THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY

Feb. 27, 2002
Vol. 53 No. 258
10 Pages 50¢

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WT-Int. Crude - $21.43
WTIC Posted - $18.25
Natural Gas - $2.456

David Harrell in Place 2...

Incumbent files for second council term

City councilman David Harrell filed for another term in Place 2 Tuesday, joining three other candidates on the city's ballot for the May 4 election.

Veteran Place 1 council member Vernest Tippens filed Thursday and was joined on the ballot Friday by Ron Shaw and James Ashley.

Ashley represents District 3 after being appointed to fill the unexpired term of James Jenkins at the end of last year. Shaw, who served on the council from 1993-1997, is seeking Place 4 currently held by I.E. Martin who is not seeking re-election.

David Harrell

Harrell, co-owner of Lone Star Cleaners and local manager of Cain Electrical Supply, is seeking his second term on the council.

He and his wife, Nila, opened Lone Star Cleaners in April, 1993. They have lived in Snyder since January of that year.

The couple has two children, Luke and Ellis. Harrell is a 1982 graduate of Forsan High School and attended Howard College for two years.

Four other entities also will hold elections May 4.

Snyder ISD has three candidates, including two incumbents.

Current board president Mark McCormick filed last week for Place 4, the position he has held since 1993.

Incumbent Glen Clarady also filed last week for another term representing Place 1.

Newcomer Doug Neff is seeking the Place 5 seat being vacated by Janet Stribling, who is a candidate for county judge.

On the WTC board, the terms of incumbents Drew Bullard, Place 1; and Jackie Greene, Place 2; expire and both have filed for re-election.

Three places expire on the Ira school board. The terms of Sid Wall, Place 1; Fran Farmer, Place 2; and Lance Autry, Place 3; are up.

In the Hermleigh ISD race, the places of Tony Lambaren, Burton Sandefur and Larry West will be on the ballot.

None of the rural trustees have filed for re-election.

March 20 is the deadline for filing in all local elections.

Elections will be held unless there are no contested races, in which case state law allows the boards to declare unopposed candidates duly elected.

April 4 is the deadline to register to vote in the May elections and early voting will take place April 17-30.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "In the big city, the horn of plenty is always located in the car just behind you."

Snyder's Juanita Hart brought in the following and figured a lot of folks in Scurry County could identify with the sentiment of "The Little Pill."

Oh little pill here in my head.
I wonder how you understood
Just what to do or where to go
To stop the aches that hurt me so.

You work in regions there below
As down my throat you quickly go.
But where, I wonder little pill,
How do you know where I am ill?

And just how do you really know
Where you are supposed to go?
I've got a headache, that is true;
My broken bones need attention, too.

But how can anything so small
End my ache in no time at all?
Do you work alone or hire a crew
To do the good things that you do?

I'm counting on you mighty strong
To get there where you belong.
Don't let me down and do not shirk
But do your undercover work.

So down my throat, be on your way,
And end my ache another day.
Don't take a wrong turn in me please;
My next pill doesn't come 'til three.

A guy in the coffee shop says the trouble with not taking some kind of pills is that your friends will think you're over confident.

A fellow we know recently gave in and made a doctor's appointment because he wasn't feeling real chipper.

It had been a long time since the man had visited the doc, so a medical history was requested.

"Do you smoke?" asked the doc.

"Nope."

"Drink a lot?"

"Never."

"Eat too many rich, fatty or fried foods?"

"Mostly fruits and vegetables."

The doctor shook his head. "I can't cure you if you don't have any vices to give up."

Early voting totals are growing slowly

Eighty-one have voted early in the March 12 primaries, a "lower than usual" number, according to County Clerk Joan Bunch.

After two and a half days, 57 have cast votes in the Republican primary and 24 in the Democratic primary.

"We usually have more people come in and vote by this time," Bunch said. "It may be the cold weather or more people may be waiting until next week, but so far it's been pretty slow."

Early voting continues in the county courtroom from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through March 8.

Cogdell board agenda includes several reports

Cogdell Memorial Hospital's board of managers has a number of informational items on its agenda for Thursday morning.

George Parsley, chief executive officer, will report on the emergency department's renovation as well as the work on the day-surgery wing, plus plans for the surgery suite.

Parsley will also update the board on the assisted living complex planned east of the hospital grounds and on physician recruitment.

Dr. James Burleson, chief of staff, will give the monthly medical report, and Jo Beth Hardegree will present the annual human resources report.

The board will also review the monthly financial statements, and certify the accounts payable.

A closed session is planned for the board to meet with the hospital's attorney concerning a pending lawsuit.

The meeting will be in the hospital boardroom at 8 a.m.

Deadline here for brand renewal

Thursday is the final day to renew brands in the county clerk's office at the Scurry County courthouse.

"A new brand can be registered anytime," said County Clerk Joan Bunch. "But Texas law requires brands to be re-recorded every 10 years."

Bunch said her office has been re-recording brands in this renewal period since September.

"If a rancher wants to renew a brand, he must do it before 5 p.m. Thursday," emphasized Bunch.

"If a rancher fails to re-record his brand by tomorrow, it will become available on a first-come basis for others to use according to state law," said Bunch.

GREASE IS THE WORD — *Grease* will debut at 7 p.m. Thursday at Snyder Junior High. Teens shown planning a party include from left, Kiki Wofford, Emily Jones, Glyn Wright, Chris Smith, Temi Thompson and Wendy Reed. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

It's back to the 1950s

Snyder Junior High to present 'Grease' in a five-day run beginning Thursday night

The 1950s will come to the Snyder Junior High School's stage Thursday night in the form of *Grease*, a rock and roll musical presented by the choir and theatre departments.

The musical opens at 7 p.m. Other evening performances continue Friday, Saturday, Monday and Tuesday. Tickets are $5 each and can be reserved by calling Gloria Ball at the junior high office, 573-6356.

Grease is under the direction of Marci Dennis, choir director, and Janeen Patterson, drama director. Judi Brown will play the piano. Zach Arizmendi will handle the guitar and percussion will be provided by Josh Gutierrez. Judy Haines served as choreographer.

The lead rolls include Chris Smith as Danny Zuko and Temi Thompson as Sandy Drumbrowski.

Others in the cast include Glyn Wright, Betty Rizzo; Wendy Reed, Frenchy; Kiki Wofford, Marty; Emily Jones, Jan; Jason Cave, Kenickie; Cody Reed, Doody; Ryne Trout, Roger; Tyler Price, Sonny LaTierre; Kayla Hartzog, Patty Simcox; Samantha Pena, Cha Cha DiGregorio; Casey Arnold, Eugene Florczyk; Cade Simpson, Vince Fontain; Rudy Ibarra, Johnny Casino; Tara Kubena, Miss Lynch; Allie Brewster, ballerina; and Chris Lopez, Teen Angel.

The T'Birds will be played by Ryan Arredondo, Chad Goble, Cade Simpson, Rudy Ibarra, Chris Lopez and Casey Arnold.

The Pink Ladies include Jana Lewis, Camry Hill, Christi Williams, Ashton Wall, Allie Brewster, Megan McCormick, Kaitlyn Greenlee, Kaylee Lacik, Teddi Crenwelge, Nicole Presley, Sydney Wright, Dondi Brock, Teran Ragland, Claire Morris and Morgan Bilderback.

Tara Kubena is the assistant director and Teddi Crenwelge is the stage manager.

Lights and sound will be provided by Erica Little, Aeryal Peoples, Jamie Arnold, Justin Burns and Bryan Clifton.

Jessica Calvert is in charge of hair and makeup. Assisting her will be Crystal Villasana, Ofelia Zamora, Ashley Barrera and Bianca Carrisalez.

Eight students are in charge of the sets and props including Kim Henkell, Ashley Flores, Laura Flores, Katherine Johnson, Gena Dooley, Stephanie Grant, Kasey Krop and Chance Grantham.

Grease is being produced through special arrangement with Samuel French. The book, music and lyrics were written by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey.

Firms say they were not pressured by Enron

WASHINGTON (AP) — Wall Street analysts who continued to recommend Enron's stock as the company careened toward bankruptcy last fall told Congress today they formed their assessments objectively and were not pressured by their firms that invested in Enron.

It didn't become evident to them that the company was in serious trouble until just before its collapse, the analysts testified.

Analysts are on the defensive for their role in Enron's failure. They can have potential conflicts of interest in a system in which they are often compensated for helping their investment firms get lucrative business arranging mergers or stock offerings for the same companies the analysts cover.

"It now seems clear that too many analysts failed to ask 'why' before they said 'buy,'" Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., chairman of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, said at a hearing at which four analysts from big investment firms testified.

Eleven of 16 analysts who followed Enron were still rating it as a "buy" or "strong buy" as late as Nov. 8, two weeks after the Securities and Exchange Commission announced it had opened an inquiry into the company's accounting.

"I did not own Enron stock," testified Anatol Feygin, a senior analyst at J.P. Morgan Securities Inc. "I have complete freedom with respect to the recommendations that I make concerning any (stock) and my compensation is not tied to the recommendations that I make. ... I have never received any compensation in any form from any company that I analyze, including Enron."

As Congress continued to delve into the biggest corporate bankruptcy in U.S. history, Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan said Enron's collapse underscores how fragile companies can be when their main business is production of intangible services, such as energy trading in Enron's case.

ASK US

Q—What repairs are needed at the WTC swimming pool to cause it to be closed an extra month this summer?

A—The pool needs to be drained so several rust spots can be fixed properly.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Tuesday, 38 degrees; low, 16; 7 a.m. Wednesday, 17; no precipitation; total for 2002, 1.48 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, clear low 20-25; S winds 5-15 mph. Thursday, partly cloudy, high 50-55; NE winds 5-10 mph, then S 10-20 mph in the evening.

Kailey Glenn
Partly cloudy

Sunset: 6:40 p.m.
Sunrise: 7:12 a.m.
Of 57 days in 2002, the sun has shone 54 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Destroy your enemy by making friends with him.
—Abraham Lincoln

FEB 27 2002

Small numbers of Americans are infiltrating northern Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — Small groups of American diplomats, intelligence analysts and officials periodically infiltrate northern Iraq to confer with Kurds and other opponents of the Baghdad government.

They apparently operate freely. The area is protected by U.S. and British military overflights and is beyond the reach of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's air force.

The Americans' purpose is an unabashed, mostly psychological campaign to rattle the Iraqi leader, who so far has withstood years of U.S. demonizing and U.N. sanctions engineered by Washington.

Taking military action is, so far, only a theory.

The main Iraqi opposition group, the Iraqi National Congress, has produced no plan of action that holds promise of success, a senior U.S. official said Tuesday. As a result, the United States has approved no military move inside the country and is not attempting one of its own.

President Bush is considering military as well as diplomatic and political tactics, however, to try to end the rule of a leader he denounced last month as part of an "axis of evil" with leaders of Iran and North Korea.

U.S. air patrols of Iraq's no-fly zones have remained constant since Sept. 11, when terrorists destroyed the World Trade Center and heavily damaged the Pentagon and touched off a worldwide U.S. campaign against terror groups and countries that support them.

Saddam's refusal to admit U.N. weapons inspectors for more than three years has heightened worry that his programs to develop weapons of mass destruction are advancing. Combined with Iraq's support for terror — it is one of seven countries so branded by the State Department — the threat posed by Iraq's behavior is considered unequaled by administration analysts.

Still, U.S. warplanes have launched fewer retaliatory strikes against Iraqi targets since Sept. 11, because the Iraqis are firing at the U.S. planes less frequently, said Lt. Col. Dave Lapan, a Pentagon spokesman.

In December, a State Department group headed by American diplomat Ryan Crocker went to northern Iraq to help pull Kurdish and other anti-government forces together.

It is the latest such trip by U.S. officials, but several occurred earlier and they probably will recur, said a U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld said Sunday on a television talk show that "very small numbers" of Americans from various departments were involved.

On the Net: State Department's Iraq page: http://www.state.gov/p/nea/ci/c3212.htm

events

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Texas Two Step

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

11-23-31-33

Bonus number 18

Estimated jackpot: $400,000

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery:

2-21-23-27-36

Pick 3

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

6-7-5

GUEST SPEAKER — Dr. Greg Williams, president of Western Texas College, spoke to West Elementary sixth graders last week. Though February is Black History Month, Williams chose to talk to students about their future. (SDN Photos By Shirley A. Gorman)

Girl's neighbor pleads innocent

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A neighbor of a 7-year-old girl who vanished from her home earlier this month has pleaded innocent to charges that he kidnapped and murdered her.

David Westerfield, who was arraigned Tuesday in the death of Danielle van Dam, is being held without bond. It hasn't been decided yet if prosecutors will seek the death penalty if he is convicted, District Attorney Paul Pfingst said.

The three-page complaint against Westerfield, who also was charged with possession of child pornography, did not provide specific dates for the alleged kidnapping and murder.

Westerfield, a self-employed engineer who lives two doors from the van Dam home, has been held in an isolation cell at the San Diego County Jail since he was arrested on Friday.

"Please respect the Constitution," Westerfield's attorney, Steven Feldman, told reporters outside the courthouse after Judge Peter C. Deddeh denied the attorney's request for a gag order.

"Stop guessing about what the facts are," Feldman continued. "Let the case be tried in the courtroom, not on the streets of San Diego."

Danielle was last seen when her father put her to bed on Feb. 1. Police believe she was abducted that night from her second-floor bedroom in the family's north San Diego home. A search that has stretched from Mexico to the desert east of San Diego has failed to turn up any trace of her.

The absence of a body creates a legal challenge, but the district attorney's office has successfully prosecuted four such cases, the most recent in August.

The girl's mother, Brenda van Dam, burst into tears as deputies brought Westerfield into the crowded courtroom Tuesday. She held hands with her husband, Damon, throughout the proceeding.

Afterward, she spoke to reporters outside her home.

"We've been asked again and again 'How are you feeling?'" she said. "All we can answer is that we miss Danielle desperately and the pain of her absence is absolutely unbearable."

She then urged the public to help with a massive volunteer search planned for this weekend. Danielle's disappearance has received nationwide attention as her parents, clinging to the hope she might be alive, coordinated searches for her.

Authorities have said they found traces of Danielle's blood in Westerfield's motor home and on an article of his clothing.

A hearing was scheduled for today on a request by news organizations to unseal search warrants in the case.

Hackfeld's selected as Brighton Heart Store

Hackfeld's in Snyder has been named a "Brighton Heart Store," a designation given to fewer than five percent of the 6,000 retailers nationwide that carry Brighton Accessories.

"Heart Stores" achieve the status through sales of the full line of Brighton handbags, belts, shoes, jewelry, wallets, key fobs, watches, sunglasses, fragrance, luggage, gifts and other accessories. Store owners are also required to maintain a high level of customer service.

"Consumers regularly ask us where a broad selection of Brighton products may be found in their area," said Laura Young, national sales manager for Birhgton. "By referring them to a "Heart Store," we can be confident that the customer will find the entire product line and receive excellent service."

"Heart Stores" are among the first in the nation to debut new Brighton collections, and also receive one-of-a-kind Brighton products not available anywhere else.

As part of the "Heart Store" designation, Hackfeld's owner Jackie Hackfeld and store manager Jennifer Sawyer were invited to attend Brighton Week in Los Angeles, a four-day conference aimed at helping participating retailers build their business. Participants attended workshops led by retailing experts, toured the Brighton factory and previewed the "Spring 2002" collection.

Date Book

Wednesday, Feb., 27, 2002

Today is the 58th day of 2002, and the 69th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1908, the 46th star was added to the flag of the United States. It was added to symbolize the establishment of Oklahoma as a state.

On this day in 1922, the U.S. Supreme court unanimously upheld the 19th amendment, which granted all women the right to vote.

On this day in 1951, the 22nd amendment to the Constitution was ratified by Congress. This limited a president to only two terms in office.

On this day in 1991, the Gulf War officially ended, with the retreat of Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: John Steinbeck (1902 -), author; Ralph Nader (1934 -), consumer advocate, is 68; Chelsea Clinton (1980 -), daughter of former President Clinton, is 22.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1959, Bob Cousy of the Boston Celtics racked up 28 assists against the Minnesota Lakers. The Celtics would go on to score 173 points in the contest.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "A great problem of contemporary life is how to control the power of economic interests which ignore the harmful effects of their applied science and technology." — Ralph Nader, "Unsafe at Any Speed."

TODAY'S MOON: Full snow moon (Feb. 27).

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Fourth show is best

NEW YORK (AP) — Maybe it was the return to a tropical setting, but "Survivor" host Jeff Probst says the CBS show's fourth edition was more fun than its third, set in a dusty African game reserve.

The fourth "Survivor," which premieres on Thursday, is set on the South Pacific island of Marquesas.

"All I know is from day one I was laughing," Probst said Tuesday.

And Probst offers one piece of advice to potential "Survivor" contestants who are doing their own auditioning: Be authentic.

"You can't will us into taking you," he said.

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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

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

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

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

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

Roy McQueen, Publisher

Wade Warren, Managing Editor

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9 committee members got money from Enron

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Nine out of 14 members of a legislative committee investigating Florida's pension fund losses in the Enron scandal have received campaign contributions from the company or one of its subsidiaries.

Committee members say the contributions — all coming before the energy-trading company's collapse — won't prevent them from aggressively scrutinizing the impact of Enron on the state and its retirees.

Many said they didn't know they had gotten Enron money, and some say their focus isn't on Enron anyway, but the workings of the agency that invests state money and on Alliance Capital Management, the money manager that bought Enron stock for the pension fund.

The retirement fund lost $325 million when it was forced to dump 7.5 million Enron shares as the company plunged toward bankruptcy and its stock price dropped. It was the largest loss of any state pension fund.

Florida's fund is one of several pursuing legal action against Enron to try to recoup their losses. State workers will not lose any money because the pension fund guarantees benefits to pensioners.

Rep. Fred Brummer, who received a total of $1,500 in 1999 and 2000 from Enron subsidiary Florida Gas Transmission, said he often gets money from companies that want something — and ignores it. And looking into Enron will be no different, he said.

"If any contribution prohibits you from doing your job as a state legislator you need to go home," said Brummer, R-Apopka. "You don't need to be up here if you can be bought and sold."

Rep. Dennis Ross agreed, saying he doesn't think campaign contributions buy anything. Ross got three $500 checks in 2000 from Florida Gas Transmission, which operates the only natural gas pipeline to South Florida.

"Nobody's ever come to me and said, 'Hey we gave you that contribution, you sure you want to do this?'" Ross said.

Still, Ross, R-Lakeland, said he is returning the money to avoid any appearance of impropriety.

Some supporters of campaign finance reform say the fact that a committee conducting an investigation involving a company that has given $10,500 to members of the committee over the years illustrates a larger question about companies attempting to buy influence in government with contributions that are legal.

"It points to the whole problem of why we need to reform the campaign financing system," said Ben Wilcox, executive director of Common Cause of Florida. "They're obviously hoping for some kind of access and influence somewhere."

Congress is in a similar situation, but on a much larger scale.

Members of the seven congressional panels investigating Enron's collapse have gotten more than $700,000 in campaign donations from Enron.

But with Enron now under the spotlight in the biggest business scandal in recent history, no amount of contributions is likely to make lawmakers go easy, said Larry Makinson, senior fellow at the Center for Responsive Politics, a Washington campaign finance watchdog group.

"I don't think the money's going to help them out now," he said. But it points further to the reach the company had into Florida government — and the political world in general.

"Enron is really a magnifying glass into the way politics is conducted in this country," Makinson said. "Lawmakers get this kind of money all the time."

If House Speaker Tom Feeney wanted to appoint a committee immune from Enron money to look into the impact of the company's fall on Florida, he would have had a hard time.

At least 73 of the 120 members of the House have gotten money from Enron or Florida Gas Transmission. Among those is Rep. Mark Flanagan, chairman of the pension oversight committee.

Enron and Florida Gas Transmission have contributed $2,000 to Flanagan, R-Bradenton, although most contributions were in the mid-1990s and the last donation was back in 2000.

Feeney, R-Oviedo, received $1,000 from Enron in 1996 and $1,500 from Florida Gas Transmission in 1999 and 2000.

Flanagan said Tuesday that Florida's contribution limit of $500 per election means that no one company can have undue influence on any lawmaker.

"There is no conflict of interest," he said. "No contributor can buy any influence with that amount."

The company and its executives have also given money to the campaigns of Gov. Jeb Bush, who received $500 from Florida Gas Transmission in 1997 and $1,000 from former Enron chairman Ken Lay and his wife the same year. Bush also was invested in a pipeline company in the mid-1990s that was a subsidiary of Enron.

While the company hasn't talked much about what it hoped to gain with its campaign contributions in Florida, it pushed hard for deregulation of the energy markets in several states.

EPA will add Montana town to Superfund List

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Environmental Protection Agency has agreed to name the asbestos-tainted town of Libby to the national Superfund list as the most significant hazardous site in Montana.

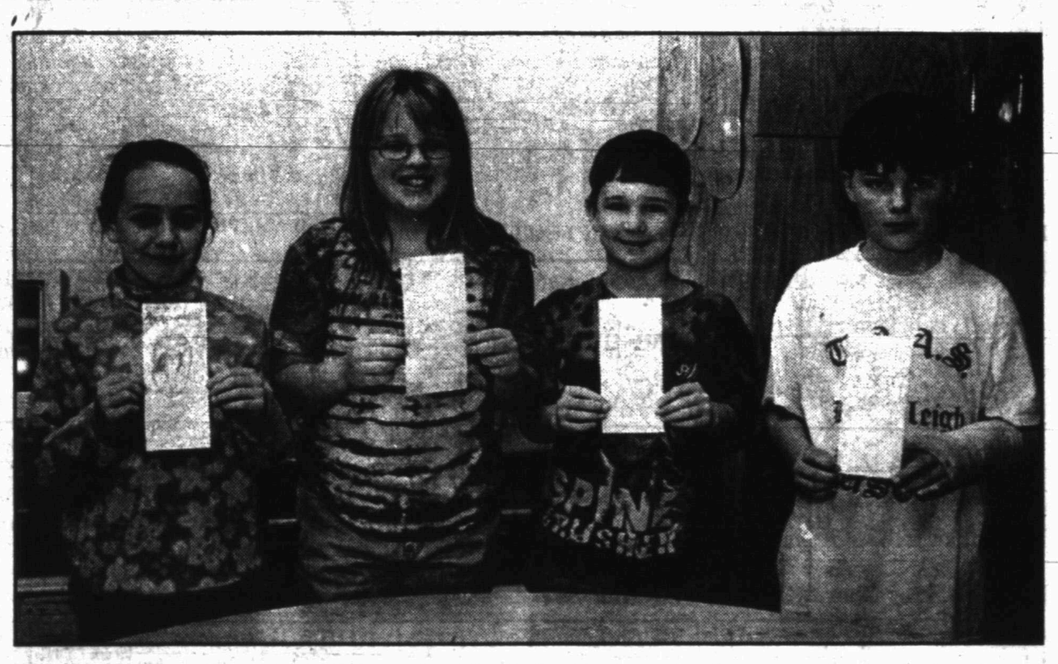
The so-called "silver bullet" designation Tuesday — each state is allowed to name one such "most significant" place for Superfund listing — automatically makes Libby one of the EPA's top 100 Superfund priorities.

Gov. Judy Martz made the request to the EPA in January to help with cleaning up contamination from the now-defunct vermiculite mine there. W.R. Grace & Co. operated the mine, which is being blamed for nearly 200 deaths and health problems of hundreds of other area residents.

Newspaper reports in 1999 first linked health problems in Libby to the mine, which closed in 1990.

The mine's vermiculite ore, which was used to make household products including insulation, contained harmful tremolite asbestos. The vermiculite also was used around town, including as a running surface on a school track.

Tuesday's action was the EPA's first formal step before it will recognize Libby as a Superfund site.



BROCHURES — Hermleigh fifth graders in Cathy Beckman's class recently made brochures advertising the Middle Colonies. From left are Marissa Davis, Casey Williamson, Jeremy Eaton and Lelan Shankles. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Pictures of man's ex-wife haunt his grieving widow

DEAR ABBY: My husband, "Tom," had a heart attack and died six months ago. I was his second wife. He was married to his first wife, "Becky," for seven years before their divorce. They split up because Becky found someone who made more money. Five years later, Tom married me. We had seven happy years together. There were no children in either marriage.

It took a month before I felt strong enough to go through Tom's personal belongings. He owned one wallet. Sadly, there were no pictures of me in his wallet, even though we had studio portraits taken together on two occasions and I had given him wallet-sized prints.

What I did find hidden in his wallet were two small snapshots of Tom and Becky, taken when they were newlyweds. I was stunned. In all the years we were married, if Becky's name was mentioned, Tom made nothing but negative remarks about her.

I feel certain they were not having an affair, but I can't help but wonder if Tom still loved her. Whenever I ask anyone, the person tells me what I want to hear — that the fact he could never say a kind word about Becky proves that he loved me. Abby, what are your thoughts on this? Please be straight with me. — HURTING IN VIRGINIA

DEAR HURTING: OK. There are many reasons why people keep souvenirs. It doesn't always mean that the person is carrying a torch. It's possible that your husband carried the old snapshots to remind him how lucky he was to have you in his life instead of the woman he had trusted who had caused him so much pain.

I know it's convoluted thinking, but since Tom is no longer here to explain it, please hold a good [illegible] nothing to do with his feelings about you, with whom he spent seven happy years.

P.S. Wouldn't it be ironic if the pictures were there because Tom never bothered to clean out his wallet?

**

DEAR ABBY: As a first-time writer who loves your column, I am desperate for your advice.

I am 31, and for the past seven years have been married to a man I dearly love. We adopted two wonderful children who have made my life complete. Every day I thank God for the miracle he has given me by sending these precious little ones to us.

The problem I'm facing now seems insurmountable: My husband no longer wants to work. He was working before we adopted the kids, but now he won't stay on a job more than a few weeks at a time.

I love my children too much to put them through the heartache of doing without — and I don't want them growing up with their dad as this kind of role model.

As much as I love my husband, I am at the point of asking him to leave. Would it be wrong for me to do that, Abby? — ON THE BRINK IN KINGS MOUNTAIN, N.C.

DEAR ON THE BRINK: Before doing anything drastic, consider this: Your husband could be ill, depressed or drug-dependent. Insist he see his physician for a complete physical exam — and possibly counseling to explain his sudden change in behavior.

**

Pauline Phillips and her daughter Jeanne Phillips share the pseudonym Abigail Van Buren. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a [illegible] envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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Free standard local delivery. Outside local delivery area, customer pays an additional charge. Rebate values, local areas and additional charges vary. Excludes outlet stores. Offer good thru March 2.
4) buy a washer, take an extra 10% off the dryer
Excludes Maytag Neptune and Exceptional Values. Thru March 2.
288.99 sale — Whirlpool — Super Capacity washer, save $31 — Porcelain basket. #32442. Reg. 319.99 — Whirlpool Extra Large capacity dryer #40442. 249.99 Sears low price. Gas dryer priced higher
399.99 sale — Kenmore — Super Capacity Plus washer, save $60 — White porcelain on steel wash basket. #23822. Reg. 459.99 — Kenmore Super capacity dryer, save $40 #62602. Reg. 339.99, sale 299.99. Gas dryer priced higher
649.99 sale — Kenmore — High-efficiency washer, save $150 — Eco Cycle with water optimization control & delay start. #42142. Reg. 799.99 Thru March 1 — Kenmore dryer, save $80 #62142. Reg. 479.99, sale 399.99. Gas dryer priced higher
549.99 sale — MAYTAG — Atlantis washer, save $70 — Exclusive TurboRinse™ system, Load Sensor,™ Swirl Away drain. #36872. Reg. 619.99 — Maytag Atlantis™ Oversize Capacity Plus dryer, save $30 #46882. Reg. 529.99, sale 499.99. Gas dryer priced higher
349.99 sale — Kenmore — Super Capacity washer, save $50 Porcelain wash basket, dual action agitator. #2371 Reg. 399.99
449.99 sale — Kenmore — Super Capacity Plus washer, save $70 — 3-speed motor, 19 cycles. #23902. Reg. 519.99
329.99 sale — Kenmore — Super Capacity Plus dryer, save $50 — 9 cycles, drum light. #62712. Reg. 379.99
699.88 closeout — Kenmore — 27-in. Space Saver laundry center, save $100 Washer/dryer combo. #91702. Was 799.99 White, electric only. While quantities last.
SWEETWATER: 604 East Broadway, Sweetwater, TX. Phone: 915-235-8099. Owner: Shawn & Pam Chilium, Mon. - Sat. 9-6, Sun. 12-5
BIG SPRING: 1801 East FM 700-C3, Big Spring TX. Phone: 915-267-1127. Owner: Jody & Terri Swinney, Mon. - Sat. 10-7, Sun. 1-6
DEWALT CRAFTSMAN Kenmore Whirlpool RCA MAYTAG GE
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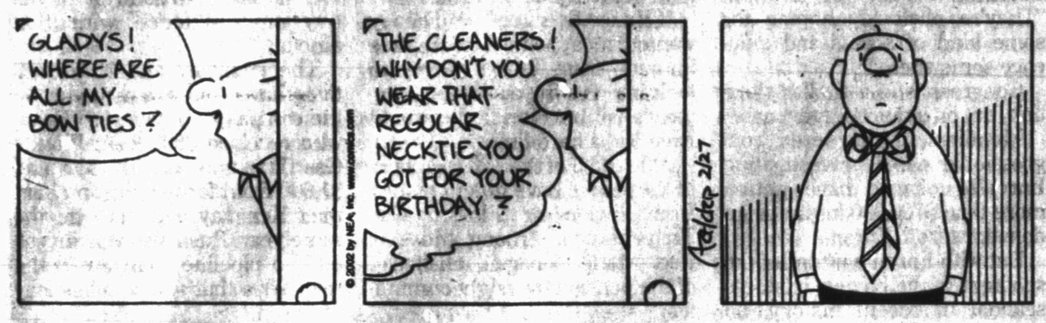

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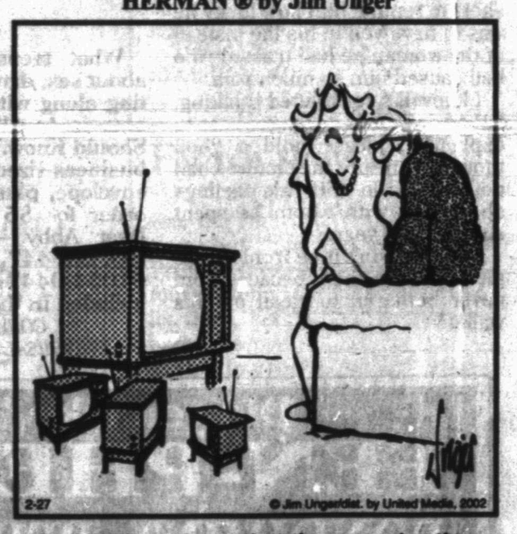
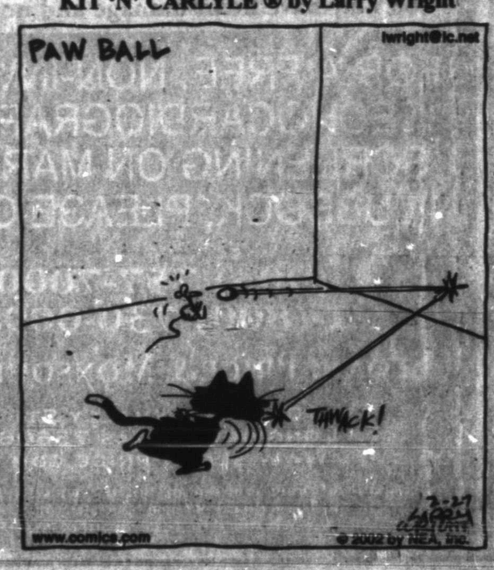


"It must have been that time your brother brought his portable over!"

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Pita sandwiches
6 Soap opera
11 Cousin of hiss-ing
12 Bauble
13 Sign off the computer
14 Finland neighbor
15 Rentals
16 Damage
17 Latin I verb
18 Shank's mare
19 Looks closely
23 Go-getter
25 Bakery item
26 TV news time
29 Baby grand
32 GI support grp.
33 Male turkey
34 Eagle's claw
35 Unvarnished
36 Washstand item
38 Regard
40 Long hair
41 Hair-styling goo
Stravinsky
46 Lose hair
48 Barely touch
49 Threaten
52 Cause
53 New York island
54 Pressing
55 Yawned
56 Web-footed birds

DOWN

1 Hired thugs
2 Berra and Bear
3 Burned and looted
4 Disagreeable task
5 Cpl.'s superior
6 Gloomy
7 Roll-call list
8 Sales pitches
9 Actress Britt
10 Nabokov heroine
11 In a funk
12 Antibiotic
16 Ushered in
18 "Star Wars" princess
20 "This is — Life"
21 Actress Lanchester
22 Not busy
24 Make a decision
26 Pipe handle
27 Hawkeye state
28 Comic-book heroes
30 Caroler's tune
31 Single
37 Cash-back offer
39 Optical illusion
41 Valley
43 — up (fills the tank)
44 Lightning by-product
45 Lease
47 Did great, elangily
48 "Runaway Bride" costar
49 Chow mein enhancer
50 Airport info
51 Velvety surface
52 Home furnishing

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

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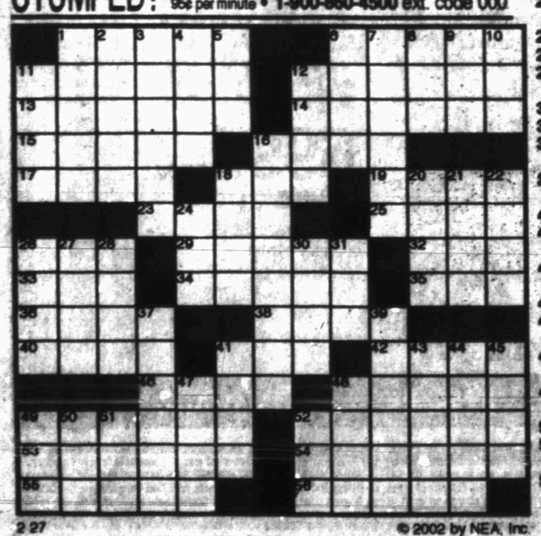

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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"THAT WAS THE COOLEST PARTY EVER! FIRST THE SIRENS, AND THEN CAME THE POLICE CARS!"

SPORTS

Cowboys offer deals to Noble, Nguyen

DALLAS (AP) — Cowboys defensive tackle Brandon Noble and linebacker Dat Nguyen have reportedly been extended $1.227 million offer sheets for the 2002 season in a gesture that indicates Dallas plans to build around the restricted free agents for the team's future.

"It obviously means they don't want to let me go, which is always a good thing," Noble told The Dallas Morning News in today's editions. "We need to keep this defensive group together as long as we can, so we can keep things going in the right direction."

Dallas finished the 2001 season ranked fourth in the National Football League by allowing just 287.4 yards per game.

The Cowboys, by giving Noble and Nguyen a tender offer of $1.227 million instead of the minimum of $563,000, will be compensated with a first-round pick by any team that signs Noble or Nguyen, a linebacker.

The Cowboys have made minimum tender offers to their other restricted free agents: receiver Darrin Chiaverini, cornerback Duane Hawthorne, tight end Mike Lucky and center Ben Fricke.

If another team signs these players, the Cowboys will be compensated with a draft pick, depending on where these players were drafted. However, only Lucky was drafted by the Cowboys.

The Cowboys have also made minimum tender offers to their exclusive rights free agents. They are quarterbacks Anthony Wright and Clint Stoerner, punter Micah Knorr, wide receivers Ken-Yon Rambo, Randall Williams and Reggie Swinton, kicker Tim Seder, linebacker Louis Mackey and tight end James Whalen.

Those players have no choice but to sign Dallas' offer, which varies depending on the players' years in the NFL.

Exclusive rights free agent kicker Jon Hilbert was not offered a new contract by Dallas and thus becomes an unrestricted free agent.

At Scurry County Coliseum...

Hawks hold off Roughnecks, 55-49

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

The Wall Hawks' offensive prowess had been well documented since their 68-35 victory in the area round. But with a regional tournament berth on the line, it was the Hawks' defensive effort that proved to be the difference.

Wall surrendered only five points in the third quarter, then took care of business at the free-throw line down the stretch to hold off the Sundown Roughnecks, 55-49, in a Class 2A regional quarterfinal Tuesday night at Scurry County Coliseum.

The victory pushes the Hawks' record to 23-6 on the year, and earns the squad a trip to this weekend's regional tournament. Wall squares off with Olney (26-5) in the semifinals Friday evening.

"This was a great effort by our kids," said Wall coach Trey Watts. "We had a lot of kids step up tonight, and that's what it takes to beat a team like Sundown."

Wall's stellar defensive performance in the third quarter came on the heels of a Sundown run to end the first half.

With the Hawks holding a 22-17 lead, the Roughnecks put together a 14-3 run over the final three minutes to grab a 31-25 advantage at the break.

Sundown produced many of its points off 12 offensive rebounds in the first half. Despite an overwhelming size advantage, the Hawks were out-rebounded, 15-7, through the first two quarters.

"Rebounding is something we've been stressing all along, and then we come out and get beat on the boards," Watts stated. "At halftime, I told the kids rather loudly that we needed to do a better job on the boards."

Wall chipped away at Sundown's lead to start the third quarter. The Hawks forced three Roughneck turnovers in the first two minutes of the third to pull even at 31-31.

Sundown relied solely on Willis Hogan, and the 6-2 senior produced. Hogan scored all five of the Roughnecks' third-quarter points and 16 of their 18 points in the second half.

The Hawks finally regained the lead on a Trey Weishuhn long-range bucket with 1:45 left in the third. Wall posted the final eight points of the quarter to hold a 41-36 advantage to start the final frame.

With Hogan posing the only real threat, the Hawks employed three different defenses throughout the fourth quarter. Hogan's teammates, who produced 18 points in the first half, managed only two down the stretch.

The Roughnecks held their final lead at 43-42 with 2:44 left on the clock. From there on out it was all Wall.

The Hawks looked to 6-5 senior Brett Schniers. Saddled with foul trouble most of the night, Schniers scored nine points in the final minutes.

Wall went 8-of-12 from the stripe in the fourth to preserve the victory.

Hogan led all scorers with 29 points. Schniers' 16 points were tops for Wall. Trey Weishuhn added 12 for the Hawks.

Sundown	12	19	05	13	—	49
Wall	13	12	16	14	—	55

Sundown
Ro. Snead 1 0-0 2, Hogan 11 6-10 29, Ra. Snead 1 0-0 2, Palmer 0 0-0 0, Cruz 3 1-2 7, Precure 2 0-0 5, Stansell 2 0-0 4. **Totals 20 7-12 49.**

Wall
T. Weishuhn 4 2-2 12, Ledbetter 3 3-6 9, Schniers 5 6-10 16, Woner 1 1-2 4, Doyle 1 2-2 4, S. Weishuhn 3 0-0 6, Moorman 0 4-6 4. **Totals 17 18-28 55.**

Three-point goals: Sundown 2 (Hogan, Precure), Wall 3 (T. Weishuhn 2, Woner). Rebounds: Sundown 23, Wall 21. Total fouls: Sundown 24, Wall 15. Fouled out – Ro. Snead.

Mavs run past Memphis, 104-91

DALLAS (AP) — When the Dallas Mavericks are running, they're tough to beat, especially when they're playing a short-handed Memphis team that's last in the Western Conference.

Dallas had 33 fast-break points to none for Memphis in the Mavericks' 104-91 victory Tuesday night.

Michael Finley's 30 points and Raef LaFrentz's 17 paced the Mavericks, who shot 70 percent in the first quarter (14-for-20) to build a 34-21 lead. Dallas held a 58-43 halftime advantage behind Finley's 16 points and 11 from LaFrentz on the way to its fourth win in five games.

"We wanted to go out there and jump on them early," said LaFrentz, who went 8-for-15 from the field in his second game for the Mavericks since last week's seven-player trade with Denver. "There were more shots out there than I could handle. I was trailing on the break, and they were sagging in so far, so I just kept shooting it, and most of them went in."

The Mavericks want to get the newcomers acclimated, and they also want to get Finley back on track.

Finley is rounding back into form after missing 13 games in January with a strained left hamstring. Finley was averaging 16.6 points and shooting 42.5 percent in his first 12 games back, but he went 12-for-18 from the field against the Grizzlies and had eight rebounds and eight assists.

"I haven't been as aggressive as I need to be," Finley said. "I've needed to put the injury behind me, to be more consistent overall shooting my jumper and getting to the basket."

Dirk Nowitzki had 16 points and nine rebounds, and Nick Van Exel added 12 points for Dallas.

LaFrentz, Van Exel, Avery Johnson and Tariq Abdul-Wahad are becoming more comfortable in their new surroundings since coming over from Denver. LaFrentz started and played 31 minutes, while Van Exel played 28 minutes. Johnson had three points in 16 minutes and Abdul-Wahad went scoreless in eight minutes.

"The new guys were a lot calmer out on the court, more relaxed," Van Exel said. "It's pretty easy to play with these guys because of their offense. It's pretty similar to what we ran in Denver."

Shane Battier's 18 points led the Grizzlies.

Duncan gets help in Spurs win

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The San Antonio Spurs have one of the best scoring threats in the NBA in Tim Duncan.

But they know he needs help to win the Midwest Division, and they found that support Tuesday night.

Five Spurs scored in double figures, including Duncan with 29 points and 15 rebounds, as the Spurs ended a two-game losing streak by defeating the Phoenix Suns 99-91.

Steve Smith had 17 points, Malik Rose 12, Danny Ferry 11 and David Robinson 10 for San Antonio, which was 8-of-18 on 3-pointers. Smith and Ferry combined to go 7-of-10.

"Danny was huge for us," said Robinson, who also had five assists and three blocks. "He made some big shots. Our offense really came through for us."

San Antonio is no stranger to long-range shooting.

They were one of the best 3-point shooting teams in the NBA last year, hitting 40.6 percent. This season, the Spurs are at 37.2 percent, eighth in the league, and Smith ranks second in the league individually at 50 percent.

At times, they have been impressive, as they were against NBA-leading Sacramento on Feb. 21, when they hit 11 straight 3-pointers in a 115-92 win.

At other times, they've lost sight of the rim, as in the last two losses to Minnesota and Phoenix.

"We're nothing different, just more focused and a little more aggressive, especially me," Duncan said. "It's just having the right attitude."

Stephon Marbury, who scored a season-high 36 against the Spurs on Sunday, had 35 points and 10 assists. He was 13-of-20 from the field and 3-of-5 on 3-pointers.

"When you're playing against the San Antonio Spurs, you've got to stay in it 'til the end," Marbury said. "We played hard. When I'm scoring, it's a lot easier for me to get a lot of assists."

Shawn Marion added 22 points and 12 rebounds, and Tom Gugliotta had 14 points for the Suns.

The Spurs recovered from Sunday night's 92-83 loss to the Suns team.

"We were playing good defense and continued to play hard. We never quit playing hard," Suns coach Frank Johnson said." We had our chances. Unfortunately, we had some stumbles late."

After eight lead changes in the third quarter, Duncan hit two free throws with one second left for a 72-67 lead.

San Antonio then opened the fourth quarter with a 23-12 run and took a 95-81 lead when Duncan hit a 21-foot jumper.

"He was tough," Johnson said of Duncan. "He was very aggressive. He wasn't going to let them lose."

Rockets fold late against LA

HOUSTON (AP) — A close game on the road used to be an almost certain loss for the Los Angeles Clippers.

But when they pulled out a 94-84 victory over the Houston Rockets with an 11-0 run late in the fourth quarter on Tuesday night, it made the Clippers think things are beginning to change.

"We were very poised," Elton Brand said. "I think it's a good sign. I think we're starting to mature."

Brand had 26 points and 15 rebounds. Jeff McInnis added 15 [illegible] road trip 3-2 to draw within one game of the .500 mark, at 29-30.

Los Angeles has played without key players like Lamar Odom (out since Jan. 24 with a sprained right wrist) and Corey Maggette (placed on the injured list Feb. 22 with two dislocated fingers on his right hand). Center Michael Olowokandi also missed Tuesday's game with a sprained left knee.

Cuttino Mobley had 27 points, and Steve Francis 25 before fouling out with 3:21 to play.

Sports Briefs

Jordan will have surgery

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hobbled throughout his comeback by a painful right knee injury, Michael Jordan is taking a break to have arthroscopic surgery.

Jordan was placed on the injured list for only the second time in his career. He will have to miss at least five games.

The prognosis won't be known until the team physician, Dr. Stephen Haas, performs the surgery.

Broncos WR gets $40 million contract

DENVER (AP) — Receiver Rod Smith and the Denver Broncos agreed to a seven-year, $40 million contract, scrapping the last two years of his existing deal.

The new package includes an $11 million signing bonus, Smith's agent, Tom Mills, said. Mills said the agreement saves the Broncos $3.6 million against the salary cap.

Ravens cutting players for cap room

OWINGS MILLS, Md. (AP) — Starters Shannon Sharpe, Rod Woodson and Qadry Ismail will be released by the Baltimore Ravens, whose salary-cap woes are forcing them to cut several key players from the team that won the Super Bowl just 13 months ago.

Quarterback Elvis Grbac, signed in 2001 to a $30 million, 5-year deal, won't stay with the team unless he agrees to a restructured contract.

Red Wings captain out with Olympic injury

DETROIT (AP) — Red Wings captain Steve Yzerman expects to be sidelined for about 21/2 weeks with a knee injury that flared up while he helped Canada win an Olympic gold medal.

Big 12 Basketball

MEN	Conference W	Conference L	Conference Pct.	All Games W	All Games L	All Games Pct.
Kansas	14	0	1.000	25	2	.926
Oklahoma	12	3	.800	23	4	.852
Texas Tech	9	6	.600	20	7	.741
Missouri	9	6	.600	20	10	.667
Texas	9	6	.600	18	10	.643
Nebraska	5	9	.357	12	13	.480
Kansas St.	5	9	.357	11	14	.440
Baylor	5	9	.357	15	12	.556
Colorado	5	10	.333	14	12	.538
Iowa St.	4	11	.267	12	17	.414
Texas A&M	3	12	.200	9	20	.310

Tuesday's results
Texas 95, Texas Tech 71
Oklahoma 89, Iowa State 75
Colorado 92, Texas A&M 77

Wednesday's games
Kansas State at Kansas
Baylor at Nebraska

Saturday's games
Texas Tech at Baylor
Oklahoma at Colorado
Texas at Iowa State
Texas A&M at Oklahoma State
Nebraska at Kansas State

Sunday's game
Kansas at Missouri
End of men's regular season

WOMEN	Conference W	Conference L	Conference Pct.	All Games W	All Games L	All Games Pct.
Oklahoma	13	2	.867	23	3	.885
Baylor	11	4	.733	23	4	.852
Colorado	11	5	.688	21	8	.724
Kansas St.	10	5	.667	22	6	.786
Texas	10	6	.625	19	8	.704
Iowa St.	9	6	.600	21	6	.778
Texas Tech	8	7	.533	17	9	.654
Oklahoma St.	6	9	.400	14	14	.500
Missouri	5	10	.333	14	12	.538
Texas A&M	5	10	.333	13	14	.481
Nebraska	4	12	.250	14	14	.500
Kansas	0	16	.000	5	24	.172

Tuesday's results
Texas 61, Kansas 46
Colorado 84, Nebraska 60

Wednesday's games
Texas Tech at Oklahoma
Missouri at Kansas State
Oklahoma State at Texas A&M
Baylor at Iowa State
End of women's regular season

National Basketball Association

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New Jersey	38	17	.691	—
Boston	31	25	.554	7½
Orlando	30	26	.536	8½
Philadelphia	27	28	.491	11
Washington	27	28	.491	11
Miami	23	31	.426	14½
New York	20	34	.370	17½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	32	23	.582	—
Detroit	31	23	.574	½
Toronto	29	29	.500	4½
Indiana	28	28	.500	4½
Charlotte	27	29	.482	5½
Atlanta	20	36	.357	12½
Cleveland	20	36	.357	12½
Chicago	15	41	.268	17½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	40	17	.702	—
Minnesota	38	18	.679	1½
San Antonio	36	20	.643	3½
Utah	31	25	.554	8½
Houston	20	36	.357	19½
Denver	16	37	.302	22
Memphis	15	41	.268	24½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Sacramento	41	15	.732	—
L.A. Lakers	39	16	.709	1½
Portland	32	24	.571	9
Seattle	31	26	.544	10½
L.A. Clippers	29	30	.491	13½
Phoenix	27	30	.474	14½
Golden State	15	39	.278	25

Tuesday's Games
Seattle 109, Cleveland 89
L.A. Lakers 99, Milwaukee 89
Orlando 112, Chicago 97
San Antonio 99, Phoenix 91
L.A. Clippers 94, Houston 84
Dallas 104, Memphis 91
Sacramento 107, Utah 81

Wednesday's Games
Milwaukee at Boston, 7 p.m.
Miami at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Portland at Washington, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Seattle at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Orlando at Toronto, 8 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Denver at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

Thursday's Games
San Antonio at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
New York at Miami, 8 p.m.
Memphis at Utah, 9 p.m.
Indiana at Phoenix, 9 p.m.

Boys Basketball Playoffs

CLASS 5A
Region I Quarterfinals
Midland Lee 67, Lubbock Monterey 48
Cedar Hill 56, The Colony 50
EP Franklin 49, Amarillo 47
Duncanville 46, Coppell 44
Semifinals
Midland Lee (27-5) vs. Cedar Hill (32-1)
EP Franklin (29-5) vs. Duncanville (23-9)
Region II Semifinals
Tyler John Tyler (20-14) vs. The Woodlands (23-10)
Dallas Kimball (27-4) vs. Killeen Ellison (26-6)
Region III Semifinals
FB Hightower (32-3) vs. Houston Clear Lake (29-5)
FB Elkins (32-7) vs. Houston Eisenhower (25-9)
Region IV Semifinals
SA Jay (24-9) vs. Brownsville Hanna
Converse Judson (28-6) vs. CC Ray

CLASS 4A
Region I Quarterfinals
Lubbock Estacado 51, Canyon Randall 46
FW Polytechnic 71, North Crowley 68 (2OT)
Canyon 63, EP Parkland 51
FW Dunbar 81, FW Eastern Hills 66
Semifinals
Lubbock Estacado (30-6) vs. FW Polytechnic (27-5)
Canyon (27-5) vs. FW Dunbar (30-2)
Region II Semifinals
Dallas Lincoln (35-0) vs. Terrell (22-9)
South Oak Cliff (26-5) vs. Lancaster (23-6)
Region III Semifinals
Waller vs. Galena Park (23-11)
Beaumont Ozen vs. Texas City
Region IV Semifinals
SA McCollum (19-12) vs. SA Roosevelt (25-10)
Kerrville Tivy vs. SA Houston (34-2)

CLASS 3A
Region I Quarterfinals
Dimmitt 71, Sanford Fritch 39
Abilene Wylie 46, Decatur 44
Shallowater 54, Perryton 52
Sweetwater 46, Merkel 44 (OT)
Semifinals
Dimmitt (27-7) vs. Abilene Wylie (23-8)
Shallowater (23-8) vs. Sweetwater (19-10)
Region II Semifinals
Everman (25-8) vs. Tatum
Gainesville (24-6) vs. Pittsburg (30-0)
Region III Semifinals
Crockett (24-7) vs. Kountze
Waco La Vega vs. Cleveland
Region IV Semifinals
Somerset vs. Aransas Pass
Hempstead vs. Gonzales

CLASS 2A
Region I Quarterfinals
Wall 55, Sundown 49
Olney 72, Hamlin 57
Reagan County 54, Eldorado 48
West Texas 58, Abernathy 54
Semifinals
Wall (23-6) vs. Olney (26-5)
Reagan County (23-8) vs. West Texas (20-15)
Region II Semifinals
Ponder vs. Godley (25-8)
Peaster (27-7) vs. Van Alstyne
Region III Semifinals
Frankston vs. Hardin
Kerens (21-4) vs. Centerville (23-7)
Region IV Semifinals
Van Vleck vs. SA Cole
Little River Academy vs. Port Aransas

CLASS A—DIVISION I
Region I Semifinals
Stratford 58, Iraan 52
White Deer 42, Irion County 37
Final
Stratford (18-8) vs. White Deer (22-5)
Region II Final
Lipan (29-7) vs. Brock (27-7)
Region III Final
Tenaha (18-4) vs. Kennard
Region IV Final
Charlotte (32-4) vs. Moulton

CLASS A—DIVISION II
Region I Final
New Home (24-2) vs. Nazareth (23-3)
Region II Semifinals
Utopia 75, Balmorhea 50
D'Hanis 52, Grady 34
Final
Utopia (29-1) vs. D'Hanis
Region III Final
Woodson vs. Henrietta Midway (27-8)
Region IV Final
Goodrich vs. Brookeland

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Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital
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is currently seeking a full-time Radiology Technologist. Position is from 4p.m. to 12 midnight, Monday – Friday. Cross training available in CT, Nuclear Medicine and Mammography. Must have current ARRT or registry eligible and TDH certified. R.P.M.H. offers excellent salary and benefits. Contact Personnel Director at (915) 235-1701, ext. 222 or mail resume to P.O. Box 690, Sweetwater, TX 79556 or fax to 915-235-1783. EOE

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Texas Book Company is seeking for immediate placement in Snyder, Texas, qualified experienced individual for bookstore management position. Successful candidate must have retail, computer and management experience. Salary plus benefits. Qualified candidates send or fax resume to Texas Book Company, Western Texas College Bookstore at 6200 College Ave., Snyder, Texas 79549, or FAX it to (915) 573-4980.

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EOE

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Snyder, TX 79550

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Woman's Column

Amy Smith
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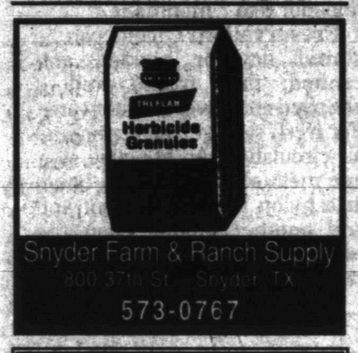

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3202 40th 3-1-1 Nice Kitchen & Carpeting $29.5T
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Snyder, TX
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Call 573-1488 in Snyder
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... Please Call 573-5486
Before 6:30 p.m.
Monday through Saturday

Dan Morales presses on with attacks

By The Associated Press

While Tony Sanchez has been airing television ads for weeks all across Texas, his Democratic gubernatorial opponent Dan Morales has had only a few in a limited number of cities.

That's about to change, Morales says.

"We will have ample funds to run a competent (advertising) campaign," Morales said in Houston on Tuesday. He said he's launching a statewide advertising effort later this week.

Morales television and radio ads in English and Spanish will be shown in Dallas, Houston, El Paso, Longview, Tyler, Beaumont, Corpus Christi, Laredo and the Rio Grande Valley, said campaign spokesman Jim Moore.

The campaign, equipped with far less money than Sanchez's, has been saving up for this final advertising push, Moore said.

"If you have limited funds you don't fire your guns until the last 10 days or two weeks when people are paying attention," he said.

The primary is March 12.

John WorldPeace and Bill Lyon also are in the race. The winner will face Republican Gov. Rick Perry in November.

AD SHELVED

A television commercial by David Dewhurst's campaign for lieutenant governor has been shelved by the state land commissioner. Critics had said the advertisement contained inaccuracies.

The old ad states that Dewhurst, as land commissioner, expanded services while reducing his budget 25 percent at the General Land Office.

However, Legislative Budget Board documents showed the actual expenditures were reduced by only 4 percent in Dewhurst's first two years in office.

A Dewhurst spokesman defended the claims in the ad and said it has run its course and has been shelved for the time being, according to The Dallas Morning News' editions today.

Dewhurst faces Galveston executive Tom Kelley in the March 12 primary. Former Comptroller John Sharp is unopposed in the Democratic primary.

A new commercial by Dewhurst, a Republican, features a teacher who says she supports Dewhurst and his plan for Texas education. Details of the plan are to be released later.

ON THE ATTACK

While in Houston, home of bankrupt energy giant Enron Corp., Morales again attacked Sanchez for his failed savings and loan, comparing it to the collapse of Enron Corp.

A Sanchez spokeswoman called Morales' comparison a "desperate move."

Morales, the former state attorney general, repeatedly has taken aim at Sanchez, a multimillionaire businessman from Laredo, for the failure of Tesoro Savings and Loan in the late 1980s.

He has said Sanchez, who was chairman and majority shareholder at Tesoro, should have known that $25 million in drug cartel money was laundered at the thrift over 17 months in 1983 and 1984.

Sanchez has said he didn't know and that he did nothing wrong.

Morales, citing his experience investigating money laundering cases, said he is skeptical of Sanchez and others who claim they knew nothing of such practices at their businesses.

Michelle Kucera, spokeswoman for Sanchez, said the Morales campaign has been full of attacks and half truths.

"It's a completely desperate move on his part," she said, "There is no comparison (to Enron)."

The failure of Tesoro, which was unrelated to the money laundering, required a $161 million federal bailout.

"The federal government indicated it failed in large measure as a result of the mismanagement of the part of the leadership of Tesoro. Specifically it cited a variety of illegal business practices, deceptive accounting, land flips, phony accounting, precisely the same sort of deception we are now seeing relative to Enron," Morales said.

Sanchez has said the thrift fell victim to a weak economy.

Morales said Sanchez, who is estimated to be worth some $600 million, should pay the government back the bailout amount.

Kucera said the real reason Morales is so focused on Sanchez's role in Tesoro is that he is trying to deflect attention from his own business dealings.

Prosecutor: Bikers made out wills before attacking Pagans

CENTRAL ISLIP, N.Y. (AP) — Two members of the Pagans motorcycle gang wrote out their wills before participating in a deadly weekend brawl with rival Hells Angels, a federal prosecutor said. A note found inside one of the Pagans' vans read, "Kill, kill, kill."

The fight at Saturday's Hell-raiser Ball, sponsored by the Hells Angels, left one person dead and at least 10 others injured.

Federal Prosecutor Burton Ryan said Pagan members went on a reconnaissance mission to map out the weekend attack at the ball, a motorcycle and tattoo expo.

Ryan said the Pagans, all of whom are from out of state, met Saturday at a Lindenhurst, N.Y., restaurant before a small group went to the building where the event was taking place, to conduct "reconnaissance" and draw maps.

The group returned to the restaurant and the full group of 73 loaded into 10 vans bound for the hall, he added. When they arrived, "they immediately went and started attacking people and property," Ryan said.

The prosecutor would not specify who had written out their wills.

At least 24 reputed Pagans appeared in court on federal racketeering charges Tuesday stemming from the fight at Vanderbilt hall in Plainview, N.Y.

The group was the first of 73 alleged Pagans set to make such appearances in a process that is expected to take several days and involve dozens of attorneys and several judges.

The processing of the Pagan defendants "is one of the largest the Eastern District has done in terms of volume," said Joseph Conway, head of the Long Island branch of the U.S. attorney's office.

Conway said it was not known how many would make court appearances in the coming days because several of those charged are still hospitalized from injuries sustained Saturday.

A law enforcement source speaking on condition of anonymity said a grand jury has been seated and could return an indictment as early as next week.

Ask Hollywood by Holly Wood

Not enough 'Lampoon'

Q: Why isn't "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" (with Chevy Chase) shown in more than one time slot during December? It's a great movie.

And what happened to "Grand Old Opry" and "Opry Backstage" on TNN? I'm sick of Star Trek. — **C.G., Bloomington, Ill.**

A: I recall seeing "Christmas Vacation" during the holidays — over and over and over again. There are lots of Christmas movies, so running that flick in a continuous loop would annoy all the people clamoring to see "Miracle on 34th Street." The human soul can take only so much Chevy Chase.

As for the TNN shows you mentioned, you might have to get used to "Star Trek" reruns. The network changed its format and its name. Formerly known as "The Nashville Network," TNN is now "The National Network" and is working to change its image. The programmers do seem to be raging trekkers, however. Live long and prosper.

Q: Where can I find the movie "The Champ," with Rick Schroder? I would like to buy it. I believe it came out in the 1980s. — **I.L., Saginaw, Mich.**

A: That film came out in 1979, but don't worry about the memory lapse. Sometimes I feel like "Moonlighting" just went off the air.

"The Champ" is very difficult to locate on video. I found a copy for about $38 on half.com (http://www.half.com), but it seems almost criminal to charge that much for a video. (Of course, by the time you read this column, it may have sold already.) If any readers know where to get it cheaper, please let me know, and I'll pass along the information.

Q: Can you please tell me how "Mr. Piano" Roger Williams is doing these days? I try to order all his CDs. I think he is the greatest. — **W.O., Kalamazoo, Mich.**

A: I'm glad you asked that question. Williams is still performing, and he will appear at the Coral Ridge Concert Series on Fort Lauderdale, Fla., on Feb. 9. That's a bit of a trek from Kalamazoo, but anyone who is interested in getting more info about the concert can call (800) 987-9818.

Q: I saw a movie around 1972 with a black girl who went to her grandmother, who was involved in voodoo, to help avenge the death of her boyfriend. The grandmother called up slaves from the grave to help her granddaughter. I think it was called "Sugar Hill." Is it available on video? — **E.B., No City or State**

A: There's nothing like 1970s zombies to kick-start your day. You can get your daily dose of the undead at Movies Unlimited (http://www.moviesunlimited.com), or call (800) 668-4344.

Dear Readers: I've gotten an awful lot of mail about the loud background music on television and in movies. Apparently, it's a problem for a lot of people. This letter comes from M.H. in Boonville, Mo.

M.H. says: "I can't see why they have to have background music in most shows. I ordered a video that was supposed to be based on a real tragedy (a tornado going through a town). Everything was flying around everywhere, but you couldn't hear the sound of anything but the loud music. Anybody who has any common sense won't be out in the middle of a tornado listening to loud music."

TRIVIA: Chevy Chase's birth name is Cornelius Crane Chase. He got his stage name from the Maryland town of Chevy Chase.

(Send your questions to Ask Holly Wood, c/o Newspaper Enterprise Association, 200 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016, or write to HollyWood85@hotmail.com. Because of the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.)

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Bridge by Phillip Alder

North 02-27-02
♠ K J
♥ A 8
♦ K 10 8 7 3
♣ A Q 10 5

West
♠ Q 8 4
♥ Q J 9 7 2
♦ A 6
♣ 6 3 2

East
♠ 10 9 6 5 3 2
♥ 10 6 4
♦ J 9 4
♣ 7

South
♠ A 7
♥ K 5 3
♦ Q 5 2
♣ K J 9 8 4

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: North-South

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

Opening lead: ♥ Q

There is often another facet

Zsa Zsa Gabor said, "I never hated a man enough to give him his diamonds back."

Diamonds — the gems, not the suit — and bridge deals have something in common: facets. Sometimes, when writing this column, I do not have room to mention one of a deal's facets. And the original writer ignored an important facet here. How should the play go in six clubs?

North-South did well to avoid playing in six diamonds, but when South bid four clubs, North assumed that that confirmed a genuine suit.

The author pointed out that South had to avoid two diamond losers. Normally one would lead low toward the queen, planning, if it lost to West's ace, to finesse dummy's 10 on the second round. However, West's overcall marked him with the diamond ace, which affects matters. Declarer won trick one with dummy's heart ace, drew trumps, cashed the heart king, and ruffed a heart in the dummy. Now he knew that West had begun with eight rounded-suit cards. Spades were more likely to be 3-6 than 2-7, so "declarer tentatively credits West with three spades" and therefore two diamonds. South cashed his spade winners ending in hand, played a diamond to dummy's king, and ducked a diamond on the way back, bringing down the ace and making the contract.

Well played, but why didn't West play his spade queen on the second round of the suit, trying to look like a man with a doubleton? This facet to the defense might have misled declarer into thinking West had begun with three diamonds after all.

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	26.80	26.29	26.68	+ .88
AOL TimeWrn	23.45	22.80	23.37	+ .37
AT&T Corp s	15.47	15.10	15.36	+ .16
Albertsons	30.21	29.62	30.01	+ .23
Allitel	57.35	56.46	56.60	+ .12
AmEl Pw	43.50	42.92	43.41	+ .50
AnderPtr	52.65	51.75	51.98	—.21
ATMOS Egy	22.50	22.37	22.42	—.09
Aviall	6.60	6.48	6.60	+ .11
BP PLC	50.51	50.20	50.42	+ .69
BakerHughes	36.19	35.30	35.67	—.13
Bank of Amer	64.18	63.30	64.05	+ 1.01
BellSouth	39.49	38.93	39.20	+ .10
vjBeth Steel	.42	.39	.40	
BurNoSFe	28.75	28.20	28.75	+ .45
Caterpillar	56.25	55.47	55.99	+ .03
ChevronTex	84.65	83.90	84.57	+ .39
Citigroup	44.92	44.22	44.80	+ 1.00
CocaCola	47.55	46.80	47.46	+ .47
ColgatePal	56.85	56.36	56.40	—.22
ComclMetals	36.15	36.00	36.00	—.10
CooperIn	34.54	33.95	34.25	+ .20
DaimlChry	40.24	39.89	40.06	+ .71
DeltaAirl	35.35	34.80	35.18	+ .82
Dillards Inc	20.40	19.76	20.15	+ .03
DowChem	30.74	30.26	30.64	+ .25
DuPont	47.91	47.04	47.79	+ .75
EastmanChem	43.31	42.59	43.28	+ .79
EstKodak	32.25	31.82	32.22	+ .29
EDS Corp	59.75	58.85	59.52	+ .42
Entergy	41.36	40.89	41.32	+ .61
ExxonMobil s	41.42	40.80	41.40	+ .68
FstBksAm	32.90	32.70	32.90	+ .14
FootLocker	16.63	16.48	16.57	+ .09
GenDynam	92.10	89.90	91.07	+ 1.36
GenElec	39.48	39.06	39.36	+ .79
GenMills	47.50	47.00	47.43	—.33
GenMotors	55.35	54.20	54.60	—.34
GaPacific	25.38	24.90	25.28	+ .43
Goodrich	30.38	30.10	30.35	—.03
Goodyear s	27.84	27.00	27.65	—.39
GlMtPac	27.74	27.20	27.50	—.25
Halliburtn	16.68	16.20	16.40	—.02
Hanson ADS	33.70	33.55	33.63	+ .68
HartfeHanks	29.75	29.50	29.61	+ .02
HomeDepot	52.25	51.12	51.38	—.13
Honeywellnt	38.10	36.59	37.94	+ 1.83
IBM	99.54	97.00	99.48	+ 2.33
IntPaper	44.92	44.20	44.43	+ .20
JohnsonJn s	60.54	60.00	60.40	+ .39
vjK mart	1.15	1.11	1.13	+ .00
KinderMorg	49.20	47.70	48.13	—1.03
Kroger Co	22.10	21.91	21.97	—.06
LockheedM	57.00	55.91	56.99	+ 1.14
Lowes Cos s	47.50	45.00	45.27	—1.20
Lubys	6.30	6.25	6.30	+ .10
LucentTech	5.50	5.42	5.46	+ .10
MarathonOil	27.94	27.59	27.81	+ .11
MayDeptStr	37.25	36.90	36.92	—.21
Medtronic	45.30	44.36	45.20	+ .59
Motorola	13.23	13.01	13.07	+ .10
NCR Corp	42.20	41.65	41.75	—.10
Navistar	42.50	41.70	41.90	—.28
PNM Rescs	27.05	26.73	27.04	+ .40
Penney JC	21.18	20.17	20.24	—.49
PepBoys	14.97	14.41	14.41	—.11
PepsiCo	51.00	50.31	50.96	+ .53
Pharmacia	40.59	40.15	40.49	+ .37
PhelpDodge	38.80	37.85	38.48	+ 1.05
PhilipPet	59.15	58.52	58.75	—.14
PilgrmPrd B	12.45	12.20	12.25	—.25
Praxair	57.79	57.50	57.74	+ .14
ProctGamb	86.72	85.82	86.15	—.35
RadioShack	27.35	26.94	27.34	—.29
ReliantEngy	21.26	20.80	21.17	+ .17
RoyalDut	51.55	51.15	51.45	+ .46
SBC Comm	38.20	37.42	37.86	+ .36
SaraLee	21.89	21.58	21.65	—.10
Scripps EW	75.05	74.50	75.03	+ .68
SearsRoeb	53.50	52.84	52.89	—.53
SherwinW	26.77	26.25	26.70	+ .54
SouthernCo s	25.54	25.23	25.52	+ .22
SwstAirl	21.88	21.40	21.86	+ .51
SprintFON	13.50	13.16	13.50	+ .30
SprintPCS	9.89	9.10	9.26	—.22
Sunoco Inc	39.60	39.27	39.43	—.06
TXU Corp	50.85	49.97	50.69	+ .72
TempleInland	55.88	55.39	55.88	+ 1.07
TexInd	38.55	38.26	38.45	+ .19
TexasInst	31.60	31.10	31.40	+ .41
Textron	49.59	48.90	49.58	+ .46
TriconGlbR	58.20	57.85	58.05	+ .15
TrinityInds	22.25	22.10	22.24	+ .13
TylerTech	4.20	4.05	4.20	+ .18
UnionPacif	60.10	59.70	60.08	—.28
USSteel	18.81	18.14	18.79	+ .55
UnitedTech	73.90	71.75	73.64	+ 1.84
Unocal	36.25	35.85	36.07	—.09
VerizonComm	48.15	46.83	47.90	+ .89
WalMart	62.85	62.43	62.65	+ .55
WellsFargo	46.98	46.68	46.94	+ .31
WstnGasRs	33.40	33.04	33.11	—.37
WinnDixie	16.05	15.41	15.91	+ .47
Xerox Cp	9.94	9.70	9.77	+ .04

FEB 27 2002

Scurry County Country

Diversified

By Greg Gruben, County Extension Agent

Plant for Onions Now

Success with onions under Texas climatic conditions depends upon knowing the right varieties to use and the correct time of the year to get them started. Listed below are some good guidelines taken from the Texas Master Gardener Handbook:

•Light: Sunny (green onions tolerate partial shade)

•Soil: Well-drained loam

•Fertility: Medium-rich

•pH: 5.5 to 7.0

•Temperature: Cool (45 degrees to 50 degrees) during development; medium-hot (60 degrees to 75 degrees F) during bulbing and curing

•Moisture: Moist, but not waterlogged

•Planting: Use sets, seeds or transplants in spring for bulbs and green of bunching onions; seeds may be started indoors 8 weeks before setting out, use sets in fall for perennial or multiplier onion types

•Hardiness: bulb-onions — hardy biennials green or bunching — hardy biennials. Egyptian or perennial tree and multiplier hardy biennials

•Fertilizer needs: Heavy feeder; apply 4 to 5 pounds of 10-10-10 per 100 square feet before planting and side-dress 3 weeks after transplanting and again when bulb 3 enlargement begins (2 or 3 tablespoons of 21-0-0 per 10 feet of row)

Onions are often grouped according to taste. The two main types of onions are strong-flavored (American) and mild (often called European). Each has three distinct colors yellow, white and red. Generally, American onions have smaller bulbs denser texture, stronger flavor and better keeping quality than European types. Glove varieties tend to keep longer in storage.

Onion varieties also differ in the number of daylight hours required to make a bulb. If the seed catalog lists an onion as a long-day variety, it bulbs when it receives 15 to 16 hours of daylight. Long-day varieties are used in the northern United States to produce onions in summer. Short-day varieties bulb with about 12 hours of daylight; they are used in southern areas for winter onion production.

For green or bunching onions, use sets, seeds or transplants in spring. In the fall, use Egyptian (perennial tree) and yellow multiplier (potato onion) sets.

For bulb production, set out transplanting in early spring, spacing them 4 to 6 inches apart and 1 to 2 inches deep in the row. Planting too early and exposure to cold temperature causes seed stalk development. Egyptian tree or multiplier onions should be set in late October or early November. Plant 4 inches apart in rows 1 to 2 feet apart. Distance between rows is determined by available space and cultivating equipment.

Onions have shallow root systems and compete poorly with weeds. Shallow cultivation is necessary; do not mount soil on onions as this may encourage stem rot. Ensure ample moisture, especially after bulbs begin to enlarge.

Onions should be harvested when about two-thirds of the tops have fallen over. Careful handling to avoid bruising helps control storage rots and thorough curing increases storage life. Onions can be pulled and left in the field for several days to dry, then cured in a well-ventilated attic or porch for 1 or 2 weeks where they are not in direct sunlight. Tops may be let on or cut off, but leave at least 1 inch of the top when storing.

Diseases: Neck or stem rot, bulb rot; pink rot

Insects: Thrips; onion root maggots

Cultural: Bulb not from bruising or insufficient drying; split or double bulb from dry soil during bulb formation, very small bulb from planting too late or inadequate soil moisture.

Days to maturity: 100 to 120 (mature bulbs)

Harvest: Harvest green onions when tops are 6 inches tall and bulbs after two-thirds or more of the tops have fallen over. Do not wait more than 2 or 3 weeks after this occurs; allow time for thorough drying before storage.

Approximate yields (per 10-foot row): 10 to 15 pounds.

Amount to raise per person: 10 to 15 pounds.

Storage: Cool (32 degrees F), dry (65 to 70 percent RH) conditions for 6 to 7 months.

Preservation: Onions can be stored dry or pickled and canned; they freeze well if chopped and covered with water. For fresh storage, maintain good air circulation. An effective storage method is to place an onion in a nylon hose, tie a knot and add another onion. Then the hose is filled suspend it from rafters in a storage area.

Scurrying Around Snyder

Beth Dauzhein, CEA—Family and Consumer Sciences, 2605 Avenue M, Snyder, Texas 79549

'Keep it Clean'

1. Make your bed before leaving in the morning. Hang up your coat as soon as you walk in the door. You'll always feel better when you come home to a neat house.

2. Break down big, weekly chores into smaller tasks and tackle them during the week; you'll be left with only a few tasks on the weekend.

3. You can take it with you — put your cleaning products in a lightweight caddy or basket that's easy to tote from room-to-room.

4. Read product labels so you can choose the right cleaner for the soils and surfaces in your home.

5. Clean a room by working from the cleanest area to the dirtiest. It's hard to get up for cleaning when you tackle the hardest job head on.

6. To keep dishes from piling up throughout the day, put them in the dishwasher right after you eat. Hand wash large pots and pans.

7. When time is short, speed-clean your surfaces using an all-purpose cleaner.

8. Wipe up spills as they occur, discard empty containers and return cooking items to their places when you're through with them.

9. Keep clean sponges handy and wipe the bathroom sink, shower door and vanity after each use.

10. A light, quick dusting is better than no dusting at all. Your home will look presentable at all times.

Markets

Lubbock

The Lubbock Stockyards Inc. had a run of 756 head of cattle for the Thursday, Feb. 21, sale. Cows were $2 better. Yearlings and calves were $2 cheaper. Trading and demand were good.

Slaughter cows

(High dressing — cutters — utilities: 40-49

Canner and low cutters: 33-39.50

Slaughter bulls: 50-58

Feeder steers — choice:

300-400: 105-125

400-500: 90-108

500-600: 85-100

600-700: 83-90

700-800: 80-86

Feeder heifers:

300-400: 95-115

400-500: 83-100

500-600: 80-85

600-700: 75-83

700-800: 70-80

Feeder Bulls — good and choice:

500-600: 80-93

700-800: 70-81

Cow and calf pairs:

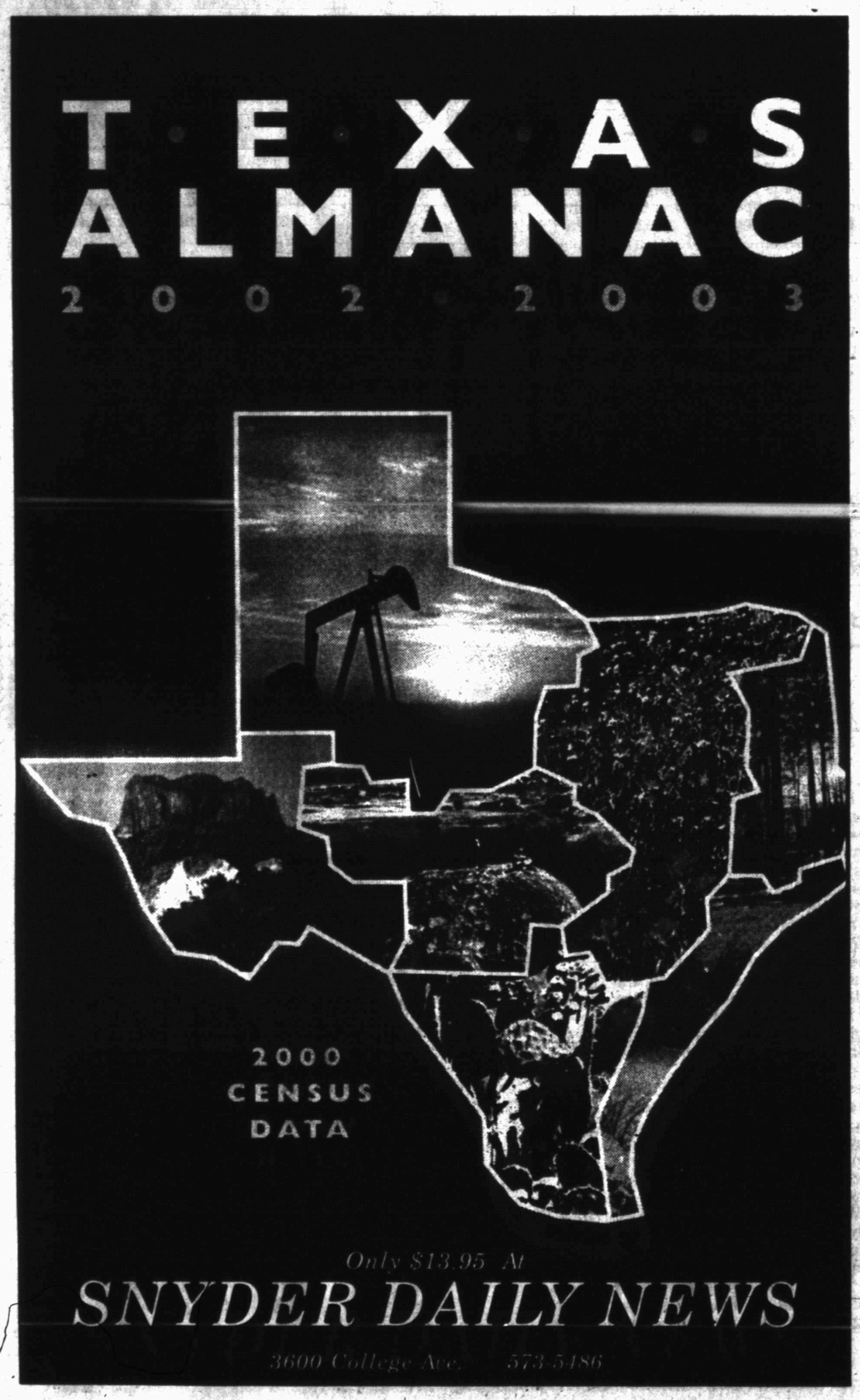
Good: 650-825

Grade: 550-650

Springers: 400-725

Baby calves: 125-200

Doodlers: 200-275



On Nutrition

by Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Do veggies prevent mineral absorption?

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I am a vegetarian, and I've read about compounds in vegetables that prevent minerals in food from being absorbed. I'm concerned, because my main source of calcium comes from vegetables and grains. — **G.R., Oakland, Calif.**

Dear G.R.: Some vegetables contain compounds that bind, or chelate (KEY-late), minerals such as calcium, iron and zinc, preventing their absorption. The two main compounds are phytates, found in oatmeal and other whole-grain cereals, and oxalates, which are present in rhubarb and spinach, among other foods. Spinach, for example, is high in iron and calcium, but it also has a high concentration of oxalates. Although spinach is a healthful food that contains a number of valuable phytonutrients, its oxalate content prevents it from being a good dietary source for calcium (and magnesium). Usually about 10 percent to 25 percent of calcium in foods can be absorbed, but a study in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition (April 1988) found that only about 5 percent of the calcium in spinach is absorbed. A second study two years later in the same journal (April 1990) reported that the calcium absorption in a low-oxalate vegetable, such as kale, was comparable to that found with dairy products.

Zinc deficiency was first researched in men on a high-phytate cereal grain diet. The phytates in whole grains are not a problem, it turns out, if present in yeast-leavened bread. This is because yeast contains an enzyme that breaks the bond between the phytate and the mineral. This enzyme isn't effective in foods such as pita bread, where the short fermentation and baking time isn't long enough to break the metal-phytate bond. Zinc deficiency tends to be prevalent in parts of the Middle East where pita bread accounts for about 85-percent of the calories.

Because vegetables and grains are the core of your diet, make sure you include a wide variety of different food sources. Fruit and vegetable sources of calcium without significant quantities of chelators include broccoli, turnip greens, collards, kale, mustard, figs and almonds.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I just turned 80, and my husband and I try to watch what we eat. After dinner, while we read or watch television, we enjoy a dish of ice cream. Is there anything wrong with this? We put it in a sauce dish. - H.L., Pleasanton, Calif.

Dear H.L.: It is tough to provide specific dietary advice when I don't know much about the rest of your diet or about your health history. I would say that, assuming good health and a good lifestyle, there is absolutely nothing wrong with eating ice cream. The key is the sum of what we eat throughout the day. With few exceptions, it doesn't pay to get all worked up about single foods. You are in the eighth decade of life, so you must be doing something right. I encourage you to enjoy each other and enjoy your lives.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: You responded recently to a reader who questioned whether it is OK to take calcium with vitamin C. I wonder if your writer didn't confuse his or her information. As you said, there isn't a problem with calcium and vitamin C (note that calcium is now added to many citrus drinks), but there is a problem with the body's ability to absorb iron and calcium simultaneously. I discovered this fact by accident after I was diagnosed as anemic and began taking a prescribed iron supplement. I chose to take the iron pill with a glass of calcium-fortified orange juice. The vitamin C should have been a catalyst for iron absorption, but the added calcium blocked it, and my body did not absorb the iron. My anemia continued, and I was so fatigued that I suspected I might have mononucleosis. By changing to regular orange juice (NOT the calcium-fortified blend), my anemia symptoms and fatigue disappeared. I think you should alert your readers to this. Many may not be aware that adding a seemingly benign supplement like calcium to orange juice can wreak havoc on one's health in so short a time. — **H.H., Baltimore, Md.**

Dear H.H.: I had considered that the questioner might have meant calcium and iron, but it was unclear whether this was the case. Good job on your detective work. Thanks for bringing this information to our attention.

Send questions to: "On Nutrition," Ed Blonz, c/o Newspaper Enterprise Association, 200 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016. For e-mail, address inquiries to: [illegible] ume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

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

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Nevada county denies permit for clay mine

RENO, Nev. (AP) — County commissioners have denied the world's largest producer of cat litter permission to mine and process clay on the outskirts of town, a move applauded by environmentalists and an American Indian tribe.

The Washoe County Board of Commissioners voted 3-2 late Tuesday to reject plans by the Oil-Dri Corp. to build a processing plant beside a clay mine near the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony. Clay is a chief ingredient in cat litter.

Critics said the project would pollute the air and water, clog residential streets in the area with truck traffic and ruin the area's rustic qualities.

Company officials had said the project would produce about 100 jobs and generate $12 million annually for the local economy. Chicago-based Oil-Dri sells cat litter under a variety of brand names, including Cat's Pride.

More than 200 opponents of the project beat drums outside the county building and waved signs that read, "Where will the deer and the antelope play?" and "Oil-Dri: Mine Your Own Business."

Board members passed around a plastic dish of cat litter for their personal examination before casting their votes.

"I think it does have significant environmental impact on our community," Commission Chairman Pete Sferrazza said in voting with the majority.

Lawyers for both sides made it clear the commission vote wouldn't be the end of the controversy.

Oil-Dri officials said that while the county has authority to reject the processing plant, it has already gotten approval by the federal Bureau of Land Management to mine on the adjacent land.

"One way or another, we're going to mine, whether we have to go to district court or ship the clay out or whatever," Oil-Dri Vice President Bob Vetere said.

In addition to health and safety concerns, the controversy includes widely divergent interpretations of the General Mining Law of 1872, which was aimed at promoting development of valuable minerals.

Environmentalists and tribal leaders said they are ready for a court battle to argue that the clay used to make cat litter hardly qualifies as the sort of valuable mineral the law had in mind.

"We think the 1872 mining act is being taken to an absurd level. We don't think Congress in 1872 was thinking of clumping kitty litter in under this law," said Pat Smith, a lawyer for the Indian Colony.

Oil-Dri officials said they may submit a new plan to the Bureau of Land Management calling for the processing plant to be built on federal land, or consider shipping the material to an existing processing plant — a move they said would reduce the number of jobs and increase truck traffic in the Reno area.

On the Net:
Oil-Dri: http://www.oildri.com/
Reno-Sparks Indian Colony: http://www.rsic.org/

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By Bernice B

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Secret Service lost security document for vice president

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Secret Service acknowledged that an agent shopping for souvenirs left behind a document outlining security plans for Vice President Dick Cheney's appearance at the Winter Olympics.

The agency said Tuesday the papers were meant for law enforcement's eyes only, but contended the temporary loss did not constitute a major security breach.

"Even if this thing were released, it would not compromise our overall security plan," said Agent Brian Marr, a Secret Service spokesman.

Marr said an agent left the papers, which described the assignments of 17 Secret Service personnel, at a store while making a purchase near the Rice-Eccles Stadium in Salt Lake City, where the Olympics closing ceremony was held Sunday night.

The damage was limited by the fact that the 17 were a fraction of the hundreds of agents helping protect the site, Marr said

The store owner returned it to the Secret Service office in Salt Lake City, Marr said.

"We were relieved to have it returned by the shop owner," said Mark Camillo, Secret Service agent in charge of his agency's operations at the games. "Those are our eyes and ears out there."

Marr would not identify the agent or agents involved and could not say what discipline might be imposed. Another Secret Service official said two agents were at the shop when the document was left behind, a few hours before the closing ceremony.

"The Secret Service takes this safeguarding of information extremely seriously, and we are going to make sure steps are taken to reinforce this issue with the individuals" who misplaced them, he said. "This was just a lapse, and we're going to reiterate this to all our people that this type of stuff cannot be tolerated," Marr said.

"Is there an internal look at this? Yes," Camillo said.

Oklahoma man exonerated by DNA tests likes freedom

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — A man who spent 14 years in jail for a rape he did not commit emerged from a corrections center as the eighth Oklahoman exonerated by DNA evidence.

A Tulsa County district judge signed an order Tuesday requiring Joseph Harp Correctional Center in Lexington to release Arvin McGee Jr., who was convicted of the 1987 rape of a Tulsa woman.

McGee, 39, who was serving a 298-year sentence, told reporters outside the prison that he had no bitter feelings toward the rape victim who identified him as her assailant. But he said he was angry at the criminal justice system for taking away more than one-third of his life.

"The system let me down, let my people down, let my son down and let my pops down," said McGee, who at times choked back tears.

Lawyers with the Oklahoma Indigent Defense System had a lab test a semen slide from the case. The test showed the semen did not match McGee's DNA.

Further DNA testing of evidence in the rape kit used at trial backed up the lab's finding, prompting prosecutors to agree to his release.

DNA testing, which was not available when McGee was tried, has now exonerated 102 inmates nationwide.

McGee promised to serve as "a voice" for other innocent prisoners.

"A lot of guys in this block are going through the same thing I've been through," he told reporters outside the prison. "It's my job to be an advocate for them."

The 20-year-old woman McGee was convicted of raping said a man grabbed her from behind at the coin-operated laundry where she worked, locked her in a restroom and tied her up.

The man carried her out of the building over his shoulder, drove her to a secluded place and sexually assaulted her, the victim told police.

At photo lineups two months after the attack, the victim initially picked another man as her attacker. Two months later, she took "10 to 15 minutes" to pick out McGee as the assailant, Gardner said.

McGee's 1988 conviction was thrown out, and a second trial ended in a hung jury. He was convicted at his third trial.

McGee's case was not connected to testimony by former Oklahoma City police chemist Joyce Gilchrist, whose forensic work is the subject of state and federal investigations. She has been accused by the FBI of doing shoddy work and testifying beyond her expertise. Authorities have been reviewing hundreds of cases on which she worked.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Pacemaker palpitations

DEAR DR. GOTT: I had a pacemaker inserted because of palpitations that occurred every two or three weeks. Now, despite the pacemaker, I have them every day. I'm also on digoxin. What's happening?

DEAR READER: Most pacemakers — small, battery-powered generators implanted under the skin of the chest wall — are used to maintain the heartbeat if a person's own, natural pacemaker fails. That is, implantable pacemakers speed up the pulse in patients who have heart block leading to dizziness or fainting.

Palpitations (extra heartbeats) are unrelated to these devices. Therefore, I'm not sure why you have a pacemaker at all. On the basis of what little information you supply, I believe you need more medicine to suppress the additional heartbeats that cause symptoms. There are many drugs for this purpose; digoxin is one.

Suppressive therapy has one distinct disadvantage: It may slow the pulse too much. However, in your case this should not be a problem because your implantable pacemaker will automatically maintain your pulse at a pre-set level, irrespective of the effects of medication.

I suggest that you describe your symptoms to your doctor and work with him (or her) to find a suitable medicine that will reduce or eliminate the palpitations, which, in some instances, could be dangerous. If your physician is unable to help you, ask for a referral to a cardiologist.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a 53-year-old married man who, for the past five years, has worn ladies panties. I am terrified of being found out if, for example, I am rushed to the hospital in an emergency. Then everyone will see the shame on my body. Am I going through a mid-life crisis or turning weird? I'm ashamed and disgusted with myself.

DEAR READER: To a large degree, clothing styles are a cultural phenomenon. For example, 18th-century men wore wigs, lace, silk, brocade britches, and heaven knows what for undergarments; this style would certainly be considered effeminate by 21st-century standards. Yet these men were far from womanly; they'd run you through with their rapiers at the slightest provocation.

Also, many modern men — along with wearing earrings and necklaces — prefer bikini briefs or silk underwear, all of which would have been considered "unmanly" 100 years ago.

Therefore, the fact that you prefer ladies' panties does not, of and by itself, mean that you are weird, disgusting or in crisis. You may simply be expressing a personal, anti-cultural bias. Go easy on yourself; your clothing preferences harm no one.

Nonetheless, your urge to cross-dress, no matter how trivial, could reflect an unresolved gender-identity conflict. You really should examine your attitude, a far more potent predictor of pathology. A compulsion about women's underwear, for instance, when coupled with active sexual fantasies and an inability to relate to the ladies could indicate that your taste in undergarments has meaning over and above mere clothing styles. In other words, why you wear women's panties (and how you behave with them on) are more important considerations than the fact that you wear them at all.

Because you seem guilty and uncomfortable about the situation, I suggest that you seek counseling. In this way, you'll be able to work through the ambiguity and bad feelings you have — and, at the very least, you will learn to be more accepting of yourself and your quirks.

A NOTE TO READERS: For updated Health Reports on "Erectile Dysfunction" and "Coronary Artery Disease," send $2 for each report to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Be sure to mention the title(s) of the Health Report(s). Also, be on the lookout for more updated Health Reports.

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Deputy who shot 2 soldiers feared his life was in danger

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. (AP) — A sheriff's deputy said he believed his life was in danger when he mistakenly killed one soldier and wounded another during their Green Beret training exercise.

Deputy Randall Butler said the soldiers were in civilian clothing, and he had no way of knowing they were taking part in a role-playing exercise when he shot them.

"I feared that they were trying to kill me," Butler told The Charlotte Observer in today's editions. "I have known in the past that soldiers would be training in our wooded areas. Never have I known them to come out in public like this."

In Saturday's accident, 1st Lt. Tallas Tomeny was killed and Sgt. Stephen Phelps was wounded. Phelps was in fair condition Tuesday, Army officials said.

Even as ambulances and more police officers arrived at the scene, Butler said, the soldier he wounded did not mention the exercise.

"He never said a word," Butler said. "He didn't even budge."

Army officials said Tuesday they have adopted new procedures in Green Beret training in the wake of the deadly mix-up.

Among the changes, soldiers will no longer wear civilian clothes during role-playing exercises outside Fort Bragg, and no role-playing will involve civilian law enforcement agencies, said Col. Charles King, commander of the 1st Special Warfare Training Group, Airborne.

Military officials said the shooting resulted from a breakdown in communications. Butler, who was unaware of the off-base exercise, stopped a pickup carrying two soldiers who were wearing jeans and flannel shirts and carrying a duffel bag containing a disassembled rifle.

The soldiers apparently thought the deputy was part of their role-playing exercise and tried to disarm him, officials said.

Butler will not be charged.

In addition to the changes in procedures, Army officials have met in person with sheriff's departments in each county where the exercises occur, King said.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Thursday, Feb. 28, 2002

In the year ahead, you won't wait for Lady Luck to make things happen. To your credit, you will do whatever it takes to get the ball rolling and, in the process, pick up many gems along the way.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Sometimes it's whom we know that gets us where we want to go, but, it'll be strictly what you know that will be the most significant factor in achieving success. Know [illegible] you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Although you like a buddy hanging around most of the time, this might irk you should you find this person to be more of a hindrance than a supporter. Go it alone.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Start off small, instead biting off more than you can chew. It might not be so easy to drop some of the work you started. You could get overwhelmed.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Should you do something foolish money-wise, it's apt to be a lulu, so your best policy is to leave financial matters to another day, when you may have better luck.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Get your mind off yourself, and try to be as cooperative with others as possible. Any evidence of self-centeredness will be met with disdain.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Tasks or responsibilities will not get done on their own power. You're going to have to do them one way or another. The longer you wait, however, the more they'll compound themselves.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Investigate all aspects of an endeavor before you plunk done any of your hard cash on them. It's good to be enthusiastic about things, but realism must precede this.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — It's very unlike you, yet you might absent-mindedly do something that smacks of favoritism, and end up hurting one who is important to you. Watch your actions.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Hold your trump card as long as possible. There is a good chance that your opposition will try to wait you out in hopes of you making a silly move, and end up as the joker.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — An associate might pledge a fair share in a collective investment, but when it comes time to deliver she or he may be nowhere to be found. Get the funds up front.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — There's a possibility that you could be your own worst enemy if you fail to be cooperative when needed. Holding out for a bet- [illegible] zero.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Indifference or procrastination may cause you to fail to recognize opportunities that could be beneficial to your general welfare. Be alert and ready to act.

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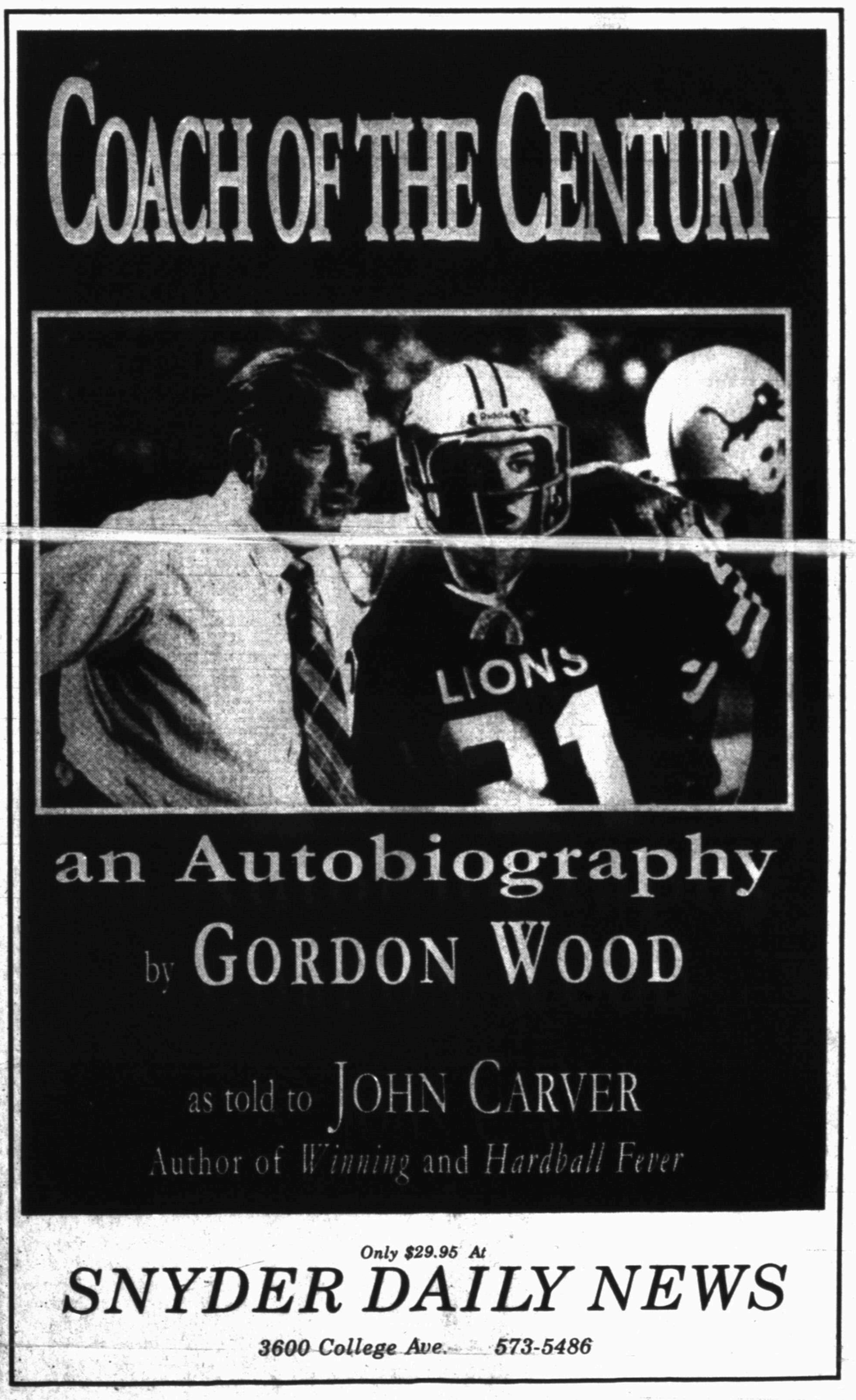

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Greenspan: Recession may be ending

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan told Congress today that he sees increasing signs the country's first recession in a decade is coming to an end. He cautioned the rebound this year is likely to be a subdued one.

Greenspan cited a variety of signs of strength in recent months, noting particularly strong gains in consumer spending. He said these hopeful signals led Fed policy-makers to call a cease-fire to their aggressive campaign of cutting short-term interest rates at their January meeting.

"In the past several months, increasing signs have emerged that some of the forces that have been restraining the economy over the past year are starting to diminish and that activity is beginning to firm," Greenspan told the House Financial Services Committee.

Delivering the Fed's semiannual economic forecast to Congress, Greenspan said the central bank expects the economy this year will grow by between 2.5 percent to 3 percent, when measured from the fourth quarter of last year. That would represent about half the pace of the normal rebound from a recession.

Greenspan's cautiously optimistic tone was in line with Wall Street expectations and the view of most analysts that while the Fed is probably finished cutting interest rates, it will not feel any need to raise rates, at least before the latter part of the year.

That will mean the federal funds rate, which the Fed pushed down to a 40-year low of 1.75 percent in a series of 11 aggressive rate cuts last year, will stay unchanged for a significant period of this year. Thus, short-term borrowing costs for millions of Americans will also be unchanged.

U.S. security experts will inspect tunnel found under Rome's American Embassy

ROME (AP) — U.S. security experts descended into a tunnel under a street flanking the American Embassy on Tuesday to inspect a stretch of underground Rome marked on a map found during a probe of suspected terrorists.

Flashlights in hand and wearing white baggy protective jumpsuits, the experts — two from the State Department and a third from the U.S. Embassy — climbed down a manhole on Via Boncompagni, just off the fashionable Via Veneto.

With police deployed in the street, Italian paramilitary Carabinieri police joined the American inspectors in the tunnel, which carries electricity and telephone lines to the embassy compound and other nearby buildings.

In raids this month on the outskirts in Rome, Italian police picked up eight Moroccans, most of them illegal immigrants, and seized nearly nine pounds of a chemical compound containing cyanide. Also found were a tourist map of Rome with the embassy circled and a map of utility lines running through tunnels under streets near the embassy, U.S. officials said.

Also circled on the utility-line maps were the locations of pipes carrying water to the embassy, although these pipes lie several yards from the tunnel inspected Tuesday.

Of particular interest was nearly 2-foot-high breach someone had made in the top of a thick concrete wall that divides the tunnel from the next stretch of tunnel. Italian news reports have said the hole is suspicious because it was chiseled out after the last regular inspection by city workers. But embassy officials have said it is possible the hole simply wasn't noticed previously.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said Tuesday that the experts "found nothing that would lead them to believe the hole was connected to terrorism."

Any link to terrorism was "very speculative," Boucher said. While the inspection found "nothing significant," he added that "we are at the early stage of looking at this and we should not speculate."

Earlier, an embassy statement said: "It would be premature at this time to draw any conclusions about this matter, which is still under investigation."

Carabinieri Col. Gianfranco Cavallo said Italian police would continue to study the tunnel for the next few days. He said it was too soon to say when the hole was made.

U.S. officials have also described the Italian investigation as so far coming up with only "circumstantial evidence" that a plot was being hatched to attack the embassy. Italian news reports have said the purported plotters might have been trying to poison the Americans' water supply.

Psychiatrist says Yates warned not to have any more children

HOUSTON (AP) — A psychiatrist who treated Andrea Yates years before she was charged with drowning her children said she warned her patient against having any more babies, which she said might cause her to become psychotic.

Dr. Eileen Starbranch, a defense witness, told jurors in Yates' capital murder trial Tuesday that she treated Yates for about five months following two suicide attempts in 1999.

Starbranch said she remembered Yates being "warm and loving" with her four sons. But she warned Russell and Andrea Yates against having more children because doing so would likely result in future psychosis. The couple later had a daughter.

Yates, 37, is on trial on two murder charges for the drowning deaths of three of the five children. She has pleaded innocent by reason of insanity.

To prove insanity, defense lawyers must show the Houston woman suffered from a severe mental disease and didn't know the difference between right and wrong at the time of the drownings.

Yates is charged in the deaths of 7-year-old Noah, 5-year-old John and 6-month-old Mary. Charges eventually could be filed in the deaths of Paul, 3, and Luke, 2.

Starbranch was to retake the stand today. Later, Russell Yates was expected to take the stand on his wife's behalf, as were her brother and mother.

On Tuesday, Starbranch said the extent of Andrea Yates' mental illness was worrisome.

"If left to her own devices she wouldn't have physically survived because she wasn't taking care of herself," Starbranch said.

"She would rank up there with the five sickest patients I've ever seen," added the psychiatrist, who has been in practice since 1975 and seen thousands of patients.

A little more than a year after Starbranch last saw Andrea Yates on Jan. 12, 2000, the psychiatrist said she received a call from Russell Yates saying his wife was sick again after giving birth to a fifth child.

Starbranch said she made a note that Andrea Yates needed to be admitted as soon as possible, but Yates never arrived.

The psychiatrist said she later [illegible] admitted to a treatment center closer to the family's home. Starbranch told jurors she never was contacted by doctors at the facility where Andrea Yates was.

Obituaries

Will Allen

1936-2002

LAMESA — Will Allen, the brother of Elvin Allen of Snyder, died Monday, Feb. 25.

Funeral service for Mr. Allen, 65, is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in the First Church of the Nazarene with the Rev. Terry Love officiating. Burial will follow in Lamesa Memorial Park under the direction of Branon Funeral Home.

Born April 26, 1936 in Fort Sumner, N.M., he married Minnie Redman on March 18, 1955 in Post.

A resident of Welch, Mr. Allen was a truck driver for TST Paraffin and a member of the Nazarene Church.

A granddaughter preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife, Minnie Allen of Welch; three sons, Rex Allen of Cresson, Douglas Allen of Midland and Kenneth Allen of Lamesa; two daughters, Marilyn Lopez of Wolfforth and Gloria Mansell of Welch; six sisters, Norma Gray of Gainesville, Fay Carrol of Meadow, Frances Tivis of Portales, N.M., Wilma Yarborough of Post, Shirley Allen of Killeen and Beverly Warshaw of Copperas Cove; three other brothers, Melvin Allen of Clairemont, Earl Allen of El Centro, Calif., and Charles Allen of Bethany, Okla.; 13 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Wanda Wallace

1914-2002

COLEMAN — Wanda Wallace, the aunt of Harold Davis of Snyder, died Tuesday, Feb. 26, in a Coleman nursing home.

Funeral service for Mrs. Wallace, 87, is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in the Henderson Funeral Home Chapel with Sam Wilson officiating. Burial will follow in the Santa Anna Cemetery.

Born Nov. 10, 1914 in Tolar, she was reared in Tolar and married Marshall Austin Wallace on July 27, 1935 in Santa Anna. He died in 2001.

A resident of Coleman County since 1935, Mrs. Wallace was a member of the Hillcrest Church of Christ and had worked with her husband in custom harvesting.

Survivors also include four nieces, Delores Tankersley of Eastland, Grovena Fry of Tolar and Dorthy Ann Davis and Bille Burke Davis, both of Houston.

Corine Eubank

1928-2002

SANTA ANNA — Corine Benge Eubank, the mother of Jana Kay Taylor of Snyder, died Tuesday, Feb. 26, in Shannon Medical Center in San Angelo.

Funeral service for Mrs. Eubank, 73, is set for 10:30 a.m. Thursday in the Elm Street Church of Christ with Paul Shero officiating. Interment will follow in the Santa Anna Cemetery under the direction of Henderson Funeral Home.

Born Aug. 3, 1928 in Millersview, she was a lifelong resident of Santa Anna where she graduated from high school in 1945. A retired florist, Mrs. Eubank was a member of the Church of Christ.

Survivors include another daughter, Norma Jo Jones of Santa Anna; a son, James Richard Eubank of Christoval; a sister, Lanita Bozeman of Houston; two brothers, Charles Benge of Lubbock and Alton "Buddy" Benge of Brownwood; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Officers enjoy quiet Tuesday

Theft

Donna Bell, 2105 41st Street, reported the theft of property from her front yard Tuesday afternoon.

Close patrols

Officers began a close patrol of Eddins-Walcher Tuesday afternoon after receiving a report of traffic passing through the gas islands.

A woman requested a close patrol of her residence on Ave. L early today because her dogs were barking. Officers responded and initiated the patrol for the remainder of the night.

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Free income tax help

Free income tax aid for low to middle income citizens of any age is available each Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon, and 1-3 p.m. at the senior center located, 2603 Ave. M.

FBC services televised

First Baptist Church services are televised on channel 2 at 3 p.m. each Thursday.

Kiwanis pancake day

Kiwanis pancake day will be from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday at West Elementary cafeteria. A color TV will be given as a door prize.

Student car wash

The Student Government Association at Western Texas College will hold a car wash from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at the Wal-Mart parking lot for donations. The funds will be used to defray costs to the students' state and regional conventions.

Benefit dance

There will be a benefit dance for Joe Villa Saturday from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m. at the American Legion. Villa is in a Houston hospital. Mi Gusto will play and admission is $8 per person or $15 per couple.

Revival services

Revival services at First Assembly of Godwith Rev. Jerry Williamson will be Sunday through next Thursday. Sunday services are at 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. Weekday services are at 7 p.m. at the church located at 1809 College Ave.

Medicare choices seminar

A free Medicare choices seminar will be held from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Tuesday in the Senior Citizens Center.

West Elementary science fair

West Elementary's Sixth Grade Science Fair projects will be displayed from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday and from 8:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Wednesday at the Towle Park Barn. The public is invited and there is no admission charge.

Community choir class

A community choir class will begin Monday, March 18, in Western Texas College's Fine Arts Theatre. The class will meet Mondays from 7-9 p.m. for seven weeks, followed by a performance on April 26. The class is free and registration will be on the first day of class. Call 573-8511 for more information.

SHS class of 1992 reunion

The 1992 class of Snyder High School is needing addresses for classmates. Call Melanie at 573-4022, Julie at 573-1634 or Amy at 573-4793. The reunion will be held at the end of July.

American Legion spring convention

The American Legion's spring convention will be March 16-17. Registration will begin at 10 a.m. on March 16. For more information call 574-6805.

Windbreak trees

The Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District has windbreak trees available for sale. Extra hardwood trees are $1 each and Evergreens are $2.25. Call 573-6317 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Adult basic education classes

Adult basic education classes taught by certified teachers and Spanish-speaking aides are held at WTC from 8 a.m. until noon Tuesday through Thursday, and from 6-9 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. Classes include G.E.D., E.S.L., and refresher courses. For more information call 573-8511, ext. 322.

WTC pool hours

Lap swim: M-F, 6:30-8 a.m. and noon to 1 p.m.; open swim, M-TH 7-9 p.m. Memberships for the semester: $50. The swimming pool is also available for rental, contact Lisa Christensen, ext. 290.

Seniors swimnastics

Swimnastics for senior citizens on Tuesday and Thursdays is held from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Western Texas College pool.

ESL, GED classes

Classes for E.S.L., GED and computers are held at 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Region 14 classroom at 4200 College Ave. For more information, call 574-6012.

Discovery School

Discovery School will be providing summer childcare from 7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m. for children ages birth to 10 years. For more information call 573-4770.

Cancer treatment transportation

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

Dozens more charges filed against crematory operator

NOBLE, Ga. (AP) — The operator of a crematory where hundreds of corpses have been found now faces more than 100 criminal counts for failing to cremate the bodies and deliver their ashes to relatives.

Authorities filed 102 theft-by-deception charges Tuesday against Ray Brent Marsh, the operator of the Tri-State Crematory, bringing the number of charges against him to 118.

The latest charges are tied to 51 of the corpses that have been found and identified. For each body, one count was filed for taking money from the families and another for failing to give the ashes to the families, officials said.

The charges were filed on the same day that the Federal Emergency Management Agency rejected Georgia's request to declare the recovery effort a disaster, which would have resulted in significant federal funding.

Authorities criticized the agency and said they would encourage Gov. Roy Barnes to appeal to President Bush.

"There's been no response from the president, and people were looking forward to that," said Bebe Heiskell, the lone commissioner of Walker County

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