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WT-Int. Crude - $15.38
WTIC Posted - $12.75

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY

March 24, 1999
Vol. 50 No. 277
10 Pages 50¢

Home Of Bill & Nan Love

From Snyder National Bank...

Former bank officer indicted for embezzling $427,689.50

A federal grand jury Tuesday indicted a 17-year employee of Snyder National Bank for theft of more than $400,000.

Mitchell Scott Gassiot, former vice president and cashier, was indicted for embezzling $427,689.50 over a five-year period, from Jan. 1, 1994 through March 8, 1999.

The indictment also carries a criminal forfeiture clause that calls for the 38-year-old Colorado City resident to surrender all real property or other items obtained with the money he is accused of stealing.

Two pieces of real property were listed in the indictment — both located in Colorado City. Rental property located at 737 Hickory and 2151 Locust are identifed as rental property owned by Gassiot. His home address, 743 Hickory, was not listed in the indictment.

Texas Ranger John Billings said the two rental properties were listed because it is believed stolen funds were used to remodel those houses.

U.S. Attorney Steve Sucsy said Gassiot, a 1977 graduate of Colorado City High School, had not been arrested and an arrest warrant is not expected to be issued.

"Mr. Gassiot will be summoned to appear before a federal judge in Lubbock, perhaps within 10 days," Sucsy said.

"At that time, it will be determined if he can afford an attorney, or if one will be appointed for him."

Sucsy said Gassiot would make another appearance before the federal judge with his attorney, at which time a trial date could be set.

"Gassiot could enter a guilty plea at this time and avoid a trial through a plea agreement," the federal prosecutor added.

Embezzlement by a bank officer carries a maximum prison sentence of 30 years and a fine up to $1 million. The federal prosecutor said probation is not an option because the offense is a Class B felony. The court could also order restitution.

If convicted and imprisoned, the defendant would be placed under court supervision from three to five years after his release.

Federal authorities were notified and Sheriff Darren Jackson and Ranger Billings were called to Snyder National Bank on Friday, March 5, when bank personnel discovered a possible case of embezzlement.

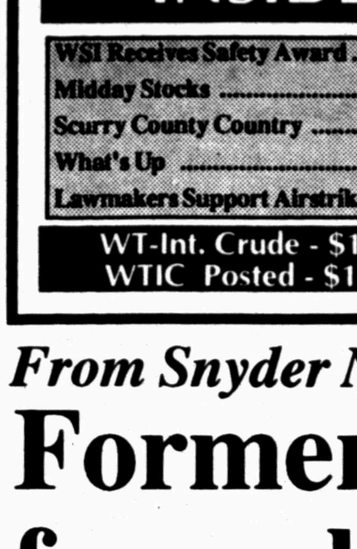
On the following Monday, Sheriff Jackson and Billings were called back to the bank in reference to yet another, but unrelated case of embezzlement.

The remaining case could be referred to the Scurry County grand jury when it meets on April 5. That case does not involve a bank officer, but rather a female teller. No charges have been filed in that case.

Joe Jackson, Snyder National Bank president and chief executive officer, said the missing cash has been replaced by the bonding company.

"At no time were any customer accounts affected," Jackson said. "The missing funds were limited to cash in the vault."

Jackson said both internal and external audit controls have been strengthened.



Scott Gassiot



37TH STREET MEETING — The Texas Department of Transportation held a meeting Tuesday evening to discuss proposed construction on east 37th Street from College Avenue to Hwy. 180. Jerry Beard, engineering specialist (back), and Mike Molter, Snyder area engineer (center), discuss a schematic of the proposed project with Kenneth Irwin, owner of Ken's Chicken on 37th. (SDN Staff Photo)

THE SDN COLUMN
By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Success should be judged by what you have to give in order to get it."

Not everybody is wanting George Bush to leave Texas and run for president.

One such person is Dan Quayle, who served as vice president for Governor Bush's father, President George H. Bush.

Recently asked if he would consider being George W. Bush's running mate in 2000, Quayle replied emphatically.

"No, I've been there, done that. It's a great job, but I don't want to have it again. Mr. Bush is doing a good job as governor and Texans want and need him to stay as governor."

Democrats seem to be zeroed in on vice president Al Gore to be the party's standard-bearer against the herd of Republican challengers.

Despite his image, VP Gore does have a sense of humor.

Veep Gore is reported to have laughed outloud when shown a bumper sticker popular at the recent Republican convention in California.

The bumper sticker read, "Nixon in 2000: He's not as stiff as Gore."

Being vice president may be the perfect job — if you like to travel and attend funerals.

The perfect job reminds us of the story about the graduate engineer out looking for a job.

The human resources manager asked the applicant about the anticipated salary.

The graduate engineer replied, "About $125,000 a year, depending on your benefits package.

The HR manager continued, "How does five weeks of vacation, 14 paid holidays, full medical and dental insurance and a company-matching retirement fund, plus a company car sound?"

The eager graduate engineer said, "Wow, are you kidding?

"Yeah," responded the HR guy, "but you started it."

Incentives will be topic of DCOS meet

The consideration of incentives for the expansion of Y-Z Industries remains an item of old business when the Development Corporation of Snyder board of directors meet at 4 p.m. Thursday.

The incentive agreement with the local industry had been placed on the DCOS' agenda previously, but was tabled.

The board will also hear Executive Director John DeLille's monthly report, including financial statements, and then convene in executive session to discuss DeLille's incentive agreement.

This will be the second meeting of the month for the board as the February meeting had been postponed to early March.

Cogdell board set to meet Thursday

Cogdell Memorial Hospital board of managers will meet at 8 a.m. Thursday to consider a three-item agenda.

Hospital controller Selina McGuire will present the February financial report, including the monthly accounts payable.

The board will also review the minutes from its February meeting and Chief Executive Officer Jeff Reecer will report on informational items.

The meeting will be held in the hospital's board room.

United Way to review allocation proposals

Scurry County's United Way will be reviewing allocation proposals in April, and any non-profit agency wishing to seek funding is welcome to apply.

The requests must be for the year 2000 budget, and must establish the basis upon which allocation decisions will be determined.

A budget review committee will screen each application to determine how each agency serves Scurry County and how the money raised for the agency will be spent. Each agency will be asked to limit their fund raisers to only one per year as a member of the Scurry County United Way.

Proposals are due to the Scurry County United Way postmarked no later than Monday, April 5 to be considered for the year 2000 budget request. All forms must be complete and correct to be considered.

Any agency wishing to apply needs to contact the Scurry County United Way by calling 573-1731, or a written request should be mailed to P.O. Box 1411, 79550.

Proposals have been mailed to the agencies affiliated with the local United Way in 1999. These include Snyder Child Day Care Center, Boys and Girls Club of Scurry County, Noah Project-West, West Texas Girl Scouts, Buffalo Trail Council of Boy Scouts, Snyder Area Council on Alcohol & Drug Abuse, Scurry County Food Cupboard and the West Texas Area American Red Cross.

Only agencies which provide services to the Scurry County area will be considered.

The local United Way only spends approximately six percent of the funds collected for administrative costs and all campaign materials are made and purchased in Scurry County.

'MacBeth' to advance to UIL area contest

Snyder High School's "Macbeth" advanced up the first rung of the one-act play ladder of success Tuesday by winning the district contest held in Big Spring.

Kevin Taylor garnered best actor honors as Macbeth. Two cast members were also named to the all-star cast — Anna Hannan as Lady Macbeth and Kade Kubena, who plays MacDuff.



Kevin Taylor
Best Actor

"Competition was keen," said Jerry Worsham, director.

"There were a number of excellent plays. A large number of Snyder fans were there to see the contest, and there was tremendous relief and celebration when it was announced that Snyder had won."

"Although this cast is young and, for many its their first one-act play experienc," Worsham said, "they have really risen to the task. They spent their entire spring-break working to make the play as good as it could be."

He noted that the cast received some "very nice compliments on the excellence of their work. I am very proud of them."

Lakeview also advanced. Others competing were Sweetwater, Andrews and Fort Stockton.

Snyder's next round of competition will be the area contest set April 9 in Snyder.

Little public comment...

37th St. plans discussed

Little public interest was garnered Tuesday evening for a Texas Department of Transportation meeting to explain the department's plans for making improvements to 37th Street.

Some 18 people, mostly TxDOT employees, were present at the 30-minute meeting, held in the auditorium at East Elementary School.

Schematics diagramming the current layout of 37th Street and the proposed construction were placed along the auditorium walls for view by the public.

TxDOT employees were on hand before and after the meeting to explain the diagram and answer questions.

The expansion is planned from College Avenue east to Highway 180.

Known officially by TxDOT as Farm to Market Road 1605, tenative plans for 37th Street include expansion to four lanes of traffic, and a 14-foot continuous left turning lane.

Road shoulders will also be paved and curbs and gutters added.

Sidewalks have been proposed, but it has yet to be determined rather the state will pay for continuous sidewalks up and down the street.

"We are going to do some sidewalks but we have to determine who pays for it," said Jerry Beard, TxDOT engineering specialist. "The state may pay for some, but not all. The city and county, if they elect to do so, may have to pay a portion. That is still to be determined."

In the question and answer portion of the meeting, Snyder City Manager John Gayle said, "Sidewalks are an interest. 37th Street is in proximity to a school and a nursing facility and there is a safety concern. We are very much interested in sidewalks."

Other proposed plans include rebuilding the bridge over Deep Creek. Beard said the bridge will be done in two phases so traffic will not ever be stopped from crossing the bridge.

The plan, Beard said, for the bridge as well as the rest of the street, is to build one half at a time. While one side is being built, the other lane will be striped to accommodate two lanes of traffic.

Beard also said there will be access to entrances along the road, including private drives and businesses.

"Everybody will still be able to get in and out all the time. That will be part of the contract."

Bids are currently planned to be let in November at an estimated cost of $2.4 million.

Funding for the project is 80 percent federal and 20 percent state.

David Caffey, engineering specialist in the Abilene district design office, said the city is fortunate.

"Snyder is lucky to be sharing in this funding. We have limited funding in the district."

Mike Molter, Snyder area engineer, said actual construction on the project, which covers 2.1 miles, should begin approximately 45 days after a bid is awarded.

Beard said the project should take about a year to complete.

"Ten months actual construction time, but we have to let the bridge cure once it is completed and that will add a couple more months."

The estimated completion date does not take into account any possible delays due to weather or other causes.

Citizens who were not able to attend the meeting can make comments at P.O. Box 396, Snyder, 79549-0396. Beard or Molter may also be contacted at 573-0143.

ASK US

Q—Is Lake Spence water being pumped to Lake Thomas?

A—Yes. The last water from Lake Ivie was pumped here the week of March 7. The local lake is receiving approximately 60 million gallons of water weekly from Lake Spence.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Tuesday, 62 degrees; low, 44; 7 a.m. Wednesday, 47; no precipitation; total for 1999, 1.96 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, cloudy. Some drizzle, fog after midnight. Low 40-45. Wind becoming NE 10-20 mph early. Thursday, cloudy; drizzle, fog; 20% rain chance. High, upper 50s. NE-E wind 10-20 mph.



Drizzle
Ashley Gonzales

Sunset:
6:58 p.m.
Sunrise:
6:42 a.m.
Of 82 days in 1999, the sun has shone 77 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

"Discovery lies in seeing what everyone sees, but thinking what no one has thought."

Author unknown

MAR 24 1999

Defendant hopes to be exonerated by DNA tests

WILMINGTON, N.C. (AP) — The former Army doctor whose murder conviction inspired the "Fatal Vision" book and movie has insisted for years that a band of drug-addled hippies killed his pregnant wife and two daughters.

A federal court set ground rules Tuesday for DNA testing that Jeffrey MacDonald hopes will back up his claim, 29 years after the three were bludgeoned and stabbed to death in their Fort Bragg home.

"The government's case is predicated on there's no evidence of the presence of outside assailants," MacDonald said by telephone from a Sheridan, Ore., prison. "There were other people in the apartment that night murdering my family."

The DNA testing, which was not available during MacDonald's 1979 trial, is the latest attempt by the former Green Beret to win a new trial.

U.S. District Court Judge James Fox ruled that an independent lab would perform the tests and told lawyers on both sides they had two weeks to pick one. The lab also will determine which samples of blood, hair and fibers from the crime scene will be tested.

Fox refused requests by MacDonald lawyer Barry Scheck to allow a third party or defense team representative to oversee the unsealing of evidence stored at the FBI's crime lab in Washington, D.C.

Scheck, a forensics expert, helped win acquittal for O.J. Simpson during a criminal trial for the 1994 killings of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ron Goldman. A civil jury later found Simpson liable in the deaths.

MacDonald, 55, is serving three life sentences for killing his wife, Colette, and daughters Kimberly and Kristen on Feb. 17, 1970. He claims hippies attacked his family, chanting "Acid is groovy. Kill the pigs."

"We think he's innocent. Science will speak," said Andrew Good, a Boston defense attorney who is working for MacDonald without pay.

Fox said the DNA tests carried risks for the defense, since the results could present new evidence pointing to MacDonald's guilt.

Prosecutor Brian Murtagh, who handled the original trial and was the government's lead lawyer at Tuesday's hearing, said a hair found on a bloodstained bed in the MacDonald home has not previously been tested.

Murtagh said MacDonald has denied having any contact with a blood-stained sheet in the master bedroom of the family's home. But if blood or hair samples taken from the sheet prove to be his, it could corroborate the case against him, he said.

Mitochondrial DNA tests, which have identified the remains of missing servicemen and the family of Czar Nicholas II in Russia, could be helpful in finding a new suspect, Scheck said.

The test results "could come back to some killer or serial killer or could return to some unsolved murder that occurred while Mr. MacDonald was in jail," Scheck said.

A federal appeals court allowed the DNA tests while rejecting MacDonald's effort to reopen his case on the basis of his claim that the FBI misled the courts about fiber evidence.

MacDonald had argued that blond synthetic fibers found in his wife's hair brush came from a wig one of the hippies wore.

The MacDonald prosecution drew widespread notice and was chronicled by Joe McGinniss in his best-selling book "Fatal Vision," which was made into a television miniseries.

WSI receives safety award

WSI Cased Hole Specialist was recently honored for oustanding accident prevention in oilwell servicing operations for 1998 by the Association of Engery Service Companies.

WSI owner Treva Hawthorne accepted the company's Silver Award at the Feb. 11 ceremony held in conjunction with the association's 1999 National Winter Meeting in Houston.

Well servicing companies participated in the association's safety awards program by following strict reporting guidelines. Winners were awarded in five groups according to the number of manhours worked.

"The AESC is very pleased to recognize WSI Cased Hole Specialist for its achievements in safe operations," said AESC President Gary Boyd, Ancor Services, Inc., Kilgore.

"The hard work and dedication to safety exemplified by these awards has far greater rewards in terms of well-being of employees and the financial health of our companies. Our goal as an industry and as individual contractors is to continue to bring employees home safely, day-in and day-out."

Boyd continued, "As an industry group, the AESC will continue to promote this goal and encourage safe well servicing operations," Boyd said. "The whole idea of the AESC Safety Statistics Program is to prevent accidents through awareness and identification of potential problem areas in well servicing operations."

The Association of Engery Service Companies is an international trade organization representing energy service companies who provide support services to oil and gas producers helping them to maximize production and efficiencies.

AESC's membership also includes companies that manufacture and supply equipment, products and services to the engery servicing industry.

Berry's World



"Incredibly, the prison population is 1.8 million. Now, it's going to be 1.8 million AND ONE."

TSTC honor roll released

SWEETWATER — Texas State Technical College has released its President's Honor Roll for the fall 1998 quarter.

Recipients from Snyder include Jesus Esparza, telecommunications technology; Dale Harris, computer network/electronics technology; Craig Leatherwood, autobody repair; Mike O'Connor, air conditioning/refrigeration technology; Kyle Shankles, computer network technology; Delton Wilson, computer network/electronics technology.

To be eligible, students must earn a 4.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

SHS grad reports for Naval duty

Navy Ensign Misty D. Roquemore, a 1994 graduate of Snyder High School, recently reported for duty at the Naval Hospital in Jacksonville, Fla.

She joined the Navy in December 1998. She also graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a BS degree.

Datebook

March 24, 1999

Today is the 83rd day of 1999 and the fifth day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1958, fans wept as Elvis Presley was inducted into the Army in Memphis, Tenn. He was discharged two years later.

On this day in 1965, Rolling Stone Bill Wyman was knocked out by a microphone stand during a concert in Denmark.

On this day in 1989, the tanker Exxon Valdez struck a reef 25 miles from Port Valdez, Alaska, causing the biggest oil spill ever in American waters — 240,000 barrels.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Andrew Mellon (1855-1937), financier-philanthropist; Harry Houdini (1874-1926), magician; Edward Weston (1886-1958), photographer; Clyde Barrow (1909-1934), outlaw; Lawrence Ferlinghetti (1919-), poet-publisher, is 80; Steve McQueen (1930-1980), actor.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1980, Louisville defeated UCLA 59-54 in college basketball.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Freedom and not servitude is the cure of anarchy; as religion, and not atheism, is the true remedy for superstition." — Edmund Burke

TODAY'S MOON: First quarter.

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Wade Warren, Managing Editor
MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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8. 
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9. 
Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home
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573-5454

10. 
SNYDER SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION
2619 College Avenue
Snyder, Texas
(915) 573-9305
1-800-725-9305
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Faces From The Past Entry Week 60
1. Cutting Edge _____
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3. American State Bank _____
4. Betty's Bernina _____
5. Landes Home Furn. _____
6. Fast Oil Change _____
7. Rudy's Restaurant _____
8. West Texas State Bank _____
9. Bell-Cypert-Seale _____
10. Snyder Savings & Loan _____
Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

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

Last Week's Photos: 1. Margeret Cole 2. Carolyn Reon 3. Wayne Kennedy 4. Phyllis McGinnis 5. Frank Miller 6. Don L. Gressett 7. Susan Rosson 8. Wanda Short 9. Carol Miller 10. Nell Spence

Federal agency...

Rudder problem cited for fatal crashes

SPRINGFIELD, Va. (AP) — The National Transportation Safety Board today declared that a rudder reversal caused the 1994 crash of USAir Flight 427 outside Pittsburgh, as well as a 1991 crash in Colorado and another near-crash in 1996.

Wrapping up a two-day hearing into the cause of the USAir accident, the board concluded unanimously that the current design of the rudder system on the Boeing 737 — the type of plane involved in all three cases — is not "reliably redundant."

The 737 is the only commercial aircraft that has two rudder control systems which merge in a single hydraulic valve. The board agreed that a jam of that valve caused the crash of Flight 427, the 1991 crash of United Airlines Flight 585 outside Colorado Springs, Colo., and a 1996 incident in which the pilots of an Eastwind Airlines 737 struggled to maintain control of their aircraft as they prepared to land in Richmond, Va.

The USAir crash killed all 132 aboard; all 25 on the United plane died.

In another set of votes, the board approved 10 safety recommendations, including one asking Boeing and the Federal Aviation Administration to convene a board to ensure the rudder system is made redundant.

The rudder panel runs up the tail of an airplane and sweeps the nose left and right. In a reversal, a jam or misalignment in the controlling linkage could cause it to go in the direction opposite of that which the pilots intend when they press on the rudder pedals.

Under those circumstances, a pilot trying to recover from a minor control problem could actually make the situation worse.

"A rudder reversal scenario will match all three events," Dennis Crider, chairman of the NTSB's Aircraft Performance Group, told the board members Tuesday.

Boeing withheld extensive comment until the board hearing concluded. "When the facts show us an opportunity to make ... (the 737) even safer, we will," a company statement said.

The 737 is the most common jetliner in commercial aviation. There are over 3,100 in the worldwide fleet, and at any time, there are over 800 in flight.

In earlier meetings with reporters, Boeing said its own investigation of the three incidents found no supporting physical evidence for a rudder reversal.

In a submission to the board, the company mentioned the possibility of pilot error in the Pittsburgh crash, a powerful wind in the United Airlines crash and a misrigged yaw damper for the Eastwind incident.

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

Snyder Palette Club; airport terminal bldg.; Hugh Campbell of San Angelo will give a demonstration in oils; Virginia Lowrance, hostess; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with an hour lunch break.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

FRIDAY

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

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

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

Cornelius-Dodson House; open by appointment, call 573-9742.

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

Scurry County AA, closed meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information, call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th and Ave. M; for information, call 573-4203, 573-8626, 573-2101 or 573-0695; 8 p.m.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Scrap-Paper Correspondent Saves Money and the Earth

© 1999 Universal Press Syndicate

DEAR ABBY: My message to "Sick of Scraps," the woman who wrote you to complain about receiving letters from her longtime friend, "Ellen," on odd pieces of paper is: Guess what! Your friend Ellen has become a "green senior" — an older environmentalist. By recycling odd pieces of paper, she's doing her part to conserve forests and her own resources. Go through your junk mail, select a letter with a clean side, and write her back!

ANOTHER GREEN SENIOR,
HELENA, MONT.

DEAR GREEN SENIOR: The responses to "Sick of Scraps'" letter have been varied and interesting. Some readers thought she was petty and mean-spirited. Others read more into it. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: "Sick of Scraps" said she and her friend were both in their 70s, and it really struck a chord with me, as I, too, am in my 70s.

I can identify with "Ellen." We were Depression babies, and if she was raised as I was, we were taught to "waste not, want not." I, too, use odds and ends of paper to write notes — even though I have pretty stationery. I recycle wrapping paper, pressing it with an iron to use it again. (My children and grandchildren tease me about it.) I also drape paper towels on a rack to reuse if they've been used only to wipe up water.

Like so many people, we were very poor during those years, and the lessons learned then I shall take to my grave. One of the things that really bothers me today is the waste, not only of materials, but of food.

I'm always delighted to hear from a friend, regardless of what the message is written on. "Sick of Scraps" is fortunate to have had such a cherished friendship for 36 years.

"NANNY"
FROM NEWPORT NEWS, VA.

DEAR NANNY: I applaud your sense of priorities, not only about the value of friendship but also the importance of preserving your assets. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: As the publisher of a frugality newsletter, I see a lot of scrap-paper correspondence. For most who do this, it's a harmless little penny-pinching habit, but for others, it is a signal that all is not well either mentally or financially. I'd recommend that your reader gently comment on her friend's scrap-paper letters and see what kind of response she receives.

Intense frugality at this stage of life may signal several distressing possibilities: The woman may have real financial problems or imagined fears of outliving her money. Either situation could cause an obsessive type of scrimping. Or, if this is an abrupt change in personality — apparently she has enjoyed nice stationery in the past — it may be a warning sign of a mental deterioration that should be investigated.

Thrift is certainly commendable and we encourage it, but its sudden appearance in an extreme form in someone of this age needs further looking into.

EDITH FLOWERS KILGO,
"CREATIVE DOWNSCALING,"
JONESBORO, GA.

DEAR EDITH: Thank you for pointing this out, and also for the suggestion that Ellen's friend "gently comment" about the scrap-paper letters to see how her friend responds. It certainly couldn't hurt. You have added some valuable insight.

Readers: Stay tuned; more on this subject tomorrow.

***

Abby shares her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "Abby's More Favorite Recipes." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 per booklet ($4.50 each in Canada) to: Dear Abby Booklets, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

Passat top family sedan in CR automobile picks

EAST HADDAM, Conn. (AP) — Move over Camry. You've just been passed by Passat.

Volkswagen's midsized model took over the top spot in Consumer Reports magazine's widely watched annual ranking of family sedans released Tuesday, the first time in 16 years that a Toyota has not topped the list.

The top ranking was a sign that Volkswagen is building on the success of its new Beetle model to shake off years of dismal sales in the U.S. market.

"We think the Passat was just as significant a car as the new Beetle for us, because it proves that Volkswagen can compete in that midsized family car market," VW spokesman Tony Fouladpour said.

Among the magazine's top picks among 1999 models in other categories: Mazda's Protege for small sedans, Subaru's Forester for small sport utility vehicles, Lexus' RX300 for large SUVs, Toyota's Sienna for minivans, Ford's F-150 pickup and Mazda's MX-5 Miata for "driving fun."

The top luxury car, the Mercedes-Benz E320, is the highest-scoring vehicle Consumer Reports has ever tested, with high marks for precise handling, smooth ride and brisk acceleration. But its list price of about $47,000 remains out of reach for most consumers.

In comparison, the Passat lists for $23,000.

The Passat actually outperformed the Camry in Consumer Reports' testing for its 1998 auto edition, but the magazine declined to give it the top ranking then because testers at the Connecticut test track said the car was too young to gauge reliability. The Camry retains a strong rating, nudged out by Passat "by a nose," Consumer Reports said.

The magazine based its ratings on tests at its test track and reliability reports on 490,000 vehicles from 384,000 of its 4.5 million subscribers. Reliability figures came from a 1998 survey on cars from model years 1991 to 1998.

Top auto picks

By The Associated Press

Top car picks among 1999 models chosen by Consumer Reports, by category, with approximate price:

Family sedan: Volkswagen Passat, $23,000.

Small sedan: Mazda Protege, $17,000 for the ES model, well-equipped.

Driving fun: Mazda MX-5 Miata, $24,000 well-equipped.

Fun for families: Audi A6, about $40,000.

Small sport-utility: Subaru Forester, $23,000.

Large sport-utility: Lexus RX300, $40,000 well-equipped.

Pickup truck: Ford F-150, $25,000.

Minivan: Toyota Sienna, $25,000.

Green vehicle: Honda Civic, $15,000.

Best tested overall: Mercedes-Benz E320, $47,000.

Best first car: used 1993 Honda Accord, $9,000 to $10,000 "for a good one."

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



	North	03-24-99
	♠ 3	
	♥ 7 5	
	♦ A 8 2	
	♣ A K 9 7 6 4 2	
West		**East**
♠ K 9 8 6 5		♠ A J 7
♥ Q 9 8 3 2		♥ 10 6 4
♦ 10 9		♦ Q 7 6 3
♣ 3		♣ Q J 5
	South	
	♠ Q 10 4 2	
	♥ A K J	
	♦ K J 5 4	
	♣ 10 8	

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: North

South	West	North	East
		1 ♣	Pass
1 ♦	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♠ 6

Can the machine triumph?

By Phillip Alder

Do you think computers will someday play bridge as well as or better than humans? We know that they do in chess, but in that game all the information is available. In bridge, with two hands hidden, it is much harder. I doubt that a pair of computers will ever win, say, a national pairs title or world championship medal, if they are allowed to compete.

How do you think humans and computers would compare in the play and defense of this three-no-trump contract?

East won the first trick with the spade ace, then returned the spade jack: queen, king, diamond two. West continued with the spade nine, establishing his suit. Yet, when declarer played three rounds of clubs, East was in with no spade left. A moment later, South claimed an overtrick. How many mistakes were made?

Several! When South covered the spade jack with his queen, West should have ducked. Then, after East gets his club trick, he returns the spade seven, and West collects three tricks in the suit for one down.

However, South needn't have given the defenders the chance. He shouldn't have covered the spade jack. This play guarantees the contract whenever it can be made. (If West has the club trick, South is always headed for defeat unless spades are 4-4.)

Finally, East can make it much harder for South by inserting the spade jack at trick one. (As he can see a club trick in his future, this isn't such a far-fetched play.) True, declarer still succeeds by ducking, but how many humans — let alone computers — would find either of these plays?

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SEWS ALL FABRICS
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Comic Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



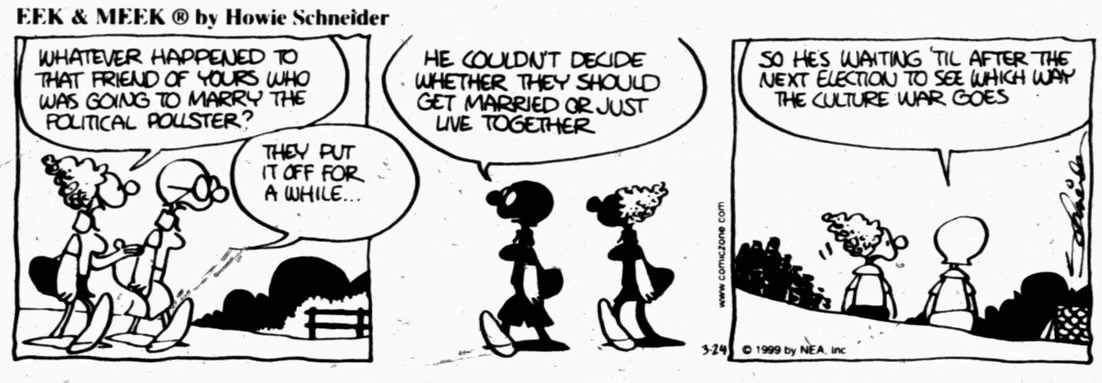
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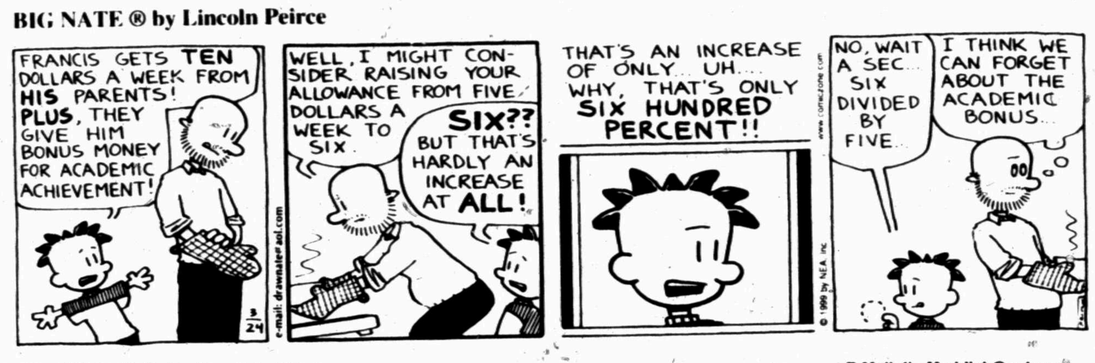
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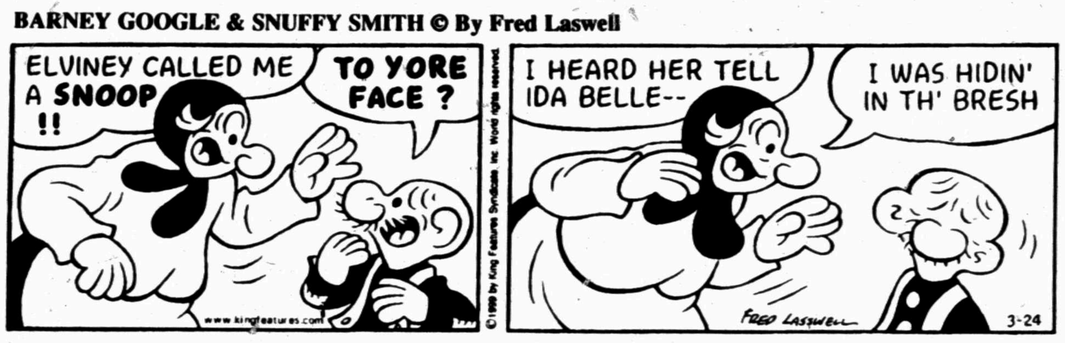
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THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



BETTY ™ by Delainey and Rasmussen



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Newlywed women
7 The Wright brothers' goal
13 Alaskan boat
14 Slicker
15 Reproductive cell
16 Nervous
17 Baking pit
18 Occupational suffix
20 German article
21 Antitoxins
23 Neither's partner
24 Heavy string
25 Depend
27 Poolside changing room
29 Play on words
31 Director's cry
32 Author — Levin
33 Sea eagle
34 Dispel
37 Seize
40 Hibernia
41 Nervous twitch
43 Runner's rate
45 Sandwich type: abbr.
46 Native of: suffix
47 Curved bone
48 "La —" (Puccini opera)
51 Present as a gift
54 Leaks
55 Newspaper executive
56 Most ill-boding
57 Make irrational

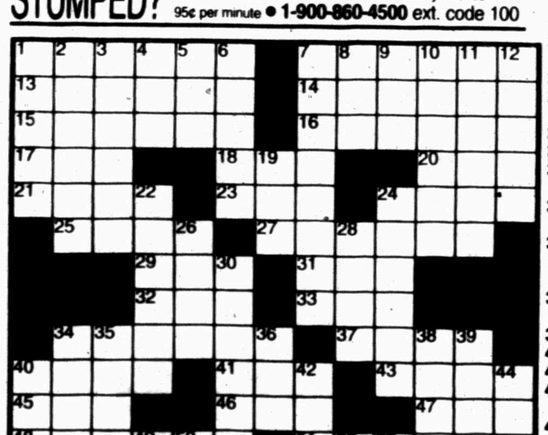
DOWN

1 Sham
2 Vagabond
3 Imprison
4 Fade away
5 Dine
6 Quantity of yarn
7 Running contest
8 Vietnam Memorial designer
9 Maya — — de France
10 Biblical hero
11 Mohammed's forced journey
12 Sign of the times
19 Assn.
22 Mountain-related
24 Forty winks
26 Cosmonaut — Gagarin
28 Loni's ex
30 Most evil
34 City on the Gulf Coast
35 Legendary king
36 Song on Billboard's Top 40
38 Hard-handed defense
39 Genus of ants
40 Receded
42 Gave up
44 Film critic Roger
49 Netherlands commune
50 Month, in Madrid
52 Poem of praise
53 Steal, once

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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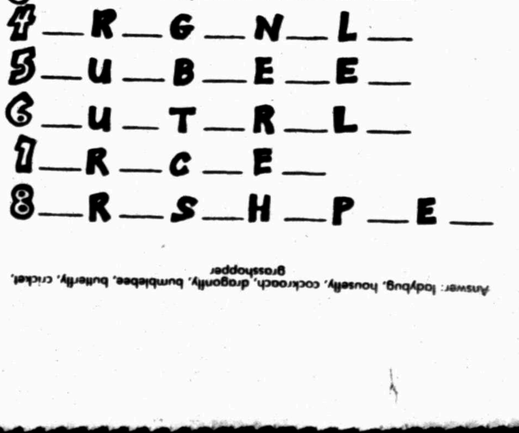


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Hope: Why do cows wear bells?
Hannah: Because their horns don't work.



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Bug Blanks

Mosquitoes are insects. Insects have three pairs of legs, a three-part body and usually two pairs of wings (mosquitoes have only one pair). The names of eight common insects are listed below. However, every other letter is missing. Can you fill in the blanks to complete the names of these insects?

1 _A_Y_U_
2 _O_S_F_Y
3 _O_K_O_C_
4 _R_G_N_L_
5 _U_B_E_E_
6 _U_T_R_L_
7 _R_C_E_
8 _R_S_H_P_E_

Answer: ladybug, housefly, cockroach, dragonfly, bumblebee, butterfly, cricket, grasshopper

"Oooo-eeee! I guess that smell means the egg's not gonna hatch, huh, Mom?"

SPORTS

Tigers' hitting, fielding look sharp in 6-3 win over Wylie

Wes Wilson went the distance Tuesday night and the Snyder Tigers limited their errors to only two to grab a 6-3 victory over the Wylie Bulldogs at Moffett Field.

The win improves the Tigers' mark to 13-6 on the year, heading into Friday's final district tune-up against Frenship.

Snyder surrendered the opening run of the contest, before claiming a 2-1 lead in the second innning when Clint Hook and Josh Ward both scored.

In the fourth, the Tigers added another pair of runs. A lead-off double by Ward and a single from Sam Bedell was followed two batters by back-to-back singles from Brad Roemisch and Johnny Pena for a 4-1 Snyder advantage.

A Matt Rodgers triple in the fifth led to two more runs and a 6-1 lead for the Tigers.

Wylie managed to send one runner home in the sixth and seventh innings for the 6-3 final tally.

Wilson finished the game with three strikeouts and four walks, while giving up eight hits.

Snyder will be back on the diamond Friday when it hosts Frenship at 7:30. The Tigers open district play Tuesday when they visit Ft. Stockton.

Wylie	ab	r	h	bi
Williams cf	4	0	0	0
Chambers c	4	1	1	0
Bull p	3	1	1	0
Martin 3b	3	0	1	0
Unger 1b	3	1	2	0
Brown rf	2	0	0	0
Jackson p	2	0	1	0
Ruth ss	3	0	2	1
Kincaid dh	1	0	0	0
Hussman lf	3	0	0	0
Totals	28	3	8	1

Snyder	ab	r	h	bi
Pena 2b	4	0	2	1
Wilson p	3	0	0	0
Rodgers ss	3	1	1	0
Hook 1b	2	2	1	0
Shields dh	2	0	0	0
Ward 3b	3	2	1	0
Bedell lf	3	0	1	0
Alexander rf	3	0	1	0
Roemisch cf	2	1	1	0
Totals	24	6	8	1

Wylie	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	—	3 8 3
Snyder	0	2	0	2	2	0	x	—	6 8 2

LOB - Wylie 7, Snyder 5. 2B - Martin, Unger; Ward. 3B - Chambers; Rodgers.

Wylie	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Bull	5	8	6	2	1	5
Jackson	1	0	0	0	1	1
Snyder	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Wilson	7	8	3	2	4	3

Sports Briefs

Yanks to dedicate monument

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — The New York Yankees will honor Joe DiMaggio by erecting the fifth monument at Yankee Stadium and will dedicate it on April 25 prior to a game against Toronto.

DiMaggio, who died on March 8, already has been honored with a plaque at the ballpark, dedicated to him by Mickey Mantle on June 8, 1969.

Ripken leaves to be with father

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — Concerned over the failing health of his cancer-stricken father, Cal Ripken returned to his parents' Maryland home to be at his bedside.

Cal Ripken Sr., 63, was diagnosed with lung cancer in October. He began chemotherapy treatments at that time, but his health has not improved and he recently was released from Johns Hopkins Hospital, going to his home in Aberdeen.

UNLV under investigation

LAS VEGAS (AP) — The NCAA informed UNLV its basketball program is once again under investigation for possible recruiting and other violations.

A visit by investigators to the UNLV campus last week led to a letter from the NCAA notifying UNLV officials that it will launch a preliminary inquiry into several allegations surrounding coach Bill Bayno's program.

Bayno said he was apprehensive about the probe, but believes his program has not violated any NCAA regulations.

Bliss hired as Baylor coach

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — Dave Bliss, who took New Mexico to seven NCAA tournaments in nine years but failed to satisfy the expectations of many Lobos fans, was hired as basketball coach at Baylor.

New Mexico athletic director Rudy Davalos said a combination of the money Baylor offered — a reported $600,000 a year — and Bliss' frustration with the criticism he received from fans this season convinced him to end his 11-year tenure in Albuquerque.

Suit filed against Pats' move

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Opponents of the New England Patriots' move to Hartford filed suit in an attempt to keep the NFL team out of Connecticut.

They claimed that the team, Gov. John G. Rowland, and other state officials violated Connecticut's constitution and did not give the public enough of a chance to voice their opposition.

SCC schedules golf tourney

Snyder Country Club will host a three-man scramble April 17.

Teams must have a minimum combined handicap of 30, with a maximum of 15 strokes difference between the first and third player.

For more information, contact the SCC pro shop at 573-7101.

Senior league registration

Snyder Senior Little League is now taking applications for managers. Senior-aged players will be divided into a 13/14-year-old league and a 15/16-year-old league.

Managers should indicate on the application which age division they would prefer. Applications can be picked up at Caprock Securities located at 2517 College Ave.

Player registration will begin next Monday and run through April 1, with late sign-ups April 5-6. Registration fee for players has dropped to $35 this season, and competition could be extended to include games against Sweetwater a d Colorado City.

For more information, contact Mickey Nunley at 573-5883, Tommy Green at 573-2646 or Kaprece Bedell at 573-8169.

Pitching clinics scheduled

Pitching clinics for girls' fast-pitch softball will be held every Wednesday. Classes are limited. For more information, contact Herman Martinez at 573-0390.

Thanks!

The Board of Directors, Coaches, Players and Parents of Scurry County Girls Little Dribblers would like to thank Ira Independent School District and Rodney Schneider for allowing us to use their gym for two weeks as we started our season early this year. Also a special thanks to Sid and June Wall for their help in making an early start a possibility. Thanks to all involved for your "Community " Spirit.

Sincerely,
SCGLD Board of Directors

Hermleigh runs well at Grady meet

GRADY — Hermleigh High School had nine top-five finishes over the weekend to post its best results of the track season at the Grady meet.

Caleb Callaway paced the Cardinals with runner-up finishes in the 400-meter run and the high jump, while grabbing the third spot in the triple jump.

Jared Higgins was second in the 800 and fifth in the 1,600, with Joey Garza coming n second in the discus.

For the Lady Cardinals, Jennifer Roemisch took third in the 100 hurdles and sixth in the 300 hurdles.

In the 400, Randi Herrington secured the third spot, while Chasity Perales nabbed fifth place in the 1,600.

NBA GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	18	7	.720	-
Orlando	19	8	.704	-
Philadelphia	14	11	.560	4
NewYork	15	12	.556	4
Washington	10	15	.400	8
Boston	8	16	.333	9½
NewJersey	5	20	.200	13
Central Division				
Indiana	18	7	.720	-
Milwaukee	15	10	.600	3
Atlanta	15	11	.577	3½
Cleveland	13	11	.542	4½
Detroit	14	12	.538	4½
Toronto	12	13	.480	6
Charlotte	9	15	.375	8½
Chicago	8	18	.308	10½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	20	6	.769	-
Houston	17	9	.654	3
SanAntonio	17	9	.654	3
Minnesota	14	12	.538	6
Dallas	9	18	.333	11½
Denver	7	19	.269	13
Vancouver	5	21	.192	15
Pacific Division				
Portland	21	5	.808	-
L.A.Lakers	19	9	.679	3
Seattle	13	11	.542	7
Phoenix	13	13	.500	8
Sacramento	11	16	.407	10½
GoldenState	10	15	.400	10½
L.A.Clippers	2	22	.083	18

Tuesday's Games

Orlando 86, Charlotte 78
Cleveland 113, Boston 86
Utah 84, Miami 81
San Antonio 112, Denver 82
Toronto 113, Chicago 90
Portland 79, Golden State 72

Wednesday's Games

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

Thursday's Games

Cleveland at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Toronto at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Denver, 9 p.m.
Phoenix at Portland, 10 p.m.

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SHS edges Prowlers

It took an overdose of offense, but the Lady Tigers maintained their share of second place in the District 5-4A softball standings.

Snyder pounded out 16 hits to overcome a power-hitting Ft. Stockton squad, 13-10, Tuesday night at Cates Field.

The win keeps the Lady Tigers (13-7) in a second-place tie with Lake View at 2-1.

"This was an important game for us," Snyder coach Carmen Bohannon said. "We made some bad decisions in the field, but overall we played pretty well. I'm proud of the girls for bouncing back after the Andrews game and getting the win."

The Prowlers got offensive early, scoring all 10 of their runs in the first three innings.

Ft. Stockton jumped to a 3-0 lead in the top of the first, before Snyder trimmed the deficit to 3-2 in the bottom of the frame.

Cameron Mackey drove in Whitney Webb, followed by a Kristin Martinez single to score Mackey for the Lady Tigers' first two runs of the night.

The Prowlers stayed hot at the plate, staking a 10-2 lead going into the bottom of the third inning.

Webb once again started a two-run rally for Snyder, slapping a triple to begin the inning. Two batters later, Christy Tomlinson and Starla Davis belted consecutive singles to drive in both runs.

Trailing 10-4 as the fourth inning began, the Lady Tiger defense became stingy. Snyder surrendered only four hits over the final four innings.

Martinez, pitching in relief of Courtney Rinehart, fanned three Prowlers and didn't allow a walk against the last 17 batters she faced.

The Lady Tigers' biggest offensive outburst of the evening came in the fourth.

The first six Snyder players to step to the plate in the fourth inning came around to score as the Lady Tigers knotted the tally at 10-10.

A Mackey triple and doubles from Davis and Jennifer Newman sparked the rally.

Snyder capped the scoring with a pair of runs in the sixth and another in the seventh.

Webb, Mackey and Tomlinson all finished with three hits for the Lady Tigers.

Snyder continues its district run Friday when it hosts Big Spring at 5 p.m.

Snyder	ab	r	h	bi
Webb lf	4	3	3	3
Mackey cf	4	3	3	3
Tomlinson ss	3	2	3	2
Davis c	4	0	2	1
Martinez 2b	3	0	1	2
Rinehart p	4	1	1	0
Purcell 1b	4	1	1	0
Ricks 3b	3	1	0	0
Newman rf	4	2	2	2
Totals	33	13	16	12

Ft.Stockton	3	3	4	0	0	0	0	—	10 17 3
Snyder	2	0	2	6	2	1	x	—	13 16 3

UConn rides wave of emotion to Final Four

STORRS, Conn. (AP) — Always animated, sometimes agitated, Jim Calhoun coaches with passion.

He jukes and jumps, bellows and glares. It's easy to read his emotions in the 40-minute span, but he has guarded them off the court.

Fate and the Final Four changed that in the past few weeks for Connecticut's winningest coach.

Since the postseason began, Calhoun has experienced the joys of a first grandchild and the death of a friend. Both were on his mind when the Huskies advanced to their first Final Four.

It was more than enough to make a 56-year-old coach cry, and he didn't care who saw.

"I found myself more nostalgic," Calhoun said Tuesday. "I found that tears and outward emotions don't seem to be the one thing that I have a problem hiding anymore or see fit to hide over the past couple weeks. It gives me a different perspective on a couple different things, particularly my own journey through this life."

His trek through college basketball, as coach of Northeastern for 14 years and at UConn since 1986, has been a steady climb to the top. He has a career record of 552-257 and is the only coach in Division I history to have at least 250 wins at two different schools.

He remains the winningest coach at Northeastern with a 250-137 record. On Jan. 23, he earned his 287th win at UConn, making him the winningest coach in school history. Saturday's win over Gonzaga in the West Regional title game sends Calhoun to his first Final Four where the Huskies (32-2) take on Ohio State (27-8).

"Over the past few three or four days, I'm getting a much better feeling for what that bright light of the Final Four can do," he said. "People get a chance to look closer at your program, at your career, at what our kids have achieved."

One of his "kids" was 26-year-old Joe McGinn. A popular team manager from 1992-95, he had kidney disease most of his life and died March 9 as the team was preparing for its first-round game in Denver.

The bond between the two was like father and son. When doctors last year decided McGinn's legs should be amputated, Calhoun broke the news to him.

"It was the most emotional thing I've ever done," he said. "Much more emotional than a Final Four."

Emily Calhoun, born to Jim Jr. and wife Jennifer, arrived during the Big East tournament and sweetened the postseason immeasurably for her grandfather.

He has carried her picture in his pocket throughout the NCAA tournament. It doesn't take much to get Calhoun talking about little Emily.

"She's the prettiest 3½-week-old child I've ever seen," he said. "And that's said without one bit of bias. It puts your life into different perspective and has allowed my wife and myself to do this. It's a wonderful feeling."

All those feelings converged moments after the Gonzaga game as he struggled through tears.

"It's been an amazing thing," he said. "I've lost a son and gained a granddaughter. It's an emotional time."

Stars skate past Coyotes

PHOENIX (AP) — The Phoenix Coyotes got to Dallas scoring leader Mike Modano of Dallas in the first period, so the Stars tightened up on defense and made sure nobody got to goalie Ed Belfour until it was too late.

Brett Hull made Phoenix pay for injuring Modano by scoring an unassisted power-play goal that led the Stars to a 3-2 win over the Coyotes on Tuesday night.

Jere Lehtinen and Joe Nieuwendyk also scored for a 3-0 lead that was just enough as Phoenix's Keith Tkachuk and Rick Tocchet scored in the final minutes.

"We gave up two goals late, which is not good, but I thought that for the most part, through 58 minutes it was the best effort from our team throughout the lineup in a long time," Nieuwendyk said. "Maybe it was Modano going out early. Maybe everyone had to tighten ship a little."

The league-leading Stars reached 100 points for the third consecutive year. They have 12 more games to break their record of 109 set last season.

"Our team is playing really well," Guy Carbonneau said. "I don't think we're playing as well as last year, but we find all kinds of ways to win games, and that's the strength of a good team."

Belfour had 26 saves to tie New Jersey's Martin Brodeur for the NHL lead with 32 victories and help Dallas hold an opponent to three goals or less in its 26th consecutive road game, the longest such streak since Detroit had 30 in a row in 1952-53.

Bulldogs blast Wilson for 2-1 mark

IRA — The Ira Bulldogs didn't have any problems hitting or fielding the ball on Tuesday.

It was a different story, however, for their counterparts.

Ira belted 16 hits and played an error-free ballgame, while Wilson managed just three hits and committed nine miscues in a 13-2 blowout at Bulldog Field.

With the rout the Bulldogs improve to 2-1 on the young season, heading into Tuesday's contest against Lubbock Christian High School.

Following a scoreless first inning, Ira grabbed a 2-0 lead in the second before piling on five more runs in the third.

The Bulldogs added three runs in both the fourth and fifth innings, while Wilson could muster only one run in the third and another in the fifth.

Four of Ira's 16 hits on the day were triples, with Jerek Brown pounding a triple, a double and a single.

Jase Olvera threw the first three innings for the Bulldogs, with Perry Jamison going the final two in relief.

Ira is 1-0 in the district standings and will resume league play April 5 at Loraine.

Ira 13, Wilson 2

Ira: Jerek Brown, triple, double and single; Perry Jamison, double and two singles; Jenson Gainer, Jerry Jamison and Terry Jamison, triple and single; Seth Sterling, double and single; Jase Olvera and Drew Wall, single.

Jase Olvera: 3 IP, 2 H, 5 BB, 6 SO.
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010 LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

The West Central Texas Workforce Development Board (WCTWDB) Abilene, Texas, is issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for solicitation of bidders to manage and operate the Child Care service delivery system.

The WCTWDB is appointed by local elected officials to plan and oversee operation of the public workforce system, including child care resources in the West Central Texas 19 county area.

The purpose of Child Care Program Operation is to offer child care to eligible families and to improve the quality, availability and affordability of child care in Texas. This proposal will address delivery and payment for child care services to be provided in the WCTWDB Service Delivery Area which includes the following counties: Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Taylor and Throckmorton.

Public and private service providers, or other interested parties may obtain a RFP by contacting the West Central Texas Workforce Development Board, P.O. Box 3195, Abilene, Texas 79604, Attn: Karen Spaar, or by calling (915) 672-8544.

A bidders conference will be held April 6, 1999 at 10:00 A.M. in the large conference room at the offices of West Central Texas Council of Governments, 1025 EN 10th. Abilene, Texas 79601. Attendance at the bidders conference is not required but is recommended. Proposers unable to attend the bidders conference may submit written questions, via mail or fax, no later than 5:00 P.M., April 1, 1999 to the following address:

West Central Texas Workforce Development Board
P.O. Box 3195
Abilene, Texas 79604
Fax (915) 675-5214

DEADLINE: Proposals must be received in the WCTWDB offices by 5:00 P.M., May 5, 1999 to be considered. Proposals received at the WCTWDB offices after the deadline will not be accepted. There will be no exceptions. Proposals may be mailed to the above address or hand delivered to the WCTWDB offices Monday through Friday, 8:30 A.M. to 12:00 Noon and 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. at 1025 EN 10th, Abilene, Texas 79601. The WCTWDB will not accept proposals transmitted by facsimile (FAX).



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Kevorkian struggles with defense

PONTIAC, Mich. (AP) — The judge smiled and offered advice. Prosecutors even helped Jack Kevorkian label evidence. For a while, he seemed to be doing well as his own defense attorney.

But the 70-year-old retired pathologist ran into problems at his murder trial when he tried to call his first witness. In fact, he has found only spotty success in defending himself during the first two days of a high-profile proceeding that could land him in prison for life.

The trial was in recess until Thursday.

In an impassioned discussion with Judge Jessica Cooper on Tuesday, Kevorkian said he wanted to have the widow and brother of Thomas Youk testify that they asked him to relieve Youk's pain from Lou Gehrig's disease.

A videotape later aired by CBS shows Kevorkian giving Youk, 52, a lethal injection of chemicals last fall. Kevorkian was charged with first-degree murder and delivery of a controlled substance after daring prosecutors to file charges.

But Cooper rejected Kevorkian's request and repeatedly urged him to reconsider representing himself.

"In essence, he is railroading himself to a quick conviction unless there is a backlash of sympathy from the jury for the predicament he's in," said Larry Dubin, a law professor at the University of Detroit-Mercy.

Prosecutors also showed jurors the central piece of evidence against Kevorkian — the "60 Minutes" videotape — and rested their case before lunch Tuesday.

Jurors watched intently but showed little emotion during the video. It shows Kevorkian asking Youk about his struggles with Lou Gehrig's disease and getting consent for his death before injecting him.

Youk was diagnosed two years ago with the disease, also known as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. It is a progressively fatal illness that eventually leaves victims unable to speak, swallow or move.

Kevorkian tried to call Youk's wife, Melody Youk, to the stand to show that he intended to ease her husband's suffering.

"My intent is not to kill," he told the judge outside the jury's presence. "It's to do my duty as a physician, and they often have disagreeable outcomes when you do your duty. And this is one very disagreeable outcome."

Iran-Contra independent counsel suggests Congress keep the law

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lawrence Walsh, who investigated the Reagan administration on charges of arms-for-hostages trading, told a Senate panel today that Congress should renew, but narrow, the 1978 law that authorized his job.

The Iran-Contra prosecutor said no investigation of a president would carry credibility without the law because that would present the attorney general with a conflict of interest.

"The appearance of an attorney general selecting the person to investigate himself or the president who appointed him lacks the public credibility of an appointment by someone less interested in the outcome," Walsh said in remarks prepared for the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee.

Walsh's probe of Reagan and other White House aides turned many Republicans against the Watergate-inspired law, which expires on June 30. Now, angered by Kenneth Starr's investigation and the historic impeachment trial it inspired, many Democrats have joined GOP colleagues in opposition. Other than a small group of moderates, no real support has emerged in either party for renewing the law. Even among those who believe such a statute is necessary, no consensus has surfaced on how to fix it.

Today, Chairman Fred Thompson, R-Tenn., suggested that Congress might consider shelving the issue until partisan passions left over from Clinton's impeachment trial subside.

"Perhaps regardless of what we do, we should wait and not try to meet the June 30 deadline," Thompson said as he opened today's hearing. Former Sen. Howard Baker, R-Tenn., who saw the law in action as Reagan's chief of staff, made the same recommendation last month.

Walsh said the public will not trust the outcome of such probes without the law in some form. He said "stripping the act to its essentials and then renewing it would be in the national interest."

Among the changes Walsh suggested were applying the law only to the president and attorney general rather than the dozens of high-ranking officials it covers now. Such investigations, he added, should be reserved for allegations of abuse of public office. Investigations of matters that occurred before a president was elected or an attorney general appointed should be left for prosecution under the normal justice system only after they leave office.

"The prosecutorial disadvantage of stale evidence is outweighed by the national interest in an uninterrupted presidency by a person elected by the people," Walsh said.

Clinton opposes Palestinian state declared unilaterally

WASHINGTON (AP) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who has spoken frequently about the possibility of a unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state, is getting no support for that from President Clinton.

Clinton reaffirmed to Arafat on Tuesday his long-held opposition to any such declaration and said the issue should be resolved through negotiations with Israel.

Clinton is one of a number of world leaders Arafat is consulting as he considers what to do after May 4, the end of the five-year negotiating period outlined in Israeli-Palestinian peace accords.

Arafat has received conflicting advice on how to proceed with the peace process after May 4. It is widely believed that a unilateral statehood declaration could assist Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his party in national elections on May 17.

But the prospect of a statehood declaration in the May 4 time frame has popular appeal among many Palestinians. Arafat has called May 4 "a sacred date."

The administration has made clear all along it believes that a statehood declaration by the Palestinians in the face of Israeli opposition would be a major setback for the peace process.

A senior administration official, who briefed reporters on the condition that he not be identified, said Tuesday he knew of no incentives the United States might offer Arafat to ensure that he does not use the May 4 deadline to declare a Palestinian state.

Arafat told Clinton there can be no return to violence regardless of disagreements that may arise in the peace process, the official said. He added that Arafat outlined for Clinton the steps the Palestinian Authority has taken to prevent terrorism directed at Israelis.

Arafat also raised his concerns about Israeli settlement activities, the official said, adding that that Clinton administration shares those concerns.

Red wolf dies

VICTORIA (AP) — A red wolf credited with helping bring the vanishing species back from the brink of extinction has died at Victoria's Texas Zoo.

The wolf, known as Rusty, fathered 19 pups, so many that authorities had to remove him from a breeding program in 1991 because they feared his large number of offspring would lead to interbreeding in the species.

"Rusty had produced enough to carry on the bloodline," Sherry Hornstein, the zoo's executive director, said Tuesday.

Zoo officials said 12-year-old Rusty was put to sleep last week after battling arthritis in his back and neck.

Rusty had lived at the zoo since 1989 as part of the Red Wolf Species Survival Program, an effort by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the American Zoological Association to save the wolves from extinction.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEWYORK(AP)

	High	Low	Last
AMR Corp s	56	9-16	55 56 9-16+ ¼
AT&T Corp	78¼	77¼	78 11-16+1 1-16
AirTouch			86¼ 8686½+ ¾
Albertsons		57¼	56¾ 57¾— ¼
AlldSignal	46¼	44	15-16 46¼+ 1¼
Alltel		65	3-16 64¾ 65 + 3-16
AmOnline s	155¼	12½	117 9-16—3 7-16
AmStores		35	34 5-16 34 9-16— ½
Ameritech		62	5-16 61¾ 61¾+13-16
AndarkPtr s		37⅞	36 9-16 37¼+ 1¼
Armcolnc		4¼	4¼ 4¼+ 1-16
AtlRichfld	64	13-16	63 11-16 64¼+ 1¼
ATMOS Egy			23¼ 23 1-16 23¼
Aviall			16 1-16 15½ 15¾+ 5-16
BP Amoco			98¼ 98 3-16 98 5-16+ ¾
BakerHughes			23¾ 22¾ 22 13-16+ ¾
BankAmerica			70 68¾ 69 3-16+ 3-16
BellAtl s	51¼	50	13-16 51 3-16+ 3-16
BellSouth s			42 39¾ 40¼— 2½
BethSteel			8¼ 8¼ 8 3-16+ 1-16
BurlNoSFe s		33	9-16 32½ 32¾—1 5-16
CBS Corp			38½ 37 13-16 38¾+ ¾
Caterpillar	45	15-16	45¾ 45 7-16+ 5-16
CenSoWst	24	15-16	24¾ 24 13-16+ 3-16
Chevron			87¼ 8687 — ¾
Citigroup		61¾	59¾ 60 3-16—15-16
Coastal s		35¾	34 3-16 35¾+ 1¼
CocaCola	66	64	11-16 65 11-16— 3-16
ColgatePalm			89¾ 88¾ 88¾— ¼
ComclMetals			20¾ 20¾ 20¾— ¾
CooperIn			44 11-16 44½ 44 9-16
CyprusAmax		12½	11¾ 12 7-16+ ¼
DaimlrChry n		86¼	85 85 5-16—11-16
DallSemicn			33 7-16 33 1-16 33¾— ¼
DeltaAirl s		66½	64¾ 66 7-16+ 1¼
Dillards Inc			25 9-16 24½ 25¼— ¼
DowChem		94¼	92 13-16 92 13-16— ⅜
DuPont		57¾	56 7-16 56 13-16+ 5-16
EastmanChem			46½ 45¾ 46¾+ ¾
EstKodak	65	11-16	65 1-16 65¼— ½
EDS Corp			46¾ 46¾ 46¾+ 5-16
Entergy			29¾ 28 13-16 29¾+ 7-16
Exxon			73¼ 72¼ 72¼+ ¼
Flowers		23¼	23 11-16 23 13-16+ ⅛
FordMotor s		56¼	55¼ 55 15-16—15-16
GTE Cp			58¾ 57 9-16 57¼+11-16
GenDynam s			63¼ 61¼ 63 + 1¼
GenElec	107	3-16	106 5-16 106 11-16+ ⅛
GenMills			75¼ 74¼ 75¼+ 9-16
GenMotors	85	11-16	83¾ 84½—1 1-16
GaPacGP	75	9-16	73 73¼—1 13-16
GlobalMar			11¼ 11 11 1-16+ ¼
Goodrich	33	15-16	33 13-16 33¾+ 1-16
Goodyear s	52	3-16	51½ 51 9-16— 1-16
GtAtlPac			31 3-16 30¾ 31¼+ 3-16
Halliburtn			38 7-16 37 37½
Hanson ADS	44	1-16	43¾ 43 15-16+1 5-16
HarteHanks			27 11-16 27¼ 27 11-16
HomeDepot	60¼	59	9-16 59 15-16— 9-16
IBM	168	9-16	166½ 168¼+ 2¼
IntlPaper			45¾ 44½ 44¾— ⅛
JohnsonJn			90½ 89¾ 90¾+ ⅛
K mart			16¾ 16¼ 16¼— ⅛
Kroger Co	64	1-16	63¼ 63 7-16— ⅛
Litton			55¼ 54⅛ 55 1-16+ 7-16
LockheedM s			40 39¼ 39½+ ⅛
Lowes Cos s	60	5-16	59¼ 59 13-16+ 7-16
Lubys			15 7-16 15 5-16 15⅜
LucentTech			102½ 98½ 99½—15-16
LucentTech wi			50 13-16 49¼ 49⅞— ½
MayDeptStr s	36	15-16	36¼ 36 11-16+ 3-16
MediaOne			67½ 66¼ 66 13-16—11-16
Medtronic			68½ 67¼ 67¼+13-16
Mobil			90¼ 90 1-16 90½+ 5-16
Monsanto			47½ 46 15-16 47¼+ ½
MorganJP			123½ 122¼ 123¼+ ½
Motorola	71	15-16	70¾ 71 15-16+1 15-16
NCR Corp			48¾ 48¼ 48 7-16— 5-16
Navistar			35 15-16 34½ 35¾— ¾
Penney JC			38¾ 38 7-16 38¾+ ⅜
PennzEnrgy s			10¾ 10⅝ 10¾+ 5-16
PepBoys			16 1-16 15 3-16 16 1-16+ ⅛
PepsiCo			38 15-16 38 7-16 38¼
PhelpDodge			49¼ 48 13-16 49 7-16— 9-16
PhilipPet			45 44¾ 44¾+ 5-16
PilgrmPrd B			17¼ 16 15-16 16 15-16— 3-16
Polaroid			20¾ 19 13-16 20 3-16+ 3-16
Praxair			33 13-16 33 5-16 33¾— 1-16
ProctGamb			94 7-16 93¾ 94 7-16+ ¼
PubSNwMx			17 9-16 17½ 17 9-16+ 1-16
ReliantEngy			28 9-16 28 1-16 28¼+ ½
RoyalDut			51 11-16 51¼ 51 7-16— 5-16
SBC Comm			49 3-16 48¾ 48¾+ 3-16
SaraLee s			26 1-16 25 7-16 26 1-16+ 5-16
Scripps EW			42 13-16 42¾ 42¾— ½
SearsRoeb			44 43¼ 43 15-16+ ¼
SherwinW			26¼ 25 13-16 26¾+ 9-16
SmithIntlBchm			68½ 67 9-16 67½+ 3-16
SouthernCo			25 11-16 25¼ 25 11-16+ ⅜
SwstAirl s			30 13-16 30 7-16 30 13-16+ ⅛
SprintFON n			96¼ 94 9-16 94¾—1 7-16
SprintPCS n			42 15-16 42 42¼+ ¼
Sunoco Inc			34 5-16 33¾ 34 5-16+ 1¼
TNP Ent			29 3-16 29 29½+ ⅛
Tandy			56½ 55½ 55¾— ⅛
TempleInland	63	13-16	62 63 13-16+2 3-16
Tenneco			30⅞ 29¾ 29¾+ 9-16
Texaco			57 55¼ 55 15-16+15-16
TexInd			23 3-16 22¾ 23 1-16+ ¼
TexasInst			94 1-16 92 93¼+ 2½
TexUtil			44¼ 4444¼+ 9-16
Textron			78¼ 77 13-16 78 5-16+ 5-16
TriconGlbR			66½ 65¼ 66 5-16—1 5-16
TrinityInds			29¾ 29 3-16 29 5-16— ⅛
TritonEngy			7¼ 6 15-16 7
Tyler			4 7-16 4¾ 4¾
US West Inc			55 9-16 55 55½+ 7-16
USX-Marathn			27 3-16 27 27¼+ ¼
USX-USS	23	5-16	22¾ 23 1-16+ 3-16
UnCarbde			43¾ 42¾ 43¾+ ½
UnionPacif			50¾ 49 11-16 49 13-16— ½
UnitedTech			131¼ 130¾ 131¼+ 1¼
Unocal			36 35 35 9-16+ 9-16
Venator Grp			6¼ 5 15-16 6 1-16— 3-16
WalMart			90 15-16 88¾ 89⅜— 1¼
WalMart wi			45¾ 4545 — ½
WellsFargo			37¾ 36¼ 37 3-16— 5-16
WstnGasRs			7 6¼ 7 + 1-16
WinnDixie			38½ 38 3-16 38 7-16
Xerox Cp s			53¾ 52¾ 52¾— ⅛

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Thomas Early, Norma Medina, Mary Westmoreland, Sydney Wright, Tammy Cox, Shelley Fisk, Matilde Pena and Glena Roggenstein.

DISMISSALS: Benito Barrera, Billy Rawlings and Douglas Sawyer.

CENSUS: 45 (Med., Surg.-16, Long-term Care-25, CCU-2, OB-1, Nursery-1).

Births

Carrie Pharris and Junior Villegas are parents of a six-pound, 13½-ounce daughter, Victoria Villegas. She was born at 1:27 p.m. on March 22 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

Maternal grandparents are Johnny and Claudette Fuentez of Snyder and paternal grandparents are Richard and Marie Munden of Colorado City.

Dr. Gott by Peter Gott, M.D.

Herbs are no way to treat hepatitis

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm seeking information on herbal relief for hepatitis C. Are you familiar with the effects of the herb milk thistle weed to help the struggling liver with its daily function?

DEAR READER: Hepatitis C is a form of liver infection caused by a specific virus. The disease causes fatigue, fever, weakness, and — in its later stages — jaundice and liver failure. To my knowledge, there are no known herbal remedies to correct this condition. A more suitable approach is to follow your physician's advice with respect to diet (no alcohol) and medications (Interferon and other drugs). If you rely on unproven remedies such as thistle to treat your chronic hepatitis, you will get into trouble sooner or later.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Following a car accident, I was diagnosed with fibrositis. What can I do for this?

DEAR READER: Fibrositis (fibromyalgia) is a chronic tissue inflammation that is often baffling. Patients have normal exams and blood tests, but complain of unremitting stiffness and pain in their muscles. Trigger points are common. The affliction is more often seen in women than in men, and it is frequently associated with insomnia. The cause is unknown, although trauma and stress seem to play a role.

Some medicines, such as cortisone, may relieve symptoms. Physical therapy, biofeedback, massage and hypnosis are useful. I suggest that you see a physiatrist (a specialist in rehabilitation medicine); most large hospitals have physiatrists on staff.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Can high doses of aspirin affect the pancreas? I was hospitalized because of pancreatic inflammation that the doctors believed might have been caused by the eight aspirin tablets I took every day for neck pain.

DEAR READER: Aspirin does not ordinarily affect the pancreas, an organ of digestion and insulin production. However, aspirin is far from harmless; it can retard clotting, cause peptic ulcers (because it affects the stomach's mucus barrier), trigger asthma, and result in allergic reactions and ringing in the ears.

Your post-aspirin pancreatitis could reflect an allergy to the drug; on the other hand, you may have developed a hidden duodenal ulcer that inflamed the pancreas, which lies adjacent to the lower stomach and duodenum. Make sure that your doctor checked you for peptic disease as part of the testing program.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Consumer Tips On Medicines." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a large, self-addressed, stamped envelope to PO Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

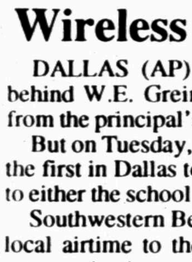
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DR. GOTT



PETER GOTT, M.D.

Scurry County Country



Town & Country Topics
By Kathryn Roberts
County Extension Agent

Preventive Health Care

Over 50 percent of all health problems are preventable. In most cases, prevention is entirely up to you. What you eat, how much exercise you get, and how well you follow safety rules will often be enough to avoid a medical problem.

Prevention works! Individuals can save a lot of pain, worry and money by avoiding health problems. Everyone is aging and growing older changes the way we look and feel. Some changes are unavoidable, like gray hair, alterations in vision and hearing, and loss of skin tone. But others can be controlled to some extent by lifestyle and attitude. Regular exercise is essential to good health. It helps control weight and can be beneficial for problems like arthritis and osteoporosis. Exercise can be relaxing, increase energy, reduce stress, help prevent heart disease, and generally make you feel better.

Keeping a positive attitude and staying busy are two keys to preventative health care. Get involved. Keep up with old friends and make new ones. Explore a new hobby or leisure activity. Change your scenery or take a vacation. Try to always have something to look forward to. Make goals and plans for the day, the week, the month, and the year.

There are numerous ways to prevent heart problems. A healthy lifestyle will improve your chance of preventing illness. Remember the following tips to help you stay as healthy and energetic as possible:

—Stay active and exercise regularly
—Eat right — balanced low-fat diet of wholesome foods
—Control stress
—Be tobacco-free
—Avoid drugs and excess alcohol
—Pursue healthy pleasures
—Think well of yourself

Wireless phones donated to DISD

DALLAS (AP) — The dozens of portable classrooms situated behind W.E. Greiner Middle School are more than a hop and skip from the principal's office; not to mention the nearest telephone.

But on Tuesday, teachers at the city's largest middle school became the first in Dallas to be outfitted with cellular phones to connect them to either the school office or a 911 operator in case of emergency.

Southwestern Bell has donated 500 phones and 360,000 minutes of local airtime to the Dallas Independent School District to improve communication and safety on the campuses.

"We have 49 portable classrooms and communication is an issue," Principal Lynn Dehart said. "If teachers have any kind of problem or emergency or if they just need to contact a parent or an administrator, this is a means to do it."

He said the phones can also be used as a discipline tool.

"If a child is acting up and you pick up the phone and call their parent, it has a real impact on them," he said.

More than 130 other elementary, middle and high schools in the Dallas area will receive phones and airtime.

"This was a long time coming," said teacher Ann Cochran.

Ag Spotlight on Texas Legislature...

'Blacklands' OKs eradication program

By Susan Combs
Texas Ag Commissioner

AUSTIN — The Texas Department of Agriculture announced recently that producers in the Southern Blacklands Boll Weevil Eradication Zone have voted to establish a boll weevil eradication program in the 65-county zone, but voted against establishing a maximum annual assessment to fund it.

Final results were 284 producers voting "for" and 238 voting "against" establishing an eradication program in the Southern Blacklands zone. The measure failed to get the necessary two-thirds vote, but an eradication program is approved because those voting in favor of the proposal farm more than 50 percent of the zone's acreage. The total percentage of all the zone's acreage voting in favor of the eradication progarm proposal was 52.07 percent.

Producers in the zone voted against establishing a maximum annual assessment that would not have exceeded $27 per land acre for irrigated cotton and $16.50 per land acre for dryland cotton. At least one year must elapse before another referendum on establishing a maximum assessment to fund the zone's program can take place.

The Texas Department of Agriculture issued 1,155 ballots to cotton producers in the Southern Blacklands zone who were eligible to vote in the referendum. A total of 524 ballots were received by the Feb. 4 deadline and counted.

Cotton producers elected Donald Stolte of Williamson County to represent the Southern Blacklands zone on the statewide board of directors for the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation Inc. Stolte is a cotton producer who farms in the zone and has been serving as the commissioner-appointed director for the Southern Blacklands zone.

The Southern Blacklands Boll Weevil Eradication Zone consists of approximately 99,000 acres in 65 counties. The counties include Anderson, Angelina, Bastrop, Bell, Blanco, Brazos, Burleson, Burnet, Caldwell, Camp, Chambers, Cherokee, Comal, Coryell, Falls, Fayette, Freestone, Galveston, Gillespie, Gonzales, Gregg, Grimes, Guadalupe, Hardin, Harris, Harrison, Hays, Houston, Jasper, Jefferson, Kendall, Lampasas, Lee, Leon, Liberty, Llano, Madison, Marion, Milam, Mills, Montgomery, Nacogdoches, Newton, Orange, Panola, Polk, Robertson, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, San Saba, Shelby, Smith, Tavis, Trinity, Tyler, Upshur, Walker, Washington, Williamson, Wood as well as portions of Linestone, McLennan and Waller.

Results of the Feb. 4 Southern Blacklands Boll Weevil Eradication Zone Referndum are as follows:

Proposition 1: Establishing a boll weevil eradication program in the Southern Blacklands Boll Weevil Erdication Zone were: For 285, 4.41 percent; Against 238, 45.59 percent. Percentage of all zone's acreage voting in favor of Proposition 1: 52.07 percent. Note: Proposition 1 failed to get the necessary two-thirds vote, but an eradication program can be established because those voting in favor of the proposal farm more than 50 percent of the zone's acreage.

Proposition 2: Setting a maximum annual assessment not to exceed $27 per land acre for irrigated cotton and $16.50 per land acre for dryland cotton. Proposition 2: For 254, 49.32 percent; against 261, 50.68 percent. Percentage of all zone's acreage voting in favor of Proposition 2 48.83 percent.

Board member elected to represent Southern Blacklands Zone on the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation Board of Directors: Donald Stolte (Williamson County) 402; write-in candidates 24.

Colorado City cattle auction

COLORADO CITY — The Colorado City Livestock Auction had a run of 607 head of cattle for the Saturday, March 20, sale. Feeder steers and heifers were steady. Slaugher cows were $25/head higher. pairs were $50/pr. higher. Trading was active and demand good.

Feeder Steers:
200 to 300: 90 to 98.50
300 to 400: 96.50 to 100
400 to 500: 84 to 93
500 to 600: 70 to 79
600 to 700: 72.50 to 74.
Feeder Heifers:
200 to 300: 76 to 86
300 to 400: 860 to 95
400 to 500: 67 to 77.
500 to 600: 70.50 to 75
600 to 700: 66.50 to 70.50
Young bred cows: 450 to 610
Cows and calves: 590 to 740
Slaughter cows: high yielding: 40 to 43.
Slaughter bulls: low dressing: 49.

Lubbock cattle auction

LUBBOCK — The market at Lubbock had a run of 788 head of cattle for the Thursday, March 18, sale. Cows were $4 to $5 better. Calves and yearlings were $1 to $2 cheaper. Trading and demand were good.

Slaughter cows: (high dressing - cutters - utility) 38 to 43.
Canners and low cutters: 32 to 37
Slaughter bulls: 43 to 52.50.
Feeder steers choice:
300-400: 90-107.50
400-500: 80-95.50
500-600: 70-83.50
600-700: 70-81
700-800: 65-72
Feeder Heifers choice:
300-400: 75-87.50
400-500: 70-80
500-600: 65-75
600-700: 64-74
700-800: 60-65
Feeder bulls good and choice: 500-600, 70 to 77.50; 700-800, 65 to 70.
Cow and calf pairs: Good 525 to 710: Grade 425 to 525.
Springers: 325 to 540.
Baby calves: 75 to 150.
Doodlers 165 to 225

Officials will study danger to black-tailed prairie dog

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government plans a nine-month review to see if the black-tailed prairie dog, considered a pest by some and an imperiled critter by others, should be protected by the Endangered Species Act.

The study announced Tuesday by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the first step toward possibly protecting the historically durable rodent whose range extends across much of the West from Montana and the Dakotas to New Mexico.

Peter Gober, a Fish and Wildlife Service biologist, said the black-tailed prairie dog has been called "one of the most hated and most loved species in the country" and that there is reason to believe it may be in need of protection.

But Gober emphasized no decision is expected to be made right away on whether it should be listed as endangered or even threatened, a less restrictive category. He said there was not enough evidence of the species' decline to warrant an emergency listing.

The National Wildlife Federation had filed a petition seeking protection for the black-tailed prairie dog, saying the species is in danger of extinction.

Government biologists acknowledge the prairie dog numbers have dramatically declined for various reasons including urban sprawl, ranchers shooting or poisoning the animals, and a disease known as the sylvatic plague which has wiped out huge colonies.

But the biologists say the animals have a history of rebounding and are among the most durable on the prairie.

"We need to know a whole lot more before we can make a call on whether the species need the protection of the Act," said Gober, who is based in Pierre, S.D., and is the agency's chief biologist dealing with prairie dog colonies.

After the 90-day review, the agency could determine a listing of the species as endangered is not warranted, that it is needed, or that it may be warranted but precluded because considerations involving other species.

There once were believed to be as many as 5 billion black-tailed prairie dogs across the West, Gober said. But present population is a big question mark.

"We actually don't know (how many of the animals exist)," said Hans Stuart, spokesman for the agency's Southwest Region in Albuquerque. "We're kind of admitting our ignorance here. Surveys haven't been done on population. We don't have good estimates on actual numbers."

As recently as three years ago there were 100 million to 250 million acres of prairie dog colonies, according to the National Wildlife Federation. Biologists say currently there may be fewer than 1 million acres of so-called "dog towns," including 15,000 acres in New Mexico.

Nevertheless, talk of federal protection of the pesky dogs — small rodents closely related to squirrels — is controversial throughout the West. Ranchers complain that prairie dogs run rampant and question why they could be even considered imperiled.

If the animals are protected by the Endangered Species Act, ranchers and developers would be required to take precautions to protect them and comply with federal regulations to protect their grassland habitat.

Gober said he could not say what the impact would be on ranchers and development.

While prairie dogs may be considered endearing by some, they have been a scourge to many landowners, ranchers and developers. Often they burrow extensive tunnel networks, kill grass and destroy hay fields. Their holes pose dangers to cattle and horses, cattlemen complain.

Gober said in recent years a growing number of prairie dogs have migrated to near metropolitan areas, their colonies forming rings around cities such as Denver and Lubbock, Texas.

Prairie dog facts

By The Associated Press

A thumbnail profile of the black-tailed prairie dog:

—It is a stout, short-legged colonial ground squirrel weighing 1 to 3 pounds.

—They breed once a year, in February or March, have a 30- to 35-day gestation period and give birth to two to eight pups, which emerge from burrows at about 5-6 weeks, the age of weaning.

—They live in family groups called coteries, normally made up of one adult male, one or more females and their young in a territory covering about one acre.

—They are often seen grooming each other, "kissing," and have a highly developed communication system that alerts members to dangers.

—Burrows are 3 to 6 feet deep, extending about 15 feet, with one to three openings.

—They are active all year, and don't store food over winter. They rely on dried grasses and forbs for winter food, and live to be about 3 to 4 years old.

—They are a major source of food for raptors, especially bald eagles and hawks, which hunt from the ground and pounce on prairie dogs as they emerge from their holes, and badgers, the black-footed ferret and the swift fox.

—Abandoned burrows are a major source of nests for burrowing owls and the prairie rattlesnake.

Matter of Fact
Susan Combs
Texas Agriculture Commissioner

What's going to happen come Jan. 1, 2000? That's the question a lot of folks are asking. It seems our ever-growing reliance on computers and computer technology may be put to the test thanks to a much-anticipated millenium computer bug – and our industry could be right in the middle.

It's estimated that two-thirds of all U.S. agriculture-related companies aren't prepared in the event of a Y2K computer crash. And with our farming and ranching industries becoming increasingly high tech, farmers, ranchers and food processing companies need a good plan of action so any impact will be minimal.

Most folks may not realize that potential Y2K problems extend beyond your desktop computer. With more farming and ranching equipment now automated and computerized, we all need to make sure everything on our operations has been thoroughly reviewed. Remember: if it operates with electricity or a battery and was manufactured after 1980, it could be vulnerable to problems like a complete shutdown.

Through our "Beat the Bug" awareness campaign, the Texas Department of Agriculture will be working throughout this year to pass along essential Y2K information to folks in our industry. The hope is to make such information available to everyone in agriculture so there are no surprises on the first day of the new year.

What's going to happen come Jan. 1, 2000? The answer is "not much" if Texas agriculture takes some time now to prepare for a "bug" that could prove peskier than any we've ever faced in a field or pasture.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

You need to invest an evening of your time to find out about the Air Force Realistic Bombing Training Initiative (RBTI) proposal to turn this area* into a low-level bomber training site.

Come to the public hearing on April 7th at the Snyder High School. It is the only hearing in our area. DON'T LET THEM THINK WE DON'T CARE!



- ✓ If we do not stop the RBTI now, the USAF will proceed with their plans by the end of the year.
- ✓ If they go through with this our lives and our land will be changed forever. The economy will suffer.
- ✓ It will be almost impossible to get them to leave once they are here!

What:
Public Hearing -The USAF will be holding a hearing on the proposed establishment of the low-level B-1 and B-52 bomber training site over our property.

When:
Wednesday, April 7th 5:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Note:
This is the only hearing in our area.

Where:
Snyder High School – located at 3801 Austin Avenue in Snyder

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2ND FRONT PAGE

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Yugoslavian targets...

Warships, bombers set to strike

WASHINGTON (AP) — American and allied warships and bombers stood ready today to deliver a "swift and severe" blow to Yugoslavia, starting with a U.S.-led barrage of sea- and air-launched cruise missiles that would target Yugoslav air defenses and open the way to a larger-scale bombing campaign.

The decision on when to start the attacks lay with U.S. Army Gen. Wesley Clark, NATO's top commander. NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana gave Clark the formal go-ahead Tuesday evening.

"No alternative is open but to take military action," Solana said solemnly at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium. Solana announced his move just hours after last-ditch talks in Belgrade between President Slobodan Milosevic and U.S. special envoy Richard Holbrooke ended in failure.

President Clinton today cast the confrontation as a stand against "destructive racial, ethnic, religious and cultural" aggression and offered thinly veiled criticism of Milosevic at a ceremony dedicating the official portrait of Ron Brown, the former Commerce secretary and close Clinton friend killed in a plane crash in Croatia 1996.

"There are basically two kinds of people that are dominating the public discourse around the world today," the president said. "There are people that are determined to divide and drive wedges between and ... people because they are of different ethnic and religious groups.

"And then there are people like Ron Brown," Clinton said, "who believe that everybody ought to be lifted up and brought together and don't understand why anybody would waste lives and take other people's lives to gain a false sense of power."

House debates $1.3 billion for Central America, elsewhere

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite a White House veto threat, Republican leaders began pushing a $1.3 billion package through the House today that would help Central America recover from Hurricane Mitch and dispense money to U.S. farmers and others.

Republicans and Democrats mostly agreed on how the money would be spent. But they were clashing over how the legislation should be paid for.

When President Clinton requested the aid a month ago, he proposed paying for it mostly out of this year's anticipated federal surplus.

He has threatened to veto the House measure — and a $2.2 billion version approved Tuesday by the Senate — because Republicans would instead cut programs Clinton likes. These include food stamps and funds for purchasing weapons-grade plutonium and uranium from Russia.

"It signals that we are committed to changing the way things are done in Washington, to living within our means," said Rep. Porter Goss, R-Fla.

Democrats and administration officials said the cuts were unwise. Rep. Chet Edwards, D-Texas, contrasted GOP calls for spending billions on a new anti-missile defense system with their proposal to cut $150 million from the program that purchases nuclear materials from Russia to reduce that nation's nuclear threat.

Edwards said cutting that program would be "unwise, dangerous, and I hope and pray not catastrophic."

Senate approval marked a rebirth for a measure that only Monday seemed destined to remain unfinished for another month. The major obstacle was removed after Republicans deleted language seeking to block U.S. military involvement in the Kosovo crisis. Instead, the Senate adopted a separate, bipartisan measure supporting U.S. action.

Senate passage came after senators added $40 million for families of victims of the Feb. 3, 1998 accident in which a Marine jet cut the cable of an Italian ski gondola, killing 20 skiers. The House bill contains no such language.

The $40 million for the gondola accident — up to $2 million for the family of each victim — was added by voice vote.

Sen. Charles Robb, D-Va., sponsor of the measure, said it would "permit the United States to shoulder unambiguously its responsibility, uphold the honor of the United States military both at home and abroad, and begin to ease the grieving of 20 families who lost their loved ones."

Obituaries



Susan Ellice Cross

Susan Ellice Cross

1956-1999

Susan Ellice Cross, a Snyder High School graduate, died Tuesday, March 16, in San Diego, Calif. She was cremated.

Memorial service for Ms. Cross, 42, is set for 3 p.m. Friday in the Odom Chapel of First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Nan Swanson, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, officiating.

Born Sept. 28, 1956 in San Angelo, she was a 1974 Snyder High School graduate.

She was preceded in death by her father, Elwin Ray Cross; maternal grandparents, Ellis and Ann Neves of Snyder, and paternal grandparents, Hilton and Annie Cross of Rotan.

Survivors include her mother, Mary Ellice Cross of Odessa; three brothers, Lloyd Ray Cross and Daryl Cross, both of Odessa, and Joe Cross of Vista, Calif.; one sister and brother-in-law, Lisa and Chris Blanchard of Odessa; one niece; and four nephews.

Ruth Miles

1927-1999

Ruth Archie Miles of Phoenix, Ariz., a former resident of Snyder, died Saturday, March 20, in Arizona.

Service for Mrs. Miles, 71, is set for 11 a.m. Monday in Phoenix.

She and her husband, J.B. Archie, lived in Snyder in the early 1970s. Their children all graduated from the old Lincoln School. She later married Willie (Snake-Eye) Miles, also a Snyder resident in the 1970s.

Survivors include two sons, J.B. Archie Jr. of Albuquerque and Charlie Joe Archie of Fort Riley, Kan.; two daughters, Virginia of Arizona and Louise Archie of Fort Worth; and her mother, Hattie Turner of Arizona.

Personal, Professional Service

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DuPont on track to cut emissions

WASHINGTON (AP) — While no big fan of the Kyoto climate treaty, the DuPont Co., says it is on track to cut greenhouse gas emissions nearly in half by next year. But will the chemical maker get credit for the reductions if the treaty ever is ratified?

A Senate bill would guarantee that companies like DuPont would get credit for making voluntary reductions in climate-changing emissions if the treaty goes into effect.

While the legislation, which has bipartisan support, was viewed a few months ago as a shoo-in for passage, many environmentalists are having second thoughts. And much of the business community is shying away because companies fear support would mark them as being in favor of international accord on climate change reached at Kyoto, Japan, in December 1997.

Over the past year a growing number of Fortune 500 companies, including DuPont, United Technologies, BP-Amoco and utilities such as American Electric Power have made commitments to voluntarily curtail the greenhouse emissions they produce — mainly by increased efficiencies that reduce energy use and, in turn would take some action on climate change.

Early action credit would spur companies to address climate change without the Kyoto treaty actually in force, the sponsors hoped.

Since then, more than a half dozen environmental groups including the Sierra Club, Greenpeace, the World Wildlife Fund, Natural Resources Defense Council and the Center for International Environmental Law have voiced opposition to the bill. For different reasons, business groups representing utilities, the petroleum industry, manufacturers and the Chamber of Commerce have refused to endorse it.

"We're not supporting it," says John Novak, director of environmental activities for the Edison Electric Institute, although its members, the nation's electric utilities, have claimed to have prevented the release of millions of tons of greenhouse pollution.

Industry sources say that behind the business community's opposition is a fear by companies that the bill is another step toward "backdoor implementation" of the Kyoto treaty already signed by Clinton but facing strong opposition in Congress.

Woman treated, released after accident Tuesday

Activity was light Tuesday for local law enforcement as no offense reports were filed and no arrests made.

Officers did work a two-vehicle accident in the 4100 block of College at 12:14 p.m.

Involved were a 1994 Pontiac Grand-Am driven by Amy Karin Harless, 19, of 8612 Blockline Road and a 1997 Chevrolet C-1500 pickup driven by Lisa Renea Stephens, 38, of 533 East Ninth Street in Colorado City.

Harless was transported by Snyder EMS to Cogdell Memorial Hospital where she was treated and released.

Continuing Education Division
Workforce Education

Management by Objectives Seminar

Provided by Cogdell Memorial Hospital, Western Texas College and the Texas Workforce Commission

Seminar Description
- ***Management by Objectives*** - How to do it and how to write objectives and follow through.
- ***FTE's*** - How to calculate.
- ***Position Control*** - After calculating FTE's, how many do I need for my workload?

When and Where:
- 2-3 Hour Workshops **Session I:** 8:30am-11:30am
- Friday, March 26, 1999 **Session II:** 1:30pm-4:30pm
- Distance Learning Classroom
- WTC Workforce Training Center

Instructor: **Ms. Linda K. Daum**, Chief Nurse Administrator McAllen Medical Center, McAllen, Texas

Cost: **$15**

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. To pre-register or for further information, please call 573-8511 ext. 390. ***Call today for details!***

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WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Library book sale

Scurry County Library book sale began today and continues through Saturday during regular library hours. A variety of books, including children's, will be available.

Drivers license office

The drivers license office is moving to the Diamond M building. The office will be closed Thursday and Friday to make the move.

Tiger All-Sports Banquet

Representatives from each SHS sport are needed to meet at 7 p.m. Thursday at the high school student center to discuss the organization and financing of the Snyder Tiger All-Sports Banquet. Questions, call Chris Thornhill at 573-2272 or 573-8367.

Astronomy Club to form

An Astronomy Club is being formed. First meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday in the museum at WTC. The club will begin with a large 12-inch reflecting telescope, with camera attachments, and the use of the planetarium. This initial meeting will be to organize the club and to inspect the telescope and planetarium. Children, students and adults are welcome.

SHS Spanish club

Members of the SHS Spanish club will work as car hops Saturday at Sonic from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. for tips. Other members of the club will be at Wal-Mart selling chances on a 25-inch TV. Proceeds will be used to pay convention trip costs to San Antonio on April 8.

Fund-raising project

Church on the Rock, 2214 42nd St., will have a Mexican dinner from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are $4 each for a choice of either three beef enchiladas or chili relleno or azado with rice, refried beans, salad and tortillas.

Garage sale items needed

Lighthouse Assembly of God, 1900 Trinity Blvd., is accepting items for their garage sale to benefit the church building fund. Funiture, appliances and other items are appreciated. Clothes are not needed at this time. Call 573-5124 or 573-2947 for pickup.

Postal Service entrance exam

The examination for data conversion operator for the U.S. Postal Service will be open to the public through Friday at the remote encoding center in Abilene. Applications and additional information are available at the Snyder post office.

Reception for warden

A reception to welcome Warden Wilhelmenia Howard and her husband, Tony, to Snyder will be held at 10 a.m. Monday at the Snyder Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Howard is the new warden at the Price Daniel Unit, and Tony is TDCJ regional supervisor for internal affairs.

East Elementary parent council

The East Elementary School parent council will meet at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in the school library.

Aggie scholarships

The Rolling Plains Texas A&M Mothers' Club will award two scholarships to a high school senior and a current A&M student. Students in Fisher, Mitchell, Nolan and Scurry counties are eligible. Applications are available at the high schools and postmark deadline for applications is April 1.

Silent auction

Phi Theta Kappa, honorary society at WTC, will host a silent auction to raise funds to attend the international conference. Items are on sale and last day to bid is 10:45 a.m. April 1 when winner will be announced. For more information call Carolyn Osborn at 573-8511, ext. 313.

Townhall meeting

State Rep. David Counts, along with Mayor David Holt, will conduct a townhall meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 1, at Snyder City Hall.

FBC Easter musical

"At The Name of Jesus," a musical for Easter, will be presented by the First Baptist Church at 7 p.m. April 2-3. The public is invited.

Hermleigh Cemetery Association

Hermleigh Cemetery Association will meet at 7 p.m. April 5 at the Hermleigh Community Center. For more information, call 863-2355 or 863-2338.

Golden K fish fry

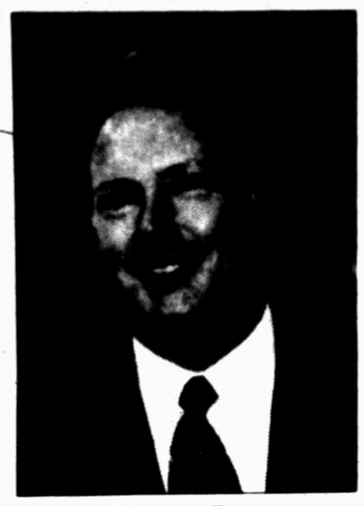
Golden K Kiwanis Club fish fry will be held from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Sunday, April 11, at the Senior Citizens Center. Cost is $6 for adults and children under 6 can et free. Takeout plates will be available.

Pick 3

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

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery:
4-12-13-18-20
(four, twelve, thirteen, eighteen, twenty)



Glenn R. Parr

Glenn Parr named CEO

The Lone Star Federal Land Bank Association Board of Directors named Glenn Parr chief executive officer. This association covers a territory of 33 counties from as far west as Snyder to the East side as Texarkana.

Parr is a 25-year employee for the 10th Farm Credit District and began his career with the Federal Land Bank Association in Hillsboro.

In 1979, he was named CEO of the Federal Lank Bank Association of Cleburne. Three associations, Federal Land Bank Association of Cleburne, North Texas Federal Land Bank Association, and West Central Texas Federal Land Bank Association merged effective Jan 1, 1998. The association has nine offices located in Paris, New Boston, Denton, Cleburne, Stephenville, Sweetwater, Abilene, Sherman and Weatherford.

Parr served as executive vice president working with Jackie Eubanks, CEO. Upon Eubanks' retirement, Parr was named CEO. This association serves 3,900 loans and carries a loan volume of $304,000,000.

Parr will join the board of directors in accepting the "PACESETTER Performance Award for the second year at the annual stockholders meeting held in Austin. This award recognizes associations for performance in the areas of new business development and overall financial position by the Tenth Farm Credit District.

Pear, reared on a registered cattle ranch in Johnson and Ellis County graduated from Grandview High School, attended Hill College in Hillsboro and is a graduate of Tarleton State University.

He is married to Connie Ford Parr from Grandview. She is a school teacher in Cleburne. They have one daughter Shelley and one son Brandon. They reside in Cleburne.

Reno to examine industry mergers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Farm state senators pressing to slow the growing number of mergers in agriculture got a boost when Attorney General Janet Reno agreed to increase scrutiny of consolidation within the industry.

Reno met in private for more than an hour Tuesday with a bipartisan group of senators. She promised to increase antitrust scrutiny and recommend legislative changes if necessary, attendees said.

Also, Justice Department antitrust chief Joel Klein will travel to the Midwest next month to hear more about agricultural concentration, senators said.

"It was good to hear Attorney General Reno express her deep concern today about the negative impact concentration in agribusiness may have on family farmers," said Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa.

"We're convinced part of the reason we have price collapse is concentration in agriculture," added Sen. Kent Conrad, D-N.D., an organizer of the meeting.

Both Republican and Democratic farm state lawmakers worry about increasing mergers within the industry. Both the House and Senate have held hearings in recent months.

Unease about concentration intensified late last year after Cargill Inc. of Minneapolis, the nation's largest grain company, announced plans to buy the worldwide operations of second-ranked Continental Grain Co. The Justice Department is reviewing the proposed merger.

Lawmakers support airstrikes ... for now

By TOM RAUM
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The biggest obstacle the Clinton administration faced in building congressional support for NATO airstrikes in Kosovo was explaining why U.S. interests are at stake in the Balkans — and why American military lives should be risked.

Even backers of airstrikes by the United States and its North Atlantic allies conceded that the rationale for U.S. intervention was complicated, perhaps not readily obvious.

But, said Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman John Warner, R-Va., "The case of inaction is unacceptable to the world."

It was a hard sell.

For every reason the administration and its congressional allies recited to support bombing Serbian military positions, contrary arguments were mounted by skeptics against a new entanglement in the Balkans.

Once President Clinton decided to act, the Republican-led Congress rallied behind him, if a little grudgingly.

The Senate late Tuesday voted 58-41 in support of a resolution "authorizing" airstrikes that could come as early as today — and which would have occurred even without the vote.

"We're coming close to starting World War III," said Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska.

The administration and its allies argued that failure to act now against Yugoslavia and its president, Slobodan Milosevic, could worsen a severe humanitarian crisis, accelerate Serbian acts of genocide against ethic Albanians, hold NATO up to ridicule and even spread the war to other countries such as Greece and Turkey.

AP analysis

"This is a conflict with no natural boundaries," Clinton said Tuesday in a letter to congressional leaders asking for their 11th-hour support. "If it continues, it will push refugees across borders and draw in neighboring countries. ... Mr. Milosevic should have no doubt about our resolve."

"This is about stability in Europe," Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del., told the Senate.

But critics said they did not see a compelling national mandate.

"Many members are now conflicted," said Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, a sponsor of legislation that would have blocked funds for the bombing campaign. She did not push her legislation in the face of the escalating crisis.

A big part of the problem: Clinton has done a poor job in communicating with the nation and Congress what the U.S. interests are in either Kosovo or another former Yugoslav republic, Bosnia, said former Rep. Lee Hamilton, an Indiana Democrat who is now a scholar at the Woodrow Wilson Center, a foreign policy think tank.

Part of this stems from Clinton's impeachment problems last year with the GOP-led Congress, Hamilton suggested. "These things catch up with you when there's a crisis."

The other problem, said Hamilton, who was the senior Democrat on the House International Relations Committee until he retired last year, is that it's hard to make a persuasive case that there is a vital U.S. national interest in Kosovo.

"Nor am I persuaded that it could spill over into Albania and Macedonia. And the business of destabilizing Greece or Turkey, I don't see that either," Hamilton said. "I fundamentally don't agree with this idea that disruption in the Balkans is going to cause a conflagration of some kind in Europe."

Some members of Congress have argued that the dispute in Kosovo is just the latest chapter of a civil war that's been going on in the region, in one form or the other, for 600 years.

Astro-graph By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Thursday, March 25, 1999

The year ahead could hold many chances to further your personal interests, but your best opportunity might come via some type of inside information relayed to you by a reliable source.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Talk out your problems today with an intimate you can trust. The more candid you are, the better chances you'll have of finding viable solutions to your dilemmas. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Although you can walk with crowds and feel at ease today, your best moments of communication will take place in small groups with those you can enjoy more intimacy.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Use your head today and you'll stand a good chance of turning a profit that you'll enjoy, but your real pride of achievement will come more from the fact that you figured out how to do it.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Your words will carry more weight than you may realize today and the influence you'll have on others could be considerable. Two admirers may carry out your suggestions to the letter.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Someone you'll be talking to today may be especially good at making or saving money. Listen carefully if the conversation turns in that direction. His or her ideas could click for you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Even if associates are telling you otherwise, have faith in your assessments today, because your judgment regarding the outcome of new ventures could be especially on target today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Well thought out goals you're eager to achieve can be attained today, but at one step at a time. Follow your game plan to the letter until your aims are realized.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Happy tidings could be coming your way today from someone you seldom see. The news may be quite uplifting for you by giving you the boast you need to carry on with your own plans.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) A problem you thought would be difficult to eradicate could suddenly be resolved today due to conditions or events taking a new turn in a more positive direction.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Try to go to some new places where you can see fresh scenery and faces. This change of venue will serve as a healthy tonic in refurbishing your outlook and attitude.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Fresh ideas for increasing your earnings may be found through networking with others today. Although it might not make you a millionaire, it could bring in those extra bucks you need.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Try to get together with a few good friends today who know how to enjoy themselves. It doesn't have to be anything special, just the socializing alone will make you happy.

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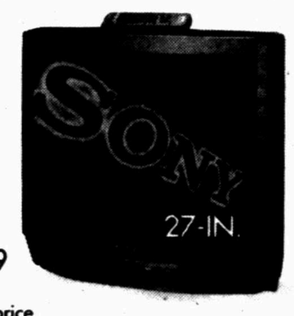
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