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WT-Int. Crude - $40.16
WTIC Posted - $36.75
Natural Gas - $6.18

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY
May 12, 2004
Vol. 56 No. 10
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Robert Adams

On the road again... ...for the 11th straight year!

READY FOR A ROAD TRIP — The Snyder girls golf team got a ride from a Snyder fire department truck at Wednesday's send-off to the state tournament, its 11th consecutive trip. The team is, from left, Christi Williams, Shannon Mangis, Cami Trout, Brooke Jackson, Ashley Luecke and Heather Derington. See complete story on Page 5. (SDN Staff Photo by Bobby Allen)

Sex offender information is available

By Jeff West
SDN Staff Writer

Residents concerned with the whereabouts of sex offenders in Snyder and Scurry County can easily obtain that information.

This list is maintained by the Texas Department of Public Safety, but local law enforcement officials are responsible for making sure local offenders' information on the site is kept up to date.

"We have a secure web site where we go and enter the information. That keeps it more up to date than the old way of using the mail," said Lisa Tate, Snyder police senior records clerk.

The Scurry County sheriff's department also uses the secure site to enter information on any sex offenders who moves into the area.

Sheriff Darren Jackson said there are strict guidelines of when those convicted of certain sexually-related offenses have to register.

"Someone moving into the county needs to notify their former agency before they move and anyone moving into the county needs to notify us within seven days," the sheriff noted. "Anyone moving within the county needs to notify us of that move as well."

For some offenses, the school district where the person lives also has to be notified of any address changes.

Officials verify the person's record, current place of residence and current employment as well as the primary vehicle they drive.

Not keeping officials notified of a move is a felony, Jackson said, and normally is a violation of parole as well.

Currently there are 39 registered sex offenders living in Scurry County with 27 of them residing inside the Snyder city limits.

None of the registered sex offenders currently is considered a "sexual predator," a person convicted of a violent crime or considered a serial offender or declared so by a state psychologist.

Even if a registered sex offender is behind bars, county or state, their names are carried on the list.

Both Jackson and Tate think having the list on the web is a good idea.

"If anyone is concerned they can bring them up," Tate said. "It is a safety measure for the public. I think it is a great idea."

The web site address is: records.txdps.state.tx.us/soSearch/default.cfm.

Health fair continuing at Cogdell

The health fair at Cogdell Memorial Hospital and the open house of the fourth floor assisted living section continues until 6 o'clock this evening.

Registration for the health fair is in the front lobby of the new entrance of the hospital.

The hospital has booths and tables set up throughout the facility to include the emergency department, radiology, OB, pharmacy, lab, Rural Health Clinic, Cogdell Rehab and Cogdell Home Health.

Other departments with displays are the dietary, mammography and day surgery departments, plus respiratory therapy.

Several businesses and agencies also have information booths at the fair.

These include Texas Department of Transportation, DPS, Snyder police department, Snyder EMS, Scurry County sheriff's department, Critical Air, Snyder Chiropractic, CADA, Child Protective Services, Rivercrest Hospital, Snyder Oaks Care Center, Home Medical Supply, Home Hospice and Barbee Medical Supply.

Others include Odyssey Hospice, Curves, WIC, Abilene Psychiatric Hospital, Snyder Healthcare, United Blood Services and Friends in Action. Others include West Central Texas Council of Government – Area on Aging, Semper Care Hospital, Elite Fitness, Snyder Child Day Care, SPARTAN, Gateway Family Services, Texas Rehab, Wal-Mart and Shannon Behavioral Center.

Hospital employees honored

A number of employees of Cogdell Memorial Hospital were recognized Tuesday at the annual awards banquet.

Honored with 25 years of service to the hospital were Lucille Clinkinbeard of the surgical department and Diane Braziel of the OB ward.

Receiving awards for 15 years of service were Laverne Holloway, OB; Marilyn Lockhart, surgery; and Betty Woodward, health information.

Receiving 10-year awards were Lori Baldwin, medical-surgical department; Kathy Eaton, central supply; Janna Helms, patient accounting; Kathy Huff, Price Daniel Unit clinic; Laurie Sharp, lab; and Lyn Small, financial services.

Those receiving five-year awards included Vicky Bell, specialty clinic; Valerie Crisp and Sandy Smith, medical-surgical; Nancy Messenger and Nina Sutton, Price Daniel Unit clinic; Mary Perez, central supply; and Tracey Williamson, social services and assisted living.

THE SDN COLUMN
MY TURN
by Jo Ann Nunley

The late Erma Bombeck once said that after age 12, birthdays should be as private as hernia surgery. Some can have their big day slip by virtually unnoticed, but not so for some.

Some friends and co-workers just won't let the big day slide such as the Patterson-UTI female employees. They honored Sandra Forga with a "Red Hat Society" day for her 60th, highlighted with lunch at CountryPlace, all donned in red hats and purple attire.

Glenda Glasscock, owner, holds the title of Queen Mother in the society. The society, she said, came from the creative imagination of a lady in Tucson who had bought a bright red fedora at a thrift shop.

Later she read a poem "Warning," by Jenny Joseph, which depicts an older woman in purple clothing and a red hat. She gave a friend a vintage red hat and a copy of the poem. The friend, with a gift of whimsical decorating, thought the hat would look nice hanging on a hook next to the framed poem. She got so much enjoyment out of the hat and the poem that she gave the same gift to another friend, then another, then another.

It occurred to these friends that they were becoming a sort of "Red Hat Society" and they should go out to tea in full regalia. From the poem where the narrator threatens to "—wear purple and a red hat, which doesn't go, and doesn't suit me…" they decided they would find a purple dress to complete the image. It was a smashing hit, thus the beginning of the society.

Sandra's well wishers complied to the only requirements for their model Red Hat Society — wear a red hat, a purple dress and a big smile. The following is apropos for the over 60 crowd:

When I'm an old lady, I'll live with each kid,
And bring so much happiness, just as they did
I want to pay back all the joy they've provided.
Returning each deed. Oh, they'll be so excited.
(When I'm an old lady and live with my kids)
I'll write on the wall with reds, whites and blues,
And I'll bounce on the furniture, wearing my shoes.
I'll drink from the carton and then leave it out.
I'll stuff all the toilets and oh, how they'll shout.
(When I'm an old lady and live with my kids)
When they're on the phone and just out of reach,
I'll get into things like sugar and bleach.
Oh, they'll snap their fingers and then shake their head,
And when that is done, I'll hide under the bed.
(When I'm an old lady and live with my kids)
When they cook dinner and call me to eat,
I'll not eat my green beans or salad or meat,
I'll gag on my okra, spill milk on the table,
And when they get angry. I'll run, if I'm able.
(When I'm an old lady and live with my kids)
I'll sit close to the TV, through the channels I'll click.
I'll cross both eyes just to see if they stick.
I'll take off my socks and throw one away,
And play in the mud till the end of the day.
(When I'm an old lady and live with my kids)
And later in bed, I'll lay back and sigh,
I'll thank God in prayer and then close my eyes.
My kids will look down with a smile slowly creeping,
And say with a groan, "She's so sweet when she's sleeping."

Rainfall Reports

Snyder	.50
North of city	Shower
East of city	.25
West of city	Trace
Lake Thomas	.15
Hermleigh	.25
Ennis Creek	.60
Polar	.50
Loyd Mountain	1.80
Camp Springs	1.00
Dermott	.40
Union	.40
Gail	Shower
Gins	
Farmers Co-Op (E)	.90
Inadale	Shower

Totals as reported by area residents for Tuesday. Some areas received light hail.

Bazes to be honored with reception on Thursday

A going-away reception for long-time Snyder civic leaders, Roy and Geleska Baze, will be from 4-6 p.m. Thursday at the Scurry County Museum on the campus of Western Texas College.

The Bazes returned to Snyder in 1980 after his retirement from Exxon and both have been involved in a number of civic endeavors.

The event is co-sponsored by the city of Snyder, Development Corporation of Snyder, Snyder Chamber of Commerce, and the Citizen Corps of Scurry County.

CMH EMPLOYEES RECOGNIZED — Cogdell Memorial Hospital employee awards banquet was held Tuesday evening at the Martha Ann Woman's Club. Visiting after the program were from left, Barbara Murphy and husband, Richard Murphy, interim financial officer; Vicky Bell, CMH specialty clinic and rural health clinic employee who was honored for five years of service, and husband Charlie Bell, Scurry County auditor. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

ASK US

Q—How do you get a four-way stop at an intersection?

A—Changes in stop signs require approval of the city council. The first step is to send a request to City Manager John Gayle who will consult with traffic officials and then could bring it to the council.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Lorita Clinkinbeard...

...has lived in Scurry County all her life and is married to Earl. Three of their children — Sorita, Dicky and Jimmy — live in Fort Worth and Julie lives in San Angelo. They also have five grandchildren and raise goat. Lorita likes to read, fish and watch young people show their goats.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Hope is a thing with feathers that perches in the soul.
—Emily Dickinson

MAY 12 2004

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Central parents seminar

"Color Your World: Read" is topic of the last in a series of Thursday seminars hosted by Central Elementary. Janie Romine and Linda Jones of the Scurry County Library will present a program on the library's summer reading program and also will discuss ways to develop and maintain a child's reading skills during the summer. The seminar begins at 1:30 p.m. in room 5 at Central. Door prizes, child care and refreshments will be provided. For more information, call 573-8592.

WTC GED testing dates

Western Texas College GED testing date is set for Thursday. Future dates are June 17, July 8, and July 22. To take the test or for more information contact Betty Thompson at 573-2310 or Emily Hataway 573-8511, ext. 297 or 574-2112. It is recommended that candidates receive some preparation before attempting the test.

Pops concert

Snyder High School choir students will present their annual pops concert at 6:30 p.m. Friday in Worsham Auditorium. Admission is $5.

Reception

A reception to honor Roy and Geleska Baze will be held from 5 to 6 p.m. Thursday in the Scurry County Museum on the WTC campus.

First Baptist support group

First Baptist Church sponsors a support group for persons facing difficulties – including cancer, divorce, grief, etc. It meets on the first floor Adult 6 Department at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month.

What's up guidelines

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

SPECIAL PROGRAM — Beth Dannheim, Scurry County Extension agent in family consumer science, presented the final lesson in her "Eat Better to Live Better" series Tuesday at the Region XIV Center. From left are Rosa Hernandez, Lorena Garcia and Brenda Espinoza, all participants in the SISD HIPPY program. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Local Extension agent presents HIPPY program

Beth Dannheim, Scurry County Extension agent in Family Consumer Science, has conducted a series of five lessons, "Eat better to live better" for the teachers and parents enrolled in the HIPPY program (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters).

The series covered topics of "healthy eating, food safety and you," "shopping strategies to stretch your food dollars," "color your way to five-a-day" and "bone up on calcium."

The classes included a lecture/discussion on the topic, tasting of new foods/recipes, an evaluation and door prizes.

The "Eat Better to Live Better" Series is a part of the "Better Living for Texas Grant in cooperation with the Texas Department of Human Service and Texas Cooperative Extension.

Feds want bail revoked for woman accused in trailer deaths

HOUSTON (AP) — Prosecutors want bail for a woman accused of aiding an immigrant smuggling ring revoked because they say she has been trying to coordinate testimony for her upcoming trial with her jailed boyfriend.

The $50,000 unsecured bail should be revoked because Erica Cardenas violated her bail by communicating with Juan Carlos Don Juan, 22, according to a search warrant affidavit filed Friday by Supervisory Special Agent Marc W. Sanders of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Cardenas, 23, is the first to face trial out of 14 people indicted in connection with the smuggling ring accused in the deaths of 19 undocumented immigrants.

The immigrants were found last May in a sealed trailer abandoned at a truck stop near Victoria. Authorities say that 74 immigrants were inside.

Her trial is scheduled to begin Monday. She faces charges of harboring and transporting an undocumented immigrant for commercial gain.

She is accused of accompanying Don Juan to a shopping mall in McAllen May 15 to exchange a 3-year-old boy for $1,500. The money was to come from the boy's mother — a Honduran who survived the deadly smuggling attempt. Officials say the boy was riding in a car following the trailer.

Don Juan pleaded guilty March 22 and is awaiting sentencing at the Federal Detention Center in Houston.

Tape recordings of conversations between Cardenas and Don Juan revealed the two "are communicating for the purpose of coordinating her defense at trial," Sanders told the Houston Chronicle in today's editions.

The affidavit states that Cardenas and Don Juan have corresponded by mail, telephone and through intermediaries.

Cardenas' bail was set by U.S. Magistrate Judge Tracy Caperton of McAllen soon after her arrest last May.

Meanwhile, the head of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas said Tuesday that a federal judge violated the U.S. Constitution by closing Cardenas' pretrial hearing. U.S. District Judge Vanessa Gilmore gave no explanation for closing the hearing.

Credibility of defense witness attacked at T. Nichols' trial

McALESTER, Okla. (AP) — Prosecutors at bombing conspirator Terry Nichols' murder trial challenged a defense witness Tuesday who said he saw a group of people near a Ryder truck at a lake in Kansas the day before the Oklahoma City bombing.

Charles Farley of Wakefield, Kan., said the Ryder truck and another truck loaded with ammonium nitrate fertilizer was at Geary Lake on April 18, 1995, the day before a homemade bomb destroyed the Oklahoma City federal building, killing 168 people.

State prosecutors allege that Nichols helped bomber Timothy McVeigh build the 4,000-pound ammonium-nitrate-and-fuel-oil bomb at the lake and pack it into the truck that day.

Prosecution witnesses, including Army Sgt. Richard Wahl, have testified they saw a large Ryder truck parked next to a pickup truck that resembled Nichols' at the lake. Wahl said he did not see anyone around the vehicles.

But Farley told Nichols' 12-member jury he saw at least four people around the Ryder truck and several other vehicles that were at the lake that day.

One of the vehicles was loaded with bags of fertilizer, he said. It was driven by a man in his early 50s who had a thin beard, Farley said. He said he asked the man if he needed any help.

"He gave me a pretty dirty look," Farley said.

Number of New York City smokers drops

NEW YORK (AP) — The number of adult smokers in New York City dropped by more than 100,000 in a year, a decrease city officials attribute to sharply higher tobacco taxes, the city's smoking ban in bars and cessation programs.

Telephone surveys commissioned by the city found that 19.3 percent of adults smoked in 2003, compared with 21.6 percent in 2002, The New York Times reported today.

Cigarette consumption also declined by 13 percent, signaling that those who still smoke are smoking less.

events

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TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Tuesday's Lottery Numbers

Mega Millions

ATLANTA (AP) — The jackpot in the multi-state Mega Millions lottery drawing grew to $13 million Wednesday.

None of the tickets sold for Tuesday's $10 million drawing matched all five lotto numbers and the Mega Ball. The next drawing will be Friday.

There were four second-prize winners from Tuesday night's drawing. Those tickets are each worth $175,000. Another 25 players matched four of the five lotto numbers, plus the Mega Ball number. Those tickets are each worth $5,000.

The winning numbers from Tuesday's drawing were: 9, 25, 30, 34, and 37. The Mega Ball number was 30.

Texas Two Step

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

8-21-24-35. Bonus ball 26.

Estimated jackpot: $225,000

Cash Five

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

Winning numbers drawn: 10-18-25-32-37.

Number matching five of five: 0.

Matching four of five: 109. Prize: $517.

Matching three of five: 3,784. Prize: $11.

Matching two of five: 38,999. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Wednesday night.

Pick 3

(Day) 5-5-2

(Night) 3-5-0

World Almanac

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Today is the 133rd day of 2004 and the 54th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1780, British forces took Charleston, S.C., during the Revolutionary War.

In 1949, the Soviet Union ended its blockade against West Berlin.

In 1975, the Cambodian navy seized U.S. merchant ship SS Mayaguez in the Gulf of Siam.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Florence Nightingale (1820-1910), nurse; Katharine Hepburn (1907-2003), actress; Yogi Berra (1925-), baseball star, is 79; Burt Bacharach (1929-), composer, is 75; George Carlin (1937-), comedian, is 67; Emilio Estevez (1962-), actor, is 42.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1979, tennis star Chris Evert's streak of 125 consecutive victories on clay ended.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "It ain't over till it's over." — Yogi Berra

TODAY'S FACT: North Carolina's state motto is "Esse Quam Videri" — to be rather than to seem.

TODAY'S NUMBER: 24 — record number of Grand Slam tennis singles titles won by Margaret Smith Court

TODAY'S MOON: Between last quarter (May 11) and new moon (May 19).

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Chan visits Cambodia

HONG KONG (AP) — Hong Kong action star Jackie Chan said he was deeply moved after digging up land mines for a week during a recent trip to Cambodia to raise awareness about the issue there.

Chan, a newly appointed U.N. goodwill ambassador, spent three days in Cambodia in late April, visiting land mine explosion victims and HIV/AIDS patients.

Cambodia has Southeast Asia's highest HIV infection rate at 2.6 percent for 2002, according to the United Nations. The country's remote areas are still strewn with land mines and unexploded bombs left over from three decades of fighting.

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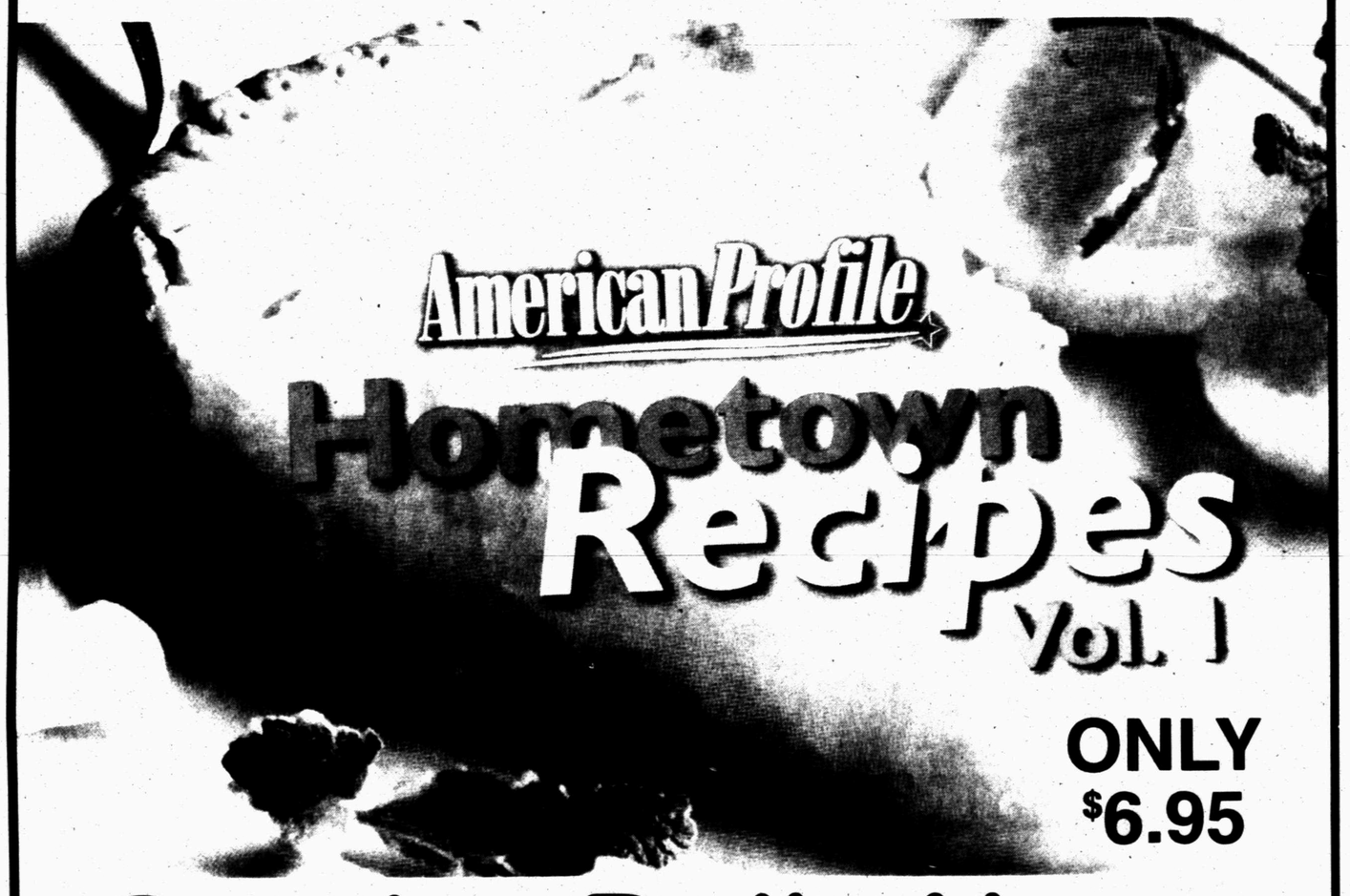

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Snyder Daily News

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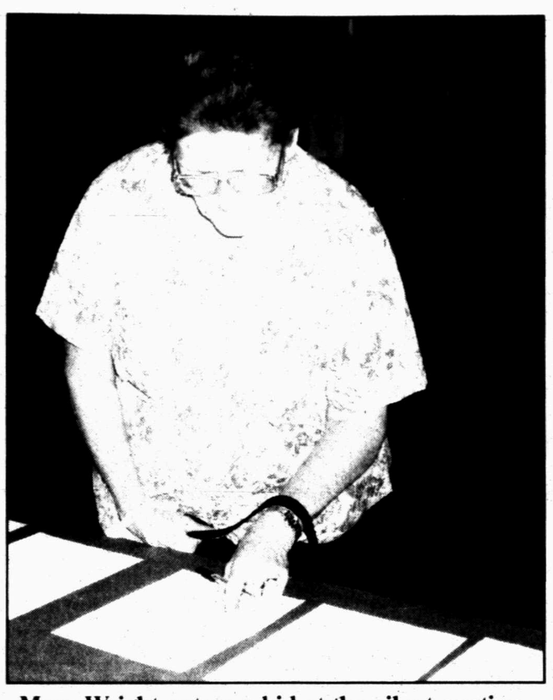
For reservations call 573-8880 or come by the Ritz.

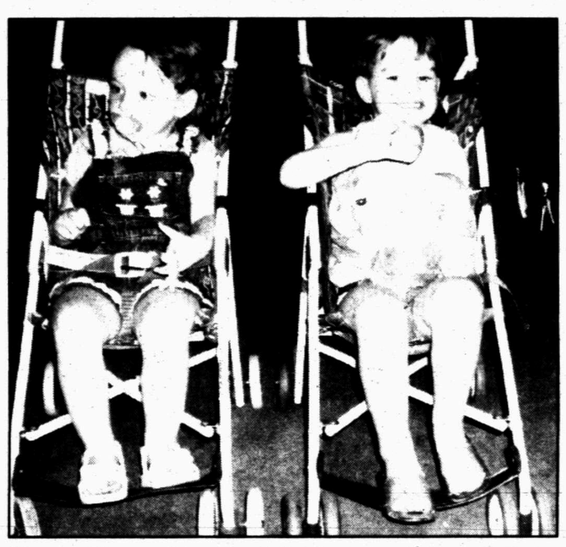
May Day 2004



Mary Wright enters a bid at the silent auction.

Deep Creek Cloggers and Sand Hills Cloggers entertained the crowd.

Norma Laywell directed the Sunshine Choir in a special Mother's Day program.



Sisters Hanna Rogers, left, 2 years old, and Anna, 3, enjoyed May Day. They are the daughters of Jennifer and Brad Draughon.

Hanna got so excited when the cloggers started dancing that she tried to join them; but her mother, Jennifer Draughon, held her back.

Lisa Midwell, Stacey Clifton and Amanda Midwell check out the flowers at the silent auction.

The Sweet Tooth Booth, at left, was a popular place.

These dolls were auctioned along with the quilts.

SDN Photos By Shirley A. Gorman

MAY 12 2004

TRUCKS...

2000 Chevy S10 ExCab LS Pkg.
V-6, pewter $9,595

2002 Ford Ranger Supercab XLT
V-6, power, 18K miles
$12,295

1987 Ford Bronco II 4x4, classic	$2,850
1987 Chevy 2500 Reg. Cab "Ol Rusty"	$1,850
1993 Chevy SWB Reg. Cab White Diamond, 350, V-8	$5,850
1993 Ford F150 Supercab XLT Runs great	$3,850
2001 Chevy 1500 Reg Cab Long Bed Silverado	$11,595
2002 Ford F150 XLT V-8, Alum. Wheel	$15,295
2002 Chevy 1500 ExCab LS Pkg. 38K miles, V-8	$17,795
2002 Chevy 1500 ExCab LS Pkg. Like new, pewter, 27K miles	$18,995
2002 2500 H.D. GMC Crew Cab SLE Pkg. H.D. Pkg	$20,795
2002 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab Dually LS Pkg. Duramax diesel	$27,595
2002 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab 4x4 Duramax diesel, Michelin tires	$32,000
2002 Ford F150 Lariat 4x4 FX4 Supercab Leather	$21,695
2003 Chevy 1500 H.D. Crew Cab LS Tow pkg., H.D. pkg.	$26,795
2003 Chevy 2500 H.D. Crew Cab LS 4x4 Must see	$24,595
1990 GMC Reg Cab	$2,500

SUVs...

2003 Chevy Tracker 4x4 ZR2
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2000 Chevy Suburban LS One owner, dual A/C
$14,995

1998 Olds Silhouette Van 4 bucket seats, 4 door	$8,995
2003 Chevy Tahoe LS Dual A/C, tow pkg., one owner	$24,295
2002 Chevy Tahoe Red fire metallic, 3rd seat, LS pkg.	$23,595
2002 Chevy Trailblazer White, V-6, LS Pkg., power wind/locks, CD	$17,795
2002 Ford Expedition XLT Bucket seats, dual A/C	$19,595
2001 Chevy Blazer 2 door, sport, loaded	$11,295

CARS...

2003 Chevy Malibu
V-6, power windows/locks, CD, like new
$10,895

2001 Chevy Camaro
V-6, power windows/locks, CD
$12,000

2003 Chevy Cavalier Sport 2 door black. 10K miles	$8,395
2003 Chevy Cavalier 2 door, midnight, 25K, great gas mileage	$7,895
1992 Mercury Grand Marquis Runs great	$4,500
1999 Buick LeSabre Custom Power windows/lock . 3800 V-6	$7,595
2001 Saturn L300 V-6, power windows/locks, CD	$10,595

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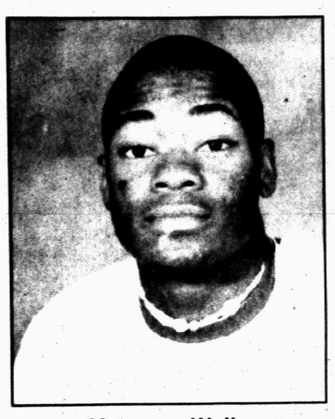
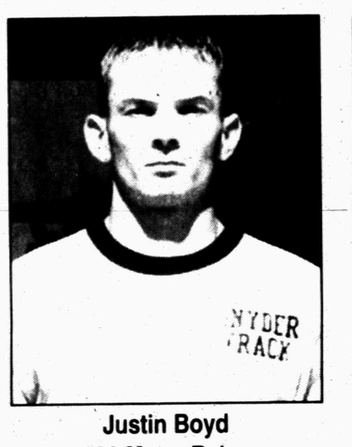
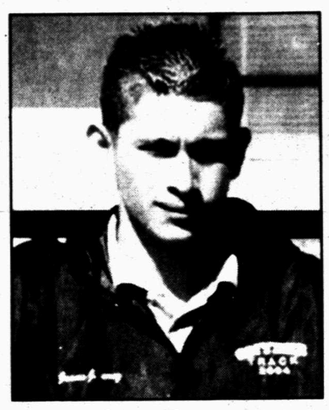


M ome Wells
800 Meter Relay



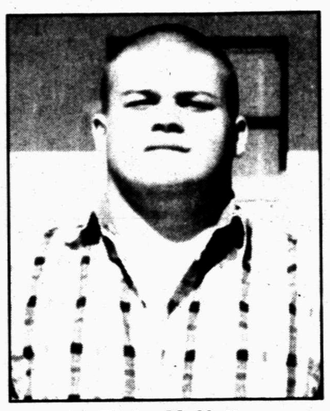
Justin Boyd
800 Meter Relay

Zach Cain
800 Meter Relay



Jesus Juarez
800 Meter Relay

October Wells
Long Jump,
200 Meter Dash



Ricky McNatt
Discus

3A STATE GOLF TOURNEY

May 13-14

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Cami Trout

Shannon Mangis

Christi Williams

Brooke Jackson

Ashley Luecke

Heather Derington

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SPORTS

OUTSTANDING MALE ATHLETES — Ira High School honored its top male athletes at the school's athletic banquet. Back from left are Jason Ramos, football Fighting Bulldog; Bryan Proctor, baseball Fighting Bulldog; Justin Taylor, golf MVP; Caleb Gutierrez, football defensive MVP; front from left, Jess Wall, football Fighting Bulldog, special recognition and basketball Fighting Bulldog; Wes Kellner, football MVP and basketball defensive player of the year; and Jake Barnes, football and basketball MVP, baseball defensive player of the year. The entire boys track team, which won the district and the area titles, shared the track MVP. (Contributed Photo by Becky Hudgins)

OUTSTANDING FEMALE ATHLETES — Ira Lady Bulldogs were honored for their achievements at the school's athletic banquet. Awardees are, from left, Lindsey Wilson, basketball and track MVP; Lacie Thompson, golf MVP; Amanda Calley, basketball and track Fighting Lady Bulldog; Shea Allen, basketball defensive player of the year; and Whitney Payne, cross-country outstanding athlete. (Contributed Photo by Becky Hudgins)

Sports Briefs

Area round playoff series at Moffett

The area round baseball series between Perryton and Presidio will be played at Moffett Field, with game one at 2:30 p.m. Friday. Game two is slated for 10 a.m. Saturday. A third game, if necessary, will immediately follow game two.

Benefit barrel race

The Scurry County Rodeo Association will hold a benefit barrel race beginning at 8 a.m. Sunday at the rodeo arena.

Exhibitions will be held from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The eight-and-under class will begin at 1 p.m., and there is a $15 entry fee and a $5 one-time arena charge.

Call Raylene May at 529-5636 or Gwen Cumbie at 573-4895 for more information.

Boys basketball camps

Two basketball camps are scheduled for May 31-June 3 at Snyder High School. The first will be a fundamentals camp from 8:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. for incoming eighth-graders and below, and will be led by SHS head coach Bud Birks, assistant coach Zach Williams and graduating all-district varsity player Lee Scott. Cost is $35.

The second camp will be a shooting camp for freshmen through seniors from 10:45 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. It will be coached by former SHS all-state player and former Lubbock Christian standout Rick Henderson, and cost is $25.

Contact coach Birks at 574-6139 or 573-1297 for more information.

Girls basketball camp

Snyder girls head coach Mike Martin will host a girls basketball camp June 21-24.

Incoming third through fifth grade players will go from 8 a.m. to 10:15 a.m., and incoming sixth and seventh-graders will receive instruction from 10:30 a.m. until 12:45 p.m. Camp for incoming eighth-graders and freshmen will be from 1:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Cost is $60 and includes a camp T-shirt. Forms can be picked up in the basketball office or the athletic office. Call coach Martin at 574-6040 or 575-1917 for more information.

Football camp set for June

Snyder head football coach Chad Rogers will host a football camp June 28-30 at the field house.

Incoming fourth through sixth grade players will work from 10 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. Camp for incoming seventh through ninth graders will take place from 1:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. Cost is $35 and includes a T-shirt and a cook-out the last day.

Applications can be picked up at the football field house or the athletic office. Contact coach Rogers or coach Martinez at 574-6039 for more information.

Lady Tigers set sights on second straight state golf championship

By Bobby Allen
SDN Sports Editor

After replacing the entire 2003 state champion teams and taking over the program for departed coach Matt Glenn, Snyder golf coach Ricky Hunter knew that he and the new, young faces had some work to do to return in order to Austin this year.

He also knew the girls on the team, including two freshmen, a sophomore, a junior and one senior, had lofty goals and the talent to keep the team's run of state tournament appearances intact.

"Early on we had big goals — we wanted to make state," he said. "As the team has matured the goal has changed. I knew once it happened (making state), that it would change. We are here."

Now, the Snyder five hope to repeat as state champions.

"This is what we wanted," Cami Trout, the lone senior on the team who went as an alternate for last year's club, said. "I've been going to state for six years with my dad."

Trout said the girls knew that the competition at the regional tournament would be stiff and unforgiving.

"We knew we didn't have room to give up a lot of strokes," she said.

Trout did her part, firing a 72 in the second round to help Snyder place second and reach the state tournament for the 11th straight year.

As a team, the Lady Tigers shot a 321-328 649 to finish 14 shots behind Monahans and eight ahead of Pecos in the region. No Lady Tiger exceeded 88 in the tournament.

"Early on, we had big goals. We wanted to make state" — SHS golf coach Ricky Hunter

Hunter said there was no flashpoint during the season that made him realize the team was state-ready, but instead it was a gradual improvement at each tournament.

"I knew we worked hard all year and that at some point the benefits would surface," he said. "It was an ongoing process. Every tournament we got better, and I felt like we continued to get better every week. We were more mature and seasoned by the time we got to regional."

That seasoning and maturity will be essential at the state tournament, with Snyder among three teams, including Region I champion Monahans and Yoakum at the top, based on regional scores.

Sophomore Christi Williams said the team continued to work through some early season missteps.

"We all had our doubts this year, but we had to keep pushing and knew we could never give up," she said.

Hunter said the key at state — like any other tournament — is to stay steady emotionally.

"We need to try and control our emotions, and it's going to be tough for everybody," he said. "Everyone is going to be nervous. The thing is, if you blow up holes two and three, you have to let it go, because you have 36 to play. This tournament is about whoever controls their emotions the fastest."

Junior Brooke Jackson said she would be most nervous before her first swing.

"Right at the first tee box," she said.

Freshmen Ashley Luecke and Shannon Mangis both are happy at the opportunity to play at Jimmy Clay Golf Course as first-year varsity players.

"It's exciting to go in the first year," Mangis said.

"I feel lucky to get to play," Luecke said. "I'm glad we got here."

Trout said the team hoped to break 335 or 330 at Jimmy Clay, which has narrow fairways and is unforgiving for errant drives. The course is 6,368 yards from the white tees and plays long, with several elevated and expansive greens.

"All the teams competing are hitting it straight," Hunter said. "I don't think they hit better than we do. It's going to come down to the best short game."

The Lady Tigers will be paired with players from Longview Spring Hill, Waco Robinson and Yoakum B in the first round.

Other teams at the tournament include Monahans, Yoakum A, Atlanta and Bellville.

Williams will be the first 3A golfer on the tee box when the tournament starts at 8 a.m. Thursday, with Luecke, Jackson, Mangis and Trout following at 10-minute intervals.

Heather Derington is the alternate.

Times, distances put Snyder in the mix at state track meet

The Snyder track and field state qualifiers will face rugged competition when they take the track at Myers Stadium in Austin Friday and Saturday.

Junior October Wells, qualified for two events, will be the first Snyder athlete to compete Friday when the 3A girls long jump starts at noon.

Wells has the second-best distance in the field, qualifying with a leap of 18-0.75. Ashley McCarty of Sanger holds the best jump with a distance of 19-1.25.

Junior Ricky McNatt will be the only other Tiger entered in Friday's events, with the boys discus throw getting underway at 4:30 p.m.

McNatt holds the fourth-best throw in the field of eight with a 157-07. Nick Rose of Clyde has the best throw entering the state meet at 164-02.

The boys 4x200 relay team — Justin Boyd, Zach Cain, Jesus Juarez and Malcome Wells — will race after the 1A race at 1:45 p.m. Saturday. Of the eight relay teams, Snyder has the sixth-best time, qualifying for state with a 1:29.84. Only 1.5 seconds separate the eight teams in what will be a closely contested race.

Graham has the best time at 1:29.23, just .61 seconds faster than the Tigers. Jasper is the eighth seed, and is the only team above 1:29 with a time of 1:30.73.

Wells will race in the 200-meter dash at 2:45 p.m. Saturday. Her time of 25.32 is .66 second off the pace of leader Rachel Runnels of Forney.

Wells is making a return trip to state after reaching the championships in the 200 dash and the triple jump last season.

Ira thinclads run Saturday

Although the state track and field meet begins Friday, the Ira competitors will have to wait until Saturday before taking the track at Myers Stadium in Austin.

The 4x200 meter relay team of Bryson Higgins, Wes Kellner, Bryan Proctor and Jess Wall will race at 1:45 p.m. Saturday, running before the 3A 4x200 race, in which Snyder will participate.

The squad is seeded eighth with a time of 1:34.96. Crosbyton has the best time entering the meet with a 1:31.67.

Jake Barnes will throw the shot put at 2 p.m. Saturday. Barnes qualified with a heave of 48-11. Sundown's Tyler Magis has the top distance of 54-00.50.

Lakers rally around Kobe, pull even with San Antonio

LOS ANGELES (AP) — It was halftime, the Lakers were in trouble, and Kobe Bryant had a brief message for his teammates.

"I told the guys to remember it was just a game, to have fun. Pick up our energy, enjoy the game and we'll be there," he said.

If anyone should know basketball is just a game, it's Bryant.

Just hours after pleading not guilty to a sexual assault charge in Colorado, Bryant scored 42 points Tuesday night to lead the Lakers to a 98-90 victory over the San Antonio Spurs and even the Western Conference semifinals 2-2.

"It's our biggest game of the year — I just wanted to come out and leave it all out on the floor," Bryant said. "I'm tired. I just feel numb right now. Just tired, just want to get some sleep."

Understandably so, considering he spent most of Monday and Tuesday in an Eagle, Colo., courtroom. Bryant is accused of raping a 19-year-old woman last summer at the Vail-area resort where she worked. He claims the sex was consensual.

Shaquille O'Neal added 28 points and 14 rebounds for the Lakers, who won by outscoring the Spurs 55-37 after halftime.

A dominating performance, indeed. But Bryant was the story.

"I don't know how he does stuff like that," O'Neal said. "Kobe had a fabulous game and that just shows us what kind of heart he has and what type of character he has. Once again I have to title him as the best player ever."

Bryant was 15-of-27 from the field, made 10 of 13 foul shots and added six rebounds and five assists while playing 45 minutes. He scored 15 of his team's 24 points in the fourth quarter.

NBA Playoffs

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
(Best-of-7)
Tuesday, May 11
New Jersey 94, Detroit 79, series tied 2-2
L.A. Lakers 98, San Antonio 90, series tied 2-2
Today
Indiana at Miami, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Sacramento, 9:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 13
L.A. Lakers at San Antonio, 7 p.m.
Friday, May 14
New Jersey at Detroit, 6 p.m.
Sacramento at Minnesota, 8:30 p.m.

Stanley Cup

CONFERENCE FINALS
(Best-of-7)
Tuesday, May 11
Calgary 4, San Jose 1, Calgary leads series 2-0
Thursday, May 13
Tampa Bay at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
San Jose at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Saturday, May 15
Tampa Bay at Philadelphia, 2 p.m.
Sunday, May 16
San Jose at Calgary, 3 p.m.
Monday, May 17
Calgary at San Jose, 9 p.m., if necessary
Tuesday, May 18
Philadelphia at Tampa Bay, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 19
San Jose at Calgary, 8 p.m., if necessary

Blalock blasts two homers

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Hank Blalock homered twice and Laynce Nix had a two-run shot as the Texas Rangers beat Tampa Bay 5-4 Tuesday night, the Devil Rays' sixth straight loss and 13th in their last 15 games.

Blalock's second homer of the game in the eighth inning tied the game at 4. Kevin Mench's bases-loaded grounder later in the inning knocked in the game-winner for Texas, which has won eight of 11.

Nix gave the Rangers a 2-0 lead with his homer on an 0-2 pitch from Doug Waechter (1-3) in the third.

Blalock made it 3-0 on a solo homer in the sixth. It was his second career multihomer game.

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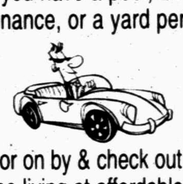

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Real Estate

3 bedroom, 2-bath w/2 extra lots, large backyard, private fence, deck, trees, St. Augustine front & back. 325-737-2203

404 35th
Owner will finance, low down, low monthly, 3 bedroom, 1¾ bath, 1-car garage. 806-790-0827

Big, beautiful 3-2-2, formal living, den, new kitchen, isolated master, large covered patio. 2703 47th $118,900 573-1428

GOOD LOCATION!
3-2-2, w/approx. 2200 sq.ft. living space, nice fireplace, nice yard. Recently updated. 2511 31st. Low $100's
573-5495

House and large shop on 4.5 acres. 254-968-8236
325-370-8289 or 325-370-8288

There's A Deal Waiting For You
IN THE CLASSIFIEDS
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Victim of beheading remembered

WEST CHESTER, Pa. (AP) — A dedicated weight lifter and amateur comedian, Nick Berg had a desire to help people around the world.

The 26-year-old from suburban Philadelphia liked to move around so much that he took classes at four different universities, and once traveled to Africa to help a poor village, returning with only the clothes on his back.

Friends and family on Tuesday remembered Berg — the victim of a beheading at the hands of his captors in Iraq — as generous, outgoing and funny.

"Some of the hardest laughter I had at the fitness center were from the jokes he told," said friend Nick Fillioe, a sports director at the West Chester Area YMCA.

Berg's latest adventure was an independent trip to Iraq, looking for work rebuilding the country's telecommunications infrastructure.

He went to Baghdad in March seeking work with a company that had previously hired him, but was told there wasn't a post this time. His trip home hit a snag when he was detained at a checkpoint, only to be released April 6. His parents last heard from him three days later.

A video posted Tuesday on a Web site linked to al-Qaida showed Berg beheaded by a group that said it was to avenge the abuse of Iraqi prisoners by American soldiers.

When told by a reporter about the Web site, Berg's father, brother and sister cried in their front yard in this Philadelphia suburb.

"I knew he was decapitated before," said Berg's father, Michael Berg. "That manner is preferable to a long and torturous death. But I didn't want it to become public."

Berg took college classes at Cornell, Drexel, the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Oklahoma, though he never earned a degree. He helped set up electronics equipment at the Republican National Convention in Philadelphia in 2000. He even made several trips to Third World countries; in Ghana, he taught villagers how to make bricks, and returned emaciated because he gave away most of his food, his father said.

"That's the kind of passion we're dealing with here," Michael Berg said.

Berg's father said his son was a practicing Jew and that "there's a better chance than not" that his captors knew it. "If there was any doubt that they were going to kill him that probably clinched it, I'm guessing," he said.

Berg, who was unmarried, owned a small business that worked with communication equipment like radio towers. He saw his trip to Iraq, his father said, as an adventure — one that fit his ideology as a war supporter and backer of the Bush administration.

Berg played the tuba and saxophone, was in the National Honor Society and participated in the Science Olympiad, said Michael Dibartolomeo, who was principal at West Chester Henderson High School when Berg graduated in 1996.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Lead poisoning is not common

DEAR DR. GOTT: With all the publicity about the dangers of lead ingestion, do you know if lead crystal causes any problems? We've been drinking from crystal glassware for years and wonder if we have cause for concern.

DEAR READER: Lead is particularly toxic to the body and will lead to headaches, personality changes, loss of appetite, arthritis, abdominal discomfort and progressive renal failure.

Although crystal glassware is made with lead, I am not aware of any reports of lead poisoning from drinking out of such containers. Rather, workers who make the crystal are at risk because of lead dust and fumes. The most common causes of lead toxicity are lead paint; retention of metallic lead objects (such as buckshot from a gun wound); contaminated foods (that are acidic and have been stored in lead-glazed ceramic ware); inhalation of lead fumes (from burning lead-painted wood); and moonshine whiskey or wine containing lead.

As an aside, you might be interested in learning that the ancient Romans clarified their red wines with lead, which produced poisoning and a form of arthritis called "saturnine gout." This was the basis of the misconception that modern wines cause gout. Present-day commercial wines do not contain lead and, therefore, do not cause lead poisoning or "gout."

I believe that you can safely continue to use your good crystal. However, for the reasons I mentioned, you should not store food — especially acidic edibles, such as juices — in lead-glazed containers (or crystal) because the acid can leach lead from the vessels and cause ill health.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm 71 and suffer from osteoarthritis. The pains in my knees, hips, shoulder and back are intense. A friend recently recommended vitamin C for my hay fever. I've taken 1,000 milligrams for the past week and while the vitamin hasn't helped my hay fever, my arthritis pain has all but disappeared. This seems too simple to be true, but nothing else in my lifestyle has changed, so I must credit the vitamin. Do you agree?

DEAR READER: Nope. No scientific study has shown that vitamin C, a substance necessary for normal metabolism, will relieve hay fever, protect people from upper respiratory viral infections or cure arthritis.

Osteoarthritis, the age-related wearing down of joint surfaces, is an inevitable consequence of growing older. But it can behave unpredictably. Some folks experience severe pain from it, others don't.

Moreover, the discomfort may wax and wane, without any apparent pattern. Some patients' pains are understandably worsened by exercise. Other patients are sensitive to barometric changes.

Having said that vitamin C is not supposed to help you, I must now state the obvious: keep taking it if it seems to relieve your discomfort. Let's not argue with success. A dose of 1,000 mg a day will not harm you. Write me, please, if your pain returns. And let me hear from other readers who may have had experience with this unique solution.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Osteoarthritis." 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.

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

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Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 05-12-04
♠ 7 3 2
♥ 7 6 5 4 3 2
♦ 4 2
♣ Q 3

West
♠ K Q J 10
♥ A J 10
♦ 9 8 5
♣ J 9 5

East
♠ 9 8 4
♥ K Q
♦ A J 10
♣ 10 8 7 6 2

South
♠ A 6 5
♥ 9 8
♦ K Q 7 6 3
♣ A K 4

Dealer: South
Vulnerability: Both

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♠ K

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

With a weak hand, run to a long suit

By Phillip Alder

To begin today, look only at the North hand in the diagram. Your partner opens one no-trump, and your right-hand opponent passes. What would you do, if anything?

After deciding, look at the North-South hands. How would you (now South) play in two hearts after a spade lead?

For beginners, it looks impossible to bid with only two points. In addition, they are used to needing 10 or 11 points for a two-level bid. But responding to one no-trump is completely different from bidding opposite a one-of-a-suit opening.

The key point is this: How many tricks will that North hand be worth in one no-trump? Maybe one: the club queen. How many will it be worth in hearts? Probably three. Partner must have at least two hearts, so the long suit will generate some trump tricks.

North must get his side into a two-heart contract. If playing traditional methods, North does it by responding two hearts. This is called a drop-dead bid because if partner does not pass, North may immediately shoot his partner stone dead!

If using more modern technology, North will respond with two diamonds, a transfer bid guaranteeing at least five hearts. South will, as requested, convert to two hearts, and North will pass. (Transfers are highly recommended.)

In two hearts, declarer should see six losers: two spades, three hearts and one diamond. However, after winning the first or second trick with the spade ace, if South immediately takes three club tricks, he can discard a spade loser from the North hand. Then, declarer draws trumps as quickly as possible.

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

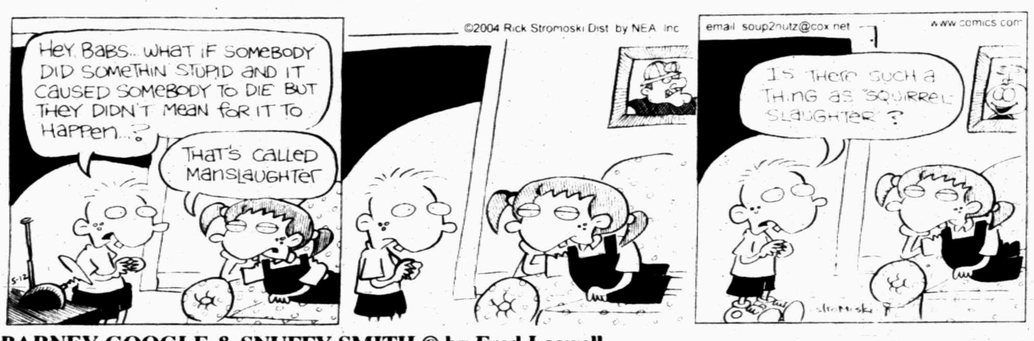
	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	10.87	10.52	10.55	—.41
AT&T Corp	16.89	16.71	16.80	—.02
Albertsons	22.91	22.55	22.84	—.13
Alltel	49.32	48.87	48.99	—.46
AmElPw	29.12	28.68	28.85	—.18
AndarkPtr	55.21	53.56	55.12	+1.33
ATMOS Egy	23.89	23.60	23.74	—.15
Avialil	16.90	16.56	16.57	—.43
BP PLC	52.49	52.00	52.36	+.12
BakerHughes	35.75	34.75	35.67	+.74
Bank of Amer	79.23	78.80	78.99	+.56
BellSouth	25.05	24.79	24.86	—.33
BurlNoSFe	32.23	31.95	32.06	—.31
Caterpillar	73.73	72.29	72.88	—.22
CenterPoint	10.24	10.07	10.12	—.13
ChevronTex	91.85	90.63	91.73	+.77
Citigroup	45.70	45.36	45.42	—.27
CocaCola	50.00	49.37	49.44	—.61
ColgatePal	57.10	56.68	56.77	—.30
CmclMetals	26.44	26.15	26.20	—.09
ConocoPhill	73.60	72.66	73.10	—.09
Cooper Inds	54.22	53.75	53.93	—.15
DaimlrChry	43.03	42.43	42.63	+.13
DeltaAirLines	4.79	4.57	4.59	—.01
Dillards Inc	15.57	15.21	15.50	—.15
DowChem	37.87	37.12	37.19	—.89
DuPont	41.38	41.01	41.11	—.41
EastmanChem	44.00	43.72	43.80	—.17
EstKodak	25.20	24.96	25.09	—.17
EDS Corp	16.43	16.10	16.11	—.22
Entergy	51.62	50.80	50.92	—.46
ExxonMobil	42.80	42.26	42.66	+.06
FootLocker	21.88	20.10	21.10	—.68
GenDynam	91.59	90.61	91.35	—.20
GenElec	30.10	29.75	29.81	—.44
GenMills	46.85	46.32	46.41	—.31
GenMotors	44.22	43.49	43.59	—.52
GaPacific	32.70	31.75	31.92	—.71
Goodrich	28.14	27.79	27.89	—.34
Goodyear	8.21	7.98	8.01	—.21
GtAtlPac	7.67	7.53	7.54	+.02
Halliburtn	29.48	28.81	29.41	+.51
Hanson PLC	36.77	36.70	36.74	+.48
HarteHanks	23.25	22.95	22.99	—.40
HomeDepot	33.36	32.60	32.68	—.81
HoneywellIntl	33.43	32.83	33.01	—.33
IBM	87.25	85.67	85.93	—1.20
IntlPaper	39.67	39.15	39.25	+.03
JohnsonJn	55.21	54.70	54.81	—.33
KinderMorg	58.78	57.87	58.24	—.41
Kroger Co	17.09	16.68	16.99	—.16
LockheedM	47.51	47.00	47.40	—.13
Lowes Cos	49.96	48.46	48.50	—1.46
Lubys	5.00	4.97	5.00	
LucentTech	3.39	3.31	3.33	—.01
MarathonOil	34.08	33.57	34.04	+.34
MayDeptStr	27.95	27.18	27.40	—.52
Medtronic	50.86	50.27	50.31	—.56
Motorola	18.99	18.55	18.61	—.09
NCR Corp	46.18	45.39	45.39	—.76
Navistar	41.03	40.29	40.32	—.68
PNM Rescs	28.58	28.13	28.25	—.43
Penney JC	32.71	31.80	31.80	—.90
PepBoys	25.47	24.50	24.51	—.96
PepsiCo	53.60	53.10	53.10	—.68
PhelpDodge	63.95	61.11	61.45	—2.10
PilgrimsPride	25.00	24.55	24.76	—.21
Praxair s	36.01	35.39	35.50	—.74
ProctGamb	106.32	105.50	105.95	—.13
RadioShack	29.37	28.80	28.86	—.67
RoyalDut	49.45	48.95	49.09	+.09
SBC Comm	24.39	24.13	24.19	—.30
SaraLee	22.88	22.68	22.71	—.25
Scrips EW	102.90	102.10	102.14	—.96
SearsRoeb	37.69	36.91	37.24	—.76
SherwinW	36.56	35.86	35.90	—.51
SouthernCo	28.03	27.58	27.67	—.32
SwstAirl	13.97	13.75	13.75	—.16
SprintFON	17.35	17.04	17.21	—.09
Sunoco Inc	61.15	59.60	61.11	+1.08
TXU Corp	35.95	35.30	35.45	—.68
TempleInland	61.41	60.83	60.94	—.46
TexInd	32.63	32.20	32.43	+.09
TexasInst	26.16	25.03	25.32	—1.02
Textron	53.72	52.79	53.12	—.27
TimeWarner	16.60	16.25	16.30	—.21
TrinityInds	28.67	28.38	28.40	—.41
TylerTech	8.66	8.48	8.60	—.16
UnionPacif	56.80	56.34	56.40	—.52
USSteel	27.30	25.73	25.97	—1.03
UnitedTech	82.95	82.31	82.57	—.58
Unocal	35.09	34.64	34.89	+.04
VerizonComm	36.05	35.76	35.88	—.28
WalMart	54.30	53.45	53.65	—.88
WellsFargo	55.05	54.80	54.80	—.30
WstnGasRs	54.17	53.46	54.17	+.56
WinnDixie	6.90	6.70	6.71	—.14
Xerox Cp	12.96	12.70	12.72	—.38
YumBrands	37.59	36.64	36.72	—1.02

MAY 12 2004

ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman

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

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Hologram maker
6 Baseball's Pee Wee —
11 Makes happy
13 Church custodian
14 Dogpatch cartoonist (2 wds.)
15 Off base
16 — Lanka
17 Tool container
18 Geol. formations
21 Moon track
23 Seat on the aisle
26 Feedbag tidbit
27 Goose formation
28 Tree trunk
29 Florida race track
31 Dinner signal
32 Crowning point
33 On the street
36 Make keen
37 Record, as mileage
38 Fury
39 Reunion crowd
40 Ecological hazard
42 Dancer — Charisse
43 Moving truck
44 Old PC system
46 Mackerel
49 Earth-shaped
53 Up and about
54 — Newton-John
55 Sank, as a putt
56 Whodunit award

DOWN

1 Grassy field
2 The works
3 Kangaroo pouch
4 Incoming-plane data
5 Chide
6 Modernize a factory
7 Leave
8 Dog days in Dijon
9 Our sun
10 Draw to a close
12 Flowery shrub
13 Wine served warm
18 Punk hairdo
19 — — chuan
20 Pollen producer
22 Saw
23 Lyrical
24 Fictional Queen
25 Used a blowtorch
28 PBS supplier
30 Lease
34 Kind of doll
35 Of low character
40 Evaluated
41 Shortly
43 Carpenter's clamp
45 Coasted
46 Humbug intro
47 Incan treasure
48 Shutout score, in Britain
50 Std.
51 Pablo's aunt
52 Corn serving

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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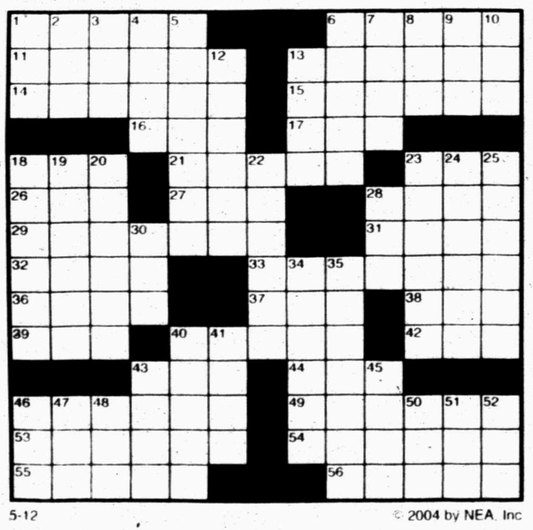

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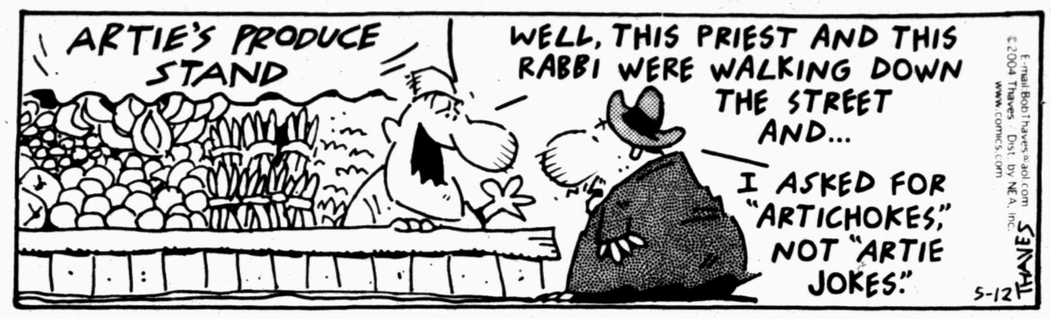
FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



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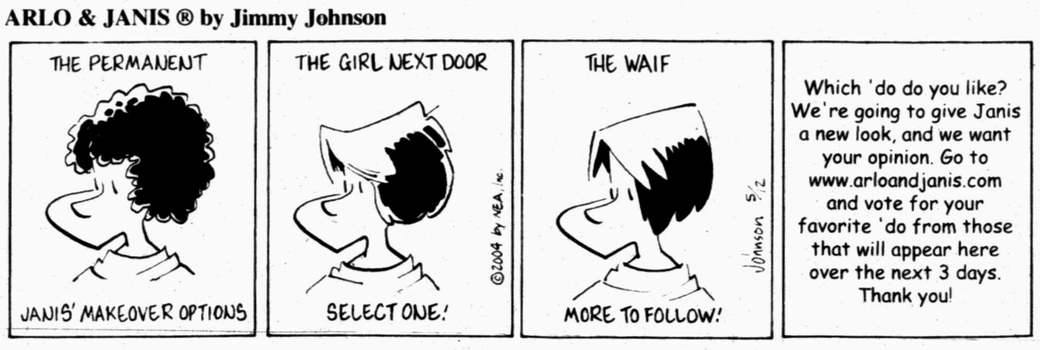

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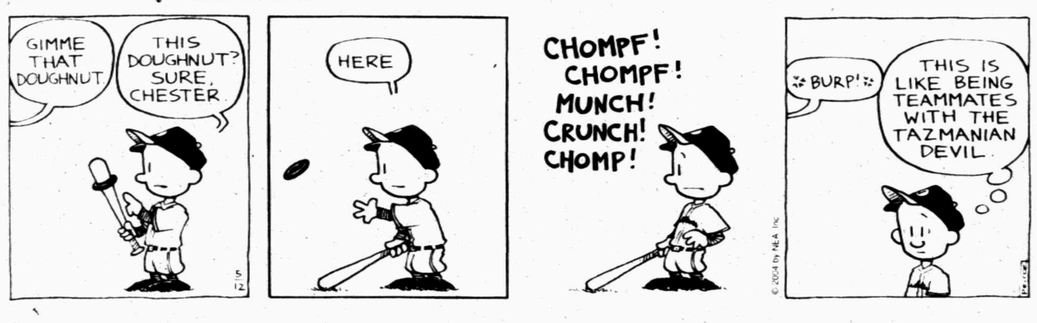

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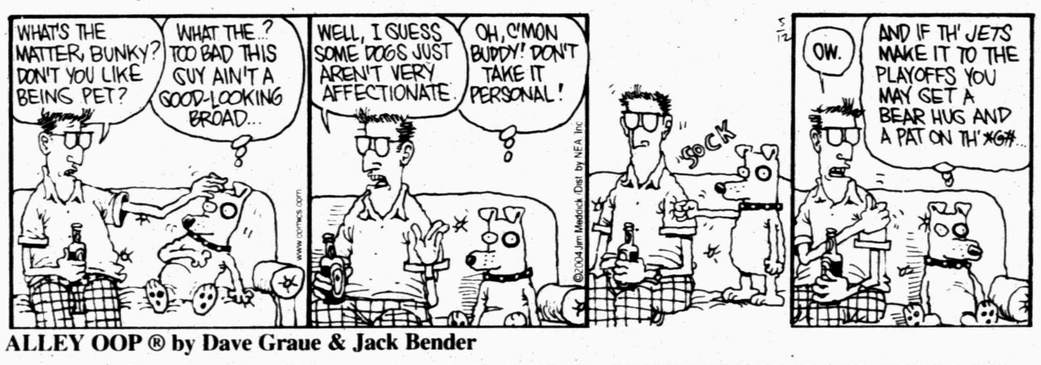

ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender

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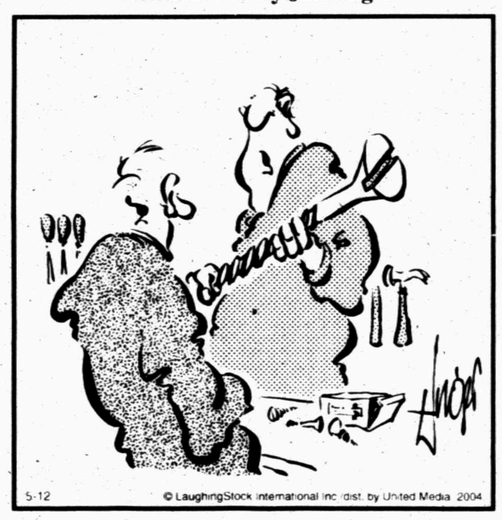

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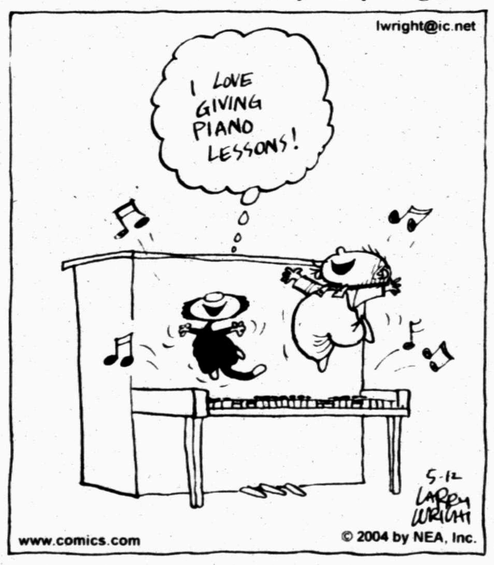
"This should hold it!"

Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"BEATS ME WHY THEY HAVE *RERUNS*. MOST OF THEM ARE BAD ENOUGH THE **FIRST** TIME."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



Visa-waver program placed 'on autopilot'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Shortcomings in the Homeland Security Department's implementation of a program that allows foreigners to enter the United States without visas have created potential security risks, the agency's inspector general said Tuesday.

"One ... official described the (program) as being 'on autopilot, in an orphan status, with no designated manager or overseer,'" the office of inspector general Clark Kent Ervin said in the report.

The program has had a series of acting managers in the department and has been run by various officials who share responsibilities, the report said. In addition, it said, many workers within the agency are unsure who is in charge.

Disorganization and floundering management have prevented the agency from collecting good information on lost and stolen passports from participating countries and from avoiding their use by people who could be security risks, the report said. It also has affected biennial reviews of participating countries to determine whether they can continue in the program.

A copy of the findings was given to Homeland Security in March, but the agency did not provide a written response.

The visa-waiver program has been hotly debated in Congress since the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks. Some critics have called it a loophole in border security that potential terrorists could exploit. Citizens of the 27 mostly European countries that participate in the program can travel to the United States without visas. Americans have the same waiver when they travel to any of the countries.

Homeland Security spokesman Dennis Murphy said many of the problems raised in the report are in the process of being corrected or have been corrected. He said reviews of participating countries are under way and should be completed by Sept. 30.

The visa-waiver program is overseen by Stewart Verdery, a Homeland Security assistant secretary in charge of border and transportation security policy, Murphy said.

The inspector general made 14 recommendations to improve the program. No. 1 was to designate a visa-waiver program manager with clearly defined responsibilities and authority.

It also recommended that the agency require citizens of visa-waiver countries to be fingerprinted and photographed through the US-VISIT process when they travel to America. US-VISIT has been operating since January at major U.S. airports and seaports. The Homeland Security Department announced last month it was expanding the system to include travelers from visa-waiver countries.

"The purpose of this report was not to make a determination whether the program was good policy or not," Ervin said. "All we're saying is there are vulnerabilities in the program, and one of the tools to close the vulnerability is the application of US-VISIT program."

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Take advantage of any opportunities you get in the year ahead to mingle with new groups or get involved in different kinds of activities. Valuable contacts can be established that could help you in other areas of your life.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — You'll have ample opportunities today for social involvements with your friends, but if you get carried away they could turn out to be more expensive than you can afford. Be prudent.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — An objective you've been trying to reach can be obtained today, but you mustn't step on the toes of others in order to accomplish your goals. If you do, the price you'll pay will be quite high.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Don't be coy or beat around the bush if there are some facts you'd like to get across to your associates today. With the help of diplomacy, you can tell them what needs to be said.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — One of the things you do best is to take the ideas of others and improve upon them in ways that can make them quite successful. If you do so today, be sure to share the credit with the co-author.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Should you need to engage in a partnership situation in order to achieve your goals today, select cohorts who are in total agreement with your plans — down to the smallest detail.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Although you're capable of doing a lot today, remember you still have your limitations. In order to not go overboard, establish reasonable objectives for yourself and devise a sensible game plan.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — One of the biggest problems that Scorpios face in life is the intensity with which they feel things. When socializing with friends today, be careful not to overreact to unimportant issues.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — We'd all like to achieve maximum productivity, but keeping your nose to the grindstone in order to do so might be impossible today. Take disruptions or other demands that pop up in stride.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Having a fertile imagination like you have can furnish you with many good ideas, but remember that's not enough in itself. You need to find the ways and means to implement them.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Today you might see the first signs of your financial prospects beginning to brighten. Do not use this as a signal that you can now loosen your purse strings for an extravagant expenditure.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Self-interests can be successfully promoted today if you stick to your guns and do not allow negative thinkers to dissuade you from your purposes. Remember you're always vulnerable to this.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Your potential for acquiring the funds you need look promising today. However, there are dangerous warning signs that could let what you gain slip right through your fingers.

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Woman is at a loss for words to explain husband's sentence

DEAR ABBY: My husband, "Cliff," is in prison and we're not sure when he'll be out. We have two wonderful children, ages 11 and 13. We are allowed to visit him six times a month and can talk with him on the phone up to four times a week. Despite his incarceration, he is as involved as he can be in our lives.

I have a problem when meeting new people who ask where my husband is. The stigma of having a husband in jail is not something I want to carry in the small town where we live. Plus, I don't think it is something our children's friends should know because they might taunt them.

As happens more times than we'd like to think in this country, my husband was wrongfully convicted, and the explanation is a lengthy one. So, short of telling each person the whole story, what reply can I come up with when asked the whereabouts of my husband? — **NEEDS AN ANSWER IN OHIO**

DEAR NEEDS AN ANSWER: You could tell your neighbors that you and your husband are having a "trial" separation — but please be aware that the cat will be out of the bag the minute one of your children confides their father's whereabouts to a close friend. In a small town, there are very few secrets.

**

DEAR ABBY: I am 12 and have lived in Texas all my life, until a few months ago when we moved to Las Cruces, N.M. My younger sister, "Janey," and I didn't want to move, but Mother met "Patrick" online and fell in love. We moved to Las Cruces so they could be together and get married someday.

I like Patrick because he's nice to us, but Janey and I don't get along with his daughter, "Rita." She is 15, and says we have stolen her time with her dad. She is jealous because he pays attention to us, and she can't have him all to herself.

Please tell me how I can let her know we're not stealing her father and that he still loves her. — **STRESSED IN LAS CRUCES**

DEAR STRESSED: As much as you might wish to put Rita's fears to rest, the person who must reassure her is her father. Tell Patrick privately what you have told me. Or better yet, clip this letter and tell him you wrote it. If he's unable to allay his daughter's concerns, some sessions with a family counselor would be a wise investment.

**

DEAR ABBY: My daughter is 12 and starting to want to wear makeup. She is quite a tomboy and would rather play basketball than do "girly" things.

She wore makeup to the movies last weekend, and her father was very upset. He ordered her not to do it again. She tells me kids are making comments about her because she doesn't dress like a girl or wear makeup. Abby, I don't see anything wrong with her wearing it once in a while.

What's your take on this? Is her dad right, or am I being too easy? Is there a compromise? — **MOM IN NEW YORK**

DEAR MOM: Get a cold compress for your husband, because I have news for him. His little girl is growing up, and right on schedule. Now, I don't know how much makeup your daughter wore to the movies, but for someone her age to wear lip gloss and a little mascara is not unusual. Moderation is the key.

**

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.

**

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Today's chuckle

World's weightiest raccoon dies

PALMERTON, Pa. (AP) — The world's weightiest raccoon, famed for his junk-food jones, has died after tipping the scales at nearly 75 pounds.

Bandit will no longer raid his owner's pantry, hunting down chips and cheese curls, Froot Loops and French fries.

"I haven't been eating, I haven't been sleeping," a bereaved Deborah "Pepper" Klitsch said Monday, two days after she euthanized her favorite pet.

Klitsch — who lives in Palmerton, about 90 miles west of New York City — denied the occasional charge that she overfed the rotund raccoon, whose weight ballooned to nearly 75 pounds, three times the average for his breed. He was born with a bad thyroid gland, she said.

When he hit 52.5 pounds in 1999, Bandit's girth garnered him a spot in Guinness World Records. Bandit continued to plump up, hitting 54.4 pounds in late 1999, then 64.9 pounds in 2001 and finally pushing past 70.

Klitsch told the tale to news outlets, and Bandit snagged a spot on cable TV's Food Network.

The raccoon was a regular at Ice Cream World, where owner Tim Pitts would watch him hold a cup of blue raspberry Slush with his paws and drink through a straw.

"He was a good customer," said Pitts, who had sold a birthday cake for Bandit a few days ago.

Bandit started to decline earlier this spring, following the deaths of two puppies he had grown up with. He had also developed a cancer-like growth on his side.

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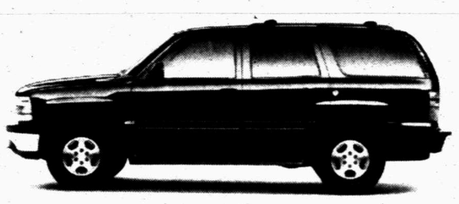

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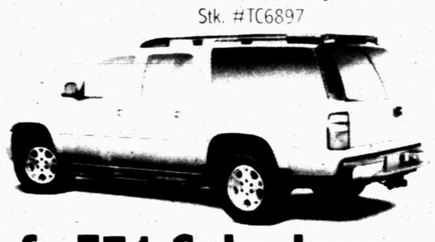

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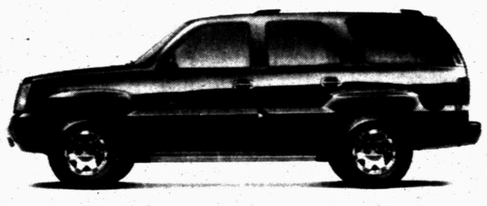

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MAY 12 2004

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Tornado derails train in Panhandle

By The Associated Press

A twister ripped through dozens of homes and businesses in Conroe, tearing roofs from some structures, and one tornado derailed a freight train in the Texas Panhandle.

The force of the twister knocked a slate roof from a Conroe hotel and embedded it into a car dealership's wall Tuesday afternoon, emergency workers said.

Employees of the Gullo Ford-Mercury dealership along Interstate 45 saw the tornado race across the west side of the freeway about 4:15 p.m.

"It seemed like it formed right in front of us with the swirling and stuff flying up in the air," Cindy Spears, a dealership employee, told the Houston Chronicle in today's editions.

But the twister missed her car distributorship, instead damaging the Gullo Hass Toyota dealership across the freeway.

A medical professional building, motels, apartments, restaurants and a lumber yard were also damaged, said Conroe Fire Department Battalion Chief Tommy Bowen. A church's roof was also blown off.

Sixteen commercial properties and 18 houses were damaged, Bowen said. He said many trees were blown down, causing much of the damage.

Some Texas lawmakers eye income tax

AUSTIN (AP) — For Texas lawmakers, it's politically incorrect. Or worse.

The mere mention of a state income tax has run the risk of derailing careers and scattered normally stalwart politicians like quail.

But, with the Legislature seemingly at loggerheads over school finance in the current special session called by Gov. Rick Perry — an income tax opponent — and some senators openly talking about running the clock out, advocates may become less timid.

Most other states have the tax and it might be the best way to pay for public education while relieving Texans' heavy property tax load, supporters say. They argue that it's tied to residents' ability to pay, deductible from federal income taxes, broad-based and can generate steady revenue to fund needed services.

Texans who understand the tax favor it, says Sen. Eliot Shapleigh, who conducts a traveling road show, using Kansas' tax structure as an example.

He says the same system imposed on Texas would raise $34.6 billion over two years enough to drastically cut school property tax rates for maintenance and operations to about 15 cents per $100 while putting $11.5 billion more into education than the current system.

"The pocketbook winners are anyone who makes less than $62,000. Below that, everyone gets a tax cut — money in their pocket," Shapleigh, D-El Paso, told the San Antonio Express-News in today's online edition. "Anyone making more than that begins to pay more."

Opponents of state income taxes say it can drive away business from the state, fuel bigger government and have other adverse consequences. Political willpower for such a tax is tough to find in a Republican-controlled Legislature, so it would take a major crisis for serious consideration.

"And the crisis is going to have to be bigger and hurt more before people even look at options," says Tony Proffitt, a consultant and former aide to the late Democratic Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock, one of the last statewide elected officials to propose a personal and corporate income tax.

"Taxes are as much cultural and political as they are economic. ... Change comes hard," said Proffitt.

Voter approval of a state income tax is required by the Texas Constitution for implementation. Voters must also approve any subsequent increases in the tax rate or expansion of the tax base, with revenue earmarked for property tax relief and education.

"Frankly, to me, it's like heroin," said Byron Schlomach, the Texas Public Policy Foundation's chief economist. He said the legislative temptation to raise big money with small rate increases and to grant exemptions make it "a very, very dangerous tax."

HISD creates position

A new position was created, a new technology director-coach was hired, a new method to pick cheerleaders and an incentive program for student teachers were approved at last night's Hermleigh school board meeting.

The new technology director and coach is Roger Chase of Guthrie who will start work on some aspects of the district's technology this summer, according to Supt. Marvin Beaty.

The new position is a para-professional who will answer phones and do clerical work for the entire district. The job will soon be posted to seek applications.

Both the employees and students handbooks were approved with only minor changes, except for a provision that changes the way cheerleaders are selected.

"We will get professional judges to help with the selection and have a 100-point system," Beaty said. "Ten points will be for grades, 10 will be for attendance and 10 for conduct. The other 70 points will be controlled by the judges. There are too many factors in play when cheerleaders are selected by votes."

In an attempt to get more student teachers in Hermleigh, the board also approved some incentives to help offset some costs the students incur. It is illegal to pay student teachers, Beaty said. The new incentives include paying up to $50 a week for mileage, paying up to $10 an hour for work outside the classroom such as private tutoring, use of a laptop computer while working at the school and a $500 signing bonus if the student is hired by the district after completing their student teaching.

Birch Telecom backed out of a proposed deal to provide service to the schools, but buying some software to help with TAKS testing was approved.

No action was taken after executive sessions concerning real estate.

Early voting ends at WTC, Hermleigh

One hundred votes were cast early for Saturday's election for Place 3 on the Western Texas College board.

Early voting ended Tuesday afternoon and polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. Saturday in Snyder, Hermleigh and Ira for the election pitting incumbent Carolyn Barbee against Bob O'Day.

All registered county voters can vote in the WTC election, as all trustee spots are at-large positions.

Voting in Snyder will be at city hall. Hermleigh residents can vote in the Hermleigh school cafeteria while Ira voters will cast their ballots at the Ira Community Center.

At Hermleigh, 26 persons voted early for the two trustee spots sought by three candidates.

Billy Luna, Burton Sandefur and John Williamson are vying for the posts vacated by Sherene Digby and David Higgins.

Neither Digby nor Higgins sought another term.

Voting Saturday at Hermleigh will be in the school cafeteria – also from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

Two arrested Tuesday night

• ***Arrests***

Albert A. Magana, 30, was arrested on charges of family violence and injury to a child, plus driving while intoxicated after police were called to his home at 128 Milburn at 10:41 Tuesday night. Reports state that Magana had grabbed a juvenile in the home and thrown him against a wall where he struck his head. Magana left the residence before police arrived but was arrested in the 2000 block of Ave. E at 11:08 p.m.

Robert Tovar, 39, 705 23rd Street was taken into custody Tuesday evening on a felony warrant for parole violation.

• ***Assault***

Police filed a report at 11:51 a.m. Tuesday on an assault that was reported to have occurred Sunday at the North Park.

• ***Criminal mischief***

Damage to a window screen at the Park Village Apartments was reported at 12:11 p.m. Tuesday.

• ***Theft***

The theft of a utility trailer was reported from the 2700 block of 32nd at 3:26 p.m. Tuesday.

• ***Unsecured door***

Police found an unsecured door at Stanfield Elementary at 12:48 a.m. today. Everything inside appeared in order, officers said.

• ***Harassment***

Reports of harassment were made from the 800 block of 27th St. at 11:16 a.m. Tuesday.

• ***Prowler***

Police responded to a report of someone shining a light in a bedroom window at 10:58 p.m. Tuesday at a residence in the 2700 block of Ave. U.

• ***Accidents***

An accident was reported Saturday at 5:41 p.m. at 35th St. and Ave. Z. Involved were a 1999 GMC Denali driven by Amy Hargrove and a 2000 Oldsmobile Alero driven by Meggan Minor.

There were no injuries.

Obituaries

Audrey Echols

1967-2004

WICHITA FALLS — Audrey Jean (Washington) Echols, a former resident of Snyder, died Tuesday, May 11, in Wichita Falls while under hospice care.

Mrs. Echols

A memorial service for Mrs. Echols, 36, was scheduled for today in Wichita Falls. Cremation is planned.

Born July 10, 1967 in Wichita Falls, she was a business graduate of Texas State Technical College in Sweetwater and had worked in home healthcare. She had been a resident of Snyder for 25 years before moving to Wichita Falls about a year ago.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Betty (Morgan) Hartford; Kathrine Williams, who reared her; and a daughter, Leola Archie.

Survivors include her husband, Willie Echols of Wichita Falls; her father, Harry Lee Washington of Wichita Falls; two daughters, Ladonna Jean Archie of Dallas and Jacquelin Nycole Archie of Arlington; a son, Gary Lee Archie Jr. of Wichita Falls; four sisters, Theresa Morgan of Snyder, LaTommie Morgan, Lashada Morgan and Karen Lane, all of Dallas; three brothers, Harry Lee Washington Jr., Tarrant Brown and Douglas Johnson, all of Wichita Falls; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Lynette Hibdon

1972-2004

LUBBOCK — Lynnetta Denise Hibdon, a native of Snyder, died Tuesday, May 11, in Lubbock after a lengthy battle with cancer.

Service for Mrs. Hibdon, 32, is set for 10 a.m. Friday in St. John's United Methodist Church. Kathryn Boren and Joyce Bromm will officiate. Burial will follow in the City of Lubbock Cemetery.

Born March 6, 1972 in Snyder, the family moved to Lubbock in 1973. She married Tommy Don Hibdon on Aug. 4, 1990. A graduate of Lubbock High School, she earned a bachelor of arts degree from Texas Tech University in 1993, graduating Cum Laude, and a master of arts degree in 1998.

She was awarded an honorary doctorate in literature by her colleagues after finishing her course work in 2004.

She was a longtime Tech employee, serving in many positions starting in 1989. She retired March 31.

Mrs. Hibdon served as a Girl Scout troop leader, was president of the PTA at Murfee Elementary and had served as a member of the Caprock Council and Montana Service Unit and was honored with the establishment of the Lynnetta Hibdon Award in April.

She was preceded in death by her father, Orville Lynn Schwartz; and her grandmother, Etheline Smith Schwartz.

Survivors include her husband, Tommy Hibdon of Lubbock; a daughter, Katie; her mother, Janet Schwartz; a brother, Nick Schwartz; a stepfather, Al Buchanan; a paternal grandfather, Cecil Raymond Schwartz of Hawley; maternal grandparents, T.V. and Joy Early of Snyder; maternal great-grandmother, Addie Lucille Early of Snyder; her mother-in-law, Rayetta Hibdon; three brothers-in-law, Tracy, Shawn and Anthony Hibdon, all of Lubbock, and George Hibdon of Amarillo; her father-in-law, Jerry Hibdon of Amarillo; grandmothers-in-law, Edna Laney and Joyce Hibdon of Lubbock; 12 aunts and uncles; and 14 cousins.

Visitation will be from 6-8:30 p.m. Thursday at White's Funeral Home.

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Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Thu 5/13	Fri 5/14	Sat 5/15
84/58	**68/54**	**78/59**
Scattered clouds with the possibility of an isolated thunderstorm developin.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the mid 50s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper 50s.
Sunrise 6:46 AM, Sunset 8:34 PM	Sunrise 6:45 AM, Sunset 8:35 PM	Sunrise 6:45 AM, Sunset 8:36 PM

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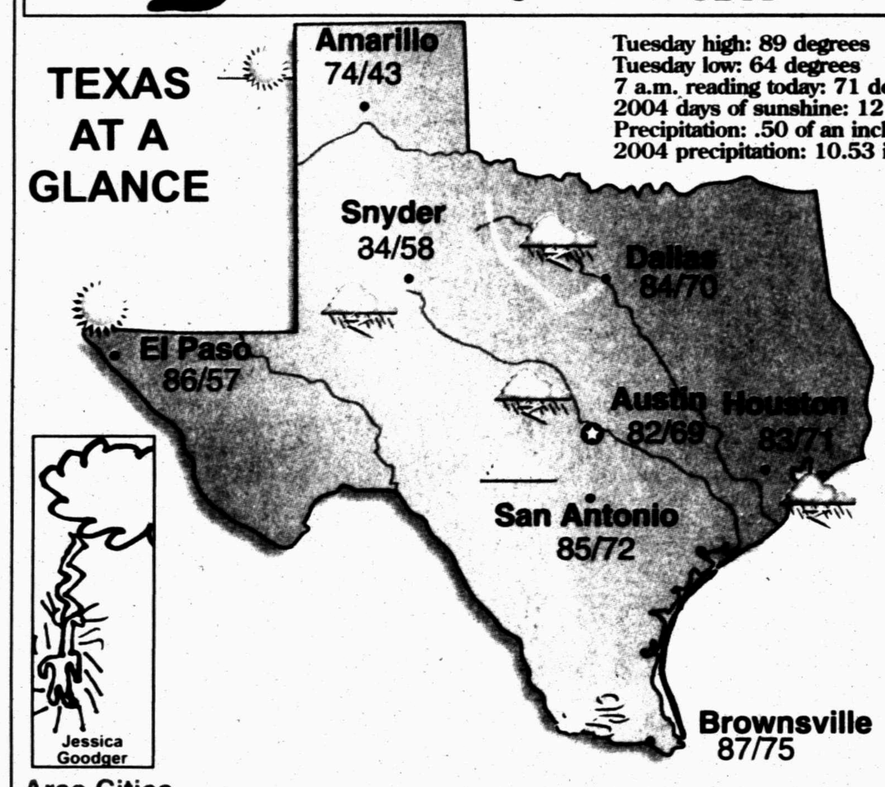
TEXAS AT A GLANCE

Tuesday high: 89 degrees
Tuesday low: 64 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 71 degrees
2004 days of sunshine: 121 of 129
Precipitation: .50 of an inch
2004 precipitation: 10.53 inches



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	84	62	t-storm	El Paso	86	57	sunny	Midland	88	60	mst sunny
Amarillo	74	43	mst sunny	Fort Stockton	89	58	sunny	Raymondville	88	73	cloudy
Austin	82	69	t-storm	Gainesville	83	65	t-storm	Rosenberg	83	71	t-storm
Beaumont	83	70	t-storm	Greenville	83	67	t-storm	San Antonio	85	72	cloudy
Brownsville	87	75	windy	Houston	83	71	t-storm	San Marcos	83	70	t-storm
Brownwood	86	65	t-storm	Kingsville	87	73	cloudy	Sulphur Springs	83	67	t-storm
Corpus Christi	83	74	cloudy	Livingston	83	67	t-storm	Sweetwater	85	60	t-storm
Corsicana	83	69	t-storm	Longview	82	67	t-storm	Tyler	83	67	t-storm
Dallas	84	70	t-storm	Lubbock	83	51	mst sunny	Weatherford	83	66	t-storm
Del Rio	85	72	t-storm	Lufkin	83	69	t-storm	Wichita Falls	85	57	t-storm

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond
Atlanta	77	64	t-storm	Houston	83	71	t-storm	Phoenix	94	65	sunny
Boston	61	53	cloudy	Los Angeles	78	59	mst sunny	San Francisco	70	52	windy
Chicago	74	59	t-storm	Miami	82	75	pt sunny	Seattle	68	47	pt sunny
Dallas	84	70	t-storm	Minneapolis	54	42	rain	St. Louis	82	69	t-storm
Denver	53	33	rain	New York	77	61	t-storm	Washington, DC	87	67	mst sunny

Moon Phases

Last	New	First	Full
May 11	May 19	May 27	Jun 3

UV Index

Thu 5/13	Fri 5/14	Sat 5/15
Very High	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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