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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY

Feb. 26, 2004
Vol. 55 No. 259
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Monette O'Day

Cogdell to interview six candidates

By Roy McQueen
SDN Publisher

Hospital leadership and the need to reduce bad debt were the focus of this morning's two-hour meeting of the Cogdell Memorial Hospital board of managers.

A short-list of six candidates will be interviewed for chief executive officer, a post vacant since Cogdell severed its 13-year affiliation with Covenant Health Systems last December.

The board agreed to set up interviews quickly, hopefully having the interview process completed within the next two weeks.

The six finalists are Donald Griffin of The Woodlands, Carol Hanes of Linden, Larry Knetzer of Dumas, James Koulovatos of Lindsay, Okla., William Moore of Comanche and James Robinson Sr. of Keller.

The board narrowed the field from an original list of 36 applicants received by TORCH, a search firm hired by the hospital. The firm will set up the interviews, and the board indicated it would like to have two interviews a day.

The board also was introduced to Richard Murphy of Midland who will serve as interim chief financial officer. Ron Hunt of Ennis, who has served as interim CFO since December, will relocate to East Texas and today was his last at Cogdell.

Murphy said he would serve until the new CEO had a opportunity to hire a permanent financial officer.

The board also approved a contract that will be offered to Scott Gordon, a physician's assistant, who will see patients in the rural health clinic.

Gordon, who now lives in Fritch, has visited the hospital and is expected to sign the agreement and be on the job in Snyder shortly after giving a 30-day notice.

The contract calls for an annual salary of $85,000 and moving expense of up to $3,500. Also if the average number of patients per day exceeds 24 in any month, the rural clinic provider would be paid $30 per patient over 24. The rural health clinic averages 13 patients daily.

During the financial report, Hunt noted that the hospital revenues in January were $1.3 million, down $209,036 from the prior year.

Net loss for the first month of 2004 was $274,661. Bad debt expense for the month was $360,891, an increase of $206,705 for the same period last year.

Hunt told the board that practices are being put in place in the business office in an effort to trim bad debt and also to reduce the number of days that charges go unbilled.

"That would improve our cash flow," Hunt said. Current gross days for billing is 76 and the interim CFO said 40 to 50 days would be a more acceptable time period.

Hunt estimated that $1.4 in services currently are unbilled and that could mean an additional $300,000 to $400,000 in funds if the billing could go out more quickly.

Hunt suggested that the board might want to consider reducing the number of days that physicians have to complete patient charts. The policy is now 30 days.

The board approved two capital expenditures - $16,987 for teleradiology equipment and $17,995 for a video gastroscope. The former is used to send digital x-rays for evaluation by radiologists in Abilene.

The board also approved submission of an application for a $5,000 grant from the Texas Department of Rural Community Affairs.

The funds would be used to determine if it would be advantageous to change the hospital's status from sole community provider to critical access. The grant application has been prepared by J.B. Tate Jr. and will be submitted Friday.

New board member Wade Warren was named as the board's representative on the Cogdell Foundation.

Cheryl Chance, director of nurses who also is interim CEO, reported that the number of external agency nurses utilized in January were down significantly, but that internal agency usage was up.

Chairman Dink Foree presided and board members present were Dr. Charles Church, Bo Robinson, Terry Williams, Warren and Mark Cullifer.



COOL AND CONTROLLED — Lacey Rowe (left) and Amanda Mitchell play angels, bad girls and chicks in between in *Parallel Lives, The Kathy and Mo Show* opening at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Western Texas College. (SDN Staff Photo by Annie Rowe)

WTC presents *Parallel Lives*

Western Texas College Fine Arts Department will present *Parallel Lives: The Kathy and Mo Show, by* Kathy Najimi and Mo Gaffney, for two performances opening at 7:30 p.m. Friday. and again Saturday evening at 7:30 at the WTC Fine Arts Theatre.

The two-woman play stars Amanda Mitchell as Kathy and Lacey Rowe as Mo. The comedy opens with two mid-management angels, given the task of creating the world by "the Big Guy", beginning the process of two slightly sadistic suburban wives decorating a living room. With boundless humor, *Parallel Lives* examines the ongoing quest to find parity and love in a contest handicapped by capricious gods — or in this case, goddesses.

"This play is a big change from our last production, *The Mai*, which was more dramatic. The humor is much lighter and slightly goofy. Lots of laughs," said theatre director Ray Newton.

Mitchell and Rowe serve as tour guides for the audience with a variety of roles throughout the production including a pair of West Side Story-loving Brooklyn teens to a pair of Catholic schoolgirls, to middle-age housewives during the theatrical trip.

"The comedy is all over the place. I think the audience will really enjoy it," said Newton.

Tickets are available at the WTC theatre box office. Admission is $5 for adults, $3 for students and senior citizens and WTC faculty and staff are free. Additional information is available by contacting the WTC fine arts department at 573-8511, ext. 234.

Former Baylor coach paid players' tuition

WACO (AP) — Baylor University's former basketball coach made improper payments to students and allowed major NCAA infractions to occur in his program, the school president said today.

President Robert Sloan discussed details of a report prepared by a school-appointed committee to study the university's basketball program after player Patrick Dennehy was killed last summer and another player was charged with his murder.

The committee found evidence that former coach Dave Bliss paid the tuition for two players, including Dennehy, during the 2002-03 season and the program did not report some players' failed drug tests, Sloan said.

"The university also has determined that the former coach engaged in unethical conduct by making the payments and engaging in an effort to conceal his activity and providing false information to the university's investigators," Sloan said.

Sloan said the school shared in the responsibility for allowing the program to go unchecked.

"There were red flags that should have been noticed," Sloan said.

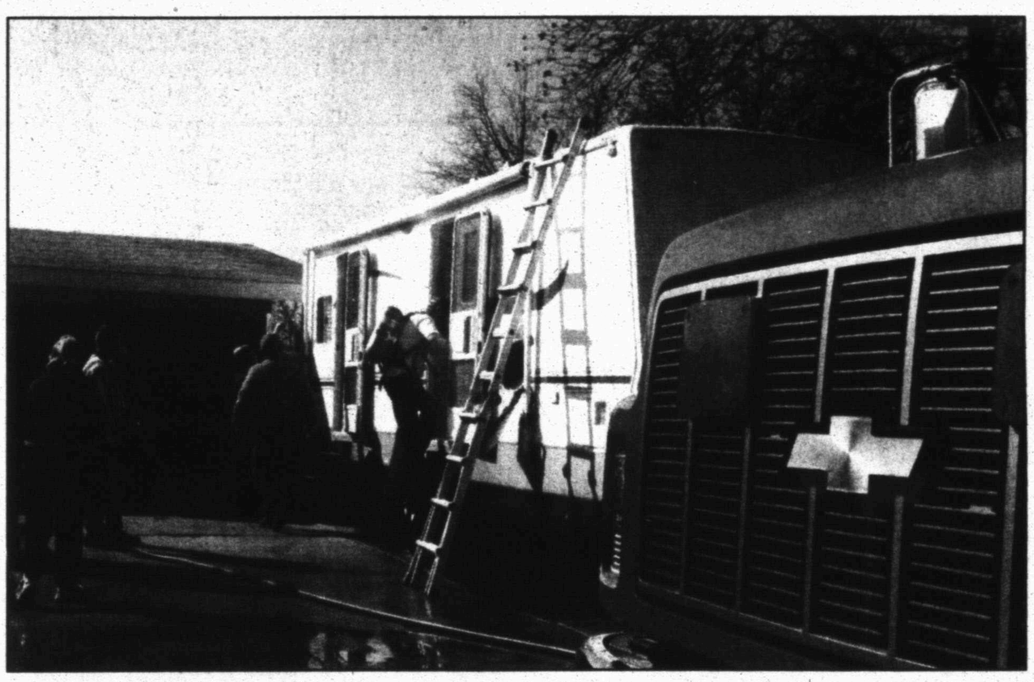
Early voting is slow

The cold weather this week may have played a role in the abject numbers, but only eight votes were cast Wednesday afternoon and this morning in early voting for the March 9 primaries. Of the 91 votes cast, 76 have voted Republican while 15 have cast Democratic ballots.

"I really think the weather played a role in the lower number of voters. They were just not the type of days for people to get out. I expect the numbers to increase as the weather gets warmer," said County Clerk Joan Bunch.

Voters may cast their ballots through March 5 in the county courtroom.

Voting hours are 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.



SINGED RV — Snyder Fire Department responded at 10:47 this morning to a travel trailer ablaze at the home of Billy Evans at 3004 34th Street. Firemen had the flames contained in a short time. (SDN Staff Photo by Annie Rowe)

ASK US

Q—When do the Texas Rangers open the season and when is the first home game?

A—April 5 at Oakland. The first home date is April 9 against Anaheim.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Vickie Simpson...

...has been a Snyder resident for nine years, moving from Roscoe. She is married to Jacky Simpson and they have two sons: Cade, 16, and Kodee, 9. She is the daughter of Janie Villegas of Snyder and her hobbies are spending time with her family and watching baseball.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

To be in your children's memories tomorrow, you have to be in their lives today.

—Unknown

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN

by Annie Rowe



I'm anticipating the opening of the movie *Hidalgo*. The movie is about a pony express rider and his beautiful paint horse, Hidalgo, who travel miles to the Arabian Desert to compete in the "Ocean of Fire" — the greatest endurance race ever run. A whopping 3,000 miles.

Well, I'm here to tell you about the greatest quarter-mile mule race ever run. The momentous Muleshoe Mule Days mule race.

Please return with me to days gone by. All the way back to 1992, to the town of Muleshoe, Texas.

The annual mule days were upon us and the whole town was buzzing. There would be big doin's usually associated with a festival, along with a mule race.

I was a pen rider back in those days and I worked with a couple of partners named, believe it or not, Jack and Jack. Everyone on the yard called them "Jack Sr." and "Jack Jr."

And to complicate things a little more the two Jacks were of no relation whatsoever. Jack Sr. was a Muleshoe native who raised some of Muleshoe's finest mules. Jack Jr. was a 23-year-old immigrant from South Africa who dreamed of being a cowboy and loved to cross the state line into New Mexico (the nearest legal booze) to donate much of his paycheck to the Boot Hill Club in Clovis.

The three of us had decided to participate in the mule race on a little mule owned by Jack Sr. named Reba. Yes, you guessed it Jack Sr. is a huge fan of *the* Reba.

We had it all worked out. Jack Sr. supplied Reba, I would do the conditioning and Jack Jr. would be our 126-pound jockey.

The winning pot was a monumental $300, so for our combined efforts, we would each get $100. We couldn't miss.

Reba, Jack Jr. and I sweated blood getting ready for this race which was to be held on Saturday morning.

Jack Jr. decided that he needed to celebrate his competitive spirit by taking a trip to the Boot Hill on Friday night.

Very early on Saturday, my telephone rang.

"A wonderful morning to you, Annie my girl," said the voice on the other end. "I've spent an outstanding night with a gentleman in uniform."

Jack Jr., my illustrious jockey, was in jail.

"Where are you?" I asked.

"I'm in Fare ye well," he answered in a jolly tone.

In jail in Farwell, Texas. He wasn't going anywhere until Monday.

Jack Sr. and I held an emergency pow-wow to decide what to do and we decided that I would act as Jack Jr.'s replacement jockey.

Those of you who've met me know that I'm only slightly heavier than your average jockey is, so it seemed reasonable.

Race time arrived and we saddled up Reba. Jack Sr. asked the judge where the starting line would be.

"We're not using a line, we're using starting gates," he said.

I was in BIG trouble. Reba was ticked off enough at just having to be in town. Now I was going to have to ask her to walk into an actual starting gate. I might as well ask her to walk into an oven.

Stay tuned to next week's column for the race results.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Chamber after hours

Business after hours for members of the Snyder Chamber of Commerce will be from 5-7 p.m. today.

Friday is SHS yearbook deadline

Friday is the last day to order the Tiger's Lair yearbook. For more information, call 574-6138.

SHS tennis team fundraiser

The SHS tennis team will be selling Krispy Kreme donuts from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday at Wal-Mart. Cost is $6 a dozen. Preorders can be picked up during this time.

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.

First Baptist Church slates praise concert

By Shirley A. Gorman
SDN News Editor

Anyone who enjoys music may want to circle Sunday's date on their calendar. The First Baptist Church's 25-piece orchestra will present A Concert of Praise beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The whole service will be instrumental and the hour-long performance will offer a variety of Christian music and will include piano and organ solos, individual solos and brass and woodwind ensembles.



Alan B. Celoria, associate pastor and minister of music, will conduct the orchestra. He said First Baptist Church has three reasons for offering this concert, which is open to the public.

The concert is intended to " honor the Lord, be a blessing for the people, and to serve as a ministry for the instrumentalists."

An offering to benefit the church's instrumental fund, will be taken Sunday night. He said the orchestra is in need of a tympani and chimes.

Celoria is very proud of the orchestra, which was organized six months ago. First Baptist Church members comprise most of the orchestra, but some performers also come from the community. The orchestra performs during the first Sunday morning service each month.

Some instruments have also been donated to the church. Celoria said they welcome such donations and they hope more people from the community will join the orchestra.

Celoria said Sunday night's performance will be equal to the Christmas musical First Baptist presented in December.

"We had an incredible response then from the town. Those who did not see it missed an unbelievable performance. I assure you Sunday night's music will be first rate quality," Celoria said.

He said they hope to make Sunday's performance an annual event.

Celoria said the idea of starting an orchestra first surfaced at a music conference last summer in Glorieta. Soon after they began gathering instruments and musicians became involved.

Celoria has a music background including a master's degree in music and he sang opera for five years. He has spent the last 22 years in evangelism.

Bar codes soon will be required on drugs dispensed at hospitals

WASHINGTON (AP) — Almost all medications given in the hospital soon must bear a supermarket-style bar code that health workers will match to patients to help ensure they get the right dose of the right drug at the right time.

The code, just an eighth of an inch tall on individual pill packs, is a major new requirement for manufacturers. The Food and Drug Administration says the requirement could cut in half the drug errors now thought to kill about 7,000 hospitalized patients a year.

"Medication errors are a serious health problem, but they're a preventable problem," said Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson in announcing the regulation Wednesday.

Added FDA Commissioner Mark McClellan, "This is a proven approach to reducing errors." He said the change could prevent half a million adverse events — new or worsening symptoms resulting from the treatment that patients received — in the next 20 years and save $5 billion a year.

Hospitals, patient advocates and drug manufacturers eagerly have awaited the rule. In fact, the FDA heeded pleas to speed up enforcement. All new medications will have to bear bar codes within 60 days of FDA approval; medicines already on the market must bear them within two years, a year earlier than first planned.

Drug errors can happen when busy health workers misread a patient's chart and administer the wrong drug or wrong dose, or give a drug to the wrong patient, or give a drug too often.

When patients are admitted to a hospital that uses a bar code system, they are given a wristband with their own identifying code. After the wristband and the intended medicine are scanned, if the drug does not match the patient's medical chart, a computer beeps an alarm.

Errors plummeted when veterans hospitals adopted bar codes several years ago, relabeling all their in-house drugs for electronic identification.

But as of December, only about 125 of the nation's 5,000-plus hospitals were using bar code systems, according to Bridge Medical Inc., a leading manufacturer of bar code readers. That is partly because only about 35 percent of their pharmaceutical supplies came with the codes affixed to them.

The government's new rule means more hospitals probably will start using the safety system because virtually all the prescription drugs and most over-the-counter medicines that they administer — including blood products and vaccines — will arrive already with a bar code.

Hospitals will not be required to use the codes. But the regulation does set standards to ensure that even the cheapest, most basic scanner will recognize any medicine.

Nursing homes likely will use the systems, too, McClellan said.

The challenge, say manufacturers, has been getting bar codes onto medications in useful ways.

For example, attaching a bar code to a bottle of 100 pills does not really help; hospitals dispense a pill at a time to different patients. Last year, Pfizer Inc. led the way in making bar codes tiny enough to fit onto blister packs of individual pills, so each could be scanned at bedside.

Baxter Healthcare Corp. had to figure out how to imprint bar codes onto IV bags — a challenge because their clear background interfered with traditional bar-code scanning.

Child rescued, mother dies

VALLEY VIEW (AP) — A woman who abducted her 5-year-old and held the girl captive during an 18-hour standoff with authorities died Wednesday after being shot by North Texas law officers.

Authorities rescued her daughter, taken at gunpoint the day before by the mother who did not have custody.

Linda Anderson, spokeswoman for the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office, said the autopsy on Crystal Dawn Pinkston, 30, probably will be performed today.

Cooke County Sheriff Mike Compton said Pinkston fired at officers, who shot back and critically injured her. She was taken by helicopter to a Fort Worth hospital, Compton said.

Sierra Dawn Sasiain was taken at gunpoint from the Southmont Baptist Church day-care center in Denton just after 3 p.m. Tuesday, when Pinkston threatened to shoot a man who was escorting the children to the church from a nearby elementary school, Denton police spokesman Jim Bryan said.

On Tuesday night, the vehicle Pinkston had been driving was spotted near the mobile home in Valley View, 35 miles north of Denton and about 50 miles north of Dallas. Pinkston last lived in Denton, but had been staying with a boyfriend in the trailer park, according to police records obtained by the Denton Record-Chronicle.

Officers started negotiation attempts with Pinkston over a bullhorn about 9 p.m. but had no luck. About 9 a.m. Wednesday authorities shut off the power and continued to try to contact her, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported.

Authorities threw gas canisters into the mobile home at about 2:30 p.m. after they heard shots fired inside the residence, Bryan told the newspaper.

Deputies pulled the child from a window in the mobile home after the shots were fired and drove her away in a patrol car. She appeared to be uninjured, Bryan said.

According to court documents obtained by the Denton Record Chronicle, Pinkston had supervised visits with her daughter every other Saturday for two hours. The girl lived with Pinkston's parents Debi and Danny Blagg, who had told police on Sunday that Pinkston had been driving past the home. She had been prohibited from going near the home.

In April 2003, the child's father, Anthony Sasiain, petitioned the court for custody, saying he was concerned about his daughter's well-being after Pinkston began dating a new boyfriend.

Pinkston had been convicted of various misdemeanors in Denton County, including two 25-day sentences in September for criminal mischief and criminal trespass.

Mike Sasiain, Sierra's uncle, said in television interviews that Sierra had been through a lot but has a good father.

"She's a very great, sharp, bright kid," he said. "She knows not to go with her mom, and unfortunately she was taken."

Today's chuckle

Residents don't want Krispy Kreme shop

NEWINGTON, Conn. (AP) — Along a stretch of highway dotted with adult bookstores, gun shops and cut-rate motels, a group of residents is fighting back against a Krispy Kreme Doughnuts shop.



The small but relentless band of neighbors, which lost its bid to keep New England's first Krispy Kreme from opening here in 2002, regrouped last month with a late-night reconnaissance campaign.

Krispy Kreme, it turned out, was selling its signature glazed confections to nearby supermarkets under the cover of night and in violation of its town permit. Neighbors caught it all on film: the truckers loading up the doughnuts and hauling them to nearby grocery stores before dawn.

"They blatantly started selling doughnuts offsite," said Stan Sliva, who owns property nearby. "They just figured they're a large corporation and could do what they want. So we documented it."

Now, the doughnut manufacturer wants the town to amend its permits to allow such wholesaling. Residents think that if they can cut off this revenue stream, the doughnut giant will cut and run.

At a town zoning hearing Wednesday on the proposed permit change, Krispy Kreme franchise owner Janice Matthews admitted she made a mistake to sell doughnuts wholesale without first seeking a change in the town permit issued to the business.

"For the past two weeks I've been saying to myself, 'How do I come before this board and say we screwed up?'" she told town officials. "We screwed up. We did."

Man convicted of fraud in crop scheme

WICHITA FALLS (AP) — A farmer faces up to 125 years in federal prison after being convicted Wednesday of 25 counts of crop fraud that cost the government more than $500,000.

Wendell Lynn Mints, 65, of Vernon also faces a $6.25 million fine and restitution for the crop claims in Wilbarger and Foard counties. A sentencing date has not been set.

Skinny babies who bulk up faster run greater risk of getting diabetes as adults

By The Associated Press

It isn't just the fat kids who are in danger of becoming diabetics as adults. Children who are skinny as babies but start bulking up early are at risk even if they aren't overweight, a study found.

That is true of all children whose weight gain outstrips their growth rate early on, but "it seems to be more pronounced in those who were initially slim or skinny," said Dr. Harshpal Singh Sachdev, a pediatrics professor at Maulana Azad Medical College in New Delhi.

He said it may be possible to stem diabetes by making sure that children who bulk up sooner and faster than most get additional exercise and a sound diet.

Sachdev was a lead researcher in the 30-year study published in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine. He and his colleagues measured 1,492 children in India and tracked them until adulthood.

Toddlers grow up faster than they grow out, so they usually slim down. They tend to "rebound" around age 6, starting to bulk up again.

But 21 percent of those who began their rebound between ages 2 and 5 developed diabetes or impaired glucose tolerance as adults, compared with 12 percent to 14.5 percent of those whose rebounds began later.

The diabetes and glucose-intolerance rate was as high as 27 percent among children who were skinny as babies but rebounded quickly.

None of the children in the study were actually overweight.

Doctors should reconsider the idea that small babies should get extra calories to encourage rapid growth, said Dr. Francine Kaufman, a pediatric endocrinologist at Children's Hospital-Los Angeles and past president of the American Diabetes Association.

"We need to look at not overfeeding some of these children," she said.

Dr. William H. Dietz of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's division of nutrition and physical activity, said the study may have little effect on medical practice, since rebound often goes unnoticed until it has occurred, and "it's not clear to me that anyone knows how to prevent early rebound."

He agreed that additional exercise and good nutrition might help children who rebound early avoid diabetes later. And pediatricians should look more carefully at how children's body mass index — a ratio of weight to height — is changing, he said.

events

LOTTO TEXAS™ TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Wednesday's Lottery Numbers Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 21-24-26-30-43. Bonus Ball: 9.

Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: 1. Prize: $12 million.

Winning ticket sold in: Arlington.

Number matching five of five: 1. Prize: $25,401.

Number matching four of five, plus Bonus Ball: 6. Prize: $3,841.

Number matching four of five: 435. Prize: $114.

Number matching three of five, plus Bonus Ball: 415. Prize: $105.

Number matching three of five: 16,924. Prize: $5.

Number matching two of five, plus Bonus Ball: 5,224. Prize: $5.

Number matching one of five, plus Bonus Ball: 24,288. Prize: $3.

Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: $4 million.

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 6-7-10-15-21.

Number matching five of five: 1.

Prize per winner: $38,254.

Winning ticket sold in: Lumberton.

Matching four of five: 152. Prize: $113.

Matching three of five: 4,689. Prize: $8.

Matching two of five: 44,779. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

Pick 3
(Day) 6-8-1
(Night) 3-6-7

World Almanac

Thursday, Feb. 26, 2004

Today is the 57th day of 2004 and the 67th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1935, Adolf Hitler secretly initiated a new German air force, the Luftwaffe.

In 1984, the last U.S. Marines pulled out of Beirut, capital of Lebanon.

In 1993, a terrorist bomb went off in the parking garage of the World Trade Center in New York City, killing six.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Victor Hugo (1802-1885), writer; William "Buffalo Bill" Cody (1846-1917), frontiersman/showman; Jackie Gleason (1916-1987), comedian; Fats Domino (1928-), musician, is 76; Johnny Cash (1932-2003), singer; Michael Bolton (1954-), singer, is 50.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1978, golfer Nancy Lopez won the first LPGA tournament of her career — the Bent Tree Classic in Sarasota, Fla.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "A man is not idle because he is absorbed in thought. There is a visible labor and there is an invisible labor." — Victor Hugo

TODAY'S FACT: The fiddle is the official musical instrument of the state of Arkansas.

TODAY'S NUMBER: 55 — Approximate weight in metric tons of the largest known meteorite.

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (Feb. 20) and first quarter (Feb. 28)

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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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

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

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

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

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

Roy McQueen, Publisher
Wade Warren, Managing Editor
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FUN IN THE SNOW — A family of snowmen at 46th Street and Beaumont represented the Kyle and Shelly Freeman family. From left are Kassy, 5; Kandyce, 7; Kyla, 10; Kayli, 11; Kolton, 14; and mom and dad. They were made by the Freeman children after almost two inches of snow fell before daybreak Wednesday. In the bottom photo, Daniel Samia, left, and Chase Arrendale also had fun creating a snowman at 2207 28th Street before the 10 o'clock tardy bell rang at Snyder schools on Wednesday. (Staff Photos by Jo Ann Nunley)

Allen reigns as queen of Mardis Gras

Meredith Frances Allen reigned as queen of the 2004 Washington Mardi Gras held in Washington, D.C.

Meredith is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Larry M. Allen of Shreveport Louisiana and granddaughter of Mayor Francene Noah of Snyder. Larry is a 1970 graduate of Snyder High School.

Four days of festivities included a dinner sponsored by the Ambassador of Brazil, a lunch in Meredith's honor at the capitol, a tea at Senator Mary Landrieu's home and a black-tie dinner and dance on Friday night.

The highlight of Meredith's reign was placing a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier during a special ceremony. The celebration culminated with the 57th Annual Mardi Gras Ball at the Washington Hilton on Valentine's Day.

The Allen's hosted a breakfast after the ball to honor their daughter. Special guests included the Honorable and Mrs. John Snow, Secretary of Treasury, and Congressman and Mrs. Jim McCrery who chaired the event and selected Meredith as queen.



Meredith Frances Allen and Francene Allen

Hedren's tiger, Zoe, needed eye surgery

LAWNDALE, Calif. (AP) — Tippi Hedren was focused on the eye of the tiger.

The 74-year-old actress, who starred in Alfred Hitchcock's "The Birds," went to the Advanced Veterinary Care Center on Tuesday with a 150-pound tiger named Zoe from her Shambala Animal Preserve in Acton. The tiger needed eye surgery.

Zoe was rushed into an operating room, where she was treated for a cataract in her right eye. Hours later, the sedated year-old tiger was back in Hedren's van for the 60-mile trip home.

"Hopefully this will improve her eyesight," said Hedren, who founded the preserve 30 years ago after a trip to Africa. "We get the best doctors we can."

It took four people to carry Zoe into the center.

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

Deep Creek Cloggers lesson; at the coliseum annex; 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

AA Big Book Study; closed meeting; contact numbers are 574-1292 or 573-1141; 7 p.m.

FRIDAY

Free blood pressure clinics; Senior Citizens Center; 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Blood pressures will be taken at Cogdell Hospital Home Health Services, 1800 Cogdell Blvd., Suite B; 1-2 p.m.

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

Cornelius-Dodson House; open by appointment, call 573-0538 or 573-0770.

NA-Just For Today; Park Club; for information call 573-6179; 6-7 p.m.

Scurry County AA closed meeting; Park Club at Winston Park; for information call 574-1292 or 573-9458; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club; 573-3733, 573-2101 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

NA-Just For Today open meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-1438; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

Scurry County AA open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 574-1292 or 573-9458; 10 a.m.

NA-Just For Today; Park Club; for information call 573-6179; 6-7 p.m.

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Bridge

By Phillip Alder



	North 02-26-04 ♠ A K 3 ♥ K Q 10 9 ♦ K 9 4 ♣ A 6 5	
West ♠ 9 4 ♥ 3 ♦ Q 8 7 5 ♣ K Q J 9 8 3		East ♠ J 10 8 6 5 2 ♥ 7 6 2 ♦ 10 ♣ 10 7 4
	South ♠ Q 7 ♥ A J 8 5 4 ♦ A J 6 3 2 ♣ 2	

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
1 ♥	3 ♣	4 ♣	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♥	Pass	7 ♥	All pass

Opening lead: ♣ K

Thursday, Feb. 26, 2004

A prescription for success

By Phillip Alder

Do you get loads of spam (unwanted e-mail)? Through my Web site address, I receive four or five cheap-prescription e-mails per day. When will we get a No Spam list? The sooner the better.

At the bridge table, though, there are bids and plays that are prescriptions for success, which are exactly what your partnership wants.

On this deal, you are the declarer in seven hearts. How would you plan the play after West leads the club king?

West made a weak jump overcall, promising a decent six-card suit and some 6-10 high-card points. North's four-club cue-bid agreed hearts and showed at least game values. Because of your good distribution, you control-bid (cue-bid) four diamonds. Then, partner used Blackwood to learn that you had two aces. No longer standing on ceremony, he leapt to seven hearts.

At first glance, you need the diamond finesse to work. But before writing that prescription, you should carry out a preliminary examination. Win with dummy's club ace and ruff a club in hand. Draw trumps ending in the dummy and ruff the last club, noting that West had only one heart and that East started with three clubs. Finally, cash your spade tricks, observing that West had only two.

What was West's shape? He had two spades, one heart and six clubs. So, he began with four diamonds, and East holds only one. That finesse cannot work. Now you need East to hold a singleton queen or 10.

Lead a diamond to your ace. When East does furnish the 10, play a diamond to dummy's nine and claim.

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Births

Wayne Green and Amanda Hermosillo of Snyder announce the birth of their son, Lucas Trent Green, at 3:09 p.m. on Feb. 24. Lucas weighed five pounds, two ounces and was born in Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

Faye Ross and Travis Green of Colorado City are paternal grandparents. Linda Lascano and Andres Hermosillo of Snyder are maternal grandparents.

—

To know that you do not know is the best. To pretend to know when you do not know is disease.

—Lao Tzu

—

Missouri is the 24th state.

St. Elizabeth
Fish Fry
Friday, Feb. 27
5:30 - 8:00 pm
St. Elizabeth
Parish Center
30th at Ave. A,
Snyder, TX.
$6.50 per person
Children 6-12 $4
Carry Outs - $6.50
Meal Tickets Sold
At The Door
Proceeds go to
SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Sponsored by
Men's & Women's
Association

JOE'S PIZZA
2500 on 25th Street
Connected to Snyder One Stop
573-8555
EAT IN • TAKE OUT
DAILY SPECIAL
(any time)
2 Large Pizzas $16.99
topping extra
Daily Party Special
Buy 3 Med. or 3 Lg. Plain Pizzas & Get
1 Same Size FREE!! *Topping Extra*
Friday thru Sunday Special
1 Lg. 16" Pizza, 1 Med. 14" Pizza,
4 Bread Stix
$15.99

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Spring Preview SALE!
Find Storewide Savings of 30% • 40% • 50%
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30% OFF ENTIRE STOCK CHILDREN'S PLAYWEAR SETS
HURRY IN! WINTER CLEARANCE BLOWOUT!
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FEB 26 2004

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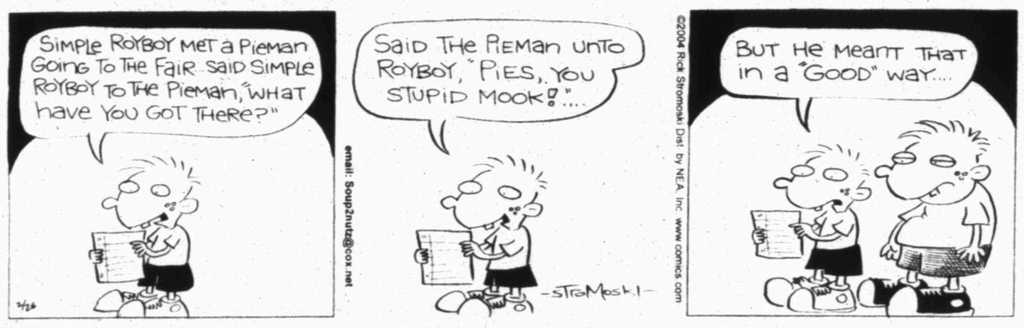
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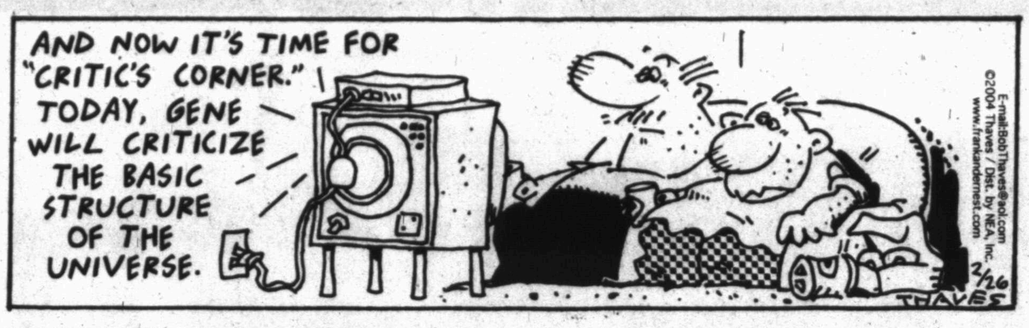
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THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



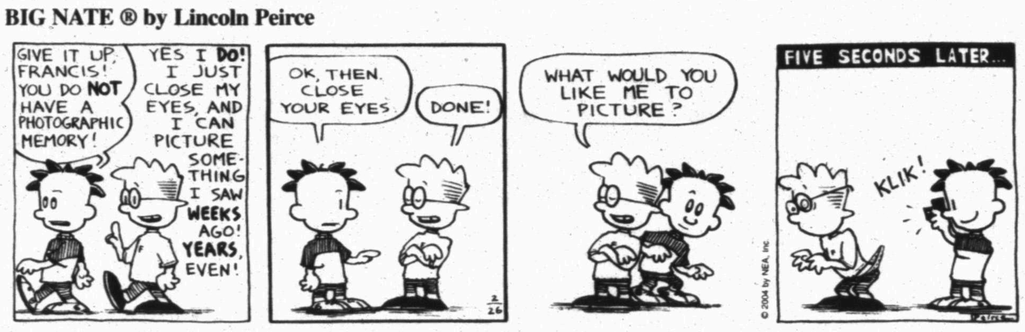
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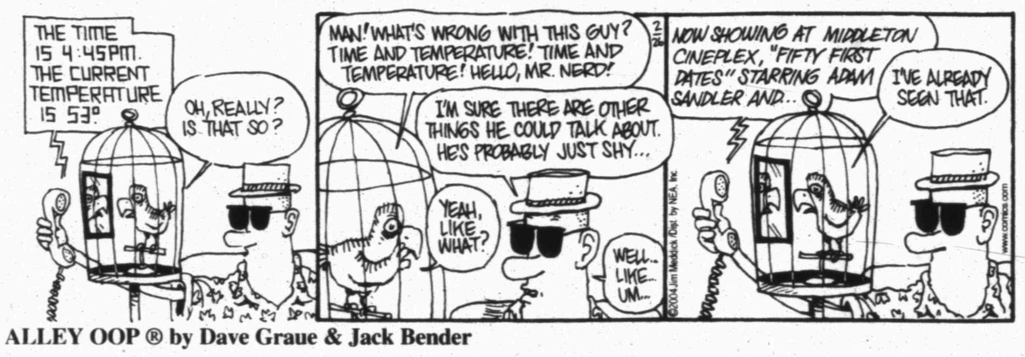
ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



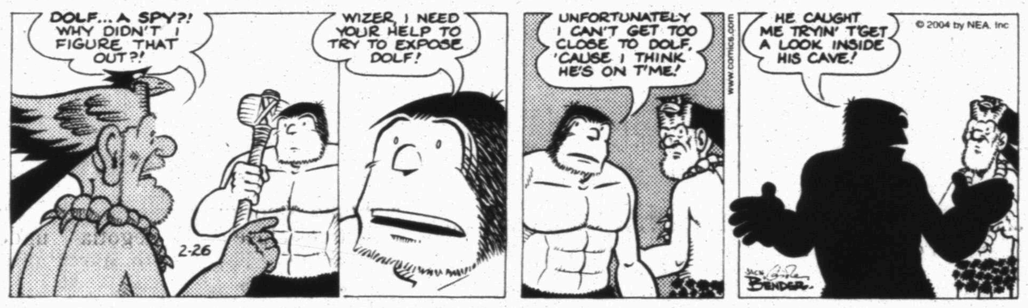
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MONTY ® by Jim Meddick



ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen



HERMAN ® by Jim Unger



"Mrs. Baxter, I don't think things are working out."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Goads a horse
6 Mrs. Bush
11 Loud squawker
12 Youth stopover
13 Dazed
14 "Gunsmoke" marshal
15 Actress Anouk —
16 Staffer
17 Litter member
19 Interstate
23 Sea floor
26 Quit working
28 Monkey haven
29 Japanese martial art
31 Delight in
33 Backbone
34 Pencil ends
35 Domestic bird
36 Slangy refusal
39 Early veggie
40 Perimeter
42 Warrior princess
44 Swab brand (hyph.)
46 Springlike
51 Debated
54 Lumberjack
55 Banff lake
56 Show backers
57 Some office workers
58 Assail

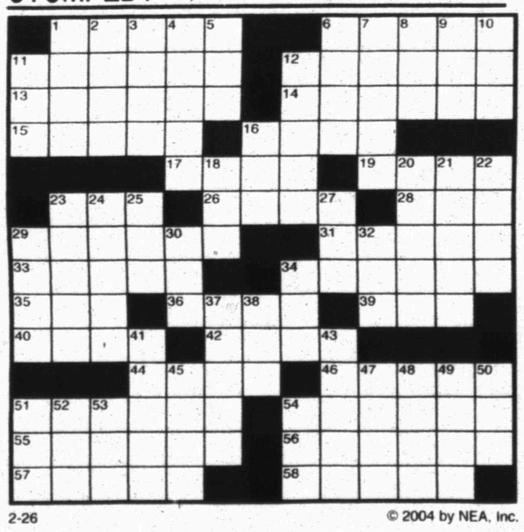
DOWN

1 Exotic wrap
2 High school dance
3 Whim
4 Slugger — Maris
5 Pig abode
6 Serf's master
7 "Lou Grant" star
8 All-purpose vehicle
9 Legal matter
10 Capp and Jolson
11 Wood's org.
12 Port-au-Prince site
16 Collection
18 E.T. craft
20 Lightning byproduct
21 Heart outlet
22 Achieves
23 Two-footed walker
24 Using thriftily
25 Racket
27 Thai neighbor
29 Wimbledon champ Arthur —
30 Lair
32 Ice-cream serving
34 Cage
37 Rust
38 Vitality
41 Provide with gear
43 Unaccompanied
45 D'Urberville girl
47 Custard base
48 "The African Queen" screenwriter
49 Sensed
50 Birthday no.
51 CTRL neighbor
52 Caviar, actually
53 Junk food buy
54 Testing site

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

STUMPED? Call for Answers • Touch-tone or Rotary Phones 95c per minute • 1-900-226-4344 ext. code 000



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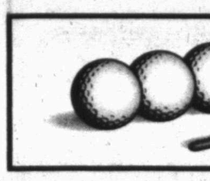
Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



"WHICH ONE IS THE *LOSER* YOU WERE TELLIN' ME ABOUT, DAD?"

Best Avail



Lady T form at

COPPERAS CO
Snyder Lady Tiger
the 2004 softball ca
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Martinez

gaining a spot in
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In the first game
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stranded 13 runner
solid outing from
tinez in a 7-5 loss
peras Cove.

Martinez went
striking out five and
5 at the plate.

Missy Vasquez
three hits and Ke
was 2-for-3.

Head coach Darr
the team had costly
defense that contri
loss. Snyder con
errors in the tilt.

"Ashley threw we
the win, we just did
up," Pool said.

The Snyder nine
against Lampasas,
behind six strike
starter Kelsi Johnso

Lindsey Morin wa
Amber Luecke we
the victory.

"We hit the ball

Tigers
Saturda

Rain and soggy fie
to delay the start of
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Tuesday's opener
Wylie, tentatively sc
today, has been pus
Saturday.

The Tigers were o
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play both the Eagles
Moffett Field Saturd

Snyder will play

Sooners

NORMAN, Okla
Sherri Coale and
have won a lot of
earned plenty of re
Big 12 over the past

There's been an
pionship game ap
2002, three consec
regular-season ti
league tourname
onship.

Coale's goals are
modest this year: a
of longtime national
Tech will do just fin

"That earns you s
the Sooners' coach
23 Oklahoma beat
ranked Lady Raid
Wednesday night.

The Sooners (18-
who have won five
six games, swept

Natio

	W	L	T
EASTERN CONF			
Atlantic Div			
Philadelphia	33	15	1
New Jersey	33	17	1
N.Y. Islanders	29	22	
N.Y. Rangers	22	29	
Pittsburgh	12	42	
Northeast Di			
	W	L	T
Ottawa	34	16	
Toronto	34	18	
Boston	30	15	
Montreal	31	25	
Buffalo	28	28	
Southeast D			
	W	L	T
Tampa Bay	33	17	
Florida	23	25	
Atlanta	24	32	
Carolina	20	27	
Washington	19	34	
WESTERN CON			
Central Div			
	W	L	T
Detroit	35	17	
Nashville	30	23	
St. Louis	29	23	
Chicago	18	32	
Columbus	17	34	
Northwest D			
	W	L	T
Colorado	33	15	

Best Available Copy

SPORTS

Lady Tigers round into form at Copperas Cove

COPPERAS COVE — The Snyder Lady Tigers kicked off the 2004 softball campaign with mixed results last weekend, going 2-2 in the consolation bracket at the Copperas Cove Tournament.



Martinez



Johnson

The team dropped a pair of games in pool play — 4-3 to Granbury and 4-1 to Jarrel — to prevent it from gaining a spot in the championship bracket.

In the first game in the consolation bracket, the Lady Tigers stranded 13 runners, spoiling a solid outing from Ashley Martinez in a 7-5 loss to host Copperas Cove.

Martinez went the distance, striking out five and going 4-for-5 at the plate.

Missy Vasquez collected three hits and Kelsi Johnson was 2-for-3.

Head coach Darren Pool said the team had costly miscues on defense that contributed to the loss. Snyder committed six errors in the tilt.

"Ashley threw well enough for the win, we just didn't back her up," Pool said.

The Snyder nine rebounded against Lampasas, winning 9-5, behind six strikeouts from starter Kelsi Johnson.

Lindsey Morin was 3-for-3 and Amber Luecke went 2-for-3 in the victory.

"We hit the ball and at key times when we had runners on base," Pool said. "Our fielding also came together to back Kelsi up."

Offense was the key in the third game of bracket play, with the Lady Tigers smacking 20 hits in a 12-1 thumping of Moody.

Martinez again got the start, allowing just one run on seven hits while fanning nine.

Martinez, Luecke, Johnson and Morin all collected three base knocks in the game.

The bats went to sleep in the last game of the tournament, a 4-2 loss to Burnet.

Snyder tallied just five hits and made a crucial base-running mistake to kill a third-inning rally.

Johnson worked the first 2 1-3, with Luecke finishing the final 2 2-3.

"Burnet was a good team with a good pitcher, and we just couldn't hit the ball," Pool said, adding that overall he was pleased with the play of his club.

"We made some big mistakes early, but by the end of Saturday we were starting to put it together as a team," he stated. "Our pitching gave us opportunities to win all weekend, and that's exciting."

The team got back into action today at the Midland Tournament, scheduled to run through Saturday.

Tigers play Wylie, Pecos Saturday at Moffett Field

Rain and soggy fields continue to delay the start of the 2004 season for the Snyder baseball clubs.

Tuesday's opener with Abilene Wylie, tentatively scheduled for today, has been pushed back to Saturday.

The Tigers were originally slated to play just Pecos, but will now play both the Eagles and Wylie at Moffett Field Saturday.

Snyder will play Pecos at 2 p.m., with Pecos and Wylie squaring off at the conclusion of that contest.

The Tigers will then play Wylie in the 7:30 nightcap.

The Snyder junior varsity tournament has been rained out.

The JV will host a doubleheader with Lamesa at 4 p.m. Friday at Moffett, and will travel to Wylie Saturday for a 1 p.m. tilt with the junior Bulldogs.

Sooners drub Lady Raiders

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — Sherri Coale and Oklahoma have won a lot of games and earned plenty of respect in the Big 12 over the past few seasons.

There's been an NCAA championship game appearance in 2002, three consecutive Big 12 regular-season titles and a league tournament championship.

Coale's goals are a bit more modest this year: a season sweep of longtime national power Texas Tech will do just fine.

"That earns you some stripes," the Sooners' coach said after No. 23 Oklahoma beat the eighth-ranked Lady Raiders 64-53 on Wednesday night.

The Sooners (18-7, 8-6 Big 12), who have won five of their last six games, swept the season series with the Lady Raiders. Oklahoma beat Texas Tech 68-62 in Lubbock on Feb. 10.

It was the Sooners' third sweep of the Lady Raiders in the past four years.

Point guard Dionnah Jackson matched a career high with 23 points to lead Oklahoma. Caton Hill had 11 points and seven rebounds and Maria Villarroel added 12 rebounds and seven points.

Texas Tech (23-5, 9-5), coming off a 73-68 upset of then-No. 1 Texas on Sunday, shot just 31 percent.

The Lady Raiders' depth has been depleted by the loss of starting center Cisti Greenwalt to a broken ankle last week and star guard Jia Perkins to undisclosed medical reasons last month.

National Hockey League

EASTERN CONFERENCE							
Atlantic Division	**W**	**L**	**T**	**OL**	**Pts**	**GF**	**GA**
Philadelphia	33	15	11	5	82	185	146
New Jersey	33	17	11	1	78	155	123
N.Y. Islanders	29	22	9	2	69	174	153
N.Y. Rangers	22	29	7	4	55	160	183
Pittsburgh	12	42	5	4	33	129	244
Northeast Division							
Ottawa	34	16	8	5	81	208	138
Toronto	34	18	9	3	80	182	162
Boston	30	15	13	6	79	163	146
Montreal	31	25	6	2	70	162	148
Buffalo	28	28	6	1	63	163	167
Southeast Division							
Tampa Bay	33	17	7	5	78	180	143
Florida	23	25	13	3	62	143	161
Atlanta	24	32	6	2	56	172	200
Carolina	20	27	12	3	55	120	153
Washington	19	34	8	2	48	148	193
WESTERN CONFERENCE							
Central Division	**W**	**L**	**T**	**OL**	**Pts**	**GF**	**GA**
Detroit	35	17	9	2	81	202	147
Nashville	30	23	7	2	69	159	165
St. Louis	29	23	7	2	67	144	156
Chicago	18	32	7	5	48	143	184
Columbus	17	34	8	4	46	132	181
Northwest Division							
Colorado	33	15	10	4	80	182	140
Vancouver	33	19	7	4	77	182	148
Calgary	31	23	5	3	70	149	138
Edmonton	25	27	10	1	61	161	161
Minnesota	21	23	16	2	60	139	139
Pacific Division	**W**	**L**	**T**	**OL**	**Pts**	**GF**	**GA**
San Jose	30	16	11	5	76	161	132
Dallas	30	22	11	0	71	139	137
Los Angeles	24	17	15	7	70	167	163
Anaheim	22	25	9	8	61	140	166
Phoenix	20	24	15	4	59	157	184

Two points for a win, one point for a tie and overtime loss.

Wednesday's Games

Carolina 2, Washington 1
Chicago 4, Columbus 3
Tampa Bay 4, Atlanta 2
Florida 4, Toronto 0
New Jersey 8, Buffalo 2
Los Angeles 1, Dallas 1, tie
Pittsburgh 4, Phoenix 3, OT
Anaheim 4, Edmonton 2

Today's Games

Montreal at Boston, 6 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at N.Y. Islanders, 6 p.m.
Toronto at Tampa Bay, 6 p.m.
Philadelphia at Ottawa, 6:30 p.m.
St. Louis at Colorado, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Nashville, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Calgary, 8 p.m.
San Jose at Vancouver, 9 p.m.

Jamal Lewis indicted on drug charges

ATLANTA (AP) — Jamal Lewis insists he did not try to help a childhood friend buy cocaine in the summer of 2000, an accusation that has the Baltimore Ravens running back facing federal drug charges.

Lewis' attorney said a cocaine buy wasn't discussed during a restaurant conversation more than three years ago involving Lewis, a boyhood friend and a woman who turned out to be a police informant.

That meeting and a prior cell phone conversation between Lewis and the informant are the focus of federal drug charges filed Wednesday against the NFL star. No drugs were ever purchased, according to the indictment.

"Jamal Lewis wants everyone to know that he is not guilty, that he has not been involved in drugs," said Ed Garland, the running back's attorney. "He's extremely disappointed that this is happening."

Lewis, who had the second-highest rushing total in NFL history last season, planned to turn himself in today, Garland said. Lewis' other attorney, Don Samual, said he expected the player to briefly appear before a federal judge in the afternoon, then make a statement outside court.

Garland had planned a news conference this morning, but he called it off shortly before it was to begin.

Lewis is charged with conspiring to possess with the intent to distribute five kilograms of cocaine and using a cell phone in the commission of the first count, U.S. Attorney William S. Duffey said. If convicted on the conspiracy count, Lewis could face 10 years to life in prison.

Ravens spokesman Chad Steele said the indictment came as a surprise to the team. "We had no clue," he said, adding that Lewis was in Florida on Wednesday.

In a statement, the team said: "We believe in due process, and Jamal will have his day in court. There are two sides to every story. From what we know of the charges, these seem out of character for the Jamal we know."

Ravens defensive end Anthony Weaver also said he was surprised.

"But I don't about the facts. I know Jamal's character, and to me, he's always been a straightforward guy," Weaver said. "I just hope he finds the right people to help him get through this."

The NFL declined to comment.

The indictment came out of a drug investigation that has led to 30 convictions and helped dismantle a cocaine-trafficking ring in the city, Duffey said. He refused to say whether Lewis was tied to that drug ring.

In an affidavit, FBI special agent Hoyt Mahaley said that an informant contacted Lewis on his cell phone on June 23, 2000, to discuss selling cocaine to Lewis' friend. The conversation was recorded, according to the agent.

"The cooperating source told Lewis that he/she was willing to sell the narcotics to Lewis' associates for a price that Lewis can tax," meaning the price could be marked up for a profit, Mahaley said in the affidavit.

"Lewis responded, 'Yeah,'" the agent said.

Hours after the call, Lewis and the friend, Angelo Jackson, met with the informant at an Atlanta restaurant, the affidavit said. There, Lewis and Jackson asked the informant how much cocaine the informant was capable of distributing, the affidavit alleges.

Jackson and the informant met again on July 12, 2000, at a gas station in suburban Atlanta, the affidavit said. During the meeting, they discussed drugs, but no purchase was made.

Lewis wasn't at the gas station. His attorney, however, said Lewis was at the restaurant, but not for the reason alleged in the indictment.

"There are apparently tapes of the meeting, but the question is who did what and who intended to do what," Garland said.

Garland accused the informant of setting up Lewis and "trumping up what happened" in an attempt to get out of jail. He accused authorities of trying to "create a crime where there isn't one."

Jackson was also indicted and arrested Wednesday. He faces the same counts and a third for attempt to possess with the intent to distribute cocaine.

A college star at Tennessee, Lewis was the fifth pick overall in the 2000 draft, and signed a six-year, $35.3 million contract.



INDICTED — Baltimore running back Jamal Lewis was indicted on federal drug charges Wednesday/ If convicted, Lewis could face life in prison. He denies the allegations. (AP Photo)

Rangers to sell naming rights to The Ballpark

ARLINGTON (AP) — The Ballpark in Arlington would reportedly be renamed under a proposed deal by the Texas Rangers to sell the naming rights to Ameriquest.

Sources close to the negotiations told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram in today's editions that the California-based finance company is in talks with the team to pay to put its name on the stadium.

The newspaper reported that Rangers owner Tom Hicks has been trying to find a company that would purchase naming rights for The Ballpark since he bought the team, plus land near the stadium, for $250 million in 1998.

Rangers officials have said that they hope to keep the city of Arlington in The Ballpark's name even after it gets a corporate makeover.

"I would like to keep the name as it is," Arlington Mayor Robert Cluck said Wednesday. "It's not the option of the mayor or anyone in the city."

Cluck added that the team understands that it's important for the city to have its name on the property.

"Our citizens paid for most of the expense of The Ballpark," he said.

Arlington voters in 1991 approved a sales tax increase to finance municipal bonds for constructing the stadium.

Hicks' Southwest Sports Group, which owns the Rangers and the Dallas Stars hockey team, has sole authority as operator of The Ballpark to sell the name. Southwest leases the stadium from Arlington, which sold taxpayer-backed bonds to build it in the early 1990s.

Area Sports Calendar

TODAY

Softball:	Snyder varsity at Midland Tournament

FRIDAY

Baseball:	WTC at Howard, DH, noon SHS JV vs. Lamesa, DH, 4 p.m.
Softball:	SHS varsity at Midland Tournament
Golf:	SHS varsity and JV boys at Midland SHS JV girls at Sweetwater
Track:	SHS at Frenship meet

SATURDAY

Baseball:	SHS vs. Pecos, Moffett Field, 2 p.m. SHS vs. Wylie, Moffett, 7:30 p.m., WTC at Howard, DH, noon SHS JV at Wylie, 1 p.m.
Softball:	SHS varsity at Midland Tournament WTC vs. Howard, DH, 1:30 p.m.
Golf:	SHS varsity and JV boys at Midland SHS JV girls at Sweetwater
Track:	SHS at Frenship meet

National Basketball Association

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
New Jersey	35	21	.625	—
New York	26	33	.441	10½
Miami	25	33	.431	11
Philadelphia	23	35	.397	13
Boston	23	36	.390	13½
Washington	17	38	.309	17½
Orlando	16	43	.271	20½
Central Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Indiana	42	15	.737	—
Detroit	36	24	.600	7½
New Orleans	31	26	.544	11
Milwaukee	30	27	.526	12
Toronto	25	32	.439	17
Cleveland	23	35	.397	19½
Atlanta	19	38	.333	23
Chicago	16	41	.281	26
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Minnesota	42	16	.724	—
San Antonio	38	19	.667	3½
Dallas	36	20	.643	5
Memphis	34	23	.596	7½
Houston	33	24	.579	8½
Denver	32	27	.542	10½
Utah	29	30	.492	13½
Pacific Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Sacramento	41	14	.745	—
L.A. Lakers	36	19	.655	5
Portland	29	28	.509	13
Seattle	26	31	.456	16
Golden State	25	31	.446	16½
L.A. Clippers	24	32	.429	17½
Phoenix	19	40	.322	24

Wednesday's Games

Washington 76, Toronto 74
Milwaukee 106, Boston 104
Golden State 99, Memphis 92
Minnesota 81, New Jersey 68
New Orleans 99, L.A. Clippers 93
Detroit 107, Chicago 88
Phoenix 113, New York 95
L.A. Lakers 112, Denver 111
Houston 90, Cleveland 84
Utah 93, Seattle 92, OT

Today's Games

Chicago at Washington, 6 p.m.
San Antonio at Dallas, 7 p.m.
Sacramento at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

Sports Briefs

Little League coaching applications

Applications for coaches are being accepted at the Boys and Girls Club after 4 p.m. until Friday.

Groundhog Open

Scurry County Golf Course will host the Groundhog Open Saturday and Sunday. Format is two-man scramble and cost is $80 per team, with a 1 p.m. shotgun start both days. Contact the pro shop at 573-7101 for more information or to register.

Williams declares for draft

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Mike Williams of Southern California became the first sophomore to opt for the NFL draft since the Maurice Clarett court ruling, when he announced his decision.

Williams, a 6-foot-5, 230-pounder, leaves with two years of eligibility remaining for the defending national champion Trojans.

Ford to miss time with bruised spinal cord

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Milwaukee point guard T.J. Ford is expected to miss two to three weeks because of a bruised spinal cord.

Ford was carried off the court on a stretcher after falling hard during the fourth quarter Tuesday night against Minnesota.

The rookie spent the night at St. Luke's Medical Center. Further evaluation, including an MRI, found Ford sustained a mild bruise, the Bucks said. Ford is expected to make a full recovery.

Sather resigns coach position

GREENBURGH, N.Y. (AP) — Glen Sather stepped down as coach of the slumping New York Rangers, staying on as president and general manager of a team likely to miss the playoffs for the seventh consecutive season.

Snyder Little League
Registration
February 26, 2004 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
February 27, 2004 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
February 28, 2004 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
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and 12 as of July 31, 2004
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the Boys and Girls Club

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Legal Notice

**THE STATE OF TEXAS §§
COUNTY OF SCURRY §**

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF WANDA L. WALL

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Wanda L. Wall, were issued on February 19, 2004, in Cause No. 5870 pending in the County Court of Scurry County Texas, to James E. Wall.

The residence address of such Executor is:

Mr. James E. Wall
667 North County Road 221
Snyder, TX 79549

and he receives his mail at:

Mr. James E. Wall
667 North County Road 221
Snyder, TX 79549.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to be presented within the time and in the manner prescribed by law to the Executor:

Mr. James E. Wall
667 North County Road 221
Snyder, TX 79549.

SIGNED this 19th day of February, 2004.

(s)James E. Wall
Independent Executor

Lost & Found

FOUND
GM key & key ring w/keyless entry. Also, Exxon key tag w/serial tag @ 4000 Jacksboro. 207-0399

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Employment

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DRIVER NEEDED
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LVN Needed 11-7
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LVN needed for pediatric private duty nursing. Several openings. Competitive pay. Will train. For more information, contact Kinder Hearts Home Health, PLLC toll free at 866-778-5778.

Manager needed at American Legion. Applications at 1802 Ave. R, after 3p.m.

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Need Class A CDL drivers. Vacuum truck experience. Pick up applications, A&B Transport, Inc., 512 N. College (old Holcomb bldg.)

Need students for summer jobs at Fun Valley Family Resort in South Fork, Colorado. Jobs available: office, housekeeping, dining room, horse wrangler, kitchen & others. Salary, room, board, bonus. Write: Personnel Director 9010 Ravenwood Granbury, TX 76049

NEEDED
Immediate openings for CNAs & full-time cook. Apply in person, Snyder Healthcare Center. 573-6332

Seeking a person experienced in all phases of accounting: payroll, accounts receivable, accounts payable, general ledger, financial reports, and quarterly payroll reports. Must have at least 2 years experience in all these areas. Hours required are 8am–5pm Mon.-Fri. in Snyder office. Paid holidays. Paid vacation & matching IRA after first year. No health insurance plan. Fax resume to 325-573-0689 or e-mail to: smckinney_ad@yahoo.com

Taking applications for Certified Nurses Aides. Vacation, sick time, holidays, retirement, health insurance. Contact April Velasquez, DON, 325-728-2634.

Wanted: Retirees with own RV for summer employment at Fun Valley Family Resort, South Fork, Colorado for office, housekeeping, cooks, maintenance & RV parks. Write: Personnel Director 9010 Ravenwood Granbury, TX 76049

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LEGAL NOTICE

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION NOTICE

West Texas Centers for MHMR is the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation ("TDMHMR") designated mental health and mental retardation Local Authority (LA) established to plan, coordinate, develop policy, develop and allocate resources, supervise, and ensure the provision of community based mental health and mental retardation services for the residents of Andrews, Borden, Crane, Dawson, Fisher, Gaines, Garza, Glasscock, Howard, Kent, Loving, Martin, Mitchell, Nolan, Reeves, Runnels, Scurry, Terrell, Terry, Upton, Ward, Winker and Yoakum Counties, Texas. The LA is publishing this Request for Information (RFI) Notice to request responses from potential providers or other interested parties interested in the community services described in the RFI Document. This RFI Process is only to determine interest and does not address any intent to contract or procure services. From information provided by the responders to the RFI Document, a determination will be made regarding actual contracting through a procurement process.

Copies of the RFI Document may be obtained by written request to WTCMHMR Attn: Cindy Smith, Director of Network Management; 319 Runnels, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or via internet at www.wtcmhmr.org INTERESTED PARTIES MUST RESPOND TO THE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION BY 3:00 O'CLOCK P.M. CST, APRIL 30, 2004, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS IN PARAGRAPH 2.1 OF THE RFI DOCUMENT.

Questions regarding the RFI Process should be directed to Cindy Smith at 319 Runnels, Big Spring, Texas 79720 or cindy_smith@wtcmhmr.org.

NOTE: Similar RFI Notices are being published for many local service areas in Texas. Those interested in responding for a county other than the one(s) identified above, should contact that county's Local Mental Health and/or Mental Retardation Authority for further information or the RFI Document.



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Sophisticated tests led to upgrading bird flu severity

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Last week's outbreak of avian influenza in South Texas looked at first like a mild form of the disease, like those on the East Coast a few weeks earlier.

But just a couple of days later, the news had turned grim — the strain of bird flu found on a chicken farm in Gonzales County was "highly pathogenic," meaning it was both highly contagious and lethal to poultry.

That report from the U.S. Department of Agriculture quickly set many wheels in motion. A USDA command post was created in Gonzales and the search for more infected birds intensified, large chicken processors rushed to reassure their domestic consumers and foreign markets locked their doors to poultry shipments from America.

Just what happened between Friday and Monday to spur such a frenzy?

The answer is a government lab in Iowa simply did more sophisticated testing. And there's another round of results to come that will tell animal scientists even more about the Gonzales outbreak, the first highly pathogenic cases in the United States in two decades.

"There's no easy way to say whether its high-pathogenic or low-pathogenic until you do the confirmatory testing," said Jim Rogers, a USDA spokesman in Washington.

State veterinarian Bob Hillman on Friday said that the Gonzales bird flu was a low-risk variety that would not cause much damage to chicken growers in the county, which is one of the major poultry areas in Texas.

Hillman didn't elaborate then on why he thought the avian flu was low-pathogenic, but he said Wednesday that his office made its judgment based on how many chickens on the infected farm were dying from the disease.

"While we did have a significant death loss in the birds," he said, "it was not an extremely high death loss which would be typically characteristic of a high-pathogenic avian influenza virus."

Hillman said 250 to 300 broilers died before the disease was first diagnosed in a local lab, and on Saturday the remaining 6,600 birds on the farm were euthanized and buried.

At the same time, scientists were doing genetic tests on infected chickens at the National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa.

The second round of testing was routine because the strain of avian flu in Gonzales was known as H5N2, based on the proteins found in the virus.

The H5 and H7 subtypes can be either low-pathogenic or high-pathogenic, so genetic sequencing is used to gauge virulence. During the 1983-84 outbreak in Pennsylvania and Virginia, an H5N2 strain that was not treated morphed from low to high pathogenicity.

On Monday morning, Ron DeHaven, the USDA's chief veterinarian, announced that the initial low-risk determination was wrong — this bird flu was indeed dangerous.

At the same time, he praised Texas officials for their fast action to kill all of the chickens on the Gonzales farm, just in case.

"By quickly identifying and depopulating this flock, they quickly and effectively reduced the chances for spread of infection, which both from an animal standpoint and any potential human health standpoint, that's very important," DeHaven said.

No other bird flu cases had been found in the area as of Wednesday, Hillman said. Officials are searching a 10-mile radius of the infected farm.

The H5N2 subtype is not the same as the avian flu strain that has killed at least 22 people in Southeast Asia. The Gonzales form is not known to have any ill effects on humans, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Results from a third test — this one long considered the gold standard — are expected at the beginning of March.

The Gonzales virus has been isolated and injected into eight young chickens at the Iowa lab, and after 10 days, scientists will count how many of the birds have died. If the number is at least six, or 75 percent of the sample, the flu will be considered highly pathogenic.

"What happens in the birds is actually more important than what you read biochemically (in the genetic test)," said Alex Bermudez, an avian pathologist at the University of Missouri.

But what happens if fewer than six die? Hillman says he doesn't think the outbreak would once again be classified as low-pathogenic because of conflicting results from the various tests.

Nutrition by Ed blonz, Ph.D.

Potassium readily available in foods

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I have a question about potassium. We have a bottle of potassium gluconate tablets (550 milligrams each). The label says that each tablet contains 90 milligrams of K but supplies 3 percent of the Daily Value. Does this mean we need 33 tablets to get 100 percent of our needs? There's something screwy here. — **T.W., Berkeley, Calif.**

DEAR T.W.: Potassium, which has the chemical symbol K, is one of the body's key electrolyte minerals. It regulates the water balance inside our cells. (Contrast this with sodium, which regulates water balance outside the cells.) Potassium is also involved in maintaining our body's acid-base balance and in the transmission of nerve signals, which makes it key to such activities as keeping our hearts beating. The adult Daily Value for potassium is 3,500 milligrams per day.

There are only 90 milligrams of potassium in that 550-milligram potassium gluconate pill because most of the weight of the pill is taken up by the "gluconate," not the potassium. This represents 3 percent of the Daily Value of potassium (more precisely 2.5 percent rounded up to 3 percent).

I wouldn't count on getting 100 percent of your potassium from supplements. It is abundant in fresh, whole foods such as legumes and citrus fruit. Specific food sources include:

Potato, 1 medium, baked: 926 milligrams potassium

Acorn Squash, 1 cup cooked: 896 mg

Raisins, seedless, 2/3 cup: 751 mg

Lentils, 1 cup boiled: 731 mg

Avocado, 1 cup: 563 mg

Orange juice, 8 fl. oz.: 450 mg

Banana, 1 medium: 451 mg

Artichoke, 1 medium: 425 mg

Pomegranate, 1 small: 399 mg

Milk, 1 percent fat, 8 fl. oz.: 381 mg

Turkey, light meat, without skin, roasted, 3.5 oz.: 305 mg

Spinach, frozen, 1/2 cup boiled: 283 mg

Cabbage, 1 cup: 219 mg

Peanuts, dry roasted, 1 oz.: 184 mg

Bell pepper, 1/2 cup chopped: 113 mg

Get the Daily Value, but avoid getting too much potassium. Supplementation is not usually needed unless there is a specific health problem or you are taking medication that drains your body's supply of the mineral. Check with your physician before taking a supplement if you have kidney problems or are taking diuretics that might prevent potassium from being eliminated through the urine.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: What is cocoa butter made from? Is it high in trans fats or does it contain any cholesterol? Does it contain butter? — **S.B., Glassboro, N.J.**

DEAR S.B.: Cocoa butter comes from the edible fats found in the cocoa bean. The butter gets extracted from the beans during the making of cocoa powder, and it is used during the making of chocolate. Higher-quality chocolates tend to have higher percentages of cocoa butter. It resembles dairy butter in that they are both fatty, spreadable substances, but the similarity ends there.

Cocoa butter is a vegetable substance, which means that it contains absolutely no cholesterol. Cocoa butter is primarily made up of oleic acid, the same fatty acid found in olive and canola oils, nuts and seeds. There are no trans fats. Cocoa, also called cacao, grows in tropical climates, which makes the oils more susceptible to oxidation by the sun. Cocoa butter and powder contain a number of antioxidants that help keep the oils fresh and available for the cocoa bean. This is useful for us, but it's really there for the plant to help assure that the cocoa bean can make use of its stored energy to successfully develop into a new tree.

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

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

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	15.33	15.05	15.32	+.32
AT&T Corp	20.25	19.81	20.01	—.24
Albertsons	24.65	24.40	24.49	+.09
Alltel	50.83	50.55	50.70	—.10
AmEl Pw	33.73	33.40	33.69	+.08
AndarkPtr	50.54	49.83	50.52	+.64
ATMOS Egy	26.32	26.12	26.24	—.09
Aviall	15.27	15.14	15.27	+.08
BP PLC	49.06	48.78	48.84	+.10
BakerHughes	37.25	36.80	37.20	+.21
Bank of Amer	81.85	81.41	81.67	—.04
BellSouth	27.71	27.40	27.54	—.28
BurlNoSFe	31.85	31.50	31.60	—.16
Caterpillar	77.72	76.86	77.68	+.50
CenterPoint	10.42	10.30	10.40	
ChevronTex	87.98	87.42	87.72	—.12
Citigroup	49.95	49.61	49.69	—.15
CocaCola	49.68	49.47	49.50	—.15
ColgatePal	55.17	54.95	55.10	+.10
CmclMetals	28.79	28.54	28.62	—.15
ConocoPhil	68.92	68.43	68.80	+.02
Cooper Inds	54.09	53.78	53.96	+.06
DaimlrChry	44.15	43.70	43.83	—.98
DeltaAirLines	9.80	8.95	9.12	+.01
Dillards Inc	17.50	17.11	17.49	+.18
DowChem	43.38	43.06	43.20	—.55
DuPont	45.02	44.49	44.98	—.29
EastmanChem	43.26	42.86	42.91	—.44
EstKodak	28.86	28.25	28.59	—.37
EDS Corp	19.24	18.95	19.04	—.20
Entergy	58.20	57.65	58.18	+.58
ExxonMobil	42.75	42.50	42.57	—.08
FootLocker	26.68	26.15	26.21	—.48
GenDynam	92.06	90.77	91.22	—1.54
GenlElec	32.90	32.61	32.74	—.03
GenMills	45.99	45.60	45.95	+.09
GenMotors	47.99	47.45	47.63	—.28
GaPacific	31.70	31.38	31.44	—.08
Goodrich	29.30	28.84	28.92	—.78
Goodyear	8.06	7.73	7.86	—.20
GtAtlPac	7.60	7.37	7.60	+.13
Halliburtn	31.32	30.97	31.23	+.09
Hanson PLC	41.15	40.91	40.95	—.40
HarteHanks	22.05	21.80	22.05	—.22
HomeDepot	36.55	36.20	36.51	+.10
HoneywellIntl	35.10	34.41	34.42	—.55
IBM	96.92	96.25	96.78	+.24
IntlPaper	44.71	44.27	44.42	—.33
JohnsonJn	54.15	53.68	54.10	+.04
KinderMorg	60.85	60.32	60.85	+.35
Kroger Co	19.32	18.96	19.09	—.04
LockheedM	46.76	46.22	46.40	—.37
Lowes Cos	55.85	54.96	55.51	—.02
Lubys	4.50	4.45	4.48	—.02
LucentTech	4.18	4.08	4.17	+.04
MarathonOil	34.34	34.06	34.31	+.19
MayDeptStr	35.05	34.65	34.96	—.14
Medtronic	47.27	46.95	47.11	—.21
Motorola	17.83	17.36	17.79	+.29
NCR Corp	44.10	43.84	44.04	+.04
Navistar	47.69	46.60	47.14	—.36
PNM Rescs	30.34	30.19	30.30	+.10
Penney JC	30.22	29.00	30.15	+.39
PepBoys	22.36	22.00	22.35	+.14
PepsiCo	51.98	51.71	51.75	—.35
PhelpDodge	85.21	84.07	85.00	+.76
PilgrimsPride	19.57	18.99	19.39	+.01
Praxair s	36.83	36.31	36.81	—.03
ProctGamb	102.95	102.38	102.80	+.11
RadioShack	34.35	33.92	34.15	—.12
RoyalDut	49.15	48.83	49.07	+.27
SBC Comm	24.26	24.02	24.08	—.07
SaraLee	21.63	21.55	21.61	+.16
Scripps EW	98.30	97.94	98.20	+.21
SearsRoeb	46.39	45.90	46.25	—.26
SherwinW	34.85	34.45	34.68	+.03
SouthernCo	30.05	29.75	30.00	+.21
SwstAirl	14.20	14.01	14.08	—.17
SprintFON	17.98	17.57	17.74	—.26
SprintPCS	8.86	8.50	8.76	—.09
Sunoco Inc	59.25	58.85	59.24	+.12
TXU Corp	27.56	27.29	27.50	—.12
TempleInland	64.38	63.95	64.15	—.13
TexInd	35.52	35.22	35.52	+.10
TexasInst	31.19	30.40	31.16	+.50
Textron	54.80	54.30	54.42	—.29
TimeWarner	17.67	17.50	17.59	+.06
TrinityInds	29.20	28.65	29.12	+.72
TylerTech	9.30	9.00	9.03	—.06
UnionPacif	63.85	63.45	63.76	—.17
USSteel	34.81	34.32	34.76	+.29
UnitedTech	91.65	88.92	89.75	—2.55
Unocal	37.93	37.60	37.89	+.09
VerizonComm	38.10	37.82	37.97	—.05
WalMart	59.73	59.13	59.34	—.54
WellsFargo	57.44	57.09	57.25	+.02
WstnGasRs	49.27	48.86	49.27	+.36
WinnDixie	6.03	5.91	6.01	+.10
Xerox Cp	14.49	14.12	14.21	+.11
YumBrands	36.61	36.13	36.32	+.27

FEB 26 2004

Best Available Copy

President Bush urges ban on gay marriages

Republicans in Congress aren't rushing to heed his call

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush wants quick election-year enactment of a constitutional amendment prohibiting gays from marrying each other, but Republicans in Congress are not rushing to heed his call.

After Bush's announcement Tuesday, House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Texas, said it would take time to gauge the level of support in Congress for a constitutional amendment. He suggested the difficulty of passing one may cause lawmakers to take a different approach to preserving marriage as a solely man-woman union.

"We don't want to do this in haste," DeLay said.

The front-runner for the Democratic presidential nomination, Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts, and his leading rival, Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina, struggled to make their opposition to Bush's stance clear as they carefully tiptoed around politically sensitive turf.

Kerry said he supports civil unions, "and I think that that is permissible within state law and it ought to be."

"If he really wants to help married couples, what he should be doing is helping them resolve their economic problems, their health care problems," Edwards said while campaigning in Georgia.

Meeting long-held expectations of his most conservative supporters, Bush argued that same-sex weddings threaten the institution of marriage — and thus society — and that actions by several local jurisdictions allowing gay marriage make federal intervention the only recourse.

"If we are to prevent the meaning of marriage from being changed forever, our nation must enact a constitutional amendment to protect marriage in America," the president said. "Marriage cannot be severed from its cultural, religious and natural roots without weakening the good influence of society."

Bush called on Congress "to promptly pass and to send to the states for ratification" an amendment to define marriage as a union of a man and a woman. He had opposed legalizing civil unions as governor of Texas, but Bush left the door open for states to do so now — an alternative gay rights groups find insufficient.

Bush's conservative supporters who view prohibiting gay marriage as a priority were thrilled.

"We are delighted the president has stepped forward on this issue and his announcement serves as a critical catalyst to energize and organize those who will work diligently to ensure that marriage remains an institution between one man and one woman," said Jay Sekulow, chief counsel of the American Center for Law and Justice, a law firm founded by the Rev. Pat Robertson.

A majority of Americans — sometimes by as much as a 2-1 margin — oppose legalizing gay marriages. Still, Bush's move could hold political risks, especially if voters see him as intolerant or question his self-description as a "compassionate conservative."

Democrats promised to fight the amendment and criticized Bush for wanting to use the Constitution to take away rights. They said he is trying change the subject from questions on his leadership, the economy, his Vietnam-era military service and the failure to find the weapons of mass destruction he had alleged were in Iraq.

"President Bush is tinkering with America's most sacred document in a shameful attempt to turn our attention away from his record as president," said Democratic National Committee Chairman Terry McAuliffe.

Several GOP lawmakers said they would prefer to see Congress take a different route rather than amend the Constitution.

Rep. David Dreier, R-Calif., a co-chairman of Bush's campaign in California in 2000, said he doesn't support a constitutional amendment. "I believe that this should go through the courts, and I think that we're at a point where it's not necessary," he said.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., said the matter should be left to the states, and Rep. Jerry Lewis, R-Calif., said changing the Constitution should be a last resort on almost any issue.



Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Friday, Feb. 27, 2004

Much can be accomplished in the year ahead if you keep the game plan strictly in your hands. With you in control, you'll be able to mastermind the direction in which you'll go in order to achieve your ends.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Unless you take the time to clearly define your objectives today, little or nothing of substance will be accomplished. It would be a mistake to attempt to do unrelated projects simultaneously.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Don't bank too heavily on hearsay information that may sound accurate but of which you have no idea if it's true or not. In order to be assured of the facts, investigate it yourself.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — You might have gotten away with things yesterday, but today is another story. Be extremely careful how you handle your funds or resources. Carelessness can cause serious mistakes.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Don't permit yourself to become involved in a situation today that would put you in the middle of two opposing factions. Let them work things out without bringing you into their dispute.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Responsibilities and duties could start to pile up on you today if you fail to make the necessary changes called for when things start to go awry. Be flexible and intelligent in handling matters.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Business and pleasure make a poor mix today, so don't try to put a deal together at a social gathering, even if the individuals pertinent to your plans want to. Things would get muddled.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — In-laws, relatives or even good, well-meaning friends should be kept out of your private family affairs today. Their input could cause a choosing of sides and a rumble under your roof.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Any services you render to friends or associates today should be done out of the goodness of your heart. If you attempt to obligate them in any way, you'll negate your good image.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Don't volunteer to be the treasurer for a social group today. Should you be unable to collect the funds from everyone, you might have to be the one who makes up the difference.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Should an issue arise today in which you and your mate hold opposing views, drop the subject immediately. Instead of helping to reach an understanding, harsh words may make matters worse.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Be sure your own motives are pure before finding fault with others today. You may start the critique, but chances are you're not going to be the one who has the last word.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Be careful not to build your material hopes today on circumstances where the control of the possible outcome of events is in the hands of another. You could end up sorely disappointed.

Get a jump on life by understanding the influences which are governing you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph year ahead predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Woman attracted to minister prays the feeling is mutual

DEAR ABBY: I have a serious crush on the minister at church, and I suspect he has similar feelings for me. He is divorced and seems a little shy. Is there some code of ethics that a minister must follow about dating parishioners? I'm a Methodist. Please tell me what to do — I'm crazy about him. — **CRAZY FOR THE REVEREND**

DEAR CRAZY: There are specific rules that prevent clergy from becoming romantically involved with their parishioners. Those who break them are considered predators.

If you are serious about the minister, the first thing you should do is find another congregation. After that, call him, explain why you left his flock, say a little prayer and invite him to dinner.

**

DEAR ABBY: When I send out dinner invitations, I ask the guests not to bring anything but themselves. But without fail, my husband's mother and sister call him to say they'll be bringing added dishes plus dessert.

My husband, "Nick," refuses to tell them it's not necessary. He says they don't mean to offend and that I am being petty.

But they never ask me what I'm preparing, and their food always conflicts with what I'm serving. This last time, Nick even asked me to change the menu to complement the food they were bringing! Afterward, they asked me to wash their serving dishes and return them in a couple of days.

I have attended other family functions where I've noticed these in-laws did not interfere with the meals being served. I can't help but take it personally. I am very offended. What should I do? — **TIRED OF BITING MY TONGUE IN PA.**

DEAR TIRED: There is no rule of etiquette that demands a host serve food that is brought by the guests. (This goes for wine, too.) It is considered to be a gift to the host. The next time Nick's mother and sister bring food after having been asked not to, transfer it to your own containers and put it in the freezer. Put their dishes into a hot soapy sink, and present them to their owners at the door when they leave. Then you and Nick can enjoy their gift at a later time — or dispose of it if you choose.

**

DEAR ABBY: I have been married 25 years. I'm in my early 40s and have three adorable children and a good life.

My problem is I cannot get my previous boyfriend out of my system. I long to see him, and when I do — even a glimpse of him — I feel the way I did when we were together years ago. I get nervous and tingly and jittery. I look for him wherever I go and dream of him often. It is always the same dream; we are getting married.

I have a good husband who doesn't drink or become abusive. We go to church, have a new house, two nice vehicles and just about everything I could want.

Do I need closure or do you think I still love him? I will always love him, I guess, even though I talked with him several years ago and he is completely different from when we dated. Do I need counseling or is this normal? — **WONDERING IN WISCONSIN**

DEAR WONDERING: I suspect you are less in love with him than with the IDEA of him. He can do no wrong because it's all in your head — the "perfect" love affair. If counseling will help you feel better, I won't discourage you. But I recommend that you also find a project or volunteer outlet on which to concentrate, because it appears you have too much time on your hands.

**

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**

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

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LAPD officers kill burglary suspect after car chase

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A burglary suspect was shot to death by police after a car chase that ended when he backed his vehicle into their patrol cars, a sequence of events broadcast live on local TV stations.

Police and the district attorney's office are investigating the actions of three officers who fired into the suspect's car.

Police began chasing Nicholas Hans Killinger early Monday after he allegedly tied up a gas station attendant and stole $180.

After a 90-minute chase that was covered by television helicopters, Killinger was shot by Los Angeles police in front of Santa Monica High School. He died about an hour later, authorities said.

"The suspect could have ended this situation at any time," Lt. Art Miller told the Los Angeles Times. "But instead he chose to reverse his car into the officers."

Killinger, 23, rolled backward into two police vehicles after he couldn't complete a U-turn. The officers fired about 11 rounds into the rear window of his car.

A police spokeswoman, Officer Adriana Sanchez, said Wednesday that several of those shots hit Killinger. An autopsy revealed that Killinger died of multiple gunshot wounds, said coroner's spokesman David Campbell.

At least two local news stations broadcast the shooting as it happened, and more than five aired footage.

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GARNERS SECOND PLACE — Averie Pearcy, right, Ira sixth grader, has won second place in Texas School Safety Center's essay contest. She is pictured with one of her school sponsors, Riki Jones. Not pictured is Joanna Roemisch, also a sponsor. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Ira student's essay wins second

Averie Pearcy, Ira sixth grader, won second place in an essay contest held by the Texas School Safety Center.

Pearcy's essay, titled *School Violence and Prevention*, gave ideas on how to avoid violence at school and how students, teachers and parents all play a large role in educating kids on violence.

She will be awarded $300 and will be recognized at the Safety Center's annual banquet Monday in Austin.

There were 988 entries in the 6th, 7th and 8th grade categories and 323 entries in the 6th grade category.

Pearcy's school sponsors include Mrs. Riki Jones and Mrs. Joanna Roemisch.

She is the daughter of Gary and Brandie Whisenhunt.

Former state attorney general Waggoner Carr dies at age 85

DALLAS (AP) — Waggoner Carr, a former Texas attorney general and former state representative, died of cancer on Wednesday in Austin. He was 85.

"I think dad was a statesman and a person who brought the state together and believed in the state of Texas and believed in the greatness of the state of Texas and believed in the people who lived here," said David Carr, 54, an Austin dentist.

Waggoner Carr served as attorney general from 1963 to 1967.

Ernestine Carr said she and her husband had breakfast with President John F. Kennedy the day Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas. Waggoner Carr learned of the assassination when he arrived in the Panhandle for a speaking engagement. He later testified before the Warren Commission, which investigated the assassination.

Mrs. Carr said politics and people were her husband's great loves.

"I think he meant a lot to a lot of people," she said. "He had a good sense of humor, was always telling anecdotes about people and telling stories. He just loved visiting with people."

Waggoner Carr had been battling cancer for nearly a decade, his wife said. Family members said he was in good spirits before his death shortly before 1 p.m. Wednesday at an Austin area hospital.

Carr was born in Fairlie and his family moved to Lubbock when the family bank was closed during the Depression.

He served in World War II and received his law degree from the University of Texas.

Carr's political career included stints as Lubbock assistant district attorney from 1947-1948, Lubbock County attorney from 1949-1951 and state representative from 1951-1961. He served as speaker of the house from 1957-1961.

Jim Schwertner, 52, said Carr was one of the first attorneys general to stand up for minority issues in the school system.

"That was a big deal in those days," Schwertner said. "He didn't believe in segregation. He was one of first ones that made sure Texas schools abided by the laws that President Johnson had signed, and he held the schools accountable."

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Anemia has its causes

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have pernicious anemia for which I have taken monthly vitamin B-12 injections for years. However, I remain severely anemic and terribly weak. Could I have some other vitamin deficiency? I am 88.

DEAR READER: Without question. Or you might be deficient in minerals, such as iron. Another possibility is that your bone marrow, where red blood cells are manufactured, may be underactive because of age or other factors.

In my opinion, you need extensive blood tests to check your vitamin/mineral levels. You may even require a bone marrow examination to make sure that the cells contained in it are functioning normally. Finally, I'd advise you to have several stool samples analyzed for blood, in the unlikely event that you suffer from chronic intestinal bleeding.

As you can see from my suggestions, your primary care physician has his work cut out for him and may eventually refer you to a hematologist for a definitive diagnosis.

For those people who would say that you don't need testing at your age, I'd argue the opposite choice because the quality of your life has obviously been affected by your anemia. I do not believe that a B-12 deficiency is the sole culprit, because the injections should have overcome that. Visit with your doctor and plan a strategy that will make you more energetic.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Vitamins and Minerals." 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: My spouse believes that antibacterial soap is a medical necessity and helps prevent urinary tract infections. But I'm concerned that the anti-bacterial properties might ruin our septic system, which relies heavily on bacteria to work properly.

Can the use of this product have such an environmental consequence?

DEAR READER: Antibacterial soaps do reduce bacterial population-growth on the skin, but I don't know how they may affect a septic system. Perhaps some of my readers who are sanitary engineers can shed some light on this topic.

For obvious reasons, an average family adds a huge number of bacteria daily to the holding tank. I'd always assumed that this would more than make up for germ-killing factors — uch as soaps, acids and other antibacterial elements that we flush or wash down the drain. If your theory were correct, I would expect major septic malfunction when outdated antibiotic pills are disposed of in toilets, but — to my knowledge — this is not the case. Apparently, the microscopic critters who populate our septic systems are fairly resistant. Or perhaps they excitedly welcome the new germs that have been washed off our bodies.

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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Ohio decisive state for Democratic race

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio (AP) — Florida is so passe. This year's must-have state is Ohio.

"If it was all about Florida in 2000, it's Ohio, Ohio, Ohio in 2004," said state Rep. Sylvester Patton, looking out the window of his downtown office building at Youngstown's Historical Center of Industry and Labor, a two-story brick reminder of the epidemic of joblessness in Mahoning Valley.

Standing guard outside what is commonly known as the steel museum are statues of workmen, carved from steel and thus untouched by an economy so weak that the local newspaper on Patton's desk carried an inch-high front-page headline: "Staggering job loss."

Joblessness — and free trade agreements many here blame for the phenomena — are top issues in a state that may determine whether John Kerry wraps up the Democratic presidential nomination Tuesday, when Ohio and nine other states hold elections.

Kerry and rival John Edwards are devoting enormous time and money to Ohio and its 140 delegates, giving voters a preview of their strengths and weaknesses as potential general election candidates.

The winner will challenge President Bush, whose vulnerability is evident throughout the state. Democrats and Republicans believe job losses — as well as political shifts toward the GOP in Florida and elsewhere since 2000 — will make Ohio the ultimate Nov. 2 battleground.

"This is the center of the political universe," said Jo Ann Davidson, former speaker of the state House and regional chair of the Bush-Cheney campaign.

If so, the planets are not aligning for Bush. The state was second only to Michigan in the number of jobs lost in 2002. Its unemployment rate increased from 4.0 percent in December 2000, just before Bush took office, to 6.0 percent in December 2003. The state's current unemployment rate is seventh-highest in the nation.

State polls show Bush's approval rating in steep decline. Interviews with voters from Youngstown to Toledo — the state's hardest hit economic region — underscored his plight: Democrats are angry and vowing to vote in record numbers while even some Republicans are having their faith tested.

"I'm a Republican, but I'm not going to vote for Bush," said Phil Blackford, munching on a soft pretzel at a mall outside Youngstown.

Blackford, 82, owns a photography company that lost its business to overseas firms late in the Clinton administration. He blames the Democratic president and the 1993 North American Free Trade Agreement, as well as Bush for not fixing the problem, and several other GOP voters concurred.

NAFTA is synonymous in Ohio for joblessness, giving Edwards an opening against Kerry. The front-runner supported NAFTA while Edwards, a freshman senator from North Carolina, was not in Congress in 1993. Edwards has aired ads criticizing NAFTA and has drawn huge crowds to anti-NAFTA rallies, including one at a Teamsters hall here.

Robert Bernat, secretary treasurer of Teamsters Local 377, bucked the Kerry-backing Teamsters bosses by opening his doors to Edwards. "Personally, I think an Edwards-Kerry ticket is the only way we can beat Bush," Bernat said sarcastically.

He complained that Kerry came to Youngstown two days after Edwards and, instead of holding a rally for the public, staged a tightly controlled question-and-answer session for a few workers. Bernat's comments reflect a widespread unease with Kerry's trade record among rank-and-file union members, even as labor chiefs rally behind the front-runner.

The latest Ohio poll showed Edwards trailing Kerry by 20 points, and his supporters say they're running out of hope.

"Unfortunately, Edwards may be peaking too late," said Wade Kapszukivwicv, a Toledo city council member.

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Rebel fighters converging on Haiti capital

CAP-HAITIEN, Haiti (AP) — Rebels began moving toward Haiti's capital of Port-au-Prince today and are awaiting the order to attack, a guerrilla leader told The Associated Press.

The leader, Guy Philippe, said their mission was to arrest President Jean-Bertrand Aristide if he did not resign, so he could be tried on charges ranging from corruption to murder.

"I don't want him to die. It would be too easy. He has to pay for what he has done to the Haitian people," Philippe said in an interview with the AP in Cap-Haitien, the country's second-largest city that fell to the rebels Sunday.

Pressure is mounting for Aristide to resign, with France blaming him for the chaos in its former colony in the 3-week-old rebellion and urging that he be replaced by a transitional government. The U.N. Security Council scheduled a meeting for later today.

Foreigners are fleeing Haiti amid isolated looting, and President Bush said the United States is encouraging the international community to provide a strong "security presence."

"We've decided to go toward Port-au-Prince. They're on their way," said Philippe, leader of the uprising that has overrun half of Haiti and killed at least 80 people. "They're taking their places. They know what to do."

Aristide, who has shown determination to keep power, has said a rebel attack on the capital could kill thousands.

Most of the barricades that had been erected by Aristide supporters in Port-au-Prince were removed today and streets were empty, except for motorists lining up for dwindling supplies of gasoline.

The rebel movement already has sleeper cells in the capital but they would be reinforced by fighters from rebel groups moving in from variety of locations in the north, Philippe said.

Asked if an attack was imminent, he said: "It doesn't mean that we're going to attack today. We're just going to take our positions and wait for the right time."

House is voting on unborn victims bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House moved to allow federal prosecutors to charge assailants with two separate crimes for injuring or killing a pregnant woman and her unborn child, brushing back arguments that conferring new rights to the fetus would undermine abortion rights.

Supporters of the Unborn Victims of Violence Act said Americans were solidly behind making an attack on a pregnant woman subject to two crimes.

Criminal law, House Judiciary Committee Chairman James Sensenbrenner, R-Wis., said today, "is an expression of society's values," and anything less than making a woman and the unborn child separate victims "does not resonate with society's sense of justice."

Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., said Republicans were opting for an election-year abortion issue instead of backing a less controversial approach that would make attacks on pregnant women a single, but more serious crime. "Real people are suffering real harm while this House has played abortion politics instead of acting to punish truly barbaric crimes."

The act has the strong endorsement of the White House and was near the top of the election-year wish list for President Bush's conservative base.

Backers said the measure was needed to bring federal law in line with 29 states where those who attack pregnant women can be charged with two crimes when the fetus is harmed, including murder when it dies.

One of those states is California, where Scott Peterson is on trial for the murder of his wife Laci and her unborn boy Conner. The bill has also been designated Laci and Conner's Law.

The Democratic-led opposition, however, says the real aim of the legislation is to undermine abortion rights by giving the unborn the same legal rights as the born. They charged that abortion politics was taking precedence over the need to protect abused women.

Rep. Louise Slaughter, D-N.Y., said it would affect a woman's reproductive rights. It "is not about women and it is not about children. It's about politics."

Rep. Zoe Lofgren, D-Calif., is offering an alternative that would increase penalties for attacks leading to the interruption of a pregnancy but would not confer separate legal rights to the fetus.

The White House, in a statement, said it opposed such an amendment but voiced strong support for the base bill.

The House passed similar bills in 1999 and 2001. The bill again faces an uphill fight in the Senate with its stronger abortion rights forces. The Senate did not take up the two previous House bills.

Bush raises campaign cash and discusses economy in two states

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — President Bush visited a thriving plastic pipe factory to insist that Congress make tax cuts permanent to help keep the economy growing and create jobs, a sensitive issue in this year's presidential campaign.

"I'm calling on Congress to make the tax cuts set to expire permanent," Bush said at ISCO Industries, a family-owned company, situated just east of downtown Louisville. "I would like Congress to make all tax cuts permanent, but the very minimum, the very minimum, they need to ... make those set to expire in 2005 permanent."

Bush said his political opponents who say "Let's get rid of Bush's tax plan" really want to raise taxes on Americans. "That's code word for 'I'm going to raise your taxes.' That's what that is," he said.

The president's trip comes a week after he distanced himself from White House predictions that the economy will add 2.6 million jobs this year. The economy has lost 2.2 million payroll jobs since Bush took office, the worst jobs record of any president since Herbert Hoover.

While the unemployment rate has been falling and payrolls growing modestly in recent months, the 8.3 million Americans who were out of work last month continue to be a sensitive political issue for Bush as the re-election race gains steam.

The administration's economic forecast predicted that payroll jobs would average 132.7 million a month this year, but to achieve that average, the economy would have had to create more than 2.6 million jobs in coming months, which is unlikely.

"For the sake of our economy, for the sake of American families, for the sake of small business owners, and for the sake of job creation, the tax cuts need to be permanent," Bush said.

Tax cuts set to expire at the end of this year include most of the increase in the child tax credit to $1,000, an expansion of the bottom 10 percent tax bracket that lowered taxes for virtually every worker, and some changes lessening the marriage penalty.

Four arrested in county Wednesday

• Arrests

Four arrests were made in Scurry County on Wednesday.

At 8:40 a.m. a 26-year-old woman was taken in to custody in the 200 block of U.S. 84 on a Howard County warrant for issuance of bad checks.

Two people were placed under arrest at the Law Enforcement Center at 4:20 p.m. A 23-year-old man was charged on a motion to adjudicate guilt for driving while license suspended and a 23-year-old woman was charged with motion to adjudicate guilt for theft by check.

At 6:50 p.m. a 20-year-old man was taken into custody in the 4300 block of College Ave. for minor in possession of alcohol, driving under the influence, and driving while license invalid.

• Accidents

A minor two-vehicle accident was reported at 4:34 p.m. Wednesday in the 2700 block of Ave. E. Involved were a 2001 Ford pickup driven by Martha Rodriguez, 50, 3118 Ave. T and a 2002 Chevrolet Malibu driven by Joe Lee Hammit, 26, 2108 41st St.

• Dog bite

Cogdell Memorial Hospital emergency room reported a patient with a dog bite at 3:06 p.m. Wednesday.

• Harassment

At 5:05 p.m. Wednesday, a caller reported that three males in the 1600 block of Huffman were harassing her son.

A caller reported at 2 p.m. Wednesday from the 200 block of 31st St. his daughter was being harassed by an individual.

• Forgery

At 10:48 a.m. Wednesday, a caller requested to speak to an officer regarding a missing checkbook. An offense report for forgery was submitted.

• Family disturbance

A 911 hang-up call was received at 9:31 a.m. Wednesday. Officers responded to a home on Noble Dr. where a couple had earlier been in a verbal disagreement, but the husband had already left the residence.

Obituaries

Curlie Daniels

1930-2004

Curlie Mae Woodson Daniels, longtime Snyder resident, died Sunday, Feb. 22, in Snyder Healthcare Center.

Graveside service for Mrs. Daniels, 73, is set for 10 a.m. Saturday in the Snyder Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Wright Colonial Funeral Home.

Born on March 29, 1930, in Falls City, she was married to the Rev. Willie Temmie Daniels on May 29, 1971. He died Jan. 4, 1982.

Two stepchildren, Edna Lee Lewis and Willie Lee Daniels, also preceded her in death.

Survivors include her mother, Celia Paul of Snyder; seven grandchildren, Peyton Daniels of Snyder, Sulovan Daniels of Odessa and five other grandchildren of Houston; eight great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Fuentez

1930-2004

Anastacia Aguilar Fuentez of Snyder died Monday, Feb. 23, in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock after a lengthy illness.

Service for Mrs. Fuentez, 74, is set for 10 a.m. Saturday in St. Elizabeth Catholic Church. Fr. Timothy E. Judd will officiate. Burial will follow in Snyder Cemetery with arrangements by Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Rosary will be at 7 p.m. today and Friday at the funeral home.

Born Jan. 22, 1930 in Lubbock, she married Hilario Fuentez on Aug. 17, 1948 in Lubbock. He died Nov. 8, 2002. She also was preceded in death by a son, Miguel Fuentez. Mrs. Fuentez was a homemaker.

Survivors include six daughters, Irene Canales and Anita Medina, both of Snyder, Rosie Martinez of Alice, Carol Barrera of Colorado City, Eva Salcido of Midland, Joanna Stone of Pampa and Tina Molloy of Slidell, La.; six sons, George, Steve, Luis, Johnny, Jimmy and Manuel Fuentez, all of Snyder; four brothers, Juan Aguilar of Johnstown, Colo., Frank, Marcelo and Benito Aguilar, both of Lubbock; two sisters, Margarita Lozano of Lubbock and Josephina Perez of San Angelo; 32 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Truby Coffman

1907-2004

LUBBOCK — Truby Coffman, the grandmother of Zola Schlegel of Snyder, died Tuesday, Feb. 24, in Garrison Geriatric Center in Lubbock.

Funeral service for Mrs. Coffman, 96, is set for 10:30 a.m. Friday in the Sanders Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Lloyd Stice officiating. Interment will follow in the Anton Cemetery under the direction of Sanders Funeral Home.

Born April 22, 1907 in Jones County, she married Harold Coffman on Sept. 22, 1925 in Plainview. She and her family operated Coffman Food Store in Anton. She was an LVN at the West Texas Hospital, primarily in the emergency room. She was a Methodist and a member of the Eastern Star.

Survivors include her husband, Harold Coffman of Lubbock; a daughter, Zelda Teague Barnett of Lubbock; another granddaughter, Malva Smith of Lubbock; five great-grandchildren, Kellie Schlegel of Lubbock, Jay Smith of Houston, Russell Schlegel of Amarillo, Therin Smith of Lubbock and Leah Smith of Dallas.

Family visitation is set for 6-7 this evening at the funeral home.

Memorials are suggested to the Little People of America, 5289 N.E. Elam Young Parkway, Suite F-700, Hillsboro, Ore., 97124 or a favorite charity.

Personal, Professional Service

BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME

3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Independently Owned & Operated

WCFH

WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME

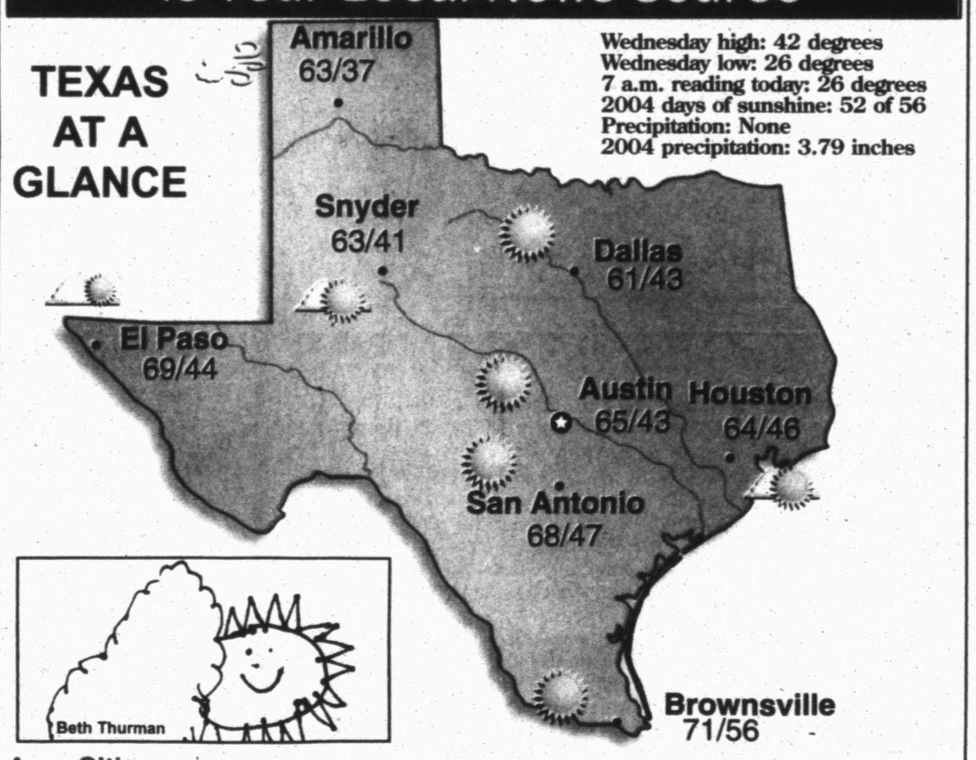
200 East 37th St.
Snyder, Texas
325-573-6200

Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Fri 2/27	Sat 2/28	Sun 2/29
63/41	61/42	57/34
Generally sunny despite a few afternoon clouds. High 63F.	Windy with a mix of sun and clouds.	Overcast. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the mid 30s.
Sunrise 7:14 AM, Sunset 6:39 PM	Sunrise 7:13 AM, Sunset 6:40 PM	Sunrise 7:12 AM, Sunset 6:41 PM

–Come Rain or Shine–
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Wednesday high: 42 degrees
Wednesday low: 26 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 26 degrees
2004 days of sunshine: 52 of 56
Precipitation: None
2004 precipitation: 3.79 inches

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	64	44	sunny	El Paso	69	44	pt sunny	Midland	66	43	sunny
Amarillo	63	37	windy	Fort Stockton	69	44	mst sunny	Raymondville	72	53	sunny
Austin	65	43	sunny	Gainesville	59	39	sunny	Rosenberg	64	46	mst sunny
Beaumont	63	45	sunny	Greenville	60	40	sunny	San Antonio	68	47	sunny
Brownsville	71	56	sunny	Houston	64	46	mst sunny	San Marcos	66	43	sunny
Brownwood	66	43	sunny	Kingsville	71	52	sunny	Sulphur Springs	60	40	sunny
Corpus Christi	68	53	sunny	Livingston	64	40	sunny	Sweetwater	65	44	mst sunny
Corsicana	61	41	sunny	Longview	62	40	sunny	Tyler	62	40	sunny
Dallas	61	43	sunny	Lubbock	64	39	mst sunny	Weatherford	61	39	sunny
Del Rio	69	49	mst sunny	Lufkin	64	41	sunny	Wichita Falls	61	41	mst sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	45	30	cloudy	Houston	64	46	mst sunny	Phoenix	64	46	rain
Boston	40	28	mst sunny	Los Angeles	60	43	pt sunny	San Francisco	55	44	rain
Chicago	47	34	sunny	Miami	72	52	pt sunny	Seattle	51	42	rain
Dallas	61	43	sunny	Minneapolis	43	35	mst sunny	St. Louis	53	34	sunny
Denver	55	32	pt sunny	New York	43	31	pt sunny	Washington, DC	47	30	pt sunny

Moon Phases

New	First	Full	Last
Feb 20	Feb 28	Mar 6	Mar 13

UV Index

Fri 2/27	Sat 2/28	Sun 2/29
6	6	5
Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

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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