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INSIDE
No winners in lottery 2
Lifestyles 3
Sports 5
Midday stocks 7
What's Up 10

WT-Int. Crude - $24.88
WTIC Posted - $21.75
Natural Gas - $3.165

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY
July 19, 2001
Vol. 53 No. 68
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Tommy Early



DRIVE-BY FISHING — Carl Wright couldn't find a suitable shady spot at Towle Park pond Wednesday afternoon, so he made his own by fishing out of his vehicle on the side of the road. Wright said he caught several good catfish. (SDN Staff Photo)

Compromise bill won't have Texas disaster aid

WASHINGTON (AP) — A compromise $6.5 billion measure for defense and other programs this year won't have disaster aid funds in it that had pitted the No. 3 House Republican against the Bush administration.

House-Senate bargainers were hoping to put the finishing touches on the bill today, and Congress could ship it to President Bush on Friday, participants said.

House Appropriations Committee Chairman Bill Young, R-Fla., said the bill would not contain $1.3 billion sought by House Majority Whip Tom DeLay, R-Texas. DeLay's Houston district was swamped by heavy rains from Tropical Storm Allison in June.

As part of the White House's drive to keep spending down, the Bush administration opposed including the money in the bill. Administration officials argue that the Federal Emergency Management Agency has about $1 billion left available or expected to be made available for the remaining two-and-one-half months of fiscal 2001.

The final bill will also lack the $289 billion cut in FEMA's budget that the House had approved last month in order to free up funds for other spending.

DeLay did put the $1.3 billion into a spending bill for 2002, which begins Oct. 1.

Meanwhile, as the House completed a separate spending measure for next year, it voted Wednesday to let Attorney General John Ashcroft proceed with his plan to shorten to one day the period the government can store electronic background-check records of gun buyers.

By 268-161, lawmakers rejected an effort by Rep. James Moran, D-Va., that would have required the FBI to keep the records for at least the 90 days currently mandated. The vote was a victory for the Bush administration and the National Rifle Association.

Ashcroft proposed shortening the period last month, arguing that it would let the records still be audited for fraud and abuse while better protecting the privacy of legal gun purchasers. The NRA, which lost a federal lawsuit aimed at destroying the records immediately after the checks were conducted, has called Ashcroft's proposal a "step in the right direction."

"This is about the privacy rights of honest, law-abiding citizens," said Rep. Alan Mollohan, D-W.Va., who opposed Moran's move.

Moran and others argued that it is important to keep the records longer so the FBI can determine whether the instant-check system is being used fraudulently, such as through the use of false identities by dealers or buyers.

"It seems to be nothing more than an outright gift to the gun lobby," said Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif.

The ultimate fate of Ashcroft's plan is unclear. In the Democratic-controlled Senate, Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., has introduced legislation that would require the government to keep the records for at least 90 days.

The gun records are kept under an instant-check system set up by the so-called Brady Law, which is aimed at preventing felons, drug addicts and others from purchasing guns. The system electronically checks millions of law enforcement records while buyers wait to pick up their guns.

Einhorn loses bid to halt extradition to US

CHAMPAGNE-MOUTON, France (AP) — The European Court of Human Rights today dropped its request to delay Ira Einhorn's extradition, clearing the way for the convicted murderer to be sent home to the United States.

France had been preparing to extradite Einhorn last week, but agreed to wait a week until the European court examined the case.

The court in Strasbourg, France, said the request was being dropped because Einhorn's medical condition was satisfactory and U.S. officials had provided assurances that Einhorn would not face the death penalty.

It appeared Einhorn would likely be sent home immediately to face a new trial in Pennsylvania for the 1977 bludgeoning death of his girlfriend, Holly Maddux, for which he was convicted in absentia. There was no immediate response from the French government. Einhorn has already exhausted all legal recourse in France.

In Philadelphia, a former city district attorney's office investigator who helped track down Einhorn called today's developments "a victory for justice."

"I think it shows clearly that his arguments had no merit," Richard DiBenedetto said. "He was given a full trial, and in addition to that he is going to be given a full trial again. I don't think there's a case in the history of crime where one defendant has gotten so many breaks."

A Philadelphia police homicide detective was in France with an FBI agent and some U.S. marshals, ready to take Einhorn into custody, Philadelphia police spokesman Cpl. Jim Pauley said today.

Moments after the decision, Einhorn emerged from his home in this southwestern village with his wife, Annika. "I'm innocent," he declared. "I will be happy to go to the U.S. if the court gives me a new trial."

He contended that guarantees of a new trial from Philadelphia's district attorney were insufficient, and he wanted a guarantee from the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

Officers intervene in suicide attempt

Man threatens to pour gas on himself and ignite it

Law enforcement personnel successfully negotiated with a man who was threatening to douse himself in gasoline and set himself on fire Wednesday evening.

Dispatchers received a 9-1-1 call from a woman at 6:23 p.m. advising that her neighbor was at her house asking her to call for help.

Scurry County Deputy TJ Wood and DPS trooper Terry Snyder arrived at the residence and talked with the subject until he ended his threat. He was then transported to the Law Enforcement Center and eventually taken to Big Spring State Hospital by Deputy Wood.

The fire department, EMS and MHMR were all contacted during the ordeal and an offense report for suicide threat was filed.

Panhandle area hit by large brush fires

AMARILLO (AP) — At least nine brush fires sparked by lightning strikes were fought by Panhandle firefighters, with all but one blaze under control today.

No structures had yet been lost in the blazes, said Dick Pendleton, Collingsworth County Sheriff's Department jailer and dispatcher.

One fire east of Wellington scorched more than 14,000 acres by Wednesday evening, while another blaze near Lutie had consumed more than 500 acres.

Pendleton said winds gusting to 25-30 mph combined with low humidity, rough terrain and 100-plus degree temperatures hampered firefighters' efforts.

State emergency officials said Wednesday that two Texas Army National Guard Blackhawk helicopters and 12 people were dispatched to Collingsworth County near Childress to help fight the fires.

"The 2001 wildfire season has started with nine separate fires in Collingsworth County alone," said Tom Millwee, coordinator for the Texas Division of Emergency Management.

"We are proactively moving to assist the Texas Forest Service by providing Civil Air Patrol overflight of these fires," he said. "Our intention is to do everything necessary to assist the Texas Forest Service and local jurisdictions to contain the fires as quickly as possible."

In addition to local volunteer fire departments and officers from the Texas Department of Public Safety, four bulldozers from the Texas Department of Transportation are being transported to the scene to construct fire breaks to keep the fires from spreading.

Area sales tax rebates

City	July '01	July '00	+/-	Year '01	Year '00	+/-
Abilene	$1,881,363.95	$1,844,746.28	1.98%	$14,474,660.19	$14,125,243.85	2.47%
Big Spring	$265,274.98	$266,535.95	-0.47%	$2,151,653.05	$2,050,532.44	4.93%
Colorado City	$34,915.33	$34,767.53	0.42%	$246,855.83	$254,296.21	-2.92%
Lamesa	$60,985.05	$56,971.48	7.04%	$506,042.02	$492,267.04	2.79%
Lubbock	$2,144,551.02	$2,125,413.92	0.90%	$16,236,522.11	$15,859,646.45	2.37%
Post	$17,905.61	$18,047.27	-0.78%	$168,609.93	$148,455.56	13.57%
Roby	$1,076.93	$1,873.87	-42.52%	$12,836.10	$16,955.22	-24.29%
Rotan	$9,109.23	$8,979.54	1.44%	$74,563.78	$73,044.82	2.07%
Snyder	$104,995.55	$116,943.75	-10.21%	$802,934.34	$835,711.44	-3.92%
Sweetwater	$135,110.23	$132,270.39	2.14%	$1,050,582.19	$1,069,686.06	-1.78%

SALES TAX REBATES — The sales tax rebate to the City of Snyder for the month of July is down 10.21 percent compared to the same month in 2000. Snyder's check is $104,995.55 compared to $116,943.75 last July. The month's sales tax rebates represent taxes collected in May and reported to the comptroller in June.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Changing your mind to include new ideas is called flexibility. Another person's flexibility often is called inconsistent."

Vacation Bible School teachers have to show a little flexibility, especially when working with the young ones.

Sometimes those stories and lessons from the Bible can result in an understanding that is a bit whomper-jawed.

These passed along to us had origins in the halls of religion, but understanding of the intended message was a bit slanted.

After a worship service, a young kid suddenly announced to his parents that he had decided to become a minister when he grew up.

"That's just fine," said the mother, "but what made you decide that?"

"Well," said the little guy. "I have to go to church on Sunday anyway, and I figure it will be more fun to stand up and yell than to sit and listen."

After attending their first church wedding, two cousins were discussing the implications.

"How many women can a man marry?"

"Sixteen," was the quick reply.

The cousin wanted to know how he had arrived at that number.

"All you have to do is to add it up. Like the preacher said: 4 better, 4 worse, 4 richer and 4 poorer."

And in VBS, one little guy was asked to recite the Lord's Prayer:

"And forgive us our trash passes, as we forgive those who passed trash against us."

One teacher asked her Sunday school class to draw a picture depicting their favorite Bible story.

The teacher was puzzled by one drawing that showed four people on an airplane.

The kid explained that it was a flight to Egypt.

"I see," said the teacher, "and that must be Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus. But who's the fourth person?"

"Oh, that's Pontius – the Pilot."

Kids often become restless in church. This was whispered during a long sermon:

"Mommy, if we give him the money now, will he let us go?"

Discussing prayer, the teacher asked the class, "Now tell me frankly, do you say prayers every time before you eat?"

"Heck, no," declared one freckle-faced kid. "We don't have to. My mom is a good cook."

ASK US

Q—Will Cox Cable's new service include Internet access?

A—The company will determine later whether or not there is a demand for Internet service.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 100 degrees; low, 76; 7 a.m. Thursday, 77; no precipitation; total for 2001, 9.44 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, mostly clear, low near 75, SE wind 5-15 mph. Friday, partly cloudy, high near 100, S wind 10-20 mph. Friday night, mostly clear, low near 75.



Jessica West
Partly Cloudy

Sunset: 8:48 p.m.
Sunrise: 6:54 a.m.
Of 199 days in 2001, the sun has shone 187 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

The measure of life is not its duration, but its donation.

JUL 19 2001

Napster gets the court's blessing to resume service

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Napster Inc. says it is uncertain whether it will resume its free online song-swapping service despite getting the green light from a federal appeals court.

"We have no immediate comment on when we are going to start," Napster spokeswoman Ricki Seidman said.

On Wednesday, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned a federal judge's ruling ordering the company to remain offline until it can fully comply with an injunction to remove all copyright music.

The uncertainty of Napster's free service comes as the Redwood City-based company prepares to start a paid subscription service later this year.

U.S. District Judge Marilyn Hall Patel issued the order July 11 in a court hearing in which Napster said it was about to restart its music-sharing service after a short hiatus to retool song-screening software.

Napster, sued by the recording industry in 1999 for copyright infringement, said it could now block more than 99 percent of all infringing song files. But Patel told Napster it needed to block 100 percent of unauthorized, copyright songs or stay offline indefinitely.

Napster immediately sought relief from the appeals court, which overturned Patel in a two-sentence order.

Napster's song-sharing service has been down since July 2.

In February, the appeals court modified another of Patel's orders demanding Napster remove all protected works from its site. The court said Napster must remove the works, but only after the recording industry notified Napster which files on its servers contained copyright songs.

Napster reminded the appeals court of that earlier ruling when it asked the appeals court to lift Patel's most recent order.

events

LOTTO TEXAS™

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Lotto Texas

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

12-14-19-34-36-52

Estimated Lotto Texas jackpot: $9 million

Pick 3

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

7-5-8

Groundwater pumping to be discussed

By The Associated Press

Oilman T. Boone Pickens and other Panhandle landowners seeking to draw water from Roberts County face another hurdle.

The Canadian River Municipal Water Authority recently filed a protest against Mesa Water Inc.'s plans to pump groundwater from the Ogallala Aquifer to other parts of the state. The Roberts County landowners action could hurt production at CRMWA's well field, which also are in Roberts County, said John C. Williams, general manager of CRMWA.

"Our objective is that our ability to serve our cities is not hampered or endangered by any permit or the group of permits that might be issued," Williams said.

Officials with CRMWA, Mesa and the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District are set to meet today at the district's offices in White Deer to try to reach an agreement concerning the protest.

C. E. Williams, the district's general manager, said Wednesday the most significant outcome of the meeting may just be the flushing out of the protest issues.

In February, Mesa was stymied when the district board tabled a request from the Pickens group to gain a permit to transport water. The applications lacked information about where the water would go and for what purpose it would be used.

Led by Pickens, the group of Roberts County landowners have been seeking high production permits to pump groundwater. It has snared more than 150,000 acres of water rights in Roberts County. Mesa's proposed plans could deliver water to other parts of the state such as Dallas-Fort Worth, El Paso or San Antonio.

Pickens needs 200,000 acres to make his plan work. Three months ago, Pickens said Mesa still was seeking a buyer. He could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

C.E. Williams said the board has a draft permit in place which has not been approved by Mesa's board of directors.

"The main thing (in the permit) is that it gives them a period of three years to come up with an end user," C. E. Williams said. "If not, the permits go away without further action from the board."

Pickens has said the groundwater of Mesa landowners will be depleted by nearby well fields owned by CRMWA and the city of Amarillo, which won't develop its Roberts County water rights for about 25 years.

It was CRMWA's purchase of about 40,000 acres of water rights in Roberts County that set off the rush for water in the county. After CRMWA bought water rights in Roberts County, Amarillo bought rights to about 70,000 acres.

CRMWA's well field is scheduled to begin pumping by early September, Williams said. Electrical service to the well field delayed an original May start-up, he said. The water authority supplies water to about 500,000 people in 11 communities in the Texas Panhandle and South Plains.

Cyberspace trailblazers and oddities get annual awards

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Hundreds of dot-commers pushed aside the industry's financial doldrums as the glitzy and zany Webby Awards honored a slate of trailblazers in cyberspace.

The off-the-wall ceremony — where acceptance speeches are limited to five words — is the annual dot-com version of the Oscars.

It was born modestly in 1996 and now, in its fifth year, it's evolved into a flashy extravaganza that showcases the Internet community's innovation, irreverence and hucksterism.

A sold-out crowd of 3,000 attended the awards ceremony at San Francisco's War Memorial Opera House on Wednesday. About 400 tickets, ranging in price from $90 to $150, were sold to the general public, marking the first time that industry outsiders were allowed to attend the show.

While there is no premier award among the numerous categories, some winners stood out.

Google won in the Best Practices category for its strong Internet search engine. Lifetime achievement awards were presented to Doug Englebart, inventor of the computer mouse, and Ray Tomlinson, a major contributor to the invention and development of e-mail.

Organizers of the event rolled out the red carpet for attendees. And as in previous years, the attire was formal outlandish.

Many arrived for the event wearing bright purple and pink wigs. Randy Constan came dressed as Peter Pan in green tights — he operates Peter Pan's Home Page, winner in the "weird" category.

"My site has nothing to do with making money," Constan said. "But maybe that's why they nominated me."

Other winners included Fact Monster in the Kids category; sputnik7 for best music Web site; and BBC World Service in the radio category.

A sense of melancholy hung over the annual bash. Since the Webbys handed out their last awards near the height of the dot-com boom, 534 Web sites have shut down, including at least 25 of the 135 nominees from last year's event.

Most of this year's 150 nominees are alive, though not all are doing well. Salon.com, Marketwatch.com, The Motley Fool, Sonicnet.com and Chickclick.com are just a few of the more well-known nominees that have had to fire workers this year to survive.

But the event's organizers were trying hard to keep the spotlight on the achievements of sites nominated in 30 categories.

Webbys founder Tiffany Shlain said the finances of the nominees and winners are immaterial.

"There have been TV shows that have been canceled that have won Emmys and movies that haven't done well at the box office that have won Oscars," Shlain said.

The Webbys judges included rock star David Bowie, movie director Francis Ford Coppola and X-Files star Gillian Anderson.

On the Net:
http://www.webbyawards.com

Berry's World



NEW ADVICE FOR ICARUS

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Friday, July 20, 2001

Projects or ventures of which you personally take control or initiative could turn out to be the most successful things you've done to date. Be your own person and make time matter.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Don't be afraid today to take on additional responsibilities or exercise more initiative in your dealings with others. Anything that you personally handle will be successful. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that'll govern you in the year ahead.

Send for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today, you might discover that an important matter over which you've had no control is preceding more smoothly than outward appearances have indicated. It'll give you a lift.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Several persons with whom you have close associations could play helpful roles today in your affairs. It won't be by chance, but through decisive choice.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Beginning today, more opportunities of an impressive nature will pass your way. If taken up on, they could enhance your status, popularity and material well-being.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — A new thought could hit you today that stands the chance of having an important impact on either your career or social standing. You're experienced enough to carry it out.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Through some kind of indirect means, you may be presented with potentially profitable information. If your source is reliable, investigate it further.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Positive, stabilizing influences are moving into your life today. They could bring you balance in several areas in which you were in dire need. They'll have a calming effect.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Ambitious goals, especially those that are career or work oriented, have excellent chances of being fulfilled over the coming days. Elevate your sights and aim for lofty objectives.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Follow your innate instincts in reorganizing your social activities and affiliations. Impressive results are now possible if you put your house in order.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Make a list of unfinished business and get cracking on them starting today. You're beginning a new cycle where you'll be able to finalize matters that have been left hanging.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Have faith in your resourcefulness and ingenious ideas. If you treat them with the respect they deserve today, they, in turn, will reward you with victory over substance.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Give top priority today to situations and matters that could potentially increase your earnings and holdings. Long term projections look highly encouraging.

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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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

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

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

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

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

Roy McQueen, Publisher
Wade Warren, Managing Editor
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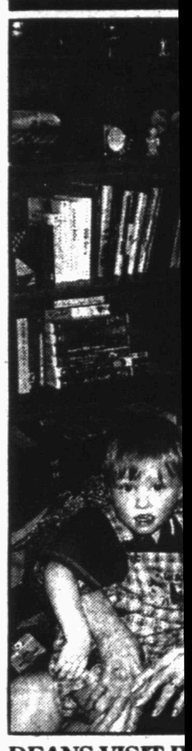
PUBLIC NOTICE

TXU Gas Distribution, in accordance with the Gas Utility Regulatory Act, hereby gives notice of the Company's intent to implement a new schedule of rates for natural gas service to be charged to the residential, commercial and industrial customers in the West Region Distribution System effective August 2, 2001, and, in the cities in which they are in effect, to eliminate the Rate Schedule for Public Schools-N and Commercial Gas Support Public Schools Rate. The West Region Distribution System includes Abilene, Albany, Alvarado, Anson, Baird, Ballinger, Bangs, Benjamin, Blackwell, Blanket, Blum, Bronte, Brownwood, Buffalo Gap, Carbon, Cisco, Cleburne, Clyde, Coleman, Colorado City, Comanche, Covington, DeLeon, Dublin, Early, Eastland, Glen Rose, Godley, Gordon, Goree, Gorman, Granbury, Hamlin, Haskell, Hawley, Hillsboro, Impact, Itasca, Joshua, Keene, Knox City, Lawn, Lipan, Loraine, Lueders, Meridian, Merkel, Miles, Moran, Morgan, Munday, Novice, O'Brien, Putnam, Ranger, Rio Vista, Robert Lee, Roby, Rochester, Roscoe, Rotan, Rule, San Angelo, Santa Anna, Seymour, Snyder, Stamford, Stephenville, Strawn, Sweetwater, Throckmorton, Trent, Tuscola, Tye, Weinert, Whitney, and Winters.

The rate schedule is expected to furnish an 8.76 percent increase in the Company's revenues from residential, commercial and industrial customers in the West Region Distribution System. A Statement of Intent has been filed with each city. If you desire to comment concerning this change of rates, you may contact the City Secretary of one of the above named cities.

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Lifestyles



DEANS VISIT D
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His wife, Maxin
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Crisp
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THUR
Rock and Roll
evening meetin
Community Cen
information call
p.m.

Deep Creek C
American Legion;
Snyder Chapter
the Eastern Star;
1912 35th; 7:30 p.m
New Horizons
meeting; for inform
4048; 8 p.m.
Nuestra Nueva
Park Club; for in
573-8626; 8 p.m.

FRI
Free blood pr
Senior Citizens Ce
a.m.
Blood pressures
at Cogdell Hospita
Services, 1800
Suite B; 1-2 p.m.



RAILH
TRADE
July 21 9
July 22 11
Railhead Tra
in Colorado
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Jewelry, Woodwork,
Hats, Candles, Great
much more!!!
Bounce House, Mini
little ones, more activi
Rock Wall, Powe
Gyrosphere!
Don't forget to visit t
and the Heart of Wes
while you are there! M
and have big fun for t
Colorado City in Railhe
town.



DEANS VISIT IN SNYDER — The late Rev. Jack Dean pastored at Northside Baptist Church from 1952 until October, 1964. His wife, Maxine, and her daughter, Jackie Dean Byrd visited in Snyder July 14 for Jackie's Snyder High School class of 1961 reunion. Accompanying them were Deborah Byrd Babcock and her two-year-old triplets. An informal gathering of old friends met at the home of Carolyn and Stanley Martin. From left are triplets, Toby Nathaniel, Jack Andrew and Anna Jacqueline Babcock, Seated are Maxine Dean, Jackie Byrd, and standing is Deborah Babcock. (AND Staff Photo)

Crisp wins third place in talent contest held in Post

POST — The First Annual Post City Radio sponsored the True Value Country Showdown for a packed house at the Garza Theatre on June 30.

Stephanie Crisp of Snyder, 15, won third place in the contest judged by Paul Hudspeth, LeeAnn Hodges, Bunny Lynch, Michele Raben and Noel White.



Stephanie Crisp

Coordinator Sandy Smith said the event was a success and plans are being made to have another one next summer. Local businesses sponsored the talent show.

For 20 years, the True Value Country Showdown has been the birthplace for many country music stars. Garth Brooks, LeAnn Rhimes, Martina McBride, Neal McCoy and John Michael Montgomery have taken their first steps toward fame by participating in the showdown.

State finals will be in Lubbock at the South Plains Fair Grounds in September. Winners compete in the True Value Country Showdown national finals at the Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville, Tenn., in November.

Miss Crisp has recently been notified of another honor — she will be recognized in Who's Who Among American High School Students 2000-2001.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Crisp of Snyder.

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

Rock and Roll Quilting Club evening meeting; Hermleigh Community Center; for more information call 863-2426; 6:30 p.m.

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

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

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

Nuestra Nueva Esperanza AA; Park Club; for information call 573-8626; 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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

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

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

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

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

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

Just For Today NA open meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-0949 or 573-8018; 7 p.m.

RAILHEAD TRADEDAYS
July 21 9 am- 6pm
July 22 11am- 5pm
Railhead Trade Days
in Colorado City!!!
Clothing, Dolls, Sports Memorabilia, Jewelry, Woodwork, Antiques, Toys, Hats, Candles, Great Food, and much, much more!!!
Bounce House, Mini Train Ride for the little ones, more activities for all ages - Rock Wall, Power Jump and Gyrosphere!
Don't forget to visit the Antique Malls and the Heart of West Texas Museum while you are there! Make the short trip and have big fun for the whole family in Colorado City in Railhead Building downtown.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 07-19-01
♠ 6 5 3
♥ 8 6
♦ K 9 5
♣ K J 8 5 4

West
♠ Q 8 4
♥ K J 10 9
♦ J 10 8 7
♣ 9 3

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

South
♠ A K J 10 9 7
♥ A Q
♦ A Q 3
♣ A 2

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	6 ♣	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♦ J

Wednesday, July 18, 2001

There were one and a half lines

By Phillip Alder

Who said this? "My choice early in life was either to be a piano-player in a whorehouse or a politician. And to tell the truth there's hardly any difference." The answer is surprising — like the clever play found by West in this deal.

North's response to two clubs, strong, artificial and forcing, was a negative, showing 0-7 points. After they found the spade fit, South intended four clubs to announce that ace and express slam interest. Yet North, with a maximum, jumped to six clubs in case that was a better trump suit than spades.

West led the diamond jack: five, two, ace. Declarer cashed his top trumps, learning he had a loser there. Now he had only 11 tricks: five spades, one heart, three diamonds and two clubs. He could take the heart or club finesse, but realized it was better first to try to establish a long club. So, South cashed the club ace, played a club to the king, and ruffed a club. West discarded the heart jack.

Now declarer needed two more dummy entries, one to ruff another club and one to get to the last club, on which he would throw the heart queen. South continued with the diamond three, planning to finesse dummy's nine, West being marked with the 10 from his opening lead. However, West was ready: He inserted the diamond jack! This killed the extra entry, so South had to fall back on the heart finesse, which lost: one down.

Could declarer have made the contract? Tune in tomorrow.

The original comment was made by Harry S. Truman. Was that before or after he became president?

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Hospital

ADMISSIONS: July 18-Wanda Cody, Earnest Davis, Nancy Felan, Frank Winter, Victor Beinhauer, Jacklyn Early, Joseph Elam, William Hibbs and Bernadine Walker.

DISMISSALS: Walter Boen, Joseph Goolsby, Eva Scott, Joseph Elam and Laura Powell.

CENSUS: 45 (Med./Surg.-14, Long-term Care-28 and OB-3)

—

West Virginia is the 35th state.



JAZZ JAMMERS CAMP — Lynn Baldwin's Studio of Music used Jazz Jammin' with Jazz as the theme for camp held July 9-13. Pictured in front is Scott Bankhead of Roscoe; on the first row, from left, are Jacob Kemp, Kailea Shaw, Megan Robbins, Karissa Medina, all of Snyder, Brooke Hall of Jayton, Lauren McCall of Rotan and Jessie Hibbitt of Snyder. On the top row are Nathan McCright of Colorado City, Madison Feaster of Roscoe, counselors Ashley Hyer, Emily Jones, Glyn Wright, all of Snyder, Jami Thackerson of Colorado City, and camper Laura Lyn Landa of Snyder. (Contributed Photo)

Keep young minds stimulated throughout the summertime

Summertime is playtime! Whether it's engaging in outdoor sports, playing in the sun, surf and sand, or simply enjoying those lazy days of summer, kids can find just about anything to keep them active. But what about keeping their mind active while school is out of session?

Here are some tips for parents to show their children that summer play can also lead to summer smarts:

Schedule a baking lesson. Children will learn measurement skills, how to follow directions and patience. Plus the added bonus of quality time spent together is well worth it. And let's not forget the sweetest reward of all: eating the creation!

Turn on the computer. Software programs for children provide age-appropriate content while combining activities that keep kids' minds active. With Scholastic's "The Magic School Bus Whales & Dolphins Activity Center" and "The Magic School Bus Discovers Flight Activity Center," summertime can now be learning time. Children can learn basic elements of flight or explore a sea of information on ocean mammals while being guided through the software's variety of games, trivia and creative activities.

Take a trip. Whether it's a walk in the woods, an afternoon at a museum or a weeklong vacation, lessons surround young inquisitive minds. Plan a fun identification game where children have to tell you something about what you're pointing at. Have them keep a journal of their summer adventures as a way of remembering their experiences.

Start a nature collection. From leaves to seashells to rocks, there are so many treasures to find in nature. Identifying and storing each item will be a new learning adventure every time.

The next time you hear, "There's nothing to do," offer these suggestions or come up with others to activate the mind. The best part is, no matter what activity children partake in this summer, they'll have so much fun they won't even realize they're learning!

Both software titles, made for the PC and Apple Macintosh, are available now from retailers nationwide for an estimated retail price of $19.95.

To learn more about Scholastic's The Magic School Bus CD-ROM series, parents and kids can visit http://microsoft.com/kids/. More information on Scholastic's The Magic School Bus can be found at http://scholastic.com/magic schoolbus/.

According to Dutch merchants, during the 17th century the Chinese so valued the herb called sage that they would trade three chests of tea for one of sage.

The clarinet first appeared in an orchestra in 1711. The instrument was further popularized by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

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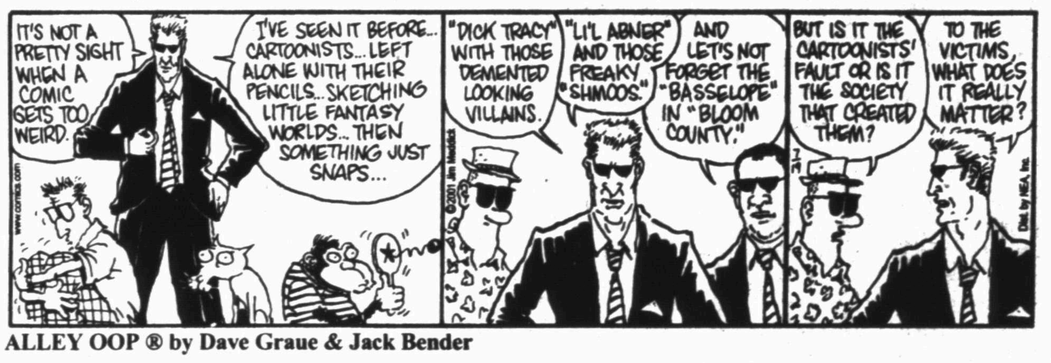
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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Nurse (a baby)
7 Relief
13 Borrowed (2 wds.)
14 Connected to the Internet
15 Former Soviet leader
16 Hurt
17 A Chaplin
18 Ref's kin
20 Mexican coin
21 Heat-resistant glass
23 Put forth effort
27 Resident of Boise
32 Smudge
33 Author Jules —
34 Military salute
35 Goddess of peace
36 Perfume
39 Loom bar
40 — Pyle
42 Wind instrument
46 Mo. without any holidays
47 Hollow cylinder
51 Trunk tires
53 Helen — Brown
55 Under ideal conditions (2 wds.)
56 Dickens-based musical
57 Some Sunday dinner entrees
58 Nullify

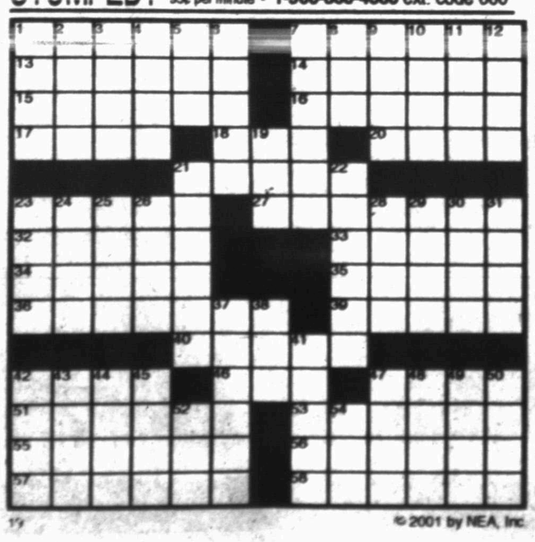
DOWN

1 Mediocre
2 "Do — others . . ."
3 Scottish family
4 Tropical nut
5 Medieval poem
6 Boredom
7 Soaked (up)
8 Actress Merkel
9 Paper holder
10 Movie
11 Small bills
12 Change the decor of
19 Roman 1,051
21 Like an ox
22 Musician Cugat
23 Abstract being
24 Dec. holiday
25 Slippery fishes
26 **** review
28 Wife of Zeus
29 Crude metals
30 Actress Archer
31 — -do-well
37 Glides
38 Large bird
41 Encourage (2 wds.)
42 Former Russian ruler
43 Capable of (2 wds.)
44 — au rhum
45 God of war
47 Math course
48 Edible seaweed
49 Symbol of redness
50 Bronte heroine Jane —
52 Superlative suffix
54 "Gran" finish

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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Snyder Daily News Comics

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"Every time you press that buzzer, just remember that I'm the one who'll be taking out your stitches."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



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SPORTS

In first round at British Open...

Montgomerie grabs early lead; Woods struggles for even-par 71

LYTHAM ST. ANNES, England (AP) — Colin Montgomerie punctuated a triumphant opening round of 65 with a long birdie putt on the final hole today, while Tiger Woods struggled to match par in his first defense at the British Open.

Trying to put a history of Open failures behind him, Montgomerie shot a 30 on the front nine before capping his round with a 40-foot birdie putt before a cheering, adoring crowd packed into bleachers at the 18th hole.

It gave him an early three-shot lead on the field, and six on Woods, who found both the deep rough and the sand at Royal Lytham & St. Annes before finishing with a par 71.

"I kept myself in it," Woods said. "I didn't hit the ball the way I wanted to but I didn't hurt myself either. I feel good about it."

Mild conditions that emerged after two days of wind and rain left the links course open to scoring, and the players were quick to take advantage.

No one was hotter than Montgomerie, the Scotsman who a day earlier had dismissed his chances after missing the cut in five of his past nine Opens.

He never had broken 70 in the first round of 11 Opens, and the crowd roared its approval with every birdie.

"It was good, very good," Montgomerie said. "The crowd was very supportive."

Montgomerie birdied the first two holes and followed his only front nine bogey with an eagle at the par-5 sixth. He finished the front nine with a birdie at the ninth hole, then followed it with another birdie at 10 to get to 6-under.

It appeared Montgomerie might blow his round when he 3-putted at 14 after watching playing partner Fred Couples take four shots to get out of a bunker. But he came back to one-putt the final four holes, including the long birdie putt at 18.

"Whenever I putt well I have a chance, and I putted well today," Montgomerie said.

Woods, who won last year with a record 19-under-par, had to recover from both the rough and sand on the final hole to salvage his par round.

Still, he proclaimed himself satisfied before heading off to the driving range to try and fix a swing that has given him fits in recent weeks.

"I just grinded it around and somehow I ended up even par," Woods said.

Several other players in the morning pairings also were under par as the mild conditions kept some of the knee-deep rough and treacherous pot bunkers from coming into play.

Brad Faxon, who in the past irritated some fellow Americans by criticizing their desire to play in England, set the early pace with a 3-under 68 marred only by a bogey at the last hole after his drive found one of the deep fairway bunkers.

Faxon could have been in New York defending his back-to-back titles in the B.C. Open, but crossed the ocean instead to play in the major championship he loves most.

"I think guys owe it to themselves to try and come here," Faxon said.

Couples also was 3-under before disaster struck after a second shot to the 14th that just missed the green and ended up buried in the left edge of a bunker.

Couples tried to play it out left-handed, then hit his second bunker shot backward, leaving it in again. A third swipe at the ball didn't get it out of the sand, but a fourth finally did and Couples made triple bogey and finished at par for the day.

Woods also found the sand, unlike the Open last year at St. Andrews where he went 72 holes without hitting into a bunker.

He did at the fourth hole at Royal Lytham, hitting an iron into a fairway bunker and making bogey, spoiling a promising start that began with a birdie at the par-3 first.

Woods later hacked it out of knee-high rough twice at the sixth hole and missed several putts to make the turn at par 35.

Allen edges Snyder with late home run

GRAHAM — After big innings by both teams, it was a big hit by Allen that made the difference Wednesday night.

Allen broke a 6-6 deadlock with a solo home run in the bottom of the fifth inning Wednesday to hold off Snyder, 7-6, in the first round of the 11 and 12-year-old all-star sub-sectional.

In the double-elimination format, Snyder squares off with Wichita Falls at 7:30 tonight in an elimination game. Wichita Falls fell to Fort Worth Westside, 10-8, in the other first-round affair.

Allen built a commanding 6-0 lead in the first three innings Wednesday night before Snyder settled down and got back in the game.

Snyder posted all six of its runs in the fourth. Lance Day paced Snyder's offensive production with a pair of singles, while Dustin Murdock, Brent Bollinger and Corbin Clements slapped one hit apiece.

Allen scored the winning run on a solo homer in the fifth.

Day went the distance on the mound for Snyder, surrendering only six hits.

A victory over Wichita Falls tonight would keep Snyder's season alive. Tonight's winner takes on the Fort Worth/Allen loser on Friday.

The sub-sectional champion advances to the state tournament July 28 at Waco.

Little League Sub-sectional
at Graham
(all games at 7:30 p.m.)

Game 1: Allen 7, Snyder 6
Game 2: FW Westside 10, Wichita Falls 8
Game 3: Allen vs. FW Westside, today
Game 4: Snyder vs. Wichita Falls, today
Game 5: Game 4 winner vs. Game 3 loser, Friday
Championship
Game 6: Game 3 winner vs. Game 5 winner, Saturday
Game 7: Game 6 winner vs. Game 6 loser (if first loss), Sunday

Rangers topple Orioles before train derailment

BALTIMORE (AP) — Even Frank Catalanotto probably would have had difficulty hitting in the thick smoke that enveloped the stadium as dusk approached.

Shortly after Catalanotto put on another impressive hitting display at Camden Yards, clouds of black smoke began rising from behind the warehouse beyond the right field wall.

Soon after that, the ballpark was evacuated.

Catalanotto probably had to be dragged from the ballpark, because he simply loves hitting at Camden Yards.

Led by Catalanotto, who went 4-for-4 and scored twice, the Texas Rangers battered Sean Douglass in his major league debut and beat the Baltimore Orioles 6-4 Wednesday.

The teams were supposed to play a day-night doubleheader, but the night game was postponed when a freight train carrying hazardous materials derailed in a downtown tunnel near Camden Yards and caught fire.

The game is to be made up as part of a split doubleheader Thursday, but officials said they did not expect the opener, scheduled for 12:05 p.m. to be played.

Astros outlast Cardinals, 17-11

HOUSTON (AP) — Even at Enron Field, this was a lot of runs.

Jeff Bagwell hit for the cycle, Moises Alou homered and extended his hitting streak to 23 games, and Houston and St. Louis set a record for runs in the Astros' 17-11 win over the Cardinals on Wednesday night.

"It was unbelievable," Bagwell said. "I've never been in a 17-11 game. I thought it would never end, especially that 14-run fifth inning."

The Astros responded to the Cardinals' six-run fifth with eight of their own to take a 14-8 lead. The 28 runs at 2-year-old Enron Field broke a record for major league games in Houston, eclipsing the 27 scored in a game at the Astrodome in 1999.

"To score that many runs and still be in danger of losing at the end," manager Larry Dierker said, shaking his head, "is frightening, to tell the truth."

Trailing 14-8, the Cardinals got a home run from Mark McGwire in the sixth and two more runs in the seventh before reliever Octavio Dotel took over. Dotel pitched 2 1-3 innings and allowed no runs while striking out nine, including five in a row.

Brad Ausmus, Alou and Craig Biggio also homered for Houston. Albert Pujols also connected for the Cardinals.

"The one Brad hit in the second inning probably would have been caught in most stadiums," Dierker said. "But just about all the others extra-base hits were probably legit. Most were hit hard on both sides. That's why I tip my hat to Dotel for stopping them."

The onslaught didn't surprise the Astros.

"This is a great offense," Bagwell said. "When you've got Vinny Castilla hitting seventh, you have some kind of offense. Our 1998 team was amazing with Carl Everett and Derek Bell and Biggio and Mo and me. But this team is getting pretty close to that."

Bagwell couldn't compliment Alou enough for his 23-game hitting streak, tops in the NL this year and tied for the best in the majors with Seattle's Ichiro Suzuki.

"It's unbelievable, but it's not surprising from him," Bagwell said. "For the last few years, it seems to me like every day he gets a hit.

"It's been a pleasure to watch the man go about his business. A lot of people could learn a lot of things watching him."

Cards starter Mike Matthews lasted only 2 1-3 innings and allowed six runs on five hits, three of them home runs.

Sports Briefs

SHS calendar sponsors

Calendar Girl Sports Productions, the official SHS athletic booster calendar, is looking for sponsors for this year's football/volleyball calendar.

Each year, Calendar Girl Productions donates money to SHS booster clubs and provides two scholarships for Snyder graduates.

Interested sponsors should call the SHS attendance office at 574-6036.

Basketball camp

The four-day Super Shooters basketball camp begins Monday at the Western Texas College gym. Former WTC basketball coach Valery Jackson will provide instruction.

Incoming third through sixth grade boys and girls will workout from 9 a.m. until noon. Junior high and high school girls only will practice from 2 to 5 p.m.

Registration will be held Monday at 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Cost is $50 per camper, and a parent or guardian must be present to sign-up.

Tennis meeting

Snyder High School tennis players will meet with Coach Ted Phillips at 6 p.m. Aug. 2 at the field house film room to plan the upcoming season.

Golf tournament

Price Daniel Unit will host a four-man scramble Aug. 6 at Sweetwater Country Club. Proceeds benefit Special Olympics of Texas.

Cost is $50 per player, including green fee, meal and cart. Trophies, shirts and hats will be awarded to the top teams, with $50 going to the winners. Hole-in-one prizes are a 2001 Ford Mustang, two airline tickets, a set of Hogan irons and a year's supply of Top Flite golf balls.

Entry deadline is July 31. Entry fees should be mailed to PDU c/o Connie Rushing. Checks should be made payable to Area 14 Special Olympics.

Tuesday scramble and all-day MGA

The Men's Golf Association of Snyder Country Club holds its weekly scramble at 5:30 p.m. each Tuesday.

Also, an all-day MGA event is held each Thursday.

WGA play day

The Women's Golf Association of Snyder Country Club holds its weekly play day at 9 a.m. each Tuesday. Format is nassau tournament.

Junior high football

All Snyder Junior High football players will pick up their equipment Aug. 14. Eighth graders will be from 3-5 p.m., followed by seventh graders from 5-7.

Athletic physicals

Seventh and ninth grade SISD athletes, and anyone who has never participated in Snyder athletics must take a physical. SISD will pay for the physicals through Aug. 3.

An appointment should be made with one of the following doctors: Raykov, Burleson, Cooper, Thompson, Nussey, Wobolt, Leighton or P.A. Beth Ashley.

All SISD athletes must return completed athletic forms to the athletic director's office or Steve Kreuger.

Major League Baseball

National League
All Times EDT

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	53	41	.564	—
Philadelphia	52	42	.553	1
Florida	48	47	.505	5½
New York	44	52	.458	10
Montreal	41	54	.432	12½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	55	38	.591	—
Houston	52	41	.559	3
St. Louis	47	46	.505	8
Milwaukee	43	50	.462	12
Pittsburgh	35	58	.376	20
Cincinnati	35	59	.372	20½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	54	39	.581	—
Los Angeles	53	42	.558	2
San Francisco	50	45	.526	5
San Diego	44	50	.468	10½
Colorado	40	54	.426	14½

Wednesday's Games

Chicago Cubs 6, Pittsburgh 5
Montreal 7, Philadelphia 6
Houston 17, St. Louis 11
Atlanta 3, Cincinnati 1, 7½ innings, rain
N.Y. Mets 4, Florida 3, 11 innings
Arizona 1, San Diego 0, susp., power outage
Los Angeles 5, Milwaukee 0
San Francisco 10, Colorado 0

Thursday's Games

Florida (Dempster 10-6) at N.Y. Mets (Rusch 5-5), 12:10 p.m.
Atlanta (Burkett 6-7) at Cincinnati (Brower 4-6), 12:35 p.m.
Philadelphia (Figueroa 1-2) at Montreal (Armas Jr. 8-8), 1:35 p.m.
Arizona at San Diego, 3:05 p.m., comp. of susp. game
St. Louis (Morris 11-5) at Houston (Miller 11-4), 4:05 p.m.
Milwaukee (Wright 8-5) at Los Angeles (Springer 0-0), 4:10 p.m.
Arizona (Johnson 11-5) at San Diego (Jarvis 6-7), 5:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Tavarez 6-6) at Pittsburgh (D.Williams 1-2), 7:05 p.m.
Colorado (Chacon 5-5) at San Francisco (Estes 7-4), 10:15 p.m.

Friday's Games

N.Y. Mets (Read 8-4) at Philadelphia (Person 7-5), 7:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Acevedo 2-1) at Florida (Clement 5-6), 7:05 p.m.
Montreal (Thurman 4-6) at Atlanta (Millwood 1-3), 7:35 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Lieber 12-4) at Houston (Redding 2-0), 8:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Schmidt 5-5) at St. Louis (Hermanson 7-7), 8:10 p.m.
Los Angeles (Prokopec 6-4) at Colorado (Bohanon 4-5), 9:05 p.m.
Milwaukee (Sheets 10-6) at San Diego (Hitchcock 1-0), 10:05 p.m.
Arizona (Ellis 6-4) at San Francisco (Hernandez 7-11), 10:35 p.m.

American League
East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	56	38	.596	—
Boston	55	39	.585	1
Toronto	44	51	.463	12½
Baltimore	41	53	.436	15
Tampa Bay	30	65	.316	26½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	57	37	.606	—
Cleveland	53	39	.576	3
Chicago	46	46	.500	10
Detroit	41	51	.446	15
Kansas City	36	58	.383	21

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	68	26	.723	—
Oakland	50	44	.532	18
Anaheim	46	48	.489	22
Texas	39	55	.415	29

Wednesday's Games

Texas 6, Baltimore 4, 1st game
Texas at Baltimore, ppd., haz. cond., 2nd game
N.Y. Yankees 8, Detroit 5, 1st game
Detroit 12, N.Y. Yankees 4, 2nd game
Boston 5, Toronto 4
Anaheim 2, Tampa Bay 1
Seattle 2, Kansas City 0, 10 innings
Cleveland 9, Chicago White Sox 4
Oakland 7, Minnesota 2

Thursday's Games

Anaheim (Washburn 7-4) at Tampa Bay (Rekar 1-11), 12:15 p.m.
Boston (Arrojo 2-3) at Toronto (Hamilton 5-6), 7:05 p.m.
Texas (Myette 0-1) at Baltimore (Towers 6-4), 1:05 p.m., 1st game
Texas (Davis 4-7) at Baltimore (Roberts 7-7), 7:05 p.m., 2nd game
N.Y. Yankees (Pettitte 9-5) at Detroit (Lima 2-1), 7:05 p.m.
Oakland (Zito 6-6) at Minnesota (Milton 8-3), 8:05 p.m.
Seattle (Garcia 11-1) at Kansas City (Wilson 3-1), 8:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Burba 8-6) at Chicago White Sox (Lowe 5-1), 8:05 p.m.

Friday's Games

Anaheim (Ortiz 7-7) at Baltimore (Mercedes 4-10), 7:05 p.m.
Detroit (Holt 6-7) at Cleveland (Westbrook 2-1), 7:05 p.m.
Toronto (Loaiza 5-9) at N.Y. Yankees (Keisler 1-2), 7:05 p.m.
Texas (Oliver 7-5) at Tampa Bay (Lopez 5-11), 7:15 p.m.
Seattle (Sele 11-1) at Minnesota (Mays 11-6), 8:05 p.m.
Boston (Nomo 9-4) at Chicago White Sox (Biddle 2-5), 8:05 p.m.
Oakland (Lidle 3-4) at Kansas City (Byrd 1-3), 8:05 p.m.

WNBA Glance

All Times EDT
EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	16	5	.762	—
Cleveland	15	5	.750	½
Miami	11	9	.550	4½
Charlotte	8	12	.400	7½
Orlando	7	12	.368	8
Indiana	6	14	.300	9½
Washington	5	13	.278	9½
Detroit	5	14	.263	10

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	17	3	.850	—
Houston	14	5	.737	2½
Sacramento	12	8	.600	5
Portland	9	9	.500	7
Utah	9	10	.474	7½
Seattle	8	13	.381	9½
Minnesota	7	12	.368	9½
Phoenix	7	12	.368	9½

Wednesday's Games

New York 80, Detroit 67
Miami 68, Charlotte 48
Orlando 57, Houston 52
Utah 61, Indiana 57
Minnesota 68, Seattle 58

Thursday's Games

New York at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Portland at Phoenix, 10 p.m.
Los Angeles at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

Friday's Games

Houston at Miami, 7 p.m.
Orlando at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at Indiana, 8 p.m.
Portland at Seattle, 10 p.m.

Happy Birthday
Tommy Early!
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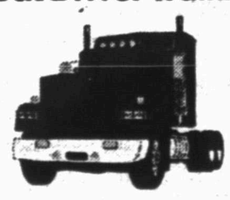
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Demand letter issued to VP Cheney

WASHINGTON (AP) — The investigative arm of Congress demanded Wednesday that Vice President Dick Cheney identify all the industry leaders who helped formulate the Bush administration's energy policy. Refusal could lead to a court fight.

The White House, which is reviewing the request, said it would work with the General Accounting Office to resolve the issue.

The GAO letter follows repeated refusals by the vice president's office to provide names and titles of participants who met with the energy task force chaired by Cheney.

Under the law, the GAO could sue if the Bush administration fails to supply the data within 20 days.

This is the first demand letter ever issued by the GAO to the vice president of the United States, said Democratic Reps. John Dingell and Henry Waxman, who directed the agency to review the task force's work nearly three months ago.

The vice president's lawyer has told the GAO there were nine meetings of the task force and that staffers also met with many people to gather information.

The result was an energy policy, announced May 17, that is aimed at increasing the nation's supply of energy. It includes expanded oil and gas drilling on public land and a rejuvenated nuclear power system.

White House spokeswoman Anne Womack said the letter is under review, and "we will continue to work with the GAO to resolve this issue."

The vice president's office "has continued on its course of secrecy and obstinance," Dingell said in a statement.

"The White House should simply try telling the truth ... and stop hiding information that Congress and the public have a right to see," said Waxman.

A top Cheney aide, Mary Matalin, said Waxman and Dingell should "stop wasting taxpayers' money" with their confrontation with the vice president. "If they want to know what happened in the energy task force meetings, they need look no further than the policy we sent to the Hill," she said.

The White House's position is that the GAO is entitled to information on the task force's costs, but that the congressional watchdog agency doesn't have authority to ask for lists of those with whom the task force met.

Waxman is also pressing for a Justice Department investigation of Karl Rove over the Bush political strategist's energy-related meetings.

The White House has acknowledged that Rove participated in meetings on the administration's energy policy while he owned stock in energy companies such as Texas-based Enron Corp. The White House has supplied no details on Rove's meetings.

On the Net: GAO: http://www.gao.gov

Lawmakers seek government-wide accounting

WASHINGTON (AP) — With the FBI having lost hundreds of laptops and firearms, lawmakers demanded a government-wide accounting of other firearms and computers and criticized the nation's largest law enforcement agency for losing track of its valuable equipment.

"If our premier law-enforcement agency, the FBI, is so lax in keeping track of its guns, I shudder to think about what other abuses may exist at other federal agencies," said Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich.

Dingell wants the General Accounting Office, Congress' investigative and auditing arm, to check every federal agency to see if any other weapons are missing. In addition, Sen. Charles Grassley of Iowa, ranking Republican on the Finance Committee, called for the Treasury Department to account for its guns and secure computers.

"To have laptops missing that could have national security information on them would be atrocious," Grassley said. "For the FBI to have lost firearms and failed to account for them is inexcusable."

The FBI has since tightened security and Attorney General John Ashcroft said he has confidence in the agency.

The Justice Department revealed Tuesday that 449 side arms and submachine guns are missing. One of the missing guns was used in a homicide, officials said. Also, 184 computers are missing.

Each FBI employee has been accountable for the whereabouts of laptop computers assigned to them. Kenneth Senser, the FBI's deputy assistant director in charge of internal security, said the FBI established an internal group that began in May 2000 to put in place a system to make sure the bureau was keeping track of the computers.

"Who is held accountable?" Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, demanded of Senser.

"At the time, actually, there was no one held accountable, in the sense that the FBI policy was very clear on the control of laptop computers," Senser said.

He said the FBI has improved its security systems and protocols in the last two years and can now identify where every computer with classified information is supposed to be.

Attorney General John Ashcroft said he still believes in the FBI despite its recent controversies. "Every organization has problems," he said. "But how do you respond to the problems? I have to say the FBI has been responding constructively."

Senators have complained for weeks that the FBI has a culture of covering up its mistakes and have offered several bills to reform the agency, including provisions for outside reviews and more power for agency watchdogs such as the inspector general's office.

President Bush has nominated Robert Mueller, a former U.S. attorney known for cleaning up and reforming law enforcement offices, to be the new FBI director.

Mueller will go before the Senate Judiciary Committee on July 30, officials said.

"It has become clearer that significant changes are necessary at the FBI if it is to maintain its status as the worlds premier law enforcement agency," said Sen. Richard Durbin, D- Ill., who talked to Mueller on Wednesday. "The FBI isn't starving for resources — its starving for leadership."

The FBI has been under fire for missteps going back years, including the failure to provide thousands of documents to Timothy McVeigh's lawyers, the Robert Hanssen spy case, the bloody Branch Davidian and Ruby Ridge standoffs and the botched investigation of former Los Almos nuclear scientist Wen Ho Lee.

Besides the theft of 184 FBI weapons, 265 were lost, said FBI and Justice officials. Most of the missing weapons are handguns, but some are submachine guns, they said.

In all, 184 laptops are missing, including 13 believed to have been stolen, officials said. They said that in addition to one computer known to have contained classified information, three other missing machines might also have had classified material.

On the Net:
FBI: http://www.fbi.gov
Senate Judiciary: http://judiciary.senate.gov

Tougher safety rules pushed for Mexican trucks

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration has revamped its plan to ensure the safety of Mexican trucks traveling on U.S. roads, adding more inspectors at border crossings and tougher inspection procedures, Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta told Congress on Wednesday.

Several lawmakers expressed skepticism that the proposal could be in place in time to give the trucks access to all roadways by January, as Bush has pledged.

"This is a nightmare and we are not ready for this," said Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., whose state receives a significant portion of Mexican truck traffic.

Mineta, testifying before the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee, said Mexican trucks will be required to follow the same regulations as U.S. trucks.

Mineta also testified later at a House hearing on the issue. Texas Secretary of State Henry Cuellar also was a witness at the House hearing and told the House panel that the state wants the border open as quickly as possible.

"If I had the slightest worry that opening the border to Mexican trucks would be a disaster, I would not be here today encouraging you to do it," he said.

He said the agency will require Level 1 inspections, which require inspectors to get under the vehicle and make a thorough safety check, and hire enough inspectors to staff all 27 border crossings.

Some of those details were not spelled out in regulations originally proposed by the agency, which plans to require Mexican truck companies to undergo a safety review before getting an 18-month permit to operate on U.S. roads. Permission will be provisional and carriers must undergo a safety audit for permanent operating authority.

But after about two hours of testimony, Mineta had not convinced skeptical lawmakers.

"I think this is a very ambitious program to get this done by the end of the year," said Sen. George Allen, R-Va.

Allen told Mineta that to get support for the administration plan, the agency will need to "perform more duties than you think are necessary."

Mexican trucks are now limited to a zone extending about 20 miles north of the U.S. border in four states. As part of his effort to comply with the North American Free Trade Agreement of 1993, Bush wants to extend that access to the entire country beginning next January.

Bush's proposal is favored by trucking companies and businesses that ship goods by truck. They envision broadened trade with Mexico. In opposition is the Teamsters Union, which worries about lost jobs.

In a blow to Bush's efforts to improve trade relations with Mexico, the House last month voted to block the Transportation Department from processing Mexican truck company applications and removed from the spending bill money Bush had requested for inspectors.

The Senate will debate cross-border trucking when it considers the transportation spending bill, possibly this week.

Bush has said he would veto the House legislation, but Mineta said the administration also is dissatisfied with parts of legislation passed by a Senate appropriations committee. That bill provides $100 million for safety measures, $15 million more than Bush requested. Mineta said some of the requirements of the bill would be difficult to carry out and could cost an additional $77 million.

Kenneth Mead, transportation department inspector general, said after the hearing that he also considers the administration plan ambitious, but that it is possible to have it in place by the January deadline.

On the Net:
Transportation Department: http://www.dot.gov
Senate transportation committee: http://www.senate.gov/(tilde)commerce/

Man faces 15 years to life for 1974 murder conviction

WOOSTER, Ohio (AP) — A man was convicted of killing his wife more than a quarter century ago, keeping her body for years in a box hidden in his grandfather's garage.

John David Smith III, who was found guilty Wednesday, is also suspected in the disappearance of his second wife.

Now 50, he faces 15 years to life in prison for murdering Janice Hartman, 23, days after their five-year marriage ended in 1974.

Smith's brother, Michael, testified he saw Hartman's body in the box in 1979 but kept the gruesome discovery a secret for nearly 20 years. The body was then dumped along a rural road in Indiana, where it was found in 1980. It was not identified by authorities until last year.

"I knew it was Janice," Michael Smith testified last week.

"It's something I wish to God I can forget," he said. He said his brother told him he would take the body to Indiana and said he didn't go to authorities because he was afraid he'd be charged as an accomplice.

After the verdict was announced, the victim's brother, Garry Hartman, squeezed his wife and daughter's hands, then hugged relatives of Smith's second wife, Betty Fran Gladden Smith, who vanished in 1991. Hartman also hugged Smith's third wife, Diane Bertalan, who won an annulment this month.

Hartman said he forgave Michael Smith, adding, "I hope his nightmares go away and John's start."

Smith's lawyers said they planned to appeal. They had argued a group of men who sexually assaulted the victim a week before her disappearance also could have been her killers.

Smith became a suspect in his ex-wife's disappearance only after his second wife also disappeared.

A key break came last year when a sheriff's sergeant sent a letter to police agencies in surrounding states asking about any unidentified female bodies.

The letter caught the attention of a Kentland, Ind., officer who recalled the "Lady in the Box" case of an unidentified woman's body found in a wooden box in April 1980.

Authorities confirmed that the skeletal remains were Hartman's. The cause of death hasn't been determined. The second wife has never been found.

Sara Lee recalls beef, ham

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sara Lee Foods is recalling 13,600 pounds of sliced beef and ham products nationwide because of possible salmonella contamination.

The company issued the recall Wednesday. One person reported getting sick after eating the meat, according to the Agriculture Department.

The following products are being recalled:

— "Sara Lee USDA CHOICE CAJUN STYLE BEEF" in 8-ounce packages marked "SELL BY JUN27 AS3D."

— "SLICED USDA CHOICE CAJUN STYLE BEEF" in 2-pound packages marked "SELL BY JUN27 AS3D."

— "Sara Lee USDA CHOICE ROAST BEEF" in 8-ounce packages marked "SELL BY JUN27 AF1D" or "SELL BY JUN27 AF2D."

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— "Sara Lee BROWN SUGAR HAM in 8-ounce packages marked "SELL BY JUL 4 AF3D," "SELL BY JUL 4 AF4D," "SELL BY JUL 4 AS1DF" or "SELL BY JUL 4 AS2D."

Salmonella can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in children, the frail and the elderly. Healthy people infected with salmonella often experience fever, diarrhea, nausea and vomiting.

People with questions can call Sara Lee at 1-800-323-7117.

On the Net:
USDA: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -

	High	Low	Last	
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AOL TimeWrn		45.40	44.38	44.51 — .14
AT&T Corp s		21.36	20.95	21.02 + .08
Albertsons		31.19	30.55	31.02 — .53
Alltel		64.20	62.22	63.60 + 1.20
AmEl Pw		48.00	47.55	47.63 + .21
AndarkPtr		49.49	48.37	49.21 + .86
ATMOS Egy		22.01	21.80	22.00 + .25
Aviall		10.99	10.75	— .15
BP PLC		46.80	46.40	46.68 + .08
BakerHughes		31.84	31.00	31.52 + .30
Bank of Amer		64.70	63.68	63.72 — .36
BellSouth		41.90	41.25	41.54 + .59
Beth Steel		2.25	2.16	2.21 + .04
BurlNoSFe		31.18	31.01	31.02 + .04
Caterpillar		54.15	52.89	54.14 + 1.46
Chevron		87.54	86.53	86.95 + .15
Citigroup s		51.00	50.30	50.45 — .17
CocaCola		46.77	46.22	46.77 + .55
ColgatePal		56.06	55.69	55.77 + .49
ComclMetals		31.35	31.20	31.28 — .14
CooperIn		40.86	40.28	40.80 + .73
DaimlrChry		48.43	48.06	48.32 — .03
DeltaAirl		45.60	44.88	45.49 + .79
Dillards Inc		14.98	14.55	14.83 + .23
DowChem		35.90	35.20	35.78 + .80
DuPont		46.20	45.27	46.20 + 1.01
EastmanChem		46.35	45.83	46.30 + 1.00
EstKodak		45.80	45.30	45.78 + .47
EDS Corp		65.75	64.15	65.24 + 2.13
Entergy		39.40	39.10	39.14 + .24
ExxonMobil s		43.20	42.60	42.94 + .82
GenDynam		84.00	81.51	83.74 + 2.74
GenElec		47.45	46.30	46.97 + .93
GenMills		44.35	44.01	44.18 + .08
GenMotors		65.00	64.50	64.70 — .30
GaPacGP		36.00	35.50	35.79 + .49
GlobalMar		16.60	16.00	16.34 + .16
Goodrich		38.20	37.98	38.08 + .08
Goodyear s		31.23	30.90	31.15 + .16
GtAtlPac		14.79	14.63	14.77 + .13
Halliburtn		31.86	30.81	31.42 + .41
Hanson ADS		36.00	35.92	35.95 — .25
HartfdHanks		24.40	24.15	24.32 + .17
HomeDepot		49.97	49.30	49.71 + .47
Honeywellntl		37.00	36.53	36.64 + .14
IBM		106.00	104.02	104.65 + .37
IntlPaper		40.34	39.80	40.17 + .17
JohnsonJn s		54.92	54.40	54.75 + .35
K mart		11.75	11.65	11.70 + .07
KinderMorg		53.50	52.90	53.15 + 1.05
Kroger Co		25.20	24.98	25.04 + .05
LockheedM		38.30	37.35	38.30 + 1.20
Lowes Cos s		39.25	38.45	38.76 + .76
Lubys		9.02	8.98	9.02 + .02
LucentTech		7.12	6.71	7.08 + .52
MayDeptStr		32.48	32.05	32.38 + .28
Medtronic		47.99	46.95	47.90 + .60
Motorola		18.60	18.10	18.58 + 1.00
NCR Corp		40.97	40.40	40.86 + .56
Navistar		34.00	33.13	33.94 + .81
Penney JC		28.99	28.41	28.65 + .07
PepBoys		12.10	11.90	12.06 + .15
PepsiCo		47.65	46.70	46.90 — .09
Pharmacia		43.72	43.25	43.44 + .29
PhelpDodge		41.82	41.26	41.80 + .50
PhilipPet		54.29	53.60	53.85 + .73
PilgrmPrd B		14.09	13.85	14.01 + .24
Polaroid		1.26	1.08	1.10 — .10
Praxair		45.24	44.60	45.20 + .64
ProctGamb		69.73	69.20	69.30 + .10
PubS NwMx		30.36	29.83	29.91 — .39
RadioShack		32.90	31.70	32.78 + 1.25
ReliantEngy		30.25	29.76	30.05
RoyalDut		55.06	54.50	54.95 + .38
SBC Comm		44.49	44.15	44.24 + .14
SaraLee		20.37	19.99	20.01 — .11
Scripps EW		67.73	67.53	67.73 — .05
SearsRoeb		47.40	46.35	47.15 + .70
SherwinW		22.90	22.78	22.81 + .06
SouthernCo s		23.79	23.36	23.52 — .05
SwstAirl s		19.99	19.61	19.99 + .49
SprintFON		22.86	22.35	22.72 + .79
SprintPCS		25.08	24.57	24.95 + 1.91
Sunoco Inc		34.00	33.15	33.75 + 1.10
TXU Corp		47.94	47.54	47.85 + .31
TempleInland		57.18	56.85	57.15 + .15
Texaco		65.50	64.75	65.19 + .43
TexInd		41.00	39.50	41.00 + 1.34
TexasInst		32.75	31.63	32.64 + 2.54
Textron		55.50	54.99	55.43 + .44
TriconGlbR		44.62	43.95	44.62 + .70
TrinityInds		22.21	21.85	22.21 + .19
TritonEngy		44.63	44.60	44.61 — .02
TylerTech		2.35	2.25	2.32 + .09
USX-Marathn		28.00	27.65	27.97 + .62
USX-USS		21.50	21.31	21.50 + .25
UnionPacif		57.24	56.70	57.22 — .43
UnitedTech		76.95	76.29	76.75 + 1.50
Unocal		33.26	32.85	33.26 + .66
Venator Grp		16.59	16.20	16.56 + .41
VerizonComm		57.40	56.47	57.23 + 1.02
WalMart		54.25	53.80	54.15 + .17
WellsFargo		47.49	46.80	46.90 — .05
WstnGasRs		28.60	27.91	28.00 + .10
WinnDixie		22.45	21.78	21.84 — .33
Xerox Cp		8.55	8.40	8.41 — .07

JULY 19 2001

Microsoft seeks rehearing in court on code bundling issue

SEATTLE (AP) — Microsoft Corp. has asked a federal appeals court for a rehearing on whether it illegally mixed Internet Explorer software code with its Windows operating system.

Microsoft spokesman Vivek Varma said the petition was "a good-faith attempt to seek clarification" and should not be read as unwillingness to settle the landmark antitrust case.

Justice Department Gina Talamona said the bundling issue has already been decided by the courts and the case should move on.

"The issue that Microsoft is raising in its filings was litigated at the district court and court of appeals, both courts ruling in favor of the department," Talamona said. "The department's position is that we should move to a remedy phase ... as quickly as possible."

Last month, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia ruled that Microsoft had operated as an illegal monopoly and harmed consumers. At the same time, the court reversed Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson's order breaking up the company, narrowed the number of antitrust violations against Microsoft and said another lower court judge would decide the penalty.

Microsoft's practice of incorporating multiple features in Windows has been a centerpiece in the antitrust case.

Competitors argue Microsoft uses the operating system to dominate the market for other technology; Microsoft contends it simply is adding features users want.

In declaring Microsoft an illegal monopoly, the appeals court said Microsoft had unnecessarily commingled the software code specific to Web browsing with code used for other purposes.

Microsoft argued in its petition Wednesday that it did not.

The petition says the Justice Department's witnesses in its antitrust case did not back up its assertion that Microsoft used the same software to do different things in order to further its operating system monopoly.

"A detailed analysis of the factual record discloses that the district court's finding that Microsoft engaged in unjustified 'commingling' of software code is clearly erroneous," the company wrote.

"The Court's ruling with regard to 'commingling' of software code is important because it might be read to suggest that (computer manufacturers) should be given the option of removing the software code in Windows 98 (if any) that is specific to Web browsing."

Bob Brammer, spokesman for Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller, who has led the antitrust fight for the 18 states that are suing Microsoft, said: "We will be responding in a court filing."

Legal experts speculated that Microsoft was hoping to have the issue reheard because it wants to continue to integrate new features into Windows XP, its new operating system scheduled for release in October.

"They want to get that part of the case overturned, (because) no doubt it's fundamental to the type of integration strategy they want to employ," said Howard University law professor Andy Gavil.

Gavil said he doubted the court would decide to rehear the issue since its earlier ruling was unanimous.

Last week, the Justice Department moved to speed up the antitrust case, asking the appeals court to immediately send the case to a lower court to determine the penalty. Normally, the appeals court would wait until at least mid-August for both sides to decide their next move.

Coast Guard investigators find fishing boat wreckage

ABOARD THE OCEAN EXPLORER (AP) — Coast Guard investigators confirmed on Wednesday that they have located the wreckage of a fishing boat that sank in the Bering Sea in April with 15 people aboard.

The crew searching for the Arctic Rose got a brief view of the vessel Wednesday before the remotely operated vehicle transmitting pictures got tangled in lines. The cable controlling it snapped, and the $100,000 search vehicle was lost under 450 feet of water, alongside the Arctic Rose.

"It's just incredibly disappointing," said Richard Hansen, owner of Maritime Consultants, the Puyallup, Wash.-based shipwreck hunting company that owned the search vehicle.

"We have very little other than we know it's the Arctic Rose and we saw a few things. We were only able to do a small percentage of what our mission was. Very disappointing," Hansen said.

The Arctic Rose sank suddenly in the Bering Sea on April 2, killing all 15 men on board. The only sign of trouble was a signal from the vessel's automatic emergency locator beacon.

The Coast Guard team investigating the sinking had hoped to get a look at the 92-foot commercial fishing and processing vessel to learn why it went down.

The wreckage was found about 200 miles northwest of St. Paul Island, said Capt. Ronald Morris of the Coast Guard Marine Board of Investigation.

It was discovered using a sonar device towed behind a fishing trawler. The unmanned underwater vehicle's camera clearly showed the Arctic Rose's name on the hull.

The Coast Guard held a short memorial ceremony for the crew on Wednesday that included dropping a wreath into the water above the wreckage.

The Arctic Rose had been operated by Arctic Sole Seafoods Inc. of Lynnwood, Wash. Only the body of the skipper, David E. Rundall, 34, has been recovered.

The Arctic Rose's sinking was the worst fishing disaster in Alaska waters since 1982, when the Japanese trawler Akebono Maru capsized 50 miles north of Adak, killing 32 people.

Investigators left Unalaska in the Aleutian Islands on Sunday night on a chartered commercial fishing vessel and headed north into the Bering Sea.

The Coast Guard approved spending $200,000 for the search. The 155-foot pollock and cod trawler Ocean Explorer was already rigged for underwater surveys because it had just finished a 30-day research project on the effects of trawling on the Bering Sea floor.

The same sonar crew remains on board, saving time and money, said Morris, who extended the vessel's $6,300 daily contract with the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration that included everything but fuel.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION REGARDING PRICE TO BEAT TARIFFS

On June 11, 2001, in compliance with Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) Substantive Rule § 25.41(f)(1)(C), TXU Electric Company filed proposed Price to Beat tariffs which its affiliated retail electric provider, TXU Energy Services, will administer in the current service areas of TXU Electric Company and TXU SESCO Company. These proposed Price to Beat tariffs are part of the Texas Electric Choice Act which gives customers the opportunity to choose a retail electric provider (REP) beginning January 1, 2002. Under the law and the PUCT rule, some existing rates will be retained and offered at a discount called "Price to Beat". These Price to Beat tariffs will be offered to residential and small commercial customers who do not choose to change electric providers. Certain other rates will be eliminated.

The following rates are proposed to be discontinued effective January 1, 2002:

Residential Renewable Energy
General Service Renewable Energy
General Service Competitive Pricing
General Service Time-of-Use Curtailable
Real Time Pricing
Real Time Pricing Interruptible
Real Time Pricing Instantaneous Interruptible
Standby Service
Economic Development Rider
Interruptible Rider
Standby Interruptible

Customers who are currently receiving service under a rate that is being discontinued will receive individual notice providing information about the options available to them. All other residential and small commercial customers are being served under rates for which Price to Beat tariffs have been proposed.

The Commission has established PUC Docket No. 24236 to review this Price to Beat filing. If you would like additional information, please contact TXU Energy Services (toll-free) at (888) 399-5027. Persons who wish to intervene in or comment on this filing should contact the Public Utility Commission of Texas, Office of Customer Protection, P. O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, or call the Public Utility Commission at (512) 936-7120 or toll-free at (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and/or speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the PUCT at (512) 936-7136 or use Relay Texas (toll-free) 1-800-735-2989. The deadline for intervention is August 15, 2001, and a letter requesting intervention should be received by the Commission by that date.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Sebaceous cysts may require excision

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm male, 76, and have a penny-sized lump on my upper back. It sometimes itches, seems sweaty and emits an unpleasant odor. Is this just due to old age?

DEAR READER: Without examining you, I cannot, of course, diagnose your problem. However, from your description, I suspect that you have a sebaceous cyst.

Sometimes called a wen, this type of cyst is common and relatively harmless. It arises from a plugged pore that causes the portion beneath the skin to stretch and swell. In this way, a straight pore becomes goblet-shaped.

Over time, liquid from perspiration produced by the sweat gland is absorbed back into the body, leaving a soapy and oily material, very much like a whitehead. This sebaceous substance is trapped beneath the skin because it is too thick to drain by itself or be squeezed out.

Eventually, a large cyst develops that can drain small amounts of foul-smelling liquid. Bacteria from the skin may work its way through the blocked-pore opening into the oily material. When this happens, infection sets in, the cyst becomes inflamed, pressure builds up, and pus drains from it.

Years ago, doctors used to lance these cysts to relieve the pressure and allow the infected contents easy exit. However, during the healing process, the pore would often close up and form another cyst. Modern surgeons prefer to remove the entire cyst — the sebaceous material, the wall of the cyst and the sweat gland. This simple operation can be performed in the office under local anesthesia and virtually ends the problem. Sebaceous cysts are not a consequence of old age; they affect young people, too, although they are rare in children.

I suggest that you see your family doctor for an opinion and, if you have a sebaceous cyst, consider having it removed.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: Ten years ago, I broke my right hip, and it became infected with staphylococcus. I was hospitalized for six months and was told that I could never have an artificial hip because of the infection. Now I'm 65, suffer pain and handicap and see my friends' lives changed after hip replacement. Should I risk the operation?

DEAR READER: One of the absolute contraindications to joint replacement is septic arthritis, the presence of infection in or near the joint. To replace such a joint under these circumstances is an invitation to failure because the bacteria will dislodge the prosthesis.

I do not know whether you are a candidate for surgery. An orthopedic specialist who is familiar with your case should make this decision. However, by using today's newer and more powerful antibiotics, doctors can often treat bone infection and cure it, leading the way to joint replacement. Therefore, all things being equal, you may be considered for the surgery. A specialist can advise you.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My fingernails resemble a washboard, with ridges top to bottom and side to side. What causes this?

DEAR READER: Although our nails tend to become ridged from the aging process, transverse and longitudinal ridging can be the consequence of a congenital disease, nutritional deficiencies, endocrine (glandular) disorders or certain diseases marked by repeated, cyclic fever. See your doctor for an examination and diagnosis.

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Home Depot subsidiaries target of bomb explosions

NORCROSS, Ga. (AP) — Package bombs exploded at two locations of a subsidiary of The Home Depot, while a phony bomb threat caused the home improvement giant to evacuate 4,000 workers at its nearby headquarters.

The first blast occurred Wednesday at an Apex Supply Co. distribution center in Norcross, injuring two people who were taken to a hospital but released a short time later. The second bomb exploded a few hours later at a second Apex office in Lawrenceville; no one was injured.

John Ryan, a spokesman for the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, said the agency has evidence that the two explosions are related.

Authorities also were called to examine suspicious packages at Home Depot's nearby headquarters and a home remodeling business in Norcross.

Those packages proved to be harmless, but workers, including about 4,000 at Home Depot, were evacuated.

Investigators were trying to determine if the incidents were related.

Apex, a long-established metro Atlanta plumbing supply company, became a subsidiary of Home Depot a few years ago, but it retained its family management.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Mom measures her reaction to daughter's lost virginity

DEAR ABBY: My 15-year-old daughter left her journal open on her bed and, being nosy, I read the page that was open. She had written that she had lost her virginity to her boyfriend.

We have stressed to her how important it is to save herself for marriage, but it looks like she decided not to. She had a friend who just found out she was pregnant three months ago. I can't believe this didn't make my daughter think a little bit more about it.

Should I confront her about what I read, or let it slide? It's tearing me up inside because she was brought up with better values than this.

We have always been very close and she usually talks to me about everything. Well, at least I thought she did. Any advice? — **MISSOURI MOM**

DEAR MOM: Your daughter may have left the book open in order to open the door to discussion with you. She probably didn't know how to break the news to you any other way and feared your reaction.

How you deal with this is very important. Do not attack her and do not scold. Talk calmly; tell her you are disappointed and why. Then review why it is important for her to use every precaution if she is going to be sexually active. Use her friend as an example. I suspect your daughter already knows she has gone further than she should have and now regrets it.

**

DEAR ABBY: The woman I date (I'll call her Earlene) is 62 and owns her own home. She also has a truck that's fully paid for, CDs and an IRA. In other words, she's well-off.

For the last four years we have gone out to eat frequently because she lives alone and so do I. We eat out at least four days a week, breakfast and dinner. In all that time she has picked up the check only five times. Even when I pay, she never leaves a tip. She figures since I'm paying the bill, I should do it.

Earlene is from the old school — that the man is supposed to do all the paying. I have talked to her about it. It goes in one ear and out the other. I don't believe this is fair, and it is straining our relationship because I'm not as well-off as she is.

What ever happened to equal rights for women and men? Please answer soon. This is an emergency. — **BUSTED BUDGET, ANDOVER, OHIO**

DEAR B.B.: If you're asking about the Equal Rights Amendment — it lost by a narrow margin. Even so, dating rules have changed greatly since your ladyfriend was a girl. It's time to tell the meal server, "Separate checks, please." If Earlene doesn't agree, maybe it's time to go your separate ways.

**

DEAR ABBY: Although I am a recent reader of your column, I enjoy it daily. Would you kindly assist me with somewhat of an office etiquette dilemma?

Oftentimes in my workplace, women will actually brush their teeth using the public restroom sink. Personally, I think it is totally inappropriate for anyone to do such a thing in a public place, especially rinsing. Could you please share the appropriate rule, if any applies, and assist me in scolding such offenders? — **GROSSED OUT IN BEVERLY HILLS**

DEAR GROSSED OUT: Sorry. I respect people who are diligent about their oral hygiene. I see nothing wrong with brushing one's teeth in a public restroom, as long as the sink is rinsed thoroughly after the person is finished.

**

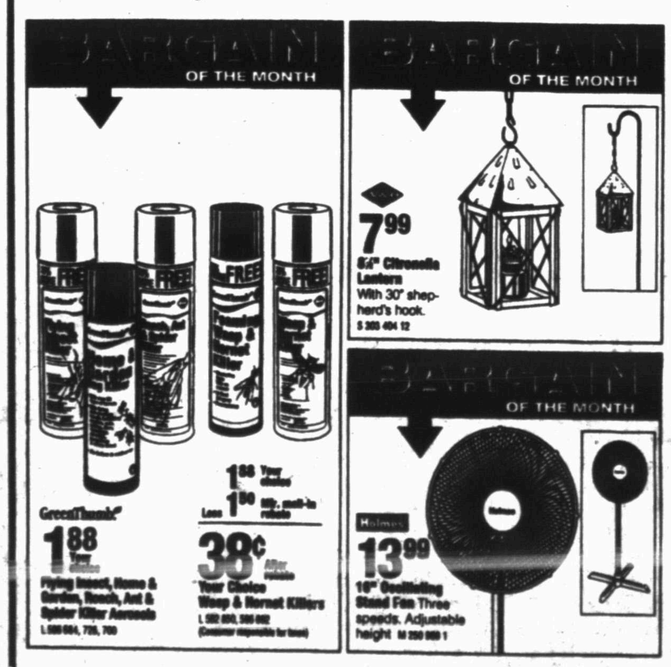
Dear Abby is written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips.

**

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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State of U.S. children better, but not perfect

WASHINGTON (AP) — By several standards — lower child poverty, more working parents, greater family wealth — life is getting better for American children, the government said.

But scholars pointed to persistent lags in trends that affect children under 18. Test scores and other measures of student achievement remained flat. Bad habits like smoking and drinking persisted at about the same pace as before, according to the America's Children report, an annual look at government statistics.

Government agencies boasted of short-term gains. In recent years, teen pregnancies, youth violence and deaths declined from earlier in the 1990s, the figures showed.

The annual study, released Wednesday, is compiled by the Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics using information from 20 federal agencies.

"It's a good time to be a child in America," said Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson, who promised more money to deal with youth problems.

From 1980 to 1999, the share of children growing up in high-income homes doubled from 16.8 percent to 29 percent, according to the annual look at federal child statistics released Wednesday. A high-income home is at least four times the federal poverty level; in 1999, that meant at least $68,116 in annual income for a family of four.

"These findings represent important victories for children and adolescents," said Dr. Duane Alexander, director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, an HHS agency that specializes in child research.

However, U.S. youngsters statistically marched in place by many other measures. For instance:

—In 1980, 21.3 percent of high school seniors said they smoked daily. By 2000 the percentage of seniors smoking regularly was 20.6 percent.

—Eighty-six percent of American youth had finished high school or earned diploma equivalents in 1999. In 1980 that figure was 84 percent.

"It's a cautionary tale of progress," said Margaret Simms, research director of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, a think tank that specializes in racial issues. "Economic expansion is not enough to put all families on equal footing."

Household incomes have risen for all groups of children, including minority children; but many of them are in families without proper health insurance coverage, she said.

Researchers followed health, economic and education trends among America's 70.4 million children under age 18. The report is based on the most recently available statistics, primarily from 2000, 1999 or 1998. Some parts of the report compare recent trends to those from 20 years ago. It is collected by the forum, a federal and private research partnership created by the government in 1994.

"Some of the declines we are seeing are off crazy peaks," said Douglas Besharov, a welfare expert at the American Enterprise Institute. In the 1980s, he said, crack cocaine increased social problems among youth such as violence, substance abuse, unplanned pregnancies.

He also said steep rises in divorce rates affected the stability of children across all cultural and economic lines. For about a century, four in five U.S. children lived in two-parent households. By 2000, the report said, for the first time, a quarter of children lived in single-parent homes, mostly with mothers.

Scholars said increased personal wealth is good and important news, but it doesn't automatically translate into good health or education.

Some figures showed that, over time, the general health of children, the share with chronic sicknesses and the percentage who received proper immunizations, changed little.

American rape suspect gets indicted in Okinawa

TOKYO (AP) — A U.S. Air Force sergeant was charged today with raping a woman on Okinawa in an attack that prompted a standoff between Tokyo and Washington over treatment of criminal suspects in Japan.

Staff Sgt. Timothy Woodland, 24, faces a minimum of two years in prison if convicted in the June 29 assault on a 20-year-old Japanese woman in a bar parking lot.

The case and the U.S. delay in handing the suspect over to Japanese authorities inflamed tensions between Okinawa and the U.S. military, which stations about 26,000 service people on the southern island.

Opponents of the American presence on Okinawa cheered the indictment, and repeated calls to change a U.S.-Japan pact to force the U.S. military to surrender criminal suspects more quickly.

"He should be indicted," said Takashi Kishimoto, assistant director-general of the Okinawa Peace Action Center. "The most important thing is to amend the Status of Forces Agreement."

Residents of Okinawa, about 1,000 miles southwest of Tokyo, have been outraged by repeated crimes involving U.S. soldiers despite promises from Washington to ratchet up discipline. Three U.S. servicemen raped a 12-year-old girl on the island in 1995.

No date had been set for Woodland's trial.

Defense lawyer Tsuyoshi Arakaki was preparing an attempt to get Woodland released on bail. Kyoko Toguchi, an official in Arakaki's legal office, said Woodland was determined to stick to his claims of innocence. Bail is unusual in the Japanese criminal justice system.

Prosecutors moved relatively swiftly to charge Woodland after a judge on Wednesday moved up the indictment deadline from next Monday to today.

The indictment comes two weeks after a high-profile impasse between the United States and Japan over custody of Woodland.

U.S. officials had refused to hand him over to local police despite the issuance of an arrest warrant July 2, saying they wanted guarantees that his rights would be protected. Many Japanese took the delay as an insult to the nation's legal system.

Woodland was eventually arrested on July 6 after negotiators worked out a handover agreement. The Americans have not released details, but Japanese news reports said prosecutors agreed to limit questioning of Woodland to 10 hours a day and to move quickly on the case.

Adm. Dennis Blair, commander in chief of U.S. Pacific Command, told reporters in Tokyo shortly before the indictment today that the agreement reached on Woodland's handover was "satisfactory."

"We are not shielding American servicemen from Japanese law," Blair said. "I'm satisfied that the incident is being handled correctly and I think we can handle these incidents in the future."

The case has prompted calls in Japan to revise the agreement that governs the nearly 50,000 American military personnel in Japan. Under that agreement, the United States is not required to hand over criminal suspects until they are formally charged, although it is supposed to "consider" requests for custody before indictment.

Some Japanese say it should be changed to provide a quicker handover of American military suspects to Japanese authorities and to speed investigations.

Last week, the foreign affairs committee of Japan's lower house of Parliament adopted a resolution demanding a review of the bilateral agreement and criticizing the U.S. military for failing to prevent crimes by troops stationed in Japan.

In the Woodland case, the U.S. side had reportedly been concerned about the translator assigned to assist him, and had wanted a defense lawyer to be present during questioning.

Woodland is stationed at the Kadena Air Base on Okinawa.

2 in rap group seek damages

HOUSTON (AP) — Two members of a Houston rap group have sued their recording companies and managers, alleging they withheld millions in royalties and other earnings from them.

The Fifth Ward Boyz's members, Richard Nash Jr., whose stage name is Low Life, and Eric "E-Rock" Taylor are seeking $15 million in damages from Houston-based Rap-A-Lot Records and Underground Records, according to papers filed in the lawsuit.

The third member of The Fifth Ward Boyz, Andre "007" Barnes, did not join Taylor and Nash in the lawsuit.

About 500,000 copies of the group's four albums have been sold, Nash wrote in an affidavit obtained by the Houston Chronicle in today's editions.

"During our entire time with Rap-A-Lot, we received no more than $25,000 to $30,000 each in compensation for royalties over an eight-year period," Nash wrote. "I did not have any other job or source of income during the period."

Date Book

Thursday, July 19, 2001

Today is the 200th day of 2001 and the 29th day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1848, a women's rights convention began in Seneca Falls, N.Y. The convention was organized by Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott.

On this day in 1939, fiberglass sutures were used for the first time in an operation performed by Dr. Roy Philip Scholz of St. Louis.

On this day in 1966, singer Frank Sinatra and actress Mia Farrow were wed.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Edgar Degas (1834-1917), artist; Lizzie Borden (1860-1927), acquitted of ax murder; Charles Mayo (1865-1939), surgeon; George McGovern (1922-), U.S. politician, is 79; Vicki Carr (1941-), singer, is 60; Ilie Nastase (1946-), tennis star, is 55.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1974, Dick Bosman pitched a no-hitter for Cleveland in a game against Oakland. Cleveland won 4-0.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "What a delightful thing is the conversation of specialists! One understands absolutely nothing, and it's charming." — Edgar Degas

TODAY'S MOON: Day before new moon (July 20).

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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

U.S. warns of possible terror attack

WASHINGTON (AP)— A communications intercept is prompting a State Department warning of possible imminent terrorist actions against the United States in the Arabian Peninsula.

A senior official said Wednesday night that Saudi Arabia and Kuwait were the focus of attention, but he could not rule out the other five countries on the peninsula.

The State Department public announcement urged U.S. citizens to remain vigilant and to exercise caution. In the past, the statement said, terrorists have not distinguished between official and civilian targets.

There was no information on specific targets, timing or method of attack.

Besides Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, the other countries on the peninsula are Yemen, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

The warning made no direct reference to Osama bin Laden, the Saudi exile terrorist who is based in Afghanistan. But the official, asking not to be identified, noted that the new warning is a supplement — not a replacement — for a June 22 warning in which there was a specific reference to bin Laden and the potential threat from extremist groups associated with him.

On June 22, the State Department cautioned Americans in the Middle East to be especially wary of the threat of terrorism. At the time, a Marine Corps contingent in Jordan cut short its training session and returned to its ships, while the U.S. 5th Fleet sent its ships out of port in Bahrain.

The June warning followed indictments in the 1996 Khobar Towers bombing, which killed 19 Americans in Saudi Arabia.

At the time, U.S. military forces throughout the Persian Gulf were put on a heightened state of alert as a precaution.

The official was not aware if similar actions were being taken in connection with the latest threat. He noted that it was still very early in the process.

The United States has a large military presence in the Persian Gulf, including headquarters for the Navy's 5th Fleet on the island of Bahrain. A Navy carrier battle group with more than 5,000 sailors patrols the area. Also, U.S. Air Force air crews are based at Prince Sultan Air Base south of the Saudi capital of Riyadh, and U.S. Army soldiers regularly train at Camp Doha in Kuwait.

Red light cameras cause controversy

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Cameras designed to nab drivers who run red lights have yielded a wave of outcry since cities across the country began installing the technology.

Cities have been sued, cameras have been shot up and the technology has been labeled a devious tactic meant to pad cities' coffers.

But experts say the fiercest opposition has been in San Diego, where lawyers, seeking dismissal of 398 tickets, have spent the past two weeks blasting the cameras in court as an illegal intrusion on citizens' rights.

"It's such a massive fraud on the public," attorney Christopher Plourd said. "If we can knock this off here, we can protect other people from this organized rip-off."

Since San Diego launched its camera system three years ago, 84,000 tickets have been issued at $271 each. The police union denounced them after five on-duty officers received citations. The city dismissed hundreds of tickets and hired an auditor to evaluate the program after three cameras proved to be inaccurate.

"We don't think anyone got a ticket who didn't deserve one," said deputy city attorney Steve Hansen. "But right now the whole program is on hold pending the outcome of the audit."

At least 50 cities use the traffic system in which the cameras snap photos of vehicles that drive through red lights and then the registered owners are sent citations.

Cameras reduce the number of red-light runners, which cause an estimated 800 deaths and 200,000 injuries in the United States each year, said Michele Fields, general counsel for the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

"When you go ask people, upward of 75 to 80 percent say they support red-light cameras," Fields said.

But there has been plenty of opposition, which is fed by talk radio, politicians with a Libertarian bent and Internet sites that discuss how to beat the tickets.

"I'm not just going to roll over," said Rick Guido, a lawyer whose citation could get dismissed in the San Diego challenge. "At least I'll get my day in court."

Rep. Dick Armey, the House majority leader, accused cities of using the cameras to generate revenue and trapping drivers by shortening yellow light times.

A North Carolina man sued the city of High Point claiming the cameras unlawfully require drivers to prove their innocence, are faulty and motivated by profit not safety.

Someone fired 15 shots at the first camera system to go into operation in Paradise Valley, Ariz., in May, shattering the glass and rendering it inoperable.

Israel rejects international monitors of the cease-fire

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel rejected a call by foreign ministers of the world's industrial powers, including the United States, for international monitors of the Israeli-Palestinian cease-fire, saying today that Palestinian violence first must stop completely.

Foreign ministers of the Group of Eight, who are meeting in Italy, described the Israeli-Palestinian situation as "alarming" and said the presence of monitors could reinforce the accepted plan, known as the Mitchell report, to end nearly 10 months of violence.

U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell and his colleagues said today they were united in their endorsement of monitors approved by both sides.

"The whole purpose of the Mitchell report is to lay out a roadmap to get to negotiations," Powell said. "To start down that trail, we must have an end to the violence."

However, Raanan Gissin, an aide to Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, said Israel remains opposed to the idea of monitors, at least until after all Palestinian violence has stopped.

"Any observers or monitors are not acceptable to us for the very simple reason that before there are observers deployed here there has to be observance of the cease-fire," Gissin said.

The United States has said monitors cannot be imposed on Israel, and the G8 call maintains the caveat that any monitors must be acceptable to both sides. However, gaining support on the issue from world powers gave Palestinians a boost.

"From the beginning we have called to have a third party, but Israel has refused. But it looks like this demand now is supported internationally," Palestinian Planning Minister Nabil Shaath said.

Palestinians, meanwhile, voiced skepticism of Israel's assurances it was not building up for an invasion of Palestinian areas. Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's deputy, Mahmoud Abbas, told local Palestinian journalists that he believes there is a "large possibility" of an incursion.

"The Israeli government has prepared different plans and scenarios, beginning with assassinating Palestinian Authority leaders and ending with an incursion into Palestinian Authority areas," Abbas said.

Obituaries

Thelma Blair

1914-2001

SWEETWATER – Thelma Blair, the mother of Rita Mize of Hermleigh, died Tuesday, July 17, in Rolling Plains Hospital.

Funeral service for Mrs. Blair, 87, is set for 10 a.m. Friday in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Keith Clifton will officiate and burial will follow in the Sweetwater Cemetery.

Born June 17, 1914 in Kent County, she married Cecil Blair on Oct. 3, 1934 in Snyder. He died in 1986.

A resident of Sweetwater since 1953, she had worked as a LVN at Simmons Memorial Hospital for 13 years. Mrs. Blair was a member of the Lamar Street Baptist Church.

Survivors include two other daughters, Zelma Hall of Brookshire and Ava Lynn of Waxahachie; a son, Charles Blair of Alpine, Ariz.; eight grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren; and six great-great-grandchildren.

Michael McNair

1979-2001

A memorial Mass for Michael Leroy McNair Jr. was held at 10 a.m. today in the St. Elizabeth Catholic Church. The Rev. Gerald Leatham officiated. The body was cremated.

Mr. McNair, 22, died Tuesday, July 17, at his home in Snyder.

Born June 28, 1979 in Portland, Ore., he married Vickie Villegas on Feb. 22, 2001 in Deming, N.M. Mr. McNair moved to Snyder from Deming last March and was employed by Price Construction Co.

Survivors include his wife, Vickie McNair of Snyder; a daughter, Alexis Marie McNair of Deming; a stepson, Kodee Cristofur Villegas of Snyder; his mother and stepfather, Marcella and Chris Carter of Maui, Hawaii; his father, Michael McNair Sr. of Stevens Point, Wisc.; a sister, Jamie Kidd of Dallas, Ore.; his grandparents, John and Leann Kidd of Dallas, Ore., and Rose McNair; a stepsister, Jennifer; and a stepbrother, Joe Carter.

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Man arrested on outstanding warrants issued by JP office

•Arrests

Police took a 21-year-old man into custody just before 10 a.m. Wednesday for JP warrants citing no seat belt and failure to appear.

Officers also arrested a 20-year-old man on outstanding warrants for failure to maintain financial responsibility and failure to appear. The man also had outstanding warrants from Anderson County.

•Theft

Betsey Griffith requested an officer at Wal-Mart at 2:20 p.m. Wednesday in reference to her purse being stolen. The purse was found in a dressing room at the store with $250 in cash missing.

April Digby called police at 2 a.m. today to report two juvenile subjects shoplifting at Allsup's in Snyder. The two males reportedly took cigarettes from the store.

•Music disturbance

Dispatchers received two noise disturbance complaints after midnight today. The first came from the Park Village Apartments where a subject in a pickup was playing loud music in the parking lot.

The next complaint came from the 2100 block of 41st Street. A male subject was playing an electric guitar.

•Family disturbances

Sweetwater police contacted the Snyder department at 7:40 p.m. Wednesday advising they received a 9-1-1 call from a cellular phone reporting a domestic problem in Towle Park.

Snyder officers contacted two subjects in the park, both of whom accused the other of verbally assaulting each another. The argument concerned child custody problems and officers informed the couple of the proper steps to take.

At 10 p.m. Wednesday, Joseph Robinson requested a deputy at a drilling rig in Ira in reference to one of his drilling crew's windshields being broken.

Witnesses said they saw the vehicle owner's wife near the vehicle.

The deputy contacted the owner of the vehicle who advised he did not want to file charges, but did want his wife to stay away from the location.


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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Order of Eastern Star

The Order of Eastern Star will meet at 7:30 this evening at the Masonic Lodge. Initiation ceremonies will be held and a patriotic program will be given.

Emmaus Women's Walk

Mesquite Country Emmaus Women's Walk No. 46 will be today through Sunday at Western Texas College. For more information, call Jackie at 573-2873.

Gold Coaters luncheon

The Gold Coaters luncheon will be at noon Friday at Jaramillos.

1991 SHS class reunion

The SHS class of 1991 will hold its 10-year reunion Friday and Saturday. For more information call Robbie Braziel at 573-6632 or Melissa Lee at 574-8005.

Children's Saturday fun time/VBS

Children's Saturday fun time has joined the Vacation Bible School at Avenue D Baptist Church, 324 30th St. Sessions are planned from 9 a.m. until noon on Saturday during July. The VBS is for those who have completed kindergarten through the sixth grade. This year's them is "Truth Trackers." For more information, call 573-6878 or 573-0971.

Minor family reunion

The S. T. Minor Sr. family reunion will be Saturday at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center. Visitors are welcome at 1 p.m.

Noah's Ark Church

Noah's Ark Church, located at 18th and Avenue R, will hold a revival at 10:30 a.m. Sunday. Pastor Randy Acevedo of the Lord's Supper Church of Lubbock will lead the services.

Discovery School registration

Discovery School that provides daycare for children from birth to school age will register for the fall session from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., and 4-5:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday. Classes will begin Aug. 13. Call 573-4770 for more information.

Masters Degree

The Masters Degree will be held at 7:30 p.m. next Thursday at the Snyder Masonic Lodge.

Class of 1966 reunion

The SHS class of 1966 will hold a reunion July 27-28. Anyone with classmates' addresses is asked to write to Janeen Patterson at Box 208, Snyder.

Class of 1976 reunion

The SHS class of 1976 will hold its reunion July 28 at Jack Greene's pasture. For information, call Lorinda Hardin at 573-2700 or Sherry Thompson at 338-0026. The website is classmates.com.

SHS football booster club

The SHS football booster club will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 31, in the film room. "Meet the Tigers Night" set for Aug. 11 will be discussed.

Gateway Family support group

Gateway Family Services will offer family support groups for family violence victims from 6-7 p.m. starting Wednesday, Aug. 1. There will be groups for adults, for children under four and for children four and older. To attend, call 573-1822.

Kids' College project pick-up

All projects from Kids' College summer session need to be picked up by Aug. 1 at the continuing education building on the WTC campus. Projects may be collected from 8 to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Senior water aerobics

Senior water aerobics at the WTC pool will be from 11 a.m. until noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays. For more information, call Bobbie Taylor at 573-7144 or the Senior Center at 573-4035.

WTC swimming pool

The WTC swimming pool is open for public use. Lap swimming: M-TH 6:30-8 a.m. Open swimming: M-TH 2-5 p.m. Cost is $3 per person or $50 for a semester pass. The pool is also available for parties on Fridays and Saturdays. For more information, contact Mike Harrison at 573-8511, ext. 279.

Free lunch program

The free lunch program at Central Elementary continues through July 27. Meals will be served on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from noon until 1 p.m. All children who qualify for free lunches at school may eat. An adult accompanying a child will also be served. For more information, call 573-6915.

Mesquite Country Writers Guild

Mesquite Country Writers Guild invites citizens to send in original poetry to be considered for publication in the newsletter, "Bards of a Feather." The limit is 20 lines and the theme is fall and the holidays. Deadline is Sept. 15 to mail entries to MCWG, Box 237 in Ira, 79527, or e-Mail to dade@bigcountry.net.

St. Louis lawmaker's actions have City Hall in an uproar

ST. LOUIS (AP) — City Hall is in a furor after a member of the Board of Aldermen apparently urinated in a waste basket rather than yield the floor during a filibuster.

During meeting Tuesday, Alderman Irene Smith and three other members were trying to hold up debate over a redistricting plan they said would hurt blacks.

Acting Adermanic President James Shrewsbury ruled Smith must yield if she left for a restroom break. So about 40 minutes later, her aides surrounded her with a sheet, tablecloth and quilt while she appeared to use a trash can to relieve herself.

"What I did behind that tablecloth is my business," Smith said after the board quit without voting on the issue.

"No one was stopping her. She chose not to go to hold control of the floor," said Alderman Kenneth Ortmann. And Alderman Kenneth Jones said Shrewsbury's ruling was proper because filibusters are "a test to see which side can last the longest."

"This is about sensitivity to people's needs," Alderman Gregory Carter said. "We're talking about a basic bodily function."