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WT-Int. Crude - $15.33

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY
March 5, 1998
Vol. 49 No. 262
10 Pages 50¢
Home Of Betty Bredemeyer

House okays by one vote...

Puerto Rico could become 51st state

WASHINGTON (AP) — With the slimmest of margins, the House voted Wednesday night to give Puerto Rico what could be its best chance in 100 years of becoming the 51st State.

After rejecting an effort by opponents to scuttle the bill with an English-only provision, the House voted 209-208 to hold a special referendum in Puerto Rico this year, the 100th anniversary of Puerto Rico becoming a U.S. territory.

The referendum would give Puerto Rican's three choices: continued commonwealth status, statehood or independence.

The bill had the strong backing of President Clinton and both GOP and Democratic House leaders. A similar measure is pending in the Senate, where supporters were expected to push for prompt approval. Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, however, has made no commitment on the measure.

The plan mandated in the bill differs from past nonbinding referendums for Puerto Rico in setting a clear course to a status change in 10 years, based on the voters' choice. Congressional approval and further votes by Puerto Ricans would be required before any final change in status, however.

During more than 11 hours of debate, the House voted 265-153 for an amendment that would subject Puerto Rico, if it becomes a state, to the same language requirements of any other state. The United States has no official language.

That vote scuttled an amendment that would have declared English the only language for government, imposing special requirement on Spanish-speaking Puerto Rico. Non-Puerto Rican House members opposed to statehood had led the English-only drive, which sparked a fiery debate.

The House also rejected an effort by Rep. Jose Serrano, D-N.Y., to allow Puerto Ricans now living in the 50 states to vote in the special referendum.

Puerto Ricans themselves are split over the need for a plebiscite and the statehood issue. However, two-thirds of the commonwealth's elected officials support statehood, according to Puerto Rican Senate President Charles A. Rodriguez. Statehood trailed commonwealth status in a close 1993 vote, with less than 5 percent opting for independence.

Forces advocating statehood cast the issue as a simple matter of "self-determination" for 3.8 million American citizens who have no voting representation in Congress. Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens but cannot vote in presidential elections and pay no federal income tax.

"Do you cherish the principles of our democracy enough to dismantle 100 years of colonialism and extend the right of full self-determination to the U.S. citizens of Puerto Rico?" challenged Puerto Rico's non-voting Democratic member of Congress, Rep. Carlos Romero Barcelo, a former pro-statehood governor.

But the English-only provision sparked the most intense debate.

"To make English our official language," said Rep. Gene Green, D-Texas, "limits our nation." Others argued that the English-only amendment would impose requirements on Puerto Ricans that are not imposed on other citizens.

"We must encourage everyone to speak English, but we must not discriminate against those that speak other languages," said Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., saying Puerto Ricans enrich the country.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "You might be happy without money, but you're likely to get hungry."

We think there was a message for somebody.

The early morning coffee crowd found a map of China on the table the other morning. Under the map was the following message:

"Please notice 'Tipping' is not a city in China."

Barbara up at Rudy's says Milton Ham is still studying the fine print on the map.

You better be careful when you use tipping to try and make a statement.

Just such a situation backfired on a woman in Costa Mesa, Calif.

Barbara Mitchell wasn't too pleased with her waiter's performance during a recent lunch. She decided to let her feelings be known with a 1-cent tip.

When her credit card bill arrived, the tip was inflated into a whopping $10,000 — all for a Ceasar salad, soup, pasta and iced tea.

The waiter was not sure what happened. When he attempted to enter .01 into the computer, he somehow pushed 010000, which was processed as $10,000.

The diner got an apology from the restaurant, and a gift certificate. She said she would leave cash next time.

Waiters and waitresses earn their money. Consider a collection of dumb questions asked:

--At a steakhouse: "Do you sell steak?"

--"What is that little green leafy thing...is that supposed to be there?"

--"Can I get guacomole without avocado?"

--"The ice cream isn't old or spoiled or anything is it?"

--"Which is bigger, the half-pound or quarter-pound burger?"

--"Do you have crackers, my son likes to smash them."

--"What's the difference between the hamburger and the cheeseburger?"

--"Does your Tomato Tortellini soup have tomatoes in it?"

--"Does the veggie burger come with meat?"

--"Can I substitute banana pudding for a vegetable?"

--"How big is your 12 oz. prime rib?"

--"Are your french fries fried?"

--"Could I have a chocolate shake with skim milk?"

--"Is it cheaper to eat outside?"

--"Do you have a vegetarian meat sauce?"

Early voting ends at 5 p.m. Friday

Tomorrow at 5 p.m. is the deadline for early voting in the March 10 primary elections.

The early vote tally continues to climb, indicating a record turnout in the Republican primary where County Judge Ricky Fritz is being challenged by businessman Ted Crenwelge.

Shortly before noon today, a total of 660 GOP votes had been cast while 104 ballots had been marked in the Democratic primary where the only contested race is for Precinct 4 Commissioner. Candidates are Cholanne Lindsey and Scott Richburg.

McCamey site of wind farm

McCAMEY (AP) — West Texas' notorious winds kick up dust, buffet vehicles and create bad-hair days for thousands every year. Now, a partnership of utility companies plans to put them to work.

This summer, construction is set to begin near McCamey, 50 miles south of Odessa, in what will be the Texas' largest wind farm, powering up to 22,000 homes once the turbines are spinning.

A Danish company will build 113 wind-catching turbines on a mesa south of town known as M Mountain.

Officials said the site is ideal because it features an average wind of 20 mph with few gusts. The energy will be funneled to Central and South West Corp. utility customers in South Texas, West Texas and Louisiana.

The project is expected to cost about $75 million and should be fully operational by mid-1999.

FEATURED ATTRACTION — Snyder Wheels Car Show will feature the 1997 F-1 Ford pickup of the year, owned by Scott Capp of Hobbs, N.M. The wild paint job with many custom changes of the 1951 pickup has proven to be a crowd pleaser. The car show will be held from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday at the Scurry County Coliseum. Admission is free. A swap meet will be held Friday. (Contributed Photo)

County spelling bee champ will be crowned on Friday

Sixteen Scurry County students will face off in the county spelling bee slated to begin at 9 a.m. Friday at the Fine Arts Theatre at Western Texas College.

Several college personnel will help officiate. The head judge will be Janet Halbert. Marilyn Lancaster will serve as dictionary and recording judge. Dan Osborn and Janna Martin will also judge.

Rebekah Thornton, Northeast teacher, will be the pronouncer.

Contestants were determined through campus bees conducted during February. The first place and runner-up at each school are eligible.

Wendy Proffitt will be looking to repeat her winning performance last March. After clinching the county title in 1997, she continued on to place third at the regional bee in Lubbock.

This year, the 7th grader won first at the bee at Snyder Junior High School. In previous years, she won campus bees at West, Northeast and East.

Wendy, 13, is the daughter of Doug and Jill Proffitt. She attends the seventh grade.

Samantha Everett will also represent the junior high. She earned that right by placing second in the campus bee. She is 13, an eighth grader and the daughter of Lane and Pam Everett.

Representing West are Lucy Amarillas, who won first in the campus bee, and Sara Thornhill, runner-up.

Lucy, 12, is the daughter of Felipe and Yvonne Amarillas. Sara is 11 and the daughter of Chris and Sally Thornhill.

Northeast's winners who advance to the county bee are October Wells, 11, who placed first. She is the daughter of James and Terri Wells.

Shaina Kerr, 10, is also competing. She was the runner-up and is the daughter of Belinda Kerr of Snyder and David Kerr of Grand Prairie.

East Elementary's spellers will include Danni Garcia, who won the campus bee, and Breanna Talavera, runner-up. Danni, 9, is the daughter of Mary Ann Garcia. Breanna, 10, is the daughter of Sandra and Joel Talavera.

Hermleigh will send four spellers to the county bee. Junior high contestants include Terrel Culp, first place, and Julie Mireles, second. Terrell, 13, is a seventh grader and the son of Alan and Julie Culp.

Julie is the daughter of Ted and Janie Mireles. She is 14 years old and in the eighth grade.

Elementary winners who advance are Brittainy Milota, 11, the daughter of Bill and Candy Jones. The sixth grader won first place in the campus bee.

Dustin Williamson, also a sixth grader, was the runner-up. He is 11 years old and the son of Kelly and Joel Murphy and James and Donita Williamson.

Ira students competing include Wes White and Charles Walker, elementary winners, and Nathan Smith and Dani White, junior high representatives.

Wes, a sixth grader, won the elementary campus bee. His sister, Dani, was the runner-up in the junior high spelloff. Wes is a sixth grader and Dani is in the eighth grade. They are the children of Art and Pat White.

Charles, a sixth grader, is the elementary runner-up. He is the son of Laurie and Kevin Walker.

Nathan, who is an eighth grader, placed first in the junior high spelling match. He is the son of Carl and Debbie Smith.

$4.7 million spent on welfare benefits

Some $4.7 million was spent on welfare programs in Scurry County during 1997.

That number was included in the annual report of the Texas Department of Human Services.

According to the report, some 1,682 Scurry County citizens received food stamps, representing a total expenditure of $1.3 million.

Temporary assistance to Needy Families (TANF) reached 386 recipients for a total of $256,479.

Long-term care helped 109 clients in local nursing homes for a total of $2.1 million.

Community Care for Aged and Disabled (CCAD) reached 146 citizens, and the total of the assistance was $987,440.

In October, 1997, DHS Commissioner Eric Bost announced the start of Texas Works, a statewide initiative to help current and potential welfare recipients move into the workplace.

"Texas Works," Bost said, "is an initiative that we hope will bury once and for all the old culture of welfare dependency in our state."

Under Texas Works, resource rooms are being opened in most of the agency's 500 field offices. One such resource room is planned for the Snyder office, located in Snyder Shopping Center. The room will contain computers with access to job listings, job search and interview technique tips.

Nursing home has new owner

Snyder Healthcare Center, a 78-bed nursing home facility here, is part of the purchase of 57 Texas nursing homes by Senior Living Properties of Indiana.

The Texas properties, along with 31 facilities in Indiana, were included in the February acquisitions which will be managed by Complete Care Services (CCS) of Horsham, Pa., said Joanne E. Bryers, executive director of the firm.

Benny Gibbs will continue as administrator of the Snyder facility.

Total purchase price of the facilities was $234 million.

CCS was founded in 1989 and is among the nations's largest long-term care facility operators. With the latest acquisitions, the company will manage and operate over 22,000 beds in 176 nursing homes and assisted living facilities in Texas, Pennsylvania, Illinois, New Jersey, Maryland and New York.

The local facility is located in the 5300 block of the Big Spring Highway.

ASK US

Q. — What is the collateral in a bond election?

A. — The entity's legal authority to levy and collect taxes to service both principal and interest on the bonded indebtedness.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 80 degrees; low, 39; 7 a.m. Thursday, 42; no precipitation; total for 1998, 2.76 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, partly cloudy. Low around 40. Variable wind 5-15 mph. Friday, partly cloudy, breezy. High, lower 70s. Wind SW 15-25 mph, gusty.

Starla Early
Partly cloudy

Sunset: 6:45 p.m.
Sunrise: 7:05 a.m.
Of 63 days in 1998, the sun has shone 61 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Good habits are not made on birthdays, nor Christian character at the New Year. The workshop of character is everyday life. The uneventful and commonplace hour is where the battle is lost or won.

Unknown

NEW BUSINESS — Heritage Homes Realtors is a new business in Snyder Shopping Center. The real estate firm is owned by Faye Blackledge and Dolores Jones (center). At left is realtor Joan Tate and at right is office secretary Sandra Holt.

Two veteran realtors open new firm in shopping center

Two veteran realtors have teamed up to form a new real estate firm in Snyder.

Heritage Homes Relators, located at 3405 Snyder Shopping Center, is open for business. It's location is between Joe Fowler Insurance Agency and Harley Bynum Photography.

Owners of the new firm are Dolores Jones and Faye Blackledge, both veteran real estate representatives familar with the Snyder and Scurry County market — including residential, commercial and agricultural.

Jones has been in the real estate business for 28 years and Blackledge has 23 years of experience.

Joining them as a sales representative in the firm is Joan Tate, who has more than 20 years of experience. The office secretary is Sandra Holt.

Oil fire kills 4 workers in Louisiana

PITKIN, La. (AP) — A 1,000-gallon oil tank at a production facility in western Louisiana exploded in flames Wednesday night, killing four workers and burning nearby equipment.

It took three hours to put out the fire at the Sonat Exploration Co., state police Trooper Howard McKee said. The cause was not immediately known.

Sheriff of Starr County pleads guilty

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — The 17-year-reign of Starr County Sheriff Gene Falcon has apparently come to an inglorious end.

Falcon and jailer Javier Garcia each pleaded guilty in federal court Wednesday to one count each of conspiracy to commit bribery for a scheme involving kickbacks from a bail bondsman.

They each face up to five years in prison and a $250,000 fine when they're sentenced May 26.

Falcon and Garcia were charged along with five other Starr County officials in connection with the bail bond scheme.

On Monday, Justice of the Peace Jose Adan Garcia and jailer Jose Roberto Molina pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit bribery. Three other jailers are still awaiting trial. Jury selection in their cases is scheduled for Friday.

In Starr County, one of the poorest regions of the country, several residents said Falcon's conviction was long overdue.

"It's about time," said Octavio Castaneda, a bail bondsman who sued Falcon in 1992 over the way bonds were distributed at the Starr County Jail.

"For so many years, the people of Starr County have trusted him," Castaneda said. "But the badge was just a way for him to make money, and everybody saw it."

Falcon and his attorney, G. Allen Ramirez, refused to speak with reporters following the plea, and Ramirez did not return a telephone message from The Associated Press.

Prosecutors said Falcon and his jailers, from March 1997 through July 7, 1997, identified inmates who were seeking to be released on bond and referred them to bondsman Homero Arturo Longoria.

Once the bonds were posted, Longoria paid the officials a "referral fee" for their business. Falcon, who often met with Longoria at the Sheriff's Department, received $11,050 in bribes.

If the bond amount was too high for inmates, Longoria would ask Justice of the Peace Garcia to reduce the amount and then pay him a kickback. On one occasion, Garcia received $500 to reduce a bond amount by $100,000. In all, the JP took at least $2,600.

The seven officials were indicted in January on multiple charges of bribery and conspiracy. Falcon had faced the most charges — one count of conspiracy and 14 bribery counts. The other charges were dismissed in exchange for his guilty plea.

Longoria pleaded guilty earlier to one count of conspiracy to commit bribery. He was expected to be a star witness against Falcon, whose trial was set to begin Friday.

Falcon will remain free until he is sentenced but Starr County District Attorney Heriberto Silva said his conviction would disqualify him from holding office.

Falcon, 44, who started his law enforcement career as a state highway patrolman, had long been the target of authorities, especially since his 1985 purchase of a ranch-style home once owned by notorious drug kingpin Ramon Garcia Rodriguez.

He had previously been indicted on state charges for allegedly striking a district attorney's investigator on the back and neck, but the investigator dropped the charges.

In 1986, Mexican authorities charged Falcon with murder in the slaying of a man in a Mexican hospital who allegedly witnessed a triple slaying in Texas, but the Tamaulipas attorney general later dropped plans to extradite him.

Prosecutors touted Falcon's conviction as their latest victory in the battle against corrupt politicians on the Texas border.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Friday, March 6, 1998

Carefully investigate any new endeavors or enterprises into which you wish to enter in the year ahead. The majority could be promising, but one or two could be real bummers.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Someone you like, even though he or she is extremely extravagant and unreliable, might put you on the spot today with requests that are costly as well as inconvenient. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that will 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.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Today, you might have more than your usual share of tasks. If you sweep anything under the rug, you may not be able to see beyond the dust cloud later.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) If you expect something done right today, it's best to do it yourself. The person to whom you delegate the job won't give your directives proper priority.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Today, you might meet opposition regarding an issue about which you feel strongly. Neither you nor your adversary is likely to yield.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Do not get involved today with career contemporaries whose objectives differ from yours. Exchanges could take on onerous overtones at the turn of a hat.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Guard against making premature, negative judgments today about people or developments. Your assessments could be erroneous and detrimental to your interests.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Be very careful today how you handle resources or property that belongs to others. If anything goes wrong, you'll be held accountable, guilty or not.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Your work habits might not be up to par today, especially if you're required to do something you think is beneath your rank or dignity.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Be firm today if a strong-willed individual tries to make decisions for you that do not serve your best interests. If you fail to protect your position, you'll regret it later.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) It may prove unwise today to attempt to do several assignments simultaneously. All areas might suffer and you could end up with a bigger muddle than when you started.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) In order to expedite matters today, you might make some promises you won't mean. Others will take you up on them, however, and demand fulfillment.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) This might not be the right day for you to tackle tedious mental tasks. Your thoughts and focus may not be up to par and major mistakes are possible.

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Berry's World

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"What's with all this 'delayed gratification' talk lately?"

Oldest, youngest drivers increase traffic deaths

ARLINGTON, Va. AP) — The oldest and youngest drivers are helping to cause an increase in U.S. traffic deaths after several years of decline, according to a report by the American Traffic Safety Services Association.

Reporting in advance on the study to be released later today on Capitol Hill, USA Today cites the report as saying there were 41,907 traffic fatalities in 1996, the most recent year available. It was the second straight year the numbers have risen and represents a 7 percent increase over the 39,250 deaths reported six years ago.

The association says elderly and teen-age drivers traditionally have had higher accident rates than other motorists and now are hitting the roads in record numbers.

It says the number of drivers 65 and over has increased 47 percent since 1985 and that they are 17 times more likely to die in a crash per mile driven than other drivers.

It says that while the number of drivers age 15 to 25 has remained relatively constant at 20 million, the number of miles driven by youngsters has increased more than 15 percent over the past decade.

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Fred and Mavis Overman
(Contributed Photos)

Pair married 60 years to be honored Sunday

Fred and Mavis Overman will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary at a Sunday carry-in lunch at Ave. D Baptist Church.

Their children and their spouses include Dwayne and Sandra Overman of Andrews; Freddie and Tina Overman of Como; Marlin and Linda Overman of Kermit, and the late Berle Overman who died in December, 1997. As hosts and hostesses, they invite friends and family to join in their parents' joyous occasion.

Fred Overman and Mavis Nixon were married on March 5, 1938 in the Baptist church in Whiteface with the Rev. W.T. Priddy officiating.

They have fulfilled the "well wishes" of their friends as stated in The Whiteface News on March 11, 1938, "We join their many friends in congratulations and wishes for a long and happy voyage on the sea of matrimony."

The Overmans recently retired as rural mail carriers in the Dermott/Polar area. They have lived over 40 years north of Snyder and are longtime members of Ave. D Baptist Church. Overman worked for Texaco until 1950.

They have 13 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Treat your pet as best friend

If your dog or cat sheds excessively, it may be a symptom of stress. According to Barbara Allen of Stabar Enterprises Inc.

To cope with the problem, Allen, author of a soon-to-be-released book, "How to Be Your Pet's Best Friend," offers ways to reduce stress (and shedding) in pets:

1. Recognize your pet's "prey drive" and territoriality. Allow your cat to simulate stalking and hunting maneuvers. Give an indoor dog a place to call its own — perhaps a down-filled dog bed in an area that remains undisturbed except for an occasional cleaning.

2. Train your pet. Teach your pet manners and the difference between right and wrong. Don't assume your pet will train itself and learn the family rules by osmosis.

3. Socialize your pet early in life and often. Expose your pet to the world. Take your dog along for rides in the car; walk your cat on a leash whenever possible.

4. Give your pet privacy. Like humans, pets need physical and psychological space. Recognize when your pet wants to be left alone and don't disturb it, it will find you when it seeks companionship.

5. Be consistent with your pet. Repeating familiar and positive experiences can increase favorable behavior and lessen bad behavior, as well as alleviate stress and build confidence.

6. Don't nag! Correct behavior in a clear, direct manner. Use one command for your pet; if it doesn't respond, make a correction immediatley. Don't keep repeating yourself.

7. Don't worry, be happy! Our pets often function as four-legged, fur-covered mirrors of ourselves. If you want a calm, happy pet, be a calm, happy owner.

8. Develop a strong bond with your pet that becomes an "invisible leash." Genetic and environmental factors make every pet unique. Understand your pet's needs and expectations as well as your own.

9. Feed your pet well. Wild animals often eat all of their kill. Pet foods alone may not supply the nutritional variety found in the wild. Mrs. Allen suggests adding a supplement for shedding to your pet's daily diet to provide a vital ingredient necessary for your pet's physical and physiological health.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 03-05-98
♠ 10 6 4
♥ 9 4
♦ K J 5 2
♣ A Q 6 3

West
♠ K Q 8 3 2
♥ A
♦ 10 4 3
♣ 9 8 7 5

East
♠ 9 5
♥ 5 3 2
♦ A 8 6
♣ K J 10 4 2

South
♠ A J 7
♥ K Q J 10 8 7 6
♦ Q 9 7
♣ ---

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: West

South	West	North	East
	Pass	Pass	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♠ K

How do you think Macnair made four hearts after West had led the spade king?

After three passes, opening four hearts is sensible. It is unlikely you can make a slam, and it will keep the opponents quiet.

If the spades were splitting 5-2, it looked as though the contract would be defeated; the opponents would collect four tricks via one spade, two red-suit aces and a spade ruff. And that is probably what would have happened if declarer had either won the first trick or played the spade seven from hand. However, Macnair found a wonderful ruse: He dropped the spade *jack*.

This had the desired effect, West continuing with a *low* spade. Macnair won with dummy's 10, then discarded his spade ace on the club ace, exit the defense's spade ruff.

Sadly, that play didn't gain points. At the other table, East and West were in a position to defeat four hearts but went astray.

In England, a jack used to be called a knave (though I never saw a deck with Kn rather than J on the four appropriate cards). Well, that was one knavish trick.

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The knavish escapologist

By Phillip Alder

There was a third world championship in Tunisia last year: the inaugural Transnational Teams. It was won by a combined Italian-Polish quintet: Leandro Burgay, Dano DeFalco, Carlo Mariani, Marcin Lesniewski and Krzysztof Martens. In the final, they beat the Polish team of Krzysztof Jassem, Piotr Tuszynski, Ireneusz Kowalozyk and Marek Witek, 132-40.

My favorite deal from the event, though, occurred during a battle between two teams captained by Britons, Andrew Macnair and Tony Forrester.

For Results Use Snyder Daily News Classified Ads 573-5486

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

"A Company of Women International" Prophetic Voice to the Nations, for mature Christian women; Union Community Center, Hwy. 180, pot luck supper; 6 p.m.

Deep Creek Chapter of ABWA; The Shack; 6:30 p.m.

Horseshoe Pitching For Fun; Horseshoe Courts located at the coliseum; everybody welcome, for further information call 573-9762; time changed to 3 p.m.

Bilingual AA meeting; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; 8 p.m.

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

New Horizons Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club Addition in Winston Park; for information call 863-2349 or 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 appointments; 573-9742 or 573-2763.

NA Anonymous; Snyder Park Club; for information call 573-3667, 573-1579 or 573-0949; 6 p.m.

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 573-8929; 8 p.m., open meeting (last Friday of the month is the birthday meeting, pot luck at 7 p.m.).

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for information call 573-3956 or 573-2101; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

People Without Partners; Inadale Community Center; games of 42 and dominos; 6:30 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for more information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 863-2349; 10 a.m.

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

Narcotics Anonymous Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 5 p.m.

Beginners Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous; Park Club at Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; 7 p.m.

Sparing the rod will not spoil the child. Don't hit your child when he or she breaks the rules, instead, try creative discipline like withdrawing privileges.

When the kids act up, remind yourself that you were a kid once, too. As every parent learns, having kids takes a lot of patience and understanding.

—Children's Trust Fund of Texas

NOTICE

The automatic tabulating equipment will be tested Friday, March 6, 1998 at 4:00 p.m. in the County Clerk's Office for the March 10th primary.

Custom Framing and Matting
Harley Bynum Photography
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Comic Page

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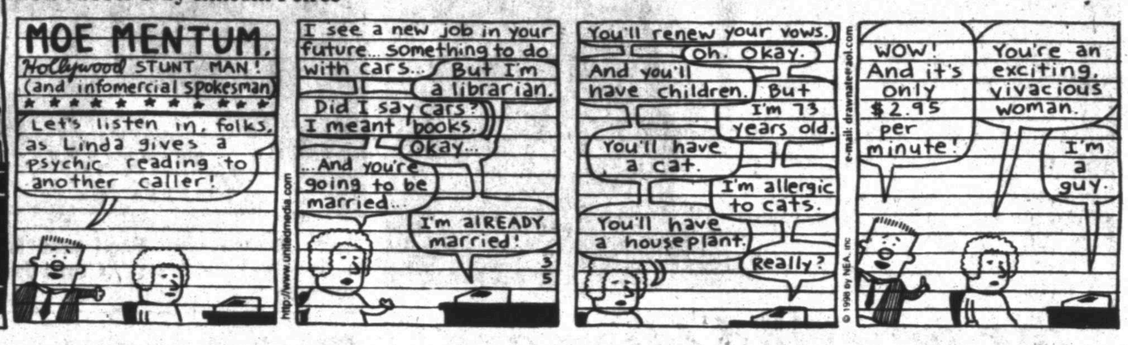

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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Scented bag
7 Part of the pelvis
13 Tropical lizard
14 Conceive
15 Type of horse
16 Used a certain shaker
17 Dagger
18 Not in
20 — majesty
21 Goose genus
23 Singer/dancer Paula —
27 Beginnings
32 Napped
33 Synthetic material
34 Leg bone
35 Actor Greene
36 Point of view
39 Clothing fabric
40 Beatles' drummer
42 Photocopy
46 Pasture land
47 Undergarment
51 Light
53 Like a lustrous material
55 Having one dimension
56 Cup and —
57 Coat — —
58 New Englander

DOWN

1 Hissing sound
2 Dramatic conflict
3 Remedy
4 Tortoise's rival
5 Chemical suffix
6 Eagle's claw
7 Female relative
8 Drillers' grp.
9 Con's room
10 Evaluate
11 Southwestern Indians
12 Ancient Persian
19 Gis' club
21 Star in Aquila
22 Theater district
23 Concerning (2 wds.)
24 Radar-screen image
25 Figure skater Thomas
26 — — the air (iffy)
28 Get bigger
29 Regarding (2 wds.)
30 Hawaiian goose
31 Dog-drawn vehicle
37 Edmonton hockey team
38 Compass pt.
41 Emptily verbose
42 Grain holder
43 Weekend-welcoming abbr.
44 Visitor to Siam
45 Wedding-cake part
47 Amaze
48 Eat (a lollipop)
49 Arrow poison
50 Funeral pile
52 Scot's hat
54 Drivers' org.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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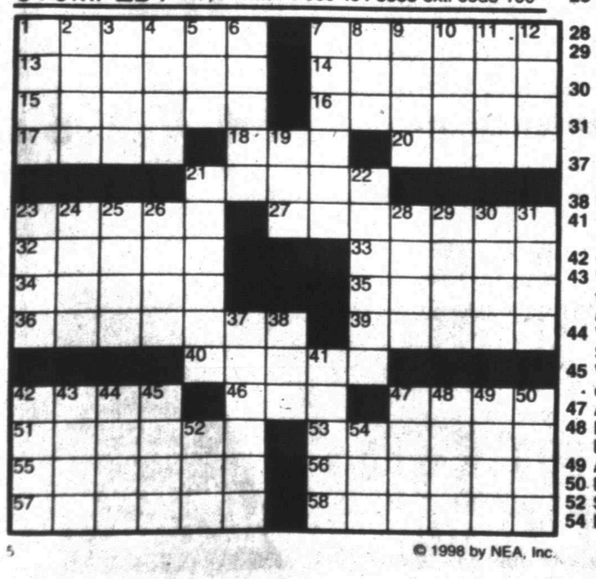

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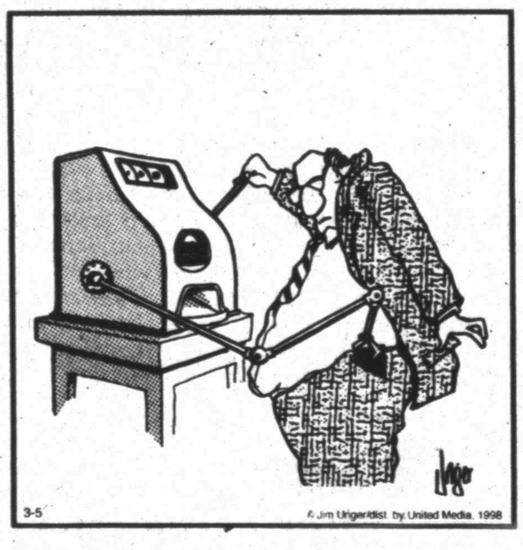

"IS TODAY MARCH OR THURSDAY?"

SPORTS

SHS to host Monahans in grid opener

The 1998 Snyder Tiger football schedule has been completed and has quite a different look to it.

The most obvious change is in district play, where the Tigers will compete in District 5-4A.

Snyder will be on the road for three of its five league contests, including the opener at Andrews.

The Tigers then return home to host Big Spring, before visiting Sweetwater. Next will be a home date with Fort Stockton, followed by the closer at San Angelo Lake View.

Another change for '98 will be an 11-week season.

Snyder will participate in only one scrimmage, a three-way affair with Plainview and Hereford.

The Tigers then kick off their 11-week, 10-game campaign Aug. 28 when they welcome Monahans to town.

Other non-district opponents will be Littlefield, Frenship, Abilene Wylie and Seminole. Snyder will have one open date prior to the opening of 5-4A play.

The Tigers are slated to begin two-a-day workouts Aug. 6.

1998 Tiger Schedule

Date		Opponent	Site	Time
Aug.	28	Monahans	Home	7:30
Sept.	4	Littlefield	Away	8:00
Sept.	11	Frenship	Home	7:30
Sept.	18	Abilene Wylie	Home	7:30
Sept.	25	Seminole	Away	8:00
Oct.	2	Open		
Oct.	9	*Andrews	Away	7:30
Oct.	16	*Big Spring	Home	7:30
Oct.	23	*Sweetwater	Away	7:30
Oct.	30	*Fort Stockton	Home	7:30
Nov.	6	*Lake View	Away	7:30

Fine or one-game suspension given to Knight, sources say

CHICAGO (AP) — The Big Ten's reprimand of Bob Knight gives Indiana either the option of suspending Knight for one game or paying a $10,000 fine, according to media reports.

The Herald-Times of Bloomington, Indianapolis television stations and ESPN college basketball anaylst Dick Vitale all reported the details, citing unnamed sources.

Big Ten commissioner Jim Delany declined Wednesday to specify what action the league was taking against Knight for his comments about officiating during and after last week's Indiana-Illinois game.

Indiana has three business days to decide whether to appeal or accept those findings, meaning Knight will likely be on the Indiana bench tonight when the Hoosiers play Ohio State in the Big Ten Conference tournament.

If the university chooses suspension, conference officials said last week that the suspension would be served this season, meaning Knight would likely miss the first postseason game the Hoosiers play next week

The Herald-Times reported that the Big Ten cited Knight for violations of its sportsmanlike conduct code, which includes intentionally inciting participants or spectators to violent or abusive action and publicly and unduly criticizing a game official.

Knight called the officiating in Indiana's loss to Illinois last week "the greatest travesty" he has ever seen as a college coach. He received three technical fouls and was ejected by referee Ted Valentine.

The Bloomington newspaper reported that Valentine faces penalties but those won't be administered until next season.

Knight was charged with three technical fouls by Valentine, two resulting in ejection. As Knight left the Assembly Hall floor following the third technical, he made a point of making one more pass in front of Valentine, who stood, hand on chin, at midcourt. Knight's move drew a loud reaction from the Assembly Hall crowd.

The second technical, however, was the most controversial. It came with 9:37 to play as Knight was going out to check on an injured Luke Recker.

Recker, on a drive to the basket, was knocked to the floor. On the play, Illinois' Sergio McClain grabbed the rim, drawing a technical foul.

Sprewell contract reinstated

NEW YORK (AP) — Latrell Sprewell won a $16.3 million victory, but lost his fight to return to the NBA this season.

The bitter battle over Sprewell's attack on his coach concluded Wednesday as an arbitrator overturned the Golden State Warriors' termination of his contract and reduced a one-year suspension imposed by the NBA.

Sprewell's suspension will end July 1, five months earlier than the league wanted, and he will be paid $16.3 million over the next two seasons — whether he returns to the Warriors or if they trade him to another team.

"I find that a penalty of 68 games (and $6.4 million in lost salary) is commensurate with the severity of the misconduct, addresses the wrong done to the head coach and conveys a message that violence in the NBA will be dealt with severely but always with due regard to principles of fairness," arbitrator John Feerick wrote.

The decision was a big defeat for the Warriors and a lesser setback for the league office.

"The arbitrator is a very charitable man, and he made a charitable decision in respects to Mr. Sprewell in this decision," NBA commissioner David Stern said.

It wasn't a total victory for Sprewell, however, because he was hoping to return to the league this season.

Now, the choice of where to play is out of his hands and his future won't be known until the Warriors trade him — which they are expected to do this summer.

"The reinstatement is probably going to make two parties unhappy — Mr. Sprewell and Golden State," Stern said. "In fact, we have reason to believe Sprewell was looking forward to free agency."

Sprewell's attack on Golden State coach P.J. Carlesimo at practice Dec. 1 ignited a national debate over issues of authority, sportsmanship, out-of-control athletes and fair punishment.

His one-year suspension was by far the longest ever imposed by the league for a non-drug-related offense, and the termination of his contract also was unprecedented.

The arbitrator upheld many of the NBA's arguments, but the bottom line was that he felt the punishment was excessive.

Stern reacted with some biting comments toward the arbitrator.

"I think the fundamental point is whether you can strike your boss and still hold your job. The answer is that you cannot strike your boss and still hold your job — unless you play in the NBA and are subject to arbitrator Feerick's decision," Stern said.

Contests get cancelled in area tourneys

The Snyder junior varsity softball tournament scheduled for Saturday at Cates Field has been cancelled.

A total of eight teams had dropped out, three of them due to ineligibile athletes.

The Lady Tiger JV will face Abilene Cooper in a doubleheader this evening, beginning at 4:30 in Abilene.

Snyder then travels to Hawley on Friday at 4 o'clock.

Also, Eula will be unable to attend the Ira Classic on Friday. Hermleigh will now face Abilene Christian A in the 6:30 contest.

Bagwell scores winning run in 4-2 Houston win

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — Jeff Bagwell singled for his first hit of the spring and eventually scored the winning run on a sacrifice fly Wednesday as the Houston Astros beat Montreal 4-2.

Astros starter Mike Hampton (1-0) and relievers Mike Magnante and Bob MacDonald combined for seven shutout innings until the Expos scored a pair of unearned runs off righthanded relief prospect Mike Grzanich in the eighth.

Houston center fielder Ray Montgomery misplayed a fly ball by Vladimir Guerrero, who later scored when Astros third baseman Bill Spiers lost a pop up by Derrick May on the infield, leading to the Expos' second run of the inning. Scott Livingstone's sacrifice fly had brought home Terry Jones with the Expos' first run of the game.

Jose Cabrera pitched a perfect ninth inning for his second save of the spring.

Houston outfielder Carl Everett hit a leadoff double in the second and scored from third on Sean Berry's sacrifice fly to left. The Astros pushed their lead to 2-0 in the third when shortstop Ricky Gutierrez homered to left off Expos starter Trey Moore (0-1).

Bagwell led of the bottom of the sixth with his hit and later scored from third on Berry's second sacrifice fly of the game. Rookie outfielder Richard Hidalgo added a sacrifice fly of his own, scoring Everett to give the Astros a 4-0 lead.

The Expos, winless after five games, managed just two hits through the first six innings.

The Astros improved their Grapefruit League record to 4-0-1.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE						
Atlantic Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
NewJersey	38	16	6	82	173	119
Philadelphia	30	19	9	69	167	131
Washington	26	23	11	63	161	158
N.Y.Rangers	19	26	16	54	150	163
N.Y.Islanders	21	31	8	50	156	168
Florida	18	30	12	48	144	170
TampaBay	12	40	9	33	117	200
Northeast Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Pittsburgh	31	17	13	75	171	141
Montreal	29	23	7	65	173	152
Boston	26	22	12	64	155	145
Buffalo	24	21	14	62	150	141
Ottawa	23	28	10	56	137	153
Carolina	22	30	7	51	145	166
WESTERN CONFERENCE						
Central Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	38	14	9	85	185	121
Detroit	34	15	13	81	186	139
St.Louis	33	22	8	74	190	155
Phoenix	24	26	11	59	165	173
Chicago	23	27	10	56	147	147
Toronto	20	32	8	48	141	177
Pacific Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	32	15	16	80	188	152
LosAngeles	27	21	11	65	173	158
Edmonton	23	29	10	56	159	177
SanJose	22	30	7	51	144	160
Anaheim	20	31	9	49	145	183
Calgary	18	30	12	48	157	185
Vancouver	18	33	10	46	170	215

Tuesday's Games

Boston 3, Washington 0
N.Y. Islanders 3, Philadelphia 1
St. Louis 5, Chicago 3
Calgary 2, Tampa Bay 1

Wednesday's Games

N.Y. Rangers 4, Florida 3
Colorado 5, Toronto 3
Montreal 3, Dallas 1
Edmonton 4, Tampa Bay 2
Detroit 2, Anaheim 0

Thursday's Games

Chicago at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Colorado at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Montreal at St. Louis, 8:30 p.m.
Calgary at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Detroit at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
Carolina at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

Friday's Games

N.Y. Islanders at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.
Carolina at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
San Jose at Anaheim, 10:30 p.m.

Local Sports Schedule

Today

Softball: Snyder varsity and JV at Abilene, doubleheader, 4:30 & 6 p.m.

Baseball: Snyder varsity vs. Canyon Randall, Frenship tourney, 2 p.m.

Baseball: Ira Classic — Hermleigh vs. Eula, 4 p.m.; Ira vs. Rotan JV, 6:30.

Friday

Softball: Snyder varsity and JV at Hawley, 4 p.m., 5:30.

Baseball: Frenship tourney — Snyder varsity vs. Borger, 9 a.m.; Snyder vs. Andrews, 11:30.

Baseball: Ira Classic — Ira vs. Abilene Christian B, 4 p.m.; Hermleigh vs. Abilene Christian A, 6:30.

Baseball: Snyder JV and freshman at Odessa tourney.

Tennis: Snyder varsity at Sweetwater Invitational.

Golf: Snyder varsity boys at Andrews; Snyder varsity girls at San Angelo Invitational.

Track: Snyder Jr. High meet, SHS track, 4 p.m.

Saturday

Track: Snyder boys and girls at Mustang Relays, Andrews.

Baseball: Snyder at Frenship tourney.

Baseball: Ira at Grape Creek JV, 4 p.m.

Baseball: Snyder JV and freshman at Odessa tourney.

Tennis: Snyder varsity at Sweetwater Invitational.

Golf: Snyder varsity boys at Andrews; Snyder varsity girls at San Angelo.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	41	19	.683	-
NewYork	34	23	.596	5½
NewJersey	33	27	.550	8
Orlando	30	29	.508	10½
Washington	30	29	.508	10½
Boston	28	31	.475	12½
Philadelphia	20	37	.351	19½
Central Division				
Chicago	44	16	.733	-
Indiana	41	18	.695	2½
Charlotte	36	23	.610	7½
Atlanta	34	24	.586	9
Cleveland	32	27	.542	11½
Milwaukee	28	29	.491	14½
Detroit	27	32	.458	16½
Toronto	13	45	.224	30
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	41	16	.719	-
SanAntonio	40	19	.678	2
Minnesota	31	28	.525	11
Houston	29	29	.500	12½
Vancouver	14	44	.241	27½
Dallas	12	47	.203	30
Denver	5	54	.085	37
Pacific Division				
Seattle	45	14	.763	-
L.A.Lakers	40	18	.690	4½
Phoenix	38	20	.655	6½
Portland	34	24	.586	10½
Sacramento	25	36	.410	21
GoldenState	13	46	.220	32
L.A.Clippers	12	46	.207	32½

Tuesday's Games

Utah 108, Toronto 93
New York 94, New Jersey 91
Seattle 97, Miami 91, OT
Dallas 110, Minnesota 99
Chicago 118, Denver 90
Houston 107, L.A. Clippers 97
Portland 98, Phoenix 93
Indiana 111, Vancouver 103

Wednesday's Games

Philadelphia 87, Milwaukee 80
Orlando 96, Seattle 83
Charlotte 112, Minnesota 102
Cleveland 122, Toronto 88
Utah 110, Boston 94
Sacramento 109, Detroit 89
Golden State 90, San Antonio 83
L.A. Lakers 104, Indiana 95

Thursday's Games

New York at Washington, 7 p.m.
Denver at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Miami at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Detroit at Phoenix, 9 p.m.

Friday's Games

Washington at Boston, 7 p.m.
Utah at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
New York at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Seattle at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Denver at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Toronto at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Sacramento at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
San Antonio at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.
Indiana at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

Sports Briefs

Jr. High track meet

Snyder Junior High will host a track meet at 4 p.m. Friday at the high school.

Tumbling meet

The Snyder Springers' Invitational will be held Saturday at the SHS gym.

Competition for kids aged 3 and up will begin at 9:30. All competitors should arrive at the gym by 9 a.m.

Concessions will be available, as well as T-shirts for sale. Flash cameras will not be allowed.

Free golf clinic

The Snyder Country Club golf staff will conduct a free family golf clinic Saturday at the club. The clinic is open to the first 20 people, members or non-members, who register.

Instruction will take place from 9 until noon, covering mechanics of the full swing and tips on the short game. A complimentary lunch will follow.

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

All-star coaches

Anyone interested in coaching 13 & 14-year-old little dribblers' all-stars must bring their resume and a probable roster to the Scurry County Boys and Girls Club.

All applications must be received by March 11 at 5 p.m. Only former S.L.D. players or residents currently living within the league boundaries will be allowed.

For more information contact June Wall at 574-6818.

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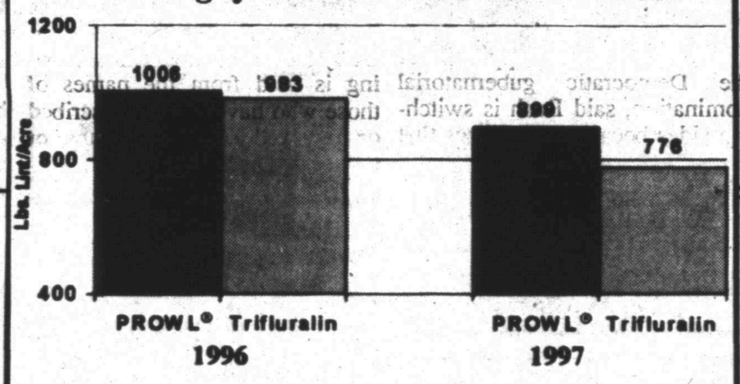

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3203 40th 3-2-2 $30s
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Assume 3750 Sunset/409 32nd
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Demo challenger Mauro says...

Bush flip-flops on doctor choice issue

AUSTIN (AP) — Democratic challenger Garry Mauro is accusing Republican Gov. George W. Bush of flip-flopping on giving Texans greater choice in choosing their doctors.

Bush said Wednesday he would support legislation requiring HMOs to offer health coverage that allows patients willing to pay more to seek treatment outside the HMO's network of doctors.

"He's changing his position as people find out what his position is and what my position is," said Mauro, who has pledged to make certain that health plans give Texans a greater choice in doctors and treatment at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Hospital.

"Gov. Bush vetoed your right to choose your own doctor and he vetoed your right to the best cancer treatment in the world," Mauro said. "No matter what he says today, Gov. Bush's rhetoric does not match his record. Gov. Bush's record demonstrates that he trusts the giant HMOs to make the right decisions."

Bush denied changing his views. The governor said he previously had not stated his backing for such a plan because he had never been asked about it. "I support that concept," Bush said in an interview with The Dallas Morning News.

After an appearance in Houston, Bush said, "I believe patients ought to be able to pay for choice. Eighty-seven percent of all consumers within HMOs in Texas can do that. We've got doctor choice in Texas. It exists."

Three years ago, Bush vetoed a bill that included provisions requiring most HMOs to offer doctor-choice plans to their members.

Requiring some form of "doctor choice" within health maintenance organizations and other managed-care health plans remains a hot political issue. Some HMOs' cost-cutting tactics have drawn the ire of patients, doctors and lawmakers.

Mauro, who's unopposed for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination, said Bush is switching sides because he realizes that he is wrong politically.

"What he's doing is waffling because he is reading the polls," Mauro said, referring to a recent survey in which most Texans said HMOs should not restrict which doctors their members can select.

Bush said he rejected the 1995 legislation because the bill was larded with special-interest provisions he couldn't abide — even if a veto meant throwing out the doctor-choice provisions.

In other campaign developments:

— Texas Democrats on Wednesday said their party will push for a constitutional amendment to prohibit sales taxes on food and medicine.

Party chairman Bill White said 44 Republicans during the 1997 Legislature voted for an amendment to extend a sales tax of up to 11 percent on food and medicine. "A strong Texas depends on ensuring that every family is treated fairly by our tax system," he said.

State GOP chair Susan Weddington said the Democrats were misrepresenting the issue. The proposal would have capped the sales tax and replaced property and franchise taxes, she said.

"The fact is, Democrats don't want an open, honest debate on what kind of tax system Texas should have because they have already made up their minds," she said.

DNA test results bolstering Sam Sheppard's innocence

CLEVELAND (AP) — In an announcement that could turn one of the nation's most notorious crimes on its head, an attorney said DNA tests suggest a third person was in Dr. Sam Sheppard's house when his wife was slain in 1954.

The tests show blood found on Sheppard's pants and in the home did not come from Sheppard or his wife, said Terry Gilbert, an attorney for Sheppard's son. He said the findings bolster the theory that an intruder killed Marilyn Sheppard in 1954.

"This really brings the case to a new level of strength. This takes Sheppard away from being the killer," Gilbert said Wednesday of the case that inspired the TV series "The Fugitive."

More details were to be released today.

Sam Reese Sheppard, 50, of Oakland, Calif., is trying to clear his father's name. He believes his mother's killer is Richard Eberling, a former window washer at the Sheppard home.

Eberling is in prison for a 1984 murder but denies killing Mrs. Sheppard, most recently in letters sent last week from the Orient Correctional Institution near Columbus. He was ordered by the court to provide DNA samples in the case.

The Plain Dealer reported today that the DNA testing found Eberling's unique genetic characteristics in blood collected in the victim's home and in semen found in Mrs. Sheppard's body, as well as on pants worn by Dr. Sam Sheppard.

Sheppard's body was exhumed last fall so his DNA could be tested for the first time against blood samples found at the crime scene.

"Now we know through DNA testing that he didn't bleed and he didn't deposit DNA on any of these critical pieces of evidence," Gilbert said.

Prosecutors downplayed the tests' validity, saying the crime scene was trampled. What the Sheppard team "interprets as good news may not be reliable evidence," prosecutor Stephanie Tubbs Jones said.

Sheppard insisted that a bushy-haired intruder killed his wife at the couple's suburban Cleveland home and knocked him unconscious after a struggle.

He was found guilty of murder in the beating death of his pregnant wife. He spent 10 years in prison before the U.S. Supreme Court overturned his conviction, and he was acquitted at a retrial in 1966.

Lingering questions about Sheppard's innocence dogged him for the rest of his life. He died nearly penniless of liver disease at age 46 in 1970.

His estate is suing Ohio, alleging wrongful imprisonment.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Patricia Scott, George Webster, Mary Villas, Veronica Carrisalez, Martha Torres.

DISMISSALS: Corena Cole, Alice Laso, Lupe Montoya, Dotty Martinez and baby girl.

CENSUS: 43 (Med., Surg.-11, Long-term Care-27, CCU-1, OB-2, Nursery-2).

Births

Jim and Martha Torres of Snyder announce the birth of their son at 2:27 p.m. on March 4 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. He weighed seven pounds, 10½ ounces.

Veronica Carrisalez of Snyder announces the birth of her eight-pound, 5⅞-ounce son. He was born at 9:32 a.m. on March 4 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

Judy Finley SDN winner

Judy Finley of 410 E FM1673 is the February winner of a free year's subscription to the Snyder Daily News. Each month a drawing is held from the names of those who have either subscribed or renewed for six months or more.

Police activity light in Snyder

Activity was relatively quiet for local law enforcement personnel Wednesday.

An officer was requested at Bill's Auto Salvage at 8:15 a.m. in reference to a theft of service complaint. An offense report was filed.

Officers were called to the 400 block of 29th Street at 10 a.m. as a person said neighborhood children had been going through mailboxes.

Deputies were called to Hermleigh around 10 a.m. as a person reported gunshots in the area of German Street. Contact was made with some subjects who were target shooting.

An officer was requested at Cogdell Medical Center at 1:23 p.m. as a window had been broken out of a vehicle. The complainant did not want to file an offense report.

The fire department responded to a small grass fire at the East Traffic Circle at 5:30 p.m.

Man convicted of stalking Spielberg

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — A man was convicted Wednesday of stalking Steven Spielberg in an alleged plot to rape the filmmaker.

The jury decided that 31-year-old Jonathan Norman's two previous felony convictions from a 1995 assault case count against him under California's three-strikes law, which means he could get anywhere from several years in prison to life when he is sentenced April 22.

Norman was arrested after he made two attempts to enter Spielberg's home last June and July.

Police said Norman had lists of Spielberg's family members and associates and handcuffs, duct tape and a razor knife. Prosecutors called the equipment a "rape kit" and said Norman wanted to handcuff Spielberg and his wife, actress Kate Capshaw, and make her watch while the director was sexually assaulted.

At the time, Spielberg and his family were in Ireland, where he was making a movie. He said he was contacted and ordered beefed-up security around his family, including his mother, who lives in Los Angeles.

Spielberg, 50, told the jury that he has suffered from nightmares and fears for his family ever since he learned of Norman's plot.

He said he was at first reluctant to become involved in a court case but decided he had no choice because he wanted to protect his family.

Markets Midday Stocks

NEWYORK(AP)

	High	Low	Last	Chg
AMR Corp	131¼	129	130	1-16—2 15-16
AT&T Corp	61¾	61	61	3-16— 7-16
AirTouch	42 11-16	42 5-16	42⅝	— 5-16
Albertsons	49 3-16	48 9-16	49	3-16— 3-16
AlldSignal s	42 1-16	41 11-16	41 15-16	— ¼
Alltel	46 1-16	45 9-16	45 9-16	— ⅜
AmerOnline	115¾	114	115¾	+2⅜
AmOnline wi	57⅞	57⅞	57⅞	—1¼
AmStoress	24 15-16	24¼	24 15-16	— ⅛
Ameritech s	43 11-16	43 1-16	43 5-16	— 1-16
Amoco	86 5-16	85 1-16	86	+ ⅜
AndarkPtr	66¼	65 9-16	66 3-16	+ 7-16
Armcolnc	5 7-16	5 5-16	5 5-16	— ⅛
AtlRichfld s	77 15-16	77¼	77⅞	+ ⅛
ATMOS Egy	30¼	29 15-16	29 15-16	— ⅜
Aviall	15¾	15	15 1-16	— 1-16
BakerHughes	41⅛	40 7-16	41 1-16	— ⅛
BellAtl	91 15-16	91	91¾	— 3-16
BellSouth	60 3-16	59	60 1-16	+ 5-16
BethSteel	11 3-16	10⅞	11 3-16	+ 3-16
BritPet s	84⅞	84 9-16	84¾	+ ⅛
BurlNoSFe	100 11-16	99 15-16	99 15-16	— 7-16
CBS Corp	31⅛	31⅛	31⅛	— 1
Caterpillar s	51 15-16	51 5-16	51⅞	— 3-16
CenSoWst	26⅞	26⅝	26⅝	
Chevron	84⅞	82 11-16	84⅞	+ 1⅜
Chrysler	40⅛	39 11-16	40	— ⅛
Coastal	64⅛	63 15-16	64¼	+ ⅛
CocaCola	69⅞	68⅞	69 9-16	+13-16
ColgatePalm s	79¼	78¾	79	— 5-16
ComclMetals	32¼	31¼	31¼	— ¼
CooperIn	56⅞	56½	56½	— ⅝
CyprusAmax	17	16¾	16 13-16	
DallSemicn	40½	38	40½	— 2⅛
DeltaAirl	116 15-16	114 5-16	114⅞	—2 13-16
DigitalEq	52 11-16	51 1-16	52⅛	—15-16
Dillards Inc	36	35 11-16	35 11-16	— 3-16
DowChem	90 13-16	90¼	90⅝	— 1⅜
DresserInd	47 9-16	46 5-16	47½	+ ½
DuPont s	62 3-16	61¼	62	— 3-16
EastmanChem	65 9-16	64¾	64 15-16	— 1
EstKodak	65⅛	64¾	65	— 1⅛
EDS Corp	43 11-16	43 5-16	43 5-16	— 9-16
Entergy	29 1-16	28⅝	28⅝	— 5-16
Exxon s	63 7-16	62⅝	63 5-16	— ⅛
FstBksAm	23¾	23¼	23¼	
Flowers s	25 3-16	24 15-16	25⅛	— 3-16
FordMotor	58 1-16	57 3-16	57 9-16	— ⅜
GTE Cp	54 1-16	53¾	53⅝	—15-16
GenDynam	89 7-16	87½	87⅞	+ 1
GenElecs	76 1-16	75¾	75¾	— ⅛
GenMills	71	70⅝	70 15-16	— 5-16
GenMotors	72¼	71 15-16	72⅜	— ⅜
GaPacGP s	61 11-16	61 1-16	61⅛	— 7-16
GlobalMar	25 3-16	24	25⅛	+ ⅜
Goodrich	49 9-16	49⅛	49 7-16	— ⅛
Goodyear s	68⅞	68⅝	68 9-16	— ⅛
GtAtlPac	31	30⅝	30 15-16	— ⅛
Halliburtn s	49½	48	49 5-16	+ ⅛
Hanson ADS	26⅛	26	26 9-16	+1 1-16
HarteHanks	42½	42¼	42¼	— ⅛
HomeDepot s	65¼	63 15-16	65	+ 9-16
HoustonInds	26¼	25¾	26 1-16	+ ⅛
IBM s	100⅝	99½	99 13-16	+13-16
IntlPaper	48 5-16	47⅞	48⅛	— ⅛
JohnsonJn	73⅝	72 9-16	73 3-16	— ⅛
K mart	15½	14 13-16	15¼	+ 9-16
Kroger s	44⅛	43 5-16	44½	+ 1
Litton	62¼	61½	61 15-16	— ⅜
LockhdMart	113 5-16	112 5-16	112⅝	—13-16
Lowes Cos	61⅝	60⅝	61⅝	— ⅛
Lubys	17 11-16	17 7-16	17 7-16	— 1-16
LucentTech	104½	103⅜	104 7-16	—1 13-16
LucentTch wi	52	52	52	
MayDeptStrs	62 7-16	62¼	62¼	— ⅛
Medtronic s	52	50¾	51⅛	— 7-16
Mobils	72¼	71 5-16	71⅛	— 5-16
Monsanto	50 3-16	49⅞	50 1-16	— 5-16
MorganJP	122¾	121½	122¾	—1 7-16
Motorola	56 7-16	55 1-16	55¾	+ ⅛
NCR Corp	31 11-16	31 7-16	31½	— ⅜
NationsBk	68 7-16	67⅝	68⅛	—15-16
Navistar	30 11-16	29⅞	30⅛	— 5-16
Norwests	42	41⅛	42	+ 9-16
OryxEngy	25 5-16	24¾	25¼	— 1-16
Penney JC	71½	70 15-16	71⅛	—11-16
Pennzoil	68 13-16	67¾	68⅜	+ ⅜
PepBoys	24 15-16	24½	24⅝	— ⅜
PepsiCo	37⅛	36⅝	36 13-16	— ¼
PhelpDodge	65 1-16	64	64¼	— ¼
PhilipPet	50	49 13-16	49⅞	— 3-16
PilgrmPrd	13 1-16	13 1-16	13 1-16	— ⅛
Polaroid	46¼	45 15-16	46	
Praxair	47⅞	47	47	13-16
ProctGamb s	81 11-16	81⅛	81 5-16	—13-16
PubSNwMx	23 3-16	23 1-16	23 3-16	— 1-16
RoyalDut s	54⅝	54	54	5-16
SBC Comm	75¼	75 5-16	75 5-16	— 9-16
SBC Comm wi	38	38	38	+ ⅛
SaraLee	55⅞	55 5-16	55	13-16—11-16
Scripps EW	53¾	53 5-16	53⅜	— ⅛
SearsRoeb	54 3-16	53¾	53	13-16— 5-16
SherwinW	33 13-16	33½	33	9-16— ½
SmthBc ADS s	61¼	60¼	61⅜	+ 1⅛
SouthernCo	24 15-16	24	13-16	24⅝— 1-16
SwstAirl s	28 15-16	28¾	28⅝	— 9-16
Sprint	66 11-16	66⅛	66	5-16— 9-16
SunCo	41	40¾	40	15-16+ 3-16
TNP Ent	31⅝	31	5-16	31⅝+ ⅛
Tandy s	44½	44	1-16	44 7-16— 5-16
TempleInland	60	59	7-16	59 9-16— ⅜
Tenneco	42	41⅛	41	9-16—11-16
Texaco s	56 11-16	55½	56	11-16+1 1-16
TexInd	55 11-16	55	1-16	55⅜— 7-16
TexasInst s	52⅞	52	52⅛	— 2⅜
TexUtil	39⅞	39½	39⅝	— ¼
Textron s	72 5-16	71	15-16	72 5-16—1 3-16
Travelers s	55	54 5-16	54	9-16— 9-16
TriconGlbR n	29 9-16	29⅛	29	5-16—11-16
TrinityInds	51¼	50	9-16	51 + 5-16
TritonEngy	32¾	32	1-16	32 7-16— 5-16
Tyler	7⅛	6⅞	6½	—11-16
US WestCm	51⅞	51⅛	51⅜	— ½
USWstMda	32	13-16	32	9-16 32 13-16
USX-Marathn	35⅜	35	35⅛	— ½
USX-USS	36 7-16	36⅛	36⅛	— ¼
UnCarbde	46 7-16	46⅛	46⅜	— ⅜
UnionPacif	50 11-16	50	50⅛	— ¼
UnitedTech	88⅜	88⅛	88⅜	— ⅜
Unocal	37 9-16	37	5-16	37 7-16— ⅛
WalMart	49 11-16	48	1-16	49 11-16+ 1⅛
WstnGasRs	17⅞	17¼	17⅞	+ 1-16
WinnDixie	54	53¾	53	15-16 ⅛
Woolworth	23½	23⅛	23	3-16 7-16
Xerox Corp	91¼	89½	90½	1⅛
ZenithE	6 7-16	6	5-16	6⅜ ¼

Writing Want Ads that really sell!

Unsure how to write a Classified Ad that will get results? Follow these pointers and you'll soon have an empty space in your storage room and cash in your pocket.

For starters, look at ads which offer the same item/products. Get a sense of going rates and ideas for how to make your ad stand out. Once you're ready to write, begin with exactly what you're selling: "Dining room set, maple, six chairs." Then, remember these hints:

Give the price. A newspaper consultant says 70 percent of classified readers won't respond to an ad with no price.

Use key words to describe what you are selling. The key words for a car are make, model, year, body style, color, mileage and price. If it's a house. key words are location, type of construction, number of bedrooms and baths, and condition.

Don't use abbreviations. It's tempting to abbreviate and save money if ads are billed by the line. SDN ads are billed by the words, so spell them out so readers won't be confused trying to figure out abbreviations.

Don't be misleading. Think accurate and factual when you write. Be sure to include a phone number and the best times to reach you.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Woman Stretched to Limit By Bills Beyond Her Control

© 1998 Universal Press Syndicate

DEAR ABBY: My life is so messed up. I don't know what to do. A little more than a year ago, my husband decided he didn't trust me with *his* money, so he opened his own account. I told him he could pay the bills and keep track of the checking account, but he refused, saying he wanted his own.

Abby, I have a good job. It's not the greatest, but it allows me to pay my bills. When I needed a new car, I got a second job to pay for it. I also needed money to smooth over the bad relationship between our daughter and her father. I gave her things I really couldn't afford, but felt I owed her something.

Our daughter needed a car to get to work, but her father wouldn't agree to help her finance one. She asked me to co-sign on a loan, and I made the biggest mistake of my life when I agreed. A few weeks after she got the car, she lost her job. I didn't realize that the car payment was being automatically withdrawn from my account, but I don't always check my bank statement. I was horrified when I saw there was a big shortage — she had not deposited enough money to cover the payment. She told me she had, but that was a lie. She also lied to me about money several times after that.

I asked my husband for help with the account, but he refused and asked our daughter to move out. That meant she had to pay rent and utilities, so there was no way she could make up the back payments.

Abby, I am so far behind on my bills I don't know what to do. I tried to get a loan to consolidate my bills, but I don't have sufficient collateral. I have canceled all my credit cards, but how do I live with so much debt taking every cent, leaving me no money to buy groceries or anything else? I'm desperate. Sign me ...

MAXED OUT AND CONFUSED

DEAR MAXED OUT: Get thee to a credit counselor posthaste. The counselor can act as a buffer between you and your creditors to arrange more manageable payments than your current agreements specify. The counselor can also teach you to use credit wisely. Look in your telephone directory under the heading "credit counselors."

Damaged credit isn't the end of the world. If you regard this as a lesson in life, you'll get through it with your sanity intact. Just be patient and diligent about sticking to a budget.

P.S. Insist that your daughter attend credit counseling with you.

***

DEAR ABBY: A year ago, my husband and I moved his 76-year-old mother into a very lovely retirement home because all her friends had abandoned her, she was seeing far too many doctors, and her daughters had given up on her because of her negative "poor me" attitude.

My husband and I see her at least once a week and her daughters call her every Sunday. The place where she now lives is expensive, but well worth it. She has met many new, wonderful people. So what's the problem? Her downbeat, negative attitude has resurfaced, and we're beginning to understand why people walked away from her before.

She calls me daily to give me detailed information about all her bodily functions. I dread her calls. I work hard to be an "up" person and have tried to be a supportive daughter-in-law because I know she's in pain. She is bringing my husband and me down with her. I have talked to her about the rewards of a positive attitude — but the odd thing is, she seems to think she has one. Please help, Abby. What can we do?

AT MY WIT'S END

DEAR WIT'S END: When people are sick and in pain, lose the friendships that have formed their "support system," and then are taken from familiar surroundings, it's not unusual for their focus to narrow and their aches and pains to magnify. As much as you'd like to, you may not be able to resolve this alone.

Waste no time in telling your mother-in-law's doctor about her mental state. She may need counseling, more stimulation or even medication to put her in a more positive frame of mind.

2 more 'veggie libel' suits taking shape

AMARILLO (AP) — If "veggie libel" laws really are for the birds, the next two cases could prove it.

The Texas cattlemen's case against Oprah Winfrey was supposed to be the first major test of food defamation laws, but the judge turned it into a routine business dispute.

That means that either East Texas emus or Ohio chicken eggs could be the big test for the food-disparagement laws on the books in 13 states.

What ruffled the emu ranchers' feathers was a 1997 TV commercial featuring a man named Joe driving his Honda Civic from one wacky job interview to another. One of the stops is an emu ranch called Fowl Technology, where the owner says: "Emus, Joe. It's the pork of the future."

"Basically, Honda made people stop and look at emu meat, emu products and the emu business as a joke," said Huntsville-area emu raiser John Hamby, who with nine others is suing the U.S. arm of the Japanese automaker. Hamby also noted that emu meat, unlike pork, is low-fat red meat.

Each emu rancher is claiming more than $75,000 in losses they blame on the commercial.

Art Garner, spokesman for California-based American Honda, said the commercial was "very much a tongue-in-cheek, lighthearted advertisement."

The other veggie libel case was brought by Buckeye Egg Farm, which is suing a consumer organization, the Ohio Public Interest Research Group, for saying last spring that Buckeye illegally repackaged old eggs and sold them as new. The egg producer is seeking unspecified damages.

Buckeye president Andy Hansen said his company followed federal guidelines that allow repackaging under certain circumstances. He noted that OPIRG leveled its allegations just before Easter, a peak sales season.

"If there was no intent to disparage this product, why was it done at that time?" Hansen asked.

The Texas and Ohio laws require those suing to show that the defendants knowingly made false and defamatory statements about a product.

The cattlemen had sued Ms. Winfrey over a 1996 show about mad cow disease. They claimed the show implied American beef was risky to eat. A jury last week ruled against them.

No trial dates have been set for the egg and emu lawsuits, which are believed to be the nation's only two pending veggie libel cases.

Experts say the emu ranchers don't have much of a chance in light of the Oprah case.

In Ms. Winfrey's case, U.S. District Judge Mary Lou Robinson ruled that live cattle didn't meet the "perishable food" requirement of the veggie libel law. The same judge will preside over the emu case.

Emus "are not going to be held perishable, either," said Frank Newton, president of the State Bar of Texas and dean of Texas Tech Law School.

The emu raisers argue that they, unlike the cattlemen, market the meat themselves, and the meat is perishable.

The egg producers' claim is seen by some as a stronger case, even though OPIRG called it a "complete waste of time."

"If we lose on this set of facts, people had better batten down the hatches," said Mark Finnegan,

Friends: Starr's 'tin ear' hurts his case

WASHINGTON (AP) — A common view about Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr these days is that he has a "tin ear" for the subtleties of politics and that he is not helping his case by employing tactics the public dislikes.

With polls showing that seven out of eight Americans view Starr unfavorably, even his friends say his miscues feed into a White House effort to portray him as a zealot pursuing a vendetta against the president.

Former Iran-Contra special prosecutor Lawrence Walsh says "serious prosecutorial misjudgments" by Starr could undermine his ability to make a winning case against President Clinton. And former U.S. Attorney Henry Hudson, a Republican and a friend of Starr, says the prosecutor erred in issuing subpoenas to try to find out who was spreading derogatory information about his staff.

Beyond that, the entire investigation into Clinton's relationship with Monica Lewinsky has diverted Starr from his original Whitewater inquiry, Hudson said. "I have no doubt he regrets asking the attorney general (Janet Reno) to expand his mandate," he added.

Even his friends are critical of Starr's tactics, which range from issuing subpoenas in search of leakers, bringing Ms. Lewinsky's mother before the grand jury for two days of emotional testimony and continuing to represent private clients and to hit the lecture circuit.

"Starr is politically tone deaf," is the way a persistent Clinton critic, William Bennett, has put it. "It's too bad because everybody knows the central issue here should be the president."

Another former independent counsel, Republican Joseph diGenova, has said Starr sometimes demonstrates "a tin ear politically."

And Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., has concluded that Starr's effectiveness has suffered because "many people think he's out to get the president."

Criticism keeps coming Starr's way. This week a South Carolina lawyer, J. Kendall Few, raised new allegations to Reno and the three-judge panel that appointed Starr. Few claimed Starr had concealed perjury when he defended General Motors in a lawsuit brought by families of people killed or injured in GM trucks. The Justice Department is reviewing the complaint.

Starr has been billing Wisconsin at the rate of $390 an hour — $51,382 through September 1997 — for representing the state in defending Wisconsin's school choice program that allows low-income Milwaukee children to attend religious schools at taxpayer expense.

State officials say he won't have time to argue the case before the Wisconsin Supreme Court this month, bringing criticism from James Doyle, Wisconsin's Democratic attorney general.

Starr, forced to choose between arguing the case for the state or pursuing the Clinton-Lewinsky matter, "has obviously chosen going after the president," said Doyle, whose own office was denied the chance to argue the case when Starr was retained.

Starr has been representing a number of private clients, as well — Hughes Aircraft, the Brown & Williamson tobacco company, the NFL Players Association and Chiquita Brands International.

While prosecutors are not in a popularity contest, tactics that generate broad public disfavor can hurt them, Walsh said.

That would be the case especially if Starr turns his findings over to Congress for a possible impeachment inquiry. Lawmakers are sensitive to the political nuances of what they do, and could hardly help but notice that Clinton's approval rating stands in the high 60 percent range. By contrast, a CBS News poll this week said only 12 percent of the public approves of Starr's conduct.

Jewelers are making real 'copy' of stone from 'Titanic' film

LONDON (AP) — It's not often you get a real version of a fictitious gem.

British jewelers are creating a sapphire and diamond necklace modeled after the one worn by actress Kate Winslet in the blockbuster film "Titanic," The Daily Telegraph reported today.

In the film the fictitious heart-of-the-sea gem, "Le Coeur de la Mer," is cast away into the ocean. But the real version, which is being made by Asprey jewelers, will be sold in the United States this month and is expected to be valued at $3 million, the newspaper said.

Asprey has spent $1.5 million for a 170-carat Sri Lankan sapphire as well as 65 30-carat diamonds to recreate a real version of the movie necklace, the newspaper said.

The newspaper said the jewelers will send the piece to Beverly Hills next week to be sold at auction on March 21. All proceeds from the sale will go to the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund, and an AIDS charity.

The Daily Telegraph said that Winslet, nominated for best actress in the movie, may even wear the necklace to the Oscar awards ceremony.

"Titanic" became the first film to pass $1 billion in global box office receipts this month, 20th Century Fox said.

Parents of abandoned tot unknown

CHILDRESS (AP) — As authorities begin adoption procedures for a baby girl abandoned on the back porch of a local clinic six months ago, the identities of her parents remain a complete mystery.

"Just zilch" is all authorities have to show for their investigation so far, said Earl Griffin, the court-appointed attorney who represents the interests of the child.

The child became a ward of the state in December and is living with a foster family that wants to adopt her, though the biological parents have up to two years to make a claim for the child.

"They'd have a burden of proof to overcome to get custody," said state District Judge David McCoy,

Datebook

March 5, 1998

Today is the 64th day of 1998 and the 75th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1946, at Westminster College in Fulton, Mo., Winston Churchill gave his famous "Iron Curtain" speech.

On this day in 1960, Elvis Presley was discharged from the Army.

On this day in 1982, John Belushi died of a drug overdose.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Frank Norris (1870-1902), novelist; Lady Isabella Augusta Gregory (1852-1932), playwright; Rex Harrison (1908-1990), actor; Laurence A. Tisch (1923-), CBS chief, is 75; Dean Stockwell (1936-), actor, is 62; Penn Jillette (1955-), magician, is 43.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1973, Yankees pitchers Mike Kekich and Fritz Peterson admitted that they swapped wives.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "The correlative to loving our neighbors as ourselves is hating ourselves as we hate our neighbors." — Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr.

TODAY'S WEATHER: On this day in 1955, a tornado at Surgoinsville, Tenn., destroyed 12 homes.

SOURCE: 1998 Weather Guide Calendar; Accord Publishing, Ltd.

TODAY'S MOON: First quarter.

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FRAN FARMER
Assistant Vice President & Branch Manager
3011 College Avenue
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Confusion in Miami as judge throws out mayoral election

MIAMI (AP) — Miami already had enough problems to keep one mayor busy. Now the challenge is to figure out just who that mayor is.

A judge on Wednesday threw out the results of November's election, citing rampant absentee vote fraud.

The apparent winner, Xavier Suarez, and defeated incumbent Joe Carollo both claimed the job after the ruling. The Miami City Commission planned to pick an interim mayor from among its members at a special meeting today.

In his ruling, Circuit Judge Thomas Wilson Jr. cited "a pattern of fraudulent, intentional and criminal conduct" in the general election Nov. 4. He said there is no evidence Suarez knew of or participated in the fraud.

"In the Nov. 4, 1997, election, the value of every honest vote was greatly diminished or devalued by this fraud," Wilson wrote.

Miami's Little Havana neighborhood, the judge said, was "the center of a massive, well-conceived and well-orchestrated absentee ballot fraud scheme."

The evidence included at least one ballot cast in the name of a dead voter, forged signatures, stolen ballots and people migrating to the city just to vote. Four people have been charged with vote fraud.

While judges nationwide have thrown out dozens of races and dead voters have "cast" ballots from Chicago to Texas, election watchers from national organizations like Common Cause and the League of Women Voters said they had heard of few instances where both candidates claimed to be mayor at the same time.

The ruling did not specify who will be mayor. Carollo claimed he was never replaced and Suarez said he won the last election to lead the city of 375,000.

Asked to clarify who holds the job, Wilson told The Associated Press: "I think the order's pretty clear."

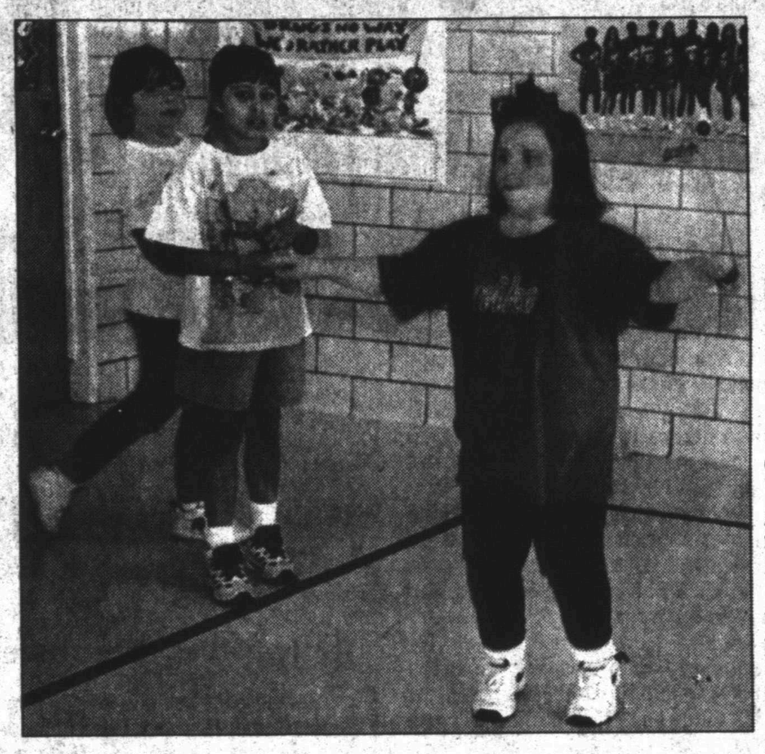
Stanfield jumps rope for AHA

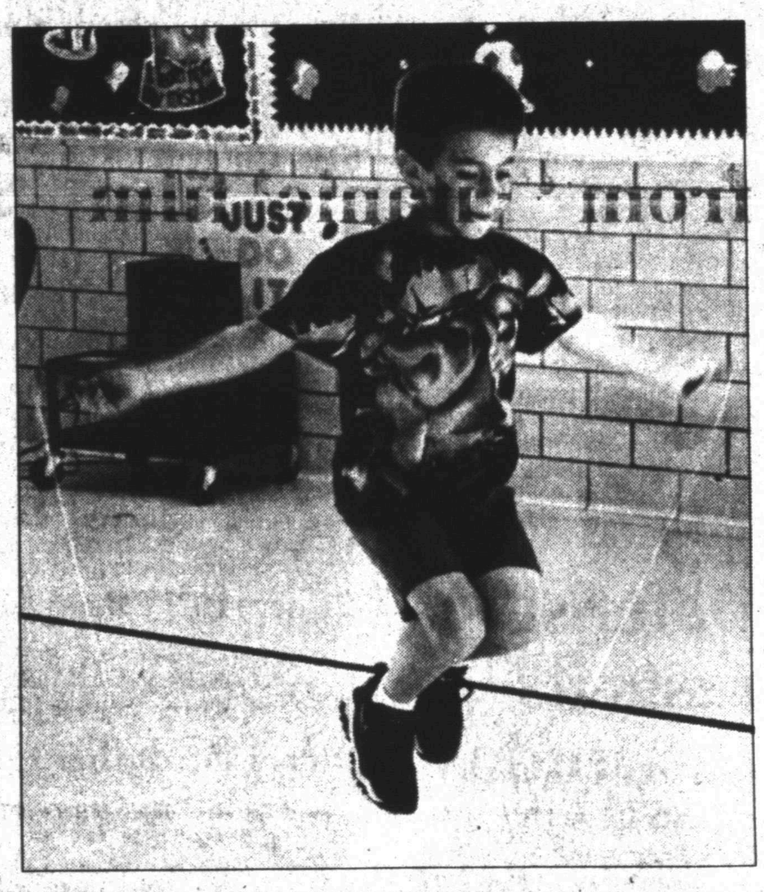
Stanfield Elementary Students have raised about $4,500 for the American Heart Association. That's better than the $4,200 they raised last year.

Nicole Means, who brought in $408, is the medal winner.

Students who earned more than $100 each include Dustin Murdock, $200; Quentin Shafer, $145; Kayla Pittman, $135; Samantha Daves, $132; Jacob Scifres, $132; Alison Cox, $125; Tatum Norwood, $125; and Zachary Key, $107.

Students received prizes based on the amount they raised.





STANFIELD — Stanfield students recently jumped rope to raise money for the American Heart Association. So far, they have brought in more than $4,000. The medal winner is Nicole Means, who brought in $408. Students shown jumping are Rudy Martinez and Alison Cox. Alex Urias and Cassie Cazarez are getting ready to jump. (Staff Photos By Shirley A. Gorman)

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

New therapy for anal fissures

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have a painful anal fissure. Are there new treatments for this?

DEAR READER: Anal fissures are common. Consisting of tiny tears in the anal skin, such fissures cause severe periodic pain after defecation and bright red rectal bleeding.

For many years, the customary treatment was topical anesthetics, warm baths, stool bulking agents, and mechanical anal stretching. Surgery was sometimes required but was associated, on occasion, with incontinence.

About three years ago, doctors began using nitroglycerine cream (topical 1 percent isosorbide dinitrate). The results were encouraging, but patients usually developed a tolerance to the drug, making it less acceptable for long-term use.

Recently, however, researchers from Italy reported a novel therapy: the injection of botulinum toxin into the anal sphincter. More famous as a lethal poison, this toxin has been used successfully in treating a wide variety of muscle disorders, including strabismus (crossed eyes), eyelid spasm, wry neck and difficulty swallowing. Botulinum toxin relaxes muscles, hence its effectiveness in relieving anal spasm and promoting healing.

The technique is not yet widely used for anal fissures but promises to be a welcome addition to the therapies for this painful condition.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I had surgery for hemorrhoids in 1996. Since then, I've had painless rectal bleeding for about three days every six weeks. The surgeon said that I've healed completely and that the bleeding must have been something I ate. Can this really be caused by my diet?

DEAR READER: Not in my opinion. Food does not produce rectal bleeding, nor does it look like blood on the toilet paper. (The one exception is beets.) I suspect that you have developed a tiny, chronic ulcer at the operative site; or another hemorrhoid may occasionally bleed. Or you might be bleeding from an unrelated source high up in the rectum. This should be easy to diagnose.

The next time you notice rectal bleeding, get an emergency appointment with a gastroenterologist WHILE YOU'RE BLEEDING. He will examine your anus and lower colon with a special instrument and should be able to see the bleeding point, at which time he can cauterize it or give you other advice or treatment.

To give you more 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.

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Full House to study proposed amendment

WASHINGTON (AP) — A proposed amendment to the Constitution to make it easier for students to voluntarily participate in group prayer has been sent to the full House for a vote.

The House Judiciary Committee's majority Republicans outvoted Democrats 16-11 on Wednesday to approve the "Religious Freedom Amendment," a measure sponsored by Rep. Ernest Istook, R-Okla.

The bill must win votes from two-thirds of House members present and voting in order to pass. Sponsors said no date has been set for floor action.

To change the Constitution, the Senate also would have to approve the amendment by a two-thirds vote, then 34 states would have to ratify it.

Supporters, which include the conservative Christian Coalition, said the proposed amendment is needed to reverse years of court rulings they contend have kept schoolchildren from participating in voluntary, student-led prayer at school.

Opponents said they're confident that the bill is so extreme it won't make it out of Congress.

"The religious right may have steered this constitutional garbage scow through the Judiciary Committee, but I'm confident there's an iceberg looming on the House floor," said Barry Lynn of the liberal Americans United for the Separation of Church and State.

Istook has argued that the bill is needed to stop courts and schools from barring children from praying over lunch, reading Bibles on school buses or writing reports on Jesus. He said the amendment was not intended to permit regular or mandatory prayer led by school officials.

'General Hospital' admits 'seduction' was date rape

NEW YORK (AP) — Nearly 20 years ago, Luke and Laura of "General Hospital" became daytime television's most popular couple after what the show romanticized as Luke's "seduction" of Laura.

The writers glossed over how it really happened: Luke raped Laura on the floor of a closed disco late one night.

Now "General Hospital" is revisiting that episode from its past, in part to illustrate how attitudes toward date rape have changed since 1979 and to make clear that the story wouldn't be handled the same way today.

"My first reaction was that it was a big can of worms that could eat us alive. I was terrified, basically," said Anthony Geary, the actor who plays Luke Spencer.

In the original story line, Luke was tormented by his lust for Laura. Feeling he had nothing to lose upon learning the mob had a contract out on his life, he forced himself upon her.

Much to the show's surprise, the two characters were a big hit with viewers. So the writers had them run off together, fall in love and get married. "General Hospital" subsequently referred to the disco incident as a seduction, angering many women.

Luke and Laura are still together and have a 16-year-old son, Lucky.

In Friday's episode, Lucky is told that his father once raped his mother.

Complicating matters even further — remember, this is a soap opera — Lucky learns about this from his arch-enemy, the illicit offspring of his mother and a man with whom she had an affair.

"For us, it was a great opportunity," said Wendy Riche, executive producer. "We didn't approach it as 'let's make amends.' We didn't feel guilty or felt like we had to."

But Riche acknowledged that the same story line — a woman falling in love with her rapist — wouldn't pass muster with viewers today.

"It would be different," she said. "The times are different. What the audience perceives and what they expect is very different from what it was 20 years ago. They are more conscious date rape is unacceptable."

In future episodes, Lucky will confront his father, who tries to explain it.

"We are going to say, certainly, that the son is dealing with rape in a much better way, a much more appropriate way, and a much healthier way, than the father did," said Robert Guza, head writer for the show.

"General Hospital" has aired since 1963. The most popular daytime drama during the 1980s, it has slipped to No. 3 in the ratings but last week was voted the favorite show by readers of "Soap Opera Digest."

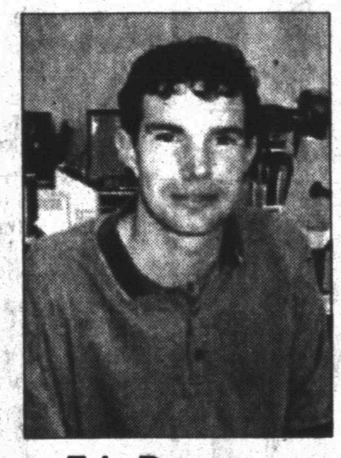
Carolyn Hinsey, the magazine's executive editor, likes the new story line.

"All of us grew up watching this and wondering, 'Is this what dating is like?'" she said. "Now that we're in our 30s, this is a good way to wrap this up."

Riche said the story line's message to long-time viewers is this: "It was not acceptable then, no matter what the town said or the press said. It is not acceptable to take control over another person's body under any circumstance."

He covers the games people play.

Find out how well they did!



Eric Drennan

SPORTS with ERIC

Snyder Daily News

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2ND FRONT PAGE

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

First female shuttle commander named

WASHINGTON (AP) — Eileen Collins, the nation's first female space shuttle pilot, broke another sex barrier today when she was named as the first woman to lead a U.S. space mission.

"In December 1998, when the shuttle Columbia takes off, Colonel Eileen Collins will take one big step forward for women and one giant leap for humanity," Hillary Rodham Clinton said at a White House ceremony.

"Today we celebrate the falling away of another barrier in America's quest to conquer the frontiers of space," President Clinton said.

Collins was promoted to space shuttle commander, a landmark in 37 years of U.S. human spaceflight. NASA administrator Dan Golden said the mission will take into space an X-ray telescope that he designed. "Do it right, Eileen," he joked.

Dressed in a blue NASA jumpsuit, Collins said, "Since I was a child, I've dreamed about space. I've admired pilots, astronauts and I've admired explorers of all kinds. And it was only a dream of mine that I would someday be one of them and have these kinds of opportunities."

She paid tribute to the first women who entered the Air Force and military pilot training in the mid 1970s and the first women astronauts, acknowledging the presence at the White House of Sally Ride.

"All these women have been my role models and my inspiration," she Collins said. "I couldn't be here today without them. I'd like to say a special thank you to them."

The announcement by Mrs. Clinton is the centerpiece of a weeklong effort by the Clinton administration to put a spotlight on achievements in science and math; afterward, Mrs. Clinton was accompanying Collins on a visit to a local high school to discuss science.

Collins, a 41-year-old Air Force lieutenant colonel, has flown two shuttle flights, one in 1995 and the other in 1997, and has been in line to be assigned as shuttle commander, the top flying job.

Collins is accustomed to the spotlight.

Vince Jordan returns to grand jury today

WASHINGTON (AP) — Presidential confidant Vernon Jordan returned to the grand jury today to resume testifying about his assistance to Monica Lewinsky as new details of President Clinton's own account of the controversy emerged.

Jordan arrived at the federal courthouse this morning and headed for the grand jury room without making any public comment.

Trying to put to rest suggestions that he is protecting himself at the president's expense, Jordan previously said his relationship with Clinton "is an enduring friendship based on mutual respect, trust and admiration."

After spending all day Tuesday trying to explain why he helped Ms. Lewinsky find a job and a lawyer, Jordan returned for more questioning today before a grand jury investigating allegations Clinton had an affair with Ms. Lewinsky and that the president and Jordan urged her to lie about it under oath.

Jordan arranged for Ms. Lewinsky to find a job in New York and introduced her to a lawyer when she became a witness in the Paula Jones sexual harassment case against the president. Jordan denies there was anything untoward about helping Ms. Lewinsky, whose status in the Jones case held the potential of creating huge problems for the president, depending on what her story was. He also has denied telling her to lie.

The affidavit Ms. Lewinsky filed denying a sexual relationship with Clinton is at the center of Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr's criminal investigation of the president.

Ritter returns to Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — An American weapons inspector whose presence helped touch off the last U.N.-Iraq standoff returned to Iraq today, picking up where he left off after the crisis started two months ago.

Scott Ritter arrived in Baghdad late this afternoon with about 40 members of his team, U.N. officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Chief weapons inspector Richard Butler had ordered Ritter back, said Allen Dacey, the inspectors' spokesman in Baghdad.

In January, Iraq blocked inspections by Ritter's team, alleging he was a spy and that his team was weighted with Americans and Britons. Ritter left Iraq on Jan. 16; officials insisted at the time he had been scheduled to leave then and would continue as an inspector.

Iraq's blocking of Ritter's team started a standoff with the United Nations, and the two sides sparred for weeks over access by U.N. weapons teams to "sensitive sites," including dozens of President Saddam Hussein's palaces.

The United States threatened to attack if Iraq did not allow inspectors access to the sites, while Iraq said such inspections would violate its sovereignty.

Defense rests its case today

FORT BELVOIR, Va. (AP) — The defense rested its case in the court-martial of the Army's former top enlisted man today after testimony by a woman who called his initial accuser a liar.

Retired Sgt. Maj. Elizabeth McCollum was the last of 71 witnesses to testify in the defense of Sgt. Maj. Gene McKinney, who is accused of pressuring six young military women for sex.

Ms. McCollum testified she was a classmate of Sgt. Maj. Brenda Hoster — the first woman to accuse McKinney — at an Army school for sergeants major. McCollum said she thought Ms. Hoster was "untruthful," but didn't explain why.

McKinney, 47, is being court-martialed on charges ranging from assault to adultery, to obstruction of justice for allegedly contacting one of his six accusers and urging her to lie about their relationship.

The former sergeant major of the Army, who was the first black to hold the prestigious job as advocate for the enlisted ranks, faces 55½ years in prison if convicted on all 19 counts.

During two days of testimony that ended Wednesday, McKinney heatedly denied he laid a hand on any of his accusers.

Asked by prosecutor Lt. Col. Michael Child what might have motivated the women to lie, McKinney said two were bitter over job matters, another wanted revenge and he didn't know about the others.

Obituaries

Jo Ann Brake

1916-1998

Services are pending at Wright Colonial Funeral Home for Jo Ann Brake, 81, who died this morning in Snyder Oaks Care Center after a lengthy illness.

She was born on July 13, 1916.

Jewell Griggs

1920-1998

Jewell Willman Griggs, 77, of Snyder died this morning at her daughters' residence after a sudden illness. Service is set for 10 a.m. Saturday at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Graveside service is set for 2 p.m. Saturday in Old Glory Cemetery in Old Glory.

She was born on Oct. 14, 1920 in McLennan County. Her husband, Benjamin Edgar Griggs died in August, 1981. She was a receptionist for Patterson Car Sales and a member of the Calvary Baptist Church.

She was also preceded in death by a brother, Hubert Willman; a sister, Ruby Hamilton; and her parents.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Saundra and Tommy Fletcher of Snyder; a son and daughter-in-law, Johnny and Jane Griggs of Grapevine; two sisters, Mozelle Ferguson and her husband, W.E., of Lubbock and Vergie Howard of Snyder; two stepchildren and their spouses, Bill and Nadine Griggs of Abilene and Dorothy Ann and Odell Anders of Midland; five grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Madge Hendricks

1913-1998

LAMESA — Graveside service for Madge Hendricks, 84, was to be held at 2 p.m. Thursday at Gail Cemetery with Rev. Clifton Igo, pastor of Gail Baptist Church, officiating.

She died Tuesday, March 3, at St. Mary of the Plains Hospital in Lubbock. She was born Dec. 11, 1913 in White County, Ark. She was married to Clair Boggan on March 6, 1929. He died in 1941. She later married Jym Hendricks on Oct. 15, 1946 in Lampasas. He preceded her in death on Nov. 8, 1978. She was a member of the Women's Auxiliary of the VFW in Post. She was a member of the Apostolic Faith Church. She and Jym owned and operated Jym's Cafe in Gail for many years.

Survivors include four daughters, Melba Canon of Gail; Jennie Cathey of Fredricksburg; Callie Birdwell of Mangum, Okla.; and Norma Wallace of Post; one sister, Helen Frizzell of Denison; 17 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren; 18 great-great-grandchildren.

Bobby Scott

1947-1998

LUBBOCK — Robert "Bobby" Paul Scott, a former resident of Snyder, died Wednesday, March 4, in Lubbock's University Medical Center.

Service for Mr. Scott, 50, is set for 10 a.m. Friday in the Trinity Baptist Church with the Rev. Terry Sanders officiating. Burial will follow in Lamesa Memorial Park under the direction of Resthaven Funeral Home.

Born Sept. 16, 1947 in Lamesa, he was a U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam War. He married Carol Scott on Sept. 16, 1993 in Lubbock.

Mr. Scott was a counselor at Western Texas College during the 1991-92 school year. He was a member of the Trinity Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Carol Scott of Lubbock; two daughters, Paul Umstot of New Fairfield, Conn., and Shana Steed of Grand Prairie; a sister, Frankie Trotter of Lubbock; and one grandchild.

Bennie Mathis

1929-1998

ODESSA Bennie Bob Mathis, the brother of George Mathis of Snyder, died Saturday, Feb. 28, in Odessa.

Funeral service for Mr. Mathis, 68, was held Tuesday in the Odessa Funeral Home Angeles Memorial Chapel. Masonic graveside rites were held in Albany.

Born in Albany, he married in 1953. He was a Korean War veteran and retired from Texaco after 33 years.

Survivors include his wife, Jean Mathis of Odessa; two sons, Robert Mathis and Donald Mathis, both of Odessa; another brother, Diamond H. Anderson of Abilene; a sister, Lemay Gray of Abilene; and one grandchild.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Model airplane club meeting

The Snyder Area Model Airplance Club will meet at 7 tonight at Winston Field. Vistors and guests are welcome.

Snyder Wheels Swap Meet

Snyder Wheels Swap Meet is slated for Friday and Saturday and the car show will be Saturday at Scurry County Coliseum. For information, call 573-3579 or 573-9009.

Kiwanis Pancake Feast

Snyder Noon Kiwanis Pancake Feast will be held from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday in the West Elementary cafeteria. Cost is $4. Children under six may eat free. There will be a drawing for a remote control television.

Northeast book fair

Northeast Elementary will hold a scholastic book fair starting Monday and ending Friday. The fair will be daily from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday only.

Motorcycle trials this weekend

The Observe Trials for Motorcycles, Texas State Championship Event, will he neld at a Fluvanna Ranch (base of mountain where cross is) from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Take FM 2224 from Fluvanna, turn on County Road 432 and follow orange, florescent signs to site.

WTC Booster Club

Western Texas College's Basketball Booster Club will meet at noon Monday at Rudy's.

Retired Teachers meeting

The Retired Teachers Association will meet at noon Monday at the Senior Center. The program will be an update on Medicare.

Free blood pressure clinic

Total Home Health Care of Post will sponsor a free blood pressure clinic from 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesday at the Fluvanna Cafe.

SHS Choir Boosters

Snyder High School Choir Boosters will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the choir room. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

'True Colors' workshop

Price Brown will present his workshop on "True Colors" at 4:15 p.m. Tuesday at the high school student center. The workshop is sponsored by the Texas State Teachers Association. Everyone is invited.

Childrens' Miracle Network

Both Snyder Dairy Queen locations will offer a Lemon Freezer for a 50-cent donation to Hendricks Hospital in Abilene to benefit the Children's Miracle Network. The offer is good while supply lasts.

Princes Di Ty Beanie raffle

The Snyder Lions Club is selling $1 chances for a Princess Di Ty Beanie Baby to be given away March 24. Tickets are available at various Snyder merchants and from Lions Club members.

Rotary Fundraiser

Snyder Rotary Club is selling $10 donations good for a chance for a round trip for two persons to London.

Bible study tapes airing

Bible study video tapes and "Hope for Life's Journey" tapes are airing weekly on cable TV Channel 2. The next set of tapes, "Instilling Moral Values," followed by "Can God Forgive Even Me?," will begin at 7 p.m. Monday.

ABWA dinner

Deep Creek Chapter of the American Business Women's Association has an open invitation to all working women to attend a spring membership campaign dinner at 7 p.m. next Thursday at The Shack.

Outsiders basketball tourney

The Hermleigh Senior Class is sponsoring a 5-on-5 outsiders basketball tournament April 10-11. Entry fee is $100 per team with a maximum of 10 to a team. Entry deadline is March 28. Call 863-2766 or 766-2364.

Free tax counseling

Free tax counseling for the elderly and low-income persons of any age will be held from 9 a.m. until noon and 1-3 p.m. each Wednesday at the Senior Center. Call 573-4035 or 573-3822 for more information.

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday by the Texas Lottery, in order:
1-5-8
(one, five, eight)

Lotto Texas

By The Associated Press

No ticket correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

A winning ticket would have been worth an estimated $4 million.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 50 were: 10, 15, 24, 43, 44 and 48.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $8 million.