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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEEKEND

Feb. 22-23, 2003
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Home of Terry Snyder

Price Daniel Unit boost to economy

By Brian Brisendine
SDN Staff Writer

Few employers are more visible in Snyder than the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and the Price Daniel Unit, and the economic impact of the agency's location in Scurry County is substantial.

TDCJ's annual payroll locally is more than $10 million and hundreds of man-hours in free labor each year.

The 1,340-bed prison has been a mainstay of Snyder since it opened in August, 1989 after community leaders spent almost two years recruiting the facility.

City Manager John Gayle said locating the prison in Snyder was a community effort from start to finish and the result — the Price Daniel Unit — is one of the community's building blocks.

"That was a project that every entity was involved in and each one had a 'can-do' attitude and did whatever was necessary to help secure it," Gayle said. "We were all working together with one end in mind and that was the preservation of the community for the next generation."

Gayle said the Daniel unit and its 350-plus employees' affect on the Snyder economy is obvious, but less noticeable affects also exist.

"There is no doubt that it plays a huge role here, but there are many collateral affects too," he said. "The prison largely supports the medical community in Snyder and the correctional officer training is a big part of Western Texas College. Those are just two examples, but there are many more. There are a lot of people in Snyder today that would not be here if it were not for the prison."

The Daniel unit and another prison in Amarillo were the first two in the state to be located west of the I-35 corridor and Snyder had much to offer the TDCJ, according to the city manager.

Gayle said Snyder's central location has always been beneficial in economic development, but the city added incentive by offering the 72,000-square foot building on U.S. 84 and the railroad tracks, which is now utilized as the regional distribution center for the TDCJ. An additional 20,000 square feet of cold storage has since been added to the warehouse.

Mike Levens, a trustee for Snyder ISD, is manager of the facility, known as the Snyder Distribution Center.

Levens and his staff are responsible for food and other items for more than 30,000 inmates in Region 5 of TDCJ and two units in Region 4.

On average, the warehouse maintains a $2 million inventory in foodstuffs, and $3 million in inmate supplies such as paper products, cleaning supplies, clothing, footwear and bedding.

The warehouse itself plays a large factor in Snyder's economy with 19 employees and 29 truck drivers.

Gayle said the warehouse in itself has many benefits for Snyder. "There's a lot of trucks in and out of here every day and they get gasoline and other supplies here."

Foresight also was key in locating the prison because infrastructure for the Daniel unit was oversized during construction, making the facility easily expandable should the state opt for more beds.

Another 1,000 beds could be added to the local unit with no additional line work necessary, according to Warden Willhelmenia Howard.

The warden called the relationship between Snyder and the prison "a great one."

"We love this community and the Price Daniel Unit is envied by many in the TDCJ because of our location and our ability to find and keep quality workers in Snyder," she said. "This unit is consistently well above 90 percent staffed and that is better than any other unit in the state."

Howard also said the work ethic of Snyder citizens is much better than that of workers from other areas in the state and said that West Texas workers are "proud, committed and responsible."

Another aspect of the prison is its inmate work program, which is responsible for many projects around the county.

The warden said her staff and the inmates they guard are pleased to help out in the community.

"We get a lot of compliments and people really seem to appreciate us for what we do around town," she said. "That means a lot to our population. It's a real morale boost when an inmate reads a letter or hears a compliment from a citizen of the free

See Prison, Page 4A



HITTING THE BRAKES — Windham school principal Kitty Gunn (left) and auto specialization instructor Mike Brooks (right) look on as inmates Robert Waters and Nicholas Davis inspect the brakes on a vehicle inside the auto shop at the Price Daniel Unit. More than 430 students currently participate in classes at the unit. (SDN Staff Photo)

One files in Ira...

Two incumbents file for SISD board

Two incumbent members of the Snyder school board Friday afternoon filed for another term, as did one current member of the Ira board of trustees.

Mike Levens, Place 2 representative in Snyder, and Richard Chambers, Place 3, both filed the necessary papers at the school administration building for the May 3 election.



Mike Levens

At Ira, Dennis Taylor announced for his second term.

Earlier in the week, Francene Noah said she would seek another term as mayor of Snyder.

Levens serves as secretary of the Snyder board and was first elected in 1997. He is employed by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice as the head of the Snyder distribution center.

Levens and his wife, Marsha, have three children. Jeff is a senior at Angelo State, Joshua is in the Air Force and is stationed at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, and Abby is a junior at Snyder High School.

Levens is a graduate of SHS and of Howard Payne University.



Richard Chambers

Chambers was first elected to the Snyder board in 1994.

He is employed by Texas State Technical College (TSTC) in Sweetwater.

Chambers and his wife, Brenda, have one daughter, Dara, a senior at SHS.

Chambers, board vice president, is a graduate of Western Texas College and TSTC.

Taylor is seeking his second term on the Ira board.

He is an account manager for Baker-Hughes Oilfield Chemicals and is a 1984 graduate of Snyder High School.

Taylor and his wife, Rhonda, have two children. Justin is a sophomore at Ira, while daughter, Cheyanne, is in the fifth grade.

Also at Ira, the term of Shane Smith is expiring. The terms of at-large trustees Alan Culp, Tim Dacus and Joe Roemisch are expiring at Hermleigh.

Besides the mayor's post on the Snyder city council, the terms of at-large members Terry Martin and John Reed are up for election this spring.

The deadline for filing for any of the offices is March 19, and the last day to register to vote is April 13. Early voting begins April 3.

Western Texas College will not have a trustee election this year as board terms expire in even years.

Talk continues about future of doctors clinic

By Wade Warren
SDN Managing Editor

Cogdell's hospital board chairman has confirmed that there have been informal talks concerning Cogdell Hospital taking over the operation of the Covenant Family Healthcare Clinic here.

The talks have been confined to the members of the hospital board's finance committee.

This possibility stems from the fact that Covenant Healthcare Systems has made numerous personnel and other budget cuts in the last few months, including the closing of some of its clinics.

The cuts have been made to try and overcome a projected $40 million budget shortfall at the end of last year, and an additional amount of $30 million that might have to be trimmed this quarter.

The concern about Covenant possibly closing the Snyder doctors' clinic stems from the fact that the Post facility will close at the end of this month, and facilities in Hobbs, N.M., Hale Center and Abernathy had been closed earlier.

The Andrews County News also announced that a group of local physicians had agreed to purchase the healthcare unit in that community.

Eddie Owens, director of marketing and public relations with Covenant, said earlier this month that every clinic in the system is being evaluated. "We should know the future of all the clinics by mid-March."

The possibility of the hospital taking over management of the Covenant clinic here has been tossed around in a committee meeting.

"We haven't done anything formally," said Carl Williams, chairman of the Cogdell board of managers. "I think, however, that there would be certain advantages of the clinic being under our control. I think we would have a more cohesive unit."

Williams said it was his understanding that Covenant is losing money on its clinic here. "I don't know that...I just assume it's true."

The board chairman said one of the major negotiating points would be the contracts with the Covenant physicians.

"That would have to be worked out," said Williams. "We have excellent doctors here and we want to keep them.

"Several of our physicians are among the top in this region as far as the number of patients they see."

Williams noted the difficulties in recruiting doctors to rural areas of Texas. "Right now, its not easy to get doctors, or even teachers, to come to small West Texas towns."

Williams emphasized that no offers have been made by either party — Cogdell's board or by Covenant.

"I think we're both willing to talk about it though," he said.

Presently, Cogdell Hospital has a management agreement with Covenant for the operation of the hospital.

The county reimburses Covenant for the salary and most benefits of the chief executive officer and until recently, the chief financial officer.

Williams said the agreement is expected to be discussed at Thursday morning's board meeting.

"There are some changes, but nothing major," said Williams.

The current agreement does not call for any monetary exchange with the exception of reimbursing the salary expenses for the administrator and financial officer.

"All our board members have a copy of the proposed agreement. They will have a chance to put some input into it at our board meeting," said Williams.

Ritz box office opens for play

The box office for the Ritz Theatre will open from 2-5 p.m. Monday to take reservations for *Arsenic and Old Lace*, a comedy produced by the community theatre.

Production dates are Friday, Saturday and Sunday – Feb. 28, and March 1-2, plus March 14-16.

It was originally scheduled for the March 7-9 weekend.

The box office will remain open Monday through Friday from 2-5 p.m. through Friday, March 14.

Tickets are $7 each, or in groups of 10 or more, $5 each.

Senior tickets and student tickets for the Sunday matinees are $5. Call 573-8880 for reservations.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse enjoys the cheese."

This time last year, we were getting ready for an early March wedding. This year, ole what's-her-name is polishing up her grandmother skills.

The kid, scheduled to arrive in late February, came four weeks early and already had more gifts than the law allows. Stores must really like the way grandmas make their cash registers jingle.

And if he keeps growing at the same rate — three pounds in four weeks — he, according to the ole softy grandma, will need lots of new clothes.

We came across a little story that takes our mind off the serious stuff. It's all about starting a family.

It seems two brooms were hanging in the closet. After a while, they got to know each other well, so they decided to get married and planned a big church wedding.

One broom was, of course, the bride broom. The other was the groom broom.

The bride broom was very lovely in her white dress. The groom broom was handsome and suave in his rented tuxedo.

The ceremony was lovely, and attended by all friends and relatives of the two brooms.

After the wedding, an ole-maid aunt broom came up to the bride broom and asked, "When are ya'll going to have a little whisk broom?"

The bride broom was surprised by the forward question, but responded with clarity: "Don't know, we haven't even swept together."

All you need is incentive...

We're reminded about the wealthy rancher who was having a holiday dinner with his large family. When they all sat down for a Sunday dinner, the old man looked around at his six big strapping sons and declared:

"I don't see any grandchildren around this table of mine. I want you all to know that I will give $100,000 to the first one of you who presents me with a grandchild. We will now offer grace."

When the crusty old rancher raised his eyes again, he and his wife were the only ones still at the dinner table.

ASK US

Q—If WTC were to borrow $600,000 to build ball fields, what would the interest cost a year?

A—It would depend on the interest rate, of course, but at 6% the interest cost would be $36,000.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Adela Sanchez...

...has worked at Central Elementary for seven years and currently serves as library aide. She was a bilingual aide at Stanfield for two years. Her husband, Jose, has worked for BJ Services for 24 years. They have a son, Isaac, who is a senior at SHS and two grown daughters, Angela and her husband, Richard Rodriguez lives in Snyder, and Nora Apodaca who lives in Killeen with her husband Jeff. A resident of Snyder for 28 years, Adela likes to garden and sew.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Time is neither our friend nor our enemy; it is something that gets measured out to us, to see what we will make of it.

—Richard Gaylord Briley

FEB 23 2003

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Annual enchilada dinner

The Knights of Columbus, Council 8875, will hold its fourth annual enchilada dinner from 11 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Sunday at West Elementary. Adult tickets are $5.

Support groups

Adult family violence support group and children's family violence support group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Monday at Gateway Family Service. For information call 573-1822.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 p.m. Monday is "Why Right is Right," followed by "Advice to Those Who Marry."

Scurry County welfare board meeting

The Scurry County welfare board will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday at 3409 Snyder Shopping Center.

Technology booster meeting

The SHS Technology Student Association booster club will meet at 7 p.m. Monday in the shop classroom to discuss the trip to Waco.

Ira ISD pictures proofs

The picture proofs for Ira ISD casual pictures and friendship pictures have been passed out to students. Envelopes are also available to purchase copies of each class group picture. Proofs must be returned by Tuesday with or without purchasing a package of pictures.

Weather spotter training

The National Weather Service will conduct a Skywarn spotter training class from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday at the Snyder Fire Station, 1911 27th. Any interested person is invited.

Community garden planning

A planning meeting for the 2003 community garden will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the First Presbyterian Church. Persons interested in growing food for the needy, or having a family garden at the site are welcome.

Genealogical Society

The Scurry County Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Scurry County Library. The program will be "Stories of Early Transportation: Horse and Buggy Days."

Scurry Lodge 706 to meet

Scurry Lodge #706 AF&AM will have a called meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday for work in the Fellowcraft and Master Degree. All Master Masons are invited.

GED pre-registration and testing dates

Mandatory pre-registration for the GED tests will be Thursday at the GED testing center at WTC in building 7B. Testing will be from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. The math portion of the test will be given at 8 a.m. Friday. For more information about the GED test, call Molly Kattes, 573-2919, or Emily Hataway, 573-8511, ext. 297, or 574-2112. It is recommended that candidates receive some preparation before attempting the test.

Snyder Oaks family council

The family council of Snyder Oaks Care Center will meet from 6:30-7:30 Thursday. The meeting is for resident's family members for a program presented by Brenda Elkins of the Area Agency of Aging.

Withered flowers needed

The First Assembly of God youth group is needing withered flowers for a project. Call Camelia Soa at 574-2922 to have them picked up.

Trees still available

The Soil and Water Conservation office still has several varieties of trees available at $1 each. These include Lace Bark Elm, Sand Plums, Russian Olive, Honeylocust, Amur Honeysuckle, Desert Willow, Pinyon Pine and Aromatic Sumac. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Relay for Life cookbooks

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

Relay for Life teams needed

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

WTC adult basic education classes

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

Cancer treatment transportation

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

Attorney to appeal student's transfer

DALLAS (AP) — An attorney for a Fort Worth student expelled for reciting rap lyrics school officials found threatening said she will appeal the school district's decision to transfer the student out of his home school.

Terry Carter, 17, initially was given a 90-day sentence at an alternative school, but that was reduced to 10 days.

The Fort Worth Dunbar honor student found out this week that he must finish the year at another school after serving his 10-day punishment, Bobbie Edmonds, his attorney, said.

"I didn't even know they were considering it; we didn't have an opportunity to respond," Edmonds said. "Justice requires that we are required to know before adverse action is taken of this nature."

It wasn't clear Friday which school the district wants Carter to attend. A Fort Worth school spokeswoman declined to comment to the newspaper.

Carter got in trouble after reading an extra-credit poem in his theater-arts class Jan. 30.

Texas rural population declines

AUSTIN (AP) — Most Texans haven't experienced it, but there are still stretches of the state where a trip to the hospital involves at least an hour's drive through the countryside and where a movie-theater outing is a daylong event.

Cell phone service is sketchy, and Internet options are limited. The only jobs are in the oil and gas fields, farming or schools. New employers don't arrive very often. The area's biggest export, they say, is the children.

This rural part of Texas is declining in population faster than suburban Texas is growing.

The population drain means a loss of representation in Austin, where rural lawmakers fear their issues and concerns could be silenced by louder and larger delegations from urban and suburban areas.

"If you look at the population and demographics in the state, rural areas are bleeding away, while urban and suburban areas are growing tremendously," said Brian Collins, a political science professor at Texas Tech University. "With that comes a change in the agenda. The question is going to be, to what extent will rural issues even command significant attention?"

In a legislative session marred by an almost $10 billion budget shortfall, the ax will inevitably fall. Rep. Jim Keffer, R-Eastland, hopes he and other rural lawmakers can band together to prevent cuts so deep they leave a permanent scar.

The loss of representation has been compounded by the change in legislative leadership. House Speaker Pete Laney, D-Hale Center, considered an advocate for rural residents, is now just another representative since Republicans took over the chamber.

"That hurt West Texas. We lost most of our power," Collins said.

Although new House Speaker Tom Craddick is a Midland native with close ties to several rural counties, his focus extends beyond his West Texas roots.

"Tom is not Pete. He's going to look at things maybe a little differently, being from Midland and being so familiar with the larger cities," Keffer said.

Craddick acknowledged the power shift away from rural Texas, but he said the influence of small-town Texas hasn't exactly gone with the wind.

"Obviously we have a lot more members in the urban areas than we have in rural areas and probably in another 10 years, it's probably going to be more so," Craddick said. "But I think the rural influence is still there. ... Just looking at the Amarillo, Midland-Odessa area, I think we've still got a pretty good rural influence."

Laney, however, said the country part of Texas will suffer from the loss of rural committee chairmen and fewer small-town House members. "There's no way you can have the same influence," he said.

One of the top priorities for rural legislators this session is keeping small-town health-care facilities open in the face of rising medical malpractice insurance premiums and limited payments from Medicaid, Medicare and the Children's Health Insurance Program.

"The health care delivery system in rural Texas has always run behind, but we worked real hard on that," Laney said. "If we have Medicaid cuts and things like that, that will be most devastating to rural Texas."

Drawing doctors and nurses to rural areas also has become difficult, said Rep. Robert Cook, D-Eagle Lake.

"Medicaid cuts are passed on to small hospitals, and a large percentage of their revenue is Medicaid because of the aging population," said Cook, who chairs the House Rural Caucus. "If we don't address this and help them with their revenue funds, their only option is to close their doors."

The existing share-the-wealth system relies heavily on local property taxes and gives schools in property-poor areas money from wealthier districts. While Texas' rural schools are not all property-poor, they get equalizing funding under the current system because they are so small and sometimes remote.

They fear the elimination of that advantage and worry any new system would force the districts to consolidate. "When you consolidate the schools, you ruin communities," Laney said.

Keffer, chair of the House Economic Development Committee, wants to make sure statewide economic-development initiatives that could lure businesses to small-town Texas aren't limited to large communities.

The Rural Caucus, a delegation of lawmakers who monitor how legislation will affect rural areas, also will be watching bills that deal with telecommunications networks, transportation and water rights.

Craddick said rural regions won't be ignored.

"You've seen a shift of population to the urban areas, but I just don't think your going to say 'Well, we're going to take all the money to the urban areas and such,' he said. "I just don't think that's going to happen."

Joshua Ward on WBU dean's list

PLAINVIEW — A student from Snyder was among those named to the Dean's List at Wayland Baptist University for the fall 2002 semester.

Joshua Ward, son of Leon and Rhonda Ward, was recognized. To be eligible, students must have a grade point average or 3.5 or higher for the semester and are enrolled in at least 12 semester hours.

KEY TO THE KINGDOM
Why Right is Right
IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY
Advice to Those Who Marry
Cox Cable TV Channel 2,
Monday, Feb. 24, 7:00 pm

Three from Snyder are on honor rolls

LUBBOCK — Three Snyder residents have been named to honor rolls at Lubbock Christian University.

Leslye Starnes, daughter of Rick and Kellye Starnes, was named to the President's List for the fall semester.

Two were also placed on the fall Dean's List. They were Allison Bowden, daughter of Terry and Paula Bowen; and Halea Huestis, daughter of Terry and Linda Huestis.

SHS grad is in cast of college musical

CANYON — Crissida Tyler of Snyder recently performed in *Company,* a musical comedy, at the Branding Iron Theatre at West Texas A&M University.

Tyler, a sophomore performance major, was included in the vocal minority.

McGuire on 2 lists

STEPHENVILLE — Brandon McGuire of Snyder has been named to the A Honor Roll and the Distinguished Students List for the fall semester at Tarleton State University.

Students listed on the A Honor Roll maintained a 4.0 grade point average on a 4.0 system and were taking a minimum of 12 hours.

The Distinguished Students List includes freshmen and sophomores student with a minimum GPR of 3.50 with no grade lower than C and are in good standing.

Central

The following students were recognized recently at Central Elementary.

Positive action third grade super kids are Malak Wills, Beto Arellano, Kayla Scott, Valentin Medina, Jentri Driggers, Dominque Diaz, Sadee Bernal, Mariah Cearley, Alicyn Hernandez, and Sarah Rath.

Other super kids are Brandon Cerda and Gabrielle Gonzales, both kindergarten; and Joe Angel Cabrera and Priscilla DeLuna, both first graders.

Most improved awards were presented to the following third graders, Brittany Kaska, Ashley Silva, Mario Ortega, Virginia Torres, Virginia Torres, Mercedes Navarette, Samantha Rogers, Chase Price, Mystery Thurman, David Bolton and Patricia Brantley.

Most improved kindergarten students are Chrailyn Dean and Julissa Esparza. First graders recognized are Andrew Lopez and Karina Rivas.

Students who earned 25 or more Accelerated Reader points were also recognized. They received the principal award and a certificate for a child's meal at Burger King.

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2000 Chevy Cavalier Low Payments, High Gas Mileage	$6,500
1995 Ford Contour 4 Dr. Sedan	$3,750
2001 Suzuki Esteem Wagon 32K Miles	$7,000
2002 Buick LaSabre Great Price	$13,900
2001 Cadillac Deville Crimson Pearl	$24,500
2001 Olds Aurora One Owner, 16K Miles	$17,800
2001 Ford Focus 19K Miles, Like New	$7,900

USED TRUCKS

1988 Chevy 3/4 Ton Reg. Cab	$1,750
1995 Ford Windstar Van Maroon	$3,500
1998 Chevy S10 Reg. Cab 5 Speed	$5,500
1988 Ford F250 Supercab	$4,700
1999 Chevy Blazer LS 4 Door	$9,900
2000 Ford Explorer XLT 48K Miles	$11,800
1993 Chevy Suburban	$4,500
1998 Chevy 1500 Z71 Silverado	$10,800
1998 Dodge 1500 ExCab Ramtuff	$12,500
2001 Chevy 1500 ExCab Z71 Loaded, 27K Miles	$21,500

OVER 35 TRUCKS IN STOCK SALE PRICED

events

TEXAS LOTTERY RESULTS

Texas Two Step

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Texas Two Step numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery:

14-23-34-28

Bonus number 04

Est. jackpot: $450,000

Pick 3

(Day) 4-6-2

(Night) 6-2-2

Cash Five

6-16-17-28-29

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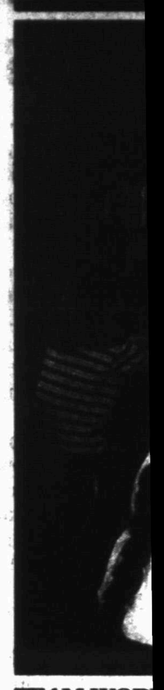
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Wade Warren, Managing Editor
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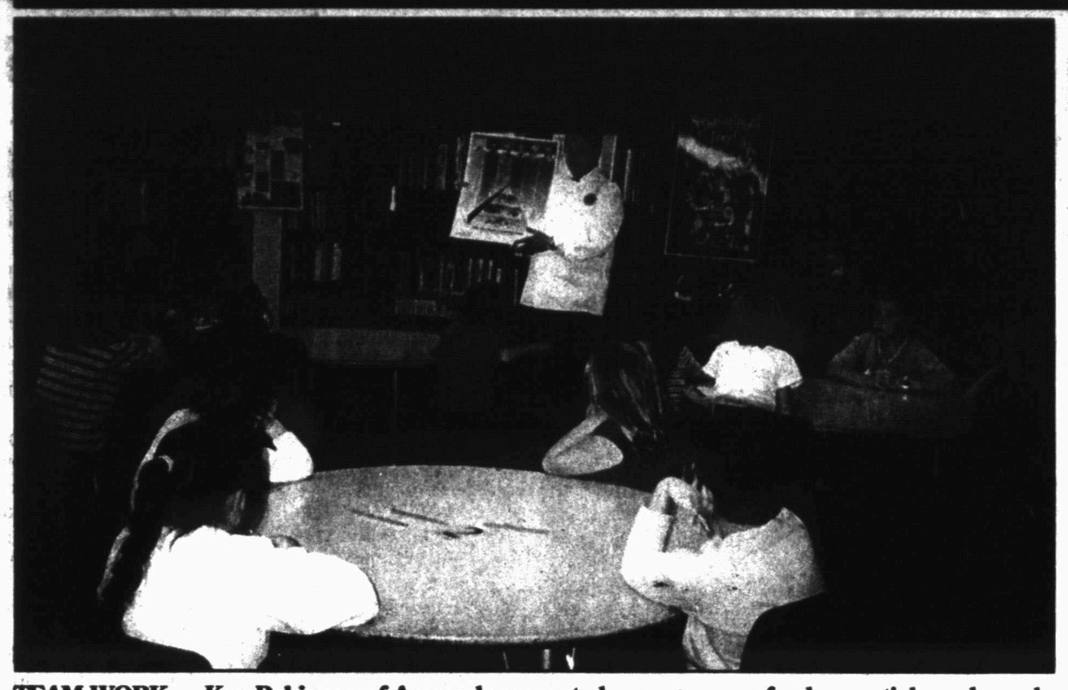
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TEAM WORK — Ken Robinson of Aramark presented a program on food essentials and snacking healthy. Stanfield students also planned a menu. (Contributed Photo)

Tragic fire puts spotlight on group

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Members of the rock band Great White, who rose to fame years ago and then faded into obscurity, have returned to the spotlight — but not for their music.

The band which emerged from Southern California during the late 1980s was performing at a Rhode Island night club Thursday when their pyrotechnic display triggered a fire that killed at least 96 people.

The band was nominated for a Grammy in 1990 for its song "Once Bitten, Twice Shy," but had faded from view in recent years except for ardent fans who continued to attend its nightclub shows around the country.

Three hundred or more of those fans were in the audience as the fire raged. Nearly 200 were injured, 35 critically. The missing included Great White guitarist Ty Longley.

Mark Zicari, who shared a Los Angeles apartment with Longley, described him as a dedicated musician. "Music was his life," said Zicari, 26. "He didn't do anything else. I'd watch TV and he'd be playing 24-7."

Great White is made up of Longley, lead singer Jack Russell, guitarist Mark Kendall, bass player Dave Filice and drummer Eric Powers.

Founded in the early 1980s as Dante Fox, the group changed its name in 1982 and soon became one of the most popular bands on Southern California's club circuit.

The musicians, recognizable in leather and jeans, with long, frizzy hair, recorded the album " ... Twice Shy" which went double platinum. They also took part in the high-profile Monsters of Rock tour with Kiss and Iron Maiden. The band's 1991 album "Hooked" went gold and their other popular songs included "Face the Day," "Rock Me" and "Save Your Love."

Although critics derided the group as a pale imitator of more innovative rockers, Great White fans embraced the band's blues-based sound and unpretentious attitude.

"I'm not trying to be some innovative lyricist writing about things that nobody's ever heard about before," Russell once said. "The songs that have always been memorable to me were the ones that were simple and basic, that remind me of a situation in my life."

Although the early '90s grunge-rock scene of Nirvana, Soundgarden and Pearl Jam swept aside groups like Great White, the band was on a club tour that was to take it to the Midwest and Southwest next month.

The band's attorney, Ed McPherson, said Friday the group had no immediate plans to continue their tour, which had already stopped in California, Hawaii, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Florida, North Carolina, Georgia, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey and Maine.

"Certainly, they're not in the mood to go entertain people," he said.

On the Net:
http://www.tylongley.com
Great White:
http://www.planetjr.com

Weaver graduates

DENTON — Daysha Kay Weaver of Snyder graduated from the University of North Texas during Fall 2002 commencement ceremonies.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Randy Weaver, she earned a bachelor of business administration with a major in marketing.

Four graduate from Hardin-Simmons

ABILENE — Hardin-Simmons University announces that Bilby Baldridge, Bradi Johnson, Cherjalynn Prescott and Bryan Billings, all of Snyder, were among approximately 264 students that received degrees during the fall commencement.

Baldridge received a bachelor of business administration degree in computer science.

Johnson received a bachelor of behavioral science degree in grade 8-12 math with a minor in art.

Prescott earned a bachelor of behavioral science degree in public relations/advertising with a Bible minor.

Billings completed requirements for graduation in August 2002 and received a bachelor of behavioral science degree in police science/administration with a minor in sociology.

State laws will be reviewed after nightclub disaster

WEST WARWICK, R.I. (AP) — State and local officials agree The Station nightclub, a one-story box with low ceilings and no sprinklers, was an accident waiting to happen.

But the building, where 96 people were killed late Thursday in a fast-moving fire that started during a rock band's pyrotechnic display, met most if not all building codes. It also passed its most recent fire-code inspection in late December.

In the hours following what proved to be the fourth-deadliest nightclub fire in U.S. history, elected officials called for a review of state laws in hopes of avoiding a similar incident in the future.

"I want to make sure that what we saw here does not happen again," said Gov. Don Carcieri, who said he instructed the state fire marshal to quickly identify all other clubs in the state that pose a risk.

"If we have any concerns about those facilities, I want those to be flagged," he said.

State Senate Majority Leader Williams Irons and House Speaker William Murphy, who represents West Warwick, said the Legislature will review the state laws governing safety at entertainment venues.

West Warwick Fire Chief Charles Hall said a simple sprinkler system might have prevented the tragedy. But state law requires sprinklers only in buildings constructed after 1976, Hall said, and The Station was built sometime in the mid-1900s.

"If there were sprinklers in this building, we wouldn't be here right now," Hall told reporters Friday.

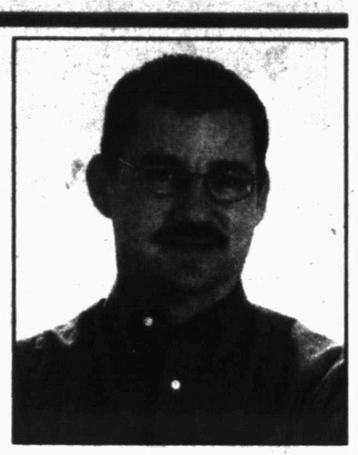
"Sprinklers are a big issue because nobody wants to pay for them," West Warwick Town Manager Wolfgang Bauer said. "There is a state building code and we abide by it."

The club didn't have a license that would have allowed pyrotechnics to be set off inside, and club owners said they never gave the band permission to use them. The leader of Great White, the 1980s heavy metal band that was on stage, says they were given the OK to use the special effects in their show.

Hall said The Station had the required alarm system and emergency lighting. He said lighted signs over exit doors were operating properly, and that they were electrically illuminated with battery backup. The club's fire extinguishers were also operating properly.

The building had a permissible maximum capacity of 300. Fire officials have said they believe there were slightly under 300 people in the building at the time of the fire, but numbers released by Gov. Don Carcieri indicate that more than 340 were inside.

State Fire Marshal Irving Owens refused to answer questions about whether the state needs tougher building codes.



Cliff Hackler

Hackler will be in concert at Colonial Hill

Cliff Hackler of Fort Worth will be in concert at 6 p.m. Sunday at Colonial Hill Baptist Church.

Through his music and testimony, Hackler tells others about God's grace. His love of reaching out to people began during childhood with the example set by his parents, who were committed to their faith.

Hackler's love of music began early also when he began to play the saxophone. He went on to earn music degrees from Texas Wesleyan University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He served as minister of music in Texas churches for 17 years before forming Cliff Hackler Ministries. For three years he has traveled around the country in over 100 churches per year.

Hackler is currently on the road and working on two albums to be released in January 2004. He has also released three previous albums, *I Surrender All, Grace...Still Amazing* and *By Way of a Manger.* Hackler's music includes a mix of hymns to spirituals to toe-tappin' Southern gospel.

Anti-Drug Connection will host chicken spaghetti event

The Scurry County Anti-Drug Connection will host a chicken spaghetti fundraiser dinner Friday at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center.

Tickets are on sale through Wednesday and are $6 for adults and $4 for kids 6-12 and 50 and older. Children under 5 eat free with the purchase of an adult ticket. The center is located at 26th Street and Ave. Q, and serving will be from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Both spicy and mild chicken spaghetti will be offered. For those choosing to dine-in the dinner will also include sides of green beans, salad, garlic bread, a drink and dessert.

In addition, carry-out orders are also being taken for single plates and family meals The prices are $12 for one quart and $20 for two quarts, served with a bag of salad and garlic bread.

The to-go orders can be picked up any time after 5 p.m. on Friday at the Family Life Center. The Anti-Drug Connection will also deliver your casserole to your home for an additional charge of $4.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call the CADA office at 573-1141 or 574-1931 or come by the office at 2513 College Ave.

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FEB 23 2003

Prison offers offenders rehabilitation

Continued from Page 1A

world commending them for the job they've done.

"It's very important to us to help because we are part of Snyder too," the warden continued. "We're not just some state agency out here in the country. The community worked very hard to get this unit located here and we want to continue to do our part to pay them back for that."

One entity that utilizes the inmate workers often is the Snyder Chamber of Commerce. Executive director Donna Fowler said Snyder residents should be thankful for the inmates and employees at the prison.

"There are so many things that would not get done in Snyder without the inmates," Fowler said. "People just don't realize how much they do and how much we should appreciate them. They are an invaluable part of this community and they do all their work behind the scenes with very little thanks."

Not all inmates are allowed to work outside the unit's fences, but the warden said those that do are selected because of their skills. She said they take pride in the jobs they do and all agree that they should do the best job possible.

Not all the work takes place outside the prison walls though.

When most people think of prisons, they imagine striped men in small cells, but the Daniel unit is a different story.

Inmates hold jobs in the prison and attend classes to further their education. The unit is home to the largest furniture factory in the TDCJ system and has generated annual income of up to $3 million in the past.

Seventy inmates are employed at the factory, which constructs all types of office furniture for state agencies.

Robert Warren manages the factory and said his inmates can make any type of furniture, but only state agencies may request and purchase the pieces.

"Anything they want, we can do it," Warren said. "They can tell us what they have in mind and if we don't have a plan for it, we'll make one and then we'll build it and then we'll even deliver and install it."

Warren said the current budget crunch across the state has hurt the factory's earnings, but orders continue to come in, if at a slower pace.

"Right now, we have about $106,000 in open orders," he said. "We're averaging probably about $20,000 in a week."

While some inmates at Price Daniel work, others learn.

The Windham School District — the largest in the state — helps offenders obtain many levels of education, from GEDs to professional certificates in select fields.

Inmates attend classes taught by certified teachers every weekday at the unit, beginning at 5 a.m. and continuing until 11 a.m.

Windham employs 31, including the regional staff, at Snyder's unit and accounts for almost $800,000 of the annual payroll.

Some inmates learn basics like reading and writing, while others master vocational skills such as custodial work, mechanics, and carpentry.

The vocational courses require inmates spend 600 hours in the classroom before they are awarded certificates of completion.

Doyle Rice instructs the custodial tech students and said inmates who complete the classes are more likely to find work upon their release from the prison system and are much less likely to be repeat offenders.

"If they make it out they probably won't come back," Rice said. "This gives them an employable skill that they can use in the free world and that's more valuable than anything we can give them."

One of Rice's students, inmate William Musgrove, said he appreciates the class and hopes he can use his new skills to find work in the future.

"I like to do this a lot. I wanted to take this class and learn to be a custodian and I have learned a lot," he said.

Kitty Gunn, principal at the Daniel unit, said she has seen countless transformations in the inmates who participate in the school.

"This is by far the most fulfilling job I have ever had," Gunn said. "I worked for many years in the public school system, but I feel like we at Windham are serving the people that public schools failed."

Gunn said 14 teachers work at the unit in Snyder, and they currently serve more than 430 students, but have had as many as 480.

She said all of the Windham teachers have at least 20 years experience in education, but still undertake massive amounts of training.

"Our teachers are phenomenal and change the lives of these inmates," she said. "They go out of their way every day to make sure that these inmates are successful in what they do and these are the kind of people who have never had someone do that much or care that much for them."

Warden Howard said that most people have heard of Windham school, but added that there are many other positive aspects of the prison that few people are aware of.

One example is the unit's library, which houses more than 7,500 books available for checkout by inmates.

Inmate Richard Williams is a clerk in the library and said it is important that offenders be allowed to "keep their minds sharp by reading."

"They can come in and we issue them a library card just like in the free world," Williams said. "This is a very important place, because it keeps us out of trouble and keeps us thinking. It's a small semblance of life in the free world."

Williams said he hopes to find work in a public library upon his release.

Other lesser known aspects include the unit's farm, which produced several bumper crops last year that supplied fruits and vegetables to every other unit in this region and also produced some 20,000 bales of hay.

Also on the grounds is a kennel, which currently holds 56 trained hounds, trained in track escapees.

Warden Howard hopes things can continue as they are at the local unit, but she cautioned that the future is uncertain with budget cuts being ordered.

The warden said few directives have come from her superiors except to continue as normal and not to quit hiring correctional officers if they are needed.

"Some positions might not be filled, but we will not stop hiring correctional officers if a vacancy warrants one," she said. "It's bad all over right now."

She said the chaplain's post that is vacant would be filled, but not at the moment. "We're not cutting that position, we're just waiting a little while."

For the time being, volunteers are filling in where the chaplain left off, Warden Howard said.

"We have the most amazing volunteers of any unit I have ever been associated with," she said. "For regular people from the community to come into a prison and sit with an inmate and tell him that someone cares about him, that is just an awesome thing."

Warden Howard said several local churches help at the prison and she encourages the contact and sees it as an inspiration for inmates who otherwise don't have much going for them.

"Obviously, this isn't someplace an inmate wants to stay and that can take a toll," she said. "For a regular person to come in and plant a seed of hope in an inmate's heart is unbelievable and it does more good than anyone will ever know."

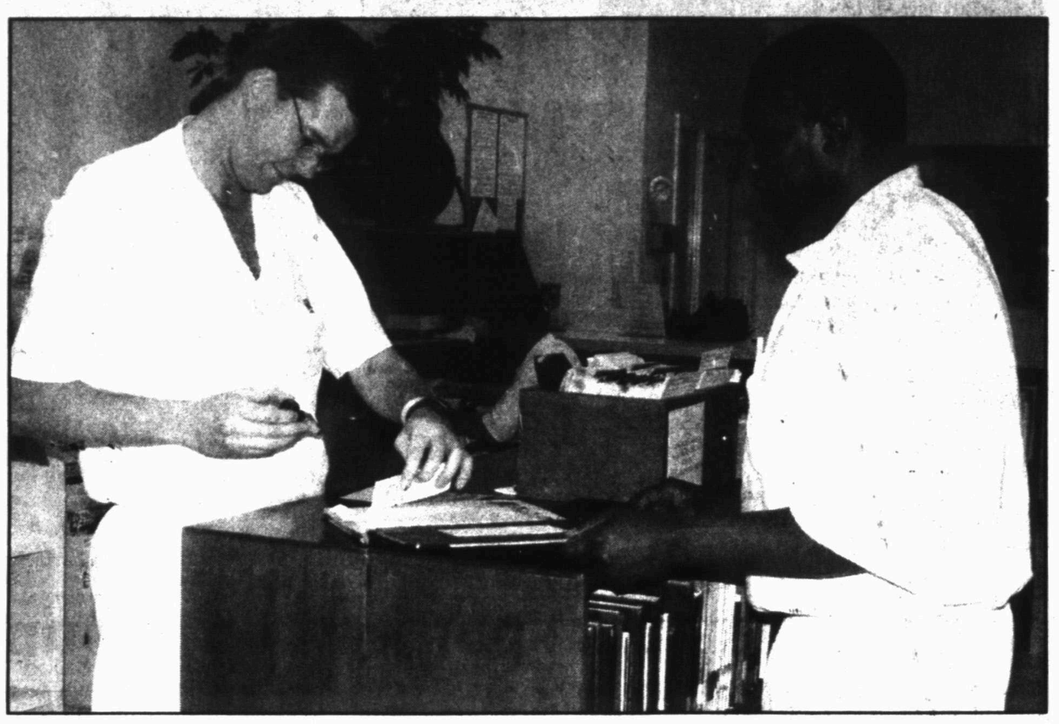
Price Daniel's correctional officers, in their blue and gray uniforms, are hard to miss around town and frequent local business often.

Gary Shifflett, manager of United Supermarket, said the officers are in the grocery store on a daily basis.

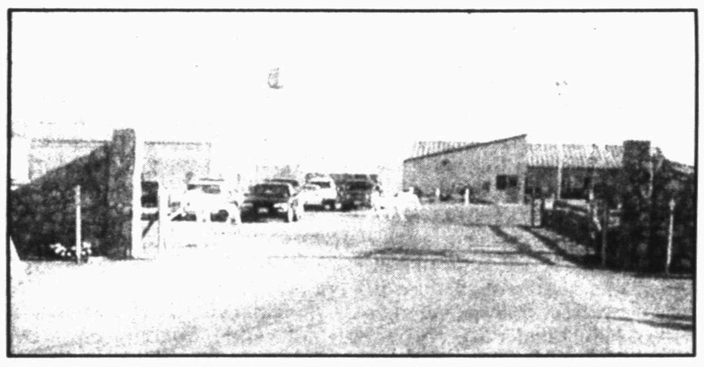
"Price Daniel employees shop in here every single day," he said. "And we also cash a lot of their checks here. They are great for business and we hope they will continue to frequent our store."

The Price Daniel Unit is a hotbed of activity almost 24 hours a day and its affects on Snyder and the local economy are far reaching.

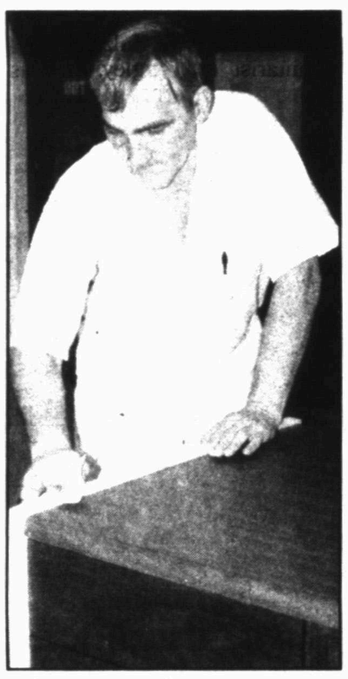
Warden Howard summed it up with one short statement, "There is a lot going on out here."



THE LIBRARY — Inmate library clerks Bobby Smith (left) and Richard Williams inspect one of more than 7,500 books in the Price Daniel library. Inmates must obtain a library card to check out the books and are allowed to take the reading material to their cells. (SDN Staff Photo)



PRICE DANIEL UNIT — Snyder's prison is located on roughly 600 acres east of the city and its infrastructure is capable of future expansion. (SDN Staff Photo)



PRECISION WORK — Inmate David Cockrell smooths a desk constructed in the Price Daniel furniture factory. (SDN Staff Photo)

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Financial Focus

Don't Tear Up That 401(k) Statement

If you have a 401(k) plan, reviewing your statement may not always be pleasant. During prolonged market slumps, your balance could drop month after month. And, since your 401(k) represents part of your retirement savings, you might start to have real worries about your future. Is there anything you can do to avoid getting all shook up by your 401(k) statement?

You could, of course, just ignore it and throw it in a big pile of other neglected papers. Or you could use it to make paper airplanes or to line your cat's litter box. However, these actions, while temporarily satisfying, are not really solutions.

Instead of mutilating your 401(k) statement, take a closer look at it. Once you get beyond the bottom line, you may find sections that are particularly useful to you in helping you maximize your plan.

One important area to look at is your asset allocation. This is the section that shows how your investment dollars are divided between stocks, bonds, money market accounts and whatever other options you may have in your 401(k). Ideally, your asset allocation should reflect your investment personality. That is, if you consider yourself an aggressive investor, and you're willing to take greater risks in exchange for potentially higher returns, you may want to weight your 401(k) more heavily toward stocks. On the other hand, if you feel you're conservative in your investing, you might want a 401(k) portfolio that's tilted more toward bonds and government securities. (Keep in mind, though, that a 401(k) is a long-term vehicle designed to help you build resources for retirement; even if you're a conservative investor, you will still need some stocks in your portfolio.)

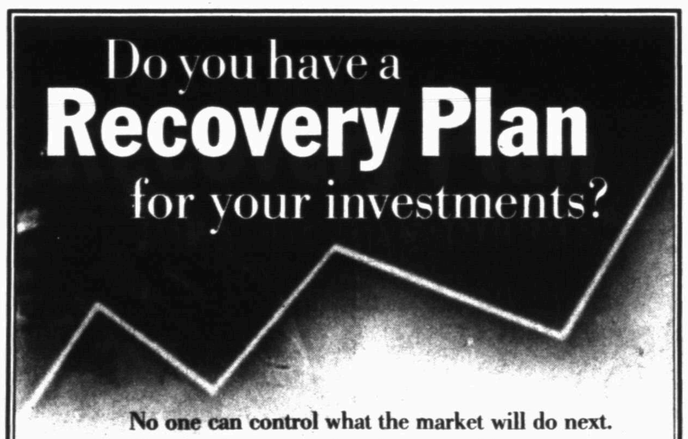
Over time, your asset allocation can change - even if you had nothing to do with it. For example, if the stock market has been down for some time, the equity accounts in your 401(k) may have lost value. At the same time, you might have some bond-based accounts that have done quite well. Consequently, your 401(k) portfolio may now be weighted more heavily toward fixed-income investments - and that can be cause for concern if you're investing for growth. Conversely, a long bull market can inflate the overall percentage of equities in your 401(k) holdings, causing you to inadvertently take on more risk than you'd like.

In short, you need to review your 401(k) statement's asset allocation every so often - and make adjustments when necessary.

What else should you look for on your statement? You may want to pay attention to the investment summary, which shows the annualized total returns of your individual holdings over various time periods, such as one, three, five and 10 years. This historical perspective should be of interest to you, even though past performance won't guarantee or predict future results. By having a track record to look at, you can at least see how various investments have done in different economic environments. If you see a pattern of consistent under-performance, in all types of markets, then you may need to evaluate whether you could find better opportunities for your money in other investments.

When you get a 401(k) statement, and you don't like what you see in the account balance, don't reach for your document shredder. Instead, keep on reading. You may well find some information that you can use to speed your progress toward your retirement goals.

Do you have a Recovery Plan for your investments?



No one can control what the market will do next. You can, however, take advantage of investment opportunities that exist today, such as attractive prices on quality investments. At the same time it is important to be well-positioned for whatever the market does tomorrow.

Call today to schedule an appointment to develop your personalized investment strategy.

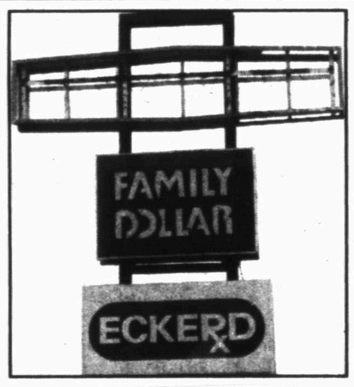


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HOW TO PARTICIPATE: Submit entries to Snyder Chamber of Commerce. Please include name, address, phone number and e-mail address. Call Fleming Investment Properties for contest rules - Toll Free 866-825-7355. Deadline for entry is March 31, 2003. No purchase or entry fee is required.

SPONSORS & JUDGES :Excell Snyder, LLC and Snyder Chamber of Commerce Winners will be selected by Excell Snyder, LLC and the Snyder Chamber of Commerce on May 1, 2003, on basis of originality and design. All entries must be received by March 31, 2003, 12 midnight.

Whatever happened to...

Jeff Armstrong, 1994 graduate of Snyder High School and son of Ernie and Betsy Armstrong, works for a law firm in Waco, specializing in business law.

While attending SHS, Jeff was a member of varsity football, second team All-District; varsity golf; National Honor Society; Student Council; top 10 percent of his class all four years and attended Boys' State his junior year.



Jeff Armstrong 1994



Jeff Armstrong 2003

After high school, Jeff attended Baylor University and graduated with a master's degree in taxation in 1999. He graduated Cum Laude from Baylor Law School earlier this month.

He worked as a CPA in Fort Worth with Price Waterhouse Coopers for a year and then returned to law school.

Jeff married Molly Corbitt of Waco. They reside in Waco and are expecting their first child in June.

(Readers are invited to submit information and pictures for this feature. Bring by Snyder Daily News or mail to Box 949 in Snyder, 79550.)

Snyder, Ira and Hermleigh grads... WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Name _____

Year graduated _____

Parent's name _____

Some general high school activities for which they might be remembered _____

After graduation they (college, military, etc.) _____

Married to _____

Now live in _____

Children _____

Professional work or accomplishment _____

Anything additional _____

Current picture?

Readers are invited to submit information and pictures for this feature. Bring by Snyder Daily News or mail to Box 949 in Snyder, 79550

Families hold out hope for loved ones in club fire

WARWICK, R.I. (AP) — Patricia Belanger trembled outside Rhode Island Hospital as she clutched a photograph of her daughter.

"I saw the pictures and I said, 'Oh my God, I hope she got out,'" Belanger said of Dina DeMaio, a waitress at the West Warwick nightclub where 96 people died in a fire that broke out during a rock band's pyrotechnics display.

Only seven bodies had been identified by late Friday night, leaving anguished relatives to travel from hospital to hospital looking for their loved ones. More than 180 people were injured.

Belanger called all the hospitals that have accepted patients from Thursday night's fire since finding DeMaio's car still outside the club. She has not found her daughter.

DeMaio was working at The Station as a part-time waitress to help support herself and her 7-year-old son, Justin.

"He knows his mother didn't come back," she said.

George Kulz was carrying a photograph of his younger brother, 30-year-old Michael, to all the hospitals.

"I just need to know" whether Kulz survived, his brother said. "Nobody told us anything at all."

More than 100 people gathered at a family center the Red Cross set up at a Warwick hotel, where grief counselors and clergy offered support.

Kulz described his brother as a drummer, grocery store worker and rabid fan of Great White, the 1980s heavy metal act that was onstage when the fire erupted.

"He has the T-shirts. He loves Great White," said Kulz, 32.

Guitarist Ty Longley, 31, was among the missing. His father, Pat Longley, of Sharon, Pa., traveled to Rhode Island with the musician's sister. "We're sort of hoping he's in a hospital somewhere," he said.

Longley's mother, Mary Pat Frederickson of Valdosta, Ga., said she had always feared for her son's safety, but not on stage: "Only on airplanes, buses."

Recovering at Rhode Island Hospital, Chris Nowicki, who had been inside The Station, couldn't shake the memories of a young woman's cries for help.

"I had some poor girl under me screaming hysterically to get off her," said Nowicki, 30. "I couldn't move an inch but I tried to pull her out. I'm not sure if she ended up getting out."

Nowicki suffered second-degree burns on his hands, back, and legs, along with bruises from being trampled.

Bye Bye Birdie...

Musical at SJHS will open on Thursday

Snyder Junior High School's drama and choir departments will present *Bye Bye Birdie* Thursday and Friday and March 1,3 and 4.

All shows begin at 7 p.m. at the junior high auditorium. All seats are reserved and are $5 each. Janeen Patterson is the drama director and Marci Dennis directs the choir.

The musical comedy by Mike Stewart and Charles Strouse revolves around Conrad Birdie, played by Ramsey Herrera, and his agent Albert Peterson, who is played by Cody Reed.

Birdie is a rock and roll superstar. His agent has gone into deep debt promoting Birdie's career.

Just when the singer's career really takes off and Peterson has a good chance to earn back his money, Birdie gets drafted.

To make matters worse, Peterson's longtime secretary and love interest, Rosie Alvarez, played by Jaedi Baze, decides to resign. She's waited eight years for him to give up the music business.

Peterson will do anything to keep Rosie from leaving him. He promises to quit the music business as soon as he can recover the money he has lost.

Rosie and Peterson stage a publicity stunt around Birdie's latest hit, *One Last Kiss*, but it goes awry. He will also have to deal with his controlling mother, who doesn't know her son plans to marry Rosie.

Other cast members include Helen, Courtney Tyrell; Ursula Merkle, Sarah Covington; Kim MacAfee, Sydney Wright; Mrs. Doris MacAfee, Starla Early; Harry MacAfee, Levi Stahl, Mrs. Mae Peterson, Alyssa Davis; Hugo Peabody, Michael Mann; one girl, Kendra Tidwell and policeman, Brandon Robbins.

Others are three reporters played by Audrey Jones, Amanda Martinez and Alexis Urias; mayor, Kyle Sanchez; mayor's wife, Megan Delorea; Mrs. Merkle, Stacie Lee; Randolph MacAfee, Colton Brewster; Nancy, Laura Culwell; Gloria Rasputin, Lindsey Small; Mrs. Johnson, Brandon Robbins; and Maude, Casey Arnold.

Also in the cast are Alice played by Kaylee Lacik; Harvey Johnson, Craig Robertson; Deborah Sue, Shannon Mangis; and Suzie, Kaitlyn Greenlee.

Others are Corey Jaramillo, Jordan Derryberry, Cayelea Rhodes and Kirstie Davis.

Various voices will feature Brandon Robbins as a trainman and train conductor; Kaitlyn Greenlee, Phyllis; Allison Sharrock, Penelope; Jeremy Rodriguez, Conrad's guitar man; Allie Brewster and Devin Davidson, two sad girls; and Courtney Tryell, doctor.

Members of the crew are Tasha Ball and Brandee Perez, stage managers; Jordan Payne, sound; Laura Flores, Krista Dorsett, Whitley Fulford and April Boyd, makeup; Jamie Arnold, Chad Goebel, Monica DeBois, Amy Sauceda, Felicia Guzman, Lucinda Guzman, all set crew and props; Tyler Driggers, lights; and Kade Kruger, spotlight.



BYE BYE BIRDIE — Cody Reed stars at Albert Peterson in *Bye Bye Birdie* which opens Thursday at the junior high auditorium. Jaedi Baze, plays his secretary and longtime love interest, Rosie Alvarez. (SDN Photo By Shirley A. Gorman

Transsexual man gets custody of children

CLEARWATER, Fla. (AP) — A judge granted custody of two children to a female-to-male transsexual engaged in a bitter divorce and ruled that the person is a man under Florida law.

Lawyers for the former wife of Michael Kantaras had argued Kantaras was not legally a man when they married in 1989 so the marriage was invalid. Florida bans same-sex marriages and homosexuals from adopting children.

But in his 809-page ruling and divorce decree Friday, Circuit Judge Gerard O'Brien said that under Florida law "there is no statutory requirement that the (marriage license) applicants shall prove their gender."

The law, the judge said, "provides that marriage shall take place between one man and one woman. It does not provide when such status of being a man or woman shall be determined."

The ruling confirms Michael Kantaras is the legal parent of the couple's two children — his former wife's son, whom he had already adopted, and a daughter Linda Kantaras conceived during their marriage with donated sperm.

Legal experts said the ruling, the first of its kind in the Florida, could provide a legal definition of gender in the state and give non-biological or stepparents a legal foundation to seek visitation or custody.

Islamic charity's lawsuit against news companies dismissed by fed judge

CHICAGO (AP) — A federal judge has dismissed a defamation lawsuit filed against The Associated Press and five other news organizations by an Islamic charity whose assets were frozen as part of the government's terrorism investigation.

U.S. District Judge David Coar found the news organizations had reported accurately that the government was investigating the Global Relief Foundation of suburban Bridgeview to determine whether it was furnishing support to terrorists.

In an 18-page opinion dated Wednesday and made public Friday, Coar said sworn statements by two officials involved in the terrorism investigation "have proven that GRF was in fact under investigation for possible links to terrorism at the time of their news reports."

An affidavit signed by FBI Special Agent Brent Potter said the government was investigating Global Relief for "its possible ties to terrorist organizations, including al-Qaida, and its possible support of terrorist activities."

A similar statement by R. Richard Newcomb, director of the Treasury Department's foreign assets control office, said Global Relief has been under investigation for possible terrorist ties at least since September 2001.

Coar relied on the two statements in rendering a summary judgment in favor of the news organizations as well as eight reporters and writers also named as defendants.

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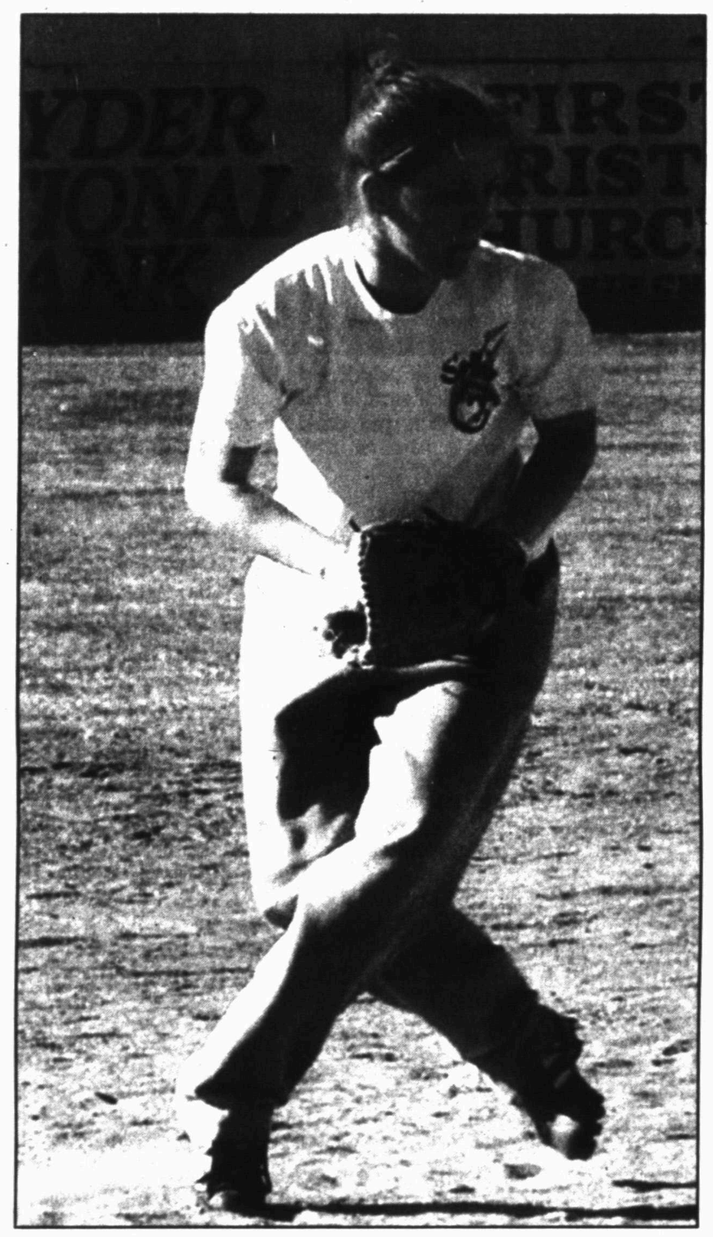
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SPORTS



FOOTWORK FUNDAMENTALS — Snyder senior Shelley Fisk takes infield during practice at Cates Field. The Lady Tigers are in Abilene for a weekend tournament. (SDN Staff Photo)

NBA roundup...

Five players top 40 Friday

By The Associated Press

Tracy McGrady scored 52. Jamal Mashburn had 50. Michael Jordan became the first 40-year-old player to reach 40, Allen Iverson dropped 41 on Cleveland and Kobe Bryant had yet another big four-oh.

It was a night for spectacular and superlative individual efforts around the NBA, the first time in more than two years that five players scored at least 40 points on the same night.

Hard to say which was the most impressive. Each feat was certainly distinct.

— McGrady scored 52 before sitting out the entire fourth quarter as Orlando beat Chicago 110-96.

— Mashburn got his 50 by nailing the winner with a second left in overtime as New Orleans defeated Memphis 125-123.

— Jordan had 43 in 43 minutes in an 89-86 victory over New Jersey.

— Iverson surpassed 40 at Gund Arena for the fifth time as Philadelphia beat Cleveland 119-99.

— Bryant reached 40 for the eighth consecutive game, reaching the plateau with 9 seconds left as the Lakers defeated Portland 92-84.

In other games, Seattle crushed Milwaukee 88-58, Minnesota downed Detroit 103-96, Dallas defeated Houston 100-85, Golden State topped New York 111-107 and Toronto edged Phoenix 92-89.

According to the Elias Sports Bureau, the last time two players scored 50 on the same night was Dec. 6, 2001, when Antawn Jamison of Golden State and Bryant did it against each other in a Warriors-Lakers game.

The last time four players scored at least 40 on the same night was Deb. 2, 2001, when Iverson (47), Bryant (44), Chris Webber (41), Jerry Stackhouse (40) and Paul Pierce (40) did it.

Magic 110, Bulls 96

At Orlando, McGrady was 15-of-32 from the field and 16-for-20 from the line to eclipse the previous career-high of 50 he scored March 8, 2002, against Washington. McGrady's previous season high was 47 on Nov. 2 in Milwaukee.

McGrady finished a point shy of tying the franchise record of 53 set by Shaquille O'Neal in the 1993-94 season. He also came up a point short of Allan Houston's NBA season high of 53.

McGrady dedicated his effort to his departed friend and teammate, Mike Miller, who was dealt to Memphis on Wednesday night.

"I asked T-Mac after the game if he had any more friends," Orlando coach Doc Rivers joked. "If that's what he's going to do every night, we're going to trade 'em all."

Hornets 125, Grizzlies 123, OT

At New Orleans, Mashburn grabbed his own rebound and sank a short jumper with a second left in overtime.

In tying his career high and setting a franchise record, Mashburn shot 17-of-33 and hit all 12 of his foul shots.

"Mash took it upon himself to get it done. It was just magical. He did it all," Hornets coach Paul Silas said.

David Wesley scored 35 points, his most as a Hornet. Jamaal Magloire had 20 points and 15 rebounds, and P.J. Brown scored 18. Four New Orleans players combined for 123 of their 125 points. Jerome Moiso had the other two.

Wizards 89, Nets 86

At Washington, Jordan found a sudden burst of speed to make the winning layup with 34 seconds left.

"I told the guys, I've got 28 games left; I'm going down with no bullets," Jordan said. "I'm going all out. It's the end of my career, and I don't want to see it end in a negative way. I want to see it end positive. I want to have fun."

Jordan was already the oldest player in NBA history to score 40, and he bettered that by making 18 of 30 shots and 7 of 8 free throws. He also had 10 rebounds and four steals as the Wizards beat New Jersey for the first time in four tries this season.

76ers 119, Cavaliers 99

At Cleveland, Iverson added six assists and four steals in 41 minutes as the Sixers won their 15th straight against Cleveland.

Iverson, who holds the arena record for points (54) in a game, has made it personal with Cavs fans since they booed him in the 1997 rookie game at All-Star Weekend.

"It's fun to play here," he said. "The arena is so lit up. It's like L.A. when you come in here with all the bright lights."

Lakers 92, Trail Blazers 84

At Los Angeles, it was Bryant's 12th game in a row with at least 35 points.

Shaquille O'Neal added 24 points and 12 rebounds in his first game back after sitting out three straight because of a sore left knee and right big toe. He shot 7-of-10 on free throws in the fourth quarter as the Lakers beat Portland for the fifth straight time at Staples Center.

The last player to score 40 in as many consecutive games was Jordan, who did it in nine straight early in the 1986-87 season.

SuperSonics 88, Bucks 58

At Seattle, Brent Barry, replacing the departed Gary Payton at point guard, had a career-high 16 assists to go with 16 points as Seattle held Milwaukee to the lowest point total in franchise history.

Valdez quits Tech hoops team

LUBBOCK (AP) — A Texas Tech basketball player suspended for one game by coach Bob Knight quit the team Friday after failing to show up for team meetings and practices.

Nick Valdez had not attended practice since he and Andre Emmett were benched for Monday's game against No. 3 Texas for missing breakfast and a walk-through meeting that morning.

Both Emmett and Valdez effectively were reinstated to the team late Tuesday night after finishing disciplinary conditioning work. Emmett was at practice both Wednesday and Thursday, but not Valdez.

"He was told he could stay under certain stipulations and he chose not to," Tech athletic director Gerald Myers told The Associated Press.

One of the stipulations would have required Valdez to do more running than that required of his teammates, Myers said.

"I want to get this behind me and move on and get my degree and do something with my life," Valdez said. "I'm going to continue working out and I just want my teammates to succeed. It's just unfortunate that any of this had to happen."

On his weekly radio segment Thursday, Knight said there had been a "long history" of problems with Valdez.

"I think we have had a whole series of irresponsible things with Valdez in the past," Knight was quoted as saying in Friday's online edition of the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal.

Myers said that Valdez had missed practice because his teammates did not want him to practice with him in the wake of an e-mail Valdez's father had sent to a newspaper Tuesday.

The Avalanche-Journal reported Wednesday that Joe Valdez's e-mail said that his son and Emmett may have been "set up" to be suspended Monday. The e-mail said the two didn't receive a customary wake-up call as punishment for their part in the team's losses.

He later apologized in another e-mail to the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal and the Tech coaching staff, saying he regretted the earlier comments.

It was unclear if Emmett, the Big 12 scoring leader, would play

Mavericks complete season sweep over Rockets, 100-85

HOUSTON (AP) — It isn't often that 7-foot-6 Yao Ming can go eyeball-to-eyeball with anyone in the NBA.

On Friday night, he got too close a look at 7-6 Shawn Bradley.

Dirk Nowitzki had 34 points and 11 rebounds as the Dallas Mavericks completed a four-game season sweep of the Houston Rockets with a 100-85 victory.

Bradley held Yao in check most of the game. Bradley had 12 points, seven rebounds and six blocks. Yao finished with 18 points, but did most of his scoring in the second half after the Mavericks pulled away to their fifth straight victory.

"When Shawn Bradley played that well, we are pretty good," Mavericks coach Don Nelson said. "The bench really came through, too. Not only did he do the job defensively, he did a good job with the ball."

Yao had 15 of his 18 points in the second half.

"Our team is so good because we have a lot of guys who can get it done," Steve Nash said. "Bradley was aggressive on defense and made points when he had to.

"Hopefully, he will have enough energy to help us like that throughout the rest of the season."

The Mavericks started slowly but came on to complete the back-to-back with two victories. They beat San Antonio on Thursday night.

"It was a tough win yesterday and we wanted it to carry over," Nowitzki said. "In the beginning, we were turning the ball over and weren't shooting very well. But, once we got our offense going, we were OK."

The Mavericks used their spurt late in the second quarter to take a 49-45 halftime lead, and they kept up the pace in the third quarter with a 20-12 run to a 69-57 lead with 4:09 left in the period. Dallas took a 75-66 lead into the fourth quarter.

It was an especially frustrating evening for Yao.

"This is something for me to learn from," Yao said. "I don't get many opportunities to play against anyone as tall as me. I thought the second half, I played OK but the first half I played very poorly."

Nash shot 6-for-6 and scored 14 for Dallas, and reverse Nick Van Exel added 13 points and seven assists. Steve Francis led Houston with 19 points.

EPCC sweeps WTC Friday

Western Texas College lost both games of a Friday doubleheader at El Paso Community College.

The team was stymied in the first tilt by EPCC pitcher Damien Salcedo, who pitched six innings of two-hit ball, striking out 12 Westerners in the 8-1 win.

EPCC's Kyle Anson smashed a three-run homer in the sixth inning to put the game away.

The Westerners fell 11-5 in the nightcap.

Tigers atop leaderboard at Tall City Invitational

The Snyder golfers are in the lead of another tournament after firing a 313 in the opening round of the Tall City Invitational at Midland Friday.

The varsity boys are pacing a competitive pack in Division III of the tournament, with only 7 strokes separating Snyder from second-place Memphis.

Canyon and Monahans, currently tied for fifth place, are just 13 shots behind the Tigers at Ranchland Hills Country Club.

Zach Starnes shot a first-round best 70 Friday.

Stafford Gray fired a 79, while Brady Reed carded an 81. Matt McCormick recorded an 83, and Alan Gray shot an 86 in the opening round.

The tournament was scheduled to resume Saturday morning.

Division III Team Standings

Snyder 313, Memphis 320, Pecos 321, Abilene Wylie 323, Canyon 326, Monahans 326, Permian II 327, Dalhart 330, Greenwood 333, Van Horn, 335, Trinity 338, Borger 343, Odessa High II 344, Perryton 344, Midland Christian 351, Fort Stockton 353, Seminole 357, Sweetwater 371, Iowa Park 399

Medalist Standings

Zach Starnes, Snyder, 70; Bobby Hutchinson, Memphis, 72; Dillion Pool, Canyon, 75; Tyler Ogden, Greenwood, 75; Spencer Cox, Greenwood, 76; Casey Breiten, Pecos, 76; Trey Todd, Wylie, 76; Joseph Corralez, Van Horn, 77; Braxton Brin, Monahans, 77; Derek Jordan, Monahans, 77.

Little Dribblers

Minors

Nuggets 38, Lakers 13
Nuggets: Shade Roemisch 16, Steven Juarez 10, Jason Mendoza 5, Tyson Sullenger 5, Taylor Hollingsworth 2. **Lakers:** Robbie Rinehart 10, Kolton Cox2, Jordan Peoples 1.

Bulls 28, Kings 20
Bulls: Anthony Taylor 18, Kyler Billingsly 4, Samuel Ashley 2, Lance Morris 2, J.D. Pittman 2.

Nuggets 50, Bulls 46
Nuggets: Shade Roemisch 39, Steven Juarez 4, Tyson Sullenger 3, Jason Mendoza 2, Dylon Vera 2. **Bulls:** Anthony Taylor 37, Jordan Rodriguez 5, Kyler Billingsly 2, Lance Morris 2.

Pistons 35, Grizzlies 13
Pistons: Keenon Ward 14, Garrett Snyder 8, Will Toombs 6, Hunter Cox 5, Aaron Williams 2. **Grizzlies:** Brennon Rhodes 5, Xavier Malone 4, Johnny Mendoza 4.

Nuggets 54, Pistons 47
Nuggets: Shade Roemisch 38, Steven Juarez 8, Jason Mendoza 4, Tyson Sullenger 4. **Pistons:** Keenon Ward 30, Will Toombs 14, Hunter Cox 3.

Wolfpack 35, Lakers 10
Wolfpack: Kylor Fine 10, Justin Gonzales 10, Zach Gafford 3, Alex Alcala 2, Isaac Martin 2, Karsten Morrell 2. **Lakers:** Troy Henry 4, Robbie Rinehart 4, Kolton Cox 2.

Trailblazers 34, Kings 16
Trailblazers: Dillon West 16, Dakota Carroll 12, Kellner Odam 4, Damien Donaldson 2. **Kings:** Reid Bishop 8, Eric Morin 4, Chase Price 2, Jordan Tippens 2.

Wolfpack 34, Pistons 30
Wolfpack: Kylor Fine 13, Justin Gonzales 11, Richard Deluna 6, Alex Alcala 4. **Pistons:** Keenon Ward 20, Will Toombs 8, Hunter Cox 2.

Knicks 28, Grizzlies 22
Knicks: Kelton Garcia 28, Chance Young 6, Brandon Davis 4. **Grizzlies:** Xavier Malone 12, Brennon Rhodes 10.

Pistons 44, Kings 21
Pistons: Keenon Ward 18, Will Toombs 9, Garrett Snyder 8, Wesley Anderson 7, Hunter Cox 2. **Kings:** Reid Pinson 8, Brandon Medrano 6, Adam Moncibais 3, Chase Price 2, Jordan Tippens 2.

Lakers 28, Grizzlies 18
Lakers: Jordan Peoples 11, Robbie Rinehart 7, Troy Henry 6, Kolton Cox 2, Dillon Clifton 1, Justin Clifton 1. **Grizzlies:** Brennon Rhodes 9, Xavier Malone 6, Johnny Mendoza 3.

Nuggets 33, Trailblazers 22
Nuggets: Shade Roemisch 20, Steven Juarez 6, Tyson Sullenger 3, Taylor Hollingsworth 2, Jason Mendoza 2. **Trailblazers:** Dakota Carroll 17, Kellner Odam 2, Dillon West 2.

Knicks 36, Lakers 23
Knicks: Kelton Garcia 28, Gage Welsh 4, Alexander Parsons 2, Chance Young 2. **Lakers:** Jordan Peoples 9, Robbie Rinehart 8, Troy Henry 5, Kolton Cox 1.

Bulls 36, Grizzlies 28
Bulls: Anthony Taylor 23, Jordan Rodriguez 6, Lance Morris 5, Kyler Billingsly 2. **Grizzlies:** Brennon Rhodes 14, Xavier Malone 12, Noah Cortez 2.

Wolfpack 22, Trailblazers 18
Wolfpack: Kylor Fine 12, Alex Alcala 4, Richard Deluna 2, Justin Gonzales 2, Isaac Martin 2. **Trailblazers:** Seth Cotton 11, Dakota Carroll 5, Dillon West 2.

Pistons 36, Knicks 29
Pistons: Will Toombs 14, Keenon Ward 14, Hunter Cox 4, Garrett Snyder 2, Matt Williams 2. **Knicks:** Kelton Garcia 26, Gage Welsh 2, Brandon Davis 1.

Nuggets 42, Kings 24
Nuggets: Shade Roemisch 24, Steven Juarez 8, Tyson Sullenger 8, Jason Mendoza 2. **Kings:** Eric Morin 10, Reid Pinson 8, Adam Moncibais 2, Chase Price 2, Jordan Tippens 2.

Trailblazers 29, Grizzlies 13
Trailblazers: Dakota Carroll 10, Dillon West 10, Steh Cotton 6, Kellner Odam 3. **Grizzlies:** Xavier Malone 6, Brennon Rhodes 3, Johnny Mendoza 2, Kodee Villegas 2.

Pistons 34, Lakers 14
Pistons: Keenon Ward 16, Will Toombs 10, Garrett Snyder 8. **Lakers:** Jordan Peoples 5, Robbie Rinehart 4, Troy Henry 3, Kolton Cox 2.

Wolfpack 33, Kings 12
Wolfpack: Kylor Fine 14, Justin Gonzales 10, Isaac Martin 4, Alex Alcala 2, Nicholas Clanton 2, Tyler Clanton 1. **Kings:** Eric Morin 6, Reid Pinson 6.

Trailblazers 29, Knicks 17
Trailblazers: Dakota Carroll 21, Riley Jenkins 6, Roman Romero 2. **Knicks:** Kelton Garcia 12, Brandon Davis 2, Chance Young 2.

Bulls 30, Lakers 18
Bulls: Anthony Taylor 21, Jordan Rodriguez 5, Lance Morris 4. **Lakers:** Jordan Peoples 9, Kolton Cox 6, Robbie Rinehart 3.

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SPORTS

Management All-Star plan awaits players' approval

PEORIA, Ariz. (AP) — Baseball players won't respond for several weeks to management's proposal to give the league that wins the All-Star game home-field advantage in the World Series.

"We still have some internal discussions to have, and then some discussions with major league baseball," union head Donald Fehr said Friday after a meeting with Seattle players, the first stop on his tour of the 30 teams.

Last year's game ended in a 7-7, 11-inning tie, and owners approved the link to the World Series in a unanimous vote last month. However, the change can't be made unless players agree to it.

Fehr also said the union isn't prepared to take a stand on whether ephedrine should be banned in the major leagues and will not issue health advisories to players about taking the supplement.

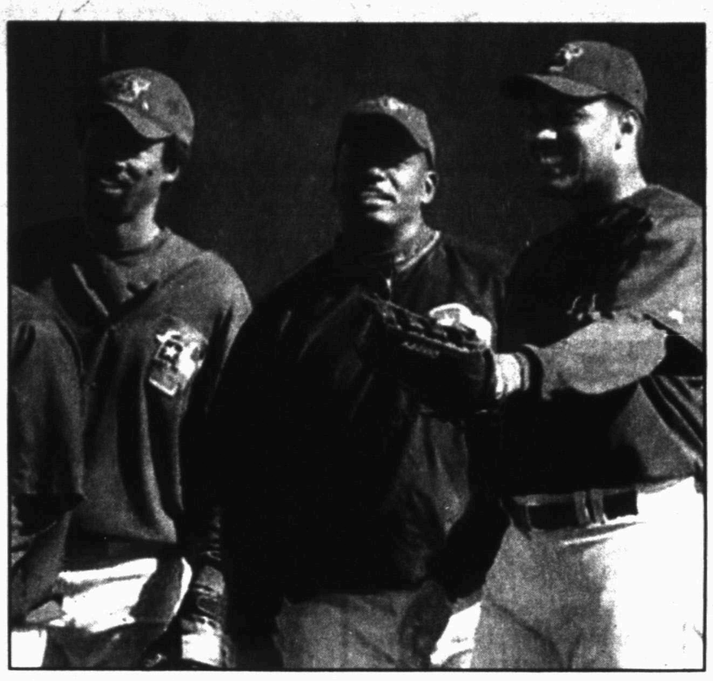
The herbal stimulant was found in the locker of Baltimore Orioles pitching prospect Steve Bechler, who died Monday, a day after experiencing heatstroke during a workout. Fehr expressed support for Bechler's family and said he will wait for scientific conclusions before saying more.

"You take another look at things as circumstances warrant," he said. "When we have the rest of the information, obviously we'll be doing that."

Fehr also expressed confidence that baseball's security department will ensure players are safe during the season-opening, two-game series between the Mariners and Oakland Athletics in Tokyo next month.

"We have a very, very good working relationship with major league baseball's security people," Fehr said. "If there's something to be concerned about, I'm sure we'll know about it."

Fehr reported no developments about a possible collusion grievance against owners. Some agents reported receiving similar offers from different teams.



JUAN REPORTS — Juan Gonzales, right, jokes with teammates Ruben Sierra and Doug Glanville Friday on his first day of Rangers camp. (AP Photo)

Junior varsity baseball tourney is cancelled

The Snyder junior varsity baseball tournament scheduled for this weekend was cancelled Friday due to inclement weather.

Teams competed Thursday, but overnight rains and chilly temperatures forced a postponement of Friday's games to Saturday.

Varsity head coach Charles Bollinger said groundskeepers worked to try and get the field ready for Saturday, but it was too wet to play.

He added that if temperatures continue to plummet as forecast, the team would most likely cancel Monday's non-district game against Trinity Christian.

He said temperatures are expected to remain near freezing Monday, and the cold weather increases the risk of injuries.

Howell leads field at Nissan

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Charles Howell III made it a policy not to pay attention to scoreboards until the end, so imagine his surprise when he walked up to the 18th green Friday at the Nissan Open and saw his name at the top.

With Tiger Woods well behind him and the leaders faltering ahead of him, Howell surged into the lead with a bogey-free round of 6-under 65 to lead by one stroke over Nick Price going into the weekend.

Howell finished strong with a par save from the bunker on No. 16 and two birdies, the final one after a sand wedge into 12 feet on the historic, 451-yard closing hole.

Woods was closing in on the early lead with equally flawless play, 5 under for his round with three holes to play. One bad drive and one bad break changed everything.

He nearly whiffed a shot out of thick rough on No. 7, leading to double bogey, and he finished with a bogey when his drive hung on the steep slope of a bunker. He still had a 68 and was only six strokes behind.

Howell was at 8-under 134, a score he figured would keep him near the lead, not in it. The last time he saw a scoreboard — by accident, of course — Fred Funk was at 8 under and seemingly in control.

"I don't look at leaderboards anymore," Howell said. "I don't think anything good comes out of that."

Price had a few surprises of his own.

He came up short on the seventh hole and chipped in from 60 feet for birdie, and it only got better at the end. After leaving his 8-iron well to the right of the green, the three-time major champion chipped in from 90 feet for another birdie.

"It went in like a 2-foot putt," he said.

Price had a 67 and was at 135, while defending champion Len Mattiace (67) was another stroke behind.

Tyson a big favorite to stop Etienne

MEMPHIS (AP) — It won't be until the opening bell rings that everyone is sure Mike Tyson will meet Clifford Etienne in their 10-round heavyweight bout.

Considering all that has happened in the last week, it would be unwise to assume both fighters will show up Saturday night. And even if they do, there is no telling if the fight will be the latest bizarre chapter in Tyson's saga.

Tyson promises it will be intense and entertaining.

"Fighting is what we do," the 36-year-old former champion said. "We're in the hurt business."

Tyson seemed to hurt his credibility when he pulled out of the fight on Monday. But perhaps realizing further huge paydays with champion Lennox Lewis or Evander Holyfield could disappear, he changed his mind on Tuesday.

He also claimed he received more money for opting to go through with the bout, although his manager, Shelly Finkel said that wasn't so. Still, Tyson is getting close to $5 million just eight months after he was battered by Lewis in the same ring.

Tyson will enter that ring with a tattoo that could be more of a drawing card on Showtime than the bout itself. The tattoo on the left side of the face is supposed to symbolize Tyson the warrior.

There's concern about the timing of getting the tattoo. Could it be a problem so close to the bout?

"I don't think it's the wisest thing to do, but there's no greater risk for a laceration or anything else if it has healed," Dr. Gerald Varlotta said. "If there's any crusting of the skin or any infection, though, it would put him at risk."

Tyson also didn't train for a week because of various illness and ailments — both real and imagined. Trainer Freddie Roach is uncertain what kind of shape Tyson will be in Saturday night.

"I'm worried about his conditioning if the fight goes into the later rounds," Roach said.

Etienne might relieve Roach's worries, because he rarely gets into the later rounds. Etienne, who balked at participating after Tyson's "no I won't ... yes I will" act, is a raw fighter who will take punches. Often, he'll get hit hard enough to go down, including seven times in one fight against soft-hitting Fres Oquendo.

So, even with Tyson's diminished skills, his doubtful conditioning and his unpredictable mindset, he could knock out Etienne. Quickly.

Tyson (49-4, 43 knockouts) is a 4-1 favorite. A loss would just about eliminate him as a factor in the sport.

Stepnoski named director of marijuana advocacy group

DALLAS (AP) — Former Dallas Cowboys offensive lineman Mark Stepnoski considers himself living proof that long-held beliefs about marijuana are wrong.

He has smoked pot for about 20 years, so, according to opponents of the drug, he should be a slothful burnout with blackened lungs, a bit of a dim bulb after baking so many brain cells.

Yet Stepnoski is articulate and remains in top physical condition a year after finishing a 13-year run as one of the NFL's top centers — all while regularly smoking marijuana.

He feels so strongly that purported facts about marijuana are myths that he's dedicated his post-playing days to setting the record straight.

Stepnoski, 36, recently "came out" as a marijuana smoker when he took the volunteer position as president of the Texas chapter of the National Organization for Reform of Marijuana Laws. He's bankrolling NORML's lobbyist in Austin and has joined the organization's national advisory board.

"Marijuana doesn't prevent you from going out and accomplishing what you want to," he said. "Since I was a kid, I wanted to play in the NFL, I wanted to be as good as I could, I wanted to play on a winning team, I wanted to play professional football. Even though I occasionally used marijuana, it never prevented me from ever attaining those goals."

Stepnoski knew how to avoid failing NFL-mandated drug tests. And although he saw drugs ruin the lives and careers Cowboys teammates, he remains convinced that marijuana used responsibly is no worse than alcohol.

So while he doesn't want children to use drugs, he believes everyone deserves to know the facts about marijuana.

"We should be truthful to kids and educate them," Stepnoski said.

Among the many areas where Stepnoski and NORML disagree with the government are whether money is wasted enforcing marijuana laws, causes long-term health problems and leads to other drug use.

Stepnoski began researching marijuana's effects shortly after he started lighting up during his high school days in Erie, Pa.

"I was serious about training and diet and everything else," he said. "That's one of the reasons I looked into marijuana so much, because I would use it and it didn't seem to have a negative affect."

He says it never did. Not once does he recall shortness of breath because of damaged lungs, or lethargy from what drug opponents call "amotivational syndrome."

"I was in the best shape of any offensive lineman we had on the team," said Stepnoski, who won two Super Bowls, made the Pro Bowl five times and helped clear the way for many of Emmitt Smith's NFL-record 17,162 rushing yards.

"As far as lethargy, amotivational syndrome is a myth. You can't play in the NFL for 13 years if you have amotivational syndrome. You just can't do it."

Sports Briefs

Tennis booster club

The tennis booster club will meet Monday night at 7 in the tennis court dressing rooms.

Little League registration

Registration for Snyder Little League will take place Wednesday through Friday from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., and on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Contact Sandy Hernandez at 575-1936 for more information.

JV girls fifth at Sweetwater

The JV girls golf team is within striking range after the first round of the Sweetwater Golf Classic.

Snyder sits in fifth place overall, firing an opening-day 380.

Breckenridge tops the field with a 333, while host Sweetwater shot a 370 for second place.

Lamesa (374) and Midland Lee (378) take up the other two spots ahead of the junior Lady Tigers.

Cami Trout paced the team with an 88 and tied for eighth-place in the individual standings.

The second day of the tournament was scheduled to get underwaySaturday morning at Sweetwater Country Club.

National Basketball Association

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
New Jersey	37	19	.661	—
Boston	31	24	.564	5½
Philadelphia	30	24	.556	6
Orlando	27	29	.482	10
Washington	26	28	.481	10
New York	23	31	.426	13
Miami	18	36	.333	18
Central Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Detroit	37	17	.685	—
Indiana	37	18	.673	½
New Orleans	30	27	.526	8½
Milwaukee	27	27	.500	10
Atlanta	20	34	.370	17
Chicago	19	37	.339	19
Toronto	17	36	.321	19½
Cleveland	10	45	.182	27½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Dallas	43	12	.782	—
San Antonio	37	17	.685	5½
Minnesota	35	21	.625	8½
Utah	32	22	.593	10½
Houston	28	26	.519	14½
Memphis	16	37	.302	26
Denver	12	43	.218	31
Pacific Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Sacramento	38	18	.679	—
Portland	35	19	.648	2
Phoenix	30	25	.545	7½
L.A. Lakers	29	25	.537	8
Golden State	25	30	.455	12½
Seattle	23	30	.434	13½
L.A. Clippers	19	34	.358	17½

Friday's Games

Toronto 92, Phoenix 89
Orlando 110, Chicago 96
Washington 89, New Jersey 86
Philadelphia 119, Cleveland 99
Dallas 100, Houston 85
Minnesota 103, Detroit 96
New Orleans 125, Memphis 123, OT
Seattle 88, Milwaukee 58
Golden State 111, New York 107
L.A. Lakers 92, Portland 84

Saturday's Games

New Orleans at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at Miami, 8 p.m.
Memphis at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Indiana at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Portland, 10 p.m.
Atlanta at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Dallas at Washington, 12:30 p.m.
Orlando at New Jersey, 3 p.m.
Phoenix at Minnesota, 3:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
New York at Sacramento, 9 p.m.
Atlanta at Golden State, 9 p.m.
Seattle at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

Area Sports Calendar

MONDAY

Baseball: Snyder vs. Trinity Christian, 5 p.m.
Tennis: Snyder JV at Big Spring.

TUESDAY

Softball: WTC vs. Odessa College, DH, 3 p.m.

THURSDAY

Baseball: Snyder varsity at Frenship tourney.
Softball: Sny ler varsity in Snyder tournament.

FRIDAY

Baseball: Snyder varsity at Frenship tourney.
WTC vs. Howard College, DH, noon.
Softball: Snyder varsity in Snyder tournament.
WTC at Howard College, DH, 1 p.m.
Golf: Snyder varsity boys at Austin.
Snyder varsity girls at Midland
Snyder JV boys at Andrews.
Tennis: Snyder varsity at regional meet, Levelland.

SATURDAY

Baseball: Snyder varsity at Frenship tourney.
WTC vs. Howard College, DH, noon.
Snyder JV vs. Wylie, DH, 1 p.m.
Softball: Snyder varsity in Snyder tournament.
WTC at Howard College, DH, 1 p.m.
Tennis: Snyder varsity at regional meet, Levelland.
Snyder jr. high at Big Spring tournament.
Golf: Snyder varsity boys at Austin
Snyder varsity girls at Midland.

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8 wk. old female Shih-tzu puppy, brown/black & white. Lost near Ira, Sat. Feb. 8th. 573-6733, 573-3399

REWARD OFFERED
Lost–Feb. 17th near Pyron on FM 1606, green tote bag w/electronic dog collars, etc. Please call Harry Walton, 601-857-2272. Local #338-0746.

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1986 Ford LTD
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DIXIE ELECTRIC
Experienced electrician needed in Snyder, TX. Great benefits, vacation & 401 K. Call 915-523-9339 or 915-556-6832. Experienced only need apply. Must reside in Snyder area.

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

Employment

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Human Resource Department
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Applications may be obtained at 3100½ 37th St. or by calling **JOBLINE 1-800-687-2769** or visiting www.wtcmhmr.org. **EOE**

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Employment

Substitute carrier for night time newspaper. Serious inquiries only. Call after 1:00p.m., leave message, 573-6994.

Wait-staff needed at Snyder Country Club. Apply in person only.

West Texas Centers for MHMR has an opening for Mental Health Service Coordinator. Bachelor's degree in social, behavioral or human services. Salary $26,832.00 annually plus $7,500.00 benefit package. Hours 8–5, Mon.–Fri. On call rotation. Applications may be obtained at 3100½ 37th St. or by calling **JOBLINE 800-687-2769**.www.wtcmhmr.org. EOE

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Full-time positions with benefits.

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2. **Wallace Medical Unit is in need of an LVN for the 7a.m. to 7p.m. shift and a R.N. for Work Camp Duty. Contact Ms. Webster at (915)728-2162 extension 4264.**
3. **Mitchell County Hospital Nursing Service needs RN for 7p.m. to 7a.m. shift; LVN for 7a.m. to 7p.m. shift Contact JoAnn Merket, R.N., D.O.N. at (915)728-3431.**

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

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Before 6:30 p.m.
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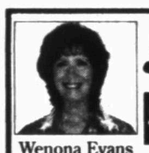


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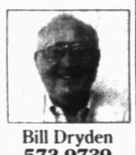
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Snyder, Texas



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2800 34th 3-3-2 LA's, pool Red. $149.9T		**207 36th** 3-2-1cp	$32.5T
211 37th 3-2-2	$88T	**West 180** 3-1-2	$31.5T
4000 Jacksboro 3-2-2	$87.5T	**2307 28th** 2-1-shop	$25T
4105 Jacksboro 3-2-2	$85T	**New! 2105 42nd** 3-1	$23T
2950 Gary Brewer Rd 3 2½-1-shop	$79.5T	**New! 3010 40th** 3-1	$20T
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2204 45th 3-2-2 LA's .Red.!	$65T	**College Ave.** Large office Bldg.	$48T
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2209 30th 3-2-1 + 1cp Reduced	$49.5T	**600 37th** Large Comm. Bldg	Call
3109 - 3111 Ave. T Duplexes	$49.5T	**3607 College** - Lg Comm. Bldg	Call
2203 43rd 3-2-1	$45T	**Comm. Buildings** downtown	Call
2108 41st 4-2 living-1	$45T		

VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT:
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AUCTION

Large Antique Estates Auction Sat. March 1st - 11a.m. sharp
Dawson Co. Community Bldg. 910 S. Houston Ave. Lamesa, TX
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Schools weigh canceling trips by students

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Terror jitters are rattling high schools across the country, with some school officials canceling student trips and others putting off decisions to see if the United States goes to war with Iraq.

Schools in at least 15 states have deferred or canceled travel plans because of security concerns — still a small percentage of those that remain committed pending events in the Middle East, according to companies that book school trips.

The school board for the Baldwin-Whitehall School District outside Pittsburgh canceled trips to several American cities five days after the nation's terror alert jumped from yellow to orange Feb. 7.

"The government says there's a high possibility that we will be attacked and we acted accordingly," said Ron Boyle, president of the school board. "We just can't take the chance."

In Maryland, the Anne Arundel County Public Schools called off a high school trip to London last week and banned trips to airports, federal installations and public utilities until further notice, Superintendent Eric Smith said.

Trips were also deferred or canceled by schools in New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Connecticut, Hawaii, New York, Wisconsin, Virginia, Idaho, Massachusetts and Arizona, according to travel companies.

Although the number of cancellations has been limited, travel company officials said they expect that to change if the conflict in Iraq intensifies. The companies said they are in contact with the State Department, and that they would call off a trip if it were unsafe.

The American Council for International Studies, which books trips for as many as 30,000 high school students each year, said these are anxious times for the industry.

"Absolutely, a war in Iraq would have a great effect," said Joel Cody, an executive with the company. "Almost everyone is in a wait-and-see mode."

The Boston-based company had two schools cancel trips because of the terror alert or because of the possibility of a conflict in Iraq, Cody said.

"We were fortunate in that the spring break for most Northeast states was in February before the recent alert," Cody said. "But other schools have their break in March and they're certainly waiting to see what's going to happen."

The threat of terrorism has made schools more willing to delay a decision on travel, said Michael Forhan, an executive with the Passports travel company in Spencer, Mass.

"Europeans still think we're kind of timid when it comes to these things," he said.

Scurry County Service Men & Women

(Editor's Note: Citizens are invited to write their servicemen and servicewomen stationed stateside and overseas. Anyone having additions, changes or corrections to the list should submit them in writing to the Snyder Daily News, P.O. Box 949, Snyder, TX, 79550, bring them by the office at 3600 College Ave.; or e-mail to gorman@snyderdailynews.com. Sorry, no addresses will be accepted over the telephone.

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American Embassy Mexico City
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SGT Ryan D. Byrd
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USS Raven (MHC-61)
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PFC Amanda M. (Wells) Reeves
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FPO AP 96386-24

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Col. Joe Dan Wilson
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Shawn Wittie
202 L St. Clair CR
Yorktown, VA. 23693

Twelve cadets report sexual assaults

DENVER (AP) — The number of female Air Force Academy cadets who say they were sexually assaulted and then reprimanded for reporting it has increased to 12, Sen. Wayne Allard said.

News reports last week said that at least five female cadets claimed they got in trouble for reporting they had been sexually assaulted. Allard said his office has since heard of seven more cases.

The academy's superintendent, Lt. Gen. John Dallager, issued a brief statement Friday saying there is zero tolerance for sexual assault at the school and in the Air Force.

"Any and all perpetrators will be brought to justice and disciplined appropriately," Dallager said. His brief statement did not address Allard's claims.

An Air Force team is at the Colorado Springs-based academy looking into the reports after the Colorado Republican and Sen. John Warner, R-Va., asked the Pentagon to investigate.

Allard said he did not know the outcome of the more recently reported cases, but he said he believes the women's stories.

"If the man is the one who committed the rape, he is the one who should be kicked out and not the victim," the senator said.

In the five earlier cases, one woman said she was raped after a night of drinking and a strip poker game. Another said she left the academy after commanders responded to her rape allegation by charging her with violating rules against drinking, fraternization with upperclassmen and having sex in dormitories, according to the news reports.

Eight cadets have been dismissed for sexual assaults on other cadets, and one case is pending, according to Air Force.

In an interview, Allard was critical of Brig. Gen. Sylvanus Taco Gilbert, who oversees the cadets. "I felt when he made his initial comments in this investigation he was a little flippant about it," Allard said.

The senator was referring to an article in the Westword weekly newspaper in which Gilbert said one of the alleged victims had engaged in high-risk behavior.

The senator said Gilbert now is making clear sexual assaults will not be tolerated at the academy.

On Thursday, Gilbert told The Associated Press: "I can categorically deny that I have ever blamed sexual assault on a victim."

CARDS OF THANKS

THANK YOU

May the Lord's hand of compassion and love and his guiding light from above shine down upon everyone that showed their support during our time of sorrow and loss of Cora Lee Baker.

We would like to thank everyone for the flowers, cards, and visits, they were greatly appreciated. And a special thank you goes to Bell-Cypert-Seale and to Snyder Oaks Care Center.

Thank You,
New Hope Baptist Church
& the many friends of Cora Lee Baker

Thank You

The families of Anna Bell Drum wish to express their sincere appreciation for your kindness, thoughtfulness and most of all your prayers during this time of our great loss.

Thanks to Dr. Burleson, Dr. Kerr, Dr. Gregg, all the nurses, hospital staff and hospice. A special thanks also to those that helped with the funeral services. Thanks to all that sent flowers, food, cards and to the many friends and relatives who helped us through this difficult time. May God bless each of you.



FINAL PERFORMANCES — The final performances of Western Texas College's *Dancing at Lughnasa* will be at 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday in the Fine Arts Theatre. Ticket prices are $5 for adults, $3 for senior citizens, and public school students. WTC staff and students are admitted free. Students rehearsing from left are Lacey Rowe, Holly Gwyn, Mandi Mitchell, Monica Rose and Meagan Bailey. In this scene Holly's character chases cows through the field. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)



On Nutrition by Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Cutting board splitting the difference

DEAR DR. BLONZ: What do you think about wood cutting boards over plastic cutting boards? I first heard that wood dissolves bacteria when I was a student in the '70s, and here it is 30 years later and apparently people are using plastic cutting boards. What is your take on cutting boards? — **R.K., Point Richmond, Calif.**

Dear R.K.: The safety of any cutting surface depends on what foods are prepared on it and how often and in what manner it is cleaned. In general, the material used for a cutting board should be hard, but not so hard as to dull the edge of a knife. Because foods come into contact with each other on the board, even if only indirectly, the material should not absorb liquids or be able to trap solids from the items placed or cut on it. When this happens, and the board is not properly cleaned, it can turn into a breeding ground for bacteria, and the risk of food-borne infection can increase. (Further risk, of course, can be eliminated if the foods are subsequently cooked at temperatures high enough to kill microorganisms.)

Hardwood cutting boards are attractive, but they can absorb liquids and food particles can easily become embedded in them during cutting. Food particles can also get trapped in plastic cutting boards, but they wash off easier. If wood is your choice, there are steps you can take to help make it a safe cutting surface. To control the absorption of fluids, the wood surface first must be seasoned with oil. It is not advisable to use edible oil such as corn, soy, olive or canola, as they can turn rancid and affect food. Instead, use non-edible oil such as mineral oil. There's also a product called block oil that's made especially for seasoning wooden butcher blocks.

After each use — and especially when meats are cut — the board must be carefully cleaned. At the very least, this means cleaning it with hot water, detergent and a brush. To assure that the surface is germ free, use a mild disinfectant such as a bleach and water solution. (The U.S. Department of Agriculture recommends a solution of one teaspoon of bleach per quart of water.) Then rinse well.

It makes sense to use a separate board when you have to cut meats along with other foods. You could, for example, have a wooden board as well as one made of a hard plastic that can be easily cleaned or put in the dishwasher.

Always keep in mind that food is only as clean as the dirtiest surface it touches. By cutting meat and non-meat items on different surfaces, and adopting a good board-cleaning routine, you help reduce the possibility of cross-contamination between foods.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: Is it all right to combine fruits and vegetables in blended drinks for breakfast, lunch or dinner? — **B.H., Baton Rouge, La.**

Dear B.H.: Yes, but from a taste perspective it helps to do some experimenting to see which combinations work best.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: How much saturated fat is in a normal-sized avocado? Also, what is the minimum amount of saturated fat that a person should have in his or her diet? — **R.M.J.C.,** no address given

Dear R.M.J.C.: There are many avocado varieties on the market, each having different qualities of flavor and texture. There tend to be generic differences, however, between the varieties grown in California and Florida. A medium-sized California avocado weighs approximately 6 ounces (173 grams). The entire fruit contains approximately 306 calories, of which 4.5 grams are saturated fatty acids, 19 grams are monounsaturated fatty acids and 3.5 grams are polyunsaturated fatty acids. Florida avocados tend to be larger in size, with less fat and protein but slightly more carbohydrates than comparable servings of California avocados. A typical Florida avocado will weigh 10.7 ounces (304 grams), containing 5.3 grams of saturated fatty acids, 14.8 grams of monounsaturated fatty acids and 4.5 grams of polyunsaturated fatty acids.

As for your second question, there is no specific requirement for saturated fat in your diet.

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

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

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Senior Center News

The new computer schedule is available at the center. We must have 6-8 students for each class to be held.

New computer schedule:

New Computer Schedule:				
Class	Hours	Dates	Time	Cost
Introduction to Computers	8	Feb. 25, 27; March 4, 6	9-11 a.m.	$25
Introduction to Windows	12	Feb. 25, 27; March 4, 6 11, 13	2-4 p.m.	$30
Basic Internet	8	Feb. 24, 26; Mar. 3, 5	9-11 a.m.	$25
Microsoft Office	12	Feb. 24, 26; Mar. 3, 5	1:30-4:30 p.m.	$30
Advanced Windows	8	Mar. 19, 26; Apr. 2, 9	9-11 a.m.	$25
Quicken	8	Mar. 19, 26; Apr. 2, 9	2-4 p.m.	$25
Advanced Internet	8	Mar. 18, 20, 25, 27	9-11 a.m.	$25

Volunteers are asked to record all volunteer hours by Friday. All hours donated March 2002-February 2003 should be included. The Volunteer Recognition Banquet is set March 21.

The free tax aide program at the center is available for citizens of all ages with a low or moderate income. Bring the following: a copy of last year's return; Social Security cards; including all dependents; all W-2 earner's forms; all 1099 miscellaneous income forms; Social Security year total reports; dependents' birth dates; any records that may pertain to your specific situation.

The volunteers are available every Wednesday from 9 a.m. until noon and from 1-3 p.m. The center is located at 2603 Ave. M.

The center is open from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Dominoes, pool, eighty-eight and quilting are available Monday-Friday. Lunch is served at noon daily. Senior citizens, 60 years age and older, are asked to make a donation for the meal. We suggest $2.50 per person. Guests under the age of 60 are required to pay $4 per meal.

Monday

Seniors may participate in party bridge beginning at 9:30 a.m. Daily exercise is at 11 a.m. This is a mild exercise program of stretching and flexing that lasts 20-30 minutes.

Tuesday

Volunteers are encouraged to join us at 9:30 a.m. to make crafts for the May Day fundraiser. Senior citizens may join the swimnastics class at Western Texas College any time. It is offered Tuesday and Thursday from 10-11 a.m.

The class and parking are free. Activities at the center include eighty-eight at 9:30 a.m., daily exercise at 11 a.m., and the Golden Kiwanis meeting at noon in the conference room.

The center will be open at 6:30 p.m. for games and a dance at 7 p.m. The Prowlers will provide the music. The cost is $4 per person.

Wednesday

Tax aide volunteers are available in the quilting area from 9 a.m. to noon and 1-3 p.m. Ladies pool begins at 9 a.m. Pinochle and line dancing begin at 1 p.m. Clogging immediately following line dancing.

Thursday

Seniors are encouraged to try swimnastics at WTC from 10-11 a.m. in the physical education building. Some of the participants have joined at the recommendation of their doctors and have found this low impact class beneficial to their health. For more information call 573-4035. The Sunshine Choir will entertain the residents at Snyder Oaks at 10 a.m. Join us for daily exercise at 11 a.m.

Friday

Friday is the deadline to turn in volunteer hours. Seniors may have their blood pressure checked at 9:30-11 a.m. Bridge play begins at 9:30 a.m. and eight-eight at 10 a.m.

The sing-a-long begins at 11:45.

Tech professor carried plague vials on airlines

LUBBOCK (AP) — The Texas Tech University researcher accused of lying to the FBI about missing plague vials has carried live samples of the bacteria aboard commercial airlines, a newspaper reported.

The attorney for Thomas Butler said the professor's method of transporting specimens of the plague-causing organism yersinia pestis, or YP, was safe.

Lawyer Floyd Holder said Butler secured the samples — taken from infected Tanzanians — in a plastic container in his luggage.

"He described it to me that it would be impossible to break it with a sledge hammer," Holder said Saturday. "It was absolutely safe to transport it the way he did."

Butler brought the samples from Tanzania to Tech in April 2001. Holder said the samples were preparatory work for a $700,000 grant he was seeking from the Federal Drug Administration to study medical treatments for plague.

Butler cultured the Tanzanian plague samples in his lab at Tech before delivering samples to Army medical research in Maryland, Holder said. Butler then took samples to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention office in Fort Collins, Colo.

Vickie Sutton, a lawyer, scientist and director of Tech's Center for Biodefense, Law and Public Policy, disagreed with Holder's statement that Butler's transportation of the bacteria was safe.

"The very reason that we have controls for these select agents is because there's a public health risk," Sutton said.

Breaking a tube of YP could lead to outbreaks of pneumonic plague, she said.

Holder said Butler has imported plague about 60 times over the past 30 years.

"Now if there's something wrong, why didn't the CDC say, 'Tom, how did you get this stuff into the country?' " Holder said. "They know how he got it in, and they approved of it and ratified it."

Butler is charged with making a false statement to a federal agent in an incident that sparked a bioterrorism scare last month.

According to court records, Butler gave a handwritten statement to the FBI saying he had accidentally destroyed 30 vials and that he made a "misjudgment" in telling authorities they were missing.

Enron wants payments to be shared equally

HOUSTON (AP) — Enron Corp. filed a motion in bankruptcy court Friday asking that one of its largest partnerships be required to share about $957 million in payments with all of the energy trader's creditors.

In the action filed Friday with the New York court overseeing its reorganization, Enron said it had paid about that amount in 14 installments to the partnership, Whitewing Associates LP, from December 2000 through June 2001.

"The debtors' obligation is to go after value where it believes that it exists," Enron spokesman Mark Palmer said Friday. "In this case, our contention is payments made to Whitewing, as an affiliate, in the 12 months prior to bankruptcy should be shared among all creditors, not just the Whitewing creditors."

Whitewing, formed in 1997, invested in various international energy assets such as power plants, pipelines and electric utilities in South America, Palmer said.

Sr. Center Menu

MONDAY
Beef Stroganoff
Hominy
Spinach
Sliced Peaches
Chocolate Chip Cookie

TUESDAY
Chicken Fried Steak
W/Cream Gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Green Beans
Tossed Salad
Coconut Pudding

WEDNESDAY
King Ranch Chicken
Harvard Beets
Whole Kernel Corn
Broccoli/Cauliflower Salad
Peach Cobbler

THURSDAY
Butter Beans & Ham
Turnip Greens
Fried Okra
Green Onion
Cherry Cutie Pie
Cornbread

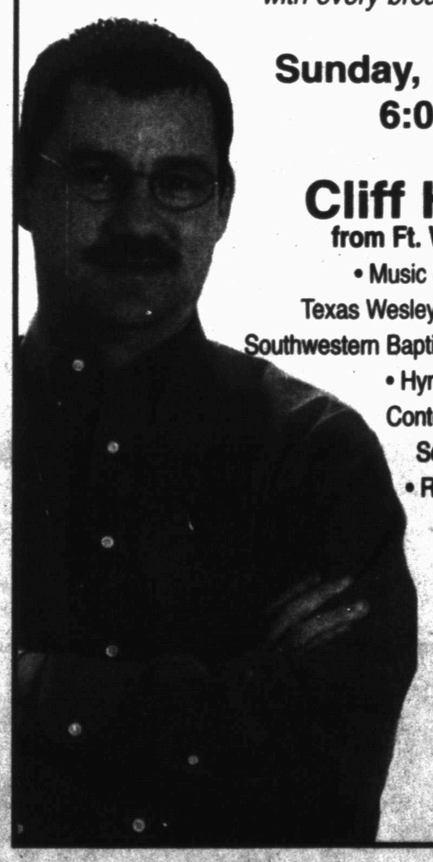
FRIDAY
Fried Fish
Baked Beans
Potato Rounds
Cucumber/Onion Salad
Pineapple Upside-Down Cake

—

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6:00 p.m.

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FEB 23 2003

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Local police arrest three people

• *Arrests*

Snyder police officers arrested a 21-year-old male at 5:27 Saturday morning in the 3600 block of Ave. D on an outstanding city warrant for public intoxication and failure to appear.

Officers arrested a 19-year-old male at 10:30 p.m. Friday on several city warrants including no driver license, no liability insurance and failure to appear. He was taken into custody in the 4400 block of Ave. U.

DPS troopers arrested a 46-year-old male on U.S. 350 at 10:30 p.m. Friday for misdemeanor driving while intoxicated.

• *Criminal trespass warnings*

Officers issued criminal trespass warnings to two individuals on Friday.

A woman was issued one of the warnings to stay away from all Snyder Independent School District properties, and a male was issued a warning to stay out of United Supermarkets due to continued shoplifting.

• *Complaints*

Officers investigated several complaints Friday including kids shooting at cars with rocks from slingshots in the 1500 block of Avenue T.

A complaint for reckless driving was made from the 400 block of 20th Street, and a noise disturbance was reported in the 3700 block of Avenue U.

• *Vandalism*

Officers investigated one report of vandalism to a house at 4021 Eastridge at 7 p.m. Friday.

• *Trespassing*

Officers discovered two male subjects in the vicinity of the wood shop at Snyder High School at 12:05 a.m. Saturday. Parents of the two minors were notified and they came and picked the subjects up.

Police ID three victims in crash

POLK CITY, Fla. (AP) — Police have identified three people who died in a head-on crash involving two vehicles in central Florida.

Chad Martinez, 24, of Sarasota crossed the center line with his black Honda Accord sedan and drove into oncoming traffic Friday night, hitting a Ford Explorer, according to the Florida Highway Patrol.

All three passengers in the Explorer died at the scene. They were identified as Liberato Estrada, 37, of Katy; Lourdes Estrada, 50, of Tampa; and Fransico Estrada, 84. No hometown was released for the older man.

The impact of the crash knocked the Explorer to the shoulder of the westbound side of the highway, where it overturned.

Martinez was treated at Lakeland Regional Medical Center and was released, a hospital supervisor said Saturday.

Charges were pending, according to police, who are still uncertain why Martinez lost control of his vehicle.

The accident happened about 7:50 p.m. near the Polk City exit, about 35 miles west of Orlando. The westbound lanes were closed for two hours.

Owners say group did not have OK to use fireworks

WEST WARWICK, R.I. (AP) — The owners of a nightclub where 96 people perished in a fast-moving fire denied giving a rock band permission to use the fireworks blamed for setting off the blaze, although the band's singer insisted the use of pyrotechnics was approved.

Rhode Island Attorney General Patrick Lynch said Friday a criminal investigation was under way to determine if any charges should be filed in connection with the deadly inferno at The Station nightclub.

"There could be a whole menu of charges," he said. "It could be manslaughter, it could be murder, it could be simple assault."

Federal charges appear less likely. Jim McNally, a spokesman for the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, said Saturday that investigators had found nothing to indicate federal charges.

The heavy metal band Great White was playing its first song late Thursday when fireworks began spraying the stage with sparks. Within minutes, the venue was engulfed in flames and thick, black smoke.

Ninety-six people were burned to death or crushed in their frantic fight to escape; some 200 others were injured, 35 of them critically. The ages of the victims ranged from the teens to the late 30s.

Saturday morning, a small stream of mourners added flowers and stuffed animals to a makeshift memorial by the charred wall that had been the club's front entrance.

Yellow police tape surrounded the site as investigators continued their work in the rain. Gov. Don Carcieri said authorities believed all the bodies had been removed from the ruins.

The club's owners say they were never told of Great White's plan to use pyrotechnics, a claim echoed by at least four other venues where Great White played in the past month

Chamber to have Monday meeting

Snyder Chamber of Commerce directors will meet at 11:30 a.m. Monday in the boardroom for its regular business meeting.

Three hotel/motel requests on the agenda include upcoming horseshoe tournament, Scurry County Rodeo Association and the Snyder Girls Softball Association.

Health insurance bids will be reviewed and Elite Fitness will be welcomed as a new member.

Obituaries

Glen Mosley

1927-2003

Glen Lee Mosley, a longtime resident of Snyder, died Friday, Feb. 21, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital after a lengthy illness.



Glen Mosely

Funeral service for Mr. Mosley, 75, was set for 2 p.m. Saturday in the Northside Baptist Church with the Rev. David Phillips, pastor, officiating. Burial was to follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born Sept. 6, 1927 in Roby, he was reared in Fisher County and married Jane Basket on March 5, 1949 in Rotan.

A U.S. Army veteran, he served a tour of duty in Iceland at the end of World War II.

A resident of Snyder since the early 1950s, Mr. Mosley worked for Universal Oil for many years and then for B&F Well Service.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Glenna Mosley; and a brother, Demmie Mosley.

Survivors include his wife, Jane Mosley of Snyder; two daughters, Peggy Mosley of Abilene and Angela Treat of Colorado City; a son, Frank Mosley of LaVon, Tex.; four sisters, Mary Holland and Esmer Wilmont, both of De Leon; Pat Russell of Texas and Ann Pollack of Hampton, N.H.; and three grandsons, Eric Treat of Austin, Shawn Mosley of Wylie and Jeremy Mosley of Farmersville.

Mabel Holder

1928-2003

BROWNWOOD — Mabel Norwood Holder, the mother of Gary Norwood of Snyder, died Thursday, Feb. 20, in Abilene Regional Medical Center.

Funeral service for Mrs. Holder, 74, was held at 10 a.m. Saturday in the Davis-Morris Funeral Home Chapel with the Revs. R.J. Elkins and Chad Barnett officiating. Burial was to follow at 5 p.m. in the Resthaven Cemetery in McCamey.

Born Aug. 6, 1928 in Matador, she married Alvin "Abb" Norwood on Oct. 5, 1946 in Munday. He died in 1982. She married Bill Holder on Nov. 6, 1991 in McCamey.

A homemaker, Mrs. Holder had been a resident of Brownwood the past nine years and was a member of the Avenue D. Baptist Church.

She also was preceded in death by her parents, Marion Calvin and Effie Greene Sturgeon; an infant son, Randy Norwood in 1957; three sisters, Peggy Foorron, Wanda Lewis and Ethyl Faye Sturgeon; and two brothers, Hollis Sturgeon and Harley Sturgeon.

Survivors include her husband, Bill Holder of Brownwood; two other sons and their wives, Ronnie and Alice Norwood and Sandy and Roseann Norwood, all of McCamey; another daughter-in-law, Vivian Norwood of Snyder; four stepdaughters, Ann Schoenewolf of Bay City, Wanda Dufresne of Sanford, Mich., Becky Pritchett of Coahoma and Mary Holder of Odessa; three stepsons, Doug Holder of Kermit, Chris Holder of Midland, Ray Clark of Deer Park; three brothers, James Sturgeon of Seymour, Clovis Sturgeon of Taylor, Ariz., and Wallace Sturgeon of Clay Pool, Ariz.; three sisters, Evelene Carlock of Lubbock, Joyce Roberts of Fort Worth and Barbara Parker of Seymour; 20 grandchildren; and 20 great-grandchildren.

Personal, Professional Service

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Vernon Lilley

1935-2003

MIDLAND — Vernon Lilley, a former resident of Snyder, died Tuesday, Feb. 18, at his home in Midland.

Graveside service was held Saturday with Bob Porterfield officiating. Arrangements were under the direction of Pipkin Funeral Home.

Born July 24, 1935 in Henderson, he moved with his family to Snyder where he attended public school. He then attended business school and lived in Irving and Grand Prairie before moving to Midland in 1980. He worked as a bookkeeper in the construction industry. He married Floy Mayberry in 1986. She survives.

He was preceded in death by his father, Dewey Lee Lilley; and a daughter, Diane Louise Lilley.

Survivors also include a son, Darrell Lilley of Houston; two stepdaughters, Nancy Mayberry of Austin and Janice Harrington of Midland; a sister, Delores Huddleston of Longview; his mother, Donna Louise Lilley of Midland; and three step-grandchildren.

Son Towery

1924-2003

COLORADO CITY — Claude E. "Son" Towery, 79, of Snyder died Friday, Feb. 21, in a Big Spring hospital.

Graveside service for Mr. Towery is set for 2 p.m. Sunday in the Colorado City Cemetery under the direction of Kiker-Seale Funeral Home. The Rev. Rocky Alexander will officiate.

Born Feb. 4, 1924 in Colorado City, Mr. Towery was a veteran of the U.S. Army and a longtime resident of Colorado City.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Claude and Mattie Wade Towery; his brothers and sisters; and two sons, Michael "BoBo" Towery and Eddie Towery.

Survivors include two daughters, LaNell Bearden of Snyder and Janey Shelton and husband Avery of Wichita, Kan.; five grandchildren, Brent Bearden and wife Kristy of Abilene, Shane Bearden and wife Keila of Roby, Larry Don Towery of Colorado City, Pauline Devendorf and husband Brandon and Dawn Marie Shelton of Wichita, Kan.; and nine great-grandchildren.

Hubert Tefertiller

1909-2003

CORPUS CHRISTI — Hubert Alexander Tefertiller, brother of Carl "Red" Tefertiller of Snyder, died Thursday, Feb. 20, in Corpus Christi.

Graveside service for Mr. Tefertiller, 93, was set for 2 p.m. Saturday in the Seaside Memorial Park.

Born Oct. 20, 1909 in Pawnee, Okla., to Alva and Lela Tefertiller, Mr. Tefertiller worked for Magnolia Petroleum Co. for 40 years and retired in 1969. He continued to work for an additional 15 years in oilfield sales.

Survivors include his wife of 69 years, Naomi Tefertiller of Corpus Christi; a son, Donald Tefertiller of Corpus Christi; a sister-in-law, Georgia Tefertiller of Snyder; two sisters, Gladys Going of Stillwater, Okla., and Cara Flowers of Fort Worth; two grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

Thelma Warning

1909-2003

SALEM, Ill. — Thelma M. Warning, sister of Georgia Tefertiller of Snyder, died Monday, Feb. 17, in the Odin Care Center in Odin, Ill.

Funeral service for Mrs. Warning, 94, was held Thursday in the Rogers-Atkins Funeral Home in Salem. Burial was held in the Oddfellows Cemetery in Xenia.

Born Jan. 30, 1909 in Alma, Ill., to Charles and Georgia Gloyd Thompson. Mrs. Warning was a registered nurse.

She was preceded in death by four brothers, Terry Thompson, Vernon Thompson, Paul Thompson and Lionel Thompson; and one sister, Myra Thompson.

Survivors also include a sister-in-law, Trudy Thompson of Salem.

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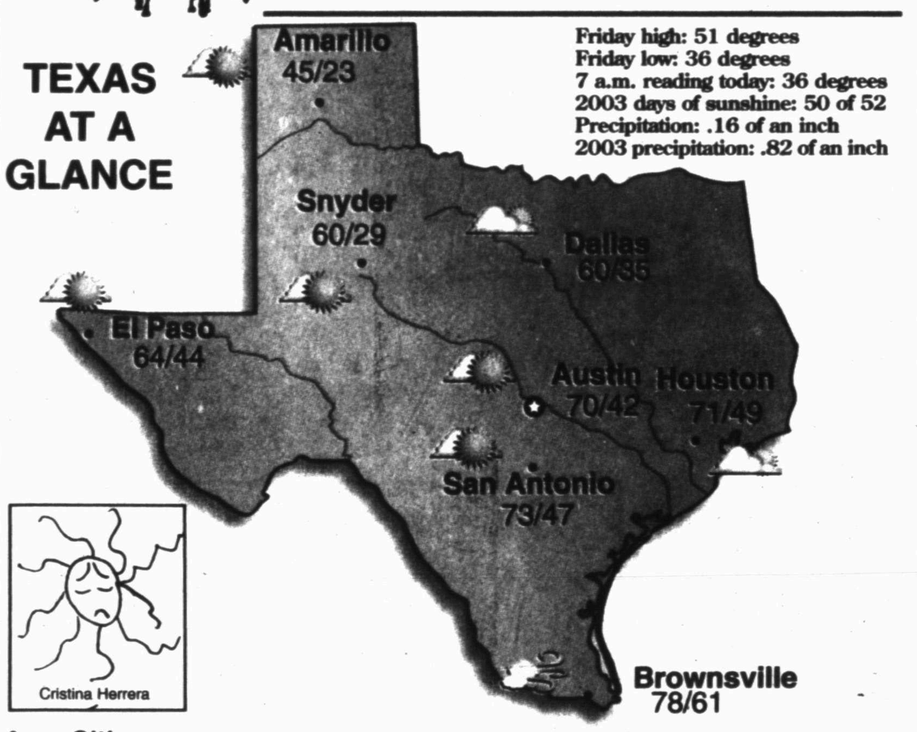
Sun 2/23	Mon 2/24	Tue 2/25
60/29	54/36	45/45
Mostly sunny skies. High around 60F. Winds NNW at 10 to 20 mph.	Cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the mid 30s.	Chance of showers.
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TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Friday high: 51 degrees
Friday low: 36 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 36 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 50 of 52
Precipitation: .16 of an inch
2003 precipitation: .82 of an inch

Cristina Herrera

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	59	33	windy	El Paso	64	44	mst sunny	Midland	64	37	mst sunny
Amarillo	45	23	mst sunny	Fort Stockton	65	41	mst sunny	Raymondville	78	56	windy
Austin	70	42	mst sunny	Gainesville	54	28	pt sunny	Rosenberg	72	48	pt sunny
Beaumont	69	47	mst sunny	Greenville	56	30	pt sunny	San Antonio	73	47	mst sunny
Brownsville	78	61	windy	Houston	71	49	pt sunny	San Marcos	71	43	sunny
Brownwood	65	35	sunny	Kingsville	78	55	mst sunny	Sulphur Springs	57	31	windy
Corpus Christi	74	56	mst sunny	Livingston	68	40	pt sunny	Sweetwater	61	31	mst sunny
Corsicana	62	35	pt sunny	Longview	63	35	rain	Tyler	62	37	pt sunny
Dallas	60	35	pt sunny	Lubbock	56	29	mst sunny	Weatherford	58	28	pt sunny
Del Rio	74	51	mst sunny	Lufkin	68	41	rain	Wichita Falls	51	28	windy

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	56	38	pt sunny	Houston	71	49	pt sunny	Phoenix	73	54	cloudy
Boston	45	20	rain	Los Angeles	66	51	cloudy	San Francisco	60	49	cloudy
Chicago	26	17	pt sunny	Miami	76	65	t-storm	Seattle	46	26	pt sunny
Dallas	60	35	pt sunny	Minneapolis	12	0	cloudy	St. Louis	31	20	snow
Denver	30	5	snow	New York	42	21	rain	Washington, DC	48	30	windy

Moon Phases

Full	Last	New	First
Feb 16	Feb 23	Mar 3	Mar 11

UV Index

Sun 2/23	Mon 2/24	Tue 2/25
Moderate	Low	Low

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

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Local

Snyder High School Choir

22 students qualify for state solo and ensemble contest

Snyder High School choir students competed at UIL Solo and Ensemble contest recently at Frenship High School in Lubbock.

SHS choir students brought back 26 medals for superior I ratings on solos and 43 medals for superior I ratings for ensembles. A total of 22 choir students qualified for state in solo and ensemble competition in May. Ronda Haire, director, said this is the most SHS has taken to state in nine years.

Receiving a superior (I rating) on a Class I solo and advancing to the Texas State Solo and Ensemble contest in May were:

Jonathan Garza, senior, bass; Molly Haire, junior, alto; Jacinda Judah, senior, soprano; Tressie Martin, senior, soprano; Malorye Miller, senior, alto; Rebecca Pavlovsky, junior, alto; Marcie Rodriguez, senior, soprano; Jessica Rylant, senior, alto; Bobby Sands, senior, tenor; and Afton Schwertner, senior, soprano.

Receiving a superior I rating on a Class I ensemble and advancing to the Texas State Solo & Ensemble Competition in May were:

— A woman's trio made up of Molly Haire, Sarah Crawford and Afton Schwertner.

— A Madrigal ensemble composed of Felicia Ibarra, Stephanie Crisp, Sarah Carpenter, Stephanie Parmer, Anna Henson, Jessica Rylant, Logan Martin, Michael Nelson, Cade Simpson and Chris Smith.

— A men's quartet of seniors Bobby Sands, Patrick Alderete, Jonathan Garza and Juan Rodriguez.

Receiving a superior I rating on a Pop/Swing Ensemble was the SHS Show Choir for 2003 entitled MasterSingers made up of the following singers Patrick Alderete, senior; Sarah Carpenter, sophomore; Stephanie Crisp, senior; Molly Haire, junior; Michael Hernandez, senior; and Felicia Ibarra, senior.

Others were Michael Nelson, sophomore; Stephanie Parmer, sophomore; Juan Rodriguez, senior; Marcie Rodriguez, senior; Jessica Rylant, senior; Cade Simpson, freshman; Chris Smith, freshman; and Ryan Ward, sophomore.

Receiving a superior I rating on a medium treble ensemble were: Morgan Bilderback, freshman; Megan Crisp, freshman; Casandra Darlin, senior; Alexis Dupree, junior; Sharena Lewis, junior; Veronica Maldonado, senior; Megan McCormick, freshman; Michelle Miller, sophomore; Samantha Moyers, sophomore; Rebecca Pavlovsky, junior; Temi Thompson, freshman; and Kiki Wofford, freshman.

Receiving a superior I rating on a class II solo were: Elizabeth

See Choir Page 4B



ENSEMBLES TO STATE — These Snyder High School choir students will compete in state ensemble competition in May. Top row from left, Juan Rodriguez, Patrick Alderete, Jonathan Garza and Bobby Sands; third row, Sarah Carpenter, Logan Martin, Jessica Rylant, Michael Nelson; second row, Stephanie Crisp, Stephanie Parmer and Molly Haire; bottom row, Anna Henson, Felicia Ibarra and Afton Schwertner. Not pictured are Chris Smith, Cade Simpson and Sarah Crawford. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)



SOLOS TO STATE — SHS soloists headed to state competition in May are top row from left, Marcie Rodriguez, Jessica Rylant, Jacinda Judah; middle row, Tressie Martin, Molly Haire, Malorye Miller; bottom row, Jonathan Garza, Bobby Sands and Afton Schwertner. Not pictured is Rebecca Pavlovsky. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman) (More pictures on page 4B)

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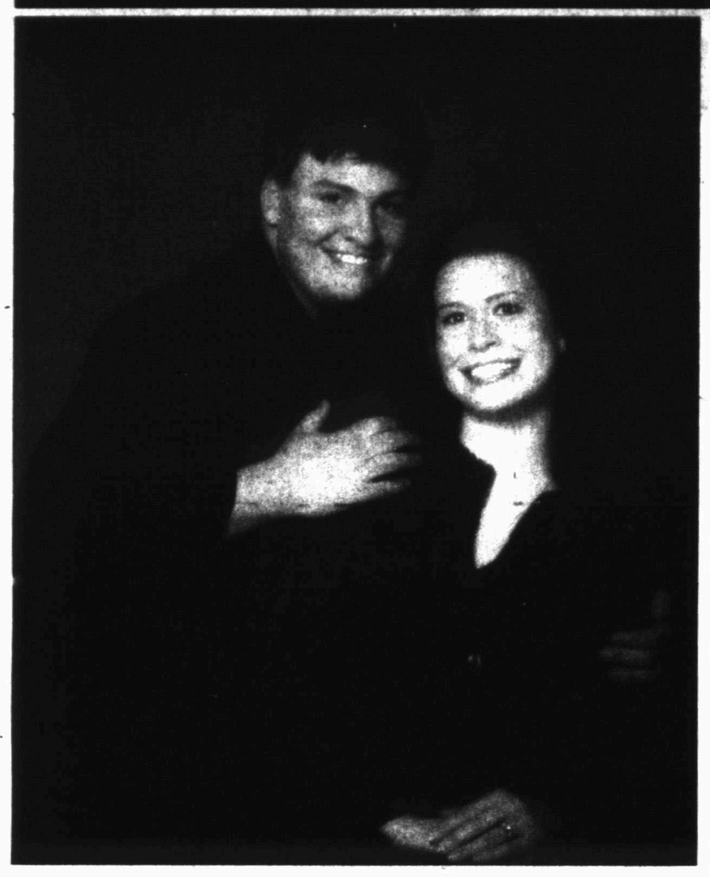
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DENNIS-MANDRELL ENGAGED — Mike and Marci Dennis of Snyder announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Jodi, to Cory Mandrell, son of Macky and Joni Mandrell, also of Snyder. Cory and Jodi are planning a May 17, sunset wedding at the Glenn and Janeen Patterson ranch home. (Photo by Wadleigh Studio)

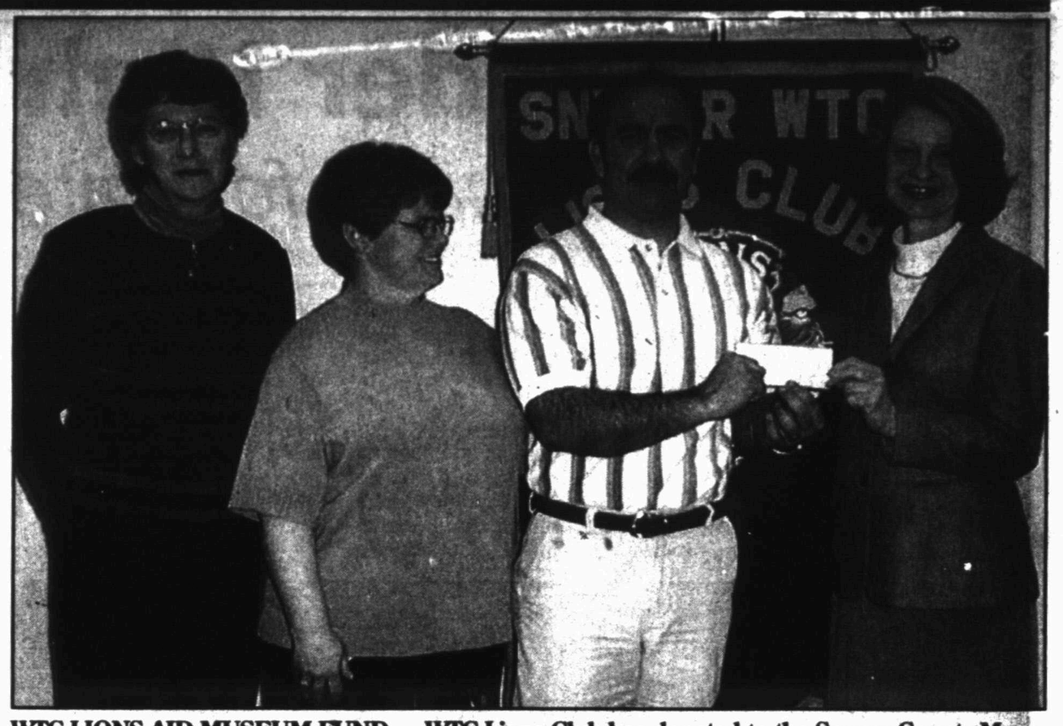
MAWC sets game day

Martha Ann Woman's Club will have its fourth Wednesday luncheon and game day with serving to begin at 11:30 Wednesday.

Cost of the event is $7.50 and begins early to accommodate working women so they can return to work on time. Reservations should be made by calling Sandra Brace, caterer, at 573-3427 by Tuesday afternoon.

Games of choice will be played throughout the afternoon.

Proceeds from the monthly luncheons and game days will be used for maintaining the clubhouse.



WTC LIONS AID MUSEUM FUND — WTC Lions Club has donated to the Scurry County Museum the first installment of matching funds for the National Endowment for the Humanities Special Initiative Grant. Only seven museums in the nation have received this grant. From left are Joyce Boyd, treasurer; Vicky Rowland, second vice president; Raul Alcala, president; and Charlene Akers, Scurry County Museum director. WTC Lions Club will soon change its weekly meeting from 7 a.m. to noon. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Duplicate Bridge Scores

Monte West directed bridge games at the Snyder Country Club.

Friday, Feb. 7
A Group

1. Jane Hinton, Monte West.
2. Christine Stuard, LaVerne Hood.
3. Margaret Dillaha, Dorothy Rosson.
4. Barbara Yorgesen, Dora Blakey.

B Group

1. Christine Stuard, LaVerne Hood.
2. Margaret Dillaha, Dorothy Rosson.
3. Pat Floyd, Durelle Gorman.
4. Betty Courtney, Tizzy Hall.

Tuesday, Feb. 11

1. Margaret Birdwell, Peggy Hardin.
2. Pat Floyd, Christine Stuard.
3. Nonnie Ward, Dorothy Rosson tied with Linda West, Monte West.

Jane Hinton directed.

Friday, Feb. 14

1. Tizzy Hall, Mary Lois Wilson.
2. Margaret Birdwell, Barbara Yorgesen tied with Nona Morrison, Margaret Presswood.
3. Dora Blakey, Nina Nesbit tied with Jane Hinton, Maribeth Vestal.

Tuesday, Feb. 18
A Group

1. Linda West, Monte West.
2. Barbara Yorgesen, Dora Blakey.
3. Betty Gibson, John Gibson.
4. Nonnie Ward, Durelle Gorman.

B Group

1. Betty Gibson, John Gibson.
2. Nonnie Ward, Durelle Gorman.
3. Pat Floyd, Robbie Floyd.
4. Dorothy Rosson, Betty Courtney.

Dishonesty doesn't pay

BELVIDERE, N.J. (AP) — A man who tried to profit from a bank teller's mistake could learn the hard way: It doesn't pay to be dishonest.

Charles A. Delvecchio Jr., 36, who received $2,600 from a bank teller when he cashed a check for about $26, has been charged with theft.

Prosecutors said the error was made when Delvecchio went to a Fleet Bank branch April 3, and he left without reporting the mistake.

Bank officials contacted Delvecchio when they discovered the error, but they said he refused to return the money. He was arrested the next day and the money was recovered, authorities said.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 02-22-03
♠ A Q 4
♥ A Q 6 2
♦ Q 6
♣ A 8 4 2

West
♠ 7
♥ 9
♦ J 10 9 8 7 5 3 2
♣ 10 6 3

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

South
♠ K J 10 9 8
♥ K 10 8
♦ A
♣ K J 9 5

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	2 ♦	Dbl.	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
5 ♦	Pass	6 ♣	All pass

Opening lead: ♦ J

Saturday, Feb. 22, 2003

Winning the battle, losing the war

By Phillip Alder

Getting card combinations right can be difficult. Look at the North-South club suit. Taken in isolation, how would you play it for at most one loser? Then consider it in the context of the North-South hands. You are in six clubs. West leads the diamond jack: six, four, ace. How would you continue?

Next, a note about the auction. After South opens one spade, West's two-diamond overcall is lunacy. He should either pass, or pre-empt with three diamonds (if a wimp), four diamonds (if "normal"), or five diamonds (if under 30 years of age).

North's double was negative, promising four hearts.

If only South had been in six spades, he could have drawn the trumps and taken the safety-play in clubs: cash the king, then lead low toward the dummy, covering West's card as cheaply as possible. (Or, if West discards, rising with dummy's ace and leading back through East's queen to his own jack.) In six clubs, though, taking this safety-play was not without risk. If East had started with queen-10-fourth of clubs, he would win the third round and lead the diamond king, forcing South to ruff with the jack and establishing East's 10.

The declarer, former British world junior champion Tom Townsend, saw a clever way around the problem. He cashed the club king, crossed to dummy with a heart, and led a low club toward his jack. This was perfect in clubs, but a disaster given the full deal. After winning with the club queen, East gave his partner a heart ruff!

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School Menus

Ira

All meals are served with choice of milk and breakfast is served with juice.

BREAKFAST
Monday
Biscuit & Sausage Wrap
Tuesday
Waffles
Bacon
Wednesday
Biscuits & Gravy
Sausage
Thursday
Breakfast Burritos
Friday
Cinnamon Rolls

LUNCH
Monday
Chicken Enchilada Casserole
Salad
Mexican Corn
Spice Cake
Crackers
Tuesday
Hot Dogs
Tater Tots
Pork & Beans
Chocolate Pudding
Wednesday
Lasagna
Mixed Vegetables
Texas Toast
Jell-O & Fruit
Thursday
Chicken Fried Steak
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
Green Beans
Hot Rolls
Cookies
Friday
Chicken Patty on a Bun
Lettuce & Tomato
Celery & Peanut Butter
Peach Cobbler

Snyder

All meals are served with milk and breakfast offers juice.

CLASSROOM BREAKFAST
Monday
Strawberry Toaster Pastry
Tuesday
Sausage on a Muffin
Wednesday
Cinnamon Roll
Thursday
Pigs in a Blanket
Friday
Rice Krispie Square

(OTHER SCHOOLS)
Monday
Sausage in a Biscuit
Assorted Dry Cereal
Toast w/Jelly
Tuesday
Chocolate Donut or
Assorted Dry Cereal
Toast w/Jelly
Wednesday
Hot Oatmeal w/Spiced Fruit
Assorted Dry Cereal
Toast w/Jelly
Thursday
Cinnamon Roll or
Assorted Dry Cereal
Toast w/Jelly
Friday
Pigs in a Blanket w/Syrup
Assorted Dry Cereal
Toast w/Jelly

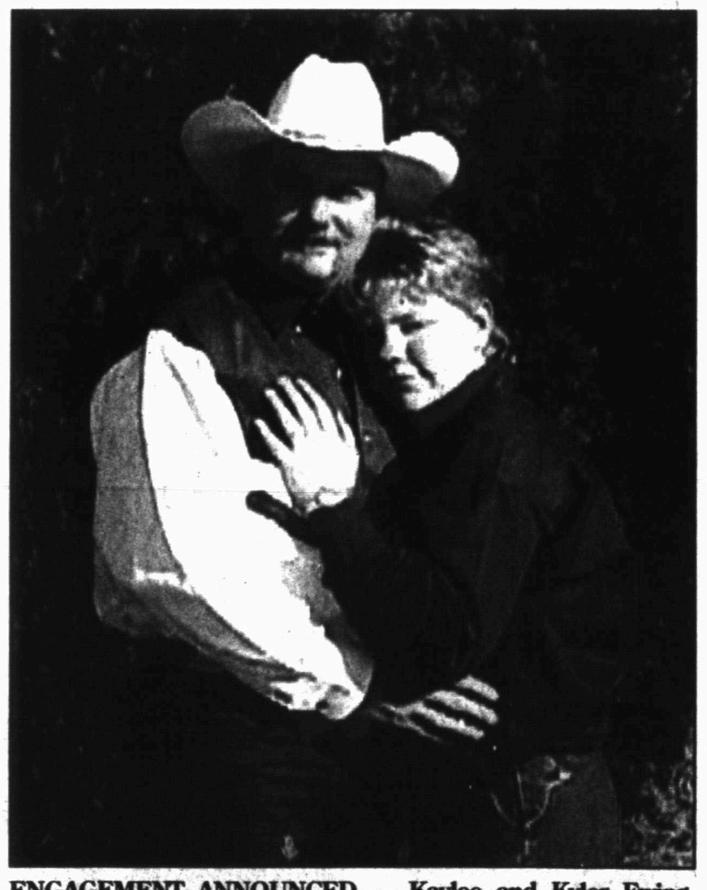
LUNCH
Monday
Steak Fingers w/Gravy or
Barbecue Rig on a Bun
Potato Salad
Black-eyed Peas
Chilled Peach Cup
Tuesday
Beef Enchiladas or
Chicken Soft Taco
Spicy Pinto Beans
Mexi-rice
Corn Bread
Wednesday
Barbecue Chicken or
Turkey Pot Pie
Potato Wedges
Carrot Sticks w/Ranch Dip
Strawberry Shortcake
Thursday
Ham & Cheese Sub Sandwich or
Chicken BLT on a Bun
Broccoli Wedges w/Ranch
Baked Beans
Fruit & Nut Trail Mix
Friday
Spaghetti & Meatballs or
Chef Salad w/Crackers
Whole Kernel Corn
Chilled Peaches
Peanut Butter Cookie

Hermleigh

All meals are served with milk and breakfast is served with juice.

BREAKFAST
Monday
Cheese Toast
Tuesday
Peanut Butter/Jelly Sandwich
Wednesday
Breakfast Burritos
Thursday
Biscuit/Sausage
Friday
Dry Cereal
Toast

LUNCH
Monday
Sausage Pizza
Vegetable Salad
Corn
Sliced Oranges
Tuesday
Steak Fingers/Gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Black-eyed Peas
Hot Rolls
Pink Applesauce
Wednesday
Frito Pie
Spanish Rice
Pinto Beans
Fruit Nut Bars
Thursday
Pork Rib Patties on a Bun
Lettuce & tomato
French Fries
Fudge Brownies
Friday
Chili Dog
Relish Cup
Tater Tots
Chocolate Chip Cookies



ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED — Kaylee and Kyler Ewing, along with Jacob Nachlinger, announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their parents, Michelle Rae Ewing and Daryl Joe Nachlinger on Saturday, March 8, in Hermleigh. Their parents are Cindy and Otto Aikin and Sherry Nachlinger and Butch Nachlinger. (Contributed Photo)

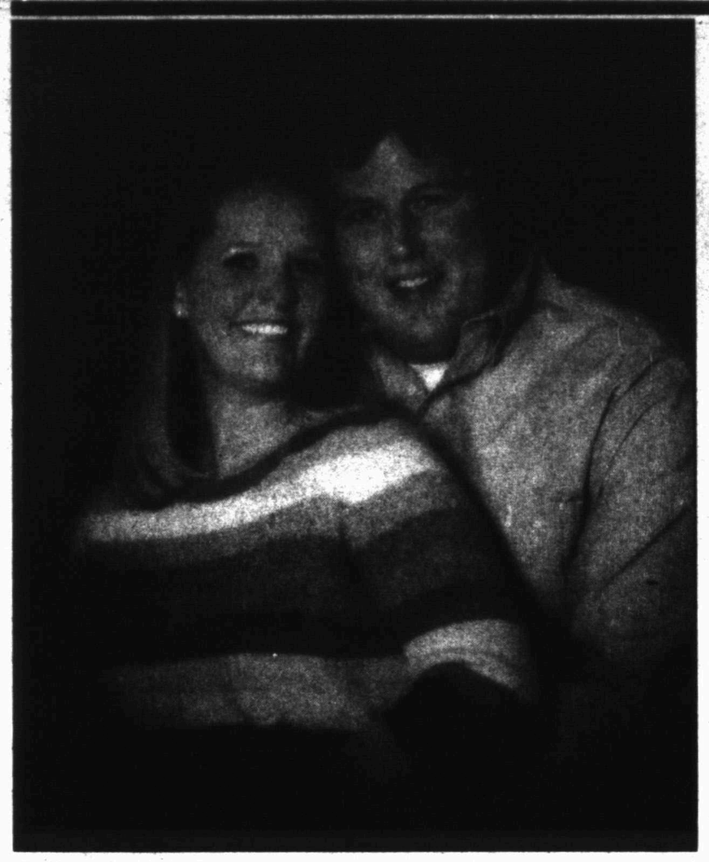
Bridal Registry
VANESSA JONES AND CHAD ARNWINE
CHRISTINA MAY AND BRETT GIBSON
RILEY TATUM AND RUSSELL WALL
LISA MCNAIR AND WILLIAM JONES
LAURIE KERLEY AND JERRY BURTON
ELLEN STRAYHORN AND HISHAM MUSALLAM
Infant Registry
Wedding Invitations
•Tuxedo Rentals
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Free Delivery To Bridal Shower
Classic Interiors
2520 Ave. R East Side of Square 573-1701
Open Mon.-Fri. 9:30-5:30, Sat. 10:00-4:00.

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Head To Toe Starter Kit
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Beeswax Lip Balm
Lemongrass Insect Lotion
Milk & Honey Body Lotion
Just Arrived
•Lip Shimmer
•Lemon Butter Cuticle Cream
•Herbal Blemish Sticks
•Res-Q Ointment
Hand Salve
McWilliams Pharmacy
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WHEN: Wednesday, March 5 | WHERE: The Weight Watchers center near you
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For the participating Weight Watchers center nearest you:
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For cancer information: 1 800 ACS 2345 or www.cancer.org
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Transportation Provided
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JUNE NUPTIALS ANNOUNCED — Ronnie and Ramona Helm of Hermleigh announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Joshelyn Adams Helm, to Britt Lively. He is the son of Mike and Cindy Lively of Eastland. The couple are planning a 4 p.m., June 7 wedding in the Fourth and Elm Church of Christ in Sweetwater. (Contributed Photo)

Library News & Views

BOOK FEATURE

The Art & Elegance of Beadweaving, By Carol Wilcox Wells.

Woven beads can become exotic elements for creating stunning jewelry. Chevron chain can be tightly woven or stitched to have an open look like netting. It can be used to create a radiant Pagoda basket or an elegant ribbon choker. No two crocheted ropes will look alike.

You can use these stitches in creative designs for earrings, bracelets, necklaces and even napkin rings. Dozens of gallery photographs illustrate the new directions being explored in the dazzling world of creative beadweaving.

NEW NON-FICTION

What it Means to be 98% Chimpanzee: Apes, People, and Their Genes, by Jonathan Marks.

Seventy Wonders of the Modern World: 1500 Years of Extraordinary Feats..., by Neal Parkyn.

Kitchen Privileges, by Mary Higgins Clark.

Photography: An Illustrated History, by Martin W. Sandler

Words We Live By: Your Annotated Guide to the Constitution, by Linda R. Monk.

NEW FICTION

The Cat Who Brought Down the House, by Lilian Jackson Braun.

Silent Partner, by Stephen W. Frey

Final Justice, by W. E. B. Griffin

True Witness, by Jo Bannister

Bone Vault, by Linda A. Fairstein

LIBRARY HOURS

Mon., Wed., & Fri.: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Tues. & Thur.: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Sat.: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

—

The Scurry County Library has received both sets of IRS forms that can be copied on the Xerox, at a cost of 15 cents per copy.

We also have a selection of the basic forms. The IRS materials are located in the adult reading room.

Community Calendar

MONDAY

Storytime at the Scurry County Library for 4- and 5-year-olds; 10 a.m.

Rock and Roll Quilting Club; Hermleigh Community Center; everyone is invited for free quilting lessons, and special projects are to help someone in need; call 863-2426 for more information; 8 a.m. to noon.

Scurry County Museum's hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

NA-Just for Today; Park Club at Winston Park; 573-1438.

Manic Depression (Bipolar) support group; Family Life Community Church, 904 26th Street; 7 p.m.

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

TUESDAY

Gateway Family Services parenting discussion group, focuses on a variety of parenting issues and special challenges; no charge; call 573-1822 for more information; 10:30 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

WEDNESDAY

MAWC Game Day and Luncheon; serving begins at 11:30 games of choice will follow; reservations should be made by calling 573-3427.

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

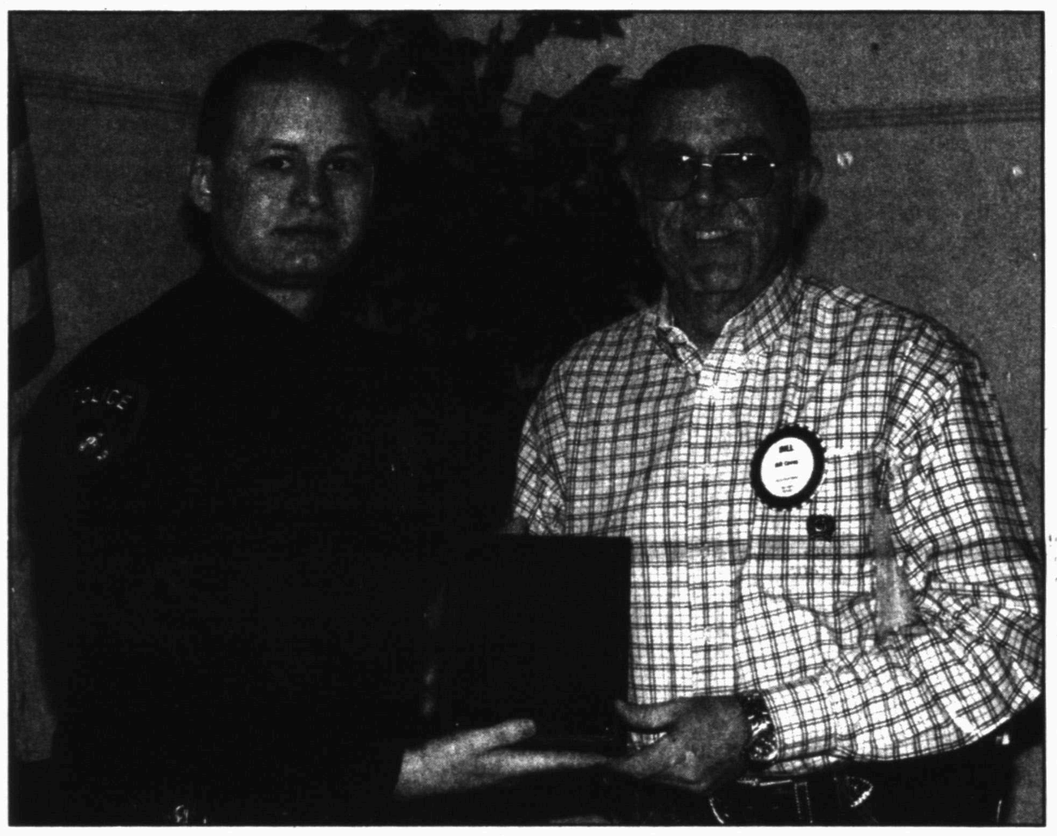
THURSDAY

Palette Club; airport terminal building; Lois Burney, program; Joy McGlaun, hostess; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with lunch break.

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



50th ANNIVERSARY — Joe Doyle Camp and Virginia Ruth Greene from Snyder were married on Feb. 24, 1953, in Clovis, N.M., and moved to Lubbock where they lived for 20 years. They have lived in Austin and Bastrop since 1983. Their children and their spouses are Donald and Kimberly Kiplin of Austin, Ellen and Kent Whitmire of Artesia, N.M., and Carla and David Nutt of Arlington. They have eight grandchildren. A reception celebrating their golden wedding anniversary was hosted by their children at the Omni Hotel in Austin. (Contributed Photo)



POLICEMAN OF THE YEAR — Officer Jason McMillan, left, accepted the Policeman of the Year award from Snyder Rotary director Bill Covey at the organization's weekly meeting Thursday. (SDN Staff Photo)

Births

Juan and Grace Escobedo are parents of a son, Juan Christian Escobedo III, born at 8:47 a.m. on Jan. 25 in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. He was 20 inches long.

He has a sister, Allegra Elise Escobedo.

Grandparents are Johnny and Patsy Escobedo and Ramon and Juanita Garcia. All are of Snyder.

—

Ryan and Holly Bullard of Lubbock announce the birth of their daughter, Kathryn Renee Bullard. Kathryn Renee, born at 11:37 a.m. on Feb. 12 in Covenant Medical Center, weighed six pounds, four ounces and was 20 inches long.

Grandparents include Jack and Barbra Jones of Snyder, Randy Bullard of Lubbock and Darra Bullard of Oklahoma City. Great-grandparents are O.P. and Ruth Tate, Wallace and Barbara Jones, Gary and Lois Bullard of Abilene, and Darrell and Beverly Moody of Chickasha, Okla.

—

Missouri is the 24th state.

Many homes in the American colonies—including the home of William Penn, were built from bricks that were used as ballast in the holds of ships arriving in the colonies.

—

The bandanna is so-called from a Hindi word, bandhnu, describing a method of dyeing the cloth.

—

The word "ballad" comes from the Italian *ballare*, "to dance." Ballads were originally songs sung to dance music.

SUNDAY SERVICE
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Michelle Douglass & Chad (C.J.) Chaney
Vanessa Jones & Chad Amwine
Laurie Kerley & Jerry Burton
Tosha Walker & Jay Callaway
Kandace Gard & Tom Dawson
Andrea Robinson & Josue Coronado
Mandy Montgomery & Jonathan Tovar
Lynn Polk & Brad Hart
Riley Ann Tatum & Russell Wall
Jina Miller & Brandon Rollins
Jodi Dennis & Cory Mandrell
Infant Registry
Ryan & Holly (Jones) Bullard
Valerio & Kelly Torres
Banyon & Vanessa Winkler
Kyle & Toni Cox
Camille Beckman
Tupperware
VERA BRADLEY
MERLE NORMAN COSMETIC STUDIOS
Glenda Glasscock
YANKEE CANDLES
FOSSIL
ASCOT Tuxedo Rental
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Snyder, Texas
573-1817

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Quality Clothing...with a Personal Touch
Free Gift Wrap • Gift Certificates Available
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FEB 23 2003



MASTERSINGERS — The MasterSingers earned a superior I rating in the pop/swing ensemble contest. Top row from left are Michael Nelson and Juan Rodriguez; third row, Marcie Rodriguez, Jessica Rylant and Felicia Ibarra; second row, Molly Haire, Stephanie Crisp, Sarah Carpenter and Stephanie Parmer; bottom row, Ryan Ward, Patrick Alderete and Michael Hernandez. Not pictured are Chris Smith and Cade Simpson. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Choir students bring back 69 medals in all

Continued From Page 1

Arellano, sophomore, alto; Devin Chandler, sophomore, soprano; Adrienne Garcia, junior, soprano; Corie Hernandez, sophomore, alto; Logan Martin, sophomore, tenor; Michelle Miller, sophomore, soprano; Michael Nelson, sophomore, bass; Stephanie Parmer, sophomore, alto; Ryan Ward, sophomore, tenor.

Freshman students who received a superior I rating on a Class III solo were Megan Crisp, soprano; Rudy Ibarra, tenor; Wanda Martinez, soprano; Megan McCormick, soprano; Cade Simpson, tenor; Temi Thompson, soprano; and Kiki Wofford, alto.

Receiving an excellent II rating on a Class I solo were Patrick Alderete, Ana Arce, Debra Bollinger, Scotti Boone, Stephanie Crisp, Ira Gonzales, Anna Henson, Felicia Ibarra, Veronica Maldonado, Kim Rivera, Jade Taggart and Janecia Zamora.

Receiving an excellent II rating on a Class Two solo were: Sarah Carpenter, Sarah Crawford, Casandra Darlin, Alexis Dupree, Ricky Early, Felicia Fuentes, Janie Hembree, Chela Hernandez, Sharena Lewis, David Martin, Erica Martinez, Samantha Moyer, Marisa Munoz, Mechelle Renfro, Kimberly Rocha, Leon Triggs and Lance Turner.

Freshmen students receiving an excellent II rating on a Class III solo were Morgan Bilderback, Jessica Calvert, Chris Lopez, Chris Smith, and Delesa Traylor.

Other students participating in solo competition were: Michael Hernandez, Aleida Arellano, Trey Bowlin, Lico Castillo, Nadia Chairez, Mike Hernandez, Annette Martinez, Lupe Rodriguez and Maresha Rivera.



RATING I ON CLASS III SOLOS — SHS choir students who earned a I rating on a Class III solo are top row from left, Temi Thompson, Rudy Ibarra and Kiki Wofford; bottom row, Megan McCormick and Wanda Martinez. Not pictured are Megan Crisp and Cade Simpson. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)



I RATING ON CLASS II SOLO — SHS choir students who earned a I rating on a Class II solo are top row from left, Michael Nelson, Logan Martin and Devin Chandler; middle row, Michelle Miller and Stephanie Parmer; bottom row, Ryan Ward, Corie Hernandez and Elizabeth Arellano. Not pictured is Adrienne Garcia. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)



I RATING ON TREBLE MEDIUM ENSEMBLE — SHS choir students who received a I rating on a treble medium ensemble are top row, from left, Casandra Darlin, Alexis Dupree and Morgan Bilderback; middle row, Temi Thompson and Kiki Wofford; bottom row, Michelle Miller and Megan McCormick. Not pictured are Rebecca Pavlovsky, Sharena Lewis, Veronica Maldonado, Megan Crisp and Samantha Moyers. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Neglected pigs shipped to adoptive families

ROCHESTER, N.Y. (AP) — Lobo-Cerdo came in severely emaciated, with thick scabs behind her ears. Pink Rosebud survived an infestation of parasites. Carmen still walks with a limp caused by frostbite.

Forty-one pigs found wandering around an upstate New York farm without food, water or shelter from the bitter cold caught an animal-lovers fantasy ride Thursday to adoptive families around the nation. Another 32 pigs will be shipped out in trailers over the next few weeks.

Since being rescued in December, the pigs have benefited from the bucolic setting at Farm Sanctuary, an asylum for hundreds of animals rescued mainly from factory farms, stockyards and slaughterhouses.

They were among 128 pigs found Dec. 3 on a farm near Olean in southwestern New York, suffering from stomach bloating, mange, abscesses, lung and ear infections, skin wounds and other ailments.

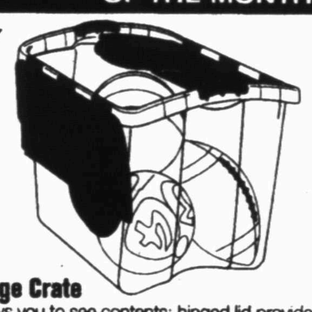
True Value
Help Is Just Around The Corner

BARGAIN OF THE MONTH



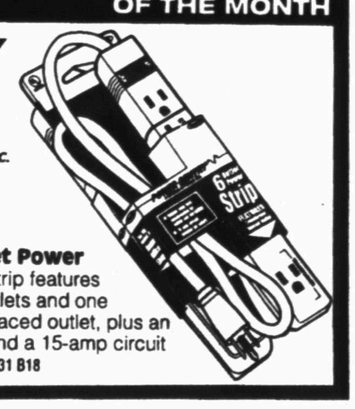
COSCO
8.88
Two-Step Stool
This handy stool with safety tread steps will give you a boost for extra reach. Folds down for easy transporting and storage. M 497 936 F4

BARGAIN OF THE MONTH



Sterilite
4.99
62-Qt. Storage Crate
Clear base allows you to see contents; hinged lid provides easy access. Perfect for storing away your seasonal items. (Contents not included) W 497 339 F6

BARGAIN OF THE MONTH



2-Pack
POWER SENTRY, INC.
3.77
2-Pk. 6-Outlet Power Strips Each strip features five regular outlets and one transformer-spaced outlet, plus an on/off switch and a 15-amp circuit breaker. E 854 331 B18

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Individual Retirement Account

Ask Us About An Educational IRA
FDIC
SNB SNYDER NATIONAL BANK
1715 25th Street 573-2681
Snyder, Texas

Public Records

Marriage License

Candelario S. Martinez and Ofelia Rangel Castaneda, both of Snyder.

James Harley Hall and Patricia Ann Graham, both of Snyder.

Billy Charles Ridling Jr. and Ashley Jewell Reeves, both of Snyder.

Sammy Ken Castillo Sr. and Benita Olga Ubando, both of Snyder.

Tony Melvin Cagle of Snyder and Julie Alexis McMullen of Ira.

Juan Javier Jaramillo and Misty Elaine Thurmond, both of Snyder.

Action in District Court

John Nell and Billy Mathis vs. BlueCross/BlueShield of Texas, order of dismissal with prejudice.

Kinder Morgan CO2 Co. vs. Jimmie Ken and Janet Spence, order of dismissal.

Kinder Morgan CO1 Co. vs. Ona Mae Spence and Jimmie Ken Spence, order of dismissal.

Deed Records

Ira Dwayne Riggs and Randy Everett Riggs, individually and as co-independent executors of the estate of Merle Riggs, to James R. and Terri E. Collins, the west 35 feet of Lot 3 and the east 53 feet of Lot 4 in Block 5 of the Park Place Addition.

Otto J. Meyer to Larry G. Lee, tract one being 2.482 acres in Block 3 of the Ridgecrest Addition; tract two being 2.436 acres in Section 95, Block 3, H&GN survey.

Billie Jean Boren to Steven L. and Kimberly A. Krueger, Lots 5 and 6 in Block 2 of the West Side Heights Addition.

JoAnn Mitchell to Johnny and Claudette Fuentez, Lots 11-16 in Block 25 of the Green Hills Addition.

Barbara Williamson Owens and Sherry Williamson Thompson, co-independent executors of the estate of Lillian E. Williamson, to Barbara Williamson Owens and Sherry Williamson Thompson, tract one being 320 acres out of 476.9 acres in Sections 256 and 257, Block 97, H&TC survey; tract two being the east one-half of the southwest one-quarter of Section 246, Block 97, H&TC survey; tract three being 442.5 acres known as the west one-half and the south part of the east one-half of Section 256, Block 97, H&TC survey; tract four being the east 34.4 acres in Section 257, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Rex D. and Sybil W. Fields to Travis William and Sara Elizabeth Inman, Lot 6 in Block C of the replat of the Highland Park Addition.

Travis William and Sara Elizabeth Inman to Michael C. and Christi Lynn Chapman, Lot 6 in Block C of the Replat of the Highland Park Addition.

Martha Ann Grubb, independent executrix of the estate of Beatrice H. Lewis to Martha Ann Grubb, tract one being the west one-half of Lot 3 in Block 23 of the Blankenship Addition; tract two being the west one-half of Lot 4 in Block 24 of the Blankenship Addition; tract three being the west one-half of Lot 3 in Block 24 of the Blankenship Addition.

Selma Louise Brown to Amy Elaine Hardy, Susan Kay Rosson, Linda Jane Boney and Leslie Allen Brown, Lot 1 and the south 10 feet of Lot 3, both in Block 1 of the Davis Subdivision of Block 71 of the Grayum and Nelson Second Addition.

G.W. and Evelyn R. Crawford to Asburn Gale Branscum, the west 93 feet of the north 90 feet of Lot 3 in Block 20 of the Blankenship Addition.

Pauline Autry to Patrick A. and Susan Birkenfield, Lot 13 in Block 2 of the Cedar Creek Addition, Section 1.

Michael L. Seal to Megan L. Kimmel, the south 70 feet of Lots 1 and 2, Block 7 of the West Side Heights Addition.

Michael L. Seal to Margarita Castillo, the north 75 feet of the west 30 feet of Lot 1 and the north 75 feet of the east 35 feet of Lot 3, Block 22 of the Blankenship Addition.

Vicente and Nancy Rodriquez to Raymundo and Ruthie Yanes, the south 65 feet of Lot 1 in Block 28 of the Original Town of Snyder.

Schroder named 'Landowner of the Year'

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. (AP) — Former "NYPD Blue" star Rick Schroder and a Colorado ranching family are the recipients of "Landowner of the Year" awards from the Colorado Division of Wildlife.

Schroder and the family of Bill Canterbury were selected for their efforts to improve wildlife habitat, minimize livestock damage and protect water.

"Rick puts his money where his mouth is," John Ellenberger, the Division of Wildlife's big-game manager, said this week.

Schroder, 32, played Detective Danny Sorenson on the ABC crime drama "NYPD Blue" from 1998-2001.

He owns the 15,500-acre Mesa Mood Ranch near Grand Junction. The Canterbury family owns a 1,000-acre ranch near Salida.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Sunday, Feb. 23, 2003

Growth in your career is quite possible in the year ahead. It will be an auspicious time for utilizing your skills and talents in ways that the marketplace will find quite valuable.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Negative conditions that have been plaguing you of late should start to diminish beginning today. These obstructions will be replaced with fresh opportunities for fulfilling personal goals.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — By putting your thinking cap on, you should be able to figure out how to turn a normal get-together with friends today into something special that will be all fun and games.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — The timing is now extremely favorable for bringing a personal matter about which you've been uncertain to a successful conclusion today. Everything should work out pretty nifty for you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Don't be hesitant about taking on something large and exciting today. Your upbeat attitude coupled with a large dose of creative thinking can pull off almost anything you desire.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — You are luckier than usual today where money is concerned, so although this should be a day of rest for you, you might want to work in an area where you can garner some financial gains.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — You alone should be in charge of any situation that calls for a risk or gamble to be taken today, so that you can have complete control over the timing and the methods used.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Lucky you! You can rest on your laurels today, because friends and associates will be looking out for your interests and do a better job of handling things than you could for yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Although you might not be aware of it, an important change might be taking place in your life starting today that will usher in hopeful, new conditions that should make you very happy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Be sure to capitalize on any opportunity that presents itself today, because the aspects are such that you could realize the fulfillment of your ambitions and material aims at this time.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Today, do more than just fantasize about what you want. Make things happen by setting in motion the necessary steps needed to acquire what you desire. The more you do, the luckier you'll get.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Personal gains are possible today, but not necessarily through your own efforts. Either circumstances or another person will be responsible for the good luck that spills over onto you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Any joint endeavor you engage yourself in today could prove to be quite fortunate for you. What one lacks the other has, and collectively you can pull off something you couldn't do on your own.

Monday, Feb. 24, 2003

Your circle of influence will be expanded considerably in the year ahead. You'll find several opportunities to use your greater weight to develop bigger and better things in your business and personal affairs.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Sometimes the outside world doesn't treat you well, but that doesn't give you cause to drag your frustrations home today and take them out on innocent family members. Leave them at the doorstep.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Having little patience or small regard for the suggestions and thoughts of others is self-defeating. You cut off a whole pool of ideas that could trigger fresh thinking on your part.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Everybody is trying to feather their own nests, but some people attempt to do so at the expense of others. You could run into just such a person today, so take nothing for granted in your financial affairs.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — People in general could be a trifle difficult to get along with today, even your mate or someone close to you. To maintain peace, be careful not to bring up issues that hold potential for discord.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Problems that arise today are apt to be of your own making. You can control the reins on this by thinking your moves through in advance before taking action.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Your natural diplomacy usually makes you a pretty good mediator, but today, if you try to iron out a problem between two pals, you could end up looking like the heavy in the process.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — There's a strong chance you will take on more than you should today, thus spreading your forces too thin. It's best to attempt to do less, so that what you do you have time to do well.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Dealing with a desire to procrastinate could be a big problem for you today. If you avoid talking about your lack of motivation, however, you can spend your energy being productive.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Be extremely watchful today in your joint ventures. This could be a tricky area, and any mishaps that occur might come back to haunt you instead of your cohorts.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Being a person who has many pots on the stove to watch at one time is normal for you, but today your attention may be so diverse and diverted that none of your associates can deal with you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Perfection has its place, but strive to close your eyes to the shortcomings of others, especially co-workers. If you start criticizing them, they could collectively turn on you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Trying to impress others by being a freewheeling spender today will do nothing but cost you a ton of money. No one will really take notice, making it all for naught.

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David Hasselhoff, wife injured in accident

LOS ANGELES (AP) — David Hasselhoff and his wife suffered broken bones when the actor lost control of the motorcycle they were riding and hit a sidewalk curb, police said.

Strong gusty winds were blamed for the crash Thursday afternoon on a busy street on the city's West Side, police said.

The crash threw Hasselhoff against a light pole, while his wife, actress Pamela Bach, fell onto the shoulder of the road. Police said both were wearing helmets.

They were taken to UCLA Medical Center, where Hasselhoff, 50, was treated for possible lower back fractures, a broken rib and cuts and bruises, according to police. Bach, 39, was treated for a fractured ankle and broken wrist.

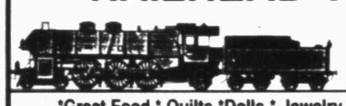
"They're in stable condition," said Warren Cowan, a publicist for Hasselhoff.

Cowan said Hasselhoff has canceled trips and interviews to promote the upcoming Fox movie "Baywatch: Hawaiian Wedding."

The actor, best known for portraying lifeguard Mitch Buchannon on the "Baywatch" TV series and various "Baywatch" movies and TV specials, also starred in the 1980s TV show "Knight Rider."

Bach was also a regular on "Baywatch" for several season.

RAILHEAD TRADE DAYS



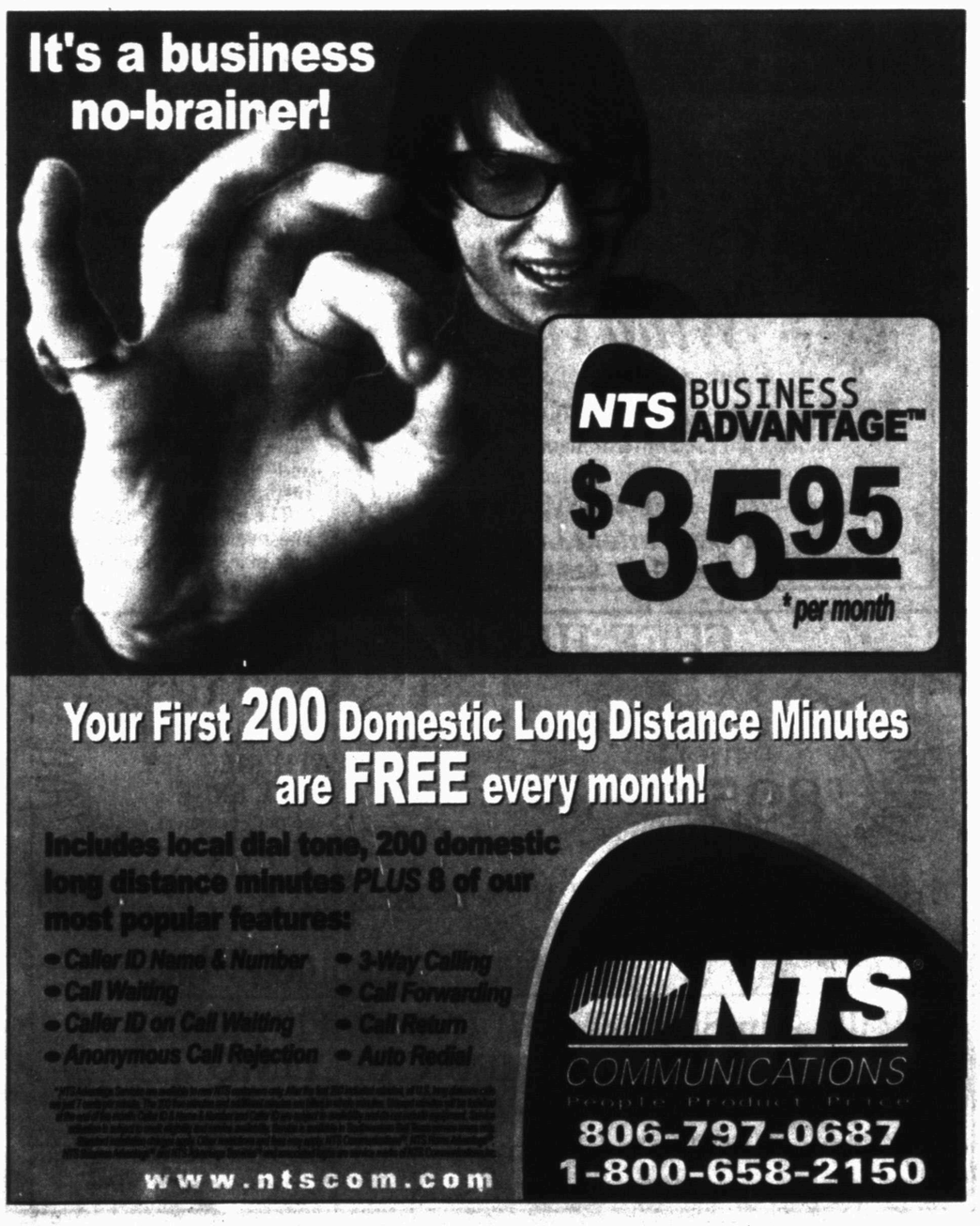
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday, March 1
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FEB 23 2003

Scurry County Anti-drug Connection

The best things in life are drug free

The Snyder Daily News, in cooperation with the Scurry County Anti-Drug Connection and Al-Anon support groups, devote this column to current information on substance abuse, and how we as a community can work together to create a safe and drug-free environment for our children.

BE HEART HEALTHY

Although most thoughts this time of year have been on romantic hearts, people should also give consideration to taking care of that all-important organ the heart to keep it pumping healthy.

February is designated as heart awareness month in order to promote information about cardiovascular disease as well as ways we can better care for our hearts.

The job of the human heart is to pump nutrient-rich blood throughout the body. If you smoke, take drugs or drink alcohol excessively, you are making your heart work overtime. As time goes on, this will take a toll on your health. Studies have shown that engaging in these negative activities increases the risk of having a heart attack and sudden cardiac death.

Cardiovascular disease, including stroke, is the number one killer in the United States. Each year, approximately 250,000 people die suddenly due to cardiac arrest. This is often the case because CPR and defibrillation are provided too late.

With heart attacks, some are sudden and intense while others start slowly with mild pain and discomfort. Often people affected are not certain what is happening and wait too long before seeking medical attention.

Warning signs include chest discomfort in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few minutes or that goes away and comes back. It can feel like uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain. Discomfort in other areas such as one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach as well as shortness of breath are also warning signs. Other signs may include breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness.

Warning sings of stroke include sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body, sudden confusion, and trouble speaking or understanding. Others include sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes, sudden trouble walking, dizziness, and loss of balance or coordination.

Time is of the essence in both heart attacks and strokes, so it is important to know the warning signs and dial 9-1-1 immediately if you see someone or you yourself are experiencing the symptoms. Taking care of yourself physically by eating right, exercising and abstaining from tobacco, alcohol and drugs is also important.

For more information on how you and/or your business or organization can be involved in promoting a drug-free community, contact the Scurry County Anti-Drug Connection at the Snyder Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, 574-1931 or 573-1411.

Richmond street named Darrell Green Blvd.

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — For 20 years, Darrell Green was jersey No. 28 for the Washington Redskins. Now, he's Route 28 in Virginia.

Green received a standing ovation Wednesday from the General Assembly, which earlier this session approved a bill naming a stretch of Loudoun County road as Darrell Green Boulevard.

Green spent his entire career with the Redskins, playing in three Super Bowls. He said he was honored to be recognized by his adopted home state's Legislature for his football play and his nonprofit Darrell Green Youth Life Foundation.

Green has lived in Loudoun County, about 25 miles from Washington, for 15 years.

Snow insurance pays off for Northhampton

BOSTON (AP) — Gambling on Mother Nature is hardly a safe bet, but the city of Northampton has occasionally beat the odds.

For the past eight years, the community 100 miles west of here has been banking on getting buried in snow by buying an insurance policy.

For an annual premium of $12,500, Northampton insures itself against snow accumulations above 62 inches. This week's record snowfall put the city 4 inches over that threshold.

At $5,850 an inch for every inch above the threshold, that's $23,400 for the latest storm. Two years ago, when over 80 inches of snow fell on Northampton, the city collected more than $100,000.

"We got lucky. We don't sit down and say what is El Nino doing and what does the Farmers Almanac say," said George Andrikidis, the city's public works director. "It's a gamble, no question about it."

Snow insurance appears to be largely a Northeast phenomenon, though only a few dozen communities, mostly small towns, have the coverage.

"Everybody says 'You have what?' It's a relatively new animal," said Vivien Van Wagner, clerk treasurer of the incorporated village of Muttontown, N.Y., population 3,300.

Many communities dropped coverage in the late 1990s, when winters were mild.

The Connecticut communities of Meriden, Cheshire and Derby all dropped coverage in recent years, as did the Long Island communities of Atlantic Beach, New Hyde Park, and Valley Stream, municipal and insurance officials said.

Cost was a factor in Connecticut.

In 1996, the city of Derby's premium was $10,000 and the policy paid $100,000 that year. "But then, as usual, the insurance companies figured it out and turned it around," Derby Mayor Marc Garofalo said of quotes he received this winter — $25,000 for coverage. "They made it so it doesn't make sense for anyone to get it."

Still, a few communities held onto coverage. For $4,000 a year, Muttontown receives $1,000 for every inch of snow over 35 inches between December and mid-April.

This week's storm puts the Muttontown's unofficial inch count at 41 inches — or $6,000 and counting. "We've paid for the policy and we've received $2,000 and going into April, we'll get additional help. I don't expect this to be our last sight of snow," Van Wagner said. "This doesn't relieve the burden that we're under, but it certainly is something."

The National League of Cities knows of no other region of the country that uses the coverage, said Doug Peterson, the group's chief of insurance and risk issues, although he pointed out that ski resorts often buy insurance to protect against a lack of snow.

Laurie Tillman, owner of Good Weather Insurance Agency in Salem, said she underwrites snow insurance policies for nearly 100 cities and towns in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

"Not every year is profitable — this may be one of them," Tillman said, although she acknowledged snow insurance, which comprises 10 percent of her business, is profitable over the long term. "Generally, you wouldn't have losses occurring every year, just like you wouldn't expect your house to burn down every year."

Geoff Beckwith, executive director of the Massachusetts Municipal Association, said cities and towns considering such policies must sign on for the long haul or not at all.

Kidnapper's mother receives probation

VALLEJO, Calif. (AP) — The mother of a woman accused of kidnapping a young boy and raising him as her own was sentenced Thursday to three years of probation.

Dolores Brown, 44, pleaded no contest to felony child concealment. She has insisted she never knew the boy she helped raised was abducted — allegedly by her daughter. The daughter is also facing a murder charge in the 1996 death of the boy's mother.

An anonymous tip broke the case in December, and authorities say Brown helped recover 6-year-old Le-Zhan Williams.

Brown did not comment during Thursday's hearing.

Also in court were her daughter, Latasha Brown, 22, and an alleged accomplice, Ocianetta Williams, 23. Both have pleaded innocent to murder and kidnap charges.

A judge on Thursday delayed their preliminary hearing until an appeals court determines whether they should be tried as juveniles. Both remain jailed.

Luminaria ceremony planned with Relay

A special luminaria ceremony held during the American Cancer Society Relay for Life in Scurry County will remember those lost to cancer and honor those who have survived. Luminaria candles will be lit April 25 at Tiger Stadium at 10 p.m. to represent those individuals and to light the way to a cure for cancer.

"It's so beautiful when all the bags with candles are illuminated around the track," said Helen Mock, luminaria chair. "We hope to have enough to completely surround the track twice."

For a minimum donation of $5 per luminaria, a person can dedicate the glowing tribute in honor of, in memory of, or in appreciation of any friend or family member who has survived cancer or who has been lost to the disease. Volunteers for the ACS will read the names of those honored along with the names of those paying tribute to them during the luminaria ceremony. People may include a short personal message to be written on the luminaria bag.

All citizens of Scurry County are invited to attend the luminaria ceremony and see the special tributes come to life. Proceeds from the sales of luminaria will benefit the Relay for Life of the Scurry County Unit of the American Cancer Society.

The local unit is dedicated to continuing cancer research, encouraging early detection and prevention of cancer, and to providing services to cancer patients and their families.

"The luminaria ceremony is a special time where we remember our loved ones lost to cancer and thank God for those who have survived. It is a somber event to remind us of the seriousness of our task at hand, which is to put a stop to cancer," said Bonnie Hodge, cancer survivor and Relay for Life volunteer.

Questions concerning the luminaria ceremony and purchasing the tributes can be directed to Mock at 573-8332. Those interested in purchasing luminaria may also complete the form below and follow the return instructions on it.

For more information on living with cancer, preventing cancer and surviving cancer go to www. cancer.org or call the 24-hour toll-free hotline 1-800-ACS-2345. Information on the local unit of the American Cancer Society can be obtained by calling Terrisu Mann, president, at 573-1031.

Light The Way To A Cure

Relay For Life
Scurry County Unit
American Cancer Society
April 25-26, 2003
Tiger Stadium at Snyder High School
Candle Lighting (Luminaria) Ceremony at 10 p.m.
$5 minimum donation per Luminaria

Your Name_____

In Honor of_____

OR

In Memory of_____

Amount donated $__Cash__Check_ Payable to AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

Message to be printed on bag

_____

Return this form with your donation to Helen Mock at 2711 Ave. V Snyder, TX 79549. The luminaria bags are prepared prior to the Relay For Life so please mail them to Mrs. Mock, return them to any Relay For Life team captain or bring them to the Bank Night at Texas Savings Bank, Tuesday, March 11, at 5:30 p.m.

Connecticut AG sues Yale-New Haven

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP) — The state accused Yale-New Haven Hospital in a lawsuit Thursday of misusing millions of dollars in donations that were supposed to go toward free medical care for the poor.

Attorney General Richard Blumenthal said the hospital hoarded about $37 million in "free bed funds" and added the donations to its endowment. Blumenthal said he did not know how long the practice had been going on.

The lawsuit also accused the hospital of failing to inform needy patients that the financial assistance was available and hiring aggressive collection agencies to go after patients who had not paid their bills.

In a statement, hospital officials said they were surprised by the lawsuit.

"We believe we use free bed care funds appropriately in meeting patient's needs," the statement said.

Hartley joins cast

NEW YORK (AP) — The recasting of "Cabaret" continues, with Mariette Hartley set to join the long-running Broadway revival in early March. She will play Fraulein Schneider, the practical Berlin landlady in the Kander and Ebb musical.

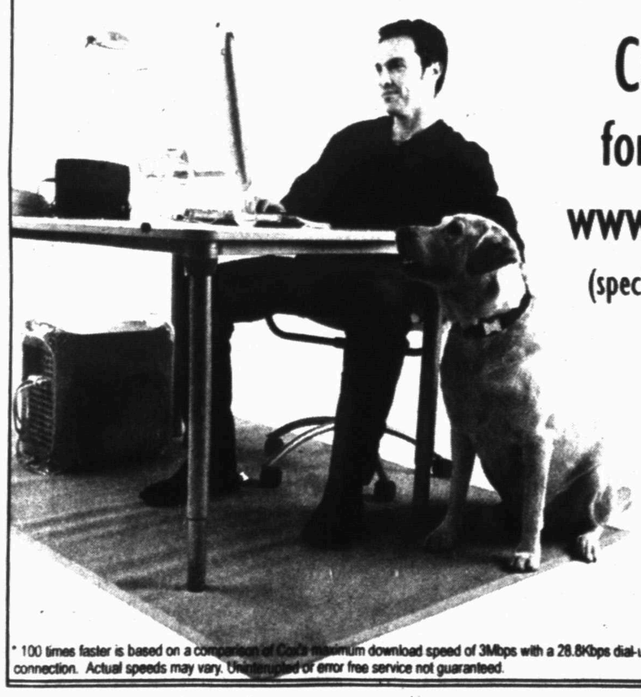
Hartley is best known for her TV appearances in shows such as "The Rockford Files," "WIOU" and "Healthy Solutions." Hartley's casting was announced Thursday.

The 62-year-old actress is the latest veteran television personality to star in the show, now playing at Studio 54.

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Searchers can use vehicles in protected areas

INDIAN MOUNDS WILDERNESS, Texas (AP) — Crews searching for pieces of the space shuttle Columbia may use motorized vehicles in a 12,369-acre wilderness area that has been unmolested since winning federal protection in 1984.

Marcus Beard, district ranger for the Sabine National Forest, said a U.S. Forest Service official in Texas has authorized the use of four-wheelers in the Indian Mounds Wilderness, where motorized vehicles are banned, to search areas within NASA's search grid.

U.S. Forest Service officials said that as of Friday searchers had not used four-wheelers the wilderness, but that only a small area had been searched.

Indian Mounds is a "let nature take its course area," says forest service spokeswoman Gay Ippolito.

One of five national wilderness areas in Texas where roads, structures, timber harvesting, bicycles and aircraft landings are banned, Indian Mounds has been undisturbed, at least legally, since Congress granted it wilderness designation, officials said.

Not even during the southern pine beetle infestation in the early 1990s did authorities intervene, Beard said. As a result, the beetle killed 10,000 acres of pine trees in the wilderness, Beard said.

But the search for shuttle parts is different, Ippolito said.

"With an event of this magnitude, we have to look at the laws and make exceptions to make the right choice in a difficult situation," Ippolito said.

Beard said he wasn't sure if four-wheelers would be used, but that the impact would probably be small if they were.

"It's a one-time thing," he said. "It's not like we're going to spend all day."

Four forest service workers have already searched the southern end of the Indian Mounds Wilderness by foot and found some smaller items, Beard said.

The last time permission was given to use motorized equipment in Indian Mounds was in 2000, when bulldozers were permitted in case forest fires threatened the parched area. Beard said the bulldozers were never used.

Environmental groups were largely understanding about the shuttle recovery effort.

"This is unique," said Phyllis Dunham, Austin-based regional director for the Sierra Club, an environmental group. "These are actually heroic people on a recovery mission and they have to be given some leeway."

Richard Donovan of Lufkin, the forest task force chairman for the Austin-based nonprofit Texas Committee on Natural Resources, agreed that the use of motorized vehicles is justified in this search.

But he said he is somewhat concerned about the impact that the search will have on East Texas forests overall.

"This has been a pretty heavy footprint on the forest," Donovan said.

Since Feb. 1, when Columbia broke apart over the region, killing all seven astronauts aboard, there have been thousands of volunteers, U.S. Natural Guard Troops and others have been sloshing through the piney woods and tilling the muddy soil with four-wheelers and other motorized equipment.

Donovan said the heavy traffic, and the churning and spinning of all terrain vehicles through miles of forest, could lead to problems with erosion. Vehicle tracks create rivets of water that can grow larger and eventually carry large amounts of sediment to the river, he said.

"That causes all kinds of havoc in the streams," he said.

It can eventually affect fish and marine life all the way down to the marshes of the Gulf of Mexico, he said.

Ippollito said that in normal operations, the forest service looks at "any damage done to the forest and the resources and if necessary, we will take steps to improve or mitigate problems."

Dion plans new home

JUPITER, Fla. (AP) — Celine Dion plans to build a new home in one of Palm Beach's most exclusive golf-course developments.

Dion, who recently sold her previous Jupiter home, paid $3.5 million for 3 acres of waterfront land in Jack Nicklaus' The Bear's Club.

The 34-year-old singer said she chose the community for its "exceptional privacy and security."

"We love the Jupiter area," Dion said in a statement e-mailed to The Palm Beach Post. "We love Jack and Barbara Nicklaus and their family."

Dion opens next month at Caesars Palace hotel-casino in Las Vegas.

Date Book

Saturday, Feb. 22, 2003

Today is the 53rd day of 2003 and the 63rd day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1819, Florida was ceded to the United States from Spain when Secretary of State John Quincy Adams signed the Florida Purchase Treaty.

On this day in 1879, Woolworths first opened in Utica, N.Y.

On this day in 1994, CIA operative Aldrich Ames and his wife, Maria, were arrested on charges of selling secrets to the Soviet Union.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: George Washington (1732-1799), first U.S. president; Arthur Schopenhauer (1788-1860), philosopher and writer; James Russell Lowell (1819-1891), essayist and poet; Robert Baden-Powell (1857-1941), founder of the Boy Scouts; Edna St. Vincent Millay (1892-1950), poet; Robert Pershing Wadlow (1918-1940), tallest man (8 feet 11.1 inches) recorded in history; Edward Moore (Ted) Kennedy, (1932-), U.S. senator, is 71; William Frist (1952-), U.S. senator, is 51.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1980, the United States hockey team won the Olympic gold medal.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "My candle burns at both ends; / It will not last the night; / But, ah, my foes, and oh, my friends — / It gives a lovely light." — Edna St. Vincent Millay

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (Feb. 16) and last quarter (Feb. 23).

Sunday, Feb. 23, 2003

Today is the 54th day of 2003 and the 64th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1893, Rudolf Diesel patented the diesel engine in Germany.

On this day in 1991, Allied forces launched the first ground offensive against Iraqi forces as part of Desert Storm.

On this day in 1997, researchers in Scotland announced the first cloning of an adult animal, a lamb named Dolly, who had an identical genetic makeup to that of her mother.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: George Frederick Handel (1685-1759), composer; Emma Hart Willard (1787-1870), pioneer in higher education for women; W(illiam) E(dward) B(urghardt) Du Bois (1868-1963), African-American leader; William L. Shirer (1904-1993), writer and journalist.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1980, Eric Heiden became the first person to win five gold medals in one Olympics after winning the 10,000 meter speed-skating race.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "The cost of liberty is less than the price of repression." - W.E.B. Du Bois

TODAY'S MOON: Last quarter (Feb. 23).

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FEB 23 2003

Can man's best friend be an aggravation? By Joe Klock, Sr.

Among the peculiarities of our language are the so-called oxymorons, meaning expressions that appear to be contradictory. The word's pedigree is, incidentally, impeccable, having descended from the Greek "oxus" (sharp) and "moros" (dull).

Examples include pretty ugly, tight slacks, holy hell, and, among a fringe cult of Foxymorons, adult male. (Well, of course I made that "F" word up, but this is, after all, my column and I am, after all, a card-carrying a. m.!)

One of the more familiar o'ons is "pet peeve," literally combining personkind's beloved subhumans with one of our more annoying scourges. Pets and peeves are no more compatible than oil and water, truth and diplomacy, Hilary and Billary, etc.

But, like critics and belly buttons, we all have 'em, and some of mine are the subject matter of this-here rant.

Note: In addition to the aforementioned fact that this is my own column, there is the lesser-known truism that one of the motivations of we who write is the emotional cathartic it provides, warding off such afflictions as hypertension, intellectual dyspepsia, and (in some cases) lowering our booze bills.

Herewith, then, and in randumb order, the latest of the numerous "peeve purges" that have graced or disgraced this space (your call) over the years:

—That "creeping sub-text" that scampers from left to right at the bottom of our TV screens when we're trying to focus on the "big picture" and follow the sound. Ditto the network logos that further clutter the videoface. Note to the Netnuts in charge: We KNOW which station is on...it's the one we chose, you dummies!

—Those non-melodious pop singers who pollute our National Anthem with every imaginable vocal trick and distracting riff. Granted, it ain't the snappiest tune on the planet, but bastardizing it don't help none, and it certainly doesn't help the crowd, as requested, to join in.

—Table servers who order me to "enjoy your meal." I'll double the tip for the next (read first) one who precedes it with "I hope you."

—Show-biz celebrities who morph into punditry, presumably in the hope that the dopier echelons of fandom will blindly follow their lead. I still get a chill remembering Hanoi Jane (Fonda) during the Vietnam War and view with incredulity her selection by the Ladies' Home Journal as one of the "100 Most Important Women Of The 20th Century," rudely snubbing Tokyo Rose of WWII fame.

—That geeky (Hey, Dude!) kid in the Dell computer commercials, who was described by a TV critic as being "adorable." He was recently busted for pot-holding, giving me reason to hope that I've seen the last of his toothy mugging.

—Bone-crushing hand-shakers who equate sadism with masculinity and confuse firmness with criminal assault. (A touch of arthritis in my shaking paw has exacerbated the hazard, but in no way discouraged my assailants.

—Adults who use the language patterns of adolescence.(like, I mean, he goes, y'know, etc.). Also, the aging "post-debs" (I'm being kind here) who don't seem to understand that their skirts should be lowered as their vintage ascends.

—Phil Donahue, perhaps the smarmiest, whiniest, most unctuous Leftie in the long history of liberal journalism. It is a rare tribute to the thinking viewers (how's THAT for an oxymoron, folks) that his current talk show is apparently headed for the dumpster.

—The wackos in Florida's motor vehicle bureaucracy who allowed a Muslim babe to be photographed in a hood that concealed everything but her eyes. Reportedly, it had something to do with respect for her religious beliefs, but it concomitantly tramples on my rights as a devout Coward when I think about the multitude of sinners that could lurk beneath similar sheets.

—Surplus sex on both the big and small screens. Although there's no denying that pandering to the prurient proclivities of the viewing public makes for good ratings and better profits, one yearns at times for the days of panning to a pounding surf, rather than closing in on the gasps and gropes of graphic hanky-panky. Too many plots move from boy-meets-girl to boy-beds-babe with dizzying speed, while our children look....and learn!

—Bleeding hearts who work to alleviate the sufferings due to poverty, ignorance and cultural deprivation, while simultaneously trapping their beneficiaries in never-ending cycles of welfare dependency. Help for the have-nots should be a high priority for those who have, but that help should be accompanied by - and, when possible, predicated on - the education which is their only escape route from the snake pit of second-class citizenship.

—People who beef excessively about their pet peeves (just kidding!)

Joe Klock, Sr. is a freelance writer in Key Largo, FL. E-mail joeklock@aol.com or call (305) 451-0079



Open Government Barometer

Number of Executive Sessions held by public entities in 2003.

Snyder ISD	2
Hermleigh ISD	2
DCOS	1
Ira ISD	1
Scurry County	0
City of Snyder	0
WTC	0
Cogdell Hospital	0



EDITORIAL COMMENT

Austin American-Statesman

Proposed Austin casino

Oh, come on. A casino in downtown Austin?

A group that includes several prominent Austinites, such as former Mayor Bruce Todd and lawyer-power broker Pete Winstead, is developing a plan to put in a $440 million casino hotel at the intersection of Red River and East Cesar Chavez streets, immediately west of Interstate 35. Other aspects of the project include construction of a major flood control tunnel under Waller Creek.

The hurdles are considerable: The Legislature (by a two-thirds margin in each chamber) and then the voters would have to approve a constitutional amendment to allow casino gambling. And the organizers would have to win support from the Austin City Council, and probably Austin voters in a referendum, to build the casino project.

A casino might well generate a lot of business for Austin. In property, sales, liquor and other taxes, an Austin casino could be a gusher, thanks to its central location in Texas. The state probably would have to build off-ramps from I-35 that lead exclusively and directly into the casino's garages.

Maybe we'd need a shuttle service between the University of Texas and the casino for students to come over and bet on UT sports teams — or against them, depending on how the season is going.

Whatever Austin is, it is not a gambling town, though certainly many residents enjoy gambling as a recreation elsewhere, buy lottery tickets, play bingo or bet on sports in office pools. But we've heard no groundswell of demand for a casino.

Austin residents of some vintage can remember in the early 1980s when a tire manufacturer started making plans to build a factory here. A tire factory in Austin? No matter how clean the manufacturer promised the factory would be, Austinites were having none of it. The plant never got built. And we suspect that had Toyota Motor Corp. talked about building its new pickup factory here instead of San Antonio, some — no, many — in this community would have objected even to that.

Beaumont Enterprise

State budget framework

With his state-of-the-state address on Tuesday, Gov. Rick Perry finally presented his framework for balancing the state budget. The Legislature must now start building on this outline to produce a budget that somehow meets the state's growing needs without a tax increase.

That challenge is daunting, but Perry insists it is doable. As he put it, "My friends, it can be done. We can balance our budget without raising taxes."

The key to Perry's proposal lies in reducing spending by most state agencies by 9 percent in the next two-year budget, a move that could save $3.8 billion. He said another $1.7 billion can be saved by adopting many suggestions recently proposed by State Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn.

Social programs seem destined to take the biggest hit from Perry's budget. Those kinds of cutbacks can be the hardest to make politically, especially since many observers say Texas provides less funding for social programs than most other states.

Yet the budget-cutters point out that spending on these programs dramatically increased in previous sessions of the Legislature, when the state budget had a surplus. Last year, state spending for all public services averaged $2,600 per resident, or $10,470 for a family of four.

One bright spot in Perry's budget was his plan to spend $500 million more on education. That's one area of the budget that shouldn't be cut because it has such a big impact on vulnerable children, many of whom live in poverty.

Now the hard work begins for the House and Senate. They will be besieged by interest groups and forced to make hard decisions. Yet given the widespread reluctance in the Legislature and among average voters for a tax increase, no other option remains. The budget must be built from the ground up, and it must be constructed within the current limits of state revenues.

Houston Chronicle

Iraq

The United Nations' chief weapons inspector, Hans Blix, is scheduled to brief the Security Council Friday, but the Bush administration has signaled that whatever progress the inspectors have made is too little, too late. Short of abdication, nothing Saddam Hussein does will derail President Bush's advance toward war.

That ill-conceived course unnecessary and therefore unjustified. Because a U.S. attack is more likely to provoke than prevent the use of weapons of mass destruction, it could prove to be a march of folly.

Secretary of State Colin Powell did an admirable job of describing Saddam's efforts to hide dangerous chemicals and germs. He did not explain why Saddam would suddenly decide to use those weapons and sign his own death warrant.

Even more noticeable was Powell's failure to explain why he seemed to have joined the administration hawks and abandoned his reluctance to go to war. As Powell spoke, drapes covered Pablo Picasso's famous anti-war painting Guernica that hung in the chamber. Powell no doubt recognized that the case for war could not compete with war's stark and terrifying depiction.

The administration maintains that the first President Bush was prudent to leave Saddam in power after Desert Storm, when his chemical and biological arsenal was intact. If that is true, a U.S. invasion of Iraq more than a decade later would be the height of imprudence.

The United States might have recovered from its Vietnam syndrome, but that is no reason to plunge into another, avoidable quagmire. U.S. troops have been bogged down in Bosnia for years; they are still fighting in Afghanistan. Sending thousands more to occupy Iraq makes little sense.

The United States could easily find itself in a position similar to Israel's, occupying territory inhabited by hateful factions with no inclination for peace and democracy.

The American public already has begun to pay the price of war with Iraq. Oil and gasoline prices are skyrocketing. The stock market and economy remain shaky.

Defense officials warn Americans that another terrorist attack might be on the way.

Letters to the editor

WTC baseball

Dear Editor:

The Snyder Daily News printed TWO sentences on February 12 regarding the first WTC baseball home game. Do two sentences actually qualify as an article? Perhaps the paper should reconsider encouraging parents of players to subscribe.

SHAME on the political powers prohibiting the WTC baseball team from practicing on Moffett Field until their practice field is ready. The baseball players are paying much of their own tuition in hopes of continuing their baseball career, yet practice is conducted on a lot with stickers and rocks rather than on a beautiful field not used every day. Has the city and county seen an increase in revenue this school year since the WTC baseball program began? "Share it and they will come."

Sincerely,
Michelle Owens

Parent of Landon Thompson, WTC baseball outfielder who went 4 for 4 in the first home game with a homerun, stand-up double, two singles, and four RBIs.

Wrong number

Dear Editor:

I am writing this letter in response to Ms Carroll's letter in last Sunday's paper. Ms Carroll, I can definitely say that I know exactly how you feel! I have faced an ongoing problem for the past year or so — due to people misdialing numbers.

The problem I face, however, is a little different than Ms Carroll's. My phone number is quite often being mistaken for a fax number. You can imagine the annoyance of the loud "BEEP, BEEP, BEEP" that comes through my phone at least once a week, and even on my answering machine. I have tried contacting the person(s) that may be misdialing ... but to no avail.

My caller ID comes up with a number from Cogdell Hospital. I've talked to many people at the hospital — who were all very willing to help — but none of them seemed to know which department the fax was coming from. I found out that the number possibly trying to be reached is one number different from mine. It is the fax number to the Covenant Family Healthcare Clinic on College Avenue.

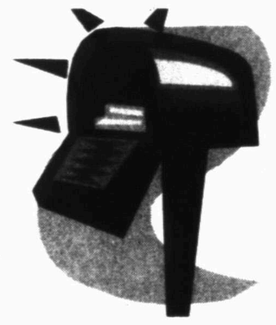
I called the Health Clinic to ask if they maybe had a list of the different department fax numbers at the hospital (so that I could contact them). The lady I talked to told me that they did not have a list, did not know which department had that particular fax number, and that she was not about to go and check all the faxes they get just for me. She also mentioned that the faxes they get are for the doctor's files.

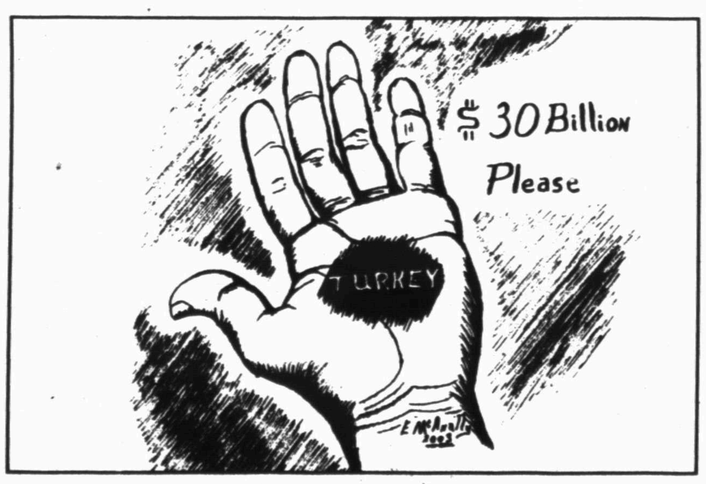
Personally, missing something that needs to go into a patient's file would worry me just a little — especially if the personnel on the receiving end don't want to check the faxes to make sure they are getting them. That is beside the point however. She then proceeded to tell me that the hospital should know whom the faxes were coming from, and that I should contact them.

Feeling a bit yo-yo'd around, I called the hospital again. This time, I was put in contact with a very nice young lady named Leslie. She said that she would do her best to find out where the faxes were coming from, and may work on getting the problem corrected. For this effort, I do thank the people at Cogdell Hospital for working with me to solve this problem. On the other hand, I am still getting "faxed" through my telephone quite a bit.

All I ask is this, if you are sending a fax from Cogdell Hospital to Covenant Healthcare Clinic, PLEASE take just an extra second to double check the number you are dialing. My number is a 574- the clinic is a 573- number. You would be saving me a lot of aggravation, and at the same time, you'll be sending it to the right number.

Thank You!
S. Rodriguez





One minute with the classics: Dracula
By Rix Quinn

Chances are if you didn't read "Dracula," you saw a movie version. Or, maybe you viewed a flick with Drac's name that's got little to do with the book. These include "Count D Haunts Spring Break" and "Dracula Dance Party."

The original 19th century novel unearths a deep plot filled with unsavory creatures...the same thing Dracula looked for when he was real hungry.

The story begins as lawyer Jonathon Harker heads for Count Dracula's Transylvania castle on a legal matter. As he nears the estate, his horse-drawn coach encounters thunder and rain, a sure sign scary organ music will follow.

Dracula invites Jon to stay overnight. Is this hospitality or hunger talking? Jon's soon awakened by scratching, and opens his bedroom door to find Drac hanging upside down on the wall.

Bolting from his room, Jon escapes by running through another door, which leads him into a casket-filled courtyard. Quickly, he swallows a cold capsule to "stop the persistent coffin."

From this point forward, the plot becomes thicker than concrete pudding. But Jon and his friends soon discover that vampires (1) can assume any identity, (2) vanish if challenged, and (3) sleep days and party at night...like many urban singles.

The group returns to Dracula's castle, and discovers he has several brides (you'll see them in later movies) who conspire with him to bleed good folks dry.

The only way to destroy these rascals is to pierce their hearts with stakes while they sleep. So when the sun rises, that's what our heroes do. Soon the world is vampire-free...until the next sequel.

In reading this grand classic, we discover that (1) blood is thicker than water, and more nutritious, too, (2) vampires make lousy house pets, and (3) first thing in the morning, there's nothing like a good stake.

WTC News
WESTERN TEXAS COLLEGE

Make a $10 donation and secure a chance to win
a new 2003 Ford Focus
this weekend at Snyder Wal-Mart,
Friday 4:30 to 8:30
Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Proceeds benefit Western Texas College



Sunday, February 23 2003 — Western Texas College, 6200 College Ave. Snyder, TX 79549

Final performances of 'Dancing at Lughnasa' Set





WTC Theatre has two remaining performances of Brian Friel's Tony Award winning comedy, "Dancing at Lughnasa." Performances are scheduled for Saturday at 7:30pm and Sunday at 2pm in the WTC Fine Arts Theatre.

Widely regarded as Friel's masterpiece, this extraordinary play is the story of five unmarried sisters, one with a young son, eking out their lives in a small village in Ireland in 1936. It is the time of the festival of Lughnasa, and the spare existence of the characters is interrupted by brief, colorful bursts of music from the radio, their only link to the romance and hope of the world at large.

When the sisters finally dance to a wild Irish tune, they embody the core of the human spirit that cannot be vanquished by time or loss, or fully expressed in language.

The action of the play is told through the memory of Michael, the illegitimate son, as he remembers the five women who raised him, his mother and four maiden aunts. He is only seven in 1936, the year his elderly uncle, a priest, returns after serving for 25 years as a missionary in a Ugandan leper colony.

For the young boy, two other disturbances occur that summer. The sisters acquire their first radio, whose music transforms them from correct Catholic women to shrieking, stomping banshees in their own kitchen.

According to drama instructor, Ray Newton: "This mischievously humorous play demonstrates that history is alive and well and killing people today in Ireland."

Performances are at set for 7:30 pm nightly February 20, 21, and 22, and 2 pm February 23.

Ticket prices: Adults - $5.00; Seniors, Students - $3.00; WTC faculty, staff & students - free

Cast:
MICHAEL, Chris Hensley
KATE, Mandy Mitchell
AGNES, Monica Rose
MAGGIE, Meagan Bailey
ROSE, Holly Gwyn
CHRISSY, Lacey Rowe
JACK, Tedrick George

Getting to Know You

Joe Carter, Hired Sept. 1, 1973



What led you to WTC: In 1973, I was working shift work on an assembly line for the 3M company in Brownwood, TX., and thought that even teaching in Snyder would be better than that!!! So I applied for a biology teaching position at a new community college called Western Texas College, and I've been here since.

I actually wanted to be closer to my parents as they got older (they lived near Big Spring) and I was raised on a ranch about 20 miles south of Big Spring, so this was sorta like coming home. I taught at Angelo State University, so I wanted to return to the teaching field and this position allowed me to do so.

Where do you go from here: I plan to retire from teaching in the near future and work for the National Park Service on a seasonal basis, maybe traveling to a different park each year.

Last summer I worked as a biological science technician at White Sands National Monument in New Mexico and previous to that at Carlsbad Caverns National Park, NM. My wife and I recently bought an RV and will use that as our home away from home.

Most memorable moment: Probably the birth of my children, especially the unexpected arrival of identical twin girls in 1971.

Hardest decision I've ever made: While working on my doctorate at Texas A&M in 1968, I decided to drop out of the PhD program and go to work, for a combination of reasons, mostly financial.

Making ends meet while a full-time student with a family was difficult. It was a great opportunity for me, but the decision was probably correct at the time.

Favorite Book and Favorite Author: Louis L'Lamour - Flint and Last of the Breed

Favorite Movie: Early movies: Tough Guys – Kirk Douglas and Burt Reynolds

Electric Horseman – Robert Redford and Jane Fonda

Recent: A Beautiful Mind - Russell Crowe

Favorite spare time activity: Traveling and photography

Names of family members: Wife: Carolyn Son: Philip Daughters: Kristi, Kerri

If you could spend an hour talking to any person living or dead, who would it be: I would like to visit with an early explorer or Native American of the American West, prior to 1700, to experience what our country was like before the West was settled.

Turner and Spreadborough win big at San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo





Big Winners

WTC Men's Rodeo Team members, Steven Turner and Sam Spreadborough took first and second place in their events at the San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo earlier this month.

Turner won first place in the bullriding competition, garnering a $15,000 prize. He is a sophomore from Cochrane, Alberta, Canada and is the son of Jim Turner.

Spreadborough took a $9000 prize for second place in the saddlebronc riding competition. He is a sophomore from Tamworth, JS.W., Austrailia.

WTC Rodeo Coach, Greg Rhodes noted that he is proud of the accomplishment of these two young men. "," he said.

The rodeo, including the events that Turner and Spreadborough won, will be televised on the Outdoor Life Network on March 2.

Opportunity is Knocking!

by Dennis Noblett, Director of Development

"There's plenty of opportunity in a land where even a horse can make a million dollars."—Unknown

In recent days I've had an administrator, professor and support Tech staff ask me about discounts from our local restaurants through the WTC Business Partner program. The students have one at one local restaurant, and we are grateful for that opportunity. Some of our students are patronizing that establishment as a result.

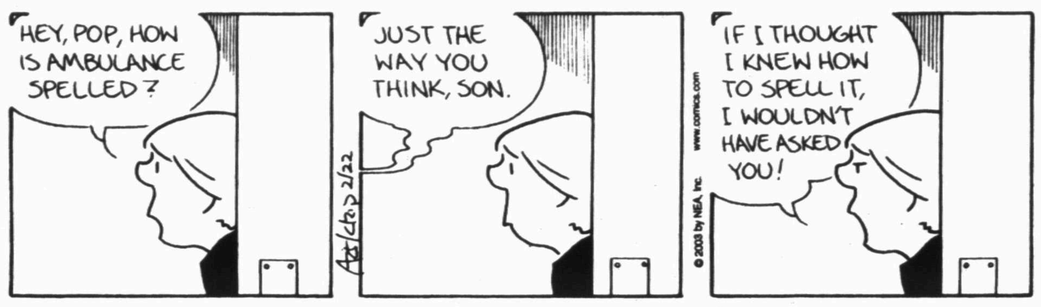
However, the 115 full-time WTC employees are waiting for their opportunity to show their WTC ID card and bringing some extra business to a restaurant owner, not to mention extra tips for the wait staff. (Note: That number does not include several dozen part-time employees.) We all would welcome the opportunity patronize a restaurant that would take advantage of the buying power from both WTC students and employees, even for only one day a week. Opportunity knocks. Answer by calling me at 574-8511, ext. 248. "It's funny how much bigger opportunities look going than coming."—Unknown

FEB 23 2003

ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman



THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell



BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun



THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce



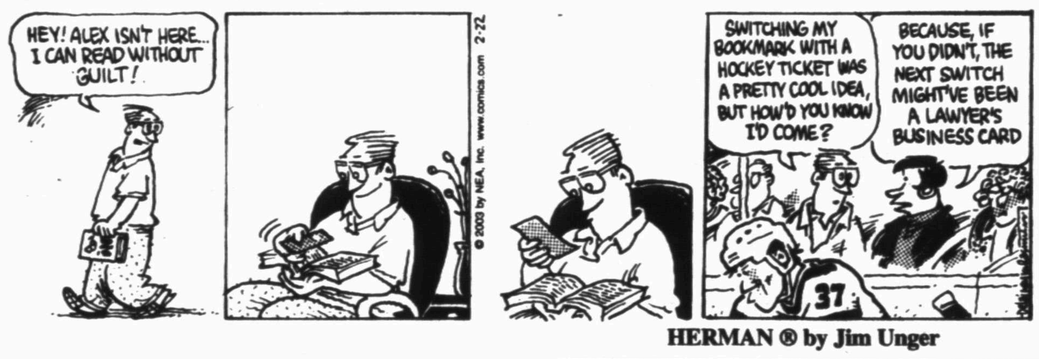
MONTY ® by Jim Meddick



ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen



HERMAN ® by Jim Unger

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Dinner check
4 Toned up
7 Campus area
11 Geisha's sash
12 Coffee dispensers
13 Livy's bear
14 Antique
15 Mar
16 Cushy
17 Canine cries
19 Thaw
20 Acorn bearer
21 Hideaway
22 Voice of Bugs Bunny
25 Holmes sidekick
28 Cartoon Chihuahua
29 Had learned
31 Bring action
33 In time gone by
34 Arm bone
36 Scale meas.
37 "The Iceman Cometh" writer
40 Sheen
42 Promoted maj.
43 "Norma —"
44 Doozie
46 Duck
49 Kind of salad
50 Two tablets, maybe
52 Employ
54 Not pro
55 Stune
56 Taxi
57 Composer — Stravinsky
58 Seine
59 Vat

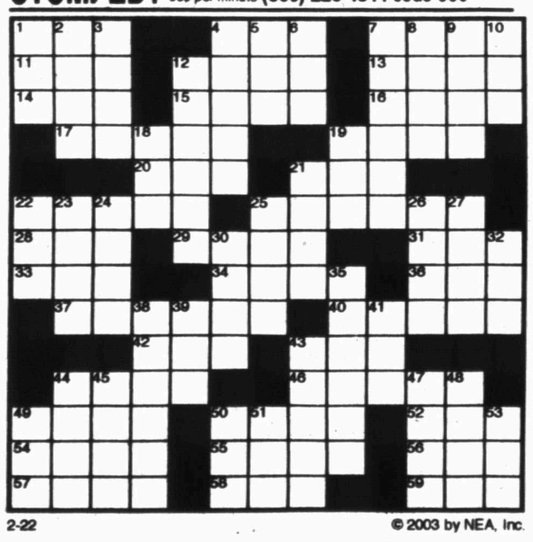
DOWN

1 Also
2 Competently
3 Wait awhile
4 Check a suspect
5 Financial mag
6 Cluck of disapproval
7 Face cards
8 Eurasian range
9 Sec'y
10 Popular shift
12 Empty out
18 Chaney of filmdom
19 Ran into
21 Sunrise
22 Lingerie item
23 Engineering toy
24 Before long
25 Feeling good
26 European capital
27 Gists
30 Zero
32 Snake shape
35 Century plants
38 Bakery goody
39 Debtor's note
41 Meadow
43 Change the clock
44 Breather
45 Golden Rule word
47 Pipe
48 Jacob's twin
49 Mai —
50 Aykroyd or Rather
51 Charge it
53 Wane

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

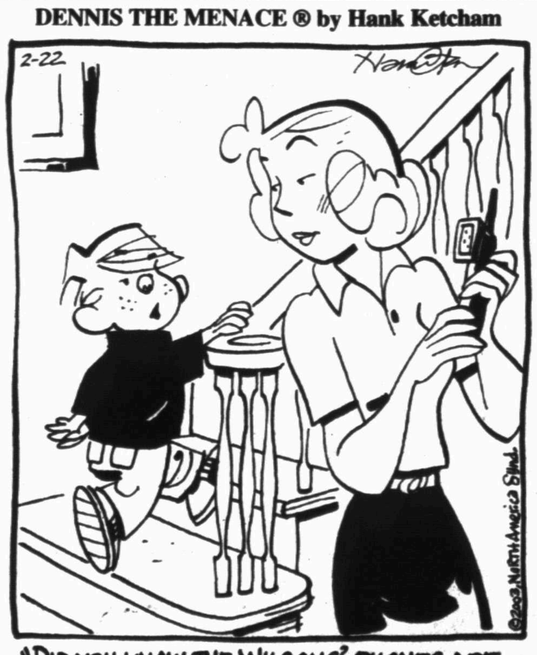
STUMPED? Call for answers • Touch-tone or rotary phone 95¢ per minute (900) 226-4344 code 000



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Snyder Daily News Comics

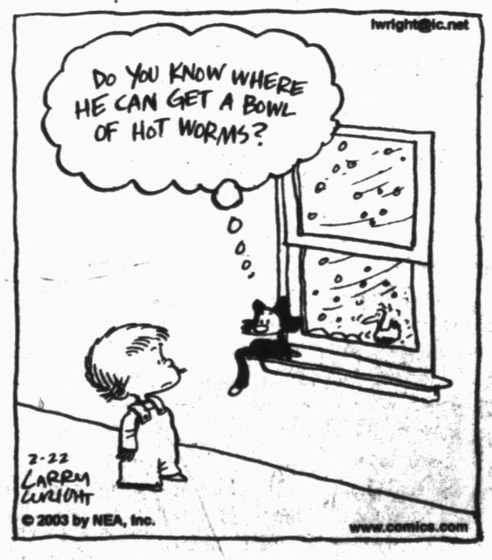
DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham





"I'm not going to tell you again, pal. Step away from the flowers."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Nightmares may reflect emotional turmoil

DEAR DR. GOTT: My son, 28, has seizure-like nightmares that have been going on for four years. He thrashes violently and is impossible to awaken; yet he doesn't remember the dreams the next morning. He has been to doctors, specialists and counselors. Medicine doesn't work. Any suggestions?

DEAR READER: This is a tough one, because your son has, I'm sure, been checked for physical disorders. So, without sounding too Freudian, I suggest that your son see a psychiatrist to cover all the bases. The nightmares could reflect some sort of major, unresolved, emotional conflict. Perhaps through therapy, the specialist could help uncover the cause of these dreams.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: While sitting at a wedding reception, a bunch of us oldies were discussing — what else? — our various health problems. The minister interjected that he will never take "statin" drugs for excess cholesterol because they are basically rat poison. Is this true? I hope not.

DEAR READER: In the past, I have been criticized for overstepping my training by addressing issues having to do with evolution and religion. Perhaps my critics are justified, but I remain fascinated by the interaction between faith and medicine.

Your brief experience is an example of the reverse: an inaccurate medical conclusion by a well-meaning man of the cloth. To my knowledge, statin drugs do not contain rat poison.

The minister was probably referring to warfarin (Coumadin), an anticoagulant that is commonly prescribed to prevent harmful blood clots from forming in the vascular system. Such clots often lead to stroke, heart attack and lung damage. Because it is so effective, warfarin is also included in many brands of rodenticide, bait that causes vermin to bleed to death when they feed on it.

Millions of people enjoy the beneficial effects of Coumadin; the fact that the drug has other uses should not deter patients from taking it. Controlled anticoagulation is a necessary medical intervention. It is appropriate therapy for a host of potentially serious disorders, including heart irregularities, such as atrial fibrillation and venous disorders, such as deep vein thrombosis.

While my immediate reaction to your question was to suggest that the minister confine his comments to theological subjects, I chose a different tack - one of non-judgmental explanation that, I hope, will give me the privilege to continue addressing occasional topics that are not strictly medical. If my column is not somewhat provocative and fun to write, then I've been missing out on something for more than 20 years. I welcome opinions from readers who might wish to comment. (Even Dear Abby spread her wings once in awhile!)

DEAR DR. GOTT: My wife got an e-mail from some nut on the Internet claiming that additives in diet sodas cause a host of deadly problems, ranging from cancer to impotence.

Anyhow, my personal belief is that this is yet another urban legend circulated by cyber-cranks. But my spouse has started nagging me about it and, frankly, she is getting to be worse than her mother. I suspect that diet sodas are no more harmful than regular soft drinks. Any comments?

DEAR READER: I periodically receive information from readers addicted to the Web. In many instances, these printouts allege that artificial sweeteners — particularly aspartame — are harmful to health and should be avoided at all cost.

While I am convinced that this conclusion is offered in the name of good health, I agree with you that the issue is over-inflated. True, some people consume huge quantities of sugar-free soft drinks, and this immoderate consumption may well provide the basis for medical ailments. In addition, people with Phenylketonuria, an inherited enzyme deficiency, should not consume aspartame.

However, for prudent consumers, diet sodas are harmless when used in moderation. I do not believe (and medical studies have not demonstrated) that such a practice will necessarily lead to cancer, blindness and death. If this were the case, the Food and Drug Administration would ban the sale of sugar-substitutes.

Therefore, with due respect to dissenting opinions, I feel comfortable going on record to endorse the judicious use of non-sugar sweeteners. Excess consumption should be avoided.

A last comment: You are correct that regular soft drinks are associated with health hazards. Experts now estimate that greater than 50 percent of American citizens are overweight. This epidemic is fueled by inappropriate consumption of calories in home diets, fast food restaurants, snacking and soft drinks that contain empty (sugar) calories. Consequently, a six-pack of soda could well be more dangerous (by aggravating the obesity-problem) than a six-pack of diet soda. Also, continuous, high-level consumption of sugar-containing foods and drinks will predispose people to diabetes, a metabolic disorder of enormous proportions and significance.

In summary, most Americans need to trim down. Soft drinks often provide excessive and unnecessary calories. Diet soda, when consumed in moderation (one or two cans a day), is not, in most people, a cause of significant health problems. Unrestricted use of soda (in any form) should be limited. Tell your wife to back off on this and other issues.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I've been told that I have emphysema due to an alpha 1-antitrypsin deficiency. I never smoked. What gives?

DEAR READER: Cigarette smoking is the most common cause of emphysema, a chronic lung disease marked by abnormal enlargement of the air spaces where oxygen and carbon dioxide are exchanged. The disease is permanent and may progress, leading to severe pulmonary disability.

About 10 percent of emphysema patients have never smoked. In this group, other causes have to be investigated. These include connective-tissue diseases, AIDS, malnutrition, intravenous drug abuse - and alpha 1-antitrypsin deficiency.

In this last instance, there is an inherited deficiency of an enzyme that is necessary for normal pulmonary function and health. People with low levels of alpha 1-antitrypsin tend to develop emphysema much earlier than do smokers (in the 40s and 50s, as opposed to 60s and 70s) and often have a history of liver disease as children. Trypsin deficiency is, according to experts, underdiagnosed. While it is the cause of cystic fibrosis, patients with mild forms may not be recognized for decades.

The affliction is diagnosed by a simple blood test, in addition to chest X-rays, breathing measurements, the level of blood oxygen and liver tests.

The treatment for alpha 1-antitrypsin deficiency is somewhat complex and consists of augmentation therapy (weekly intravenous injections of pooled human plasma). Other alternative strategies are being investigated. Patients with the deficiency must not smoke and, in my opinion, should be under the care of pulmonologists, specialists in lung disorders.

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

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As their costs rise, doctors add fees for e-mails, phone calls

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — People quick to phone their family doctor for medical advice, a prescription renewal or information for a health-history form may soon find themselves paying for the convenience.

Doctors around the country have begun charging patients for services that have traditionally been free, according to the American College of Physicians.

The fees range from per-page charges for copies of medical records to $10 or $20 for filling out the forms people need to apply for medical-leave benefits. A few doctors have begun charging patients up to $20 to respond to e-mail questions about their health.

Dr. Allen M. Dennison of Barrington, R.I., said he charges patients $2 a minute to diagnose minor ailments over the telephone, and around $15 to fill out the health history forms parents need to send their children to camp.

"We are really on the ropes financially," he said. "I think the patients know that if they are going to take a doctor's time, they are going to have to pay for it."

Dr. Joel S. Levine, dean of clinical affairs at University of Colorado School of Medicine, said doctors' administrative responsibilities have grown tremendously over the past two decades.

Most primary-care doctors now spend an average of two to three hours a day on tasks for which they are not compensated, such as returning phone calls and filling out insurance forms, he said.

That means less time to see patients, and the fewer patients doctors see in person, the less they get paid, he said.

Dr. Paul Williams, president of the Pennsylvania chapter of the American Academy of Family Practitioners, said he has considered imposing fees for after-hours phone calls, which he now routinely handles at no charge, but worries patients will react badly.

"If you call your attorney at 4 o'clock in the afternoon on a Friday, they are going to send you a bill. I don't understand why I shouldn't send a bill if someone wakes me out of a dead sleep at 4 a.m.," he said. "The problem is, we get this reaction: 'You are part of a learned profession, and how dare you nickel-and-dime patients.'"

Margie Kahn of Oakland, Calif., said she switched doctors after she called for guidance on an illness and was rebuffed.

"She basically interrupted me in mid-sentence and said, 'Are you looking for free medical advice? If I can't bill for my time, I can't survive,'" Kahn said. "Doctors do spend a lot of time on the phone, but to me, that is part of their job description. The time that they spend reviewing charts or returning phone calls, that should all be built into their charges."

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Man jailed for sexually assaulting teen is suspected in other attacks

PASADENA (AP) — A Dallas man is charged with three counts of sexually assaulting a 15-year-old girl at a hotel room after picking her up from school last month, and police are investigating how close he got to girls he contacted in Minnesota and elsewhere in Texas.

Mark Martin Bennett, 26, was jailed Friday without bond as police asked teenage girls who may have met the photo processing lab employee in Internet chat rooms and later been assaulted by him to come forward.

"We do believe that there may be other victims of Mr. Bennett," Pasadena Police Sgt. J.M. Baird said Friday. "We do have evidence that he has been communicating in various Internet chat rooms and with a cell phone to at least one other young girl in another state and several other people throughout Texas."

Baird declined to name areas of Texas where Bennett may have assaulted other girls, but said it has been confirmed he was communicating with a girl in Minnesota and another in his hometown of Dallas.

"The defendant had been chatting in a teen Internet chat room for several weeks with our 15-year-old victim," Baird said. "After contacting the victim in this teen Internet chat room, he convinced the victim to allow him to come and meet her. He drove from Dallas down here, actually picked her up in front of the Deer Park High School after she got out of school and then took her to a local hotel and sexually assaulted her."

The girl, who was allegedly assaulted on Jan. 24, told a friend at church about the encounter. Baird said police were informed of the assault on Jan. 25 and used the Internet to find Bennett. He was arrested at his home in Dallas on Thursday.

Friday, he remained at the Harris County Jail in nearby Houston.

"We are fortunate that the defendant has been located and is in custody at this time," Baird said.

In addition to his arrest, Baird said Bennett's computer was seized and will be turned over to the U.S. Customs office, where it will be searched for forensic evidence.

"My investigators tell me we have thousands of different photographs that are in photographic files that are in the defendant's computer," Baird said. "We have not been able to look at all of those. At this point, we do know that there are some pornographic images in there."

Baird urged anyone who recognizes Bennett or is familiar with the e-mail addresses or screen names he used to contact police.

Bennett allegedly used the Yahoo instant message names of: coderedguy2002 and lazerwolf1701. Police say they have also tied two e-mail addresses to Bennett: rangerprime2002@hotmail.com and m2bennett@earthlink.net.

On a page for coderedguy2002, the user's nickname was listed as "Mark" and his marital status and age were undisclosed.

For hobbies, the user wrote: "not much but chattin and meetin new peeps."

—

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the 10 foods that are consumed the most in the United States are fresh milk, potatoes, beef, sugar, canned vegetables, fresh fruits, pork, chicken, eggs and citrus fruits.

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FEB 23 2003

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Oversexed teen has set her sights on friend of her parents

DEAR ABBY: My husband, "Max," and I have been married for 12 years and have two precious children. We trust each other 100 percent. Our problem is we're friendly with a couple who have a 15-year-old girl, "Tina." Every time we go there, Tina throws herself at my husband.

The girl wears skimpy clothes, touches Max, makes suggestive remarks, and appears to really have "a thing" for him. He has told her repeatedly that he's not interested and that she's "just a kid," but she hasn't taken the hint to back off.

We've talked to her parents. They say we're reading too much into their daughter's behavior. My husband and I have argued over this, and it's putting pressure on our marriage. I don't want to give up our friends, but I also don't want my marriage to be wrecked by that little slut.

I know Max would never try anything with Tina, but she's the kind who might blame a man if she doesn't get what she wants. How can we get her to cool off? — **MARRIAGE ON THE ROCKS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA**

DEAR MARRIAGE ON THE ROCKS: Put as much distance as you can between yourselves and this couple — or see them only away from their home. If Tina is capable of lying if she doesn't get her way, she's trouble. The smartest thing your husband could do is avoid her.

**

DEAR ABBY: I am unemployed and looking for work. Unfortunately, my field is shrinking. There is little opportunity for jobs in the future. I am considering returning to school and majoring in health care. It's something that has always interested me — and it's a growing field.

My problem? My fiancee, "Phoebe," is dead set against me changing careers. She says it's not possible to go to graduate school and maintain a relationship. I find her attitude to be hypocritical since she has an advanced degree and a lucrative income.

I love Phoebe, but I'm tired of being poor and having no job prospects. I don't want to lose her; however, I am frustrated. I've tried talking to her. She won't discuss it and has given me an ultimatum: school or her. What do you think? — **JOB CHANGE IN VERMONT**

DEAR JOB CHANGE: A woman who loves you should want what is best for you. Remaining in a field that is being phased out would leave you financially vulnerable. I urge you to return to school and safeguard your future. It appears Phoebe does not value your happiness, or she would have your best interests at heart.

**

DEAR ABBY: Our 15-year-old son, "Brian," just started dating a 14-year-old girl I'll call Jenny. They are both good kids. The problem is they have no hesitation about kissing in front of us or anyone else. They also snuggle on our couch whenever they can. Last night, they began kissing in the back seat of our car while my husband and I sat in the front. It was as though we weren't even there.

We feel Brian and Jenny are becoming too intimate too fast, and we're worried their hormones will supersede their better judgment. Fortunately, we have a very open relationship with Brian, but we don't know what to say to him about this. Any suggestions? — **TOO YOUNG TO BE GRANDPARENTS**

DEAR TOO YOUNG: You bet. Get to know Jenny's parents and express your concerns to them. Both teens need to be involved in activities other than each other. Your son — and Jenny — also need to know everything there is to know about human reproduction and its prevention. (There are many books on the subject.) Do not depend on schools to perform this parental responsibility for you. Many schools now teach the students nothing beyond abstinence.

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Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $10 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

DEAR ABBY: Recently my husband and I invited his son and daughter-in-law for dinner. We also invited two other couples. They know each other, so we felt confident everyone would be comfortable. Our guests seemed to have a great time.

A few days later, I received a note from the wife of my husband's son. It read: "Thank you for having us for dinner last Thursday. Everything was lovely! However, we would have dressed more appropriately had we known it was going to be a 'dinner party.'"

They both had worn jeans. The husband of the second couple came dressed in a coat and tie, and the third couple called beforehand to ask if the men should wear a tie. I said no.

How should I respond to this note? — **PERPLEXED IN TEXAS**

DEAR PERPLEXED: Tell the young woman how pleased you were that they could attend and how much their presence added to your dinner party.

Suggest to her that in the future she might do as you do when you're not sure of the "dress code": Call ahead and ask what others will be wearing so that embarrassment can be avoided.

**

DEAR ABBY: My youngest son, "Jason," is a senior in high school and an all-around good kid. All of a sudden he's decided to let his hair grow. Although it's really not that long, my husband is very critical of it and threatens to cut it almost every day.

I feel it's time for Jason's dad and me to let him make some decisions on his own. His hair doesn't bother me as long as he maintains his grades, behaves himself and keeps it clean. (I don't think it's any longer than the Beatles when they first came on the scene.) I look at other boys our son goes to school with, and some of them have short hair, while others wear theirs Jason's length or longer.

What do you think about this? How can I convince my husband to back off? (He let his hair and sideburns grow when he got out of the service.) — **PEACEMAKING MOM IN ARIZONA**

DEAR PEACEMAKING MOM: If your son is doing well socially and academically and keeps his hair clean, your husband should not turn its length into a control issue. Learning to make decisions is an important part of a teen's development. It's also important for parents to pick their battles carefully.

P.S. Dig out some photos of your husband with longish hair and sideburns and tell him it's time to get back in touch with his sense of humor and stop obsessing about things that are not important.

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DEAR ABBY: My cousin's daughter, "Lisa," plans to be married in May. She is a 34-year-old schoolteacher and her fiance is a successful 39-year-old radiologist. He has just informed her that she must sign a pre-nup or there will be no wedding.

Abby, Lisa has asked me for advice about this, and I'm not sure what to tell her. When I heard about the pre-nup, my first reaction was she should walk — but now I'm not so sure. Could you share your thoughts on this? — **AWAITING A REPLY IN NEBRASKA**

DEAR AWAITING: A prenuptial agreement is for the protection of both parties. Rather than advising the young woman to "walk," tell her to get a lawyer of her own to review and explain the document before she signs anything.

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

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UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Wrecking crews are taking apart historic wrestling, boxing venue

FORT WORTH (AP) — Elvis Presley, Patsy Cline and Hank Williams played there. The Von Erich family wrestled there.

But now, the only action seen at the Dallas Sportatorium comes from the crews who are taking apart the historic wrestling, boxing and concert venue.

After a few recent reprieves, the barnlike wood-and-metal arena is coming down.

The city of Dallas granted a demolition permit last week for the building at Cadiz and Industrial on the southwest corner of downtown Dallas.

The Sportatorium opened in the 1930s and has featured wrestling, boxing and the "Big D Jamboree." The popular honky-tonk show was a Dallas radio and television fixture from the 1940s into the '60s.

The original Sportatorium burned in 1953, but was rebuilt four months later. Famed rockabilly star Ronnie Dawson played there every Saturday night for four years in the 1950s.

"It's just a big ol' tin building that I can still smell — a smell of stale beer, the Trinity River, popcorn and grease," he told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

There's no word on what the lot will be used for. A telephone number for owner Morton Rachofsky was not listed and he could not be contacted by The Associated Press.

Such top stars of country and rock music as Johnny Cash, Buddy Holly, Gene Vincent and Willie Nelson played the venue in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

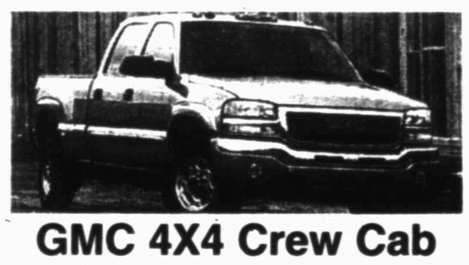
Presley still had not yet achieved national stardom when he played the Sportatorium in April 1955.

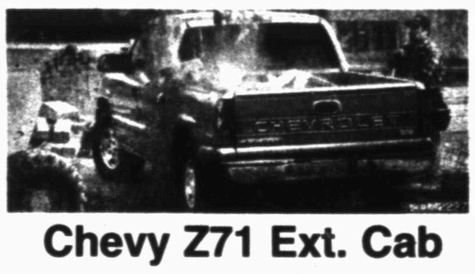
"Like some idiot, I wasn't interested in Elvis at the time," Dawson said. "I was interested in his guitar player who had done some work on a record I loved."

Such famed wrestlers of today as "Stone Cold" Steve Austin, Shawn Michaels and Booker T got their starts there, but its wrestling mainstays over the years were "Gentleman" Chris Adams, "Playboy" Gary Hart and the Fabulous Freebirds.

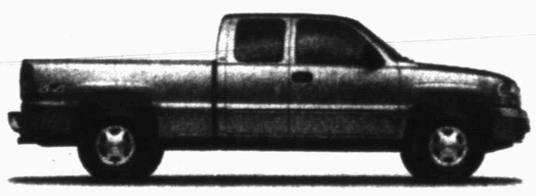
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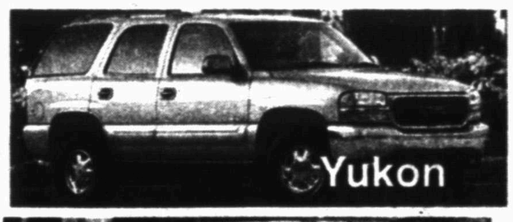

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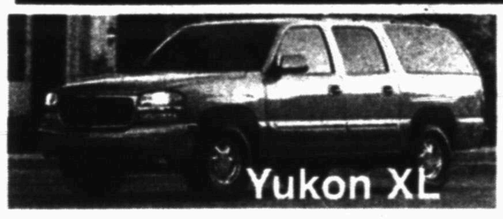
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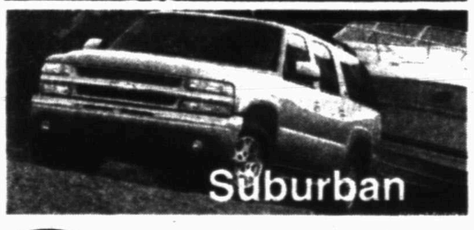


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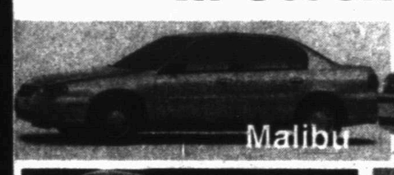

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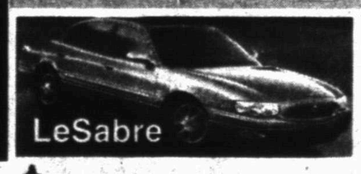

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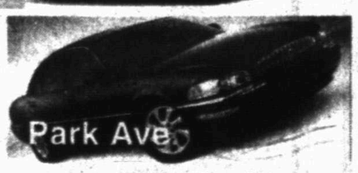
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