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INSIDE
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Area Playoff Games Here 5
Midday Stocks 7
Farmer Suing Cigarette Firms ...8
What's Up 10

WT-Int. Crude - $30.05
WTIC Posted - $27.25

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY
Feb. 17, 2000
Vol. 51 No. 249
10 Pages 50¢

Home Of Staci Bollinger

Top spellers ready for county contest scheduled Friday

Sixteen of the top elementary and junior high spellers in Scurry County will compete against each other Friday.

The action gets underway at 9 a.m. in the Fine Arts Theatre at Western Texas College.

The spellers represent the first place winner and runner-up of campus spelling bees held recently at each school.

The winner of the county bee will advance to the regional spelling bee slated March 4 at Cavazos Junior High in Lubbock.

During the past several weeks each school held its own campus bee, and the winner and runner-up from each is eligible to compete Friday at 9 a.m. at the Fine Arts Theatre at Western Texas College.

The coordinator of the county bee is Dr. Melissa Jones, assistant superintendent at SISD. Rebekah Thornton, Northeast fifth grade teacher, will pronounce the words. Head judge will be Janet Halbert. Assistants will be Sandra Hall, Tammy Wesson and Jennifer Beard.

Paige Anderson and Julie Proctor will represent Snyder Junior High School. Paige, a seventh grader and the daughter of Jack and Rana Anderson, won the junior high bee on Feb. 9.

The runner-up was Destiney Proctor. The eighth grader is the daughter of Doug and Julie Proctor.

East Elementary School held its bee on Feb. 4 with Chris Williams taking first place honors and Ashley Farquhar as the runner-up. Both are fourth graders. Chris is the son of Robert and Theresa Williams and Ashley's parents are J.R. and Shirley Farquhar.

Northeast Elementary spellers competed on Feb. 4 with John Whitworth finishing in first place and Jeremy Rodriguez as the runner-up. Both are fifth graders. John is the son of Jack and Libby Whitworth and Jeremy's parents are Johnny and Olga Rodriguez.

West Elementary's representatives are Tyler Ezzell, first place; and Claire Pollard, runner-up. Tyler's parents are Steve and Leisa Ezzell. Claire is the daughter of Allan and Sandy Pollard. The sixth grade campus bee was held Feb. 3.

Ira Schools held its elementary and junior high bees on Friday. Elementary winners who advanced to the county bee were Tyrelle Gilbert, first place, son of Jeff and LaChana Gilbert; and Jessica Odom, runner-up, daughter of Todd and Julie Odom. Both are fifth graders.

The junior high's top spellers are Bubba Walker, son of Kevin and Laurie Walker, who placed first; and Jackie Thompson, runner-up, the daughter of Larry and Carla Thompson.

They are eighth graders. Bubba was also the runner-up in last year's Ira bee.

Hermleigh School's elementary students competed on Feb. 2 and the junior high students followed on Feb. 3.

Elementary winners who will compete Friday are Samantha Berry, sixth grader, and K'Leigh Jackson, fifth-grader. Samantha, who finished in first place, is the daughter of Tommy and Tammy Berry. K'Leigh, runner-up, is the daughter of Barry and Sandy Jackson.

Shae Rinehart and Valerie West are the junior high school's top spellers who will compete Friday. Shae is a seventh grader and Valerie is an eighth grader. Shae, who won first place in the campus bee, is the daughter of James and Vivian Rinehart. The runner-up, Valerie, is the daughter of Larry and Lori West.



TREES ARE IN — Windbreak tree seedlings have arrived at the Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation office, 5309 Big Spring Highway. Mark Sides, range management specialist, waters four-wing saltbushes, a shrub said to be highly prized by deer and other browsing animals. A variety of trees and shrubs are available at the office for $1 and $2. (SDN Staff Photo)

Reform Party leaders trying to draft Perot

WASHINGTON (AP) — Reform Party leaders are launching a petition drive to draft founder Ross Perot into the presidential race, saying the Texas billionaire is a natural to pick up the reform banner if Sen. John McCain loses the GOP nomination.

"A McCain defeat could produce a vacuum that Perot could fill," said National Party Secretary Jim Mangia.

With a chairman loyal to rival Jesse Ventura ousted Saturday during the party's shoutfest in Nashville, the coast is clear, Perot's supporters say.

Mangia said that since the meeting, he's received dozens of e-mails and phone calls from supporters of the draft-Perot effort.

"They want Perot," Mangia said.

It would be the third time Perot has run for president on the ticket of the party he founded, after finishing with 19 percent of the vote in 1992 and 8.5 percent in 1996. This year, he would face former Republican Patrick Buchanan in a fight for the party's presidential nomination and for the $12.6 million in federal matching funds that come with it.



Ross Perot

Such a challenge would not deter the conservative columnist, Buchanan said this week.

"Clearly, he would be a formidable challenger for the nomination," said Buchanan, who was publicly backed by Perot's 1996 running mate, Pat Choate, until Choate was picked Saturday to succeed rival Jack Gargan as chairman. Choate immediately resigned as chairman of Buchanan's White House bid.

Perot or no Perot, Buchanan said Monday, "we would go right ahead with our campaign for the nomination."

A third-party challenge by either man could have major impact on the presidential race by taking votes from the Democratic and Republican nominees, depending on who the major parties pick.

The Texas billionaire's prospects this year were said by senior Reform Party officials to depend heavily on how well McCain fares against Texas Gov. George W. Bush in South Carolina's GOP primary on Saturday. Polls show Bush slightly ahead of the Arizona senator.

McCain, whose congressional crusade for campaign finance reform draws support from Reform Party members, could drain support from the third party's grass roots and make a bid by Perot unappealing, the thinking goes.

So popular is McCain among some factions of the Reform Party that there's even been talk of nominating him on the party's ticket — even if he captures the GOP nomination. For his part, McCain has said he would only want the GOP's nomination but would accept the Reform Party nod just as he would accept support from any group as the Republican nominee.

If McCain loses the nomination, the equation for the Reform Party changes, these officials said.

Without McCain in the race, "Perot is the man who can carry the real reform message into November," Mangia said. "The Reform issues McCain is running on are the issues Ross Perot gave expression to in the 1992 and 1996 campaigns."

According to senior Reform Party officials, Perot sees South Carolina as a major test of the McCain campaign's long-term viability.

The senior officials said that Perot could announce his candidacy the way he did in 1996, on CNN's Larry King Live, as soon as next week — depending on how McCain does in South Carolina.

As he has for months, Perot refused comment Wednesday. But the official closest to him, former National Party Chairman Russell Verney said Perot is aware of the draft effort but is "busy with his business" and did not request the petition drive. Verney declined to gauge Perot's interest in running.

"He is not scheduled and does not have any intention of appearing on Larry King Live," Verney said.

Perot, 69, founded the Reform Party as United We Stand, America after his 19 percent showing as an independent candidate in 1992.

Four years later, the billionaire candidate, spent most of the $29.2 million he received in federal matching funds on long-format television time.

In Sweetwater...

Corridor group meets

The Texas, Mexico & Asian Corridor group met Wednesday afternoon in Sweetwater, taking no action on three items of business.

The first item for the group to consider was an amendment to the by-laws, which would provide for three alternates from each of the six participating counties. This would ensure proper representation from each county.

Each county would only have three votes, but in the event someone could not attend the meeting, an alternate could.

No action was taken on the item because corridor attorney Jim Wilks was absent.

Scurry County Judge Ricky Fritz, who is corridor president, said Wilks is writing the by-laws.

"We wanted to hold off until he is able to be here to answer questions and clarify what exactly it is," Fritz said.

The group also tabled action on adopting a policy and procedures guideline and a 2000-2001 budget.

"We decided we needed to have a marketing plan before we adopted a travel policy or a budget," Fritz said.

President's Day results in closings

Financial institutions will be closed Monday in observance of President's Day.

American State Bank, First American Bank, Snyder National Bank, Texas Savings Bank and West Texas State Bank will close.

Snyder ISD is the only school district observing the holiday. Snyder students will be off, but Ira and Hermleigh schools will hold classes as usual as will students at Western Texas College.

City of Snyder offices will be open, but county offices are closed.

The Scurry County Library will not be open Monday, but the Scurry County Museum will.

The Texas Workforce Commission, located on the WTC campus, observes the holiday and will be closed.

Snyder Post Office will not be open. Mail will be placed in post office boxes, but there will be no home delivery.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "A wise fellow not only uses all his brains, but all the brains that he can borrow."

Grandparents say it's a whole lot more fun being a grandparent than a parent. All it takes to be a grandparent is to spoil the kid rotten, then send him back home to mom and dad.

It was a grandparent who handed us this story, one which a frantic mother with little ones – or just one – can relate.

A grandpa type observed a young mother in the grocery store with a three-year-old girl riding in the seat in the grocery cart.

As they passed the cookie section, the child asked for cookies and the mother told her 'no.'

The little gal immediately began to whine and fuss, and the mother quietly said, "Now Ellen, we just have half of the aisles left. Don't be upset. It won't be long."

The grandpa passed the mother again in the candy aisle. Naturally, the little girl began to fuss for candy. When she got the negative reply from her mother, the little girl began to cry.

The mother responded, "There, there Ellen, don't cry. Only two more aisles to go and then we'll be checking out."

The grandpa happened to encounter the mother and daughter again at the checkout counter. The little miss began to clamor for gum and burst into a terrible tantrum when she was informed that there would be no gum purchased on this day.

The mother patiently responded, "Ellen, we'll be finished and checked out in just a few minutes. Then you can go home and have a nice nap."

The grandpa followed them into the parking lot and decided to compliment the mother. "I kept noticing how patient you were with little Ellen..."

The mother interrupted, "My little girl's name is Tammy. I'm Ellen."

From an unknown source, things kids have taught me:

It's more fun to color outside the lines and if you're gonna draw on the wall, do it behind the couch. Ask, "why" until you understand. Hang on tight.

Even if you've been fishing for three hours and haven't gotten anything except poison ivy and a sunburn, you're still better off than the worm. It doesn't matter who started it.

If the horse you're drawing looks more like a dog, make it a dog. Save a place in line for your friends. Sometimes you have to take the test before you've finished studying.

If you want a kitten, start out asking for a horse. Just keep banging until someone opens the door. Making your bed is a waste of time, and there is no good reason that clothes have to match.

Even Popeye didn't eat his spinach until he had to, and you can't ask to start over just because you're losing the game.

Two students hurt in wreck

ROUND ROCK (AP) — A school bus wreck sent two elementary school students to hospitals today with minor injuries.

Officials were not immediately sure what caused the accident, which occurred just before classes started at 7:30 a.m., said Clair Ross, a Round Rock Independent School District spokeswoman.

The bus was carrying four elementary pupils at the time of the wreck, Ross said. None of the children or the bus driver were identified.

ASK US

Q—What is the cost of putting in an extra water meter by the city?

A—It's $150 to install, $65 for a deposit and a cost of $21.50 per sq. yd. for asphalt to repair roadways.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 64 degrees; low, 49; 7 a.m. Thursday, 50; no precipitation; total for 2000, .88 of an inch.

Area Forecast: Tonight, partly cloudy; low, lower 40s, W wind 15-25 mph. Gusty, then 10-20 mph; Friday, mostly sunny, cooler. High, lower 60s; N-NW wind. 10-20 mph.



Lareshia Carey
Mostly Sunny

Sunset:
6:33 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:23 a.m.
Of 47 days in 2000, the sun has shone 46 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Nothing would be done at all if we waited until it could be done so well that no one could find fault with it.
—Cardinal Newman

FEB 17 2000

Man with 9th DWI gets 60-year term

WACO (AP) — A man with eight previous drunken-driving convictions is going to jail after getting another DWI — this time after swerving in front of a Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission agent.

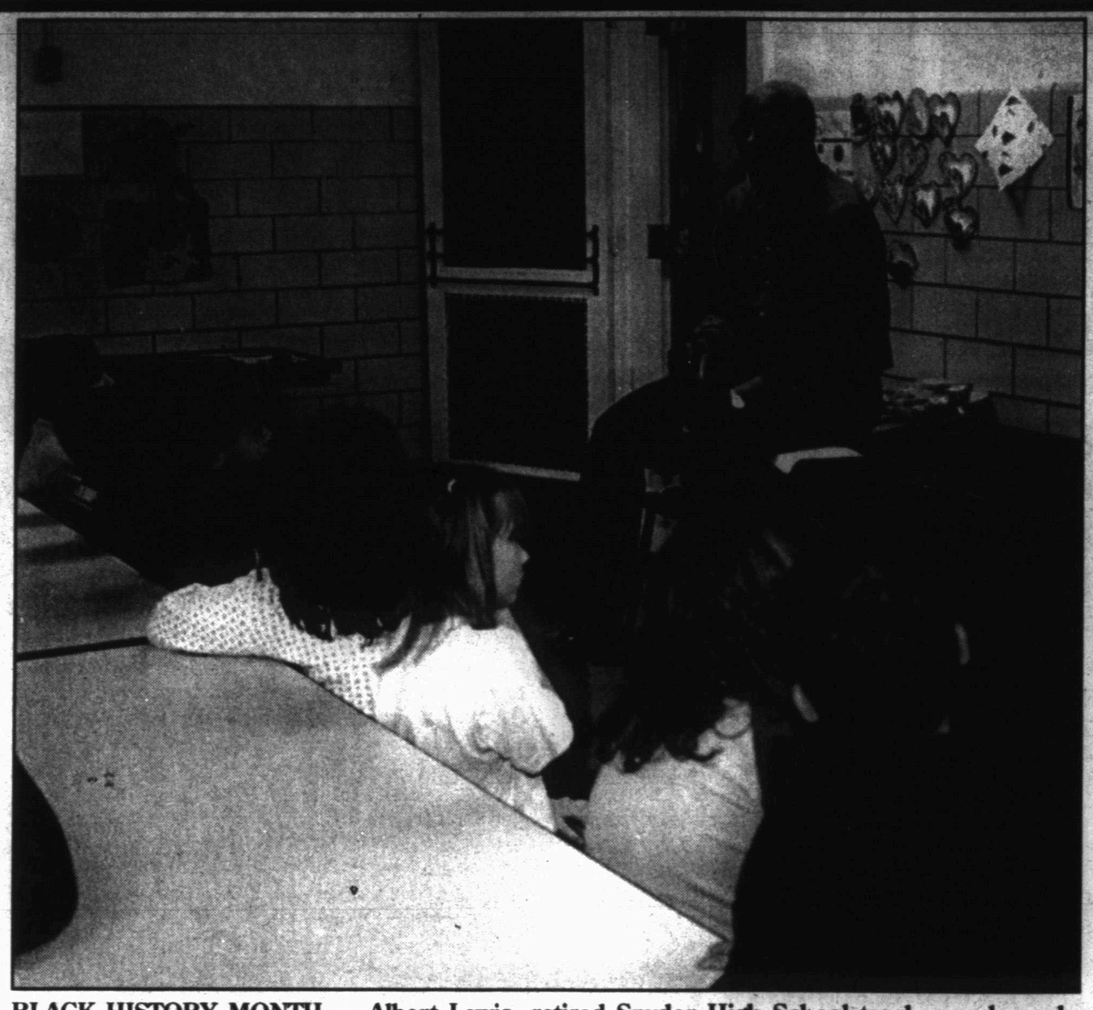
Lynnwood Anthony Vrba, of Leroy, was sentenced to 60 years in prison Wednesday after his ninth DWI conviction. The conviction, handed down in the 54th State District Court, came after a jury of six women and six men determined Vrba is guilty of felony DWI in a 1998 incident on Loop 340 in Bellmead.

Prosecutors introduced records during the three-day trial that said Vrba had been convicted of eight DWIs between 1968 and 1995, two of which were felonies, according to the Waco Tribune-Herald.

Defendants with at least two prior DWI convictions can be charged with felony DWI on subsequent arrests, the newspaper said. Those with at least two prior felony convictions can be charged as habitual criminals and receive tougher sentences.

Vrba also was convicted of murder without malice in the 1971 killing of a bartender, testimony showed. He also was convicted in 1987 of two felony counts of unlawfully carrying a weapon on a licensed premise.

In the 1998 incident, TABC agent Danny Pavlas and John Basham, a justice of the peace candidate who was riding along with him Sept. 20, said that a car driven by Vrba swerved into their oncoming lane.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH — Albert Lewis, retired Snyder High School teacher and coach, spoke to Central Elementary's Safe Child Program students last week. He emphasized the importance of education. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Man said guilty of murder

HOUSTON (AP) — A man was convicted Wednesday for robbing and then killing a former missionary who had just moved to Houston from Mexico so his children could get a better education.

Juan Martin Garcia, 19, was found guilty of capital murder after a jury deliberated for four hours. The panel must now decide if Garcia gets the death penalty or life in prison for the 1998 shooting death of Hugo Solano, 36, who died outside his apartment building.

The punishment phase of the case starts today in state District Judge Susan Brown's court, according to the Houston Chronicle.

Solano worked for seven years as a missionary in Mexico and had moved to Houston in 1998 to improve his children's education options, according to testimony in the case. He had just gotten into his van on Sept. 17 that year to go to work when Garcia tapped on his window with a .25-caliber pistol and asked for his money.

Solano apparently turned over the only money he was carrying — $8 — before Garcia shot him three times at close range in the face and head and once in the back of his neck.

Prosecutors, citing the autopsy and other evidence, said the back-of-the-neck shot came at point blank range after Garcia squatted over a frightened and bleeding Solano, who had fallen out of his van after the first shots hit him.

In a videotaped confession, Garcia said he had not intended to shoot Solano, but had pulled the trigger because he tripped and panicked. He and his co-defendants have been linked to a series of thefts, burglaries, shootings and robberies in the area.

Garcia was arrested Sept. 28, 1998, during a traffic stop. Police found the weapon used to kill Solano in the floorboard of the car as Garcia stepped out.

Some state scholarships are not claimed, new report says

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Texas colleges returned nearly $3 million this school year in scholarship money set aside by the state to help high school graduates pay for higher education.

One problem was that many colleges had trouble identifying students eligible for the money offered by some programs, the San Antonio Express News reports.

Students earning the state's two highest diplomas, which indicate more rigorous courseloads, are eligible. Students with a basic diploma don't qualify.

In light of the returned money, Lt. Gov. Rick Perry was in San Antonio Wednesday to promote the scholarship initiative, called TEXAS Grant.

The 1999 Legislature allocated $100 million for two years for the program. Statewide, colleges returned $2.82 million of the $18 million originally set aside for this year.

"Generally, especially with new programs, we just have a little slower start," Perry said after a news conference with state Sens. Jeff Wentworth, R-San Antonio, one of the bill's sponsors, and Leticia Van de Putte, D-San Antonio.

Some schools asked the state for more money than they were originally allocated. The state added $3.07 million to nearly all those campuses, according to the Higher Education Coordinating Board.

A few schools have yet to return unused money to the state.

Some community colleges returned money because they had trouble finding students that qualified for the grants, said Richard Hernandez, district director of student financial services for Alamo Community College District.

He said the schools should do better next year as the Coordinating Board and Texas Education Agency work with high schools to note on transcripts what diplomas students received.

Yet despite the rough start, Van de Putte said the aid would help the state put more students within reach of a college education.

"What this program says is take those higher courses," Van de Putte said.

Death certificates sought for victims

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The families of some passengers who died aboard Alaska Airlines Flight 261 have begun the painful task of seeking death certificates for loved ones whose bodies haven't been recovered.

A total of 49 positive identifications have been made since the Jan. 31 crash off the coast of Southern California, said Barbara Brodfuehrer, a spokeswoman for the Ventura County medical examiner.

All 88 people aboard the flight, bound to San Francisco and Seattle from Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, died.

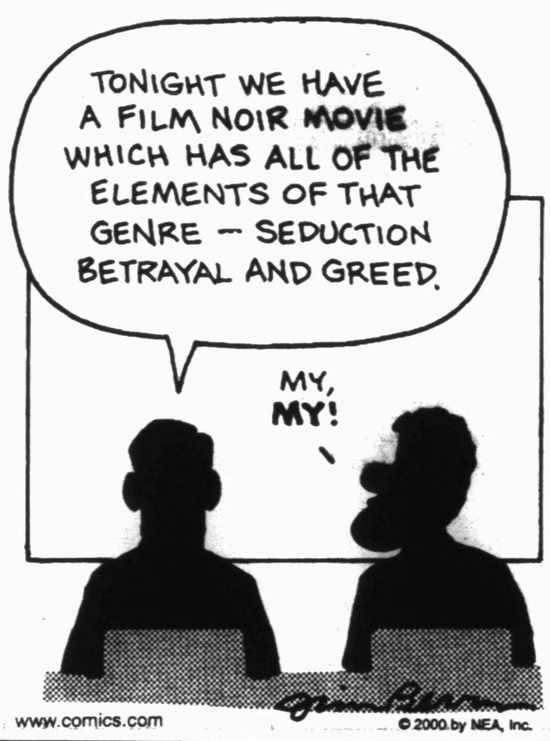
Conventional death certificates can be issued quickly after positive identification, and so far nearly a dozen have been turned over to families, Brodfuehrer said Wednesday.

For the rest of the victims, state laws implemented to end fraud make issuing death certificates a painstaking process.

Family members can petition the Superior Court for a death certificate, which is required before next of kin can access banking accounts, collect insurance, transfer property or execute wills.

On Tuesday, the Ventura County Board of Supervisors voted to authorize a court petition on behalf of the families of the victims. If accepted, the judge will issue the death certificates.

Berry's World



Date Book

Thursday, Feb. 17, 2000
Today is the 48th day of 2000 and the 58th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1801, Thomas Jefferson was elected president of the United States. Aaron Burr was his vice president.

On this day in 1944, more than 200 Japanese aircraft were shot down by U.S. forces over the island of Truk, in the South Pacific.

On this day in 1994, former U.S. treasurer Catalina Villalpando was found guilty of having evaded $47,000 dollars in federal taxes.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Thomas Malthus (1766-1834), political economist; Marian Anderson (1902-1993), singer; Red Barber (1908-1992), sports broadcaster; Chaim Potok (1929-), novelist, is 71; Jim Brown (1936-), football great-actor, is 64; Michael Jordan (1963-), basketball great-baseball aspirant, is 37; Billie Joe Armstrong (1972-), singer, is 28.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1953, baseball player Ted Williams' Panther jet was shot down over Korea.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "I forgave the D.A.R. many years ago. You lose a lot of time hating people." — Marian Anderson

TODAY'S MOON: Between first quarter (Feb. 12) and full moon (Feb. 19).

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The smallest frog in the world, Sminthillus limbatus, measures less than half an inch long.

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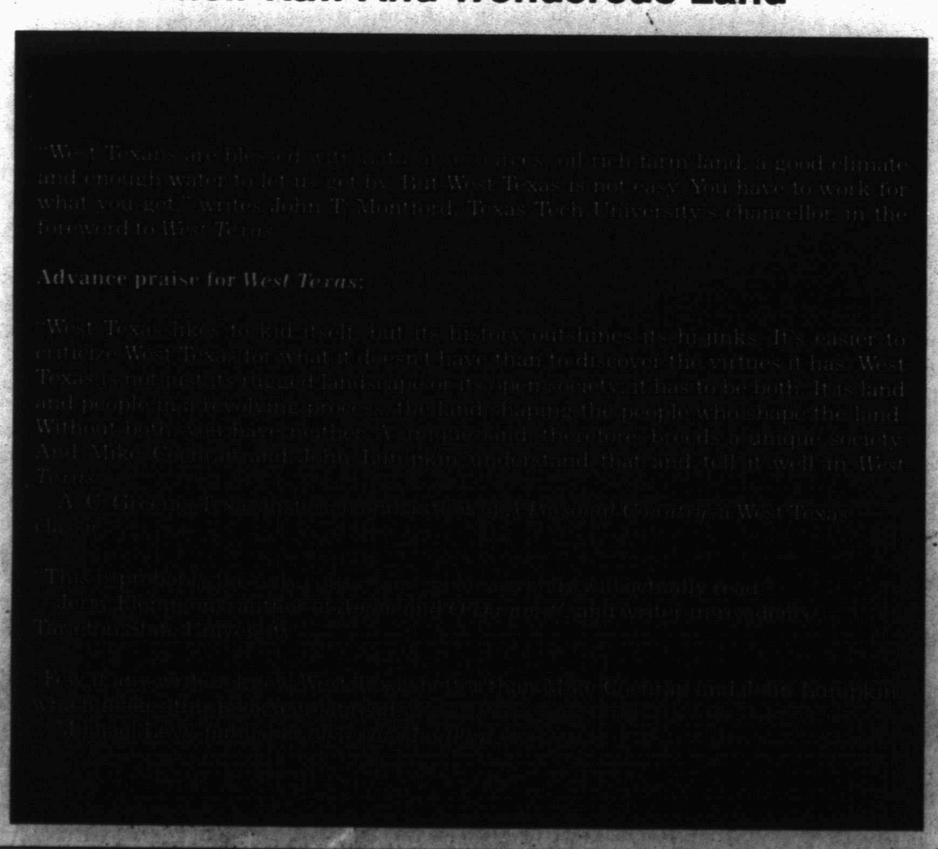
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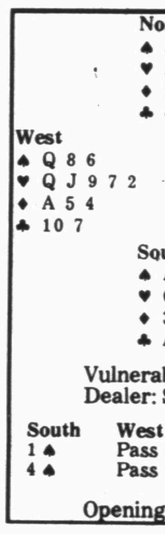
Lifestyle



VALENTINE
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banquet whe
Ezell, 7, was

Bridg

By Phillip



A big m in probl

There have renowned comp play problems: Rubens and Ja died in 1982, strong in The B zine, and Wohli last year.

Jan Wohlin (p imately Yan Voh man physically, holm. He was a winning the E onship in 1952 the '50 and '53 B he will be rem many interestin problems, of w Cover the East- would you play West leads the h you win or duck you call for a

Pleas



VALENTINE BANQUET — West Elementary Safe Child Program students participated in a Valentine's Day program and banquet where Dalton Toland, 5, was crowned king and Anne Ezell, 7, was crowned queen. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Richburg presents program

Ruth Richburg made a PowerPoint presentation Monday on distance learning at Western Texas College to members of the Zeta Lambda Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

Richburg has been associated with WTC for 23 years and is assistant director of distance learning. Distance learning defines any course that is taught under circumstances in which the students and the instructor are separated by distance and may be taught by Interactive TV or through an Internet class. Many students in interactive TV classes are high school students who attend concurrent enrollment classes on their high school campus.

With this program, qualifying high school students may receive both high school and college credit for a course. There are 42 concurrent enrollment classes involving 16 area high schools with a combined enrollment of 309.

ITV classes are also offered this semester at the Wallace and Ware Units of the TDCJ. The instructor is at WTC while the inmates are in classrooms at the units. Math and government are the subjects currently offered.

This fall marked the beginning of Internet classes which is especially useful for students who have difficulty scheduling a time to attend classes at the college on a regular basis.

A meditation, "It's Not the Outlook but the Uplook That Counts," was given by Sonja Hanks to open the meeting attended by 26 members at the Martha Ann Woman's Club.

Margaret Presswood, chairman of the nominating committee, presented nominations for officers for 2000-2003 biennium and was accepted by the membership. Elected president was Pam Hart. Others are Patsy Williams, first vice president; Ralphene Canon, second vice president; Judy Barkowsky, corresponding secretary; and Jackie McNew, recording secretary. In addition, members accepted the motion for next year's nominating committee to include Carmen Carpenter, chairman, Samijane Webb, Elaine Bragg and Melissa Rosson.

Members were encouraged to support this year's Relay for Life set for April 28-29 by volunteering to assist with the luminaries and in other areas.

Hostesses included ElWanda Nall, Durelle Gorman, June McGlaun, Donna Stehley and Jean Sealy.



DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAM — Ruth Richburg, right, was guest speaker at Monday's Delta Kappa Gamma meeting. Hostesses were, from left, Jean Sealy, Durelle Gorman and ElWanda Nall. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)



DRAWING HELD FOR ELEPHANT — A stuffed Valentine white elephant "Casanova" was won by Lyn Small, with Cogdell Memorial Hospital's human resources, in the hospital gift shop Friday. Proceeds will be used for hospital needs, sponsored by the CMH Auxiliary. Pictured at the drawing were, from left, Sandra Robinson, gift shop chairman, Jo Cotton, director of volunteers, and Laurie Haines, gift shop volunteer. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



North 02-17-00
♠ 5 3 2
♥ A 10
♦ K Q 10 7 6
♣ 8 6 2

West
♠ Q 8 6
♥ Q J 9 7 2
♦ A 5 4
♣ 10 7

East
♠ - - -
♥ K 8 5 3
♦ J 9 8 2
♣ Q J 9 5 4

South
♠ A K J 10 9 7 4
♥ 6 4
♦ 3
♣ A K 3

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♥ Q

A big man in problem-setting

There have been three world-renowned composers of declarer-play problems: Paul Lukacs, Jeff Rubens and Jan Wohlin. Lukacs died in 1982, Rubens is going strong in The Bridge World magazine, and Wohlin died August 25 last year.

Jan Wohlin (pronounced approximately Yan Voh-leen) was a large man physically, who lived in Stockholm. He was an excellent player, winning the European Championship in 1952 and competing in the '50 and '53 Bermuda Bowls. Yet he will be remembered for his many interesting single-dummy problems, of which this is one. Cover the East-West hands. How would you play in four spades? West leads the heart queen. Should you win or duck trick one? When you call for a trump from the dummy, what do you do if East discards? What if he follows low?

You should duck trick one. If West switches to a club, you win and lead a diamond, keeping your losers at worst to one spade, one heart and one diamond. If West continues with a second heart to dummy's ace, play a trump from the dummy. If East follows low, finesse the jack! Even if it loses, you have time to establish a diamond trick in the dummy; and you get there on the third round of spades by overtaking your four with dummy's five. (You did see that, didn't you.)

If East discards on the first round of spades, win with the ace, cash the ace-king of clubs, and lead a diamond. You must hope that West started with the diamond ace and exactly two clubs. (This is why you must duck trick one. If you won it, West could lead a heart to his partner's king for the killing defensive club trick.)

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Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Feb. 16-Vera Holsinger, Mike McLeod, Ronnie Black and Jerry Worsham.

DISMISSALS: Toby Delce and Dale Guynes.

CENSUS: 36 (Med./Surg.-12, Long-term Care-23 and ICU-1)

SCGS to meet Tuesday

Scurry County Genealogical Society will meet at the Scurry County Library at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Children's Room.

The program focus will be on basic computer skills.

Visitors are always welcome.

The Following
Financial Institutions
Will Be Closed
Monday, February 21
In Observance Of





PRESIDENT'S
DAY

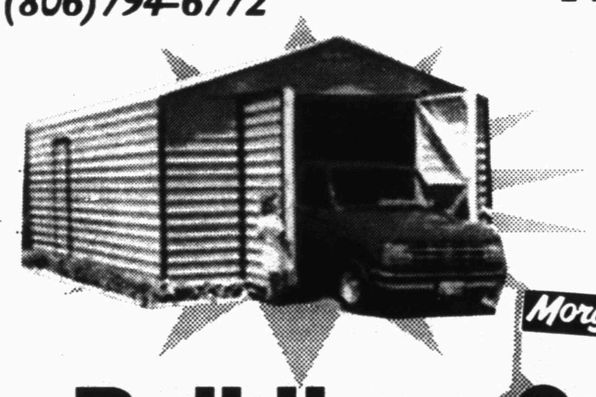
Please Transact Your Business Accordingly

Texas Savings Bank
American State Bank
West Texas State Bank

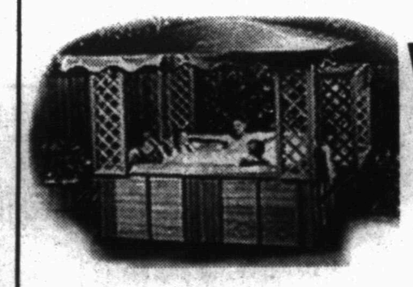
Morgan

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of Lubbock, Tx
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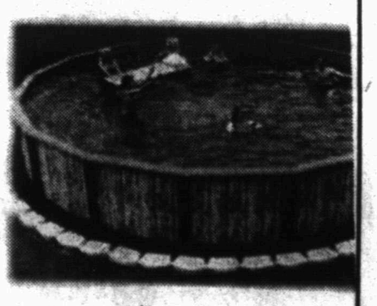
Will Be In
Snyder, Texas
Thursday thru
Sunday
Feb. 17-20



Buildings Spas Pools
1st Annual
Tent Sale



Wal Mart
Parking
Lot



Offering
FREE
Delivery This
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- FACTORY DIRECT - NO MIDDLEMAN
- MC/VISA/DISC/AMEX
- FINANCING AVAILABLE (NO MONEY DOWN)
- CALL AHEAD FOR BEST SELECTION

Comic Page — THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

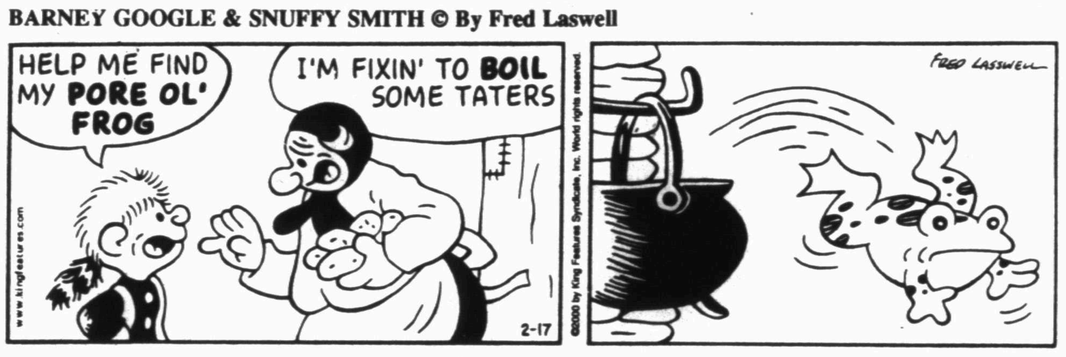
THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



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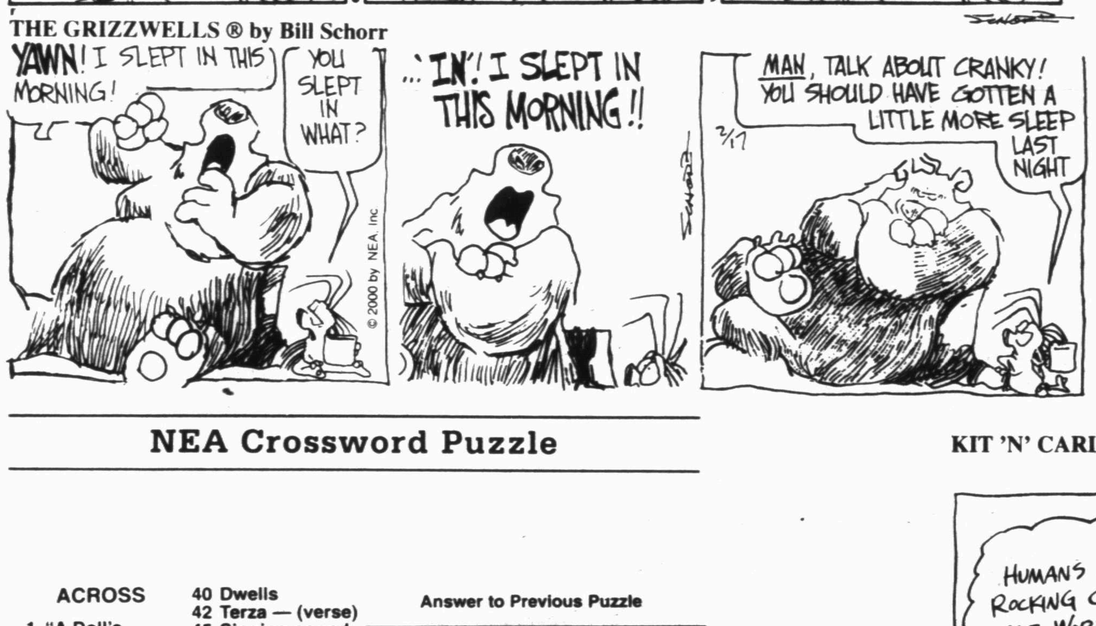
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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 "A Doll's House" author
6 Begin a day
10 Larry Hagman TV series
12 Speaks
14 Nervous (2 wds.)
15 Sailor
16 Actor Ayres
17 Illuminated
19 Actress Bonet
20 Impetuously
23 Princeton vines
26 Yoko —
27 Traitor
30 Table linen
32 Sea creatures
34 Click beetle
35 Heterogeneous
36 Hebrew letter
37 Brood of pheasants
39 Pronunciation mark
40 Dwells
42 Terza — (verse)
45 Singing sound
46 "Groovy!"
49 Beneficial
51 Debonair
54 Fight
55 Robin's friend
56 Robin's home
57 Corn coverings

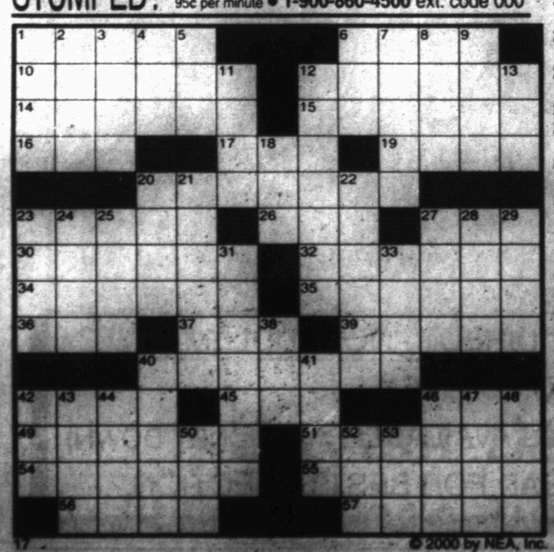
DOWN

1 Object of worship
2 Cause of distress
3 Twist about
4 Old age
5 Be a shrew
6 Map abbr.
7 Venice's place
8 Half (pref.)
9 Important times
11 Actress Ward
12 Actor Peter —
13 Nahoor sheep
18 Wedding words
20 Type of wave
21 Ancient Jewish ascetic
22 Find
23 The same (Lat.)
24 Singer Jerry —
25 Mohammedan prayer leader
27 Muddy the waters
28 Imitated
29 Ocean movement
31 Linda Evans role
33 Baseball's Speaker.
38 Goddess of healing
40 Floats
41 Smear
42 Knead
43 "No man — — island"
44 Distribute
46 Male sheep
47 Biblical giant
48 Lions' homes
50 Last mo.
52 College cheer
53 Energy abbr.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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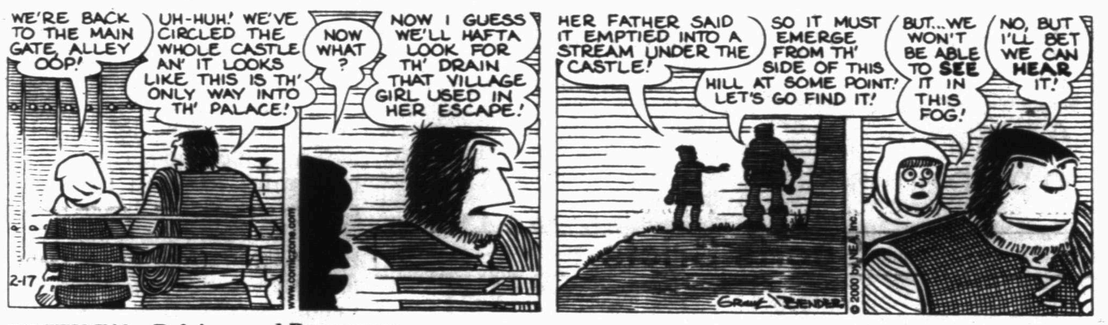
BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce



ROBOTMAN ® by Jim Meddick E-Mail:JimMeddick@aol.com



ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender



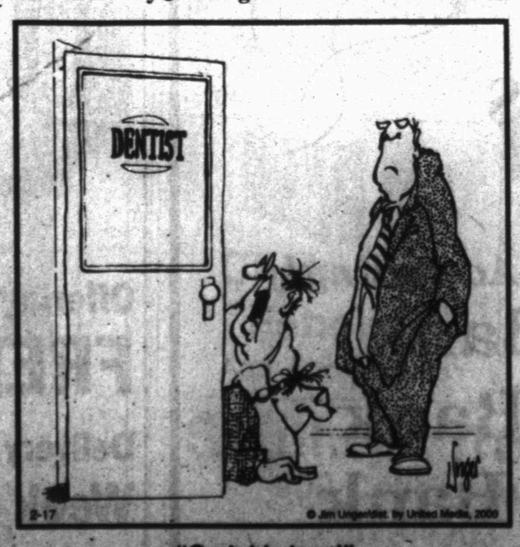
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KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



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"Grab his legs!"





SPORTS

Rodman draws fine, suspension

DALLAS (AP) — It would be the ultimate cage match, a pay-per-view extravaganza every NBA player would surely watch.

The combatants in this tantalizing no-holds-barred free-for-all: Dennis the Menace and The Commish.

Sure, Dennis Rodman is probably joking about wanting to go mano a mano with David Stern, and even if he is serious, there's no way the NBA commissioner would ever go for it.

But it is kind of fun to think about.

Rodman had more time to think about it after the league suspended him for one game and fined him $10,000 Wednesday for his behavior on the court the previous night.

Playing just his second game for the Dallas Mavericks, Rodman picked up consecutive technical fouls with 7:13 left for arguing a non-call against Milwaukee, then for sitting on the court in protest.

The second technical meant an automatic ejection, the 23rd of Rodman's career. What got Rodman in trouble, though, was arguing with the officials, then running across the court and giving his jersey to a fan.

League spokesman Chris Brienza said Rodman was punished for "failing to leave the court in a timely manner following an ejection and for verbally abusing the officials."

It wasn't, Brienza said, for Rodman saying that he and the commissioner should "get some damn gloves on and we go in the ring and we can see who'll come out the winner."

Rodman, who has been throwing verbal jabs at Stern for years, was still talking about settling matters with his fists after practice Wednesday.

"I expect David Stern is going to do something, but I don't give a damn," Rodman said before the suspension was announced. "Me and David Stern need to clear our differences. Like I said last night, let's get into the ring. He gets naked, I get naked and let's go in and get it on, brother."

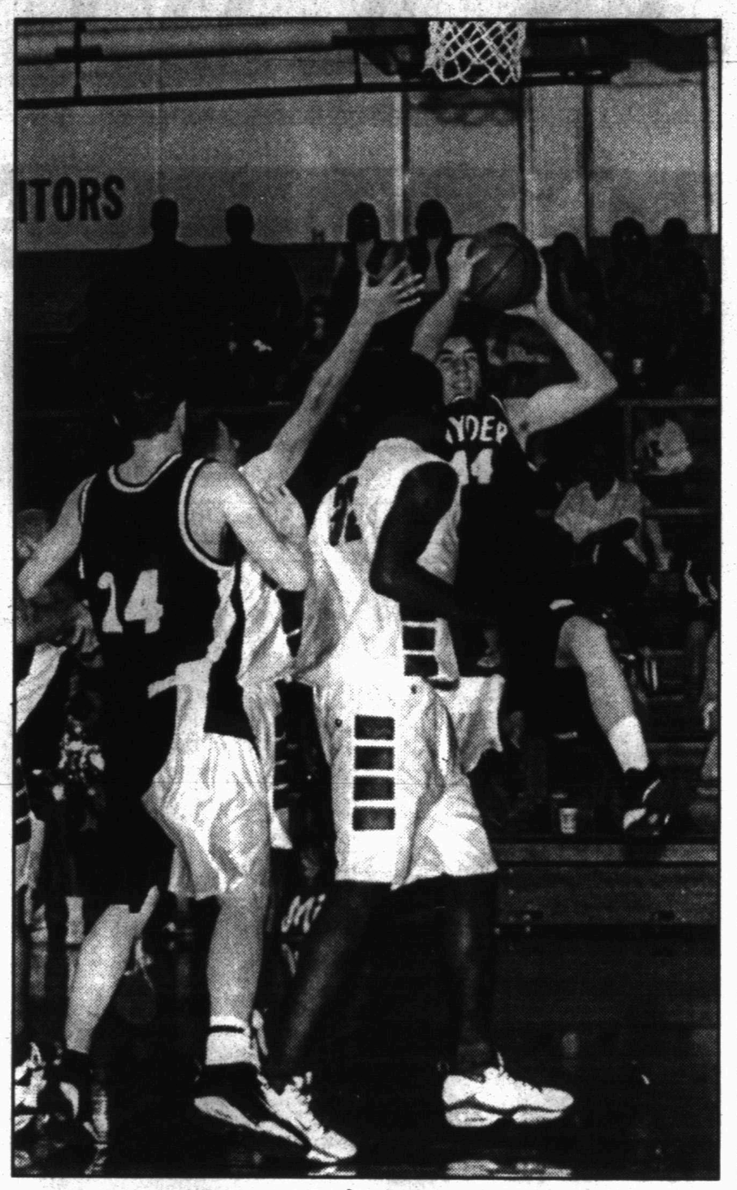
After the suspension was announced, Rodman said through his spokeswoman: "I don't know why all this focus is on me. I'm a competitor. I want my team to win and, yes, I got upset.

"But I'm being singled out only because I'm passionate about winning. I'm here in Dallas to help this team win. And you've got to be kidding me, if everybody is really taking the comments after the game seriously."

Rodman actually was having a good game before being tossed. He had 16 rebounds — the most by a Dallas player this season — and added six points and four assists in 36 minutes.

The Mavericks won seven of eight games before Rodman arrived, but have lost two straight with the eccentric rebounding star in the lineup.

Rodman will miss a game tonight at home against Detroit. He'll return Sunday in Toronto.



PLAYOFF BOUND — Snyder's Jared Thornhill grabs a rebound during district action earlier this season against Lake View. The Tigers, who received a first-round bye for the playoffs, learned Wednesday their area-round opponent will be either Weatherford or Wichita Falls Hirschi. Snyder's first playoff game will be Feb. 25. (SDN Staff Photo)

At first conference tourney

Westerners swing into runner-up slot

ODESSA — Following the first conference tournament of the year, it seems Western Texas saved its best effort for when it counted.

Western Texas turned in solid rounds of 299 and 302 Wednesday to grab the runner-up spot at the Odessa Invitational.



Higdon



McLauchlan

All 36 holes were played on Wednesday, and the Westerners held a four-stroke over eventual winner Odessa after the first round.

The Wranglers, playing on their home course at Odessa Country Club, responded with a 292 in the closing round to edge WTC by six shots.

"We're playing pretty good right now," said WTC coach Milton Ham. "And we've been playing better and better each time out. The key for us Wednesday was consistency. All six of our golfers finished between 150 and 156, so that's pretty solid from top to bottom."

James Higdon and Scott McLauchlan paced the Westerners with two-round totals of 150. Higdon turned in scores of 74 and 76, while McLauchlan carded rounds of 72 and 78.

Martin Gustafson came in with a 81-73—154. Jason McGrath finished at 77-78—155, and Steven Fraser tallied an 80-75—155. Michael Hansen fired a 76-80—156.

While Odessa and Western Texas hold the top two spots in the conference standings, New Mexico sits two strokes back in third place, followed by Midland.

The Westerners continue conference competition Feb. 25 when they visit New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell, N.M.

WTC hosts NMJC at 7:30 tonight

The Western Texas Lady Dusters are on a roll, and they hope to keep it that way tonight.

Western Texas hosts New Mexico Junior College at 7:30 tonight in a WJCAC contest at the WTC gym.

The Lady Dusters (3-8, 5-22) carry a two-game winning streak into the meeting. The Lady Thunderbirds are 5-6 in conference play and 10-14 overall.

The first time these two teams met, Western Texas held a 13-point lead at halftime, before New Mexico rallied in the second half to notch the win.

Only two games remain on the conference schedule, following tonight. The Lady Dusters host Midland on Monday, before visiting Frank Phillips next Thursday.

Sports Briefs

Track volunteers needed

Snyder High School needs volunteers for the Canyon Reef Relays, to be held March 11.

Anyone interested should contact Tommy Doyle at 574-6039.

Pitching clinics held weekly

Fastpitch softball pitching clinics will be held every Wednesday. Class size is limited. For more information, contact Herman Martinez at 573-0390.

Teen activities scheduled

A 4-on-4 volleyball tournament will be held Feb. 25-26 for ages 14 and up. Entry fee is $35 per team, and deadline to register is Sunday. Proceeds benefit the Keystone Club.

The Smart Moves Spring Teen Basketball League, for ages 14-19 will be taking entries through March 10. Registration fee is $10 per player, and includes a new mesh jersey. The league will be limited to eight teams.

For more information on either event, call the Boys and Girls Club at 573-3344.

Bulls trade Kukoc

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Toni Kukoc, the last key player from the Bulls' championship dynasty, was traded to Philadelphia in a three-team deal involving Golden State.

The 76ers sent Larry Hughes and Billy Owens to the Warriors, who dealt a No. 1 draft pick and guard John Starks to Chicago. The Bulls, who have three No. 1 picks this year, also got Bruce Bowen from Philadelphia.

Kukoc, 31, averaging 18 points and 5.4 rebounds in 24 games this season, is in the final year of his contract.

Rison steals music equipment

OLATHE, Kan. (AP) — Kansas City wide receiver Andre Rison was arrested on a charge of felony theft for stealing music equipment.

Rison was released after posting $2,000 bond. The equipment was rented, but not returned, authorities said.

Rison, suspended one game in November after his involvement in a fight outside a bar, had 21 catches for 218 yards last season.

Sharpe agrees to deal with Ravens

BALTIMORE (AP) — Free-agent tight end Shannon Sharpe said on his Web site that he agreed to a four-year contract with the Baltimore Ravens, reportedly worth $14 million.

Bob Eller, Ravens director of operations, confirmed the agreement with the seven-time Pro Bowl selection.

Sharpe, 31, who missed most of last season because of a broken collarbone, is Denver's career receiving leader with 543 catches for 6,872 yards.

Titans sign Dallas' Godfrey

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Tennessee signed right tackle Fred Miller away from St. Louis, and linebacker Randall Godfrey, who led Dallas with 143 tackles last season, to a five-year contract.

The Titans signed Miller, who started every game last season for the Super Bowl champions, for six years and $24 million.

FSU kicker charged with bribery

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Florida State kicker Sebastian Janikowski was charged with one count of bribery after allegedly offering a police officer $300 to release his roommate.

The charge is a third-degree felony, and Janikowski, a native of Poland, could face deportation if convicted. If found guilty, he also faces up to five years in prison and a $5,000 fine.

'Horns down Cowboys

AUSTIN (AP) — Gabe Muoneke can live with some personal frustration so long as No. 17 Texas keeps winning.

Texas is thriving with the senior forward playing as a reserve, even if it sometimes bothers him.

"On a selfish level, it's difficult for me," said Muoneke, Texas' most emotional — and volatile — player. "I can't say I love it to death."

But the Longhorns love Muoneke's production in his new role. Although he didn't start, he logged 32 minutes Wednesday night and scored 17 points to power Texas to a 68-57 win over No. 8 Oklahoma State.

He scored eight straight in a critical stretch of the second half that broke the game open for Texas.

"I like him off the bench," Texas coach Rick Barnes said. "I know what Gabe is going to bring. Gabe is such a great player. The last couple of games, he's gone in and really changed the game."

Barnes first benched Muoneke to discipline him for a flare-up in practice. He had scored just six points in a blowout loss at Oklahoma.

Since then, Texas (18-6, 9-2 Big 12) has won four straight and positioned itself to defend its conference title. Barnes said he's tempted to keep using Muoneke as a reserve for no other reason than it is working.

"The thing I don't like is that people think this is disciplinary from three games ago, and that's just not true," Barnes said. "It takes a big person to do what he's doing, but winning means as much to him as anything."

Said Muoneke: "I'll never question what he's doing. He's come through for me in every situation."

Muoneke's size was a big factor against the Cowboys, an athletic team that didn't have the muscle to stop him near the basket. Texas led 40-33 early in the second half when Muoneke went on his scoring spree, forcing his way inside for short jumpers and layups for a 48-35 lead with 13:55 left to play.

"At 250 pounds, if you get half a step on somebody, there's not much they can do about it," Muoneke said.

"Muoneke just got aggressive all of a sudden," said Desmond Mason, who led the Cowboys with 12 points. "He got the ball down deep, and once he gets it that deep, he can't be stopped."

Mason supplied his own surge with seven points in two minutes as the Cowboys pulled to 48-44. Muoneke answered with a dunk, and Texas quickly pushed the lead to 54-44.

Mason, who scored 30 points when Oklahoma State beat Texas 73-65 in January, was 4-of-13 from the field in the rematch.

Mihm had 15 points and 16 rebounds for Texas, which also got 14 points from Darren Kelly.

Snyder to host playoff basketball games Friday

Snyder is set to host a girls' basketball playoff doubleheader Friday night at Scurry County Coliseum.

Action tips off at 6 o'clock with a Class 3A second-round tilt between Lubbock Cooper and Midland Greenwood. Class 2A Sonora and Farwell square off at 8 in the nightcap.

Greenwood enters Friday's action as the District 4-3A champion with a record of 18-7, while Cooper carries a 20-11 mark into the contest.

Farwell, the District 4-2A title winner, sports an overall record of 24-5, with Sonora coming in at 16-11.

Also on the playoff agenda, Lubbock Monterey and San Angelo Central are tentatively scheduled to meet Monday or Tuesday at the coliseum in a Class 5A boys' bi-district contest.

National Basketball Association

All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
Miami	31	17	.646	—
New York	30	19	.612	1½
Philadelphia	27	23	.540	5
Orlando	25	26	.490	7½
Boston	22	28	.440	10
New Jersey	19	31	.380	13
Washington	15	36	.294	17½
Central Division				
Indiana	33	16	.673	—
Charlotte	28	21	.571	5
Toronto	27	22	.551	6
Milwaukee	27	24	.529	7
Detroit	25	24	.510	8
Atlanta	20	28	.417	12½
Cleveland	20	30	.400	13½
Chicago	10	38	.208	22½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
San Antonio	32	18	.640	—
Utah	29	19	.604	2
Minnesota	27	22	.551	4½
Denver	22	27	.449	9½
Houston	21	30	.412	11½
Dallas	20	29	.408	11½
Vancouver	15	34	.306	16½
Pacific Division				
Portland	40	11	.784	—
L.A. Lakers	39	11	.780	½
Seattle	32	20	.615	8½
Phoenix	30	19	.612	9
Sacramento	30	19	.612	9
Golden State	12	37	.245	27
L.A. Clippers	11	40	.216	29

Wednesday's Games

Indiana 109, Toronto 101
Orlando 129, L.A. Clippers 96
L.A. Lakers 92, Charlotte 85
New York 93, Minnesota 89
Vancouver 92, Washington 87
Portland 99, Golden State 95

Thursday's Games

Denver at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Indiana at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Miami at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Detroit at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Utah, 9 p.m.

Friday's Games

Denver at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Cleveland at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Miami at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Vancouver at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Houston at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Washington at Portland, 10 p.m.
Boston at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
Seattle at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.

Local Sports Schedule

TODAY

New Mexico at Western Texas, 7:30

FRIDAY

Ira vs. Lorenzo, practice game at Jayton, 7:30

Golf: Snyder varsity girls host Snyder Invitational

Golf: Snyder varsity boys at Abilene Invitational

Softball: Snyder at Brenham tourney

SATURDAY

Hermleigh vs. Meadow, practice game at Wilson, 7 p.m.

Golf: Snyder varsity girls host Snyder Invitational

Golf: Snyder varsity boys at Abilene Invitational

Softball: Snyder at Brenham tourney

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Transport Driver Opening: Must have CDL–Hazmat endorsements, clean driving record and pass drug test. Contact National Fuel at 2208 Ave. R.

Wait-staff Needed – All shifts. Apply in person at Plaza Cafe from 6a.m. to 2p.m.

Wait-staff needed: Morning shift 7–2, 1 evening. Apply in person at **Rudy's**, 4604 College. No phone calls!

Financial

1000 New Customers needed No Credit! No Problems! Loans $100 to $446. Apply by phone @ 573-1761 or come by Security Finance, 511 Coliseum Drive, Snyder, TX.

Farmers Column

Timothy Hay – Horse quality square bales, $4.50 each. 573-7392 after 5pm or leave message.

Merchandise

486 Computer, Windows 95, color monitor, keyboard, mouse, 170mb hard drive. $225, call 573-5683.

CONVALESCENT NEEDS
Wheel Chairs, Walkers, Canes, Home Blood Pressure Kits, Etc. Sales & Rentals
3706 College 573-7582

Firewood!! Oak & Mesquite! Local cutter. Part seasoned. 24"-22"-20"-18". Some split. Delivered. 573-1216

Any time is the right time to use the classified ads. Call today!

Merchandise

GUARANTEED USED APPLIANCES: Washers, Dryers, Refrigerators, Ranges & Freezers. WESTERN AUTO 2510 Ave. R.

Paper end rolls for sale at Snyder Daily News. Prices vary by size. Great to cover tables, pack items when moving etc.

Dogs, Pets, Etc.

Give away to good home–2 year old Australian Shepherd male dog. 573-3298.

LOST: Parrot. Vicinity of 1000 25th. Solid green. Reward. Call 573-0586.

Siberian Husky Puppies! Black/white, 7 weeks. 573-2141 days, 573-6106 after 5:30.

There's A Deal Waiting For You IN THE CLASSIFIEDS 573-5486

Garage Sales

Noah's Attic
Open Friday Only 10-5:30
$ DOLLAR SALE $
All Proceeds Benefit Noah Project West, a shelter for victims of family violence
1503 26th St. Snyder, TX 573-8870

RUMMAGE SALE
** All Week **
1605 8th
9a.m. – ?? *No Early Birds*
Clothes (You bag it) $5.00, Paperback books, Bikes. You name it, we got it!!

Rent Or Lease Property

Office building for lease. Formerly the Beauty Pub, 4201½ College Ave. Contact Jean Howell, 573-4442.

CALL FOR RESULTS! 573-5486 CLASSIFIEDS

Apartments For Rent

1 Bedroom Furnished apartment. All bills paid. Rent by 2 weeks or month. 573-3279, 573-5879, 728-8482.

2 bedroom apartment for rent. Good location, reasonable. Call 573-0996.

Field Crest Apartments
"...A good home to lots of good people"
1 bedroom/1 bath - $265 (very big bedroom)
2 bedroom/1+bath - $285
* $100 security deposit
* We pay water
* You pay electricity
* No application fee
700 E. 37th
Tel: 573-3519

Western Crest Apartments
3901 Ave. 0
●1 or 2 Bedroom
●Covered Patio ● Sparkling Pool
●Playground ● Satellite TV Available

Windridge Village Apartments
5400 College Ave.
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●Sparkling Pool ● Clothes Care Facility
●Great Location ● Satellite TV Available
Office located at 3901 Ave. 0
573-1488

Houses For Rent

1801 39th, 2 bedroom, w/washer & dryer. $100 deposit, $275 month. 573-0900.

2-1-1, appliances, fenced yard, CH/A, carpet. $300/mo. + deposit. 707 27th Street. 573-0899.

2 bedrooms, CH/A, freshly painted, fenced. $350/mo., $100/dep. 3005 39th. 573-4441, 573-6427.

3702 Beaumont, 2 bedroom, CH/A, $100 deposit, $275 month. 573-0900.

3 bedroom 1 bath, CH/A. 2100 41st. Call 573-9068.

For Rent: Unfurnished 3–1½, 121 34th. Available March 1st, $450/month. Call 573-2649 before 5p.m.

HOUSES FOR RENT
3902 Eastridge.....3-1-2.....$400
2306 41st.....3 bedroom....$400
2405 37th.....2-1.....$300
3001 41st.....3-2.....$425
Sarah Jamison.....573-4028
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2000 Model, 16' wide, 3+2. Just $1000 down, $171.74 monthly. Save thousands. $18,900 to finance, 10% APR, 300 months with approved credit. 800-830-3515, (Se Habla Espanol).

2000 Model 28X80 under $49,900. $2,500 down, $398.59 monthly. 800-830-3515. $47,400 to finance, 9.5 APR, 360 months with approved credit.

Encounter with Texas fugitive recalled

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) — Jim Kremers knew the fugitive had arrived as soon as he heard the dogs barking.

Sure enough, the man accused of killing a farmer and wounding two officers stepped into the glow of a yard light behind Kremers' ranch house near Lusk, 120 miles north of Cheyenne.

The stranger was armed with a rifle and a pistol.

"We went for cover as quick as we could, expecting the worst," Kremers recalled Wednesday.

The man's name was Charles Moses. The Texas survivalist had allegedly spent the previous three days on the run, and when he was spotted near Lusk, deputies had warned Kremers and other area ranchers about him.

Kremers and son Justin lay low for a few minutes. Then the elder Kremers told his son to go around the house and flank the visitor with their own rifle.

"I told him to get a line on him and get him in his sights and do what he had to do," Jim Kremers said.

With Justin Kremers' gun trained on the fugitive, Jim Kremers persuaded Moses to put his rifle down. Moses still had a pistol, and negotiations with the wet, muddy stranger had just begun.

"He said, 'I am another God-fearing person and if I were going to shoot you I would have already shot you,'" Jim Kremers said. "I said, 'I know.'"

Kremers and Moses, the subject of a massive manhunt over two states and more than 200 miles, began to talk.

The final agreement: Justin Kremers would put down the rifle if Moses put down his pistol. After a few more minutes of discussion, the deal was struck.

"The man made three or four steps toward me and engulfed me in an embrace and cried continuously for four or five minutes, I suppose," Jim Kremers said.

Father and son invited Moses inside, fed him hot dogs and beans and let him call his parents.

With Moses occupied, they went back outside and hid the weapons, then called the police. Not long after, deputies sneaked in, handcuffing Moses before the fugitive realized what was happening.

"There was no undue force, there was no real wrestling or scuffling about it," Jim Kremers said. "It was over and done with."

"I feel sorry for the man," he added.

Moses limped into federal court Wednesday after spending the night in a hospital with a shoulder wound.

"I lost a lot of blood," he told his attorney, Larry Van Court.

A hearing was set for Friday to determine whether Moses will be returned to Nebraska, where he is accused of killing farmer Robert Sedlacek and wounding one officer in the abdomen and another in the hand.

The manhunt began Saturday when a Lincoln County, Neb., deputy tried to arrest Moses on Texas charges of possessing explosives, violating probation and evading arrest. Moses escaped in his truck after a high-speed shoot-out with police.

Two days later, Sedlacek was found shot to death. A first-degree murder warrant was then issued for Moses, who police believed killed Sedlacek to steal his pickup truck.

Parties approve recreating Waco seige

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Six gunmen armed with pistols and submachine guns will dart from post to post, firing their weapons in detailed sequence. Grenades will be launched overhead and an advancing tank will crush glass and aluminum siding.

Those were the elements approved Wednesday as part of a court-ordered recreation designed to put to rest questions about the role of federal agents at the Branch Davidian compound on the last day of the April 1993 siege near Waco, Texas.

The recreation was to be recorded on special infrared cameras attached to aircraft flown by British pilots and the Air Force. A variety of weapons were expected to be used, and debris — glass, water and aluminum — could help determine whether they could have caused the flashes picked up by the FBI's infrared cameras.

The government and lawyers made public details of the recreation after meeting for more than five hours behind closed doors at the St. Louis office of Special Counsel John Danforth.

It remained uncertain whether the news media would be allowed to witness the event, tentatively expected to take place in March at Fort Hood, Texas.

The decision to open the test rests with U.S. District Judge Walter Smith of Waco, who is presiding over a wrongful death lawsuit the Branch Davidians filed against the government.

Lawyers Michael Caddell and Jim Brannon, who represent surviving Branch Davidians and their families, and Texas U.S. Attorney Mike Bradford said they believed the media should be present. Danforth apparently objected.

Danforth and his chief of staff declined to comment after the meeting.

After the test, a court-appointed expert will verify whether the conditions of the test were satisfactorily met. The original tapes will then be left with the court.

The parties hope the test will determine what caused more than 100 flashes to show up on an infrared tape the FBI filmed of the siege. They plan to compare that tape with aerial surveillance footage from Fort Hood.

The government has long insisted that none of its agents fired their weapons. But the Branch Davidian plaintiffs, backed by infrared experts, contend the bursts of light on the FBI tape can be nothing but gunfire.

Davidian leader David Koresh and some 80 followers died in the final hours of the 51-day standoff, some in the fire that engulfed the compound, others from gunshot wounds. The government insists the Davidians perished by their own hands.

Options for lesser charges sought by Diallo procesutors

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Jurors in the trial of four police officers accused of murdering an unarmed Bronx man in a hail of 41 bullets could have the option to convict the defendants on less serious charges.

With testimony in the Amadou Diallo case completed after just nine days, prosecutors asked the judge to allow the jury to consider manslaughter and criminally negligent homicide in addition to the original second-degree murder charges. The defense did not object.

Justice Joseph Teresi reserved decision on the request, which came moments after the defense rested.

Teresi denied a defense motion to throw out the murder charges and adjourned the trial until Tuesday, when the jury will hear closing arguments.

Officers Kenneth Boss, 28, Richard Murphy, 27, Sean Carroll, 37, and Edward McMellon, 27, have pleaded innocent to charges of intentional murder, depraved indifference murder and reckless endangerment. If convicted of murder, they face a maximum sentences of 25 years to life.

Prosecutors refused to say why they sought to include the lesser charges.

But both sides appeared to be hedging their bets — the prosecution against a complete exoneration of defendants in a high-profile case, the defense against the specter of harsh prison terms for their clients.

Stephen Worth, McMellon's attorney, insisted that despite the decision, the officers expected to be cleared.

"We don't concede for a moment that it's anything but not guilty," Worth said.

The officers testified this week that they fired 41 bullets at Diallo on Feb. 4, 1999 because he refused to stop for questioning, retreated to his Bronx building and pulled out what appeared to be a gun; he was hit 19 times. The object Diallo pulled turned out to be a wallet.

The prosecution contends the officers never yelled any warnings before cornering the Diallo and opening fire. Backed by autopsy findings, prosecutors also said most of the bullets hit Diallo, an immigrant from Guinea, while he was going down or flat on his back.

The trial was moved to Albany from New York because of pretrial publicity and protests alleging widespread police abuse of minorities.

Grant for HIV vaccine trials raises impropriety questions

CHICAGO (AP) — The former head of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's HIV vaccine unit approved an $8 million grant for research on a vaccine whose manufacturer hired him months later, the Chicago Tribune reported today. He denied any wrongdoing.

CDC and VaxGen Inc. officials confirmed Wednesday that Dr. William Heyward played a key role in earmarking $8 million for AIDSVAX trials in October, the Tribune reported. He became VaxGen's vice president for international clinical studies in January.

AIDSVAX, the only HIV vaccine undergoing advanced testing, is designed to control HIV infection by generating a type of protein that may be able to prevent the virus from attaching to immune cells.

VaxGen and CDC officials said Heyward had cleared his role in the grant allocation with CDC attorneys.

In an interview with The Associated Press today, Heyward insisted there was no conflict of interest.

Heyward said the CDC funded only six of the 60 research clinics where tests on the vaccine are being conducted.

In addition, he said, other CDC officials also approved the agency's participation, and his own decisions on the trials had nothing to do with his impending departure to work for VaxGen, a vaccine maker based in Brisbane, Calif.

"I made no decisions myself that dictated where something would be done or not," he said by telephone from his home in Georgia. "My advice was that CDC should be involved in this trial. But I don't care what vaccine it was, I would have said the same thing."

Don Francis, VaxGen's president, said he and Heyward had discussed the possibility of Heyward's employment with VaxGen for about two years, but he said they halted negotiations before the October decision to avoid a conflict of interest.

The Tribune quoted a CDC spokesman as saying the Atlanta-based health agency's general counsel office is reviewing whether post-employment restrictions policies would apply to the VaxGen matter.

Heyward said those restrictions bar him from representing VaxGen on government activities in which he was involved while with the CDC. "I am abiding by that," he said. "I'm playing this strictly by the rules. There've been no breaches."

Rep. John Porter, R-Ill., who chairs a House Appropriations subcommittee on biomedical research, said Heyward's role in the AIDSVAX trial grant raises questions of a conflict of interests.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	54¾	53⅞	54⅜	+ ¾
AT&T Corp s	50	48¼	49 9-16	+ 1-16
Albertsons	28	26 13-16	27⅛	—13-16
Alltel	65 9-16	63 9-16	63 11-16	— 1⅞
AmerOnline s	53 7-16	51 11-16	53¼	+ 1⅜
AndarkPtr	32⅞	31 11-16	31⅞	— ⅞
AtlRichfld	71¼	69 9-16	69⅝	— ⅞
ATMOS Egy	18⅛	17⅝	17 15-16	+ 3-16
Aviall	8⅜	8 3-16	8 5-16	+ 1-16
BP Amoco s	51⅛	48⅞	49⅜	+ ⅛
BakerHughes	25	23⅝	23 11-16	— 1⅝
Bank of Amer	46 5-16	44½	44⅞	— 5-16
BellAtl	55 15-16	55 1-16	55 3-16	+ ⅛
BellSouth	43 7-16	42¼	42 15-16	+ ½
Beth Steel	6 7-16	6 1-16	6⅛	— 3-16
BurlNoSFe	23⅛	22⅝	22 13-16	+ 3-16
CBS Corp	60⅝	59¾	59 15-16	+ 13-16
Caterpillar	39⅛	37⅝	37 15-16	— 1¼
CenSoWst	18 13-16	18½	18 9-16	— ⅛
Chevron	78⅛	76 15-16	76 15-16	— ⅞
Citigroup s	54¾	52 7-16	52 13-16	—1 23-256
Coastal	42 11-16	42⅛	42½	+ ⅛
CocaCola	53 9-16	51¼	51 13-16	—1 15-16
ColgatePal s	56	53 11-16	54½	— ⅞
ComclMetals	31⅜	31	31	— 5-16
Cooperln	35 5-16	34 7-16	35 1-16	— 1-16
DaimlrChry	65	64 1-16	64½	+ 3-16
DallSemicn	71⅛	70¼	70 11-16	+ ⅛
DeltaAirl	48⅝	47¾	48 7-16	+ 1⅜
Dillards Inc	18 11-16	17 13-16	18	— 9-16
DowChem	108¾	105¾	107 15-16	+ 11-16
DuPont	54 5-16	52¼	52⅝	— ¾
EastmanChem	39⅛	38¾	38⅞	— ¼
EstKodak	60 13-16	59½	60 3-16	+ 15-16
EDS Corp	73¾	68 11-16	68 15-16	—3 9-16
Entergy	22 11-16	22 5-16	22½	+ ⅛
ExxonMobil	79	77⅞	77 15-16	—1 45-64
Flowers	12 7-16	12 1-16	12⅛	— 3-16
FordMotor	46⅝	45⅝	45⅞	— 7-16
GTE Cp	66½	65⅜	65⅜	— 3-16
GenDynam	42⅜	41 7-16	42 5-16	+ ¾
GenElec	135⅝	131⅛	132 3-16	—3 15-32
GenMills s	32 9-16	31¾	31 13-16	— ¼
GenMotors	76½	74⅜	74⅜	— ⅜
GaPacGP s	38¾	36⅞	37	—31-32
GlobalMar	20 9-16	19 11-16	19⅞	—11-16
Goodrich	23	22 9-16	22 13-16	+ ¼
Goodyear s	24⅜	23 9-16	23¾	— 3-16
GtAtlPac	25⅝	25¼	25 5-16	— ¼
Halliburtn	38½	37¼	37 5-16	—1 13-16
Hanson ADS	34 1-16	33¾	33⅞	+ 1⅞
HarteHanks	24 5-16	24	24	— ⅛
HomeDepot s	57 7-16	55	55⅛	— 1⅝
HoneywellIntl	46⅞	45 7-16	46⅛	+ 1¼
IBM s	117	115¾	116⅞	+ 1⅛
IntlPaper	44⅜	42⅜	42⅝	—13-16
JohnsonJn	81⅛	79⅞	80⅛	+ 13-16
K mart	8 3-16	8	8⅛	— ⅛
Kroger Co s	16⅛	16 3-16	16 3-16	— ¼
Liton	31 9-16	30 15-16	31½	
LockheedM	18¼	17 13-16	18	+ ¼
Lowes Cos	45 3-16	43 9-16	43 13-16	— 3-16
Lubys	10 15-16	10 11-16	10 15-16	+ ⅛
LucentTech s	53¼	52 1-16	52 5-16	— 1-16
MayDeptStr s	26¾	25 13-16	25 13-16	— 1
MediaOne	77 13-16	76 13-16	77¼	
Medtronic s	47¼	46 3-16	47 1-16	+ 1⅜
Monsanto	41⅜	40 13-16	40⅝	— 5-16
MorganJP	115¾	113 5-16	113⅝	+ 13-16
Motorola	146 15-16	143	144 15-16	—2 15-16
NCR Corp	40¾	39 9-16	39⅞	+ ⅜
Navistar	35¼	34⅞	35	— ⅜
Penney JC	16¼	15 13-16	15 15-16	— ¼
PepBoys	6 7-16	6¼	6¼	+ 1-16
PepsiCo	34 11-16	34¼	34 5-16	— ⅜
PhelpDodge	54 11-16	53¾	54⅜	+ 9-16
PhilipPet	39¾	39¼	39 7-16	— 1-16
PilgrmPrd B	7⅞	7 13-16	7 13-16	
Polaroid	24	23¼	23 13-16	+ ⅛
Praxair	41½	40¾	41 1-16	
ProctGamb	94⅝	93	93⅞	—11-64
PubS NwMx	16 3-16	16	16⅛	
ReliantEngy	21 15-16	21 9-16	21⅝	— 3-16
RoyalDut	59 1-16	57½	57 9-16	— 1-16
SBC Comm	39 5-16	38	38 13-16	— 3-16
SaraLee	16⅝	16¼	16½	+ ¼
Scripps EW	44 15-16	43⅞	44 7-16	+ ¼
SearsRoeb	29⅛	28 5-16	28 5-16	—13-16
SherwinW	20⅛	19 9-16	20 1-16	+ ½
SmithklBchm	56¼	55	56	+ 2½
SouthernCo	23 15-16	23 11-16	23 11-16	— 3-16
SwstAirl s	16⅜	16⅛	16 5-16	+ ¼
SprintFON s	65 5-16	64⅛	64⅞	+ ¼
SprintPCS s	48¼	46¾	47	— ⅛
Sunoco Inc	26 3-16	25 5-16	25 5-16	— ½
TNP Ent	43⅛	42 15-16	43 1-16	
Tandy s	38 9-16	37 9-16	37 15-16	— 9-16
TempleInland	55 13-16	52⅝	52 13-16	— 1¼
Texaco	50⅝	49½	49 9-16	—13-16
TexInd	36¾	36	36⅜	+ 15-16
TexasInst s	139 15-16	135 15-16	139 3-16	+ 3 5-16
Tex Util	34½	34⅛	34 3-16	— ⅛
Textron	59½	58	58 13-16	—13-16
TriconGlbR	28 7-16	27¾	28	+ 1-16
TrinityInds	22 9-16	21¾	21 15-16	— ½
TritonEngy	28½	27½	27⅝	—15-16
TylerTech	4¼	4⅛	4¼	+ 1-16
US West Inc	76 15-16	75⅝	76½	+ 1 11-16
USX-Marathn	24⅞	23⅝	23 15-16	— ½
USX-USS	25 3-16	24 9-16	24⅞	+ ⅛
UnCarbde	54 9-16	52⅞	53 15-16	+ 7-16
UnionPacif	37 9-16	36¾	37½	+ ⅛
UnitedTech s	54⅝	52½	52 11-16	+ 9-16
Unocal	29⅛	28¼	28 5-16	— 3-16
Venator Grp	5 13-16	5½	5⅝	— ⅛
WalMart s	53½	48	48¾	— 4⅛
WellsFargo	37⅛	35 9-16	35¾	— ⅝
WstnGasRs	13 11-16	13⅛	13½	+ ⅜
WinnDixie	17⅛	16 13-16	16⅞	— ⅛
Xerox Cp	21¾	21 3-16	21¼	— ⅜

Local Interest STOCKS

Patterson	18	0
Dell	38 15/16	+15/16
Wal Mart	48 13/16	-3 13/16
Compac	26 3/16	+5/16
Del. Gen.	19 7/16	+1/16
GTE	63 3/8	-3/16
SBC Comm.	38 7/8	-3/16
BJ Services.	48 13/16	-1 9/16
LU	52 3/8	+1/4
Cisco Sys.	128 3/4	+1 1/16

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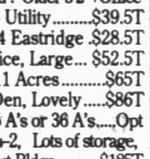
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Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Friday, Feb. 18, 2000

Lots of new activities with partnerships or joint efforts could be in the offing for you in the year ahead. The trick will be to limit your choices to those that will offer what you lack.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Be prepared for others to treat you in the same manner you treat them today. If you are arrogant or demanding, they could behave in a way that would spite you. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that'll govern you in the year ahead. Send the required refund form and for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) The secret to success today is to, whenever possible, operate along the lines of least resistance. If you fight the tides, you could make things harder on yourself than they need be.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Both your waistline and your purse will be grateful to you today if you fight off any inclinations to overindulge or be extravagant in your habits. Treat your being with respect.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) One of the worst things you could do today is to leave undone that which you begin. Unfortunately, it might be quite some time before you get back to completing your eyesore.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Just because someone disagrees with you today, it doesn't mean this person doesn't like you. It simply means she or he feels differently about things than you do. Don't take it personally.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) There will be opportunities to add to your resources today, but don't look for them to come from any area that hasn't provided dividends in the past. Stick to the tried and true.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) It behooves you to spend your time today with those who can help you advance your self-interests. Conversely, don't waste your time with those who can't.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Be grateful for whatever help you get today, no matter how little it might appear to you. People will continue to come through for you in the long run if you don't adopt a grumpy attitude.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) When out with your pals today, try to give attention to each person and not solely to only a few favorites. Let each person know she or he is important to you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) The more careful you are that your goals are attained in a manner that will not aggravate others, the better your chances are of achieving your objectives today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Your tolerance level might not be at the high level it usually is, so it may behoove you to deliberately avoid the company of someone whose view are always diametrically opposed to yours.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) The chances for financial gains and loses today are equally balanced for you. However, the scales can be tipped in either direction by your own actions.

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Rose giveaway comes under fire

MIAMI (AP) — Lucky Strike may have intended to hand out messages of love on Valentines Day, but an attorney suing tobacco companies didn't find the gesture very sweet.

Long-stemmed roses with the message "Lucky Loves You, Compliments of Lucky Strike," were handed out to thousands of pedestrians near a courthouse where a jury is hearing the damage claims of three smokers with cancer, smokers' attorneys said Wednesday in a court filing.

The roses were cited in a court filing as the latest example of the tobacco industry's violation of a gag order covering both sides of the landmark trial.

Attorney Stanley Rosenblatt asked Circuit Judge Robert Kaye to bar Brown & Williamson, from any other stunts.

Tobacco farmers suing cigarette firms

WASHINGTON (AP) — Tobacco farmers who say that cigarette makers are trying to put them out of business are suing the industry for $69 billion, opening a new front for the companies in their ongoing legal battles.

A class-action lawsuit filed Wednesday in federal court alleges that the companies misled farmers into helping them stop congressional legislation in 1998 that would have given growers $28 billion. The companies later reached a settlement with the states that will provide growers with much less — $5.15 billion over 12 years.

"All we're asking for and all we've ever asked for ... is to be treated fairly. We haven't been treated fairly," said Lamar DeLoach, a Metter, Ga., grower.

He is one of 4,010 plaintiffs in the lawsuit who grow tobacco or own federal tobacco quotas, the licenses that a farmer must either own or rent to sell the crop. There are about 500,000 farmers and quota holders nationwide.

Attorneys general of 14 tobacco-growing states are listed as co-conspirators in the lawsuit along with a Philip Morris USA lobbyist because of their role in getting the settlement.

Last week, the companies were sued by wholesalers who allege they fixed cigarette prices.

The companies deny wrongdoing in either case. Jay Poole, a spokesman for Philip Morris, said the growers' lawsuit was a "direct assault" on the states' settlement with the industry.

The Lorillard Tobacco Co. said it believed frustrated growers filed the suit in response to challenges from a changing marketplace. The cigarette maker called the suit groundless and a frivolous endeavor organized and encouraged by Washington trial attorneys.

"We regret the action taken today by a small segment of the tobacco grower community," Lorillard said in a written statement. "It is always unfortunate when customers are sued by their suppliers. ... Lorillard continues to value the relationship we have with the more than 100,000 tobacco farmers who have chosen not to follow this ill-advised course."

Tobacco farmers have seen their income decline sharply in recent years because of declining consumption and increased imports of cheaper foreign leaf. Since 1997, the amount of tobacco farmers are allowed to grow under the quota system has been reduced by more than half. Small-scale farms that must rent allotments have been especially hard hit.

USDA fixes the quotas each year based on the companies' purchasing intentions, exports and existing tobacco stocks.

The farmers who are suing the industry say the companies want to do away with the quota system and contract directly with a select number of producers.

The legislation that the growers helped the industry defeat was intended to settle state lawsuits against the companies and would have cost them $500 billion. The settlement they reached with the states will cost $206 billion. The farmers say the companies made vague promises to "take care" of them if they lobbied against the legislation.

Other farmers oppose the lawsuit, preferring to negotiate with the companies instead.

"We don't think it's time to give up yet," said Danny McKinney, chief executive officer of the Burley Tobacco Grower's Cooperative in Lexington, Ky. "You don't bite the hand that feeds you."

John Boyd, a Virginia grower, said the lawsuit could tie up states' settlement and prevent farmers from getting their payments.

Three die in fiery crash of cargo plane

RANCHO CORDOVA, Calif. (AP) — A DC-8 cargo plane plunged into an auction yard of wrecked cars, killing three people aboard the aircraft and leaving a quarter-mile-long trail of burning debris.

Authorities said the pilot of Emery Worldwide Flight 17 reported that its cargo — which included clothing, transmission fluid and a small amount of fuses used to activate automobile air bags — shifted shortly after takeoff Wednesday evening.

The plane, its balance disrupted, tried to return to Mather Field for an emergency landing and crashed in a fireball about a mile east of the field just before 8 p.m.

One witness said the plane hit the ground belly first and was immediately surrounded by fire. Nobody on the ground was injured.

The plane, bound for Dayton, Ohio, carried three crew members: the pilot, first captain and a flight engineer, all believed to be Emery employees, company spokesman James Allen.

The crew members, whose identities were not immediately released, were dead by the time fire crews arrived, said American River Fire Capt. Dan Haverty.

"There was no chance of rescue," he said.

Firefighters were hampered by intense flames, which burned for several hours after the crash. Smoke was visible in the moonlit night several miles away.

The plane was carrying clothing, automatic transmission fluid and a small amount of fuses — 9 grams, or about a third of an ounce, Allen said.

The crash at the Insurance Auto Auctions salvage yard set as many as 200 cars on fire, many with gas in their tanks, causing several explosions.

Debris cut a swath about 250 yards wide and a quarter mile long. Firefighters worked into the night extinguishing scattered flames. Debris from the plane, including a 15-foot-long piece of the fuselage and a wheel assembly, was found scattered among the wrecked cars. Dozens of vehicles were crumpled.

The flight took off at 7:50 p.m. and the pilot immediately called back to the airfield's departure control and told them he had a severe problem with the balance of the aircraft, said Jim Whitehead, manager of the Federal Aviation Administration's regional operations center in Los Angeles.

The plane hit the ground "in a ball of fire," he said.

Motorist Ernie Killinger said the plane hit the ground belly first.

"I saw the top of the plane. It was like he was crash-landing," said Killinger, who was going home when he saw the crash.

"When the plane come out of the flames, I saw the front half of the fuselage come out of the flames and the cockpit was straight up and it just rocked back and forth until it was engulfed by the flames," Killinger said. "I thought at one time it would outrun the flames."

Federal Aviation Administration investigators, a bomb squad, officials from the Sacramento County coroner's office and a hazardous materials team were among those on the scene.

Violations found during the fire inspections at Seton Hall

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J. (AP) — State officials expressing a "lack of confidence" in local fire inspections of Seton Hall University have examined the dorm where three freshmen died in a blaze and found fire code violations.

However, none of the violations at Boland Hall or at other buildings investigated by the state constituted an "imminent hazard," said William Cane, director of the state Division of Fire Safety, on Wednesday.

Violations found at Boland Hall included unauthorized use of Christmas lights and extension cords and excessive trash in dorm rooms. There also were more serious violations, but Cane would not specify what they were.

Seton Hall has been criticized for its fire safety plans since the Jan. 19 blaze that killed three freshmen and injured 62 other people. Four students remain hospitalized with burns.

A cause has not yet been determined.

Cane said the state stripped the South Orange Fire Department of its annual fire inspection duties at Seton Hall on Feb. 3, after his inspectors found violations and after he was unable to get access to complete inspection records.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Man's care for disabled wife is doing more harm than good

DEAR ABBY: My father-in-law is retired with a good pension. He is the primary caregiver for his wife, who is paralyzed on one side and unable to carry on a conversation. She is getting worse and is practically confined to bed. He refuses outside help and is very controlling.

While she was in the rehab center shortly after her accident, she was progressing well. She was even up on parallel bars. The only thing she does now is feed herself. She's incontinent and totally dependent.

No one in the family is willing to step in on her behalf to get the proper care she deserves. They are all afraid of her husband, and say it is up to him. It is painful for me to watch this happening. I am partially disabled myself and unable to do what I used to. How — and where — could I find resources to give this woman some quality of life? She's only 64. — CONCERNED IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR CONCERNED: You are a caring relative who has raised an interesting, but delicate, question. From your description, both your father-in-law and his wife could use some assistance.

One way to go about it without causing World War III would be for you and your wife to contact their family physician and explain what's going on. Ask for a referral to a social worker or home health-care agency that can visit her and evaluate the care she is receiving.

Considering the level of care his wife requires, your father-in-law may be overwhelmed as the primary caregiver. He needs help, too, but his pride may be getting in the way. Perhaps the doctor can recommend that he attend a caregiver support group where he can learn firsthand what other caregivers do in similar situations. It is vital that he receive emotional support. If the doctor can't help, the social services office at your local hospital can provide a referral.

**

DEAR ABBY: The letter you printed regarding the wedding lottery invitation reminded me of the telephone call I received from the mother of the groom.

She informed me there was to be no shower for the bride. The bride and her mother were going shopping for the things the bride would need for her new home. Every item was to be gift-wrapped individually, and the name of the "donor" was to be written on each package.

Although I had already given the couple a generous engagement gift, I was "invited" to send a check to pay for "my" shower gift.

Incredulous, and thinking I had misunderstood, I asked the woman to repeat the request. Then I said a quiet goodbye. — NO DUMMY IN N.Y.C.

DEAR NO DUMMY: Just when I think I have seen everything, along comes another "believe it or not" letter. You weren't being invited to a shower; you were being solicited for a fund-raiser. Therefore, you were within your rights to handle it as you would any other telemarketing call.

**

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Dr. Gott



By Peter Gott, M.D.

Smoking speeds up emphysema

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm one of those darned fools who just had to smoke cigarettes for 50 years. Now I'm in trouble with emphysema. What treatment is available?

DEAR READER: Cigarettes contribute to chronic lung disease in several ways.

First, tobacco smoke is associated with bronchitis, infection of the airways. Smoke actually paralyzes the tiny cilia (hair cells) that propel mucus and bacteria from within lung tissue, up and out. In turn, this leads to chronic infection, which causes breakdown of the alveolar air sacs, the feathery compartments where carbon dioxide is expelled and oxygen is absorbed during breathing.

Second, cigarette smoke itself actually destroys the air sacs. The reasons are complex but, basically, in smokers, the microscopically small sacs coalesce to form large, less-efficient compartments, leading to difficulty breathing and over-expanded lungs filled with stale air. This is emphysema. Although this process does tend to occur naturally with age, tobacco smoke will speed up the development of emphysema, thereby causing more advanced disability at a much younger age.

Third, because smoke is irritating, it stimulates the pulmonary tissue to produce more mucus. These thick secretions may block the airways, resulting in poor respiratory efficiency. Moreover, such excess mucus provides an ideal environment for microorganisms that predispose patients to pneumonia and other serious lung infections.

The cardinal rule in treating emphysema is: Avoid air pollution, tobacco smoke and other contaminants, such as dust and smog.

Medicine to open the airways (bronchodilaters) and antibiotics can be useful. In some patients, cortisone drugs may be lifesaving.

In addition, patients with chronic lung disease can be taught (by physicians or inhalation therapists) new, more efficient ways to breathe — for example, by using the diaphragm muscle more effectively.

Many emphysema patients — particularly those in the advanced stages of the disease — experience relief of breathlessness and a feeling of suffocation by using oxygen supplements. Such oxygen is available in tanks but can also be administered from a home delivery system called an oxygen concentrator.

Finally, some medical centers now offer a type of surgery to remove the inefficient portions of pulmonary tissue. Basically, the large, non-functioning, stretched compartments (which I previously described) are removed, allowing more normal lung tissue to expand and improve respiratory mechanics.

While I agree with you that you were unwise to take up smoking and foolish to continue it for so long, there is much that can be done to assist your breathing and maintain your independence. Your doctor can help you in these endeavors. 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 $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

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Internet survey called 'non-science'

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A new study which shows increased Internet use causes decreased face-to-face social interaction was roundly criticized by detractors as non-science.

"Presenting it as a scientific study is a bit of a reach. It's preliminary work and it doesn't tell us much," said Howard Fienberg, a research analyst with the Statistical Assessment Service in Washington, D.C.

The study was released Wednesday by researchers at the Institute for the Quantitative Study of Society.

It surveyed 4,113 American adults in 2,689 households. Respondents were provided with free Internet access and WebTV connections to facilitate the survey.

The study found that too much time on the Internet makes some people reclusive and less likely to interact with people face to face.

"The Internet could be the ultimate isolating technology that further reduces our participation in communities even more than television did before it," said Norman Nie, a Stanford political scientist who conducted the study of the Net's impact on society with Professor Lutz Erbring of the Free University of Berlin.

About one-third of respondents said they were online five or more hours per week. Of those people, 13 percent said they spent less time with family and friends, 26 percent talked less to family and friends on the phone, and 8 percent attended fewer social events.

The study also found that most surfers use e-mail and have increased their online conversations with family and friends.

Fienberg suggested a more random selection of survey respondents studied over a longer period of time would produce more accurate indicators of Internet use and social effects.

The study prompted author and Internet use expert Jakob Nielsen to question its designers' definitions of human contact.

Nielsen said the definition should include Internet-based environments such as chat rooms, message boards and e-mail. Nielsen said concepts of contact used in the study were ill-defined.

"How do you define what you count as personal contact?" Nielsen asked. "You could have had some other report a hundred years ago that said the telephone would cause a loss in social relations and human contact. The big problem is that the definitions do not hold in the new human experience."

In addition to scaling back personal contact, the study showed that a quarter of regular Internet users who are employed increased the time they spent working at home.

Sixty percent of those same regular Internet users also said they watched less television and one third said they spent less time reading newspapers.

The survey's work was done by InterSurvey, a Menlo Park company which Nie co-founded.

Cost concerns change recommendation

ATLANTA (AP) — In a sign that cost is becoming a factor in making immunization policy, a government advisory committee has changed its initial recommendation and will require fewer children to receive an expensive vaccine.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Policy recommended that the vaccine Prevenar be administered to all children under 2 and those under 5 who are at high risk of contracting illnesses such as meningitis.

The committee voted in October to recommend Prevenar, which costs $232 per four-dose series, for all children under 5.

Wednesday's 7-4 vote in favor of changing the recommendation came after a lengthy discussion of cost implications that included a presentation from a representative of health insurance companies.

In addition to children under 2, the committee recommended vaccinations for children from 2 to 5 who have had frequent ear infections, are socially or economically disadvantaged or attend group child care. Children older than 2 only need one dose, which costs $58.

It was only the second time the committee has ever debated the potential economic impact of a vaccine, even while some committee members felt the matter shouldn't even be considered.

"This could save lives no matter what the age or the cost, and the discussion about at what price this becomes reasonable is indecipherable to me," said Dr. Paul Offit, chief of infectious diseases at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

"We need to recommend it first and figure out how to pay for it second," he said.

Other committee members argued about realities faced by the public and private sector alike, especially with the hefty price tag of the vaccine. The federal government pays for about half of all immunizations.

"We're having to look at cost more and more," said Dr. John Modlin, the committee's chairman and a professor of pediatric medicine at Dartmouth University. "We know (Prevenar) will be expensive in the short term, but over the long haul ... we could see a lowering of pediatric health costs as a result of this."

Federal approval of the vaccine is expected this week. Manufacturer American Home Products Inc. plans to begin marketing Prevenar this spring.

Prevenar fights the bacterium streptococcus pneumoniae — the leading cause of pneumonia, meningitis and the millions of ear infections that lead to crammed pediatrician waiting rooms every year.

According to a study, the vaccine reduced ear infections by 9 percent. Doctor visits by those who were diagnosed as having chronic ear infections and took the vaccine were down 20 percent.

Tax preparer tries to assure patrons

WASHINGTON (AP) — H&R Block Inc. is trying to reassure taxpayers about the integrity of its Internet tax filing system following a glitch that accidentally permitted some people to see others' financial data.

The world's largest tax preparer shut down its online filing system for the week after nine customers were able over the weekend to view limited portions of another person's file. H&R Block officials say the problem was caused as software was updated.

Affirmatice Action...

Jeb Bush stands by his plan

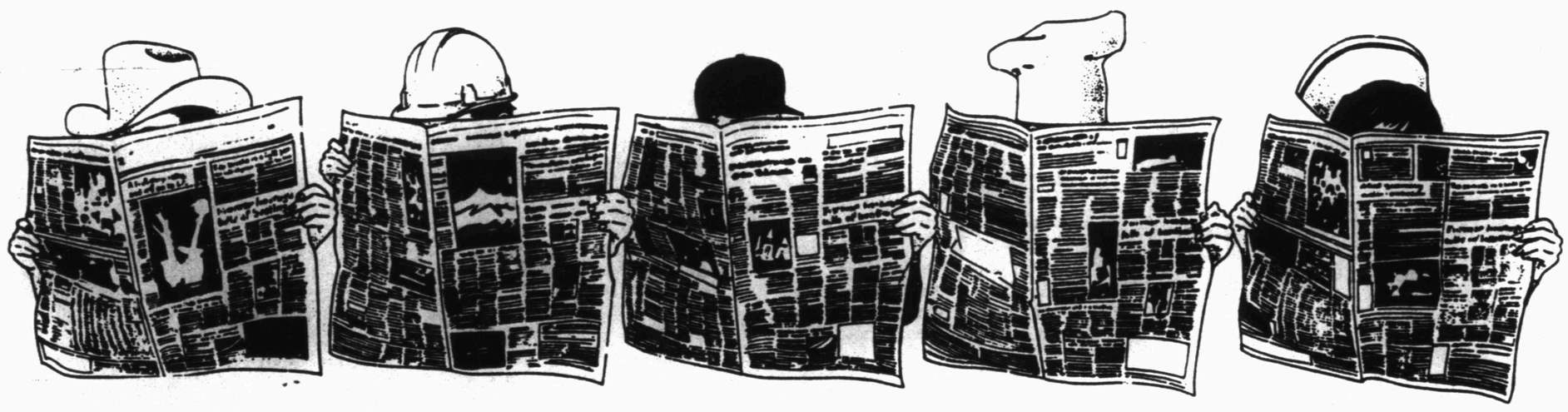
TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Gov. Jeb Bush tinkered with his affirmative action plan but refused to back off his executive order banning racial preferences.

Changes made to the plan Wednesday include the creation of an accountability commission that will gauge whether enough minorities are being admitted into state universities over the next three years.

The Republican governor, however, reaffirmed his stance against racial and gender preferences in university admissions and the awarding of state contracts. Bush said three recent public hearings only strengthened his belief in his "One Florida" plan.

"Although I have learned much from listening, nothing I have heard has convinced me that we should continue the status quo practices of quotas, set-asides and price preferences," Bush said. "In fact, the public dialogue has further convinced me that the One Florida initiative is the right course to pursue."

The Board of Regents, which governs the state university system, was expected today to approve portions of the plan. Whatever is approved goes to the governor and Cabinet, which serves as the Board of Education.



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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Friends, family honor Tom Landry

DALLAS (AP) — When friends and fans memorialized Tom Landry in separate services today, they were sure to remember the former Dallas Cowboys coach for his dignity, class — and his trademark fedora hat.

The hat was so much a part of Landry's legacy that in a private burial ceremony Wednesday afternoon, his son, Tom Landry Jr., placed one inside the casket.

"Before it started, Tom Jr. actually placed his father's hat in the casket with his father," said Sparkman Hillcrest Funeral Home manager George Rohrer Jr.

During the hourlong service that was described as uplifting, Landry was eulogized as a man of character, competence, conviction and compassion.

The funeral, which was not publicized at the family's request, was attended by 400 people, including 150 former Cowboys players.

Flags on all state buildings were ordered lowered to half staff Thursday in honor of former Dallas Cowboys coach Tom Landry.

"Thomas Wade Landry was a hero on and off of the football field," said the order issued by Lt. Gov. Rick Perry, who is acting governor while George W. Bush campaigns for president in South Carolina.

"He brought pride to all Texans with a pair of NFL championships and his service and integrity off the field inspired generations of Americans to strive for excellence," Perry wrote. His letter noted Landry's service as a World War II bomber pilot, and his volunteer work in church, charity and civic activities.

Perry ordered the flags at state buildings to be lowered for 24 hours.

At noon today, relatives and friends were invited to remember Landry in a service at Highland Park United Methodist Church, where the family has attended for 43 years. About 1,100 people were expected.

At 4 p.m., the city of Dallas and former players were hosting another gathering for about 2,600 fans at a downtown symphony center. Because the building is so small, most fans were asked to watch it on television.

If the mood of those services is anything like Wednesday's event, Landry's admirers will focus mostly on the good times from his 75 years, 29 of which were spent as coach of the Dallas Cowboys.

"It was not a somber event," Rohrer said about the funeral. "It was more of a homecoming. It was a very uplifting type of experience for most of the people there. The family was very strong."

After Landry was eulogized by former Cowboys team chaplain Howard G. Hendricks, those in attendance walked to the burial site, which was about the length of a football field away, Rohrer said.

Report: Anthrax vaccination program should be stopped

WASHINGTON (AP) — The program to inoculate all 2.4 million American military personnel against anthrax as protection against biological warfare is based on "a paucity of science" and should be suspended, a House panel says in a report sharply critical of the Defense Department.

The anthrax vaccine should be considered experimental because its effectiveness against biological warfare is uncertain and the safety of troops taking the anthrax shots is not being monitored adequately, according to the report released today by the House Government Reform national security subcommittee.

"At best, the vaccine provides some measure of protection to most who receive it," says a draft of the report obtained by The Associated Press. "Just how much protection is acquired, by whom, for how long ... are questions the Defense Department answers with an excess of faith but a paucity of science."

A Defense Department spokesman, Jim Turner, said Wednesday that Pentagon officials were reviewing the congressional recommendations.

"Plagued by uncertain supplies, uncertain safety and unproven efficacy against the anthrax threat, the mandatory, force-wide immunization program should be suspended until the Department of Defense gets approval to use an improved vaccine," said Rep. Christopher Shays, R-Conn., chairman of the subcommittee.

"It is an unrealistically broad undertaking built on a dangerously narrow scientific, medical and industrial base," he said. "The consequences are we have some men and women getting sick."

Pentagon and Food and Drug Administration officials have said repeatedly the vaccine is safe and effective. FDA officials also say there is no basis for demoting the approved vaccine to an investigational drug category.

The 80-page report was written by the subcommittee's Republican majority after five hearings on the immunization program.

Romania acknowledges environmental pollution

BAIA MARE, Romania (AP) — Romania acknowledged for the first time today the magnitude of pollution caused by a cyanide spill that has devastated rivers and wildlife in Romania, Hungary and Yugoslavia.

Environment Minister Romica Tomescu said Romania regretted "the unfortunate accident" that killed tons of fish and contaminated numerous rivers, including the Danube, Europe's longest.

The poison streamed from a containment dam at a gold mine near Baia Mare in northwest Romania on Jan. 30, flowing into Hungary and Yugoslavia on the Szamos and Tisza rivers and back into Romania on the Danube.

The Australia-based Esmeralda Exploration Ltd., co-owner of the gold mine, has denied responsibility for the cyanide spill, and its chairman said today there is no conclusive proof that the company is to blame.

"Quite clearly there has been contamination of parts of the river system in the region and my heart goes out to those who may be suffering," said Brett Montgomery in a statement to the Australian Stock Exchange.

"I stress, however, that there is no evidence to confirm that the contamination and the damage said to have been caused is as a result of the tailings dam overflow at Baia Mare," Montgomery said.

The European Union Commissioner for Environment Protection today hinted that the company may be held liable for damages.

"There is great unanimity that the polluter pays."

First funerals held for storm victims

PELHAM, Ga. (AP) — In the tiny Baptist church where the Rev. Jackie McClelland delivered his sermons, church members struggled to make sense of the tragedy caused by deadly tornadoes that swept through southwest Georgia this week.

McClelland and his wife Mary Ann, both 64, were killed Monday when twisters struck their rural farm house. Mrs. McClelland, director of the Grady County Health Department, was just one month shy of retirement.

"It's difficult to stand here and try to express to you that God is a God of love," the Rev. Cleston Brooks told mourners. "But do not let this harden your heart. It's not for you and I to choose when our time will come."

Union Hill Primitive Baptist Church couldn't fit all of the mourners inside its church, which seats 200. Speakers were set up outside so others could hear the tributes.

"They were people that other people cherished," said Junior Peeples, a relative. "And they went together — to go with the one you shared your life with, that's a special meaning."

The tornadoes touched down in four counties. Authorities reduced the death toll from 22 to 18 Wednesday, saying confusion in the aftermath of the storms led to four victims being counted twice.

Mitchell County, which had 11 dead, was worst hit. Winds reached as high as 200 mph and cut a 10-mile path of devastation.

Families in the small Mitchell County town of Camilla, about 40 miles from the Georgia-Florida border, met with insurance adjusters Wednesday to assess what they had lost and how long recovery would take.

Vice President Al Gore, who assessed regional damage by helicopter, also toured Camilla for a firsthand look.

"What do you guys make of all this? Pretty scary, wasn't it?" Gore asked one family, who sat on a plastic-covered mattress in what would have been their front yard.

The Insurance Information Institute put the total Georgia storm damage at $25 million.

Federal, state and local authorities planned to set up a temporary housing park with 40 units for displaced families early next week, Georgia Emergency Management Agency spokesman Jeff Jellets said.

Meanwhile Wednesday, about 150 people attended a funeral for Gloria Jean Miller Eglinton, 54, a bank teller in Cairo, about 20 miles south of Pelham.

Her friends recalled her love for all living things.

"Some people can love the unlovable. Jeannie liked frogs," the Rev. DeWayne Atkinson said. "God gave her this personality — this outgoing, bubbly personality. She was a friend to everybody."

Obituaries

Earl E. Odal

1919-2000

Funeral service with military honors for Earl E. Odal, 80, is set for 10 a.m. Friday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel.



Earl E. Odal

Remains will be inurned at Ft. Sam Houston in San Antonio.

Mr. Odal died Monday, Feb. 14, at his home in Snyder after a lengthy illness.

Born June 1, 1919 in Chicago, Ill., he graduated from high school in Chicago in 1937 as a major in the ROTC.

As a member of the Illinois National Guard, the unit was activated in1941, and he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

During World War II, he earned the Bronze Star for infantry action on Guadalcanal and advanced to the rank of captain.

After the war, he continued in the Illinois National Guard and entered college where he earned a Diploma in Commerce in 1947 and a BA in business administration in 1948, both from Northwestern University.

He joined the Illinois Society of Certified Public Accounts in 1948 and earned a master's degree in business administration in 1950 from the University of Illinois.

He resigned the National Guard to accept a commission in the Army Finance Corps, and returned to active duty during the Korean War. After the war, he remained active in the Army Reserve. He retired in 1969 after 30 years of military service with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

He then began a career as a financial officer in the insurance industry and as an investment adviser.

Mr. Odal married Lorraine Fensterer of Galesburg, Ill., on June 15, 1947. She died April 20, 1999.

The Odals moved to Houston in 1968. He retired from corporate finance in 1972 and move to the Lake Conroe area where he continued as a consultant and investment manager. He and his wife moved to The Woodlands Retirement Center in 1995 and to Snyder in 1997.

Mr. Odal also was preceded in death by his mother, Helen Smith; and a half brother, Mark Smith.

Survivors include a daughter, Dr. Marcia Odal of Snyder; and a half brother, Donald Smith of La Habra, Calif.

Family visitation will be from 7 to 8:30 this evening at the funeral home.

Personal, Professional Service
BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME
3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Subject arrested at Snyder High

A single arrest was made Wednesday.

Officers took a 17-year-old male into custody at 12:36 p.m. at Snyder High School for Class A misdemeanor possession of marijuana.

No offense reports were filed.

Miscellaneous other calls were handled including requests for welfare checks, reports of livestock in the roadway, and requests to unlock keys from vehicles.

WCFH
Independently Owned & Operated
WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME
200 East 37th Street
Snyder, Texas
915-573-6200

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Farewell party

A farewell party in honor of Johnnie and Wilma Penn will be held from 4-5 p.m. today in the Snyder Junior High Library.

Horseshoe pitching club

Snyder Slingers Horseshoe Club will meet at 6 this evening at the courts on the coliseum grounds. League play begins April 4, and the Duncan Classic for sanctioned pitchers is set April 15. The club's project for 2000 is to install lights at the court.

Ira picture orders

The Ira school casual/friendship picture orders are due no later than Friday. Even if students do no order pictures, the proofs must be back by Friday.

Victory Baptist revival

Victory Baptist Church will hold a revival Feb. 20-25. Dr. Clyde Spain will be the guest speaker. Services Sunday at 10:45 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., and weekdays at 7 p.m.

Weigh down workshop

The weigh down workshop is a 12-week Bible-based weight loss program starting at 7 p.m. Monday, at Trinity Methodist Church. For more information, call the church office at 573-3988, or Dorothy Petersen at 573-7044.

Bible study tapes

Bible study tapes air weekly on TV channel 2. The videos to be shown at 7 p.m. Monday are "The Scheme of Redemption," followed by "Historical Christian Evidences, Lesson I."

Jury call postponed

The jury panel called for last Monday in 132nd District Court has been postponed until 8:30 a.m. Tuesday. Call 573-5641 after 5 p.m. Friday for an updated message concerning the jury call.

Multi-cultural day

WTC will have a multi-cultural day in the college cafeteria from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Tuesday. It will be an all-you-can-eat buffet for $6 and proceeds will go to the International Student Club.

Senior Citizens swimnastics

Swimnastics for senior citizens is held from 2-3 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday at the WTC pool. For more information, call 573-4035.

Cancer board meeting

The Scurry County unit of the American Cancer Society will hold a board of directors meeting at 5 p.m. Tuesday in the Cogdell Hospital board room.

Amateur radio operators

Snyder area radio operators will conduct its weekly check in/ragchew net at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday. This net will operate on frequency 146.920 with PL tone 67. All licensed amateurs are welcome to check in. For more information call Mike @ KM5TC (573-2222), or David @ KC5GFM (573-8182).

Free tax help

There is free tax help for low income and elderly people each Wednesday at the Snyder Senior Center by an IRS-trained counselor. Times are from 9 a.m. until noon, and 1-3 p.m. Call 573-4035 or 573-3822 for additional information.

Pesticides class

WTC will host a pesticides class for area farmers from 6-9 p.m. next Thursday in the Learning Resource Center. Cost is $5. Three CEUs will be awarded for attendance. The program is sponsored by WTC and the Texas Agriculture Extension Service. It will also be transmitted to Stamford and Anson High Schools via ITV. To register, call 573-8511, ext. 390.

WTC basic education classes

Adult basic education classes at Western Texas College are taught Tuesday and Thursday from 8-11 a.m., and from 6-9 p.m. Classes include G.E.D. and E.S.L. refresher courses. For additional information, call 573-8511, ext. 322.

Windbreak trees

Windbreak tree seedlings have arrived at the Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation office in Snyder. If you missed the ordering deadline, there are plenty of extra trees for sale at the USDA complex, 5309 Big Spring highway.

WTC planetarium shows

The planetarium at WTC is available for spring offering of star shows. Presentations will be held on Fridays by special arrangements. Shows are by reservation only and there is no charge. Shows are available to fit any age group. For reservations call 573-8511, Ext. 312.

Cancer treatment transportation

Transportation for cancer patients is available every day free of charge to Lubbock, Abilene or Midland. For more information call Martha Schiebel at 573-8626 or Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993. If not home, leave message on answering machine.

Pick 3

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

1-4-7

Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — One ticket correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The ticket was worth an estimated $4 million. The ticket was sold in Fort Worth. The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 50 were: 3-16-17-22-27-31. Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $4 million.

Shuttle should be able to finish job

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — With just a little more fuel savings, space shuttle Endeavour's astronauts will be able to complete their 3-D mapping of the Earth.

"We're almost there," mission operations representative Milt Heflin said Wednesday.

Because of a balky thruster on the end of a 197-foot radar antenna mast, Endeavour is using extra fuel to keep the mast pointed in the right direction. Engineers first suspected a leak, then a clog, in the line that is supposed to provide a constant flow of nitrogen gas to the thruster.