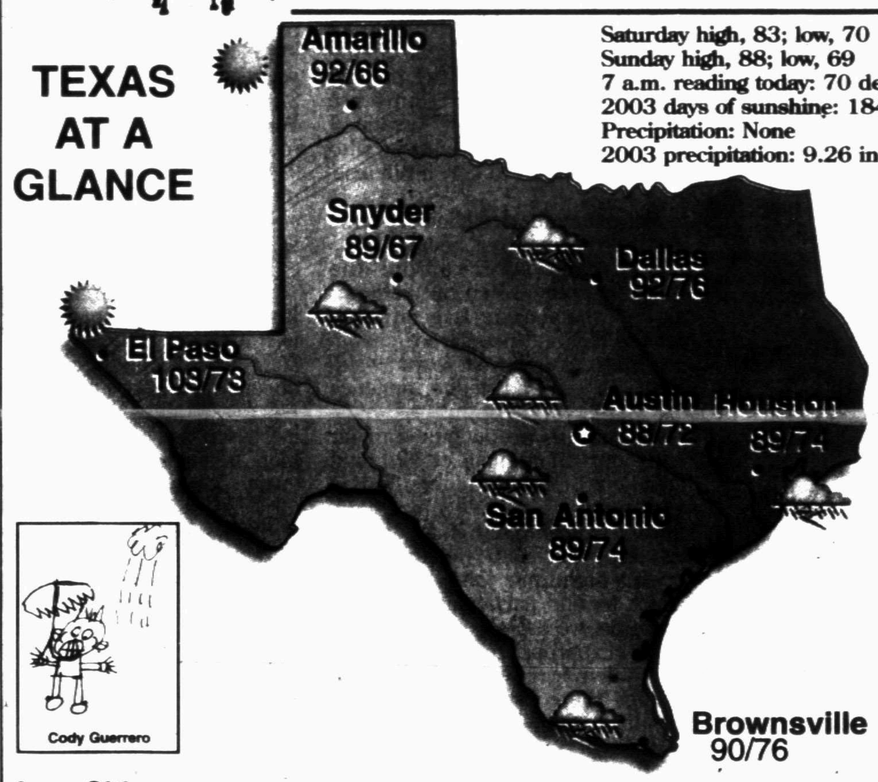
Tue 7/8	Wed 7/9	Thu 7/10
89/67	90/68	92/68
A mix of clouds and sun with the chance of an isolated thunderstorm in the	Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the upper 60s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the upper 60s.
Sunrise 6:42 AM Sunset 8:55 PM	Sunrise 6:43 AM Sunset 8:54 PM	Sunrise 6:44 AM Sunset 8:54 PM

WEST TEXAS STATE BANK

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FDIC

TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Saturday high, 83; low, 70
Sunday high, 88; low, 69
7 a.m. reading today: 70 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 184 of 187
Precipitation: None
2003 precipitation: 9.26 inches

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	90	71	t-storm	El Paso	103	73	sunny	Midland	92	70	t-storm
Amarillo	92	66	sunny	Fort Stockton	92	69	t-storm	Raymondville	92	73	t-storm
Austin	88	72	t-storm	Gainesville	92	72	t-storm	Rosenberg	90	74	t-storm
Beaumont	88	73	t-storm	Greenville	90	72	t-storm	San Antonio	89	74	t-storm
Brownsville	90	76	t-storm	Houston	89	74	t-storm	San Marcos	89	73	t-storm
Brownwood	93	71	t-storm	Kingsville	91	73	t-storm	Sulphur Springs	91	71	t-storm
Corpus Christi	89	76	t-storm	Livingston	90	71	t-storm	Sweetwater	90	69	t-storm
Corsicana	92	73	t-storm	Longview	90	72	t-storm	Tyler	90	74	t-storm
Dallas	92	76	t-storm	Lubbock	92	67	pt sunny	Weatherford	92	71	t-storm
Del Rio	92	76	t-storm	Lufkin	89	72	t-storm	Wichita Falls	96	73	t-storm

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond
Atlanta	86	68	t-storm	Houston	89	74	t-storm	Phoenix	111	84	sunny
Boston	90	72	rain	Los Angeles	84	63	sunny	San Francisco	69	55	windy
Chicago	82	63	t-storm	Miami	89	79	pt sunny	Seattle	68	54	cloudy
Dallas	92	76	t-storm	Minneapolis	80	58	pt sunny	St. Louis	89	74	t-storm
Denver	95	63	mst sunny	New York	94	73	pt sunny	Washington, DC	95	76	pt sunny

Moon Phases

First	Full	Last	New
Jul 7	Jul 13	Jul 21	Jul 29

UV Index

Tue 7/8	Wed 7/9	Thu 7/10
11	11	11
Extreme	Extreme	Extreme

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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