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WT-Int. Crude - $35.73
WTIC Posted - $32.50
Natural Gas - $5.29

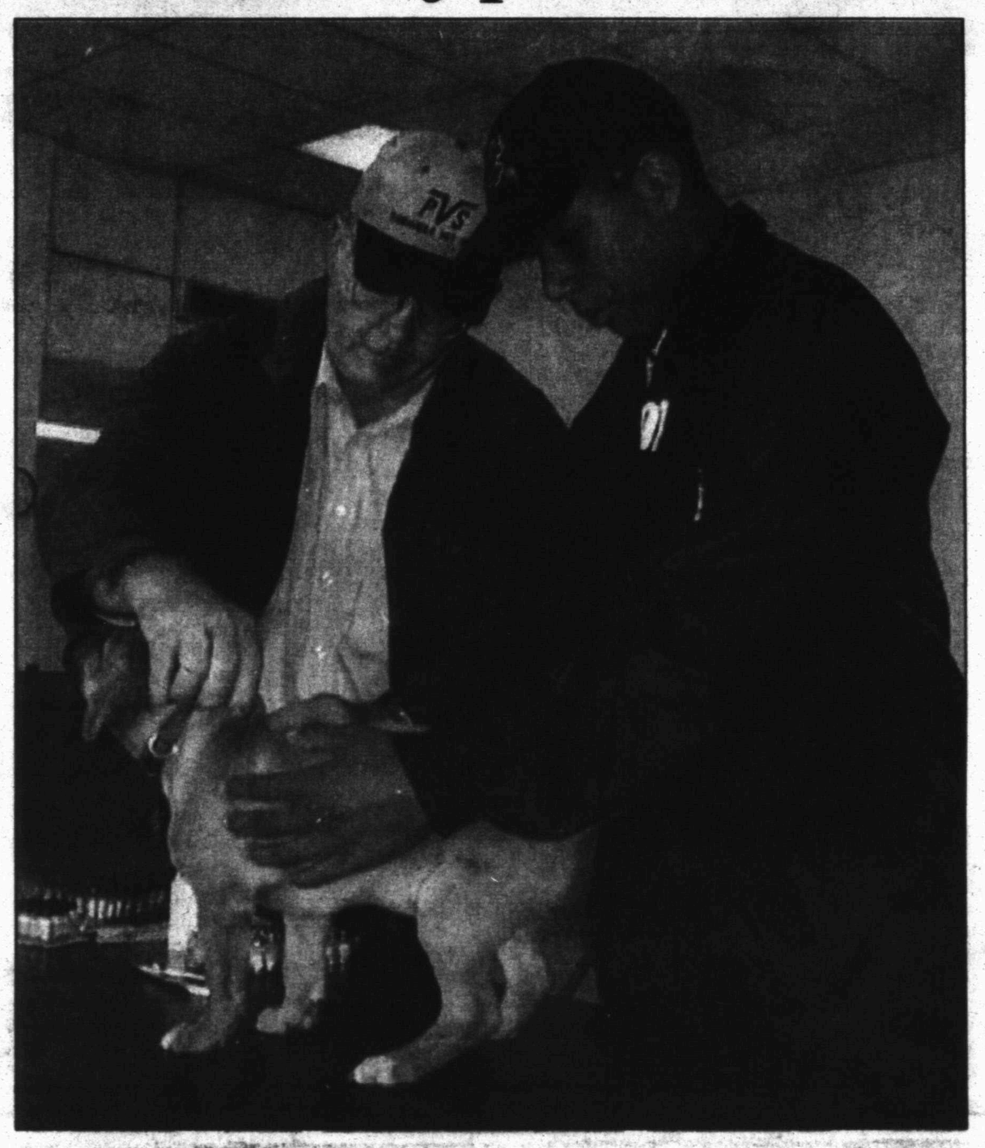
# THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

MONDAY

March 29, 2004
Vol. 55 No. 286
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Roberta Taylor

## An ounce of prevention...



RABIES VACCINATION CLINIC — Dr. Charles Church administered the rabies injection to Will Clay's puppy "Cujo" at the city of Snyder and the West Texas Animal Clinic rabies vaccination clinic Saturday. Waiting from left were the Grice brothers, Shelby and "Buddy" Dayton and "Tiger" and Richard and "Tibo." Some 163 animals were vaccinated. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

*One-act play is next...*

# SHS tops pack in UIL contests held Saturday

Snyder High School earned 242 points Saturday during the District 3-3A UIL Literary Academic Events held at the school.

Seminole followed with 228 points. The one-act play contest Saturday in Sweetwater will decide the district rankings.

All first place teams and students who earned a first through third place will advance to the regional contest April 23-24 at Odessa College.

Snyder students' winning included five first place teams and two second place teams. SHS students also earned five first place awards, as well as other awards.

The journalism team ranked first overall.

The winners are as follows:

In accounting, Matthew Kerr, Josh Kemp, Josh Payne and Seth Cooper were the first place team. Individually, Kemp ranked first; Cooper, second; Kerr, third; and Payne, fourth.

Kim Cooper finished fifth in calculator applications.

Students bringing home computer applications awards are Katie Haggard, first; Whitney Waldon, second; and Megan Fletcher, third.

The computer science team finished in first place. Students with individual awards include Kim Cooper, first; Matthew Morris, second; Austin Hatfield, third; and Bryan Clifton, fifth.

In current events, Matthew Kerr, Seth Cooper and Ashley Pavlovsky earned first place. Kerr also placed second individually.

The literary criticism team finished in second place. Members are Amanda Whitson, Adrienne Garcia, Aeryal Peoples and Emily Jones. Whitson placed third and Garcia fifth in individual competition.

The mathematics team of Josh Kemp, Josh Payne and Erin Burleson finished in second place. Kemp placed first in individual competition and Payne earned sixth place.

In number sense, Josh Kemp finished in first place.

Two SHS students placed in ready writing. Erin Burleson garnered first place and Cami Trout finished sixth.

Nathaniel Clarady won fifth place in science.

The social studies team finished in first place.

In individual contests, Emily Jones ranked second; Erin Hackfeld, third; Ashley Pavlovsky, fifth and Aeryal Peoples, sixth.

In informative speaking, Fran Leighton placed fourth; and Laura Arellano placed sixth.

Amanda Blythe garnered second place in Lincoln Douglas Debate.

SHS' spelling and vocabulary team consisting of Marisa Munoz, Mechelle Renfro, Hollie Berryhill and John Whitworth placed first. Individually, Munoz earned third place.

Amanda Blythe won fourth place and Paula Fritz garnered sixth place in persuasive speaking.

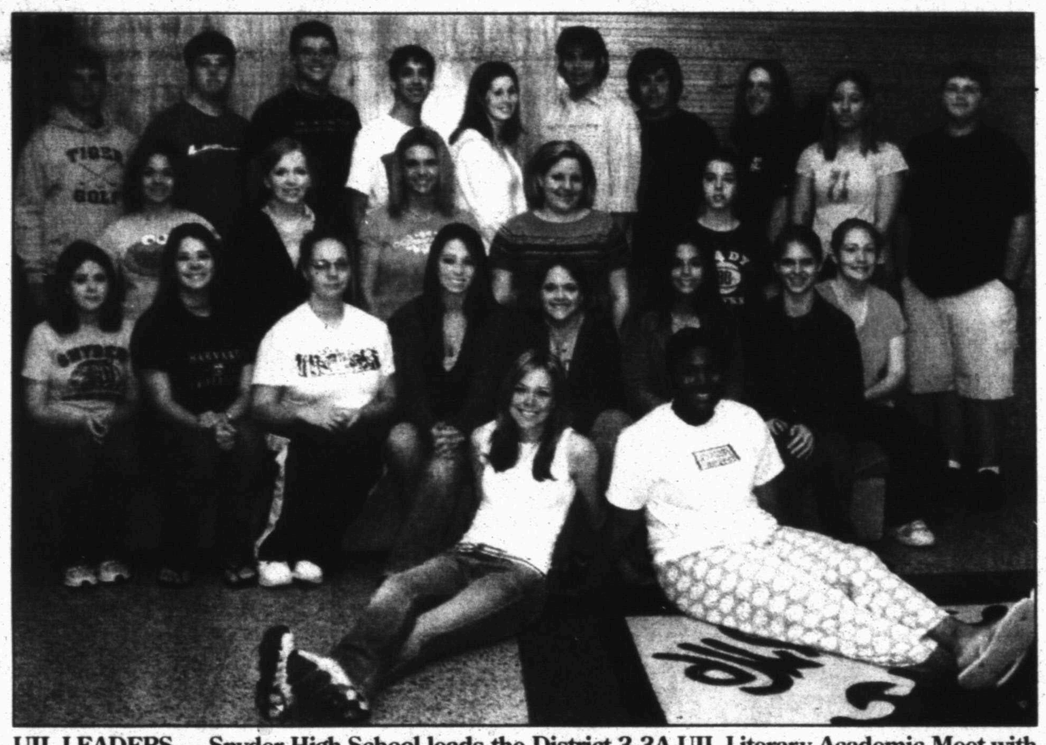
In prose interpretation, Blake Robertson took second place honors and Laura Arellano came in fifth.

In news writing, Gretchen Hollis won second place and Jeff Scott came in third.

SHS students also earned feature writing awards, including Jeff Scott, second; Anna Henson, third; and Molly Haire, fourth.

In editorial writing, Gretchen Hollis placed third.

Gretchen Hollis finished in second place in headline writing. Jeff Scott placed fourth; and Anna Henson, sixth in the same event.



UIL LEADERS — Snyder High School leads the District 3-3A UIL Literary Academic Meet with 242 points. Saturday's one-act contest in Sweetwater will decide the winning school. SHS students who placed are back row from left, John Whitworth, Matthew Morris, Bryan Clifton, Matthew Kerr, Amanda Whitson, Josh Kemp, Josh Payne, Jeff Scott, Emily Jones and Seth Cooper. Third row from left are Hollie Berryhill, Molly Haire, Gretchen Hollis, Megan Fletcher, Ashley Pavlovsky and Amanda Blythe. Third row from left are Mechelle Renfro, Marisa Munoz, Kim Cooper, Whitney Waldon, Katie Haggard, Erin Hackfeld and Blake Robertson. Seated in front are Erin Burleson and Aeryal Peoples. Not pictured are Austin Hatfield, Nathaniel Clarady, Laura Arellano, Adrienne Garcia, Cami Trout, Anna Henson and Fran Leighton. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

# Judge rules against mistrial

NEW YORK (AP) — A judge declined to call a mistrial today in the trial of two former Tyco executives, rejecting a defense motion contending that one juror apparently holding out for acquittal had been pressured by intense media coverage.

State Supreme Court Justice Michael Obus said he spoke privately with the juror, who was identified by name on the cover of a tabloid newspaper over the weekend and depicted making an "OK" hand signal to the defense.

He said she told him "that nothing that has happened will from her point of view prevent her from deliberating in good conscience with the other jurors."

"It seems to me that it would be inappropriate to declare a mistrial when all 12 jurors, who have devoted six months of their lives to this trial, are prepared to continue," said Obus.

When the jurors returned to the courtroom, he told them to let him know "if at any time any of you feel that the deliberations cannot continue properly for whatever reason."

Lawyers for ex-Tyco International CEO L. Dennis Kozlowski and former finance chief Mark Swartz had said the media were putting unfair pressure on the juror. The lawyers suggested the lone juror, No. 4, was holding out for an acquittal.

Kozlowski and Swartz are accused in 32 counts of looting $600 million from the conglomerate. The trial has come to symbolize the corporate excesses of the late 1990s.

Last week, jurors indicated in a note that the atmosphere in the jury room had turned "poisonous" to the point of name-calling. While the prospect of a mistrial loomed Friday, jurors said they wanted to return today to continue deliberating.

They did just that, even sending a note this afternoon asking the judge to clarify the concept of "acting in concert," an element of one of the grand-larceny charges against Swartz.

In requesting the mistrial, defense lawyer Stephen Kaufman showed the judge the front page of Saturday's edition of the New York Post, which bore a sketch of the juror and called her "Ms. Trial" in large type. The paper identified her by name and called her a "paranoid socialite" and "batty blueblood." The Wall Street Journal also identified her by name.

Juror No. 4 made a hand motion on Friday as she passed in front of lawyers on her way to the jury box, bringing her hand near her face. Some in the courtroom interpreted it as an "OK" signal, although lawyers said they did not see it.

"As it was described to us, the alleged gesture looked nothing like what was depicted in the Post," Kaufman told the judge. But he added, "Avoiding the front page would have probably been impossible for any juror who left his or her home on Saturday."

# Armory to be built at terminal

ODESSA (AP) — A large armory at Midland International Airport will soon house what had been separate National Guard units in the Permian Basin.

A $750,000 federally funded maintenance shop will increase the armory's value to $6.25 million.

The Texas Military Facilities Commission has hired a Midland engineering firm to design a building that conforms to airport architecture.

"They're not moving as fast, maybe, as we would like, but I think they're moving about as fast as they can with everything that's going on in the National Guard," State Rep. Buddy West, R-Odessa, said today. "I look forward to the day it's completed and serving the people."

The 37,595 square foot building will the new home of Odessa's 93 man Battery B, Third Battalion, 133rd Field Artillery, and Midland's 105 man Company C-Minus, Second Battalion, 142nd Infantry.

## Chamber meet today

The Snyder Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a town-hall meeting at 7 this evening, again on the subject of crime and clean-up.

"Everyone is invited to the meeting in the county courtroom on the third floor of the courthouse," said Vickie Shroyer, executive director of the Snyder chamber.

Shroyer said Sheriff Darren Jackson will address the gathering and she encouraged anyone with questions for the sheriff to attend.

"At our last meeting we focused on matters inside the city limits, tonight we'll focus on matters outside the city limits," Shroyer said.

## ASK US

**Q—Has our local jail had its random inspection lately by the Texas Commission on Jail Standaards?**

**A—Yes, it passed with no deficiencies noted.**

## MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

### Valerie Drum...

...has lived in Snyder 33 years and is in her seventh year as Senior Center secretary. She enjoys crafts. Her husband Max farms and ranches. They have two daughters, Karomy Purkey lives in Abilene and Kelby is a senior at SHS.

## TODAY'S THOUGHT

**Hope is a gift we give ourselves, and it remains when all else is gone.**

**—Naomi Judd**

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events

# WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

### Central book fair

Central Elementary book fair is underway this week in the library from 7:45 to 8:25 a.m. and 3 to 4:30 p.m. Afternoon hours on Thursday are 3 to 4:30 and the fair will be conducted all day Friday.

### TSA Booster Club meeting

The Technology Student Association booster club will meet at 7 tonight in the shop building at Snyder High School.

### Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 this evening is "Little Sins, Big Consequences," followed by "The Church as the Bride of Christ."

### 8th grade parents meeting

A meeting for parents interested in planning a party for 8th graders is set for 7 tonight at the Cutting Edge Salon.

### WTC swim time

The WTC pool will not have open swim time this evening. The noon to 1 p.m. lap swim time has been moved to 4-5 p.m. Monday through Friday for the remainder of the semester.

### AA meeting

An AA meeting is held at noon every Tuesday and Friday at the Witherspoon house next door to the First Presbyterian Church. The meeting is non-smoking and closed. For more information, call 574-2656, or 207-1325.

### Genealogy Society

The Genealogy Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the library. Millie Sentell will review the 2003 Texas Folklore edition, *The Family Saga: A Collection.*

### Relay for Life meeting

American Cancer Society will hold a directors and Relay for Life meeting at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Desperado classroom at First Baptist Church.

### Book sale

Scurry County Library will have a book sale starting at 10 a.m. Wednesday and continuing until 4 p.m. Saturday.

### Free income tax help

There is free help with income taxes every Wednesday from 9 a.m. until noon and 1-3 p.m. at the senior center at 2603 Ave. M.

### What's up guidelines

*Items for What's Up will be published twice at no charge, the day before and the day of the event. Events or activities requiring additional publicity will be referred to the advertising department where a special non-profit rate is available.*

# Researchers study buckyball effects

HOUSTON (AP) — Researchers are raising concerns about toxicity of carbon molecules nicknamed buckyballs, which have been heralded as a versatile component of nanotechnology.

Dallas researchers who tested the super tiny, soccer ball-shaped form of carbon that helped start a revolution in materials science in nine juvenile largemouth bass found that they cause brain damage in fish.

Although no fish died after being exposed, a breakdown of some fatty tissues occurred in their brains after 48 hours, according to preliminary results. This brain damage in the exposed fish was 17 times higher than in nine unexposed bass. There were no outward behavioral changes in the damaged fish, although such illness is often not readily visible in wildlife, said the researchers.

"I want to emphasize that the benefits of nanotech are great, and we definitely should not put the brakes on positive nanotechnology research," Eva OberdJorster, the study's leader and an environmental toxicologist with Southern Methodist University, told the Houston Chronicle in today's editions.

"But at the same time, we need to be doing toxicology studies," she said. "Just alongside the traditional research, we should also look at some of these side effects. This is the first indication there might be some problem in environmental species."

The study, the first work of its kind with animals, was a topic for the American Chemical Society meeting on Sunday in Anaheim, Calif.

Development of buckyballs won two Rice University researchers the 1996 Nobel Prize in chemistry,

Rice's Center for Biological and Environmental Nanotechnology provided the buckyballs used in the study.

OberdJorster has submitted the work for publication in a research journal, but it has not yet been accepted.

"It's very important that this kind of work be done," said Kristen Kulinowski, executive director of the Rice center. "But any results from a single study have to be viewed after the peer review process, and this work was not peer reviewed."

The Rice institute was created with a $10.5 million federal grant in 2001 to be the nation's center for research on the environmental impact of the tiny, man-made particles that promise far lighter but much stronger building material. Buckyballs earned a Nobel Prize for Rice scientist Rick Smalley in 1996.

The U.S. government has promised $4 billion over the next four years for scientific study, with the annual market for nanotechnology-based goods an estimated $1 trillion.

Work by OberdJorster on the effect of buckyballs on water fleas suggested that buckyballs, based upon a scale established by the Environmental Protection Agency, were "moderately toxic," or slightly less harmful than copper but greater than some industrial solvents.

At Mitsubishi Corp. of Japan, hundreds of tons of the material have been made for industrial purposes, with a dozen or more companies also ramping up production efforts, according to CMP Cientifica, a European nanotechnology research and consulting firm.

# Sen. Hutchison saying little on investigation of 2002 election

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison has become the symbol for Republican ranting against a Texas Democratic prosecutor investigating 2002 election spending in state Republican House races.

But the state's senior senator — herself once the target of an investigation by Travis County Attorney Ronnie Earle — has not joined her GOP congressional colleagues in criticizing Earle's current investigation.

Earle is looking into whether corporate contributions made to the political action committee Texans for a Republican Majority — formed in 2001 by U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay — went to GOP state House candidates' campaigns. Such a move would violate Texas campaign finance laws.

Earle also is examining whether the contributions influenced the election of Tom Craddick as state house speaker.

In 1993, after Hutchison won her Senate seat in a special election, Earle investigated allegations she misused state employees and equipment and destroyed state documents while serving as the Texas treasurer.

Hutchison was acquitted when Earle abruptly dropped the case in 1994. Earle said then that he gave up the case because the trial judge would not rule in advance whether prosecutors could use as evidence documents and other material obtained in a controversial raid on state treasury offices.

"What he did to me was unconscionable. I think the purpose was to get me out of the Senate race so that they (Democrats) could keep the seat," Hutchison said.

When asked whether she thinks Earle's current investigation is similarly politically motivated, Hutchison stammered through a response. "This is just, I should not be in this story. This is not my story," Hutchison said.

Through a spokesman, Hutchison said later that Earle "has shown his willingness to abuse his office for political reasons in the past. I hope he's not doing it again."

Earle has defended his work as the state's legal ethics watchdog. He has said he has prosecuted 15 public officials, 11 of them Democrats.

Hutchison is considered a possible challenger to Gov. Rick Perry in 2006. She told a gathering at the Women's Museum recently that she's considering several options for 2006.

Perry has not been the target of an investigation, but a subpoena was issued for any contracts that a Republican consultant had with Mike Toomey, who was a lobbyist at the time and is now Perry's chief of staff.

"A cynic might conclude that she's not completely unhappy to see this swirl of controversy around Gov. Perry, and Speaker Craddick and Majority Leader DeLay. For them to go down in the flames of controversy would certainly give a boost to her rumored aspirations to ride to the rescue in 2006," Democratic consultant Kelly Fero said.

Hutchison refrained from commenting last year on the state's redistricting battle.

The redesign of Texas' congressional boundaries triggered two out-of-state walkouts by Democrats before the Legislature approved a map last fall. Republicans are expected to pick up more seats in November's election and take control of Texas' 32-member delegation, now divided evenly among the parties.

Hutchison won re-election in 2000 with 65 percent of the vote.

On the Net:

Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison: http://www.hutchison.senate.gov/

Travis County district attorney: http://www.co.travis.tx.us/district—attorney/

# Prosecutors present case

NUEVO LAREDO, Mexico (AP) — A homosexual couple who lived near slain journalist Roberto Mora are the focus of an investigation into what prosecutors now believe was a crime motivated by unfounded jealousy, Tamaulipas state Attorney General Francisco Cayuela Villarreal announced at a news conference Sunday.

Mora's body was found stabbed more than 25 times on March 19 next to his sport utility vehicle, which was parked outside his residence.

Editorial director of El Manana newspaper for the past four years, Mora often published front-page stories on the Gulf drug cartel. His gruesome death attracted international attention from human rights and journalists' groups.

events

TEXAS LOTTERY RESULTS

**Saturday's Lottery Numbers**
**Lotto Texas**

**AUSTIN (AP) Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:**

**Winning numbers drawn: 6-27-10-19-32. Bonus Ball: 8**

**Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: 0.**

**Number matching five of five: 6. Prize: $4,698.**

**Number matching four of five, plus Bonus Ball: 11. Prize: $2,327.**

**Number matching four of five: 647. Prize: $85.**

**Number matching three of five, plus Bonus Ball: 504. Prize: $96.**

**Number matching three of five: 22,503. Prize: $5.**

**Number matching two of five, plus Bonus Ball: 6,044. Prize: $5.**

**Number matching one of five, plus Bonus Ball: 26,775. Prize: $3.**

**Estimated jackpot for the Wednesday night drawing: $17 million.**

**Cash Five**

**AUSTIN (AP) Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night:**

**Winning numbers drawn: 24-28-4-33-23.**

**Number matching five of five: 1.**

**Prize per winner: $41,199.**

**Matching four of five: 91. Prize: $204.**

**Matching three of five: 3,994. Prize: $11.**

**Matching two of five: 41,292. Prize: $2.**

**Next Cash 5 drawing: Monday night.**

**Pick 3**
**(Day) 7-6-7**
**(Night) 5-3-6**

## World Almanac

**Monday, March 29, 2004**

Today is the 89th day of 2004 and the 10th day of spring.

**TODAY'S HISTORY:** In 1951, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were convicted of espionage.

In 1973, the last U.S. troops left Vietnam.

In 1999, the Dow Jones Industrial Average closed above the 10,000 mark for the first time.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS:** John Tyler (1790-1862), 10th U.S. president; Cy Young (1867-1955), baseball player; Eugene McCarthy (1916-) former U.S. senator and presidential candidate, is 88; Sam Walton (1918-1992), Wal-Mart founder; John Major (1943-), former British prime minister, is 61; Walt Frazier (1945-), basketball player, is 59; Elle MacPherson (1963-), super model/actress, is 41.

**TODAY'S SPORTS:** In 1998, the NBA's Indiana Pacers scored just 55 points in a game, the lowest total since the 24-second shot clock was introduced in 1954.

**TODAY'S QUOTE:** "Have you ever tried to split sawdust?" — Eugene McCarthy, on accusations he split the Democratic Party in the 1968 presidential election.

**TODAY'S FACT:** There are 30 different companies included in the Dow Jones industrial average.

**TODAY'S NUMBER:** 27 — number of amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

**TODAY'S MOON:** Between first quarter (March 28) and full moon (April 5)

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Clean up your property over this weekend and next weekend to be ready!

**Watch for additional information**

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**BIRTHDAY BASH — Ira School faculty dressed up for Dr. Seuss' birthday last week. Back row from left are Dr. Larry Devitt, superintendent; Toby Goodwin, Denise Lewis, Pat Sterling, Sandy Holmes, Randy Jones and Gale Northcott; front row from left are Kristi Goodwin, Kim Allen and Dale Pectol, principal. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)**

# Cadet remained at academy even after rape allegations

DENVER (AP) — An Air Force Academy cadet who had been accused of rape and threatened to crash a glider into a dining hall was allowed to remain at the school for several more months, during which he was arrested for sodomizing a woman in a wheelchair and accused of raping another cadet, according to files obtained by The Associated Press.

Even after his arrest in Los Angeles for sodomy, the Air Force got cadet Doncosta Seawell released from custody and took him back to the academy, according to the files. He was accused of rape by a fellow cadet three months later.

"This is outrageous that this guy fell through the cracks of the military justice system, and went on to do such harm to other victims," said Cynthia Stone of the Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault.

Seawell's alleged victims have been among the women who have accused the academy of failing to prosecute sex offenders — claims that helped lead to sweeping changes at the academy and Defense Department investigations of sexual assault cases.

An investigation determined that there had been 142 reports of sexual assault at the academy in the past decade, and some of the victims said they were punished for reporting the assaults.

Seawell, a senior cadet flight instructor and academy boxer, was expelled in October 2002 and a court-martial sentenced him to two years imprisonment for the attack on the civilian woman.

He first came to the attention of academy investigators two years earlier, when cadet MacKenzie Isackson said he sexually assaulted her. He denied assaulting the woman, and no charges were brought.

The following year, just a month after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the flight instructor threatened to fly a glider into the building that houses the dining hall, according to the Office of Special Investigations report obtained by The Associated Press under a Freedom of Information request.

He was charged with Conduct Unbecoming an Officer and Gentleman and sent for a mental evaluation, according to the files.

Two months later, on Dec. 28, 2001, he was arrested in Los Angeles for the attack on a woman in a wheelchair, whom he allegedly approached via Internet instant messaging.

It was then that Air Force agents reviewed Seawell's record and found the report of the glider threat, according to the OSI report.

Seawell remained at the school for six more months, and allegedly approached freshman cadet Kira Mountjoy-Pepka by way of Internet chat.

Mountjoy-Pepka accused Seawell of attacking her in April 2002. In interviews last year on ABC's "20/20" and on Oprah Winfrey's show, Mountjoy-Pepka claimed she was scolded by academy officials for being a "slut."

No charges were filed in her case.

Academy spokesman Johnny Whitaker said privacy rules, as well as the presumption of innocence, may have played a role in Seawell's continued presence at the school.

"We'd have to review the records to see what caused this," he said.

Seawell, meanwhile, is back in the brig on the sodomy charge. He had been released on probation but was jailed again after being arrested for soliciting sex over the Internet from an undercover officer posing as a 14-year-old.

Last week, in an interview with The Gazette of Colorado Springs from a military prison in California, Seawell denied having sexual intercourse with Mountjoy-Pepka, but said they had engaged in sexual activity on several occasions.

# Dear Abby

**By Abigail Van Buren**

## *Mother of sons dreads her future as a mother-in-law*

**DEAR ABBY:** I have three wonderful sons, ranging in age from 12 to 19. For the last 10 years, I have had bouts of depression when I think about losing them to girlfriends or wives. I keep remembering all the negative mother-in-law jokes and the derogatory commercials I have seen. How can anyone think that a mother can turn off her love for a son because another woman might get jealous or possessive? It is pounded into everyone's head that mothers-in-law are horrible and unworthy of communication and love from their son and his family.

I am sick of it! I'm a good person. I love my sons with every ounce of my being. I'll be there for them whenever I am needed. It is horrifying to me that the first time I might say something that doesn't suit my son's wife, she'll cut me out of their lives.

Men are such doormats for their girlfriends and wives! Why don't they stand up for their mothers the way we stood up for them? — **SICK OF THE BAD REP**

**DEAR SICK:** Where did you get the idea that the majority of in-law relationships are dysfunctional? Women who welcome their daughters-in-law and don't treat them as rivals usually have warm and loving relationships. Have you ever heard of a self-fulfilling prophecy? I am concerned that your preconceptions will poison your future relationships. Please discuss them with a psychotherapist, and don't put it off.

**

**DEAR ABBY:** I live with a man I'll call Elmer who is, for the most part, a great guy. He accepted my son as his own and provided for him the same way he does for our daughter. We have a nice home, material comforts, and Elmer makes sure all our bills are covered if I can't afford to pay them myself.

Last year, I decided I wanted to go and swim with the dolphins — literally. I told Elmer this is a spiritual thing, something I want to do for myself and by myself. Elmer tends to be sort of a control freak, but if I stand my ground, he usually backs down. With this dolphin thing, though, he's making my life miserable.

Elmer has 1,001 reasons for me not to take the trip, none of which are valid.

What can I do to make him see that there are plenty of couples who sometimes take separate trips? He says if I love him, I won't go without him. He didn't give me this hard a time when I changed religions. — **NEEDS ADVICE IN MARYLAND**

**DEAR NEEDS:** Since I don't know Elmer, it's hard to say what you can do to reassure him. He may be afraid that you will get in over your head — literally. Or he may feel insecure about the relationship he has with you since you are not married.

However, in life we must all follow our own spiritual paths. We must also prioritize our wishes in the order of their importance. If swimming with the dolphins is more important to you than Elmer, then you will have to dive in, even if it means swimming through the rest of your life without him.

**

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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# Bridge

**By Phillip Alder**

**North** 03-29-04
♠ 7
♥ 8 4 3
♦ A Q J 8 6
♣ K J 9 8

**West**
♠ A 10 8 4 3
♥ J 7 6
♦ 7 5 2
♣ 6 4

**East**
♠ K 9 2
♥ Q 10 9
♦ K 4 3
♣ 7 5 3 2

**South**
♠ Q J 6 5
♥ A K 5 2
♦ 10 9
♣ A Q 10

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

| South | West | North | East |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 NT | Pass | 3 NT | All pass |

Opening lead: ♠ 4

**Monday, March 29, 2004**

## The unusual is hard to consider

**By Phillip Alder**

Jean-Jacques Rousseau, a Swiss-born French philosopher and political theorist, wrote, "It is too difficult to think nobly when one thinks only of earning a living."

That does not apply to bridge professionals competing in rubber-bridge or Chicago. If they do not think nobly, they will fail to make a living.

It is the fourth and last deal of a Chicago chukker. You need to score 600 points or more to have sufficient money for dinner. Will you go to bed that night with a full stomach or an empty one?

You are South, the declarer in three no-trump. West leads his fourth-highest spade. East wins with the king and returns the spade nine. Over to you.

I like North's response of three no-trump. It is usually easier to win nine tricks than 11.

Many players, and especially those wealthy enough to know from where their next meal is coming, would play the spade queen (or jack) at trick two. They should go down. West, who has no semblance of an entry card outside spades, should duck this trick to keep communication with his partner. Then, when South attacks diamonds, East wins with the king and fires back his remaining spade. West collects three tricks in that suit to defeat the contract.

A bridge expert who knows how to get his next meal would play his remaining low spade at trick two. Then, no lie of the cards can kill the contract (except a highly unlikely ace-king-fifth of spades and diamond king with East). South will lose at most three spades and one diamond.

Did you think of the trick-two duck for dinner?

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# Odessans hopeful movie won't be like '90 controversial book

ODESSA (AP) — The 1990 book about Permian High School's storied football program stirred angry emotions in this West Texas city with its allegations of racism and a win-at-all-costs mindset.

People were so mad that a local bookstore canceled a book signing by author H.G. "Buzz" Bissinger, and "Buzz off, Bissinger" T-shirts popped up all over town.

Nearly 15 years later, as "Friday Night Lights" is being made into a movie, some folks are feeling apprehensive.

"We're just praying for a different light with the movie," said Marca Washburn, a senior at Permian during the 1988 season chronicled in the book who is now a general manager at an Odessa hotel. "I want to believe the best. It's still Hollywood, but I feel pretty good about the movie."

Filming for the movie, which features Billy Bob Thornton as Permian's coach, wrapped up in Odessa on Thursday. It's expected to hit theaters in October.

Bissinger's book — known by some at the time as "The Book" — came out a few years after the release of "The Secret of the Mojo," an upbeat tribute to the Permian program and traditions.

Bissinger said his book is larger than Permian.

"The book is about the greatness, exuberance, pageantry and also the real darkness that can be high school football in Texas," he said. "The question is, how faithful will they be to the book? And I can't know that until I see it."

The book is still a point of discussion among former players.

James "Boobie" Miles, a black running back featured in the book, said it was realistic in its descriptions of racism. But he said Odessa is much different now.

"At that point in time that's the way it was," said Miles, now working in the home renovation business. "Since then, this town has changed a lot because you live and you learn. You hear what I'm saying? I'm talking everyone. Blacks, Hispanics, whites."

Brian Chavez, a tight end and linebacker, recalled pressure to dislike the book.

But what a difference a few years can make, said Chavez, now a criminal defense attorney in Odessa.

"I think it's done a 180-degree turn," he said. "Everyone is real excited. I don't know if that's Hollywood or just a change of the times, a change in attitudes. It's 15 years later. It's a different generation."

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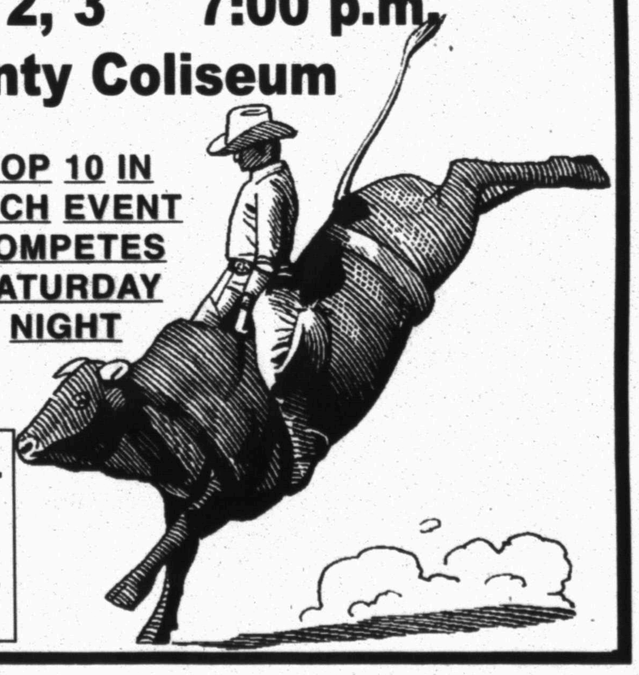
WTC Western Texas College
**NIRA RODEO**
**April 1, 2, 3 7:00 p.m.**
**Scurry County Coliseum**
Exceptional Rodeo — Friday, April 2 9:30 am
TOP 10 IN EACH EVENT COMPETES SATURDAY NIGHT
Church Services— Saturday, April 3 11:30 am



MAR 29 2004

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**BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun**

**THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr**

## NEA Crossword Puzzle

**ACROSS**

1 Divers' milieus
5 Gamble
8 Kind of stick
12 Painless
13 One, for Pierre
14 Clay pot
15 Garnish
16 Wyo. neighbor
17 Many August people
18 Tags
20 Leisurely
21 Not even
22 Chemical suffix
23 Gemstones
26 Chiefly
29 Habits
30 Golf stroke
31 Above, to a bard
33 Harvest Moon mo.
34 Draws a bead on
35 Batter's ploy
36 Special skills
38 Marshal's band
39 Golly!
40 Place to surf
41 Metal fastener
43 Orchid-like flowers
46 Stand in line
47 Owl's query
48 Fact fudger
50 Otherwise
51 Cereal grain
52 Thus
53 Fraternal group
54 Pindar forte
55 Faculty head

**DOWN**

1 Congeal
2 Rank above viscount
3 China's location
4 Ideograms
5 Manufacture
6 Tackles' neighbors
7 Afternoon social
8 Flower product
9 Toast topper
10 Shimmer
11 NATO cousin
19 MS polishers
20 Foul mood
22 Has supper
23 Pizarro's quest
24 Ice hockey need
25 Memo abbr.
26 Football corsages
27 Rawls and Costello
28 Cravings
30 Long spear
32 Hwy.
34 Made a hole in one
35 Snow vehicle
37 Rock tumbler stones
38 Architect I.M. —
40 Dropped a line
41 Formal dance
42 Danger
43 "— — no idea!"
44 Dublin's land
45 Heroic tale
46 Elf-sized
47 Put the moves on
49 Director — Howard

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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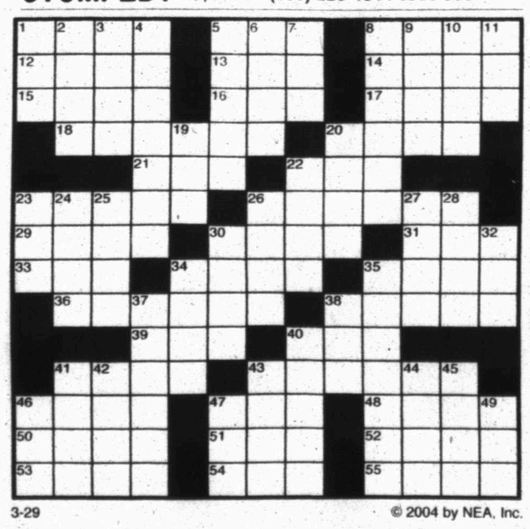

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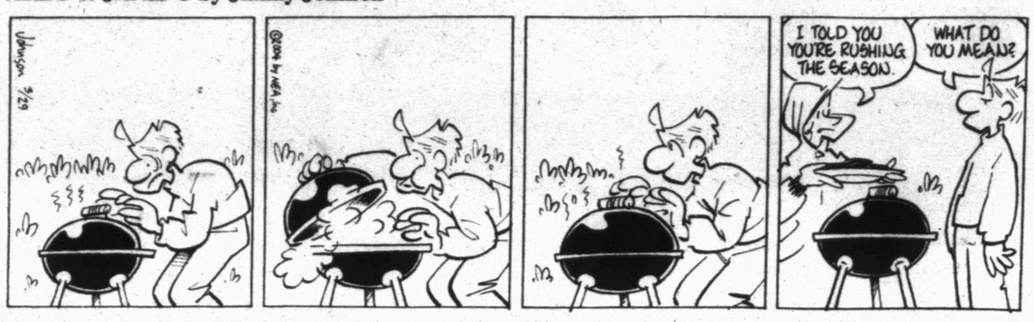


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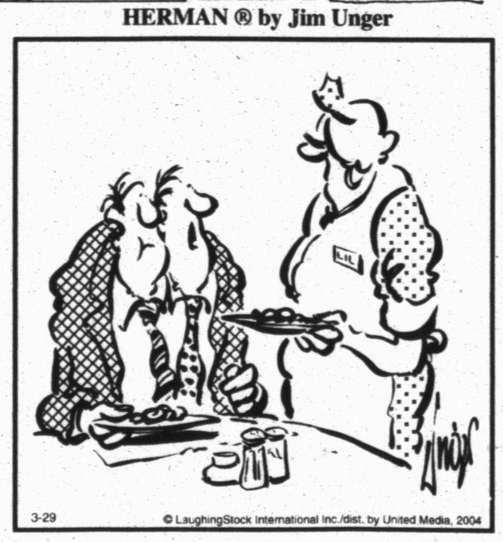


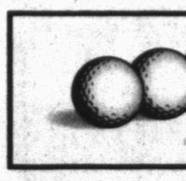

"Separate checks, please."

# Snyder Daily News Comics

**DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham**

"OL' RUFF WOULDN'T BE CAUGHT DEAD IN A PLACE LIKE THAT."

**KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright**



# Four
# Big C

**Burleson**

Four members
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the Abilene Repo
Big Country baske
Sophomore Lad
Medrano was a f
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Medrano avera
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Senior Lee Scot
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this season.

# JV girls
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The junior varsi
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Calvert, Tana S
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Joshlyn Tovar sco
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Winning pitche
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and Tyrrell.
The JV will hos
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for a 7 p.m. tilt.

## Are

Baseball:
Baseball:
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Baseball:
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Rodeo:
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Softball:
Track:
Rodeo:
Baseball:
Track:
Tennis:
Rodeo:

## Nationa

**EASTERN C**
**Atlantic**

x-New Jersey
Miami
New York
Boston
Philadelphia
Washington
Orlando

**Central**

x-Indiana
x-Detroit
New Orleans
Milwaukee
Cleveland
Toronto
Atlanta
Chicago

**WESTERN**
**Midwes**

x-Minnesota
x-San Antonio
Memphis
Dallas
Houston
Utah

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# SPORTS

## Four Tigers make Big Country squad

Burleson Medrano Ragland Scott

Four members of Snyder varsity basketball teams were honored Sunday, being selected to the Abilene Reporter-News' All-Big Country basketball team.

Sophomore Lady Tiger Sirena Medrano was a first-team selection for the girls. Medrano helped lead Snyder to a perfect district record and its first district crown since 1980, as well as the first playoff win in program history.

Medrano averaged 12 points, five rebounds and three steals per game this year.

Senior Lee Scott was the lone representative for the Tigers on the Big Country team, earning a first-team berth after averaging 17 points, seven rebounds, 2.8 assists and 2.8 steals per game this season.

Senior Erin Burleson was recognized with a second-team selection. The on and off the court leader of the Lady Tigers, Burleson averaged 12 points, five rebounds, three assists and 2 steal per game.

Freshman point guard Terann Ragland also was named to the second team, with 11 points, six boards, five assists and three steals.

**CLEAN HAND-OFF — Snyder sprinter Malcome Wells, right, hands the baton off to senior Justin Boyd during the 400m relay at the Levelland meet. (Contributed Photo by Glenda Boyd)**

## Thinclads leave Levelland early

LEVELLAND — The Snyder Tigers could have earned more than the 63 points they left Levelland with Friday.

They also could have suffered a serious injury that could have dented their district plans.

Approaching 9:30 p.m. and with a handful of events yet to be decided, Snyder head coach Roger White pulled his team from the South Plains College track and onto the bus.

"At 9:30 I'd had enough," White said. "They had no lights on the back side of the track, and I looked down there and you could barely see the hurdles. We've got district in about three weeks, and I wasn't going jeopardize our kids."

The meet also was held up throughout the day by the use of an electronic scoring system, which delayed the start of each event by several minutes.

Monahans, which won the meet with 145 points, was the only team ahead of the Tigers when White ended the meet for Snyder.

Despite not running in events like the 300m hurdles and the 3,200, the Tigers still managed to take fifth in the meet.

Snyder had three of the nine boys left in the 300 hurdles.

The 400m relay team of Malcome Wells, Justin Boyd, Zach Cain and Jesus Juarez won the gold with a new personal record of 43.40.

Garrett Pinson won the silver in the 110m hurdles with a time of 16.23, and Josh Muniz set a new personal record, finishing the 3200 run in 10:43 for the silver.

Justin Boyd leapt 6-4 in the high jump to claim the silver, while teammate D'Angelo Davis was sixth.

Davis set a new personal mark of 39-7 in the triple jump, while Boyd set a personal mark of 20-9 in the long jump.

Both finished in fourth with those times.

Demetrius Brandon earned the bronze in the shot put with a heave of 46-6.5.

Juarez and Jeff Bruton were fifth and sixth, respectively, in the 100 dash.

Johnny Vasquez had a big day for the junior varsity, earning the silver in the shot put and discus events, while helping the 400 relay team, including Matt Fernandez, Kyle Sanchez and Dwight Wells, win the bronze.

Barrett Bowlin was third in the triple jump and Cody Reed was sixth in the two-mile run.

The girls finished just 14 points in a solid field of 18 teams to take ninth place.

October Wells was the lone medalist for the girls, taking home the silver with a triple jump of 35-6.

The Snyder thinclads will travel to Brownwood this week for a two-day meet beginning Friday.

**Lobo Relays**
**South Plains College**
**Levelland**
**March 26, 2004**
**Team Results**
**Boys**

1. Monahans 145; 2.Canyon 105; 3. Levelland 85; 4. Estacado 71; **5. Snyder 63.**

**Girls**

1. San Angelo Central 144; 2. Estacado 95; 3. Big Spring 94; 4. Levelland 77.5; 5.San Angelo Lake View 74.5; **9. Snyder.**

## WTC salvages series finale

The Westerners salvaged the final game of a four-game set against conference-leader El Paso (19-5) over the weekend, winning the series finale, 10-7, after dropping the first three games of the series.

Cody Guzman got the win, as five WTC pitchers combined to hold off El Paso.

The series got off on a low note, as El Paso pitcher Ricardo Rivas threw a no-hitter, spoiling a strong outing from Logan Hill.

WTC dropped the nightcap Friday, 9-2.

"We felt good going into Saturday," head coach Billy Hefflinger said. "We knew if we could just drive the ball, we could compete."

WTC scored five runs in the first inning of Saturday's finale.

Landon Thompson was 4-for-5 with a homer and three runs scored, and five other Westerners added multi-hit games.

Trey Roberson was 3-for-4 with five RBIs, while Derek David and Josh Heiney also had three base knocks.

Eric Brown and Kyle Toney had two hits apiece.

"Roberson has been working really hard all season," Hefflinger said. "Our outfielders really put it together and had some good games."

Guzman relieved Shay Franks, and got support from fellow hurlers Galdino Pena, Garrett Graham and Hank Casey.

The Westerners (8-27, 3-11) fell, 14-4, in the first game Saturday after starter Troy Krugar left in the first inning after being hit by a line drive.

Graham was tagged with the loss.

"The first three games (of the series) we played well," Hefflinger said. "Logan threw great (in the opener), but the other guy was better, and in the second game ( a 9-2 loss), we hit the ball hard."

The win Saturday marked the first-ever for the Westerners over El Paso.

"It shows the progress we are making," Hefflingter said. "Before, we didn't compete with them."

The Westerners will host Hardin-Simmons University at 3 p.m. Wednesday.

## JV girls crush Denver City Friday, 24-6

The junior varsity Lady Tigers improved to 4-0 in the District 3-3A softball standings after routing Denver City, 24-6, Friday.

Snyder (4-0) won in three innings as the game extended beyond the 90-minute time limit.

Sarah Covington, Jessica Calvert, Tana Sullenger and Courtney Tyrrell each collected three hits, with Covington and Joshlyn Tovar scoring four runs apiece.

Winning pitcher Jessica Yanez scored three runs, as did Calvert and Tyrrell.

The JV will host Lamesa JV at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Cates following the 5 p.m. contest between the varsity teams, before traveling to Lubbock Cooper Friday for a 7 p.m. tilt.

## WTC women takes second at Odessa rodeo; men stumble

The Western Texas College women's rodeo team took second place at the Odessa Rodeo over the weekend, keeping pace with conference leader Tarleton State University in the process.

Sabrina Lay took first in barrel racing in both the short round and the average. She rode the circuit in 15.63 seconds on her final ride to claim the top spot.

The men's team did not fare as well, with just two riders cracking the top five in the short round. Odessa won the rodeo, while Eastern New Mexico was second.

Sam Spreadborough took third in the short go in saddle bronc with a 73, which helped the Australian earn fourth in the average.

Clay Bunney finished fourth in bareback in the short round with a 72.

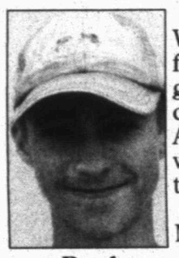
"Overall, we have had good rodeos," head coach Greg Rhodes said. "We just haven't hit them at the same time. None of the men's teams had a good rodeo."

WTC will host the Snyder rodeo beginning Thursday at Scurry County Coliseum.

Sixteen schools will participate, including Angelo State, Clarendon College, Eastern New Mexico, Frank Phillips, Howard, Mesa Tech, Mew Mexico JC, Odessa, Sul Ross, Tarleton State, Texas Tech, West Texas A&M, South Plains and WTC.

## Reed, Dunham win at Brownwood tourney

Dunham



Reed

Snyder number one tennis players Andra Dunham and Tanner Reed solidified their standings in the region last weekend, with both claiming the top spot in their respective divisions at the Brownwood Tournament.

As a team, the varsity Tigers were second to Uvalde.

Dunham quickly dispatched Amy Dolan of Brownwood in the tourney finals, 6-0, 6-1.

Reed also won the finals in straight sets, topping Cedar Hill's Peter Kosyder, 6-2, 7-6.

Stephanie Williams took fourth in the girls singles category, and Austin Lyle was eighth for the boys.

In doubles, Matt Hale and Joe Ynguanzo were sixth, while Wesley Price and Kenny Alcala were 16th.

Nikki Timora and Kalli Watson were ninth in girls doubles. Annie Martinez and Megan Crisp were 13th, and Mattie Phillips and Jacy Beccue were 14th.

The Snyder varsity netters will host the District 3-3A meet April 6-7.

## Area Sports Calendar

**MONDAY**
Baseball: SHS JV vs. Merkel, 5 p.m.

**TUESDAY**
Baseball: SHS varsity vs. Denver City, 7 p.m.
Softball: SHS varsity vs. Lamesa, 5 p.m.
SHS JV vs. Lamesa, 7 p.m.
Golf: SHS boys at Sweetwater, district
Tennis: SHS JV at Big Spring Tournament

**WEDNESDAY**
Baseball: WTC vs. Hardin-Simmons, 3 p.m.
Softball: WTC vs. El Paso CC, DH, 2 p.m.

**THURSDAY**
Golf: SHS girls at Lamesa, district
Softball: WTC vs. EPCC, DH, 2 p.m.
Rodeo: Western Texas College Rodeo

**FRIDAY**
Baseball: SHS varsity at Merkel, 5 p.m.
WTC vs. Howard JC, DH, noon
Softball: SHS varsity at Lubbock Cooper, 5 p.m.
SHS JV at Lubbock Cooper, 7 p.m.
Track: SHS varsity at Brownwood
SJHS at Lamesa, district
Rodeo: Western Texas College Rodeo

**SATURDAY**
Baseball: WTC vs. Howard JC, DH, noon
SHS JV vs. Wylie, DH, 1 p.m.
Track: SHS varsity at Brownwood
Tennis: SJHS at Sweetwater Tournament
Rodeo: Western Texas College Rodeo

## National Hockey League

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

**Atlantic Division**

| | W | L | T | OL | Pts | GF | GA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| x-Philadelphia | 39 | 20 | 14 | 6 | 98 | 223 | 180 |
| x-New Jersey | 40 | 24 | 12 | 2 | 94 | 199 | 157 |
| N.Y. Islanders | 36 | 28 | 10 | 4 | 86 | 221 | 199 |
| N.Y. Rangers | 26 | 38 | 7 | 8 | 67 | 200 | 239 |
| Pittsburgh | 21 | 46 | 8 | 4 | 54 | 181 | 294 |

**Northeast Division**

| | W | L | T | OL | Pts | GF | GA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| x-Boston | 39 | 18 | 14 | 7 | 99 | 198 | 177 |
| x-Toronto | 42 | 24 | 10 | 3 | 97 | 230 | 202 |
| x-Ottawa | 40 | 22 | 10 | 6 | 96 | 249 | 174 |
| x-Montreal | 40 | 28 | 7 | 4 | 91 | 201 | 182 |
| Buffalo | 35 | 32 | 7 | 4 | 81 | 207 | 210 |

**Southeast Division**

| | W | L | T | OL | Pts | GF | GA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| y-Tampa Bay | 45 | 21 | 8 | 5 | 103 | 236 | 182 |
| Atlanta | 32 | 35 | 8 | 4 | 76 | 208 | 235 |
| Carolina | 28 | 31 | 13 | 6 | 75 | 159 | 191 |
| Florida | 27 | 33 | 14 | 4 | 72 | 172 | 205 |
| Washington | 22 | 45 | 9 | 2 | 55 | 174 | 241 |

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

**Central Division**

| | W | L | T | OL | Pts | GF | GA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| y-Detroit | 45 | 20 | 11 | 2 | 103 | 243 | 178 |
| St. Louis | 36 | 28 | 11 | 2 | 85 | 181 | 190 |
| Nashville | 35 | 28 | 11 | 4 | 85 | 205 | 209 |
| Columbus | 24 | 42 | 8 | 4 | 60 | 169 | 224 |
| Chicago | 20 | 39 | 11 | 7 | 58 | 181 | 241 |

**Northwest Division**

| | W | L | T | OL | Pts | GF | GA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| x-Colorado | 38 | 22 | 13 | 5 | 94 | 225 | 188 |
| x-Vancouver | 39 | 24 | 10 | 5 | 93 | 218 | 189 |
| Calgary | 40 | 29 | 7 | 3 | 90 | 195 | 172 |
| Edmonton | 34 | 27 | 12 | 5 | 85 | 212 | 199 |
| Minnesota | 26 | 28 | 20 | 3 | 75 | 171 | 171 |

**Pacific Division**

| | W | L | T | OL | Pts | GF | GA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| x-San Jose | 40 | 20 | 12 | 6 | 98 | 209 | 175 |
| x-Dallas | 40 | 24 | 13 | 1 | 94 | 185 | 164 |
| Los Angeles | 28 | 26 | 16 | 8 | 80 | 199 | 205 |
| Anaheim | 28 | 33 | 10 | 8 | 74 | 180 | 208 |
| Phoenix | 21 | 33 | 18 | 6 | 66 | 183 | 233 |

Two points for a win, one point for a tie and overtime loss.
x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

**Today's Games**
Columbus at Buffalo, 6 p.m.
Minnesota at Detroit, 6 p.m.
Ottawa at Tampa Bay, 6 p.m.
Atlanta at Toronto, 6:30 p.m.
Carolina at Florida, 6:30 p.m.
Los Angeles at Colorado, 8 p.m.
Phoenix at Vancouver, 9 p.m.

## Final Four

**NCAA Tournament**
**FINAL FOUR**
**At The Alamodome**
**San Antonio**
**Semifinals**
**Saturday, April 3**
Oklahoma State (31-3) vs. Georgia Tech (27-9), 5:07 p.m.
Duke (31-5) vs. Connecticut (31-6), 7:47 p.m. **Championship**
**Monday, April 5**
Semifinal winners

## National Basketball Association

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

**Atlantic Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| x-New Jersey | 42 | 30 | .583 | — |
| Miami | 35 | 37 | .486 | 7 |
| New York | 34 | 40 | .459 | 9 |
| Boston | 32 | 40 | .444 | 10 |
| Philadelphia | 31 | 42 | .425 | 11½ |
| Washington | 23 | 49 | .319 | 19 |
| Orlando | 19 | 56 | .253 | 24½ |

**Central Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| x-Indiana | 53 | 19 | .736 | — |
| x-Detroit | 47 | 27 | .635 | 7 |
| New Orleans | 37 | 36 | .507 | 16½ |
| Milwaukee | 36 | 36 | .500 | 17 |
| Cleveland | 32 | 40 | .444 | 21 |
| Toronto | 30 | 43 | .411 | 23½ |
| Atlanta | 24 | 49 | .329 | 29½ |
| Chicago | 20 | 53 | .274 | 33½ |

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

**Midwest Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| x-Minnesota | 50 | 24 | .676 | — |
| x-San Antonio | 48 | 25 | .658 | 1½ |
| Memphis | 47 | 26 | .644 | 2½ |
| Dallas | 45 | 28 | .616 | 4½ |
| Houston | 41 | 30 | .577 | 7½ |
| Utah | 38 | 35 | .521 | 11½ |
| Denver | 38 | 37 | .507 | 12½ |

**Pacific Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| x-Sacramento | 51 | 21 | .708 | — |
| x-L.A. Lakers | 49 | 23 | .681 | 2 |
| Portland | 37 | 35 | .514 | 14 |
| Seattle | 34 | 39 | .466 | 17½ |
| Golden State | 31 | 40 | .437 | 19½ |
| L.A. Clippers | 27 | 47 | .365 | 25 |
| Phoenix | 25 | 49 | .338 | 27 |

x-clinched playoff spot

**Sunday's Games**
Memphis 94, Toronto 88
Dallas 118, Orlando 88
Houston at Milwaukee, 4 p.m.
Miami at Indiana, 5 p.m.
Philadelphia at Boston, 6:30 p.m.
Washington at Sacramento, 7 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Golden State, 9 p.m.
Utah at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

**Monday's Games**
Memphis at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.
Chicago at Miami, 6:30 p.m.
Boston at New Jersey, 6:30 p.m.
Portland at New York, 6:30 p.m.
Cleveland at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Houston, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at Phoenix, 8 p.m.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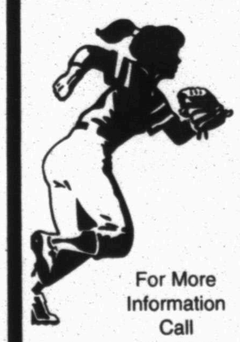

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# Next space tourist to bring experiments

NEW YORK (AP) — The next civilian to be rocketed into orbit at his own expense won't just be enjoying the ride: Gregory Olsen, a scientist who made a fortune with optics inventions, plans to do some research during his $20 million trip to the International Space Station.

Olsen, the founder of Sensors Unlimited, Inc. in Princeton, N.J., has hired the company that brokered the first space tourist trip, millionaire Dennis Tito's flight aboard a Russian spacecraft in 2001.

The 58-year-old Olsen told the Associated Press he plans to bring along infrared sensors, which detect varying levels of heat, to analyze pollution in the Earth's atmosphere and the health of agricultural systems on the ground.

"I kind of feel this is a way of paying back," he said. The remote sensing experiment is "really what the buzz is for me," he said, "as well as the kick of being in space for a week."

Olsen also hopes the weightlessness of space will help him grow better versions of special crystals used in infrared sensors and other high-tech applications, though he hasn't finalized these plans.

He plans to publish his findings in scientific journals.

The entrepreneur said he has no worries for his safety, even with memories of the 2003 space shuttle Columbia disaster fresh in his mind.

"Every day, you pick up the paper and read there's an auto accident, or an airplane accident. And still you use both of those things," he said. "I never even think about it when I get on a plane."

Olsen, who is divorced and single with a house in Princeton and a condo in the Time Warner Center in Manhattan, said his two grown daughters are supportive of the mission.

He leaves for Star City, Russia, this week to begin six months of training for his flight aboard the Soyuz to the ISS. The eight-day voyage is scheduled for April 2005, but there's a chance he could go this October.

The trip's $20 million price is what Tito paid in 2001 and South African Mark Shuttleworth paid in 2002 for strictly tourist trips.

Eric Anderson, chief executive of Space Adventures, of Arlington, Va., would not elaborate on his company's financial arrangement with the Russian government.

Space Adventures hopes to eventually send two tourist aboard a Soyuz flight flown by a Russian cosmonaut. That would mean there would be no room to bring a cosmonaut or astronaut home from the ISS on the return flight, so someone's ISS mission would be extended from six months to one year.

Unlike Lance Bass, the pop singer who wanted to ride a Russian rocket to space but couldn't come up with the funds, Olsen says he has more than enough to cover the costs.

His research into crystals, part of which was funded by NASA, led to devices that help fiber-optic networks perform more efficiently. He sold his company, Sensors Unlimited, to optical-network parts-maker Finisar Corp. for $700 million in 2000.

"You'll have to check with my Merrill Lynch advisers for an accurate number," he joked. "I was very fortunate in that deal."

In 2002, Olsen led a management buyback of the Sensors Unlimited name and licenses for some technologies from Finisar for $6.1 million.

Since then, with the help of small defense contracts, the company has focused on developing infrared, range-finding cameras for guided missiles and other military applications.

NASA is not complaining about its ISS partner's latest plan to collect a fare from a private citizen in exchange for a ride.

"NASA has no problems with what the Russian space agency is doing because they're following procedures," spokesman Robert Jacobs said.

# Three simultaneous challenges to ban of some abortions due

NEW YORK (AP) — Even before President Bush signed a bill into law in November outlawing a type of late-term abortion, opponents made the unusual step of filing three federal lawsuits seeking to block it.

Those lawsuits were expected to be heard today in a trio of courtrooms stretching from coast to coast as abortion-rights supporters challenge the first substantial limitation on abortion since the Supreme Court's landmark Roe v. Wade decision.

The simultaneous litigation centers on the ban on what lawmakers defined as "partial-birth" abortion and what doctors call "intact dilation and extraction" — or D&X.

In the outlawed procedure, generally performed in the second trimester and occasionally in the third, a fetus is partially delivered before its skull is punctured. An estimated 2,200 to 5,000 such abortions are performed annually in the United States, out of 1.3 million total abortions.

The National Abortion Federation, Planned Parenthood Federation of America and a handful of doctors sued in San Francisco, New York and Lincoln, Neb., to overturn the law.

Critics of the law say its language could criminalize more common types of abortion and could be a step toward abolishing abortion. Supporters contend it applies only to a procedure done late in pregnancy that is never necessary to protect the health of the mother.

The Partial-Birth Abortion Act carries a maximum two-year prison term for doctors convicted of performing the procedure, but it has been put on hold pending the outcome of the litigation, which appears likely to reach the Supreme Court.

The high court struck down a similar Nebraska law almost four years ago because it lacked an exception for procedures done to preserve a woman's health. Anticipating this problem, Congress declared that "a partial birth abortion is never necessary to preserve the health of a woman" and is "outside the standard of medical care."

The abortion-rights groups disagree, saying that doctors may find themselves with no good alternative to the banned procedure to protect a woman's life or health if problems develop.

# Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

## Ischemic colitis is dangerous

**DEAR DR. GOTT:** I've recently been released from the hospital after suffering for eight days with ischemic colitis. Do you have any information about this ailment?

**DEAR READER:** Ischemic colitis, a dangerous medical condition, causes recurring diarrhea, abdominal pain and internal bleeding. Unlike other forms of colitis, this variety is the result of arteriosclerosis: progressive narrowing of the arteries feeding the colon that leads to an inadequate blood supply and an eventual deterioration of the colonic lining. The diarrhea may be difficult to stop, the pain resistant to therapy and the bleeding impossible to control.

The diagnosis is usually made by an arteriogram (a special X-ray study) after other causes of colitis have been ruled out by appropriate testing, such as stool analysis, blood tests and colonoscopy. In many cases, bypass surgery (to reestablish arterial blood flow) is necessary. Anticoagulants are sometimes used.

Ischemic colitis is treatable; however, in most instances, the condition is incurable. Patients and doctors must be content to treat symptoms as they arise, with anti-diarrheal drugs and blood transfusions.

Obviously, any measures to retard the arteriosclerotic process are mandatory. These include stopping smoking, increasing exercise and reducing serum cholesterol. Because patients with ischemic colitis suffer from a condition that is analogous to coronary arteriosclerosis, they should be under the care of gastroenterologists, in my opinion.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Coronary Artery Disease." Other readers who would like a copy should send a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope and $2 to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092. Be sure to mention the title.

**DEAR DR. GOTT:** I believe that my parents drink too much coffee. What are the hazards of excessive caffeine in the bodies of senior citizens?

**DEAR READER:** Excessive caffeine (in a person of any age) can cause nervousness, irritability, increased blood pressure, rapid pulse, insomnia, frequent urination, weakness and other symptoms.

The elderly seem to be particularly sensitive to the effects of caffeine, as older citizens are to a variety of medications and substances, including alcohol.

I sometimes caution my elderly patients to restrict their consumption of caffeine-containing beverages to no more than three cups of coffee (or three glasses of soda) per day, in order to avoid over-stimulation. And, of course, all of us should be extremely prudent in our consumption of such beverages at or near bedtime.

In many instances, decaffeinated products can be successfully substituted for the "high test" drinks.

**DEAR DR. GOTT:** My wife and I are concerned about our high blood pressures. Our water supply is run through a water softener device that uses salt. Could this salt have a significant impact on our health?

**DEAR READER:** Although most home water softeners exchange a "soft" mineral (sodium) for a "hard" one (calcium), these devices do not add enough salt (sodium chloride) to cause health problems. Water softeners are, in general, safe for hypertensive patients.

Nonetheless, you should ask your doctor about your particular situation because he may be aware of some unusual prohibition that pertains to your case.

If readers would like to contact Dr. Gott, they may write him through your newspaper or send their mail directly to Dr. Gott c/o United Media, 200 Madison Ave., 4th fl., New York, NY 10016.

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# Lion sculpture headed to Kabul

ASHEBORO, N.C. (AP) — A blind lion disfigured by the blast of a hand grenade was the central figure in an effort to raise money for the Kabul Zoo, but it won't be remembered as it died.

Texas artist Bob Coffee chose to portray a younger version of Marjan in a bronze sculpture that will be given to the zoo. He delivered the work to the North Carolina Zoo on Friday.

The North Carolina Zoo coordinated a drive to raise $500,000 for the zoo in Afghanistan. Marjan died in Kabul in January 2002.

"He was completely whipped," Coffee said Friday. "I didn't want to do him like that. I wanted to do him as a proud lion."

The 300-pound sculpture will be on display until later this year and then delivered to Kabul. North Carolina Zoo Society officials say they are still trying to work out the details of delivery as the U.S. continues its war on terror.

"We're just happy that it's on its way to the people of Afghanistan and Kabul," Russ Williams, the Zoo Society's director, said.

Marjan was a gift from Germany. He was blinded in 1994 after he killed a guerrilla fighter who climbed into his cage to show off, and the man's brother threw a grenade at the lion.

Williams and other zoo officials say the sculpture is another example of the outpouring they've seen for the Kabul Zoo.

# LEGAL NOTICE

**NOTICE OF RATE REVIEW, RATE CHANGE REQUEST AND STATEMENT OF INTENT**

Notice is hereby given that Cap Rock Energy Corporation ("Cap Rock") intends to change rates for electric utility service effective March 30, 2004, or as soon thereafter as permitted by law. Based upon a test year ending September 30, 2003, the increase requested over adjusted test year revenues is $10,202,700 or 14.45%. The changes are applicable to all areas, all customer classes, and all customers served by the Cap Rock.

On October 24, 2003, the Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) filed a petition to inquire into the reasonableness of the rates being charged by Cap Rock. That proceeding has been designated as Docket No. 28813. Although Staff contends that some of Cap Rock's rates are too high, the inquiry could reveal that rates for some customer classes or some service areas need to be increased. Therefore, the Staff inquiry could result in increased or decreased rates for some customers. Affected persons may intervene in this proceeding, as detailed below, to address the rates being charged by Cap Rock.

In response to the Staff inquiry, on February 24, 2004, Cap Rock filed a rate filing package and a request to increase its rates in Docket No. 28813. Additionally, Cap Rock stated that it intends to change its service rules and regulations including rules relating to obtaining service, line extension and line extension charges, the provision of electric service, service fees, and discontinuance of service. Cap Rock intends to charge uniform system-wide rates to customers in each of Cap Rock's divisions. As a result, the McCulloch Division will no longer have separate tariffs after September 1, 2004.

The specific rates that Cap Rock proposes to charge, the proposed tariff revisions, and a copy of the rate filing package may be reviewed during normal business hours at Cap Rock's offices at (1) 500 West Wall Street, Suite 400, Midland, Texas 79701 (Cap Rock's Headquarters); (2) 1400 W. Business Interstate 20, Stanton, Texas 79782 (the Stanton Division); (3) 1825 South Highway 208, Colorado City, Texas 79512 (the Lone Wolf Division); (4) Highway 69 South, Celeste, Texas 75423 (the Hunt-Collin Division); and (5) 326 E. U.S. Highway 190, Brady, Texas 76825 (the McCulloch Division). Additionally, copies may be viewed at the Commission's offices in Austin, Texas.

Persons who wish to intervene in or comment upon these proceedings should notify the Commission as soon as possible, as an intervention deadline will be imposed. A request to intervene or for further information should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326 and should reference the specific Docket No. involved. Docket No. 28813 will address whether Cap Rock's current rates are reasonable; whether they should be revised; and whether Cap Rock's proposed tariff changes should be approved or modified. Further information about this proceeding may also be obtained by calling the Public Utility Commission's Public Information Office at (512) 936-7120, or (888) 782-8477. Hearing-and-speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136. **The deadline for intervention in the proceeding is April 9, 2004,** 45 days after the date Cap Rock's statement of intent was filed with the Commission.

# Today's chuckle

## Firefighters rescue trapped horse

EVANSVILLE, Ind. (AP) — This rescue was a bit tougher for firefighters than getting a kitty out of a tree.

Evansville firefighters used an improvised harness and heavy equipment to rescue a horse that had become trapped in a soil washout.

The horse fell into the 6-foot-deep sinkhole Wednesday afternoon while a group of riders were returning to a stable, said District Fire Chief Dan Grimm. The rider fell clear and was not injured, but the horse became trapped.

Animal control officers called the fire department when they were unable to rescue the horse, Grimm said.

One of the firefighters was an experienced horseman and quickly sized up the situation, Grimm said. The firefighters rigged a harness from fire hose and rope and attached it to a front-end loader from a nearby orchard to lift the horse free.

The animal was not injured, Grimm said.

# Markets

## Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

| | High | Low | Last | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| AMR Corp | 12.89 | 12.30 | 12.54 | +.46 |
| AT&T Corp | 19.94 | 19.80 | 19.83 | +.08 |
| Albertsons | 21.99 | 21.63 | 21.79 | —.09 |
| Alltel | 50.05 | 49.53 | 50.05 | +.39 |
| AmEl Pw | 32.84 | 32.60 | 32.80 | +.05 |
| AndarkPtr | 51.28 | 50.86 | 51.14 | +.29 |
| ATMOS Egy | 25.19 | 25.06 | 25.13 | —.01 |
| Aviall | 15.26 | 14.66 | 15.26 | +.70 |
| BP PLC | 49.40 | 49.15 | 49.40 | +.94 |
| BakerHughes | 35.42 | 34.85 | 35.06 | —.09 |
| Bank of Amer | 81.34 | 80.61 | 81.16 | +1.06 |
| BellSouth | 26.79 | 26.51 | 26.73 | —.01 |
| BurlNoSFe | 31.75 | 31.29 | 31.68 | +.26 |
| Caterpillar | 79.25 | 78.44 | 78.88 | +1.44 |
| CenterPoint | 11.30 | 11.23 | 11.23 | +.10 |
| ChevronTex | 86.04 | 85.52 | 85.85 | +.51 |
| Citigroup | 51.28 | 50.43 | 51.09 | +1.03 |
| CocaCola | 49.82 | 49.30 | 49.60 | +.82 |
| ColgatePal | 54.83 | 54.35 | 54.76 | +.04 |
| CmclMetals | 31.94 | 30.77 | 31.67 | +.90 |
| ConocoPhill | 67.84 | 67.05 | 67.52 | +.72 |
| Cooper Inds | 57.69 | 56.60 | 57.20 | +1.20 |
| DaimlrChry | 42.22 | 41.88 | 42.13 | +.76 |
| DeltaAirLines | 7.89 | 7.70 | 7.88 | +.21 |
| Dillards Inc | 19.03 | 18.40 | 19.00 | +.70 |
| DowChem | 40.90 | 40.00 | 40.66 | +1.26 |
| DuPont | 42.73 | 41.84 | 42.54 | +.80 |
| EastmanChem | 42.99 | 42.20 | 42.89 | +1.05 |
| EstKodak | 25.72 | 25.51 | 25.61 | +.07 |
| EDS Corp | 19.49 | 19.11 | 19.37 | +.17 |
| Entergy | 58.40 | 58.02 | 58.32 | +.02 |
| ExxonMobil | 41.41 | 40.86 | 41.24 | +.50 |
| FootLocker | 25.30 | 25.01 | 25.12 | +.32 |
| GenDynam | 88.25 | 87.29 | 87.73 | +.23 |
| GenElec | 30.84 | 30.36 | 30.75 | +.65 |
| GenMills | 46.45 | 45.95 | 46.35 | +.55 |
| GenMotors | 46.90 | 45.25 | 46.68 | +.91 |
| GaPacific | 33.08 | 32.45 | 32.97 | +.69 |
| Goodrich | 28.49 | 28.20 | 28.28 | +.15 |
| Goodyear | 8.50 | 7.80 | 7.99 | +.45 |
| GtAtlPac | 7.33 | 7.18 | 7.24 | +.04 |
| Halliburtn | 29.40 | 28.89 | 29.11 | +.15 |
| Hanson PLC | 38.44 | 38.18 | 38.44 | +.35 |
| HarteHanks | 22.60 | 22.54 | 22.59 | +.06 |
| HomeDepot | 37.32 | 36.86 | 37.25 | +.32 |
| HoneywellIntl | 33.60 | 33.28 | 33.55 | +.45 |
| IBM | 93.61 | 92.92 | 93.02 | +.25 |
| IntlPaper | 42.20 | 41.75 | 42.15 | +.57 |
| JohnsonJn | 50.87 | 50.40 | 50.76 | +.63 |
| KinderMorg | 62.19 | 61.88 | 62.15 | +.52 |
| Kroger Co | 16.35 | 16.02 | 16.29 | +.13 |
| LockheedM | 46.10 | 45.68 | 45.90 | +.09 |
| Lowes Cos | 56.55 | 55.75 | 56.48 | +.86 |
| Lubys | 5.63 | 5.57 | 5.57 | —.03 |
| LucentTech | 4.10 | 4.01 | 4.05 | +.09 |
| MarathonOil | 31.92 | 31.30 | 31.65 | +.15 |
| MayDeptStr | 33.56 | 33.20 | 33.53 | +.38 |
| Medtronic | 48.00 | 46.28 | 47.65 | +.25 |
| Motorola | 17.60 | 17.07 | 17.57 | +.59 |
| NCR Corp | 43.42 | 42.50 | 43.32 | +.81 |
| Navistar | 45.05 | 44.40 | 44.76 | +.57 |
| PNM Rescs | 29.65 | 29.30 | 29.59 | +.23 |
| Penney JC | 34.71 | 34.32 | 34.47 | +.17 |
| PepBoys | 27.36 | 26.75 | 27.23 | +.53 |
| PepsiCo | 51.90 | 51.50 | 51.79 | +.73 |
| PhelpDodge | 81.54 | 80.17 | 81.29 | +1.34 |
| PilgrimsPride | 21.61 | 21.35 | 21.52 | +.16 |
| Praxair s | 37.51 | 36.24 | 37.50 | +1.56 |
| ProctGamb | 104.52 | 103.85 | 104.46 | +.51 |
| RadioShack | 33.06 | 32.43 | 32.91 | +.49 |
| RoyalDut | 47.17 | 46.86 | 47.15 | +.62 |
| SBC Comm | 24.14 | 23.85 | 24.09 | +.17 |
| SaraLee | 21.72 | 21.55 | 21.68 | +.07 |
| Scripps EW | 97.88 | 97.24 | 97.88 | +.62 |
| SearsRoeb | 43.40 | 42.70 | 43.35 | +.31 |
| SherwinW | 36.98 | 36.55 | 36.94 | +.39 |
| SouthernCo | 30.47 | 30.25 | 30.41 | +.02 |
| SwstAirl | 14.15 | 14.01 | 14.13 | +.19 |
| SprintFON | 17.93 | 17.72 | 17.91 | +.13 |
| SprintPCS | 8.99 | 8.88 | 8.97 | +.11 |
| Sunoco Inc | 61.70 | 60.62 | 61.51 | +1.02 |
| TXU Corp | 28.29 | 28.13 | 28.24 | +.11 |
| TempleInland | 62.98 | 62.20 | 62.91 | +.81 |
| Texind | 32.75 | 32.00 | 32.67 | +.75 |
| TexasInst | 29.29 | 28.75 | 29.23 | +.64 |
| Textron | 53.60 | 52.70 | 53.26 | +.56 |
| TimeWarner | 16.99 | 16.72 | 16.94 | +.12 |
| TrinityInds | 27.97 | 27.49 | 27.92 | +.60 |
| TylerTech | 9.67 | 9.40 | 9.65 | +.20 |
| UnionPacif | 61.32 | 60.61 | 61.28 | +.43 |
| USSteel | 37.28 | 36.09 | 36.91 | +.71 |
| UnitedTech | 87.10 | 86.00 | 86.77 | +.47 |
| Unocal | 36.97 | 36.55 | 36.81 | +.45 |
| VerizonComm | 36.21 | 35.65 | 36.15 | +.13 |
| WalMart | 60.43 | 59.63 | 60.36 | +.95 |
| WellsFargo | 57.75 | 56.99 | 57.04 | +.09 |
| WstnGasRs | 49.19 | 48.75 | 49.19 | +.64 |
| WinnDixie | 7.94 | 7.38 | 7.47 | —.07 |
| Xerox Cp | 14.35 | 14.10 | 14.29 | +.04 |
| YumBrands | 38.28 | 37.55 | 38.00 | +.54 |

MAR 29 2004

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# Hometown supporters wince as Dems evoke Herbert Hoover to bash Bush

WEST BRANCH, Iowa (AP) — The Democrats say it over and over: George W. Bush is the first president since Herbert Hoover to lose jobs on his watch. When they hear it, the folks in West Branch wince.

"They've dug up poor Mr. Hoover again and tried to turn him into the boogeyman of the campaign," said Tim Walch, director of the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum. Both are in sight of Hoover's birthplace and the hill on which the 31st president is buried.

"It's really irrelevant to what's happening, and people can't get over it," said West Branch Mayor Mike Quinlan, a Democrat. "Hoover would have shown more class and never would have bashed a Democrat — but it's easy to do that."

Admirers defend the Hoover administration and point out that the former president became one of the great humanitarians of the 20th century with his efforts to stop world hunger.

Democrats have evoked the image of Hoover off and on since his defeat by Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1932, the political victim of a stock-market crash and the Great Depression. Walch said there hasn't been such a coordinated, partywide effort to link Hoover with a Republican candidate since Harry Truman's desperate campaign in 1948.

To call attention to the number of jobs lost during the Bush administration, 51 unemployed people are taking a "Show Us Your Jobs" bus tour to battleground states on behalf of the AFL-CIO. When the bus reached West Branch last week, they scrambled to take pictures at the Hoover museum.

That nagging statistic came up Friday when Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry announced his economic plan in Detroit: "America cannot afford four more years of a president who is the first president to lose jobs since Herbert Hoover and the Great Depression."

"Every time I hear it, I think to myself, 'What is this guy trying to accomplish?'" the late president's grandson, Herbert Hoover III, 76, said in a telephone interview from his home in San Marino, Calif. "It's a sound bite to create an image that really doesn't stand much questioning when you are looking at the facts behind it."

The basic charge is true: Bush, who has seen 2.2 million jobs disappear during his term, will be the first president since Hoover to end his first four years with fewer jobs than when he took office.

The comparison, however, exaggerates the size of the current hiring downturn. Today's unemployment rate is 5.6 percent, but at the height of the Depression about 30 percent of the nation's workers were idle — a contrast that might help Bush but also shows the depth of the problems Hoover couldn't solve.

Walch noted another reason Democrats should be careful. Hoover was criticized for raising taxes on the wealthy and embracing a protectionist trade policy, both of which many Democrats support today.

West Branch residents proudly note that Hoover saved millions of lives as U.S. food administrator, feeding starving people throughout Europe during and after World War I. He performed a similar duty after World War II. Many in his hometown say he was president at the wrong time.

Hoover was born in this eastern Iowa community in 1874. A Quaker who made millions traveling the world as a mining engineer, he served eight years as Commerce Secretary before defeating New York Gov. Al Smith in a landslide in 1928.

Then came the stock market crash and the Depression. Critics called Hoover a cruel leader who ignored the millions living in poverty on his watch, epitomized by tent cities nicknamed Hoovervilles. Twelve presidents later, and 40 years after his death, Hoover remains a punching bag for economic doldrums.

# Bush adviser Karen Hughes launches favorable memoir

AUSTIN (AP) — Presidential adviser Karen Hughes kicked off a six-week national book tour Sunday with unblinking support for President Bush and the war in Iraq.

Speaking about her memoir "Ten Minutes from Normal," Hughes said she was upset by recent claims from former White House counterterrorism chief Richard Clarke that the administration didn't take the threat from al-Qaida seriously enough before the Sept. 11 attacks.

Hughes called Clarke's criticism the "Washington blame game."

"The only person responsible for the al-Qaida attacks on America was al-Qaida," Hughes said Sunday. "I've been very distressed and almost sickened as I've watched over the last week the distortion that I've seen."

The book release comes nearly two years after Hughes traded her pressure-cooker days at the White House for a life in Austin more "attuned to the school and church calendar." She has increased her public appearances as Bush's re-election campaign moved forward, and she expects to join the campaign full time in August.

Hughes' memoir is the story of balancing her personal life as a wife and mother with her job as one of the president's most trusted advisers.

Her memoir calls Bush "powerful and tough" on the war on terror.

She said Bush helped compose speeches, revised Middle East policy and marched nations to war without fear or doubt after terrorists struck in New York and Washington on Sept. 11, 2001.

"I think more highly of the president today and of Mrs. Bush than the day I went to work for him," she said.

Recent books by Clarke and former Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill have been critical of the White House, including claims that from its earliest days the Bush administration was looking for ways to remove Saddam Hussein from power.

Hughes wrote that the administration weighed every option before going to war in Iraq.

"I watched over the course of a long year as smart, thoughtful people considered every option; debated strategy, worked hard to convince other nations that the world should present a united front," she wrote.

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# Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Tuesday, March 30, 2004

Your Birthday

Because variety is the spice of life and the style to which you aspire, a number of changes that are in store for you in the year ahead will be appealing to you. You'll know how to make the most of fresh opportunities.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** — Of course you need to take charge of the direction your life takes, but distinguish between being properly assertive and unduly aggressive today. The latter will cause you nothing but problems.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** — Information passed on to you today from so-called "insiders" could be greatly exaggerated and overrated. Without absolute facts at your disposal, take all that you hear with a grain of salt.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** — Your impulse to treat others generously today is to be admired. However, be sure those to whom you extend your munificence are truly worthy of being helped and not just takers.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** — Doing things in a piecemeal fashion today will deprive you of the success you're seeking. Lay out a game plan and coordinate your efforts so that your forces aren't spread too thin.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** — You're usually quite discerning in assessing information, but today you may tend to believe everything you hear and thereby allow a conniving person to use you as a conduit for gossip.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — Make it a point today not to offer advice to friends or associates whether it is solicited or not, especially in matters relating to business or financial affairs. Things are not apt to go right.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** — The possibility of associates being swayed to your point of view in controversial matters today is slim at best, so don't even attempt to spur a dead horse. Save your voice for better things.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** — Co-workers or helpers will not become more productive but pull away from you today if you are too critical of their efforts. Lead by example, not with offensive remarks.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** — When it comes to your large expenditures today, you're likely to be conscientious and have things under control. However, you may play havoc with the dollars-and-cents stuff.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — Volatile family issues should not be introduced into conversations around the dinner table today. The wrong remarks would ignite sparks that could burn the house down.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** — Adopting double standards is asking for unnecessary problems to erupt today. If you tell others they shouldn't be doing certain things, make sure you don't then go ahead and do them yourself.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** — Keep a more watchful eye than usual on your incidental expenses today, especially when socializing with friends. Without realizing it, you may be the only one reaching for the tab.

Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker wheel instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167.

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## Artist wins top prize

CARDIFF, Wales (AP) — A New York-based artist became the first winner of a new British art prize on Sunday for a work made from dust collected from the streets of Manhattan after the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

Xu Bing was awarded the inaugural $72,000 Artes Mundi, the Wales International Visual Art Prize, at a ceremony at the National Museum and Gallery in Cardiff.

*Your Complete Area*

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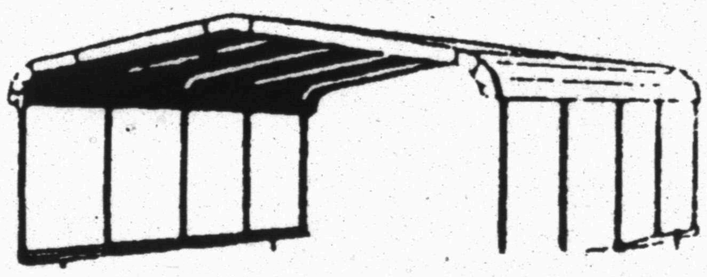
*Spotlight*



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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

# 19 killed, 26 hurt in Uzbek terror attacks

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan (AP) — A series of bombings and attacks linked to Islamic militants, including the first known suicide missions in Uzbekistan, killed 19 people and injured 26, the prosecutor-general said today.

"A preliminary investigation shows all the events are interconnected and aimed at destabilization of the country," Prosecutor-General Rashid Kadyrov said after the attacks in the Central Asian country Sunday and today.

Female suicide bombers carried out the blasts at the Chorsu market, the biggest bazaar in Tashkent, near the "Children's World" store, and at a nearby bus stop, Kadyrov said.

Police and intelligence agents closed off the market in the capital's Old City.

A witness who did not give her name said she felt the ground shake when one of the explosions went off. She said she saw a woman crying over the motionless body of a child.

President Islam Karimov said the attacks had been planned at least six months in advance and had been originally set to take place before the March 21 Central Asian new year holiday Navruz. The operation's planning and financing indicated it had outside support, he said.

"As the president, I promise all measures will be taken to stop such terrorist acts," Karimov said on state TV in a Russian translation of remarks in Uzbek.

Kadyrov said the events began Sunday night with a blast that killed 10 people at a house being used by an extremist in the central province of Bukhara.

There were also two attacks on police Sunday night and early today, killing three policemen. The two suicide bombings near the Chorsu bazaar, killed three policemen and a young child, he said.

Atonazar Arifov, leader of the opposition Erk party, also cited witnesses as saying that one of the suicide bombers had targeted a group of policemen.

Kadyrov said one person had been arrested and that authorities were searching for others.

Kadyrov said the attacks were carried out by Islamic extremists.

# Peter Ustinov, actor and ambassador of UNICEF, dies at 82

GENEVA (AP) — Sir Peter Ustinov, a brilliant wit and mimic who won two Oscars for an acting career that ranged from the evil Nero in "Quo Vadis" to the quirky Agatha Christie detective Hercule Poirot, has died. He was 82.

Ustinov, a renaissance man whose talents included writing plays, movies and novels as well as directing operas, also devoted himself to the world's children for more 30 years as a goodwill ambassador for UNICEF.

He died of heart failure late Sunday night in a Genolier clinic near his home at Bursins in Swiss vineyards overlooking Lake Geneva, close friend Leon Davico, a former UNICEF spokesman, told The Associated Press.

"He was a great man. He was a human being. He was a unique person, someone you could really count on," said Davico.

Born in London on April 16, 1921, the only son of a Russian artist mother and a journalist father, Ustinov claimed also to have Swiss, Ethiopian, Italian and French blood — everything except English.

Ustinov delighted in national differences and frequently referred to them in his works and public appearances. He was — as he noted proudly in his autobiography "Dear Me" — conceived in St. Petersburg, Russia, baptized in a village near Stuttgart, Germany, and reared under a succession of Cameroonian, Irish and German nurses.

His imposing figure, variously described as resembling a teddy bear, a giant panda or a Georgian frontage, began 12 pounds at birth and stayed with him throughout his career.

Ustinov made some 90 movies and also written books and plays. He directed films, plays and operas. His narration of Tchaikovsky's "Peter and the Wolf" won him a Grammy.

Among his film roles were a nomad in the outback who befriends a family in "The Sundowners," a one-eyed slave in "The Egyptian," Agatha Christie's Belgian detective Hercule Poirot in "Death on the Nile," and Abdi Aga, an illiterate tyrant with pretensions of learning in "Memed My Hawk."

Ustinov won best supporting actor Oscars for the role of Batiatus, owner of the gladiator school in "Spartacus" (1960), and as Arthur Simpson, an English small-time black marketeer in Turkey who gets caught up in a jewel heist in "Topkapi" (1965).

His Nero — the Roman emperor who presided over the throwing of Christians to the lions — won him a Golden Globe for best supporting actor in the 1951 movie "Quo Vadis."

He also won three television Emmys.

# Bush welcoming seven former Soviet-bloc nations into NATO

WASHINGTON (AP) — Russia may be quietly concerned about NATO's expanding girth, but the United States is not as President Bush welcomes seven former Soviet-dominated nations joining the 55-year-old alliance.

Bush presides today at a White House ceremony to greet the prime ministers of the new member nations along with NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer.

With the addition of Bulgaria, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia, NATO's membership grows from 19 countries to 26. The new members will take part in their first meeting Friday in Brussels. Three other nations — Albania, Croatia and Macedonia — hope to join.

NATO has agreed to include the Baltic states under its air defense shield, planning to enforce it by stationing four F-16 fighter planes in Lithuania.

De Hoop Scheffer told reporters at a breakfast interview today that fighter planes would begin "air policing" over the Baltic states at the moment their NATO membership takes effect today, and that he explained the policy to Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov two weeks ago.

"I think that the Russian Federation has very well understood that NATO has, of course, no ulterior motives by air-policing its airspace," de Hoop Scheffer said, adding that NATO has a solid relationship with Russia. "I think that NATO and Russia will further build on this partnership."

Some new members, such as Romania and Bulgaria, have military bases and training ranges that the United States would like to use, or have access to, in times of crisis. Their presence could mean a decided shift in NATO's decision-making processes, particularly within the governing councils, said Marine Gen. James Jones, the supreme allied commander in Europe.

"It will be a different organization," Jones told reporters Friday. "The eastern European influence will change the voting demographics; they'll bring different views."

# Four insurgents killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — U.S. soldiers in the northern city of Mosul shot and killed four rebels suspected of involvement in attacks in the region, the military said today. Two American soldiers were wounded in the firefight.

The fighting came hours after gunmen fired on a convoy carrying a government minister near Mosul and the separate killings of a Canadian and Briton in the area.

Today, in the southern city of Basra, British troops clashed with dozens of Iraqis when the soldiers tried to evict anti-coalition activists from a government-owned building. Associated Press Television News footage showed Iraqis throwing stones and bricks at the troops and their vehicles, and setting fire to tires in the streets.

At one point, two soldiers with plastic shields and wooden batons struggled with an Iraqi man, who grabbed one of their weapons. Three Iraqis were injured, including one man who was carried away by his comrades.

A freelance photographer working for The Associated Press, Nabil al-Jourani, was shot in a leg with a rubber bullet by the soldiers. Attempts to contact British forces in the region were not immediately successful.

On Sunday, the U.S. led coalition shut down a weekly newspaper run by followers of a hard-line Shiite Muslim cleric, saying its articles were increasing the threat of violence against occupation forces.

Hours after the closure of Al-Hawza, more than 1,000 supporters of cleric Muqtada al-Sadr demonstrated peacefully in front of the newspaper's offices, decrying what they called a crackdown on freedom of expression.

In Mosul, the four rebels were killed late Sunday in a firefight with a U.S. military police patrol, a military statement said. The troops stopped the rebels' vehicle because it matched the description of one used in an earlier drive-by shooting at U.S. forces in the city.

Inside the vehicle, soldiers found assault rifles, a rocket-propelled-grenade launcher and other weapons. U.S. and Iraqi security forces were investigating.

# Three arrested over weekend

• ***Arrests***

Three men — ages 34, 26 and 20 — were arrested at 11:48 p.m. Saturday on Brickplant Road for possession of marijuana, under two ounces. The 26-year-old was also charged with criminal mischief, misdemeanor driving while intoxicated, no driver's license and no insurance.

Also at 11:48 p.m. Saturday an 18-year-old male was arrested in the 2900 block of FM 1607 on trespassing charges.

A 36-year-old woman was arrested in the 2700 block of Ave. T on a Lubbock County warrant.

At 1:15 a.m. Sunday, a 21-year-old male was arrested at 1:15 a.m. Sunday in the 2500 block o El Paso on misdemeanor DWI charges and a 26-year-old male was arrested on the same charges at 3:38 a.m. on Highway 208, south of bridge at Dunn.

• ***Criminal Mischief***

A report of eggs being thrown on at least two vehicles was reported in the 300 block of 31st Street at 7:40 a.m. Saturday.

A resident reported a dented hood on a 2003 Ford Escort at 12:25 p.m., in the 2300 block of 30th Street.

Damage to a vehicle was reported in the 2900 block of FM 1607 at 12:48 p.m. Sunday.

• ***Burglary***

A man in the 2300 block of Ave. M reported at 1:48 p.m. Saturday that some property had been stolen from his residence sometime between 10:30 a.m. and noon that day.

• ***Theft***

Two separate incidents of camera theft were reported at Wal-Mart Saturday. The first was at 1:06 p.m. when two digital cameras were reported stolen. Another digital camera was reported stolen at 4:21 p.m.

Three guitars and an amplifier were reported stolen Sunday in the 3300 block of south U.S. 84.

• ***Safety Concern***

A resident reported snakes in the trees at Towle Park Pond. Officials believe the snakes were not poisonous.

• ***UUMV***

At 1:54 p.m. Sunday a man reported the theft of his son's vehicle from the 300 block of 34th Street.

# Obituaries

## A.C. Morton

**1916-2004**

WINK — Allen Calvin "A.C." Morton, father of Toby Morton of Snyder, died Saturday, March 27, in Medical Center Hospital in Odessa.

Service for Mr. Morton, 87, is set for 2 p.m. Tuesday in the First Baptist Church in Wink with Gary Redwine officiating. Interment will follow in the Kermit Cemetery.

Born Nov. 5, 1916 in Eastland, he married Lova Genee Newell on Dec. 5, 1936 in Eastland. Mr. Morton, a cowboy, supported Wink athletics and the Winkler County 4-H Club and was a past member of the Odd Fellows.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Tobe and Nevada Morton; one brother, Raleigh O. Morton; two sisters, Gladys Hensley and Lila Lena Graham; and one grandson, Brett Morton.

Survivors include his wife, Lova Genee Morton of Wink; two other sons, Allen Morton of Stockton, Mo., and Raleigh Morton of Wink; one daughter, Helen Voyles of Wink; two sisters, Folia Mae Jarrett and Celia Ray Beck, both of Eastland; a daughter-in-law Dianne Morton of Snyder; 12 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

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## Today's Weather

### Local 3-Day Forecast

| Tue 3/30 | Wed 3/31 | Thu 4/1 |
|---|---|---|
| 76/49 | 77/56 | 81/57 |
| Abundant sunshine. High 76F. Winds SW at 10 to 15 mph. | Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the mid 50s. | Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 50s. |
| Sunrise 6:34 AM, Sunset 7:03 PM | Sunrise 6:32 AM, Sunset 7:03 PM | Sunrise 6:31 AM, Sunset 7:04 PM |

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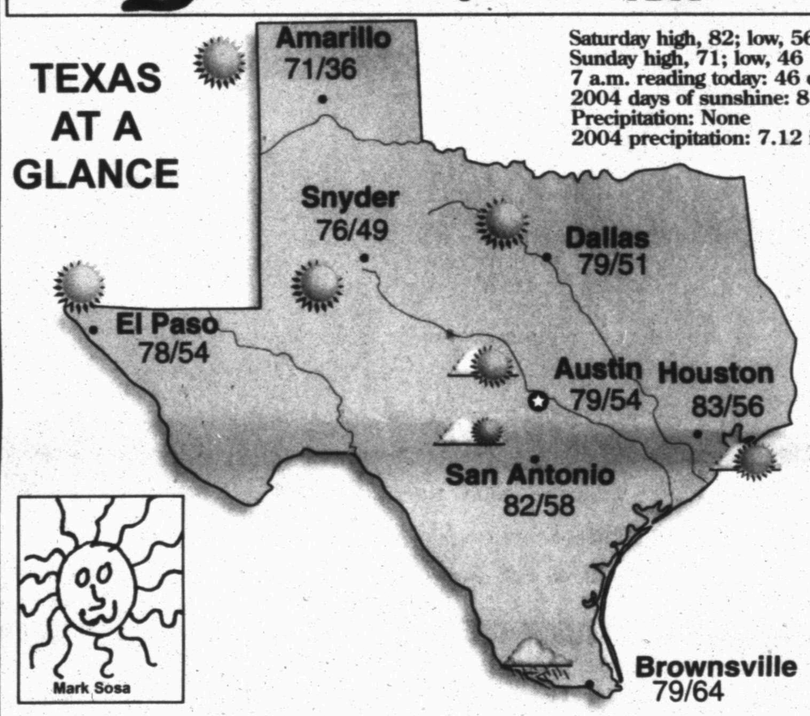
### TEXAS AT A GLANCE




Saturday high, 82; low, 56
Sunday high, 71; low, 46
7 a.m. reading today: 46 degrees
2004 days of sunshine: 81 of 88
Precipitation: None
2004 precipitation: 7.12 inches

### Area Cities

| City | Hi | Lo | Cond. | City | Hi | Lo | Cond. | City | Hi | Lo | Cond. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Abilene | 78 | 52 | sunny | El Paso | 78 | 54 | sunny | Midland | 78 | 53 | sunny |
| Amarillo | 71 | 36 | sunny | Fort Stockton | 77 | 53 | sunny | Raymondville | 79 | 61 | cloudy |
| Austin | 79 | 54 | mst sunny | Gainesville | 74 | 45 | sunny | Rosenberg | 83 | 55 | mst sunny |
| Beaumont | 82 | 54 | mst sunny | Greenville | 76 | 47 | sunny | San Antonio | 82 | 58 | pt sunny |
| Brownsville | 79 | 64 | t-storm | Houston | 83 | 56 | mst sunny | San Marcos | 81 | 55 | mst sunny |
| Brownwood | 82 | 51 | sunny | Kingsville | 81 | 61 | pt sunny | Sulphur Springs | 75 | 46 | sunny |
| Corpus Christi | 78 | 62 | pt sunny | Livingston | 83 | 50 | mst sunny | Sweetwater | 78 | 52 | sunny |
| Corsicana | 79 | 50 | sunny | Longview | 77 | 47 | mst sunny | Tyler | 78 | 49 | mst sunny |
| Dallas | 79 | 51 | sunny | Lubbock | 75 | 43 | sunny | Weatherford | 77 | 47 | sunny |
| Del Rio | 78 | 61 | cloudy | Lufkin | 83 | 50 | mst sunny | Wichita Falls | 73 | 44 | sunny |

### National Cities

| City | Hi | Lo | Cond. | City | Hi | Lo | Cond. | City | Hi | Lo | Cond. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Atlanta | 65 | 42 | rain | Houston | 83 | 56 | mst sunny | Phoenix | 95 | 65 | sunny |
| Boston | 48 | 37 | pt sunny | Los Angeles | 74 | 55 | pt sunny | San Francisco | 58 | 48 | rain |
| Chicago | 46 | 37 | rain | Miami | 80 | 65 | pt sunny | Seattle | 54 | 43 | rain |
| Dallas | 79 | 51 | sunny | Minneapolis | 39 | 25 | sn shower | St. Louis | 51 | 37 | rain |
| Denver | 67 | 36 | sunny | New York | 51 | 42 | pt sunny | Washington, DC | 54 | 43 | cloudy |

### Moon Phases

| First | Full | Last | New |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mar 28 | Apr 5 | Apr 12 | Apr 19 |

### UV Index

| Tue 3/30 | Wed 3/31 | Thu 4/1 |
|---|---|---|
| High | High | High |

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

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MAR 29 2004

Best Available Copy



# Vitamin E linked to lower risk of bladder cancer

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Getting plenty of vitamin E by eating foods like nuts and olive oil appears to cut in half people's risk of bladder cancer, the fourth leading cancer killer among men, a new study suggests.

The research, released at a cancer conference Sunday, is the latest blip in the ups and downs of perceptions about this nutrient's powers to ward off disease. Experts once had high hopes that vitamin E would prove to be an important safeguard against heart attacks. But that idea eventually faded as repeated studies failed to show any protective effect.

Whether vitamin E does anything to stop cancer is still far from proven, but some think the vitamin may be helpful, perhaps by warding off the damaging effects of oxygen. The strongest evidence of this so far has been against prostate cancer, and a large federally sponsored experiment is under way to help prove this.

The new study offers a strong hint that dietary vitamin E may also protect against bladder cancer, which kills about 12,500 Americans annually and is four times more common in men than women.

The study was based on questionnaires of the eating habits of about 1,000 Houston residents. Those whose vitamin E intake was in the top 25 percent had just half as much bladder cancer as those in the lowest quarter. The actual difference in the amount of vitamin-rich food the two extremes ate was small, however, the equivalent of a single daily serving of spinach or a handful of almonds.

The research was funded largely by the state of Texas. It was presented by John Radcliffe, a nutrition researcher from Texas Woman's University, at a meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research in Orlando.

The reduction was roughly the same, regardless of whether people got their vitamin E from food alone or in combination with vitamin pills.

The team looked at the two most common forms of vitamin E, called alpha- and gamma-tocopherol, and found that only the alpha variety was linked with lower bladder cancer risk. Good sources of this include almonds, spinach, mustard greens, peppers, sunflower seeds and a variety of oils, including olive, cottonseed and canola.

Experts say it is too soon to make any firm recommendations about vitamin E intake for cancer prevention beyond the usual advice to eat plenty of vegetables and other plant-based foods.

"People need not be afraid to incorporate nuts and seeds into their diets," Radcliffe said. "For a long time, dietitians would not recommend them because they are high in fat. But half an ounce to an ounce of nuts and seeds daily would not shoot up someone's calorie levels appreciably."

Researchers would like to tease out which elements of the diet are especially healthful. Many studies have shown that people who eat lots of fruits and vegetables have lower risk of cancer. However, these foods contain more than 100 potentially helpful vitamins, minerals and other substances, and no one knows exactly which components do this.

Some wonder whether people who often eat fruits and vegetables have healthier living habits overall, so their diets might have little real importance. For now, the best scientists can do is recommend that people eat five more servings daily of a variety of vegetables and fruits.

# Saddam's French lawyer criticizes Bush

PARIS (AP) — A French lawyer who claims to be representing Saddam Hussein said Sunday he doesn't think there will be a trial for a long time and criticized President Bush for pronouncing the former dictator guilty of atrocities.

Jacques Verges said he believes the United States has violated the Geneva Conventions on several counts in its detention of Saddam, and said the world must wait for a trial to determine what Saddam did wrong.

"We know that Mr. Bush has said he's guilty," Verges told Associated Press Television News. "But what does that mean? Mr. Bush is not a judge. We cannot accept him as a judge. He is an enemy of Saddam Hussein."

Verges, known for taking on clients including terrorists and a Nazi leader, said he didn't think Saddam's trial would happen "before a long time."

By the most conservative estimates, Saddam's regime killed 300,000 men, women and children during his 23 years as president. Investigators are still sifting through millions of pages of documents and some 270 mass graves.

Verges said he received a letter from Saddam's family requesting that he defend the former leader, and he agreed to do so. There has been no confirmation that he will be Saddam's lawyer, and U.S. officials have not yet commented on the claim.

Verges said his most pressing work will be to ensure that Iraq's occupying forces respect the 1949 Geneva Conventions. He said Saddam's family has received no information about his health in U.S. detention. Saddam was captured in December.

Referring to the televised footage of Saddam's medical exam after his capture in December, Verges said: "It's against the Geneva Conventions to interrogate a man, examine and exhibit him like an animal at a fair, with a doctor acting more like a veterinarian — looking at his teeth, his hair, his tongue."

President Bush has said that details still need to be worked out before Saddam can be handed over to Iraq's leaders, who have said they want a quick trial that would sentence Saddam to death.

The International Committee of the Red Cross visited Saddam in jail for the first time in February. The ICRC does not release details of such visits or the prisoner's confinement.

However, Saddam did write a letter to his family that was to be delivered once the United States confirmed it does not contain any hidden messages to his followers. Verges did not discuss that letter.

## Oil Patch News

**Scurry County**

Kinder Morgan has completed the No. 142-10 SACROC unit in the Kelly-Snyder field, four miles northwest of Snyder. The well was finaled to produce 10 barrels of oil and 1,761 barrels of water. Perforations were from 6,682-7054 feet, and location is in Section 40, Kirkland and Fields survey.

Kinder Morgan has completed the No. 142-7 SACROC unit in the Kelly-Snyder field, four miles northwest of Snyder. The well was finaled to produce two barrels of oil and 826 barrels of water. Perforations were from 6,661-7,064 feet, and location is in Section 40, Kirkland and Fields survey.

Parallel Petroleum will drill the No. 136-2 McLaughlin in the Diamond M field, 10 miles southwest of Snyder. Planned for a depth of 3,700 feet, location is in Section 196, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Parallel Petroleum will drill the No. 29 Jack in the Diamond M field, 10 miles southwest of Snyder. Also contracted for 3,700 feet, drill site is in Section 196, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Parallel Petroleum will drill the No. 27 Jack in the Diamond M field, 10 miles southeast of Snyder. Planned depth is 3,700 feet, and location is in Section 196, Block 907, H&TC survey.

Parallel Petroleum will drill the No. 135-1 McLaughlin in the Diamond M field, 10 miles southwest of Snyder Scheduled for a depth of 3,700 feet, location is in Section 196, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Parallel will drill the No. 28 Jack in the same field, 10 miles southwest of Snyder. Also contracted for 3,700 feet, location is in Section 196, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Parallel Petroleum will drill the No. 26 Jack in the Diamond M field, 10 miles southwest of Snyder. Scheduled depth is 3,700 feet, and location is in Section 196, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Parallel Petroleum will drill the No. 36 Jack in the Diamond M field, 10 miles southwest of Snyder. Planned depth is 3,700 feet, and location is in Section 196, Block 97, H&TC survey.

**Borden County**

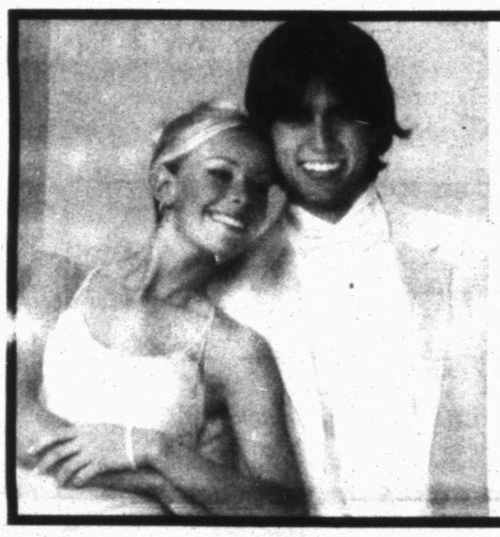
Manzano will drill the No. 1 Shooter, a 7,300-foot wildcat located seven miles northwest of Gail. Location is in Section 45, Block 36, T6N, T&P survey.

**Kent County**

Southwest Royalties will drill the No. 1 J.B. Gilbert, a 7,175-foot re-entry wildcat located eight miles southwest of Clairemont. Location is in Section 54, Block 4, H&GN survey.

**Howard County**

Patriot Resources Inc. will drill the No. 41-1A Calley, a 9,000-foot wildcat re-completion, 1.5 miles northeast of Fairview. Location is in Section 42, Block 32, T2N, T&P survey.

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'03 Sunfire 10K Miles, CD, Air, Spoiler, Cruise ..... $9,750
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'00 Chevy 2500 CrewCab Silverado LS Pkg. .. $12,850
'04 Ford F250 Supercab XLT 2K miles, Like New ... $23,850
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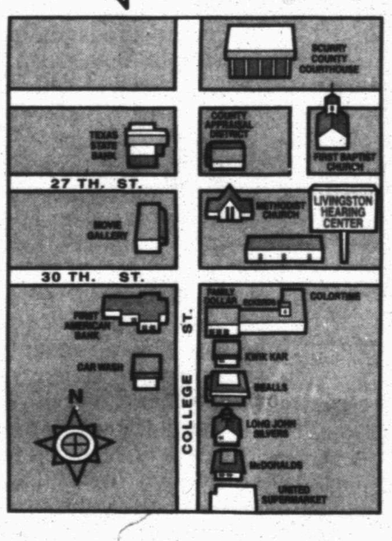


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