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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY

July 17, 2003
Vol. 55 No. 67
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Ray & Ruth Wagner

Will seek additional tax support from county...

Hospital facing tough 2004 budget

By Wade Warren
SDN Managing Editor

Cogdell Memorial Hospital's administration and its board of managers are facing some tough choices as they work to finalize the hospital's 2004 budget.

Chief Financial Officer Jared Squires told the board this morning that the hospital is facing a $543,626 budget shortfall next year.

Income is projected at $17,800,925, while expenses are expected to be $19,052,960.

Squires said the hospital has to present a balanced budget to Scurry County and much of the discussion this morning centered on how the deficit could be erased.

Presently, the county funds the hospital $395,000 from ad valorem taxes and Squires said the hospital has asked for additional tax support.

The board discussed their options if the county does not fund the projected shortfall, and they ranged from not giving employees a proposed three-percent pay raise, to not having a physician on site at the emergency room from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. weekdays.

"We are looking at some tough cuts and actions," said George Parsley, the hospital's chief executive officer.

Parsley said tougher guidelines would have to be implemented in the hospital's emergency room.

"We are going to have to put in place some up-front ER collections," Parsley said.

A question was asked if a physician's assistant could man the ER if physicians' time in the facility were cut.

Parsley said that would be one possibility with the physicians on call if a trauma situation developed.

"I think if someone comes into the emergency room, they want to see a doctor," said board member Charles Church.

Church also reminded the board that Commissioner Ralph Trevey told the board at one of their meetings that the commissioners did not want to see any services cut.

Board president Carl Williams suggested the hospital seek $150,000 more in tax money from the county, and find ways to cut ER expenses.

Williams also suggested the board and administration examine the hospital's home health department to see if any cuts were available there to make up the deficit.

Squires also told the board that there had been some discussion of forming a hospital district.

This triggered a response from board member Dink Foree who said that would be the worst thing that could happen to this community.

"With the way the economy is, we don't need another tax," Foree said.

The board also discussed current wages at the hospital.

Parsley said the hospital needed to make significant adjustments on salaries.

"We are at risk of losing quality employees," Parsley said.

Director of Nurses Cheryl Chance strongly agreed with Parsley by adding that the nursing situation at Cogdell could get "scary" if additional pay for nurses is not forthcoming.

"I'm almost embarrassed to tell nurses what our starting salaries are when they call to check about jobs here," Chance said.

Starting RN salaries at Cogdell are $14.27 per hour, as compared to almost $10 higher elsewhere.

Williams presided at the two-hour meeting and board members in attendance were Foree, Church, Terry Williams and Bo Robinson. Bill Voss was absent.



Texans clean up, survey damage after Claudette

SURFSIDE BEACH (AP) — Dr. Hubert Smith and his wife, Leanne, waited patiently for a ladder so they could get back into the beach house to retrieve their belongings and a refrigerator full of food, items they had stowed the day before Hurricane Claudette forced their evacuation and ended their vacation as it began.

The ladder was needed because Claudette decimated the stairway on the house, which like all the homes along the beach is built on piers in the event of high surf such as the 9-foot waves that accompanied the hurricane Tuesday.

As the 65-year-old Houston physician waited for his stepson to bring the ladder, he pointed out something else that was missing.

"At low tide, the beach goes out about 50 yards. About half a football field," Smith said, peering over the decades-old bulkhead that prevented crashing waves from doing even more damage. "At high tide, it's maybe 20-25 yards."

As he spoke, the Gulf continued to lap at the bulkhead even though Claudette was drifting over Mexico and far West Texas, and he wondered how much beach would remain once the seas returned to normal.

Officials worried that beaches far from where Claudette's eye came ashore suffered severe, perhaps permanent, erosion damage from jackhammering waves. Surfside Beach is 60 miles up the coast from Palacios, approximately where the storm center first touched land, and further beach damage might have happened another 60 miles northward to Bolivar Peninsula.

Unlike most of the Texas coastline, many beaches of Brazoria and Galveston counties are lined with front-row homes just behind the dunes. Under the recently modified Texas Open Beaches Act, once the vegetation line at the back of a beach moves behind a structure because of erosion, the General Land Office condemns the property if dune grasses don't start returning in the front of it within two years.

Until that time, owners of properties in question are allowed to make emergency repairs to ensure the stability and safety of the homes or businesses. The vegetation line is important because it is considered the dividing land between private property and the beach, which in Texas is strictly public land.

"Storms like Claudette can erode not only Texas beaches, but destroy vital infrastructure and tax base," Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson said.

No injuries in freak accident

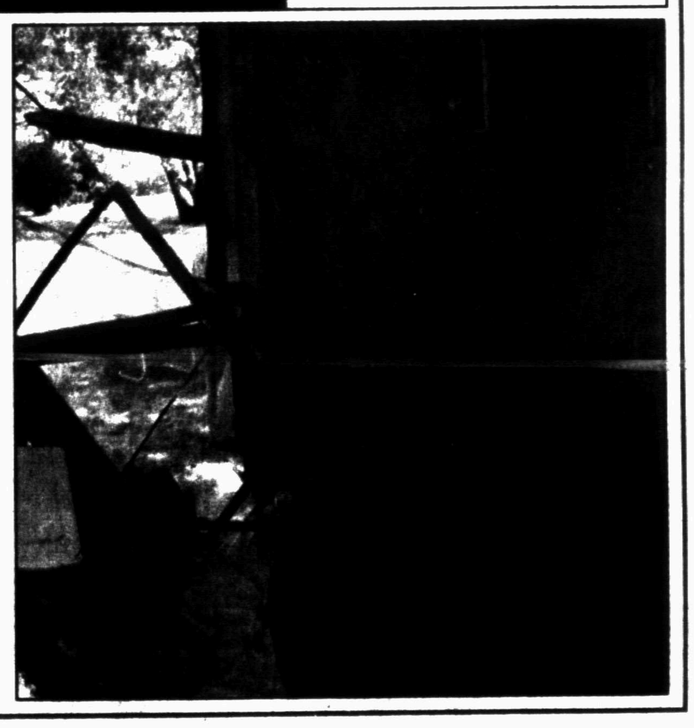
A truck tire and wheel, traveling over 80 miles an hour, crashed into a home just outside Snyder Wednesday on U.S. 84, narrowly missing the occupants inside.

Vicenta Valdez was sitting on the bed shown at right, just seconds before the tire crashed through her window after it came off a truck-tractor.

"I had been sitting there and had just gotten up after my husband told me to come in and look at the hurricane pictures on TV," said Mrs. Valdez.

The house sustained major damage to at least three rooms and the ceiling.

Truck driver J.B. James of Lancaster is shown pushing the tire back out of the house in the top photo.



Caution urged in buying calendar ads

Snyder High School athletic director Chad Rogers is cautioning local businesses about buying calendar ads from companies that are not authorized by the school district.

"Our local businesses have been hit by companies saying they have been authorized by the district to sell the ads on schedule calendars," Rogers said.

"If they do not have a signed letter from the school district, they are not authorized and all the money goes to the calendar company, and zero to the school district," he said.

Rogers said the calendars sold by authorized companies include the team schedule, along with team pictures.

ASK US

Q—Has assistant superintendent Melissa Jones resigned from the school district via e-mail?

A—Dr. Ronny Collins said today that he had not received such an e-mail.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Teresa Estrada...

...has worked for MD Laundry for over a year. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ygnacio Benitez and has two brothers, Aaron Hud and Michael, both of Sweetwater, and a sister, Belinda Lara of Snyder. Living in Snyder for seven years, Teresa likes camping and all outdoor activities. She is chaplain and junior vice president for the VFW Auxiliary.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Adversity is an experience, not a final act.
—Michael LeBoeuf

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN

by Brian Brisendine



We made a big mistake when we went to the polls last November. We voted for Rick Perry over his opponent Tony Sanchez.

At the time we thought Perry would be less of a menace than Sanchez would have been in our state's top office. Turns out, we were dead wrong.

Sanchez seemed too slick for us. Now we know, at least he wouldn't have played puppet for Tom Delay, a Republican U.S. Congressman and bully of the highest manner, as Perry is happily doing these days.

It is now painfully obvious that our governor is way out of his league. He rode the proverbial coattails to his current position and it's hurting everyone in our state.

When asked recently about the problems facing California governor Gray Davis, Perry quipped that he's thankful every day he doesn't live in California.

A spokesman for the west-coast politician said they too are thankful every day that Perry doesn't live in their state.

We Tesans would all be better off if he'd relocate.

While Perry tops the list, he's not the only one to blame in Austin these days. One of the guys leading the charge to shortchange West Texas, ironically, represents West Texas.

Tom Craddick took the reigns as Speaker of the House from Pete Laney when his party won the majority in November.

There was nothing illegal or treacherous or fishy about his rise to power — he is the leader of his party and his party won.

But Craddick seems more enthused to disperse revenge than leadership and before this is all said and done, the folks who put him in office and those that he is supposed to represent will suffer.

We read this week of a letter circulating among civic leaders in several of our West Texas neighbor cities.

The letter is addressed to Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and expresses strong disfavor for any redistricting move. We'd sign it in a heartbeat.

In fact, every citizen west of Interstate 35 should be drafting their own letter right now and sending a copy every day to the capital.

If redistricting happens, everybody suffers — but none as much as rural Texans. And like it or not, when compared with our big-city counterparts to the east and south, we are all rural Texans in this neck of the woods.

But the folks who run the show would be ill advised not to listen to what we have to say out here in the West.

We have a voice and we can make it heard the next time we go to the polls.

Texas politics have long enjoyed a reputation of bipartisan respect and we all have been served well — but no longer.

Our current leadership, as a recent article in a prominent magazine stated, reminds us of a teenager with new driving privileges.

Giddy with their newfound freedom, they've jumped behind the wheel and careened down the road, hitting curbs and cats along the way.

We can only hope their reckless jalopy runs out of gas soon.

Start writing those letters.

JUL 17 2003

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

'83 class reunion meeting

A reunion planning meeting for the SHS Class of 1983 will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Kirk Herrley's home. For more information, call 573-3204.

Order of Eastern Star

Snyder Chapter No. 450 of the Order of Eastern Star will have a stated meeting to Celebrate America with Red,White and Blue at 7:30 this evening. All members are urged to attend.

Riley family reunion

The J.V. Riley family reunion will be all day Saturday at the Wagon Wheel Ranch. Everyone is welcome.

United Way

A Scurry County United Way board meeting will be held at noon Monday at the United Way office at 2311 Ave. T.

AARP meeting

AARP members will meet at noon Monday at the Scurry County Senior Center. There will be a guest speaker.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 p.m. Monday is "When Traditions Become Sinful," followed by "Called to a Holy Calling."

Financial workshop

Snyder Oaks Care Center will sponsor a workshop on preparing financially for nursing home placement to protect assets and qualify for assistance. It will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday. For more information call Ray or Joni at 573-9377.

FBC services televised

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

First Methodist VBS

First United Methodist Church will hold Vacation Bible School from 6 to 8 p.m. July 28-Aug. 1. For ages kindergarten through 5th grade, theme is "God People Celebrate." Register at 2700 College Ave. or call 574-1547.

Star Boot Camp

Star Boot Camp junior military academy will be held from 8 to 11 a.m. July 28 through Aug. 1. The camp is for ages 6 to 11. To register call 574-6090 or 573-3703.

GED registration, test dates

Mandatory pre-registration for GED test will be held from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 30, at the GED testing center, Building 7B, at WTC. The math segment of the test will begin at 8 a.m. on Thursday, July 31. For more information call Molly Kattes at 573-2919 or Emily Hataway at 573-8511, ext. 297 or 574-2112. It is recommended that candidates receive some preparation before attempting the test.

Senior swimnastics

Swimnastics for senior citizens is held from 10 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the WTC pool.

SHS football program ads

Advertisements are now being sold for the 2003 football program. Anyone interested in purchasing an ad can call Christy Smith at 573-6301.

Sonshine registration

Sonshine School at 37th St. Church of Christ is currently registering students for the fall semester. For more information, call director Wendy Barnett at 574-1960.

Cancer treatment transportation

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

Fight over lawsuit limits heats up ahead of proposition vote

HOUSTON (AP) — To fight a proposed constitutional amendment that would give the Legislature authority to cap lawsuit damages, plaintiffs' lawyers in the state have opened their checkbooks, with one political action committee raising almost $2 million.

Texas voters will decide on Sept. 13 whether to give the Legislature constitutional authority to set damage caps in liability cases. Save Texas Courts, the PAC formed to oppose Proposition 12, reported raising $1.9 million from June 9 to June 30. The PAC spent $576,017, largely on a mail-out that portrayed the amendment as an attack by health maintenance organization lobbyists on the Texas Constitution.

The PAC received $250,000 each from Houston lawyers Joe Jamail and Richard Mithoff. Also donating at that level were the Houston law firm of Fisher Boyd Brown Boudreaux & Huguenard, the Beaumont law firm of Provost & Umphrey, and Guy Allison of Corpus Christi.

Meanwhile, Texas Alliance for Patient Access, a consortium of hospitals and insurance companies, donated $200,000 and the Texas Orthopedic Association gave $5,000 to Yes on 12, providing all the contributions on the other side of the issue.

Save Texas Courts began fund raising early, said Jennifer Ring of Allyn & Co., which is coordinating the PAC's media campaign.

"We have to raise money because we are up against big insurance and big money," Ring told the Houston Chronicle .

The proposition's advocates expect to be outspent, said Rossanna Salazar, a spokeswoman for Yes on 12.

"If you look at their report, it's clear who the deep pockets are in this campaign," Salazar said. "It's personal injury lawyers who have the most to lose if Proposition 12 passes."

One of 22 proposed constitutional amendments, Proposition 12 would add a new section to the Texas Constitution giving the Legislature authority to cap damages in medical malpractice cases and any other type of lawsuit.

Former Texas Supreme Court Justice Deborah Hankinson and James A. Baker, another former Supreme Court justice, have criticized the measure as a legislative power grab that would upset the separation between the legislative and judicial branches of government.

Hankinson serves as treasurer of Save Texas Courts.

Man accused in attack had mental problems

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — A man accused of assaulting an 11-year-old girl at a Target store in West Virginia had a history of mental problems and talked about "hurting himself" just before he was arrested, his father and his lawyer said.

Allen Dwayne Coates, 37, of Irvington, Ky., was arrested without incident at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday in a parking lot outside the office of lawyer Fred Radolovich.

"He was talking crazy stuff, like hurting himself and things and having some memory problems," Radolovich said. "I wanted him looked at."

Bobby Coates said his son had a history of mental problems, including depression and had been on medication but "slacked off of it."

The elder Coates had taken his son to see Radolovich, who had represented Allen Coates when he was charged in 1998 with misdemeanor possession of a police radio.

"He told me he had a problem and had to talk to an attorney," Bobby Coates said.

South Charleston Police Chief David Dunlap said an anonymous tip from a person in Kentucky led to the arrest. He credited the capture to a grainy surveillance video from the department store.

"They saw it, they saw the individual on the news," Dunlap said of the tipster.

Kentucky FBI spokesman David Beyer said agents did not see Coates behave in an erratic manner when he was taken away.

The girl was assaulted Saturday evening at the South Charleston store after she and her mother separated to shop individually.

The tape showed a man stalking a young girl and then walking quickly down an aisle in another department, leading the girl by her wrist.

Police said the man, posing as a security guard, told the girl he saw her steal something, pulled a knife and forced her to the store's garden department, where he assaulted her.

When too many shoppers walked into that section, he led her into the men's wear section, where he allegedly assaulted her again.

Coates also faces charges stemming from a similar incident Friday at a Wal-Mart in Ashland, Ky., police there said in a statement.

In that incident, a 9-year-old girl who had wandered away from her mother was approached by a man who identified himself as a security guard. The man patted the girl down, and she became suspicious and ran to her mother. Police charged Coates with first-degree attempted sodomy in that case.

Coates was being held in Jefferson County jail, Louisville Metro Corrections Department spokeswoman Rendy Russell said.

Coates' father said he would do everything he could to get medical help for his son.

"He wouldn't have done something that he's accused of doing if he'd been in his right mental state," Bobby Coates said.

Radolovich said he would enter an innocent plea for Coates this morning at a preliminary hearing in Jefferson County District Court. Radolovich said he'd ask for Coates' competency to be evaluated.

South Charleston authorities planned to seek Coates' extradition to face the West Virginia charges.

Questions swirl around driver of car that careened into market

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — Authorities were investigating why an 86-year-old man's car plowed through a crowded farmers market, killing nine and injuring up to 45 others — and whether the driver was competent to be behind the wheel in the first place.

Police said Russell Weller told them he may have hit the gas pedal instead of the brake Wednesday, hurling victims into the air as his car careened down a street closed to traffic.

"Mr. Weller and his family want to express their deepest sympathies to the victims and their families of the tragic accident earlier today," Weller family attorney Jim Bianco said in a statement Wednesday. "This was an unintentional and unfortunate accident."

Eight victims were pronounced dead at the scene and a ninth, a 50-year-old man, died later at a St. John's Hospital, spokeswoman Barbara Bishop said. Fourteen others were critically injured.

Weller was not arrested, but authorities were considering whether the case was "manslaughter of some type" and investigating whether he was qualified to drive, said Police Chief James T. Butts Jr.

"There may be some negligence as to his capacity to drive safely," Butts said, although he added that Weller, of Santa Monica, has a valid driver's license.

Weller was taken to a hospital for a blood test and initial results found no traces of alcohol or psychoactive drugs such as antidepressants and hallucinogens.

Mary Roney, who has lived two doors down from Weller and his wife for 30 years, said he has never had any trouble driving and she did not know of any health problems.

"A more careful, gentle, loving person you'll never find," said Roney, who described him as active in the community, including serving on a library board and tutoring students at Santa Monica High School.

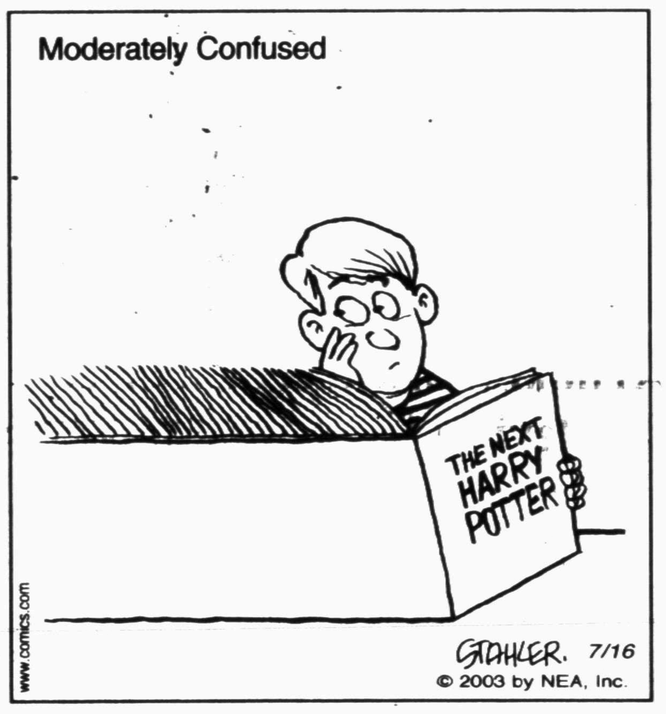
Butts said he did not have an estimate of the car's speed. Witnesses said Weller's 1992 Buick was moving very fast down the three downtown blocks of Arizona Avenue that were closed for the street market.

"Sixty miles per hour and it wasn't slowing down. It was flying. And then people down, dead and everything," said David Lang, manager of a shoe store along the market route.

"I heard a car just hit, bang, bang, bang," said Mojgan Pour, 38. "I heard people screaming. By the time I looked, I never even saw the car. I tried to help a man and he died while I was helping him."

Weller left police headquarters by late afternoon. Walking unsteadily with a cane, he hugged and smiled at people who picked him up from the police station. He declined to comment to a reporter.

The market, which takes place Wednesdays and Saturdays, bisects oceanside Santa Monica's popular Third Street pedestrian promenade and is near the famous Santa Monica Pier. It draws thousands of shoppers and was slated to close just as the incident occurred at 2 p.m.



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Date Book

Thursday, July 17, 2003

Today is the 198th day of 2003 and the 27th day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1453, the Hundred Years' War between England and France came to an end.

On this day in 1945, Harry Truman, Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin met at the beginning of the Potsdam Conference to determine the details of the Allied occupation of Germany.

On this day in 1955, Disneyland opened in Anaheim, Calif.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: John Jacob Astor (1763-1848), businessman; James Cagney (1899-1986), actor; Art Linkletter (1912-), broadcast personality, is 91; Phyllis Diller (1917-), comedian, is 86; Donald Sutherland (1935-), actor, is 68; David Hasselhoff (1952-), actor, is 51.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1941, Joe DiMaggio's 56-game hitting streak came to an end.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Things turn out the best for the people who make the best out of the way things turn out." — Art Linkletter

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (July 13) and last quarter (July 21).

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LOTTO TEXAS TEXAS LOTTERY RESULTS

Wednesday's Lottery Numbers
Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning numbers drawn in the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:

4-10-11-26-40 Bonus Ball: 44

(four, ten, eleven, twenty-six, forty; Bonus Ball: forty-four)

Estimated jackpot: $28 million

Next Lotto Texas game: Saturday night.

Cash Five
7-14-17-25-35

Pick 3
(Day) 2-0-8
(Night) 9-7-2

—

Congress passed the Sedition Act in 1798, making it a federal crime to publish false, scandalous or malicious writing about the U.S. government.

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

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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by Joe S
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Turkey tacos make any meal a fiesta



TASTY TACOS — Turkey makes a nutritious breakfast, lunch, dinner or snack and a big help for planning meals for the whole family.

Whether it's due to a new year, a milestone birthday or the start of swimsuit season, many of us have resolved at one point or another to eat a more balanced diet. In most cases, we stick to our plans for a little while — but find that keeping such resolutions while maintaining a fast-paced family schedule can be challenging.

According to Josie LeBalch, executive chef of the popular Los Angeles restaurant, Josie, it doesn't have to be hard (or boring) to adhere to your healthy meal mantra. Doing simple things, such as adding turkey to your family mealtime menus, can incorporate both variety and flavor into a nutritious diet.

"Making turkey a regular option in your rotation of meal plans is smart," said LeBalch. "Turkey is lean and low in fat. And, it's a great source of protein that can be used in virtually any dish that calls for meat."

From flavored ground turkey to marinated tenderloins and roasts, you can choose from a wide variety of delicious turkey products. "Think about turkey in a pasta dish, for example," said LeBalch. "Jennie-O Turkey Store offers lemon garlic flavored turkey tenderloins that can be quickly mixed with vegetables and pasta to create a great-tasting fettuccine that's perfect for family or guests."

Tantalizing Turkey Tacos are another easy, low-fat favorite. You'll save calories-but won't skimp on flavor.

TURKEY TACOS

Ingredients:
1 tablespoon vegetable oil
1 medium onion, chopped
1 green bell pepper, chopped
3 cloves garlic, minced
1 package lean ground turkey
1 tablespoon chili powder
1 teaspoon ground cumin
¾ teaspoon salt
¾ cup prepared salsa
12 taco shells or soft flour tortillas
1½ cups (6 oz.) shredded cheddar or Monterey Jack cheese
1 ½ cups shredded lettuce
1 cup chopped tomato

Optional toppings: sour cream, chopped cilantro, diced avocado, additional salsa

Directions:

Heat oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add onion, green pepper and garlic; cook 4 minutes, stirring occasionally. Crumble turkey into skillet; sprinkle with chili powder, cumin and salt. Cook 5 minutes or until turkey is no longer pink, stirring frequently. Add salsa; simmer 10 to 12 minutes or until sauce thickens. Spoon 1/3 cup mixture into each taco shell; top with cheese, lettuce and tomato. Serve with desired toppings. Makes 6 servings.

Tips on storm clean-up safety

by Joe Sherinski, Master Gardener

It seems safe to say, knowing what to do before, during and after a storm can help protect your family and your home.

Be Prepared:

Create a three-day disaster supply kit stocked with enough food, water, clothing, medicine and first aid supplies for everyone in your family. Have an evacuation plan ready in case local authorities order one.

Check for dead tree limbs and remove them. Pruning your trees will let wind pass through more easily, decreasing the chance of breakage. If the job is complicated or requires above-ground work, contact a certified arborist.

When a Storm Strikes:

Stay inside and away from windows during a storm. Use flashlights equipped with fresh batteries rather than candles during outages. Remain alert for the duration of the storm since the greatest damage can occur as winds attack already weakened structures and trees.

When a Storm Clears:

Safety is vital in storm clean-up whether you're working to clear streets, yards or driveways. Watch out for downed power lines, and contact the power company immediately if you see them.

Always use proper starting techniques on power equipment. Never drop start a chain saw, overreach or work overhead. Routinely review the owner's manual. If purchasing new power equipment, visit a servicing dealer who can assemble your equipment and give you specific operating instructions.

Always wear personal protective equipment. With chain saws and other cutting tools, use eye and ear protection, wear long sleeves, pants, gloves, a helmet, protective chaps and boots rated for use with power equipment.

For more information on outdoor power equipment safety, visit Stihl Incorporated's Web site at www.stihlusa.com.

Joe Sherinski, a highly respected horticulturist and spokesperson for Stihl Incorporated, is host of GardenPower, a gardening vignette series broadcast in 30 markets throughout the country.

Arnold Schwarzenegger is displaying fund-raising skills

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Arnold Schwarzenegger is displaying formidable fund-raising skills as speculation mounts he is planning to make a bid to replace Gov. Gray Davis in a recall campaign.

In twin "Terminator 3" events last month, Schwarzenegger used his star power to help raise $421,000 to erase campaign debts from an after-school programs initiative he championed, records show.

Political analysts say the feat could serve him well if he decides to run for Davis' job.

"If there were a looming campaign debt, that might be a distraction from a gubernatorial campaign. By settling the debt, he removes the distraction and demonstrates his fund-raising ability," said John Pitney, a government professor at Claremont McKenna College.

The $463,092 debt stems from an education initiative launched by Schwarzenegger called Citizens for After School Programs, Yes on Proposition 49, which pushed for state money for before- and after-school programs. Voters approved the initiative in November.

Groups pushing to oust Davis say they've turned in 1.6 million signatures from recall petitions, almost twice the number necessary, and are hoping officials will certify a fall election as early as next week.

George Gorton, Schwarzenegger's political adviser and the campaign manager of his education initiative, said none of the money collected at last month's two "Terminator 3" fund-raising premieres will go to the recall effort or a potential Schwarzenegger campaign.

But Gorton said he is pleased Schwarzenegger can raise buckets of cash almost overnight.

"I've never seen so many people anxious to give money," Gorton said.

The take, campaign contribution, records show, was $202,981 on June 25 and $218,750 on June 27. The total is enough to pay off most of the debt owed a pollster, an attorney and Gorton himself.

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

Horseshoe Pitching For Fun; horseshoe courts located at the coliseum; everybody welcome, for further information call 573-9762.

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.

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.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



	North	
	♠ —	
	♥ 8 3	
	♦ 10 9 7 6 4	
	♣ A Q J 10 9 5	
West		**East**
♠ Q 5 3 2		♠ 7 4
♥ A 6 5		♥ K Q J 10 9 4
♦ K J 8 5 2		♦ Q 3
♣ K		♣ 8 7 2
	South	
	♠ A K J 10 9 8 6	
	♥ 7 2	
	♦ A	
	♣ 6 4 3	

Dealer: East
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
			2 ♥
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♥ A

Most players have difficulty changing tack when they seem to be on a good course. East's heart king announced a suit headed by at least the king-queen. But continuing with a second heart is fatal. Whatever East returns, declarer will win and play on trumps.

Instead, you must unfurl the club-ruff sail. At trick two, shift to the club king. Declarer wins in the dummy, crosses to the diamond ace, and plays three rounds of spades. However, you win with your queen, put partner in with a heart, and receive a club ruff, causing South's ship to run aground.

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Thursday, July 17, 2003

Take time to steer the ship

By Phillip Alder

Speed kills, as Canned Heat proclaimed many years ago. The rock group was referring to a drug, but it also applies to bridge players. Give the stickier situations some study.

First, look only at the West hand. With neither side vulnerable, your partner opens two hearts, a weak two-bid promising a decent six-card suit and some 6-10 high-card points. South, on your right, leaps straight to four spades. What would you do?

Your four trumps are promising for defense, but your three hearts and side-suit singleton suggest sacrificing. One advantage in bidding five hearts is that the opponents might misjudge and go on to five spades, which will probably be too high. Here, though, five hearts doubled can cost 500: diamond ace, spade ace-king, club to North's ace, diamond ruff.

Let's assume you passed over four spades. You lead the heart ace: three, king, two. How would you plan the defense?

You can see three defensive tricks: the spade queen and two top hearts. But where is trick four?

Births

Arturo Contreras and Eva Carrillo announce the birth of their son, Arturo C. Contreras, at 10:43 p.m. on July 15 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. Arturo weighed seven pounds, 13 ounces. He has a sister, Marcy, and a brother, Fernando.

Paternal grandparent is Carmen Vasquez of Mexico and maternal grandparents are Leandra Carrillo and Jose Carrillo of Snyder.

—

Isiah Ray Slabisak was born to Tamara Slabisak and Calvan Sliva of Fluvanna at 4:37 a.m. on July 16 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. Isiah weighed seven pounds, 13 ounces and was 21 inches long.

Paternal grandparents are Maureen and David Sliva of San Antonio. Maternal grandparents are Cheryle and Gerald Gonzales of San Antonio.

—

When you cannot make up your mind which of two evenly balanced courses of action you should take—choose the bolder.

—W.J. Slim

—

Louisiana is the 18th state.

JUL 17 2003

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Cactus Flower & Russ Berens in transitional colors!
Now carrying large sizes for all your fashion needs!
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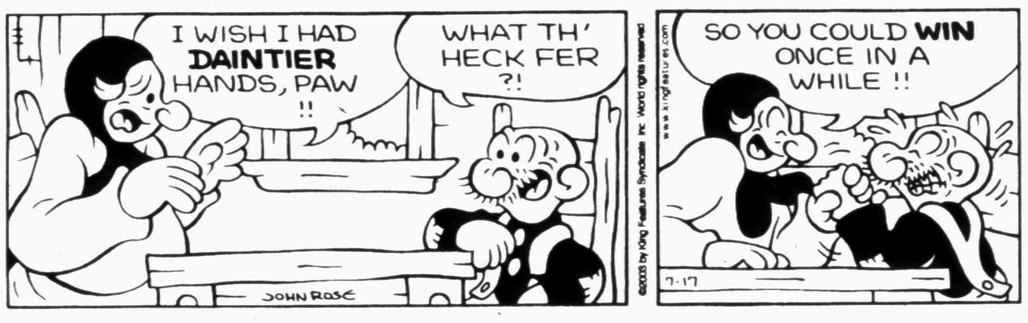
THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



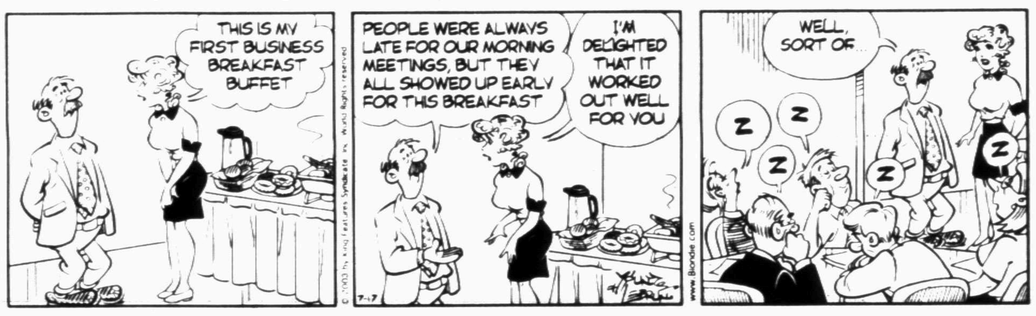
SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell



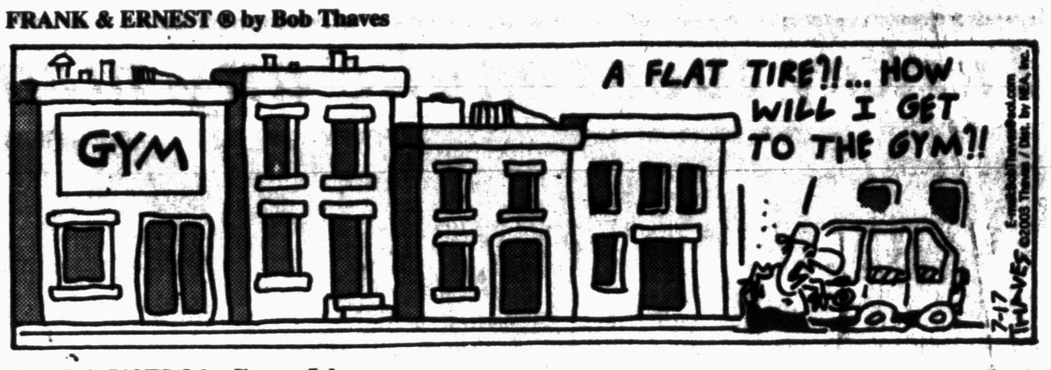
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THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce



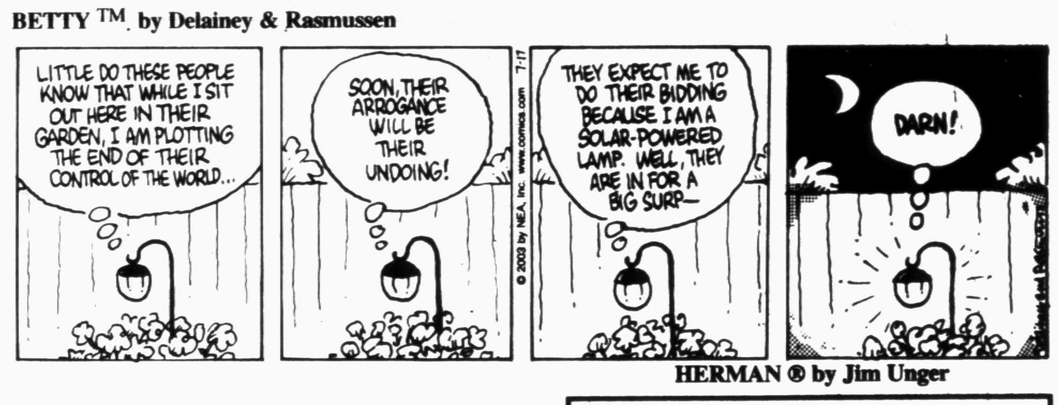
MONTY ® by Jim Meddick



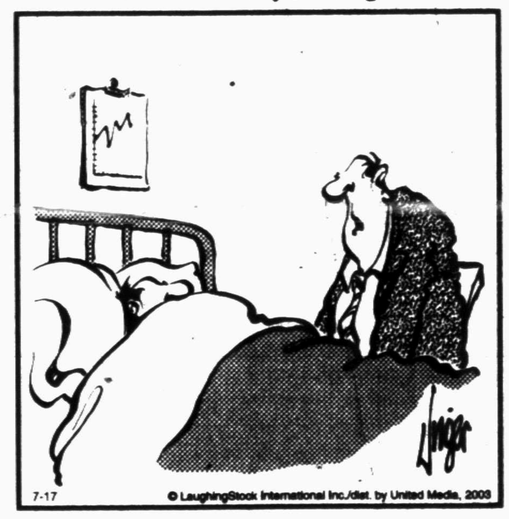
ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen



HERMAN ® by Jim Unger



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Payola
6 Computer-chip maker
11 Warden
12 Coarse
13 Moose feature
14 Plunder
15 Fermenting agent
16 Region
17 Lingerie item
19 Booty
23 Camper, maybe
26 "— — the picture"
28 King, in France
29 Fuel tankers
31 Stun
33 Remove all doubt
34 Slimmed down
35 "Yuck!"
36 Senora from Bonn
39 Take a mate
40 Overcharge
42 Big pitcher
44 Europe-Asia range
46 A funny Murphy
51 Container
54 Pumpernickel and rye
55 Scallions
56 Thunder
57 Self-confidence
58 Ouzo flavor

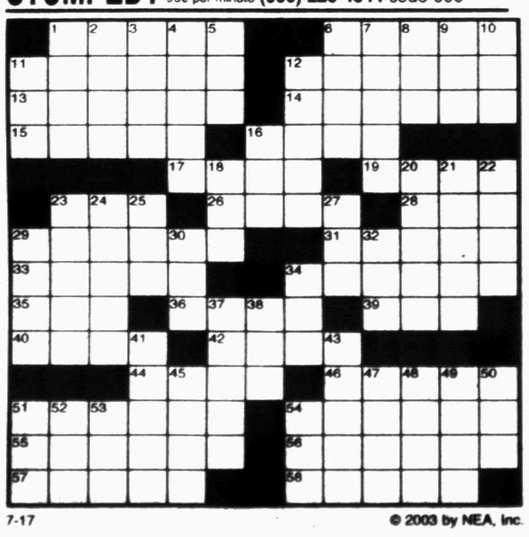
DOWN

1 Pain in the neck
2 Beatles' meter maid
3 Wrongs
4 Edible roots
5 Make a typo
6 Turkey's neighbor
7 Belly button
8 Aunt, in Mexico
9 High school subj.
10 Drain cleaner
11 Noisy bird
12 Feel one's way
16 Sharp turn
18 Fleur-de- —
20 Expound at length
21 Seeped
22 Bound together
23 Zodiac sign
24 Kahuna's hello
25 Carson City's st.
27 Ice skater — Babilonia
29 Great work
30 Sports "zebra"
32 Gull's cry
34 Unpaid, as a bill
37 Brings up
38 Leather-working tool
41 Accolades
43 Second showing
45 Lalique or Russo
47 Prefix for half
48 Tiny amounts
49 Not working
50 Compass dir.
51 Bound lightly
52 Sean Lennon's mom
53 Caesar's 52
54 Bikini half

Answer to Previous Puzzle

	T	B	A	R				L	A	B	E	L
L	O	A	V	E	S		T	A	M	A	L	E
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STUMPED? Call for answers • Touch-tone or rotary phone 95¢ per minute (900) 226-4344 code 000



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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



"WHEN DO I GET TO SPEND SOME QUALITY TIME WITH THE TV?"

"If you get any worse, can I keep your paint roller?"

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



Woo

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Tiger Woods look
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Greg Norman lo
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Cleveland
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Oakland
Anaheim
Texas

Thursda

Toronto (Halladay 13-2
7:05 p.m.
Anaheim (Ra.Ortiz 11-6
5), 7:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Sabathia 8-
tte 11-6), 7:05 p.m.
Texas (Thomson 6-9)
3-5), 7:15 p.m.
Oakland (Hudson 7-3)
8:05 p.m.
Seattle (Garcia 9-8) at
8:05 p.m.
Detroit (Maroth 4-13) a
(Colon 6-6), 8:05 p.m.

Friday

Toronto (Wasdin 0-0) a
7:05 p.m.
Anaheim (Washburn 8-
6-6), 7:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Ja.Davis 7-
(Clemens 8-6), 7:05 p.
Texas (Valdes 7-6) at
4), 7:15 p.m.
Oakland (Mulder 12-6)
2), 8:05 p.m.
Seattle (R.Franklin 6-8)
5-6), 8:05 p.m.
Detroit (Roney 1-3) at
(Wright 0-4), 8:05 p.m.

SPORTS

Woods struggles, Shark leads at British open

SANDWICH, England (AP) — Tiger Woods looked like a weekend hacker, poking through the tall grass in a desperate search for his ball.

Greg Norman looked like it was 1993 all over again.

Trying to snap a four-major winless streak, Woods lost his ball on his very first shot of the British Open. The world's greatest player wound up taking a triple-bogey 7, already facing a big deficit in a tournament that had barely started Thursday at damp, windy Royal St. George's.

Everyone was chasing Norman, who stood 4 under par through 13 holes on the same course where he won the 1993 British Open. The Shark eagled No. 4 and continually baled himself out with brilliant par saves.

South African Hennie Otto was the surprise leader among those who had finished, shooting a 3-under 68 in the first group of the day. Tom Watson also was a 3 under until he double-bogeyed 17 and bogeyed 18 for a 71.

Mathias Gronberg of Sweden also was at 3 under with four holes remaining, while Davis Love III posted a 69 despite a bogey at No. 18.

All eyes were on Woods, lacking a major title for the first time since 1999. If the first hole was any indication, that streak will remain intact.

Woods pushed his opening tee shot into the ankle-deep rough along the right side of the fairway. About 25 people scoured the grass, but they couldn't find the ball.

"Did you guys see where it went?" Woods asked.

When the five-minute time limit expired, he pulled his driver out of the bag again, unleashed an expletive and hopped in a cart for the long, lonely ride back to the tee.

His next shot wasn't much better, sailing into the same rough where marshals were still looking for the first ball.

This time, Woods didn't have any trouble locating the ball, but all he could do was hack it through the fairway, winding up near some television cables on the left side.

Woods finally reached the green with a wedge, but an 18-foot putt came up short. He tapped in for a triple bogey and walked off the green muttering to himself.

Woods managed to settle himself with a couple of birdies, getting to 1 over. He gave it back with two straight bogeys at 12 and 13, both times after driving into a bunker.

Ernie Els, hoping to become the first repeat winner at the British in 20 years, was scheduled to tee off in the afternoon on a course softened by overnight rain after baking under a sweltering sun earlier in the week.

Norman certainly feels comfortable at Royal St. George's, where he captured his second British Open title a decade ago by shooting a final-round 64.

The 48-year-old Shark hasn't won a tournament since 1998 and back problems have limited him to just two PGA Tour events this year. He was feeling no pain as play began, scrambling all over the course to keep his score low.

At No. 8, after burying a shot in thick rough, only the name on his ball was visible. But a flop shot barely cleared the ridge and rolled to within 8 feet of the flag. The putt spun all the way around the rim before dropping in to save par.

Watson, the 53-year-old five-time British champion and last back-to-back winner, got off to another strong start in a major with an 18-foot birdie at No. 1.

He picked up another birdie at the par-5 fourth, chipping to 4 feet from behind the green and making the putt.

Coming in, though, Watson resembled the golfer who has made the British cut only once in the last five years. Two errant drives left him with a 71.

"That was an ugly finish," he said. "You've got to put it in play on those two holes. I didn't and I paid the price."

Last month, Watson shot a 65 in the first round of the U.S. Open, accompanied by his longtime caddie, Bruce Edwards, who has been diagnosed with deadly Lou Gehrig's disease.

Edwards did not make the trip to England with Watson after helping him to consecutive second-place finishes in the U.S. Senior Open and Senior Players Championship.

"Bruce's spirit is with me," Watson said. "He has a terrible disease. It's hurting him more and more, and he couldn't make the trip because of it. But he's here in spirit. A couple of times out there, I was thinking, 'How would Bruce read this putt?' It helped me."

If Watson's early play was a surprise, Otto's start was shocking. He's never won in four years on the PGA European Tour; his best finish this year is a tie for 17th in the South African Open.

"You've got to relax and take what the course gives you," said Otto, who teed off at 6:30 a.m.

This course near the English Channel also showed plenty of bite. Just ask Jerry Kelly, who took an 11 on the first hole.

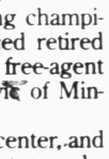
The American yanked his tee shot into the left rough, where his second attempt to get it out flew into the tall grass on the right side. From there, he hacked at the ball four times without success, finally taking a one-stroke penalty for an unplayable lie.

After the drop, Kelly's ninth shot flew over the green, then he chipped to 15 feet. He rolled in the putt for 11, drawing a big cheer from the crowd.

"Go get 'em, Jerry!" someone yelled.

Sideline Views

by Bobby Allen



With Wednesday's signings of Karl Malone and Gary Payton officially done, the question seems to be now not whether the Lakers will win the NBA Championship in 2004, but will they win more than 75 games.

Numerous naysayers think the team will have chemistry issues, while others claim there won't be enough shots to go around to four massive egos.

But with Shaq, Kobe, Mailman and Glove, Los Angeles has perhaps the finest roster ever assembled. Shaq is the most dominant player in the NBA, and Kobe is probably the best all-around player.

Add those two to a guy who is number two on the all-time scoring list (Malone) who desperately wants a ring, and one of the top five point guards of the last 20 years in Payton — who also craves a title.

The beauty of it, though, is that the two newest additions signed minute (by NBA standards) contracts to keep L.A. out of cap trouble while providing them the depth and veteran intensity the club lacked last season.

Meanwhile, defending champion San Antonio replaced retired David Robinson with free-agent center Rasho Nesterovic of Minnesota.

Nesterovic is a true center, and will provide a high-post complement to Tim Duncan's low-post game.

Do the Spurs have enough to compete with the re-loaded Lakeshow?

Nobody thought they did this year.

Tuesday night's all-star game was one of the most entertaining in recent memory.

Of course, the last all-star game I remember featured Rush's Geddy Lee singing the Canadian anthem and Ozzie Smith playing shortstop, so I'm not the final authority.

It was refreshing, however, to see the pompous predictions from Tim McCarver get smashed over the right field wall. All we heard from the start of the telecast was how the game was really only six innings, because of the flame-throwers in the NL pen.

Well, Eric Gagne — who has converted 30 out of 30 save opportunities this season — and Billy Wagner were shelled.

America, meet Hank Blalock.

And one quick question: Is it possible for us to watch a sporting event on Fox without them zapping us with their laser blaster sound effect everytime they put up a cumbersome graphic that covers half the screen?

Sports Briefs

Volleyball camp

SHS volleyball coach Laura Moses will host a volleyball camp Monday and Tuesday for incoming 4th-6th-graders at the high school gym. The camp will run from 9 to 11 a.m. both days. Cost is $20 and includes a t-shirt.

A 4-on-4 coed tournament is slated July 26. Entry is $20.

A camp for 7th-12-graders is set July 28-30. Contact coach Moses at 436-9067 for more details.

Partnership golf tournament

The Snyder partnership golf tournament will be held at Scurry County golf course July 26-27. Format is scramble-low ball. Call the pro shop at 573-7101 for more informayion.

Kiwanis Club golf tournament

The Snyder Kiwanis Club will sponsor a golf tournament Aug 9 at the WTC golf course to benefit the Cargile Scholarship Foundation. The tournament will begin at 8:30 a.m., and format is four-person scramble. Cost is $30 per person, and cash prizes will be awarded.

The tournament includes a long drive and putting contests, closest to the hole par three and $100,000 shoot-out. Call the WTC pro shop at 573-9291 or Russell Fisk at 573-3438 to sign-up or to reserve a cart.

Hermleigh athletic physicals

All incoming sixth, ninth and 11th grade Hermleigh athletes are reminded to get a physical. Forms can be picked up at the high school and all paperwork must be completed prior to the physical.

Snyder athletic physicals

Physicals are required for students wishing to participate in SISD athletics. Those needing physicals include all incoming seventh, ninth and third-year high school students; all new students to SISD who plan to participate in athletics; any student who answered yes to questions 1, 4, 5, 6, or 7 on their medical history form; and any student who has not participates in athletics in the past.

The district will pay for physicals up until Aug. 1. With the following doctors: Raykov, Burleson, Cooper, Thompson and Wolboldt. Incoming seventh and ninth graders pick up physical forms at the doctor's office.

Major League Baseball

American League
At A Glance

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	57	36	.613	—
Boston	55	38	.591	2
Toronto	49	46	.516	9
Baltimore	41	50	.451	15
Tampa Bay	32	60	.348	24½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Kansas City	51	41	.554	—
Chicago	45	49	.479	7
Minnesota	44	49	.473	7½
Cleveland	41	53	.436	11
Detroit	25	67	.272	26

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	58	35	.624	—
Oakland	54	39	.581	4
Anaheim	49	43	.533	8½
Texas	38	55	.409	20

Thursday's Games

Toronto (Halladay 13-2) at Boston (Lowe 10-3), 7:05 p.m.
Anaheim (Ra.Ortiz 11-6) at Baltimore (Lopez 2-5), 7:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Sabathia 8-4) at N.Y. Yankees (Pettitte 11-6), 7:05 p.m.
Texas (Thomson 6-9) at Tampa Bay (Kennedy 3-5), 7:15 p.m.
Oakland (Hudson 7-3) at Minnesota (Reed 4-9), 8:05 p.m.
Seattle (Garcia 9-8) at Kansas City (Lima 5-0), 8:05 p.m.
Detroit (Maroth 4-13) at Chicago White Sox (Colon 6-6), 8:05 p.m.

Friday's Games

Toronto (Wasdin 0-0) at Boston (Burkett 7-4), 7:05 p.m.
Anaheim (Washburn 8-9) at Baltimore (Helling 6-6), 7:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Ja.Davis 7-7) at N.Y. Yankees (Clemens 8-6), 7:05 p.m.
Texas (Valdes 7-6) at Tampa Bay (Gonzalez 3-4), 7:15 p.m.
Oakland (Mulder 12-6) at Minnesota (Santana 4-2), 8:05 p.m.
Seattle (R.Franklin 6-6) at Kansas City (Affeldt 5-6), 8:05 p.m.
Detroit (Roney 1-3) at Chicago White Sox (Wright 0-4), 8:05 p.m.

National League
East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	61	32	.656	—
Philadelphia	52	40	.565	8½
Montreal	49	45	.521	12½
Florida	49	46	.516	13
New York	40	53	.430	21

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	50	44	.532	—
St. Louis	49	45	.521	1
Chicago	47	47	.500	3
Cincinnati	43	50	.462	6½
Pittsburgh	41	50	.451	7½
Milwaukee	37	56	.398	12½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	57	37	.606	—
Arizona	52	42	.553	5
Los Angeles	49	44	.527	7½
Colorado	50	47	.515	8½
San Diego	35	61	.365	23

Thursday's Games

Arizona (Schilling 4-4) at San Diego (Peavy 8-7), 5:05 p.m.
Milwaukee (Sheets 7-7) at Pittsburgh (Benson 5-8), 7:05 p.m.
Montreal (Ohka 7-9) at Philadelphia (Millwood 10-6), 7:05 p.m.
Houston (Robertson 8-3) at Cincinnati (P.Wilson 5-6), 7:10 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Trachsel 8-6) at Atlanta (Maddux 7-8), 7:35 p.m.
St. Louis (Stephenson 4-9) at Los Angeles (Nomo 9-8), 10:10 p.m.
Colorado (Jennings 9-6) at San Francisco (Moss 7-6), 10:15 p.m.

Friday's Games

Milwaukee (Rusch 1-11) at Pittsburgh (Suppan 8-7), 7:05 p.m.
Montreal (Vazquez 6-6) at Philadelphia (Padilla 8-6), 7:05 p.m.
Houston (Oswalt 5-5) at Cincinnati (Dempster 3-6), 7:10 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Seo 5-5) at Atlanta (Ortiz 12-4), 7:35 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Wood 9-6) at Florida (Redman 7-4), 7:35 p.m.
Arizona (Batista 6-4) at San Diego (Jarvis 2-2), 10:05 p.m.
St. Louis (Tomko 5-6) at Los Angeles (Ishii 8-3), 10:10 p.m.
Colorado (Oliver 7-5) at San Francisco (Schmidt 9-4), 10:15 p.m.

Armstrong has slim margin

NARBONNE, France (AP) — Twenty-one seconds. The slim margin that Lance Armstrong has as he embarks on the second half of the Tour de France is raising questions about whether he can win a record-tying fifth title.

After 11 days of racing, he has just 10 more to put his usual stranglehold on cycling's premier event. While he has the overall lead after three grueling days in the Alps, the 31-year-old Texan needs to do well in the Pyrenees to keep rivals at bay.

Alexandre Vinokourov is just 21 seconds behind.

"It's perhaps the first time in four years where coming out of the Alps he's left a glimmer of hope," said Christophe Moreau, the top French rider so far, 12th overall.

"It's not what we expected. Maybe he'll deliver a knockout blow in the Pyrenees or be knocked out himself."

Wednesday was a rest day for the 171 riders still in the race.

Armstrong's next big day comes Friday with individual time trials where riders race against the clock. Armstrong, a bronze medalist in the event in the 2000 Olympic Games, has already scouted the hilly 29.1-mile course.

His coach, Chris Carmichael, says that if all goes well, he expects Armstrong to gain 30 seconds over 1997 Tour winner Jan Ullrich, the silver medalist in Sydney, a minute over American rider Tyler Hamilton and more than two minutes over Spaniards Iban Mayo and Francisco Mancebo.

With those rivals close behind, Armstrong said it "may be the most important time trial I've ever done in the Tour."

Armstrong's hardly had an easy Tour. He battled stomach flu in the weeks before the race, was bruised in a crash on the Tour's second day and struggled Sunday with a faulty brake up the cruel climb over the 8,728-foot Col du Galibier.

Armstrong's race could have been over had he not reacted quickly to another crash. His closest rival, Joseba Beloki, skidded right in front of him on sun-melted tarmac Monday, and Armstrong only managed to avoid him by plowing into a field next to the road. Beloki broke his right leg, wrist and elbow.

Calls made from Baylor player's phone

DALLAS (AP) — Missing Baylor University basketball player Patrick Dennehy's cell phone was used to call a limousine driver in the New York area three days after he vanished last month, published reports say.

Dennehy's girlfriend, Jessica De La Rosa, told The Dallas Morning News that his phone bill shows that the one minute call to the driver was one of two outgoing calls made from his phone after his disappearance June 12.

"One call was made to New York City and then two or three minutes later, another was made to a number in Waco," Daniel Okopnyi of Arlington, a friend of Dennehy's, told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram after talking with De La Rosa. "Those were the only calls made on that phone that day."

Okopnyi said De La Rosa attempted to call the phone numbers. "At one of the numbers, the person didn't speak a whole lot of English and couldn't tell her anything," Okopnyi said.

The limousine driver, who agreed to be identified only by her first name, Christina, told The Morning News she did not recall getting a call, was unaware of the Dennehy case and had not been contacted by Waco police.

"I don't know those kids ... Until today I don't know what happened with this," she said.

De La Rosa said the phone had been used only twice since June 15. She was unable to explain the New York call and would not discuss the second call, but said she was sharing the information with authorities investigating the disappearance of Dennehy.

Sterling mulls free-agents

Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling has 15 days to decide whether to match offer sheets made to Elton Brand, Andre Miller and Corey Maggette.

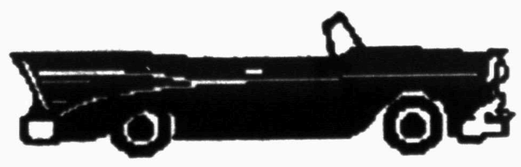
When Sterling finds out how those offers are likely structured, there might be some sticker shock.

The Miami Heat are believed to have frontloaded their $84.2 million offer to Brand, and the Nuggets might have done the same with Miller's offer sheet.

Collective bargaining rules allow a team to pay up to 25 percent of the total value of a contract as a signing bonus, and that player also can receive 70 percent of his first-year salary as a lump sum.

In Brand's case, that could mean an immediate payment in excess of $28 million — an enormous amount of money for Sterling to pay, especially with his long history of letting free agents leave rather than paying them market value.

"Today, we have received offer sheets from Elton Brand, Corey Maggette and Andre Miller. We will evaluate these offers during the 15-day period before announcing our decision," Clippers executive vice president Andy Roeser said. "As we have repeatedly said, it is our intention to match any and all offers as we see fit, with a goal of maintaining the nucleus of our team."

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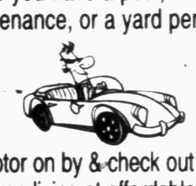
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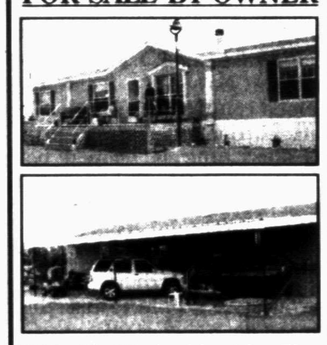
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Study: Genes may make people more susceptible to depression

WASHINGTON (AP) — Traumatic life events, like the death of a loved one or the loss of a job, send some people into a deep depression, while others cope with the same problem and move on. The difference may be a gene that makes chemical messengers in the brain, a study shows.

The study focused on two forms of a gene called 5-HTT which helps regulate a brain chemical called serotonin. It found that adults who carried a short form of this gene were more prone to slip into depression after experiencing serious life events than were adults who carried a long form of 5-HTT.

Experts said the study, appearing Friday in the journal Science, for the first time shows a proven direct genetic link between emotionally distressing events and the onset of clinical depression.

"It is a very important discovery and a real advance for the field," said Dr. Thomas R. Insel, director of the National Institute of Mental Health. "The effects of stress on depression only get played out in certain individuals and those are individuals ... with a particular variation of this single gene."

Insel said the finding has no immediate clinical application, but it gives a fundamental new understanding of the linkage between genes and depression.

The World Health Organization has identified depression as the fourth leading cause of disease burden, which is defined as years patients must live with a disability. It's estimated that about 121 million people worldwide suffer from depression. Since the disorder is now being diagnosed more frequently, the WHO estimates that depression will become the first cause of disease burden worldwide by the year 2020.

Clinical depression can cause a constant, persistent sadness and lethargy, a sense of personal worthlessness, a loss of interest in normal activities, changes in diet and sleep, and frequent thoughts of death. Untreated, depression can often lead to suicide. The condition also has been linked to a higher incidence of heart disease and death, particularly in men.

Although drugs successfully treat depression in millions of people, the precise causes and controls for the disorder remain elusive. Often patients must go through a trial-and-error period before the best treatment for them personally is identified.

In the Science study, researchers from the University of Wisconsin, Madison; King's College in London, England, and the University of Outage in New Zealand analyzed the type of 5-HTT gene carried by 847 adults in New Zealand who were part of a long-term health study.

There are two forms of the 5-HTT gene, the long and the short. An individual can inherit two copies of the long form, two of the short, or one of each.

The researchers focused on subjects in the study who had had traumatic life events over a five-year period. These events could include such things as a death in the family, a marriage breakup or the loss of a job.

Patients with at least one copy of the short form of 5-HTT were more at risk of depression, the study found, suggesting that this form of the gene caused a heightened sensitivity to stress. Patients with only the long 5-HTT gene were more resistant to depression following serious emotional events and tolerated stress better.

Depression was diagnosed in about 33 percent of the study subjects who had at least one short 5-HTT gene copy and who had experienced four traumatic events over a five-year period. Among those with two copies of the long form of 5-HTT, only 17 percent were diagnosed with depression after four traumatic events.

Researchers said tests showed that those with even one copy of the short 5-HTT gene were almost three times more likely to think or attempt suicide than those with only the long 5-HTT.

Insel said the difference in the forms of the 5-HTT gene is not in the proteins they produce, but in the regulation of serotonin, a neurotransmitter that carries signals between nerve cells. The short version of 5-HTT is not as effective in controlling the serotonin flow as is the long version, he said.

Lead authors of the study are Dr. Avshalom Caspi of King's College London, and Dr. Terrie Moffitt of the University of Wisconsin.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Diuretics may cause low potassium levels

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a healthy man, 52, who has for years been treated with hydrochlorothiazide for hypertension. Because my blood pressure recently shot up to 200/100, my doctor doubled the dose of HCTZ. Within a week, I was in the emergency room because of atrial fibrillation. Testing showed that my potassium level was low and that the medication may have contributed to this. Fortunately, the ER doctors gave me medication to return my heart rate to normal, but I'm left with an uncomfortable feeling. Why did this happen?

DEAR READER: Thiazide diuretics are kidney stimulants used to treat hypertension. They were standard frontline therapy when I was training, but then were superceded by more expensive drugs. Now authorities once again urge their use because they are so inexpensive. Although usually quite safe, HCTZ (and others) have a common and serious side effect: they accelerate the loss of potassium from the body, resulting in muscle weakness and possible disruptions in heart rhythm.

From the description you give, I conclude that your HCTZ dosage was doubled without a corresponding increase in your potassium intake. (Supplemental potassium pills should routinely be prescribed in such instances.) As a result, your blood potassium level fell into a critical range, and this caused your heart to fibrillate (beat unevenly).

Ordinarily, this situation can be readily corrected with drugs and additional potassium. Once your metabolic balance is restored, the heart should return to its previous, normal rate. However, if you continue to use HCTZ, you should not only take a concomitant mineral supplement, but you must be periodically monitored with blood tests to ensure that your potassium level remains in the normal range.

Of course, as an alternative, your doctor may choose to change your medication altogether. A different class of drugs — such as a beta-blocker or an ACE inhibitor — that does not cause potassium depletion may be appropriate for you, and could more effectively lower your blood pressure.

I urge you to work closely with your primary care physician, who can call upon a cardiologist for necessary assistance. I believe that your fibrillation was a one-shot affair. If it repeats, however, you will need extensive testing and a reassessment of all your medications.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Hypertension." 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: Is reheating coffee bad for your health? A friend insists that the oil in coffee degrades when cooled and can cause illness. Since I reheat my coffee daily, I'm concerned.

DEAR READER: I am not aware of any health consequences from reheating coffee, although this practice may affect the taste of the brew. I believe that you can safely continue your practice, but the coffee would certainly be more flavorful if it were freshly brewed.

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Clinton compiling celebrity cookbook

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — Former President Clinton has called on his celebrity friends to share recipes compiled in a cookbook to raise funds for his library foundation.

The Clinton Presidential Foundation said it will publish the $35 cookbook next month. "The Clinton Presidential Center Cookbook: A Collection of Recipes for Family and Friends" contains 250 recipes from celebrities including Muhammad Ali, Bono, Christie Brinkley, Chevy Chase, Whoopi Goldberg, Don Henley, Quincy Jones, Bruce Lee, Sophia Loren, Mary Steenburgen, Barbra Streisand and Elizabeth Taylor.

The cookbook will be available by mail order and through the foundation's Web site, foundation President Skip Rutherford said Wednesday.

"The recipes are good, but the stories are also good," Rutherford said. "It includes all ranges of Clinton's life."

The cookbook also includes Clinton's recipe for chicken enchiladas; Hillary Rodham Clinton's recipe for chocolate chip cookies and barbecue recipes from McClard's in Hot Springs, where Clinton grew up.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -Morning stocks

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	11.60	11.15	11.24	— .42
AOL TimeWrn	16.76	16.50	16.63	+ .27
AT&T Corp rs	19.35	18.96	19.01	— .23
Albertsons	18.74	18.46	18.46	— .10
Alltel	47.76	46.65	46.75	—1.17
AmEl Pw	27.30	26.86	27.11	— .28
AndarkPtr	43.60	42.75	43.60	+ .47
ATMOS Egy	24.49	24.14	24.29	— .05
Aviall	12.01	11.76	11.76	— .27
BP PLC	40.14	39.65	40.04	+ .46
BakerHughes	32.20	30.83	31.92	+ .27
Bank of Amer	82.53	82.05	82.18	— .60
BellSouth	26.00	25.50	25.60	— .55
BurlNoSFe	28.80	28.29	28.31	— .39
Caterpillar	63.30	59.60	62.95	+ 4.66
CenterPoint	7.90	7.67	7.83	
ChevronTex	71.51	70.90	71.32	— .14
Citigroup	45.75	44.89	45.21	— .31
CocaCola	44.75	43.44	44.58	+ 1.67
ColgatePal	56.50	55.80	56.15	— .37
CmclMetals	17.78	17.69	17.74	+ .03
ConocoPhill	53.20	52.72	53.16	+ .26
Cooper Inds	41.25	40.95	41.21	+ .10
DaimlrChry	34.58	34.26	34.56	— .77
DeltaAirl	15.00	14.03	14.14	— .71
Dillards Inc	13.90	13.65	13.71	— .28
DowChem	30.62	30.28	30.53	+ .02
DuPont	42.12	41.60	41.82	— .14
EastmanChem	32.19	31.90	32.05	+ .15
EstKodak	26.67	26.39	26.39	— .21
EDS Corp	23.27	22.25	22.36	— .45
Entergy	48.43	47.75	48.28	— .37
ExxonMobil	35.20	34.90	35.01	+ .09
FootLocker	13.96	13.75	13.90	— .17
GenDynam	78.05	76.40	76.45	—1.04
GenElec	27.57	27.04	27.39	+ .01
GenMills	47.77	47.56	47.73	— .38
GenMotors	36.90	35.50	35.81	— .11
GaPacific	19.50	18.65	19.44	+ .75
Goodrich	22.10	21.87	22.01	— .02
Goodyear	5.27	5.20	5.21	— .05
GtAtlPac	10.62	10.15	10.39	— .30
Halliburtn	21.44	21.12	21.30	— .20
Hanson ADS	27.00	26.60	26.66	— .83
HarteHanks	18.85	18.70	18.80	— .09
HomeDepot	33.79	32.40	33.63	+ .13
Honeywellntl	27.94	27.45	27.82	+ .07
IBM	84.24	82.50	82.90	—3.84
IntlPaper	37.23	36.37	37.20	+ .54
JohnsonJn	52.90	52.40	52.51	— .09
KinderMorg	54.11	53.55	53.78	— .02
Kroger Cc	16.77	16.62	16.62	— .18
LockheedM	50.81	49.83	49.87	— .22
Lowes Cos	47.57	46.78	47.24	+ .17
Lubys	2.65	2.59	2.65	+ .15
LucentTech	1.68	1.62	1.63	— .05
MarathonOil	25.96	25.40	25.95	+ .28
MayDeptStr	22.82	22.41	22.53	— .27
Medtronic	49.01	48.57	48.98	+ .34
Motorola	9.15	8.80	8.88	— .45
NCR Corp	30.16	29.60	29.66	— .88
Navistar	37.12	36.39	36.62	+ .64
PNM Rescs	25.90	25.58	25.89	+ .13
Penney JC	17.42	17.06	17.09	— .36
PepBoys	14.55	14.30	14.32	— .27
PepsiCo	47.98	47.08	47.22	— .53
PhelpDodge	38.95	37.95	38.93	+ .65
PilgrmPrd B	11.97	11.46	11.90	+ .10
Praxair	62.17	61.28	61.73	+ .38
ProctGamb	88.65	87.90	88.30	— .28
RadioShack	27.29	26.50	26.65	— .79
RoyalDut	45.05	44.71	45.02	+ .41
SBC Comm	23.97	23.60	23.64	— .48
SaraLee	19.72	19.47	19.51	— .39
Scripps EW	83.10	82.78	82.78	— .23
SearsRoeb	38.66	37.00	38.15	— .05
SherwinW	27.25	27.01	27.12	— .18
SouthernCo	28.43	27.96	28.37	+ .40
SwstAirl	17.20	16.75	16.90	— .20
SprintFON	15.25	15.01	15.09	— .11
SprintPCS	5.75	5.61	5.63	— .13
Sunoco Inc	38.14	37.51	38.14	+ .44
TXU Corp	20.11	19.82	20.09	+ .02
TempleInland	43.70	43.19	43.55	+ .16
Texfnd	22.96	22.55	22.57	— .39
TexasInst	18.65	18.35	18.43	— .80
Textron	42.15	39.85	41.43	+ 2.33
TrinityInds	21.55	21.19	21.43	+ .03
TylerTech	5.20	5.10	5.18	— .01
UnionPacif	59.05	58.38	58.39	— .59
USSteel	16.03	15.91	15.93	— .08
UnitedTech	74.70	73.00	73.36	+ 1.17
Unocal	28.31	27.94	28.31	+ .24
VerizonComm	36.67	35.95	36.09	— .14
WalMart	57.08	56.20	56.44	— .21
WellsFargo	51.70	51.27	51.36	— .58
WstnGasRs	36.73	36.50	36.62	— .26
WinnDixie	12.35	12.12	12.14	— .22
Xerox Cp	10.95	10.64	10.75	— .20
YumBrands	29.35	29.08	29.26	— .36

JUL 17 2003

Today's chuckle

Bank displays Dillinger's submachine gun

RACINE, Wis. (AP) — What could be a better location to display John Dillinger's submachine gun than the site of a bank he robbed almost 70 years ago?



The former American Bank and Trust Co. building now is home to the Racine Art Museum, and the Thompson submachine gun will be a centerpiece of an exhibit to mark the anniversary of the robbery by the Dillinger gang.

The "Tommy" gun was taken from a police officer during the heist on Nov. 20, 1933, that ended with Dillinger and his gang fleeing in a car with two hostages clinging to the outside of the vehicle. They were later released unharmed.

The gang wounded a bank cashier and a police officer before getting away.

Museum officials said the Stick 'Em Up exhibit scheduled for Nov. 9 through Jan. 4 is not designed to glorify Dillinger or violence.

"It is a historical fact this took place," said museum director Bruce Pepich. He said he hopes the exhibit triggers an interest in history and encourages visitors to explore on their own.

Dillinger was killed during a robbery on June 22, 1934, his 31st birthday.

Celia Cruz, 'Queen of Salsa,' dies from brain tumor at 77

NEW YORK (AP) — From Ruben Blades' perspective, Celia Cruz was to salsa music what Ella Fitzgerald and Sarah Vaughan were to jazz.

"She had a tremendous command of the stage, and a tremendous charisma," the entertainer said after learning that Cruz, the "Queen of Salsa," had died Wednesday from a brain tumor. She was 77.

"She had a tremendous voice, a strong voice, one of the strongest voices I ever heard anyone have, male or female, and she had a tremendous sense of rhythm also," he said. "All of that is a legacy of a generation that we may not see again."

Cruz died in her home at Fort Lee, N.J., just outside New York. Cruz's husband, trumpeter Pedro Knight, was at her side; the pair had celebrated their 41st wedding anniversary Monday, said her publicist, Blanca Lasalle.

Cruz recorded more than 70 albums. She won best salsa album for "La Negra Tiene Tumbao" at last year's Latin Grammy Awards, and won the same award at this year's Grammys. Her other best-known recordings include "Yerberito Moderno" and "Que le Den Candela."

Also called the "diva of Latin song," Cruz remained energetic late into her career, and was popular with both young and old audiences. At last year's Latin Grammys, she gave a hip-shaking performance wearing a frothy blue-and-white headpiece and a tight red dress.

Her alliance with fellow salsa star and "Mambo King" Tito Puente resulted in some of the biggest successes in her career. The two recorded albums and regularly performed together, and they were considered legends of the genre.

Pop and salsa singer Marc Anthony said in a statement: "We are witnessing the end of an era. She is simply irreplaceable and it's just an honor to know that she was a part of my life."

Coast Guard takes 15 Cubans into custody

MIAMI (AP) — Fifteen Cubans were taken into custody by the U.S. Coast Guard a day after they fled the island in a government-owned science boat and outraced Cuban police to reach international waters.

Coast Guard officials boarded the 36-foot Cuban cutter Wednesday in the international waters of the Straits of Florida. It is owned by Geocuba, a government company that does geological exploration and mapping.

Coast Guard spokeswoman Danielle DeMarino said the Cubans would remain aboard the cutter until immigration officials can interview them, at least until today. None of the Cubans was injured, she said.

Meanwhile, a teenager who survived an attempted hijacking of a fishing boat Monday in western Cuba provided new details about that incident, in which three men trying to flee to the United States died.

The two incidents were the first significant boat or plane seizures in Cuba since the April 11 execution of three men convicted of seizing a ferryboat in Havana Bay — a case that helped chill Cuba's relations with Europe.

Cuban officials blamed both incidents on the Cuban Adjustment Act, the U.S. law that gives Cuban migrants special treatment once they reach U.S. shores. Officials here say that encourages people to risk their lives at sea.

In the latest incident, Cuba launched planes and patrol boats to chase the Geocuba craft, but they held back because "it is not the policy of the government of Cuba to attack hijacked vessels with people aboard on the high seas," the ministry said.

Coast Guard Lt. Tony Russell disputed the notion that the craft had been hijacked. "We see this as a stolen Cuban vessel that has been commandeered as a vehicle in an illegal migrant voyage," he said.

Cuba's government said its coast guard chased the vessel into Bahamian waters on Tuesday. The Bahamian government said the vessel re-entered international waters Wednesday.

In the previous incident, three men trying to flee to the United States shot one youth, then killed one another as police closed in on a dock in western Cuba. That incident was followed by the taking of the GeoCuba boat on Tuesday.

Marquier Montan Contreras, 17, said he, his mother and brother had agreed to act as hostages to help the men get past a guard and seize the boat. Cuban officials say the hijackers were unable to operate the vessel and Montan said the boat never even left the dock.

Saying, "This is over now," one of the men shot his brother and another tried to kill him — but the gun jammed, Montan said. He said the three then killed one another and he fled with his mother and injured brother.

Police said they are still investigating details. Montan briefly spoke to reporters at the Cuban hospital where his 10-year-old brother was being treated for non-life-threatening wounds.

Baylor regent calls for new leadership

WACO (AP) — A Baylor University regent cleared in a misconduct investigation urged the board on Wednesday to solve a "leadership crisis" at the school.

Jaclanel McFarland had been accused of leaking information about a campus undercover drug sting, but an investigative committee of the regents found insufficient evidence to support the allegations. The board said the investigation was closed and McFarland will stay on the board. The 51-year-old Houston attorney denied the accusation of misconduct.

McFarland, a well-known opponent of Baylor President Robert B. Sloan Jr., said she believes the president launched the investigation for personal reasons.

"I will remain vigilant in my effort to do all I can to ensure that Baylor University remains one of the finest universities in the country," she said in the Waco Tribune-Herald. "For now, my biggest concern is with the direction that the university is taking under Robert Sloan's leadership."

Sloan said after the board meeting that he anticipates working with McFarland, who has been a regent for 11 of the past 12 years.

"I think Jaclanel is a person who is very flexible, very intelligent, very adaptive," he said. "I look forward to working together."

Sloan also expressed confidence in guiding Baylor through his intense 10-year plan, even though some regents and alumni have criticized it.

Soldier sustained by thoughts of family

EL PASO (AP) — An Army officer who received a medal for his actions during and after an ambush in Iraq says he thought only of his wife and six children as small-arms and mortar fire besieged him and fellow soldiers.

Sgt. Matthew Rose of Fort Bliss' 507th Maintenance Company reflected Wednesday on the March 23 ambush in which nine of his unit's members died.

"I didn't expect to be in that situation," Rose told the El Paso Times. "Proper military doctrine says if you're in an ambush, drive out of the ambush. I just prayed and drove. I kept saying, 'Lord, I don't want to die. I want to see my kids.' "

Rose, 37, of Salem, Ore., received the Bronze Star for his actions. He took charge of the wounded, treating people for gunshot wounds using two combat medic bags. While he worked, his position was receiving small-arms fire and mortar rounds.

As the 507th convoy traveled north toward Baghdad, the company split apart because of sand and vehicle breakdowns. Thirty-one soldiers of the 507th and two soldiers from the 3rd Forward Support Battalion had fallen behind and caught up to the company commander, Capt. Troy King.

King led the convoy through a road known as Highway 8, but instead of turning left at an intersection that would have led around Nasiriyah and away from a large concentration of Iraqi forces, the 507th continued north, a military report has said.

After King decided to retrace the route through the city, Rose and other soldiers saw a small pickup with three Iraqi soldiers and a machine gun drive past twice as if to warn them of danger.

"I was the fourth vehicle in the convoy, and after we turned around, we began to hear shooting, and the convoy began to pick up speed," said Rose, who returned home May 25. "We apparently missed our turn and had to make a U-turn, and it was when we got onto the main road and approached the Euphrates River that we got the heaviest fire."

The report said that the convoy was split into three groups because of differing vehicle weights.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Friday, July 18, 2003

You will accomplish most of your goals in the year ahead if you prepare yourself. Improved conditions make even difficult things possible.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — In a competitive situation, count on what you know and let the other person count on who they know. Greater knowledge will tilt the odds in your favor.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — You have the ability to take the outmoded or problematical and turn it into something appealing. You can utilize this talent in many areas of your life.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Favors won't be denied today, so if you need a special one, don't hesitate to ask. Chances are it'll be granted.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Acknowledging the efforts of pals will inspire them to do more for you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Romantic involvements will bring you the greatest happiness today. It may be with an established mate or somebody new.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — A dramatic shift in circumstances may occur today. It will finally free you from anxiety and worry.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Spending time with friends will be lucky for you today. A conversation reveals new opportunities.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Today will run more smoothly for you where material interests are concerned. Do your part to improve your lot in life.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Business and pleasure will be a compatible mix today. It might be a good day to invite a client or business contact out for a game of golf or to dinner.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Stop what you're doing and take a little time to be attentive to your special someone. You don't have to go out on the town. A bottle of wine and some soft music could fit the bill.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Beware of telephone calls today. Your popularity is getting out of hand, and some will try to take advantage of that.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — What gets your juices flowing today is not of the bread-and-butter variety. Focus on the finer things in life.

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. Also visit: www.bernice4u.com

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Childhood molestation scars victims for life

DEAR ABBY: We recently learned that our daughter was molested at a very early age in the 1970s. It went on for nearly a year. We never realized how profoundly molestation affects a child. I had heard it was an awful thing, but I never knew the secrecy, the pain, the shame, the guilt, and how the victims are groomed by their predators. They live in a secret world by themselves — brokenhearted, in loneliness and fear. They try to run faster than their pain — and some don't know why because it has been blocked from their memory.

I have heard that four out of 10 women have been molested as children. This is a huge number. There are plenty of victims, but guess what? No predators! They are all "innocent," and protected by families who hide it because they don't know how to handle the problem. They are protected by a gray area of "uncertainty." It remains that way because the authorities are never called to investigate. The parents of the molested child are threatened with a nasty lawsuit. Then the whole family turns against the parents and the victim in order to protect the "sick" one and their own reputations.

Everyone — individually and collectively — sticks their head in the sand and refuses to deal with it. Statutes of limitations run out. An unbelievable amount of pressure is put on the parents by the family. Then it is dismissed because "it happened a long time ago."

Meanwhile, as the years pass, the victim becomes progressively more mentally, physically and emotionally sick. She's in and out of hospitals and always on medication. Because now the victim has been rejected and betrayed all over again. If he is "innocent," then she must be "guilty" by default, which reinforces what he told her as a child — that it was all her fault to begin with.

The burden placed on her shoulders becomes unbearable. And the closer the extended family, the more profound the rejection. Her worst nightmare has come true. Finally, she becomes so physically sick and unnerved that she has a breakdown. She has a hard time finding where "she" is inside herself. The medicines she must take are depressants themselves.

Abby, we struggle every day. I know of four other families where similar molestation, rejection and denial have occurred. Families should wake up to the problem. It's time to bring it out of the closet. I hope you will print some of this letter.

I sign for her ... **I DO HAVE A FACE, I DO HAVE A NAME, EVERY CITY, U.S.A.**

DEAR I DO: You have written eloquently of a problem that, according to my mail, is widespread and often covered up. I hope your letter will encourage more victims of molestation to pick up the phone and report the crime. And to their extended families: As much as you might be appalled at the charges, molestation — regardless of when it occurred — is a serious crime. The victims need all the support they can be given.

**

DEAR ABBY: Please settle a bet between my mother and me. I say the engagement ring should be worn at the base of the finger, with the wedding band on the outside. Mom says it's the other way around. Who is right? A $5 bill is riding on your answer. Thanks, Abby. — **MOTHER/DAUGHTER DUO IN NORTH CAROLINA**

DEAR DUO: You owe your mom $5. The wedding band is supposed to be worn on the inside — closest to your heart — with the engagement ring serving as a "guard" for it.

**

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

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To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

(Editors: For editorial questions, please contact Alan McDermott, amcdermott@amuniversal.com)

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Former Texas attorney general...

Morales pleads guilty to two counts

AUSTIN (AP) — Former Texas Attorney General Dan Morales entered a guilty plea in federal court today to two counts including mail fraud and a tax-related charge.

Morales, 46, had pleaded innocent in April to charges that he and Marc Murr, a friend, tried to obtain hundreds of millions of dollars in legal fees for Murr resulting from the state's $17.3 billion settlement with the tobacco industry in 1998.

Morales has agreed to a four-year prison term, which has to be accepted by a federal judge, said Daryl Fields, a spokesman for U.S. Attorney Johnny Sutton.

All other counts against Morales would be dismissed, Fields said.

U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks agreed to release Morales on bond pending sentencing.

"It has been a difficult three weeks," Morales said as he emerged from the federal courthouse. "It's been horrible for me to be away from my wife and kids."

Morales said he would not yet discuss specifics of the case or why he decided to plead guilty, and said it was important that his first remarks be to a judge when he appears in court in October.

Asked how he was doing after three weeks in the Caldwell County Jail, Morales said, "As well as can be expected."

As he was getting into a car to drive away with his lawyers, a passer-by shouted and cursed him.

Republican senator withdraws congressional maps, walks out

AUSTIN (AP) — One lawmaker working to redraw congressional districts withdrew from the task and angrily left a Senate committee hearing and another one stepped up to take on the job that has dogged the Texas Legislature since May.

Sen. Chris Harris, R-Arlington, was expected to present two maps to the Senate Jurisprudence Committee for consideration on Wednesday, but he stormed out of the Capitol auditorium after saying his maps contained glitches.

"I'm out of the map-drawing business. Senator Staples now has that business," Harris said.

Sen. Todd Staples, R-Palestine, had been scheduled to present his own map to the committee today morning, but committee Chairman Sen. Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock, announced it was not ready. Duncan said he thought Staples would be able to present a map today afternoon.

"I want to make certain that the map I do lay out is a map the committee can vote on," Staples, a committee member and chairman of the Senate Republican Caucus, said Wednesday night.

An early version of the map would likely elect 18 Republicans, 11 Democrats and three "toss-ups," said Sen. Florence Shapiro, R-Plano, who originated the map to be introduced by Staples. The map splits Travis County into three districts.

Officers investigate thefts

•Thefts

Wal-Mart manager, R. J. Youngclaus, requested an officer at the store at 11 a.m. Wednesday in reference to a theft. Officers filed a report for Class B theft.

Nicky Hudson told officers at 6:12 p.m. Wednesday that someone had taken her purse from her unlocked vehicle while it was parked in the 4400 block of Avenue U. Officers filed a report for burglary of a vehicle.

At 10:30 Wednesday night, an officer was requested at Skinny's on Coliseum Drive as two juveniles had been caught shoplifting. Contact was made with the juveniles' parents.

•Vandalism

An officer was called to Snyder Healthcare at 5:42 a.m. today as a person reported windows broken in a vehicle. Officers filed a report for Class B criminal mischief.

•Family violence

Officers filed two reports for family violence at 10:40 p.m. Wednesday.

•Reckless driver

A reckless driver was reported at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday in the 2300 block of Avenue B.

•Unattended children

At 8:10 p.m. Wednesday, an employee of United Supermarkets reported three young children had been left alone in a vehicle with its motor running and the employee was concerned about the children's safety. The driver of the vehicle was advised of the complaint.

•Fire reports

Snyder firefighters responded to a vehicle fire 18 miles north of town on U.S. 84 at 6:40 p.m. Wednesday. A tire on an 18-wheeler driven by Mark Morcom of Lubbock caught fire, but was quickly extinguished.

Jury finds teens guilty of setting school fire

ABILENE (AP) — A jury convicted two teens Wednesday for their roles in a fire that destroyed part of Abilene Wylie Junior High School last year.

The punishment phase for Brandon Smith and Cory McFadden, both 18, started today.

Smith was convicted of organized criminal activity. McFadden was convicted of a lesser charge of arson.

Both remain free on bond.

The Feb. 9, 2002, blaze destroyed a wing of the Abilene school and caused $1.5 million in damages.

Morgan Pethis and Trent Hadley, both 19, face trial in September on charges of organized criminal activity.

Athlete's body parts returned to C. Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Body parts of a San Marcos football player were returned to a mortuary in boxes after the American Red Cross and an eye bank could not guarantee to relatives that tissues would not be sold for profit.

San Marcos High School football star Joshua Roberts died in a car wreck July 3 near Brady and his father was out of the country when his son's body parts were harvested. The player's heart, corneas and some of his bones were removed to be used for transplants.

American Red Cross and Western Texas Lions Eye Bank Alliance officials said they could not guarantee that no profit would be made from Josh Roberts' tissues. Both entities sent them back to Thomason Funeral Home in San Marcos last week, where the 17-year-old's body was awaiting burial.

Rick Roberts said his son's corneas were packed in a preserving solution, then shipped in a packing container. In a cooler filled with dry ice, Roberts found his son's femurs, kneecaps, hip bones and shoulder blades. His son's heart was in a jar.

"He'd been deboned like a piece of sausage," Roberts told the Austin American-Statesman. "Then to send everything back to you and hold up the funeral while you wait, it's unbelievable. I did not want them back. I emphatically said plenty of times that you can have those body parts if you will just give them to people."

The Red Cross, which provides nearly one-fifth of the tissue used for transplant nationwide, said it took the unusual step of returning the body parts, because that's what the elder Roberts wanted.

"The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that operates on a cost recovery basis," officials said in a statement. "However, we work with hospitals and physicians who charge for their services. Therefore, the Red Cross could not ensure that any future procedures associated with this donation would be performed without charge.

"Because we could not meet the father's request, and in the interest of sensitivity to the family, the Red Cross hand-delivered the donated tissue to the funeral home director for proper disposition."

Spokeswoman Christine Pearson said Roberts' demand was unusual.

"Most families' main concern is whether their loved ones' tissue will help save or improve the life of another person," Pearson said in an e-mail.

The elder Roberts' sister had had a liver transplant that he said cost $300,000, and he felt strongly that no one should make money from transplanting body parts.

Bob Noyes, president of the board that oversees the eye bank, said it was unreasonable to demand that all fees be waived by transplant organizations.

Obituaries

Mr. Henderson

1922-2003

Talmadge P. Henderson, former Hermleigh educator, died Monday, July 14, at Vista Hospice Center in San Antonio.

Service for Mr. Henderson, 80, will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Dr. Rex Reynolds, pastor of the Hermleigh First Baptist Church, will officiate. Interment will follow in the Pyron Cemetery.



Henderson

Born Oct. 21, 1922 in Longview he moved to Houston where he met and married Nova Bowen after serving in the Army. She died June 10, 2003. He also was preceded in death by a brother, William D. Henderson.

They moved to Hermleigh where he was an educator, school administrator and cotton farmer. He retired in 1989. He served on the Hermleigh City Council as secretary and was active in the Boy Scouts. Mr. Henderson was adjutant of the American Legion and first vice president of the Loraine Lions Club.

An active Mason, he was a member of the Longview Lodge, affiliated with H.A. McFarland Lodge, charter senior warden in the Andy G. Vaughn Lodge, past master and past secretary of the Andy G. Vaughn Lodge, past district deputy grand master and past master of the Loraine Lodge. He also served in the Sam J. Helm Chapter R.A.M., Sam J. Helm Council, Taylor Commandery, was plural member of Fort Worth and Lubbock Scottish Rites and the Moslah Shrine Temple.

In 1992, he moved with his wife to Odessa and to San Antonio in 2001.

Survivors include his son and daughter-in-law, Larry and Karen Henderson of San Antonio; two sisters, Clydelle Madison of Longview and Sidney Hayes of Lufkin; a sister-in-law, Katherine Wemken of Hermleigh; and a granddaughter, Robyn Henderson of Chicago.

Memorials may be made to the Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children.

Visitation will be from 7-8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

Tomasa Capetillo

1935-2003

PECOS — Tomasa Tarin Capetillo, the mother of Rebecca Capetillo of Snyder, died Sunday, July 13, in Medical Center Hospital in Odessa.

Mass for Mrs. Capetillo, 68, was set for 11 a.m. today in the Santa Rosa De Lima. Burial was to follow in the Greenwood Cemetery.

Born in Presidio, she was a homemaker, a longtime resident of Pecos and a Catholic.

Survivors include three other daughters, Norma Wright of Odessa and Benita Rodriguez and Priscilla Orosco, both of Pecos; three sons, Jesse Tarin of Big Spring, Abraham Tarin and Robert Tarin, both of Lubbock; two brothers, Jesse Tarin and James Tarin, both of Pecos; three sisters, Ester Tarin of Snyder, Maria Franco of Pecos and Juanita Rico of Barstow; and 18 grandchildren.

Todd Edgar

1971-2003

ABILENE — Todd Verlene Edgar, brother of Staci Bollinger of Snyder, died Wednesday, July 16, in Buffalo Gap.

Services are pending for Mr. Edgar, 32, at Elliott-Hamil Funeral Home in Abilene.

Mr. Edgar was born Feb. 24, 1971 and was employed with Schlumberger.

Survivors include his mother and stepfather, Pat and Corky Boland of Abilene; his father, George Verlene Edgar Jr. of New Orleans, La., a brother-in-law, Charles Bollinger of Snyder; and a niece and nephew, Brooklyn and Brent Bollinger of Snyder.

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

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

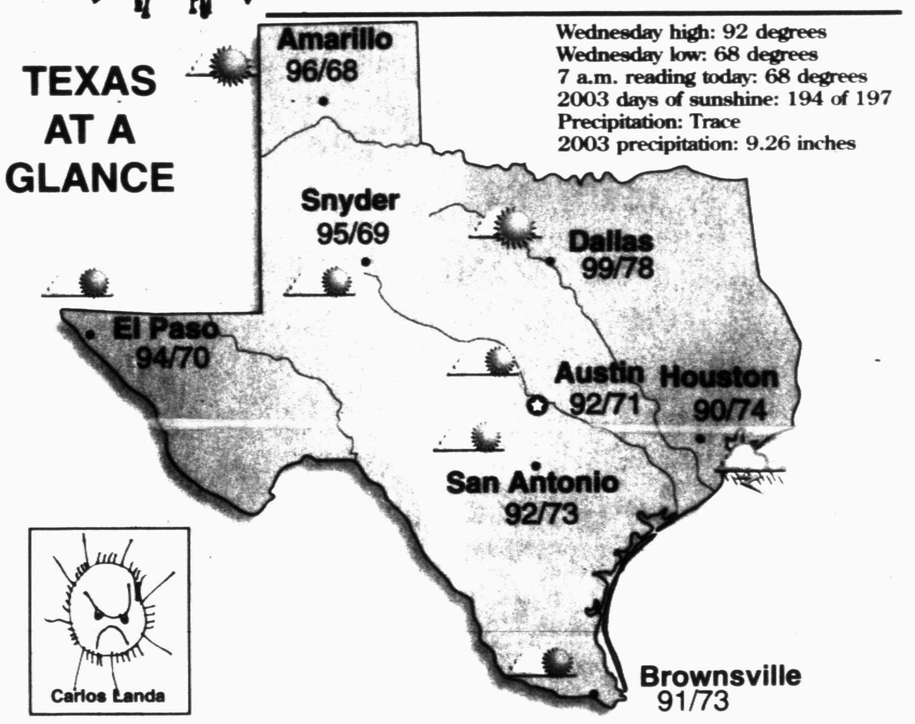
Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Fri 7/18	Sat 7/19	Sun 7/20
95/69	98/69	100/69
A few clouds early, otherwise mostly sunny. High near 95F.	Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 90s and lows in the upper 60s.	Plenty of sun. Highs 98 to 102F and lows in the upper 60s.
Sunrise 6:48 AM, Sunset 8:51 PM	Sunrise 6:49 AM, Sunset 8:51 PM	Sunrise 6:49 AM, Sunset 8:50 PM

WEST TEXAS STATE BANK
1901 26th Street • 573-5441
FDIC

TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Wednesday high: 92 degrees
Wednesday low: 68 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 68 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 194 of 197
Precipitation: Trace
2003 precipitation: 9.26 inches

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	97	73	mst sunny	El Paso	94	70	pt sunny	Midland	94	69	mst sunny
Amarillo	96	68	mst sunny	Fort Stockton	92	68	pt sunny	Raymondville	93	71	pt sunny
Austin	92	71	pt sunny	Gainesville	100	74	mst sunny	Rosenberg	90	73	t-storm
Beaumont	89	73	t-storm	Greenville	98	73	mst sunny	San Antonio	92	73	pt sunny
Brownsville	91	73	pt sunny	Houston	90	74	t-storm	San Marcos	93	71	pt sunny
Brownwood	99	72	mst sunny	Kingsville	92	72	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	98	73	mst sunny
Corpus Christi	90	74	pt sunny	Livingston	92	71	t-storm	Sweetwater	97	71	mst sunny
Corsicana	97	74	mst sunny	Longview	96	73	mst sunny	Tyler	97	75	mst sunny
Dallas	99	78	mst sunny	Lubbock	96	69	mst sunny	Weatherford	99	73	mst sunny
Del Rio	94	74	pt sunny	Lufkin	92	73	t-storm	Wichita Falls	103	74	mst sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	90	68	pt sunny	Houston	90	74	t-storm	Phoenix	104	86	pt sunny
Boston	80	65	t-storm	Los Angeles	80	65	pt sunny	San Francisco	76	56	windy
Chicago	76	58	pt sunny	Miami	87	78	t-storm	Seattle	83	55	sunny
Dallas	99	78	mst sunny	Minneapolis	82	64	pt sunny	St. Louis	87	70	t-storm
Denver	91	63	t-storm	New York	82	66	t-storm	Washington, DC	88	71	pt sunny

Moon Phases

Full	Last	New	First
Jul 13	Jul 21	Jul 29	Aug 5

UV Index

Fri 7/18	Sat 7/19	Sun 7/20
Extreme	Extreme	Extreme

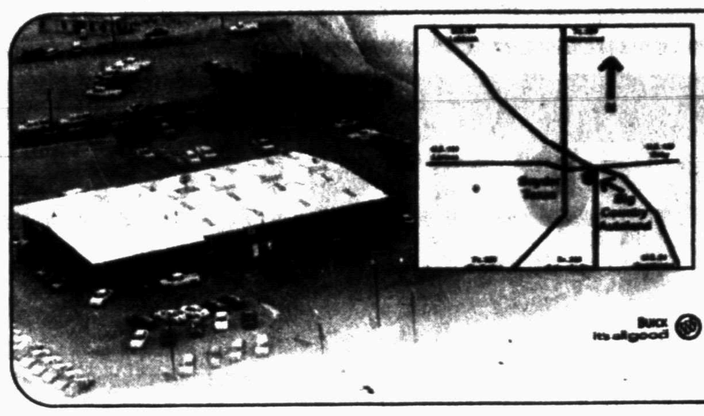
The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV index showing the need for greater skin protection. 0 — 11

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JULY 17 2003

GM 24 HOUR TEST DRIVE

Buying a car or truck is a big decision. And now, when you shop for a GM vehicle, you can take your time making up your mind. Spend an entire day and night with one of our vehicles. Do what you'd do in your own vehicle and then sleep on it. When you wake up and see it sitting there, you'll know that it's the right choice for you!



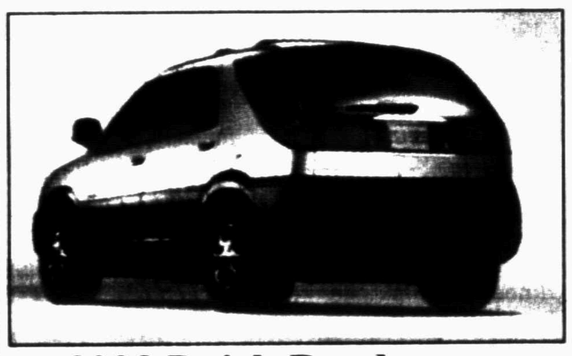
Bill Wilson's Big Country Autoland

'03 Summer Clearance

'04's Are Here!!!



2003 Cadillac Deville
$5,000 Owner Loyalty



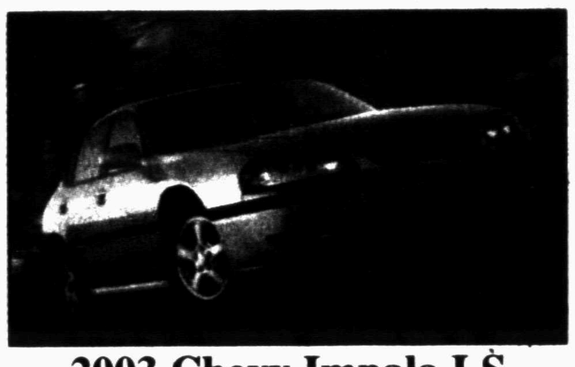
2003 Buick Rendezvous
#B6089, 3rd row seat

MSRP	$28,750
Clearance Discount	$2,133
Rebate	$4,000
Your Price	$22,617



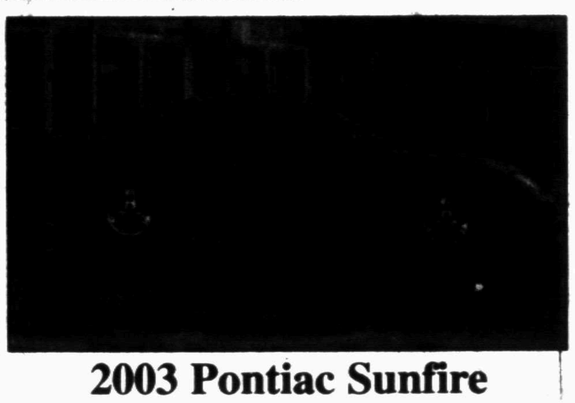
2003 Chevy Monte Carlo
#CP5833

MSRP	$23,035
Clearance Discount	$1,323
Rebate	$3,000
Your Price	$18,712



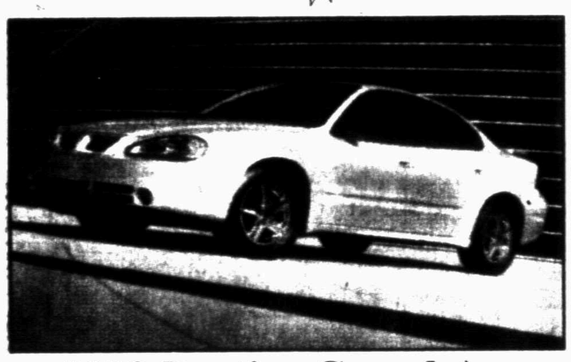
2003 Chevy Impala LS
#CP5478

MSRP	$25,040
Clearance Discount	$1,567
Rebate	$3,500
Your Price	$19,973



2003 Pontiac Sunfire
#TPT6234

MSRP	$17,150
Clearance Discount	$470
Rebate	$4,000
Your Price	$12,680



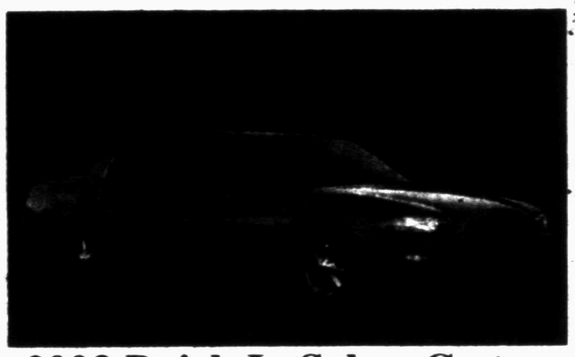
2003 Pontiac Grand Am
#PT6099

MSRP	$19,495
Clearance Discount	$959
Rebate	$4,000
Your Price	$14,536



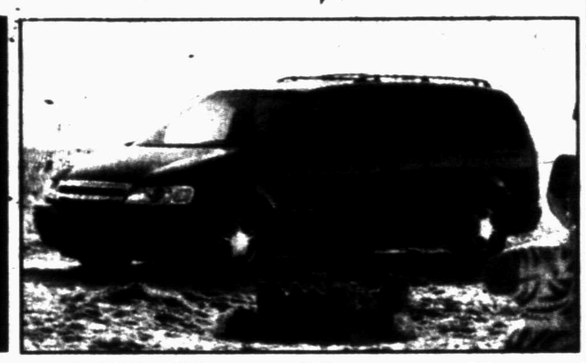
2003 Buick Century
#B5435

MSRP	$22,635
Clearance Discount	$1,830
Rebate	$3,000
Your Price	$17,805



2003 Buick LaSabre Custom
#B6072

MSRP	$27,765
Clearance Discount	$1,766
Rebate	$4,000
Your Price	$21,999



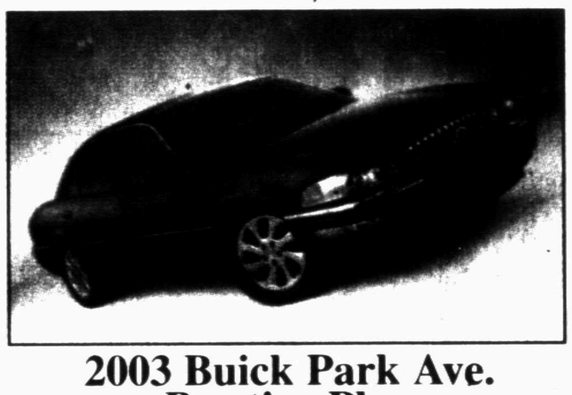
2003 Chevy Venture Van
#C5769

MSRP	$23,690
Clearance Discount	$1,695
Rebate	$3,000
Your Price	$18,995



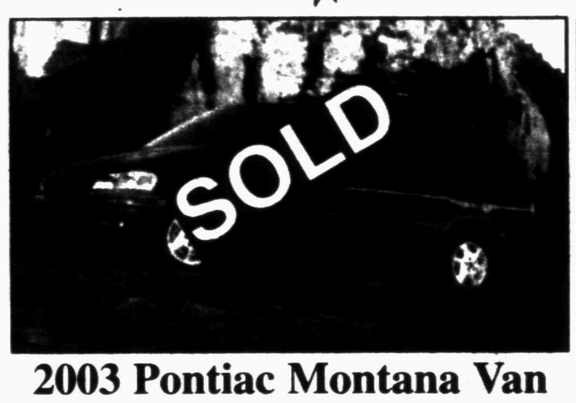
2003 Buick LaSabre Limited
#B5752

MSRP	$33,480
Clearance Discount	$2,213
Rebate	$4,000
Your Price	$27,267



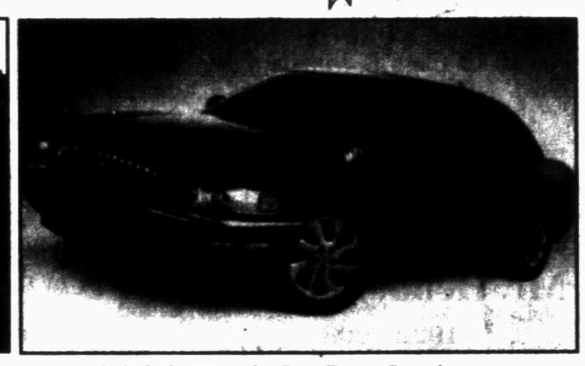
2003 Buick Park Ave. Prestige Pkg.
#TB5808

MSRP	$37,615
Clearance Discount	$2,617
Rebate	$3,000
Your Price	$31,998



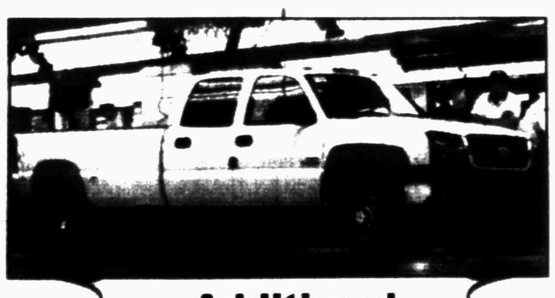
2003 Pontiac Montana Van
#G5902

MSRP	$26,915
Clearance Discount	$1,917
Rebate	$3,000
Your Price	$21,998



2003 Buick Park Ave.
#B6068

MSRP	$35,640
Clearance Discount	$2,647
Rebate	$3,000
Your Price	$29,993



Additional $1000 Bonus Cash
On Diesel Automatic Pickups

BUICK

'03 Buicks	
Century	Rebate $3000
Regal	Rebate $3000
LaSabre	Rebate $4000
Park Avenue/Ultra	Rebate $3000
Rendezvous	Rebate $4000

0% for 60 months

Excludes: Cadillac CTS and Corvette

'03 CHEVYS	
Cavalier	Rebate $4000
Malibu	Rebate $3000
Impala	Rebate $3500
Monte Carlo	Rebate $3000
Corvette	Rebate $2000
S-10 Pickup	Rebate $4000
Silverado	Rebate $3000
C4500 Kodiak	Rebate $3000
Avalanche	Rebate $4000
Tracker	Rebate $4000
Blazer	Rebate $3000
Trailblazer	Rebate $3000
Trailblazer EXT	Rebate $3000
Tahoe	Rebate $3000
Suburban	Rebate $3000
Venture	Rebate $3000

CASH BACK ON ALL...

GMC

'03 GMC	
Sierra	Rebate $3000
Envoy	Rebate $3000
Envoy XL	Rebate $3000
Yukon	Rebate $3000
Yukon XL	Rebate $3000
Yukon Denali	Rebate $3000
Yukon XL Denali	Rebate $3000

Additional $500 Bonus Cash
On These 2003 Chevrolets and GMCs
Silverado, Trailblazer, Trailblazer EXT, Tahoe, Suburban, Sierra, Envoy, Envoy XL, Yukon, Yukon Denali, Yukon XL, Yukon XL Denali

PONTIAC

'03 Pontiac - GMC	
Sunfire	Rebate $4000
Grand Am, V-6	Rebate $3000
Grand Am, 14V 4 Cyl.	Rebate $4000
Grand Prix	Rebate $3750
Vibe	Rebate $2000
Montana	Rebate $3000