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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

FRIDAY
Feb. 20, 2004
Vol. 55 No. 254
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Lanny Covey

DANGEROUS WINDS — Drivers in Scurry County were confronted by high winds as shown by this driver on the U.S. 84 overpass at Huffman Ave. Scurry County emergency personnel assisted Garza County in dealing with a multi-vehicle pileup that resulted in the deaths of two people. (SDN Staff Photo)

High winds wreak havoc

High winds coupled with blowing sand produced limited visibility and wreaked havoc in Garza County yesterday afternoon.

The National Weather Service reported wind gusts between 55 and 63 miles per hour through the region that saw numerous accidents, including a multi-car pileup that resulted in two deaths.

Garza County law enforcement began receiving reports of the major accident on U.S. 84 north of Post on Thursday. The calls continued as the pileup grew.

Snyder resident Sammie Jarrell got caught in the storm while traveling to Levelland from Snyder. She reached Post around 3 p.m. and was greeted with a cloud of sand.

"There was just blowing dust. Lots of dust," she said.

Jarrell said that the visibility was not too limited as she entered Post, but once through to the north side, the visibility became much worse. Drivers were not allowed to continue the ascent at the Caprock and law enforcement officers diverted traffic near the Post rodeo grounds.

"I tried the Tahoka highway and finally got on top of the cap. The visibility was so bad there I decided to turn around and come back home," said Jarrell.

The fatal crash occurred approximately six miles north of Post on U.S. 84 and involved a Freightliner that had stopped on the highway after striking another vehicle from behind moments earlier.

A Peterbilt 18-wheeler, driven by Luis Guzman, 55, of Lovington, N.M., also was traveling northbound and struck the Freightliner from behind. Guzman and wife Tomasa Guzman, 55, were ejected from the vehicle.

Luis Guzman was pronounced dead at the scene and Tomasa died while en route to University Medical Center in Lubbock.

The 18-wheeler crash resulted in additional crashes for other drivers who followed, according to DPS Trooper Cpl. John Gonzalez.

"The wreck of the two 18-wheelers resulted in a domino effect for the cars that followed. The visibility was down to zero and the other drivers were not able to see anything," Gonzales said.

Initial reports estimated 20 to 30 cars involved in the crash. However, Gonzalez reported that 15 to 20 would be a closer estimate. He further stated that the total number of victims with injuries serious enough to require transport to emergency facilities was 11.

"The total number of victims transported was 11. Six were taken to University Medical Center and five were transported to Covenant Medical Center. Fortunately many were treated and released," he said.

The DPS spokesman said there were no Scurry County residents involved in the mishap.

Snyder law enforcement officers and emergency personnel responded to the request from Garza County for assistance. Crosby, Lynn, Borden and Terry Counties also responded.

"We would like to express our appreciation to Scurry County and all the law enforcement and emergency personnel who responded so quickly. The visibility was so low and they actually put themselves in danger to help with traffic control. Their assistance was invaluable," Gonzalez said.

Luann Burleson...

Incumbent files for SISD board

Luann Burleson filed the necessary papers Thursday afternoon to seek her sixth term on the Snyder school board of trustees.

Burleson

Burleson, the wife of Snyder physician James Burleson, was first elected to the board in April 1987, and is completing 15 years on the board.

The Burlesons have two children. Jamie is a graduate of SHS and resides in Nashville, Tenn., while Erin is a senior at SHS.

The term of Cathy Peoples, trustee since being appointed in 2001 to fill an unexpired term, also expires this year.

Peoples has indicated she also will seek another term.

Both represent at-large positions.

At Western Texas College, both incumbent trustees, Carolyn Barbee and Dr. Jay Kidd, have filed for another term.

Both will be seeking their third six-year term on the board.

Barbee represents Place 3, while Dr. Kidd represents Place 4. Both were first elected to the WTC board in 1992.

There are four places on the Snyder city council that expire and one incumbent councilman, Ron Shaw, has already filed.

Shaw is seeking his second term representing District 4 on the city council. He has also served two terms, as an at-large member having first been elected in 1995 and this is his second run for the District 4 position.

The terms of Vernest Tippens and Stephanie Ducheneaux are also up for election this spring and both have indicated they will seek new terms.

The District 3 spot is now vacant, as James Ashley has moved from the community.

No one has yet signed up for the posts up for election on the Hermleigh and Ira school boards.

At Hermleigh, the terms of Sherene Digby and David Higgins will expire.

Digby said she was undecided and Higgins said he would not be seeking another term.

Ira trustees whose terms are expiring are Keith Clements and Dirk Dunn. Both have indicated they will seek re-election.

Cleanup day is Saturday

The chamber of commerce will have a cleanup workday on Saturday beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Workers can meet at the chamber office at 8 a.m. for coffee and doughnuts and then go to the worksite.

The work will continue Saturday until noon.

Directions to the site will be posted on the office door at the chamber.

"This campaign will continue every Saturday morning through April 24," said Vicki Shroyer, executive director of the chamber.

"We encourage churches, civic groups, businesses and individuals to call and let us know what Saturday you can work during this time on this major project for the community," said Shroyer.

Volunteer forms and other information are available at the chamber office or you can call 573-3558.

NO LOVE LOST — Grandmother Froachlan (Tedrick George) gives the cold shoulder to grandson-in-law Robert (Ryan Ballard) in the WTC Fine Arts Theatre production of *The Mai* by Marina Carr. Show times are 7:30 tonight and Saturday night and 2 p.m. Sunday. (SDN Staff Photo by Annie Rowe)

DCOS board continues with evaluation

The Development Corporation of Snyder (DCOS) board of directors met for just under an hour this morning with about half that time in executive session.

The board continued its annual evaluation of executive director John DeLille during this part of the meeting.

After the 20 minutes session, no action was taken.

Action items this morning included the approval of the financial statements and bills payable.

DeLille reported that the line from Cox Communications service area on U.S. 180 to the UCO Spinning facility was complete, and UCO is waiting for some electronic equipment before the project could be finished.

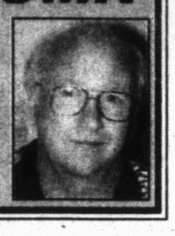
The line will be used for high-speed Internet service by UCO.

Roy McQueen, vice chairman, presided in the absence of Dayton Robertson, and members present were Rickey Daniell, James Brown and Jeffrey Martin. Also present was Roy Baze, chairman emeritus.

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN

by Wade Warren



A while back, we wrote about Tatum, N.M., holding a bond election to make some much-needed improvements to school facilities.

The election was held last week and Tatum citizens overwhelmingly approved $3.5 million in general obligation bonds. The vote was 166 for and 79 against.

The Lovington paper reported that Supt. T. J. Parks said the two-to-one margin was the largest ever for a bond issue.

"I just think it is a strong vote of confidence for our schools," added the superintendent.

The money will be used to make improvements to the heating and air conditioning systems, plus make roof improvements on all the community's school buildings, along with updating the district's computer technology.

Work is expected to begin on the schools next month, and all the $3.5 million is expected to be spent within the year.

"I would be shocked if it's not spent within a year," said Parks. "Three and a half million doesn't go very far."

That statement certainly won't surprise Ronny Collins, Marvin Beaty or Larry Devitt, superintendents of the Snyder, Hermleigh and Ira schools, respectively — nor their board members.

Maybe the Snyder community can take a cue from the good folks from Tatum and start some serious talks about updating local school facilities.

The Snyder board has done a good job of late in making repairs and improvements without a bond issue, but there is fast coming a time when a whole lot of work is going to be needed.

Unfortunately, it will take a lot more than $3.5 million. And if you haven't noticed, things don't get cheaper as time goes by.

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And while on the subject…

At this month's Snyder school board meeting, the trustees held an executive session so board president Mark McCormick booted all non-essential folks out of the meeting.

We all gathered in Keta York's office and not surprisingly, the conversation turned to the weather and food.

We were on the verge of some weather changes so a look-see at the forecast was in order.

There was some snow way out west and skiing quickly jumped into the conversation.

That was almost a given as one of us in the outside meeting was the district's financial guru, Karen Waller, who went skiing in December and not suprisingly, has been on crutches ever since.

She tried to give us some skiing tips but they were obviously ignored.

Back to food.

We don't remember who brought it up, but we think it was Rod Cottrell who mentioned eating Karo Syrup and peanut butter sandwiches when he was a kid.

As it turned out, Rod, Karen, Keta and myself all ate those sandwiches as kids, and still do.

And we all were somewhat surprised that the other ones even knew about the delicacy.

Rod said Karo Syrup and peanut butter sandwiches are a mainstay at his house and son, Trent, has mastered the art of constructing one.

"We buy peanut butter by the gallon," said Cottrell.

ASK US

Q—Who would you contact if your neighbor will not clean up excessive dog waste from their yard?

A—Contact city hall. This could be a violation of the health code.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Joe Williamson...

...has been a resident of Snyder since 1956. He and Joyce have been married for 62 years and they have three children, Jane Maroney of Edmond, Okla., and sons Jay and Jodi Williamson of Austin. Joe is a semi-retired insurance agent and loves to play golf.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Conform and be dull.
—J. Frank Dobie

FEB 2004

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

SJHS to present *Oklahoma*

Snyder Junior High School drama and choir students is presenting *Oklahoma* at 7 p.m. today, Saturday and Tuesday in the school auditorium. Tickets are $4 per person and may be reserved by calling the junior high office.

Folkorico dancers

Our Lady of Guadalupe's Folkorico dancers will perform at 7 p.m. today at Worsham Auditorium.

Healthy heart event set Saturday

Free blood pressure and cholesterol screening will be held at Wal-Mart by the pharmacy Saturday from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

What's up guidelines

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

Consumers will pay less for beef this year

WASHINGTON (AP) — Shoppers will pay less for beef this year as the industry unloads at home the meat that other countries refuse to buy because of America's case of mad cow disease, the Agriculture Department said Thursday.

Bans imposed by more than 50 nations against U.S. beef and cattle will push U.S. retail prices down 10 to 15 percent in the second half of the year, said Keith Collins, the department's chief economist.

Americans who on average eat about 65 pounds of beef a year will consume another 3 pounds each this year because of the lower prices, he predicted.

Exports account for about 10 percent of U.S. beef production of more than 26 billion pounds.

Bans imposed after a Washington state Holstein was found in December to have mad cow disease have cut off about 90 percent of the export market for U.S. beef, Collins said at the department's annual Agriculture Outlook Forum. Exports normally account for about 10 percent of the total U.S. beef production, nearly 26 billion pounds.

"More beef will have to be consumed in the U.S. market," Collins said. "That means a decline in prices must occur to absorb the higher domestic supplies."

The trade repercussions from the mad cow case are "uncharted territory," and negotiators have to work out new agreements to reopen the markets, said J.B. Penn, the undersecretary of the department's Foreign Agricultural Service.

Penn said he hopes negotiations will produce some new shipments of exports "in the near future."

Japan, the top importer of U.S. beef before the ban, isn't expected to return to the market anytime soon. Unlike Americans, who continue to eat beef despite the discovery of the one case of mad cow, consumers in Japan turned away from beef when Japan had had its domestic outbreak of BSE in 2001. Japan insists that America test every animal for mad cow disease before slaughter, as it does.

The current U.S. plan is to test 40,000 animals a year, but Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman said Thursday that number could rise.

Agriculture Department economists are predicting that the food component of the government's main measure of inflation, the Consumer Price Index, will rise 2.2 to 3.2 percent in 2004.

No clues in family's disappearance

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — Nearly a week has passed since relatives of Michael and Rebecca Hargon last saw the young couple and their 4-year-old son, all of whom appear to have vanished amid unexplained violence.

Investigators spent three days searching the Hargons' house in the small town of Vaughan, about 40 miles north of Jackson, for clues to what might have happened the family.

What authorities found were dried blood droplets throughout the house, bullet holes in the walls and shell casings on the floor. There was no sign of robbery or forced entry. Dirty dishes were left in the sink. Rebecca's wedding and engagement rings were also left behind.

All three of the family's vehicles were accounted for.

Ten years ago, Michael Hargon's father was murdered on the same property, when it was a convenience store. Three men are serving prison sentences for that crime.

Authorities have said little about the current investigation, which is being treated as a missing persons case.

"We are getting a lot of phone calls from different places, but so far they haven't consisted of anything," Yazoo County Sheriff James T. Williams said.

Family members say Michael Hargon, 27, was last seen Saturday morning, when he had breakfast with a friend in nearby Canton.

Another friend, who was driving by the Hargons' home later that morning, noticed the front door of the house was open and one of the doors on Michael Hargon's pickup truck was open, but the family didn't appear to be around.

She told the Hargons' relatives what she saw, and when family members went to the home the three, including 4-year-old James Patrick, were gone.

Today's chuckle

Falcon rescued after being trapped in arena

PORTALES, N.M. (AP) — Talk about your bird's-eye view of a sporting event.

A small falcon became trapped at Eastern New Mexico University's Greyhound Arena sometime last week, flew over a weekend basketball game and was finally caught after going several days without food.

Biologists said the American kestrel was doing fine, and expected to release it Friday.

"It's amazing; I didn't think they could go that long without food," said Tony Gennaro, professor emeritus with Eastern's biology department, who caught the bird Wednesday. "But he's doing great. He seems to be eating, he's resting and hopefully he'll be OK."

Gennaro and Dawn Davis, a biologist with the state Department of Game and Fish, tried to capture the bird with mouse trap baited with a small mouse. The trap didn't work properly, so Gennaro slowly approached the bird and caught it with his hands.

Arena workers said they became concerned after the noticed the bird hanging around for several days.

"We'd watch it fly around to see where it would land, kind of curious as to when it would take off again," said Norma Stroik, coordinator of ENMU's athletics administration office. "It was probably dangerous for the basketball players if the bird would have flown over the court and pooped on the floor. ... I don't know how we would have explained that one."

Scientists group says Bush ignores, distorts research

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush's administration distorts scientific findings and seeks to manipulate experts' advice to avoid information that runs counter to its political beliefs, a private organization of scientists asserted on Wednesday.

The Union of Concerned Scientists contended in a report that "the scope and scale of the manipulation, suppression and misrepresentation of science by the Bush administration is unprecedented."

"We're not taking issue with administration policies. We're taking issue with the administration's distortion ... of the science related to some of its policies," said the group's president, Kurt Gottfried.

White House spokesman Scott McClellan said he had not seen the report but that the administration "makes decisions based on the best available science."

White House science adviser John Marburger said he found the report "somewhat disappointing ... because it makes some sweeping generalizations about policy in this administration that are based on a random selection of incidents and issues."

He added, "I don't think it makes the case for the sweeping accusations that it makes."

Marburger acknowledged that the complaint was signed by a wide assortment of prominent scientists, including Nobel Prize winners and recipients of the National Medal of Science.

That, he said, is "evidence we are not communicating with them as we should and I'll have to deal with that."

"We need to have a dialogue about what is actually happening, but this report does not do it," Marburger said.

F. Sherwood Rowland, a Nobel prize winner for his studies of ozone in the atmosphere, was particularly critical of the administration's approach to climate change.

He said the consensus of scientific opinion about global warming is being ignored and that government reports have been censored to remove views not in tune with Bush's politics.

The union's report came at the same time the National Academy of Science was releasing its own study that commends the administration's plan to study climate but also expresses concern that the research was underfunded and not being pursued vigorously enough.

Asked if they had seen any political interference in the climate program, Thomas E. Graedel of Yale University, chairman of the academy committee, said his group did not look for that. But, he added, he had not seen anything that would suggest the research plan had such political concerns.

A commission member, Anthony L. Janetos of the John Heinz III Center for Science, Economics and the Environment, noted that the climate program involves high level members of the administration.

That's a two-edged sword, Janetos said. It means scientists are dealing with people who can make decisions and provide resources, but it also creates a challenge in maintaining scientific credibility.

Among the examples cited in the union's report:

—a 2003 report that the administration sought changes in an Environmental Protection Agency climate study, including deletion of a 1,000-year temperature record and removal of reference to a study that attributed some of global warming to human activity.

—a delay in an EPA report on mercury pollution from some power plants.

—a charge that the administration pressed the Centers for Disease Control to end a project called "Programs that Work," which found sex education programs that did not insist only on abstinence were still effective.

On the Net:

Union of Concerned Scientists: http://www.ucsusa.org

Office of Science and Technology Policy: http://www.ostp.gov

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Boyfriend must take a stand and cut mom's apron strings

DEAR ABBY: I've been dating this really great guy, "Josh," for about two months. I really like him, but I don't like his mother. Josh and I are both 20 and live with our parents.

Josh's mother is super-controlling. Whenever we go out, she has to know where we are going and what time he will be home. And she calls MY cell phone during the date to check up on him. She's always calling me to try to find out where he is.

I really like Josh, but I'm tired of dating his mother, too. How should I handle this without hurting anyone? **— TIRED OF DOUBLE-DATING**

DEAR TIRED: Turn off your cell phone, or leave it at home when you go out with Josh. His mother is having trouble accepting the fact that her son is no longer a child — but that shouldn't be your problem. Josh is overdue for a talk with his mother about boundaries.

If her behavior bothers Josh as well, perhaps it's time that he became financially independent and moved into his own place. As long as he lives under his parents' roof, he is still their "child" and will be treated accordingly.

**

DEAR ABBY: I have been living with "Neal" for three years. Neal works from home for only a few hours a day. He pays all the bills, so I don't have a problem with his choice of work. What bothers me is I have no time to myself because he's always there.

Neal demands so much attention from me that I can't even read a recipe without him interrupting. I am not a wimp, but Neal has the more dominant personality and controls what we do with our time. At least it feels that way to me. But according to Neal, I don't give him ENOUGH time.

Since I moved in, I have not achieved any personal goals or even given as much love and attention to others as I used to. I rarely pursue interests of my own and almost never spend time doing things I want to do. I feel like I'm losing my individuality.

I love Neal, and I'm not even sure he is the problem. I think I need to be more assertive about where my life is going.

Is there a book or support group for someone like me? Am I just depressed? Obviously I don't have the drive to pursue my own interests. I will appreciate any advice you can give. **— LOST IN HIS WORLD**

DEAR LOST: You ask if you are depressed because you don't have enough drive to pursue your own interests. I think it may be the other way around — you don't pursue your own interests because you're depressed.

You say you "don't mind" Neal being home all the time because he pays the bills. Why is it that you aren't working? It would give you a degree of independence and self-determination that seems to be lacking. Assertiveness classes could help you, and books on co-dependency could also give you some insight.

Since you are not married to Neal, you might also consider moving out until you can establish where he ends and you begin before he smothers you completely.

**

DEAR ABBY: How do you tell your daughter and son-in-law not to call or come over? I have been ripped off by them more times than I can count. I have been cussed out and yelled at on the phone. They make my life a living hell.

My daughter calls other people to see if they got a dollar more than she did for a gift. When her name shows up on the caller ID, I won't answer because I know what is ahead of me. I can't take much more of this. Please tell me what to do. **— A NERVOUS WRECK**

DEAR NERVOUS: There comes a time when a person has done enough, and you appear to have reached that point. Do not shell out one penny more, and if your daughter shows up at your door — don't answer.

**

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

**

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.)

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events

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TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Thursday's Lottery Numbers
Cash Five

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

Winning numbers drawn: 7-9-33-8-3.

Number matching five of five: 2.

Prize per winner: $21,072.

Winning tickets sold in: Houston, Corsicana.

Matching four of five: 164. Prize: $116.

Matching three of five: 5,939. Prize: $7.

Matching two of five: 53,451. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Friday night.

Pick 3
(Day) 6-2-8
(Night) 2-24

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FBI warning labels to begin appearing on CDs and DVDs

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The FBI said Thursday it is giving Hollywood film studios, music companies and software makers permission to use its name and logo on their DVDs, CDs and other digital media in hopes the labels will deter consumers from making illegal copies.

FBI officials said the idea was conceived jointly by the agency's cyber crime division and representatives of the entertainment and software industries, who claim they've lost billions of dollars due to digital piracy.

"This anti-piracy seal should serve as a warning to those who contemplate the theft of intellectual property, that the FBI will actively investigate cyber crimes and will bring the perpetrators of these criminal acts to justice," said Jana Monroe, assistant director of the FBI's cyber division.

Like the warning messages that have appeared on VHS tapes and DVDs for years, the new labels spell out that unauthorized copying and distribution of digital content is punishable by up to five years in prison and a fine of $250,000.

It will be up to the individual entertainment companies and software manufacturers to decide whether to display the new FBI warnings. Representatives of the various trade groups for the film, software and music industries said Thursday their members were studying whether to affix the warnings on packaging or directly on the CDs and DVDs, so it's unknown how soon they may begin to appear in the marketplace.

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Teen learns truth of his shocking past

LOS ANGELES (AP) — For 14 years, Orey Steinmann never knew that authorities from the United States and Canada were searching for him and his mother, who was on the run with him after his father won a custody battle.

Then, one day a year ago, the 17-year-old was with some friends at a computer and typed his name in the database of Internet search engine Google.com.

"He was just messing around...because he has an unusual first name," Rhonda Morgan, executive director of the Missing Children Society of Canada, told The Associated Press on Thursday.

What the blond-haired Canadian teen saw last February was a picture of himself, as a toddler, on a Web site for missing children. It reported that he and his mother, Gisele Marie Goudreault, had disappeared from Canada while she was in the midst of a custody fight with her boyfriend, Rodney Steinmann.

The discovery would set off a pair of yearlong investigations by officials of Morgan's group and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Those probes ended Feb. 11 with U.S. marshals arresting Goudreault, who worked as an administrative assistant for the Los Angeles Unified School District, and county child services officials taking her son into protective custody.

"I was absolutely shocked and devastated when I found out what had happened," said Rina Rio, who manages Chatsworth Gardens West, where Goudreault rented a tiny one-bedroom apartment for $593 a month.

"Her world was taking care of her son. She was a great mom," Rio said, adding she knew both mother and son were from Canada and that the boy's father still lived there. She said they had told her the father left home years ago.

Authorities were tipped off by a teacher, who the teen had confided in. That led to Morgan's agency communicating for months with Goudreault as she agonized over whether to turn herself in and risk being separated from her son.

"She was between a rock and a hard place," Morgan said. "She wanted to clear it up, but if she did she risked not being able to return to California and jailed in Canada."

About the same time the boy made his discovery, Canadian authorities who had long since lost track of him learned from American immigration officials that his mother had applied for permanent residency in the United States.

After months of paperwork, Canadian authorities finally obtained a fugitive warrant for Goudreault earlier this month, and U.S. marshals arrested her at home on Feb. 11.

Goudreault, 45, was jailed without bail, and Canadian authorities are seeking her extradition.

Her son was placed in a foster home, and Stuart Riskin, a spokesman for the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services, said Thursday he was "doing well." He declined to release any further information, citing privacy laws.

"He's going to turn 18 in a few months and I assume he's going to be allowed to make his own decision," Morgan said. "I'm told he wants to stay in the U.S. I don't know if he wants to contact his father.

"He's not speaking with his mother ... he's upset," Morgan said.

According to Canadian documents filed in U.S. District Court, Goudreault fled with the boy in May 1989 just before Steinmann was to receive full custody. The couple had never married.

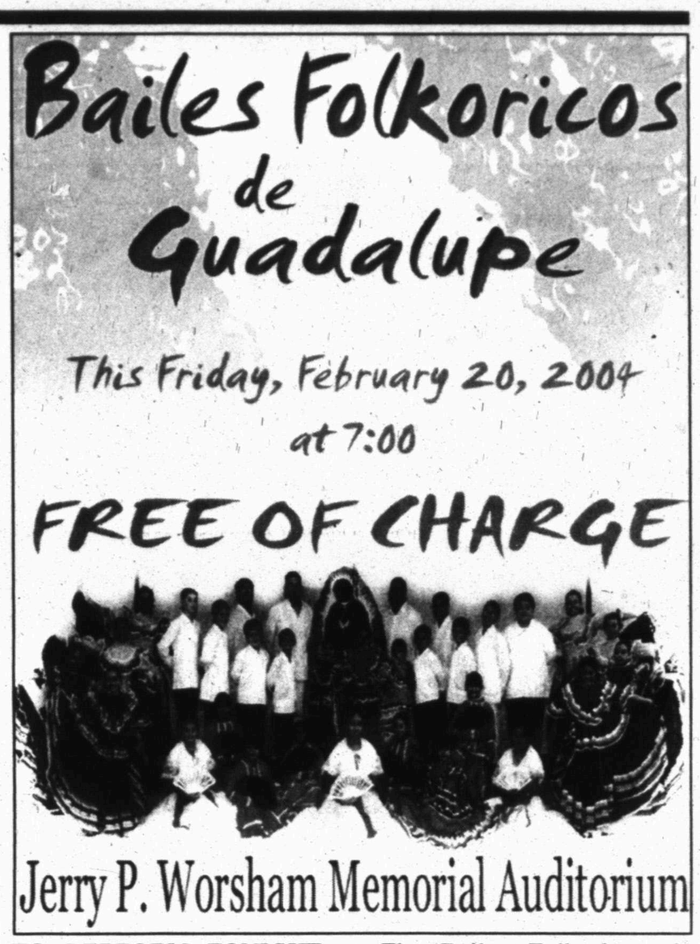
Authorities said she had moved to Mexico, then Southern California and changed her name frequently, which was why it was so hard to find her.

Rodney Steinmann, an electrician who lives in Ponoka, Alberta, told Morgan he wanted to see his son.

"He felt Orey should be allowed to contact his father on his own terms," Morgan said.

Steinmann did not respond to a message from The Associated Press, but his mother said the family was concerned that the child they have sought for 14 years may still not come home.

"I know it's going to have to be his decision," Linda Steinmann said by phone this week from the Ponoka supermarket where she works. "So we'd just like to let him know we're all thinking of him and waiting to hear from him."

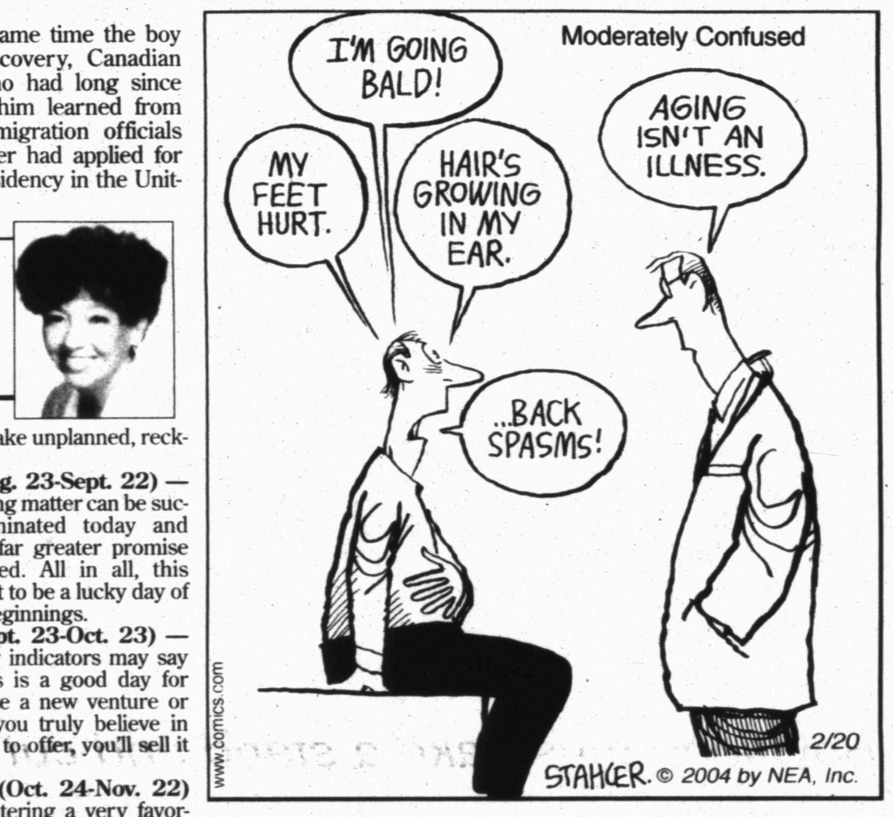


TO PERFORM TONIGHT — The Bailes Folkoricos de Guadalupe will perform at 7 tonight at Worsham Auditorium. There is no admission charge. Snyder High School senior Justin Cox created this poster. (Contributed Photo)

U.S. soldier killed in traffic accident in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — An American soldier died today in a traffic accident close to the central Iraqi town of Balad, the U.S. military command said.

The soldier was from the 4th Infantry Division's Task Force Ironhorse, a 30,000-strong unit that began leaving Iraq this week after almost a year in the country, the command said giving no more details. The division is based at Fort Hood.



Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Saturday, Feb. 21, 2004

Exceptional, hopeful conditions could be in the offing for you in the year ahead. First, there's a possibility of improvements taking place in your social life, which then could be followed up by improvements in your material affairs.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — You might have been overlooked in the past, but you won't be ignored during this cycle. The skies are opening today to shower you with rewards that are rightfully yours.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Don't get upset if something doesn't go exactly as planned today. Start to improvise or come up with a new twist and you will experience greater successes than what you had imagined.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Just in the nick of time, when you critically need additional funds, a channel could open up for you today for a second source of earnings. It may be a small start, but could turn into something big.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Keep the faith and maintain harmony of purpose no matter how things may now appear. Alliances into which you've entered will turn out to be exceptionally lucky for all involved.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Before the day is out, breaks for which you've been hoping could give your career a much-needed boost. Several chances could pop up simultaneously.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Should circumstances call for it today, risks that are carefully calculated can turn out to be rather fortunate for you. This, however, is not a go-ahead to take unplanned, reckless gambles.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — A past disturbing matter can be successfully terminated today and something of far greater promise can be initiated. All in all, this should turn out to be a lucky day of endings and beginnings.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Although early indicators may say otherwise, this is a good day for you to promote a new venture or enterprise. If you truly believe in what you have to offer, you'll sell it with ease.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — You are entering a very favorable financial cycle, even though it may not be visible to you right away. You could reap large returns from something that pops up out of the blue.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — You are about to experience a positive change of attitude that will do wonders for your position in life. You may now lead in situations where you once were merely numbered among the ranks.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Much to your surprise, favors which you have done for others in the past are about to be repaid in greater measure today by the very people who (up until now) have shown no intent of doing so.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Exciting times could be on the horizon where your social life is concerned. There is an excellent chance that you could meet someone today who'll soon have you involved in a new, fun group.

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

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World Almanac

Friday, Feb. 20, 2004

Today is the 51st day of 2004 and the 61st day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1792, the U.S. Postal Service (originally, the Post Office Department) was established.

In 1864, the Confederates won the Battle of Olustee, the largest Civil War battle fought in Florida.

In 1962, astronaut John Glenn made three orbits of the Earth.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Ansel Adams (1902-1984), photographer; Sidney Poitier (1924-), actor, is 80; Kelsey Grammer (1955-), actor, is 49; Charles Barkley (1963-), basketball player, is 41; Kurt Cobain (1967-1994), musician.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1977, Cale Yarborough won first place in the Daytona 500, after finishing last the previous year.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "There are always two people in every picture: the photographer and the viewer." — Ansel Adams

TODAY'S FACT: Jack Nicholson and Walter Brennan are the only two men to have won three acting Oscars.

TODAY'S NUMBER: 1,933 — Length in miles of the boundary between the United States and Mexico.

TODAY'S MOON: New moon (Feb. 20)

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Designer tries acting

NEW YORK (AP) — Celebrity stylist Phillip Bloch — who's dressed Halle Berry, Salma Hayek and other Hollywood stars — isn't ready to give up his day job yet, but he is busy developing an acting career.

"You'd be surprised how much wardrobe has to do with acting!" Bloch told The Associated Press during New York Fashion Week.

His films include "Return to Babylon" (he plays silent film star Roman Navarro); "The Unseen," directed by Lisa France, in which he'll play a reclusive Southerner who is blind and abused.

ELECT
JANA YOUNG
for
TAX ASSESSOR COLLECTOR
Republican Candidate
• 5 years experience in Tax Office
• Life long Scurry County resident
YOUR VOTE ON MARCH 9TH AND INFLUENCE WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED
Political advertising paid for by Jana Young, Snyder, TX.

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Furniture and Antiques
The Store is Full!
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Pioneer Furniture
2310 College Ave. 573-9834

Morgan SPAS AND BUILDINGS
PARKING LOT SALE
Free Delivery This Weekend
Come See Us In Snyder
Fri. Feb. 20 thru Sun, Feb 22
Look for us in the Varsity Square Shopping Center
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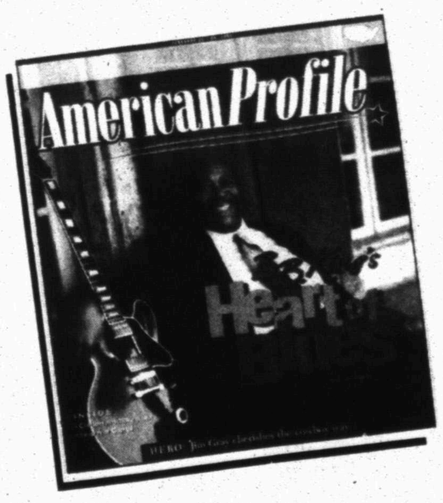
Hot Tubs from $65 a month

Storage Buildings from $25 a month
•Factory Direct - No Middleman
•MC/Visa/Disc/Amex
•Financing Available
•No Interest & No Payment For 6 Months
MORGAN SPAS AND BUILDINGS
Lubbock, Texas 806-928-2086 Ask for Kevin

In Next Week's American Profile...
Preaching the blues
Over the past 60 years, B.B. King has established himself as one of the most enfluential blues musicians of his time. But this music legend didn't start out wanting to be a blues singer. He wanted to be a preacher.


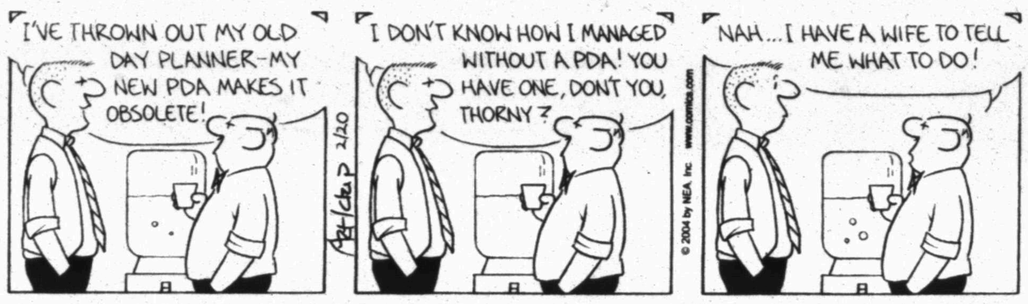
In Addition...
• Chicken artichoke pasta
• Leap Year Capital
American Profile
Celebrating Hometown Life

FEB 20 2004

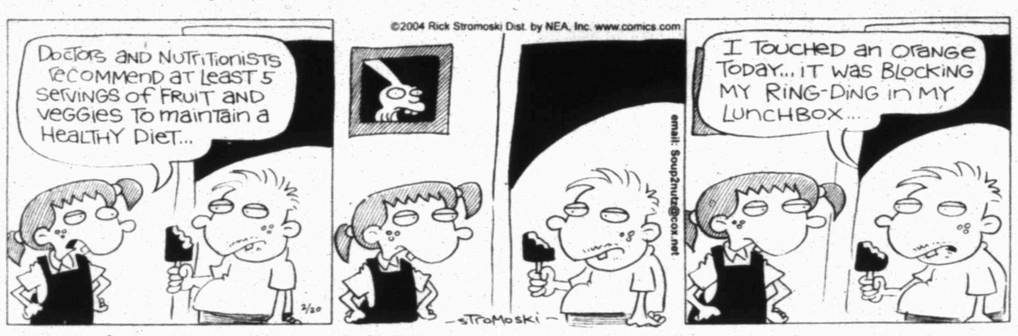
Best Available Copy

ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman

THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski

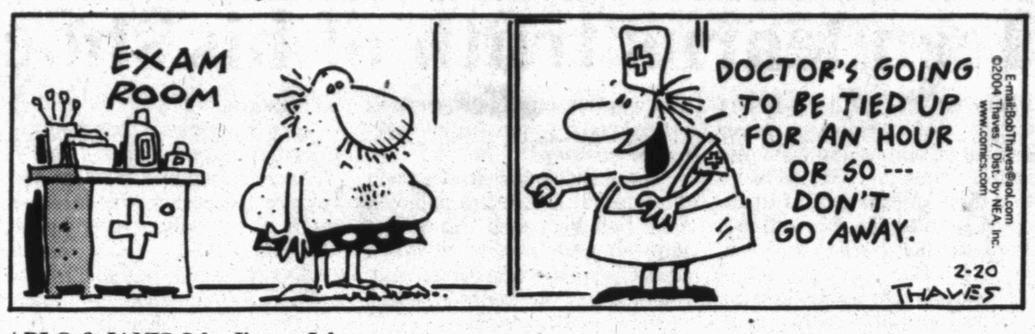


BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell

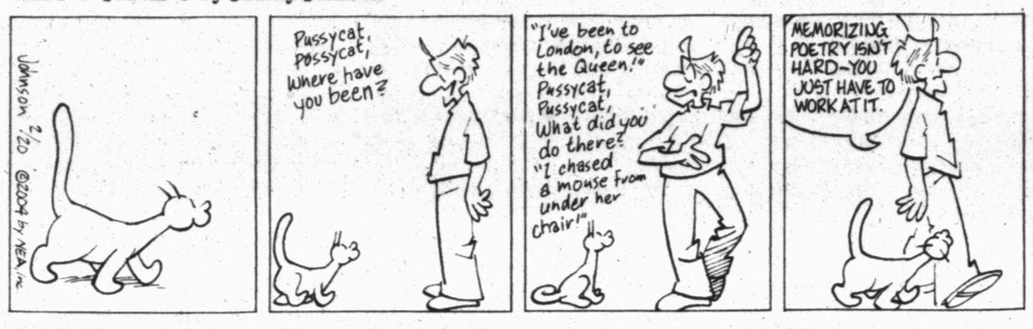
BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun

THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr

FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



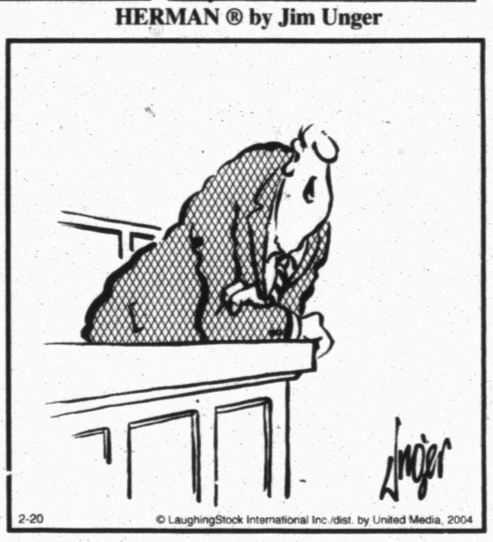
BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce

MONTY ® by Jim Meddick

ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender

BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen

HERMAN ® by Jim Unger



"I guess I'll plead not guilty just to get the old ball rolling."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"ME AN' RUFF NEED SOME CUDDLING, TOO, Y'KNOW."

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 — Krishna
5 Baby's seat
8 "No way!" (hyph.)
12 Banjo cousins
13 Historical period
14 Winemaking valley
15 Skater's haunt
16 Besides
17 Remove snow
18 Whinny
20 Chute material
22 Sultry — West
23 Chit
24 Luxury transport
27 Mendicant
30 Onassis nickname
31 Just — — suspected!
32 Deep hole
34 Pen brand
35 Double curve
37 "The Bells" poet
38 Hunt
40 Geological feature
42 Spiral molecule
43 Tear
44 Come clean
46 Bobby — of Indy fame
49 Go out with
50 Apple seed
52 Made tracks
54 Where Tehran is
55 Night before
56 Layered cookie
57 Marina sight
58 Add color
59 Kennedy and Koppel

DOWN

1 "Ben- —"
2 Comparable
3 Descartes' name
4 Edmonton gridder
5 Shop machine
6 Back when
7 Large blossoms
8 Disconnect
9 Moon ring
10 Well-versed (2 wds.)
11 Half a bray
19 Neon or helium
21 Berra of baseball
24 Chem room
25 Rainbow goddess
26 Cheese lovers
27 Big party
28 Dr.'s visit
29 Warden's fear
33 Jeans go-with
35 Osprey kin
36 Sold hot tickets
39 Commencement
40 Grain holder
41 Outcome
43 Delhi coin
44 Superman's mother
45 Airport guesses
47 Blarney Stone site
48 Grass stalk
49 Faint
51 Leafy climber
53 Two, in Tijuana

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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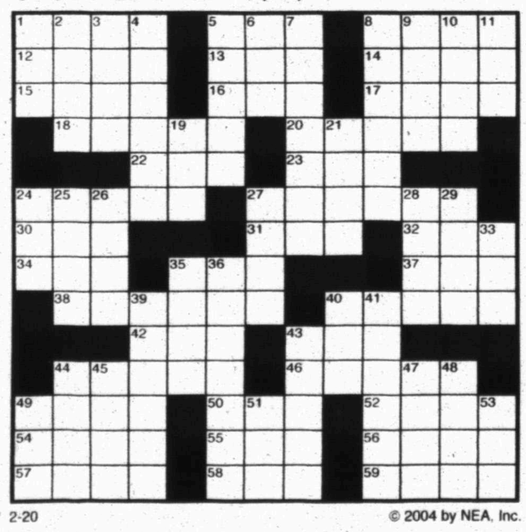

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Best Available Copy

SPORTS

Astros armed for pennant run

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Astros' biggest problem might be figuring out who gets to start on opening day.

Does six-time Cy Young Award winner Roger Clemens get the honor? Or will it be fellow newcomer Andy Pettitte? And what about holdovers Wade Miller and Roy Oswalt?

Only one can throw the season's first pitch against Barry Bonds' San Francisco Giants on April 5. Manager Jimy Williams didn't want to think about it before the team starts spring training Sunday.

"I'd like to get all of our starters in the same ZIP code in Kissimmee, then I'll get them all together and we'll talk about it," he said. "I think that's the best way to do it, rather than having to make five phone calls."

Clemens would be the obvious choice, especially because he came out of retirement to play for his hometown team after leaving the New York Yankees.

Pettitte, who won four World Series with the Yankees, is Clemens' buddy, and his decision to sign with the Astros is the main reason the Rocket agreed to play for them.

Oswalt, a budding young star, is coming off a season shortened by chronic groin problems. Miller has been the Astros' stalwart, pitching at least 160 innings in each of the past three seasons.

Williams wants to set his rotation before exhibition play starts March 5. The pitching strength has given Astros' fans hope that the team, which started play in 1962, can get to the World Series for the first time.

"When you've got a guy that has 20 years in the big leagues, I believe he deserves the spot," said Oswalt, who was 6 when Clemens debuted with the Boston Red Sox in 1984. "He's been here a lot longer than I have, and he sure has done a lot more."

One thing is for sure: Tim Redding will be the fifth starter. He was 10-14 with a 3.86 ERA last season.

"I'm starting to get excited because it's getting close," Pettitte said. "It seems like I signed a year ago. The fans, the town, everybody is so excited, and I'm extremely excited myself."

Jeriome Robertson, who led the team with 15 wins last year despite a 5.10 ERA, is headed to the bullpen. Carlos Hernandez, Rodrigo Rosario and Brandon Duckworth will be either middle relievers or wind up at Triple-A.

Setup man Octavio Dotel becomes the closer after the trade of Billy Wagner to the Philadelphia Phillies, and Brad Lidge takes over as the setup man.

The other bullpen slots are uncertain, with Robertson, Hernandez, Rosario, Duckworth, Ricky Stone, Dave Veres, Dan Miceli, Brandon Backe, Kirk Saarloos and Mike Gallo in the mix.

"There's going to be some competition in camp," said Williams, whose team is coming off two second-place finishes that failed to earn it a playoff berth.

Outfielder Richard Hidalgo is eager for the chance to hit and support the Astros' rotation. Hidalgo, who makes $12 million, has been the subject of trade rumors.

"I'm just happy to still be here," he said. "I really want to be here, so I just thank God I've gotten to stay here. I'm still waiting for whatever they're going to do, and there's nothing I can do about it."

Snyder hosts power lifting meet Saturday

Over 130 lifters will descend on Scurry County Coliseum Saturday for the Snyder High School powerlifting meet.

Fourteen schools, including Snyder, will participate in the event, with 138 lifters set for the competition.

The meet will feature teams from Abernathy, Canyon, Colorado City, Frenship, Hamlin, Jim Ned, Levelland, Lubbock High, Post, Roscoe, Roby, Sweetwater and Winters.

Snyder will enter 16 athletes in the competition, including female lifters Katherine Johnson and Courtney Tyrrell.

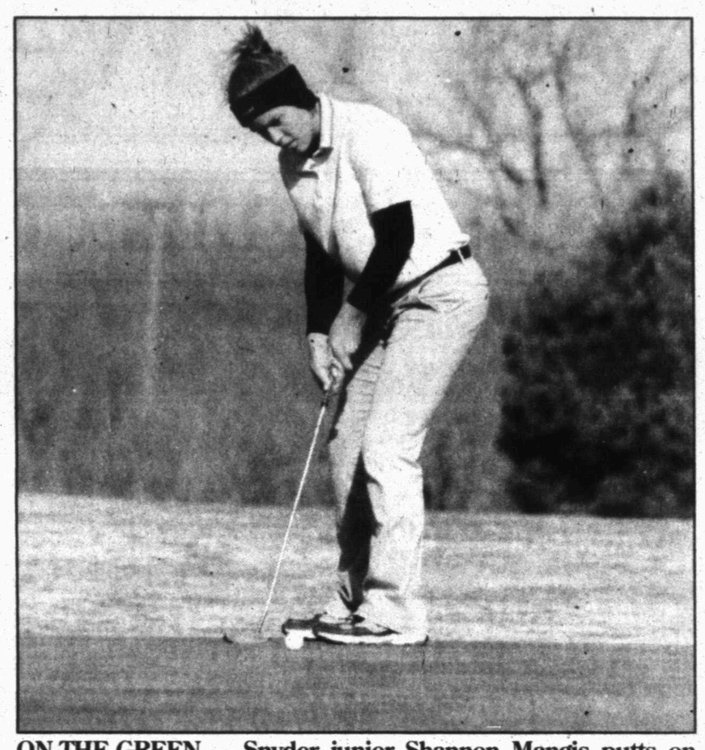
Tony Pena will compete in either the 123-pound or 130-pound class, and Ricky Early will be the sole entry from SHS in the super heavyweight division.

Steven Martinez, Barrett Munson and Casey Newby will lift in the 148-pound class, and D'Angleo Davis, Will Floyd, Landry Matthies and Ricky Rios are entered in the 165-pound division.

John Birks and Chris Vera are set to compete in the 181-pound class. Johnny Vasquez will be in either the 181 or 198-pound division.

Jeffrey Martinez will be in either the 198 or 220-pound class, depending on tonight's weigh-in, and Nate Clarady is the lone lifter for Snyder at 242.

The meet is slated to begin at 9 a.m. and is expected to run until 2 p.m.



ON THE GREEN — Snyder junior Shannon Mangis putts on the second hole this morning at Scurry County Golf Course during the opening round of the Snyder girls tournament. (SDN Staff Photo by Bobby Allen)

Canyon looms for tonight's winner; Sweetwater wins

The regional quarterfinal opponent for the winner of tonight's Snyder-Perryton area round playoff game was determined in emphatic fashion Thursday, with defending state champion Canyon crushing District 3-3A third seed Denver City, 80-37.

Canyon, which improved to 28-2 on the season, was up 42-16 at halftime.

Jordan Hampton canned 15, Kacee Carey knocked in 14 and Catherine McMenamy added 13 for Canyon, which got scoring contributions from nine of their 10 players.

Snyder and Perryton play at 7 tonight at Wayland Baptist University in Lubbock.

The Sweetwater Mustangs moved a step closer to a postseason berth with a 42-34 victory over Lamesa.

Sweetwater, Lamesa and Seminole all finished with 4-6 records in district. Seminole won the coin flip at the district meeting, earning a bye for the first game of the play-in.

Seminole and Sweetwater will play for the final playoff slot in District 3-3A at 5:30 today in Post.

The Lady Mustangs will take on Muleshoe at Post in a contest originally scheduled for 6:30 tonight. The game will be played immediately after the boys game.

Micheel, Maruyama lead Nissan

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Tiger Woods had the largest gallery. John Daly got the loudest cheers.

Lost in that hoopla Thursday at Riviera was a great round of 7-under 64 by Shaun Micheel and Shigeki Maruyama in the first round of the Nissan Open, and more evidence for Micheel that winning a major doesn't guarantee stardom.

"Any time you have Tiger Woods and Vijay Singh and guys like that in the field, I feel kind of under the limelight," Micheel said.

At this rate, he won't stay there all week.

Micheel was on the practice green until it was dark Wednesday night working on his putting stroke, and the light came on when he teed off just after sunrise.

He holed a 30-foot eagle putt and a few other long putts for birdie, giving him a share of the lead with Maruyama, a spot on the leaderboard he hasn't occupied since winning the PGA Championship at Oak Hill.

For Woods, it was a familiar routine at Riviera.

On the only PGA Tour course he has played at least five times without winning, Woods struggled with his approach shots and missed the few birdie chances he had — including a 15-footer on the final hole — for a 1-over 72 that means he started the second round below the cut line.

"I just didn't hit my irons very close," Woods said.

It's the first time he was over par in the first round of a regular PGA Tour event since the Nissan Open last year.

Singh, whose streak of 12 top 10s ended last week at Torrey Pines when he missed the cut, didn't fare much better. Despite hitting 15 greens, he took 33 putts in a round of even-par 71.

The loudest roars of a cool, overcast day belonged to Daly, a winner last week for the first time on U.S. soil in 10 years. Daly was 2 over at the turn, but birdied the next three holes and the last two of his round for a 68.

His only complaint came at the end, when players had to walk up a 50-foot hill to the clubhouse to sign their cards.

"I just wish they'd put an escalator from the 18th green to the clubhouse," Daly said. "I'm too fat to walk up this damn hill."

Hank Kuehne, who has surpassed Daly as the longest hitter in golf, had a 65.

Another shot back was a quartet of guys who know what it's like to conquer Riviera: defending champion Mike Weir, and past Nissan Open winners Fred Couples ('90, '92), Kirk Triplett ('00) and Robert Allenby ('01).

Redskins sign Brunell

WASHINGTON (AP) — The deal that will send Mark Brunell to the Washington Redskins is done — finally.

Talks that began during Super Bowl week wrapped up late Thursday, when agent Leigh Steinberg and Redskins owner Dan Snyder agreed to a seven-year, $43 million contract with an $8.6 million signing bonus for the longtime Jacksonville Jaguars quarterback.

The deal becomes official once the offseason trading period begins March 3. The Redskins will give the Jaguars a third-round draft pick for Brunell, according to a source familiar with the negotiations who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Brunell is expected to displace Patrick Ramsey as the starter, giving Joe Gibbs the veteran the coach has sought in his first season back in Washington after an 11-year retirement.

"Mark and Joe Gibbs have been talking every day, sometimes multiple times," Steinberg said. "Mark's comfort level and excitement level with Coach Gibbs has grown every day. He became convinced throughout the process that the ability to play for a Hall of Fame-caliber coach that had been to four Super Bowls was unique and too good to pass up."

Redskins director of player personnel Vinny Cerrato declined comment.

Brunell became Jacksonville's starter in the franchise's inaugural season in 1995. He completed 60.3 percent of his passes and threw for 144 touchdowns and 86 interceptions in 117 starts over nine seasons.

But he became expendable when rookie Byron Leftwich emerged as the starter last season.

Brunell had one year left on his contract and was due to count $10.5 million against the salary cap this year — including a $2 million bonus due next month. The Jaguars were expected to cut him before paying the bonus, but the Redskins pre-empted the move by expressing interest in a trade.

At least three other teams — Miami, San Diego and Dallas — also inquired about Brunell.

Semi-pro teams at WTC tonight

The Texas Professional Basketball League will be in town again tonight, as the Abilene Force take on the Big Spring Rebels at 8 p.m. at the Western Texas College Gym.

Bryan Cave, shooting guard for the Rebels, said the Big Spring club might move the rest of its games to WTC. There are six games left in the season.

Tickets for the tilt are $4 for adults and $2 for children.

Area Sports Calendar

TODAY

Baseball:	WTC at EPCC, DH, noon.
	Snyder varsity at Lubbock High, scrimmage, 4 p.m.
	Snyder JV vs. Lubbock High, scrimmage, 4 p.m.
Softball:	Snyder varsity at Copperas Cove Tournament
	WTC at Cowtown Classic, Ft. Worth
Golf:	SHS varsity and JV girls in Snyder Tournament
	SHS varsity boys at Burleson
	SHS JV boys at Abilene
Tennis:	Snyder varsity at Sweetwater Tournament

SATURDAY

Baseball:	WTC at EPCC, DH, noon.
Softball:	Snyder varsity at Copperas Cove Tournament
	WTC at Cowtown Classic, Ft. Worth
Golf:	SHS varsity and JV girls in Snyder Tournament
	SHS varsity boys at Burleson
	SHS JV boys at Abilene
Tennis:	Snyder varsity at Sweetwater Tournament
Powerlifting:	SHS at Snyder meet, Scurry County Coliseum
Baseball:	Snyder varsity vs. Midland Lee, scrimmage, 1 p.m.

National Hockey League

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	31	15	11	5	78	177	141
New Jersey	30	17	11	1	72	137	117
N.Y. Islanders	28	22	8	2	66	170	152
N.Y. Rangers	22	27	7	4	55	156	172
Pittsburgh	11	40	5	4	31	122	233

Northeast Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Toronto	33	16	9	3	78	176	152
Ottawa	32	15	8	5	77	198	130
Boston	30	14	11	6	77	160	141
Montreal	29	24	6	2	66	150	140
Buffalo	27	26	6	1	61	156	152

Southeast Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	31	17	7	4	73	167	134
Atlanta	24	30	6	2	56	166	191
Florida	20	25	12	3	55	133	159
Carolina	18	27	11	3	50	113	148
Washington	19	32	7	2	47	142	183

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	34	16	8	2	78	194	141
St. Louis	29	22	7	1	66	141	148
Nashville	28	22	7	2	65	148	158
Columbus	17	30	8	4	46	122	166
Chicago	16	31	7	5	44	135	176

Northwest Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	32	13	10	4	78	178	132
Vancouver	32	19	7	3	74	175	142
Calgary	30	21	5	3	68	145	133
Minnesota	21	22	16	2	60	138	136
Edmonton	24	26	9	1	58	154	153

Pacific Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	29	16	11	5	74	157	130
Dallas	28	22	10	0	66	129	135
Los Angeles	22	17	14	7	65	159	159
Anaheim	21	24	8	7	57	133	156
Phoenix	19	23	14	3	55	148	169

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

Thursday's Games

Toronto 2, Carolina 1, OT
Washington 3, New Jersey 1
N.Y. Rangers 6, N.Y. Islanders 2
Atlanta 3, Ottawa 2, OT
Montreal 4, Calgary 1
San Jose 6, Chicago 3
St. Louis 4, Tampa Bay 3, OT
Boston 4, Philadelphia 3
Minnesota 6, Vancouver 2

Today's Games

St. Louis at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.
Florida at Pittsburgh, 6:30 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Colorado at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
Columbus at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
Nashville at Anaheim, 9:30 p.m.

SMU cuts men's track

DALLAS (AP) — An SMU athletics committee Thursday approved a recommendation to drop the school's successful men's track and field program, a move based on gender equity.

"My recommendation is based on our need to focus human and fiscal resources and to continue to distribute them equitably," athletic director Jim Copeland said in a statement.

The SMU Board of Trustees will consider the issue in its meeting today, and likely will approve the recommendation by its athletics committee that also includes dropping men's cross country.

The move will not affect the women's track and field team.

This is the first time SMU has dropped an athletic program since the baseball team was disbanded after the 1980 season.

National Basketball Association

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New Jersey	32	20	.615	—
New York	26	29	.473	7½
Miami	23	32	.418	10½
Philadelphia	23	32	.418	10½
Boston	23	33	.411	11
Washington	16	36	.308	16
Orlando	14	42	.250	20

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	39	15	.722	—
Detroit	34	22	.607	6
New Orleans	30	24	.556	9
Milwaukee	28	25	.528	10½
Toronto	25	28	.472	13½
Cleveland	20	34	.370	19
Atlanta	18	36	.333	21
Chicago	16	38	.296	23

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	39	15	.722	—
San Antonio	36	18	.667	3
Dallas	34	20	.630	5
Houston	31	22	.585	7½
Memphis	31	22	.585	7½
Denver	32	23	.582	7½
Utah	26	29	.473	13½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Sacramento	38	14	.731	—
L.A. Lakers	33	19	.635	5
Portland	25	28	.472	13½
Seattle	25	28	.472	13½
Golden State	23	29	.442	15
L.A. Clippers	23	30	.434	15½
Phoenix	18	38	.321	22

Thursday's Games

Minnesota 92, Sacramento 75
Philadelphia 112, Seattle 101
L.A. Clippers 102, Boston 100

Today's Games

Indiana at Washington, 6 p.m.
Denver at Orlando, 6 p.m.
Atlanta at Miami, 6:30 p.m.
Utah at New York, 6:30 p.m.
New Jersey at Toronto, 6:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Cleveland, 6:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Memphis, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Sacramento at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.
Portland at Golden State, 9:30 p.m.

Vasquez knocked from Team Trials

Snyder boxer Anthony Vasquez was knocked from the 2004 Olympic Team Trials Thursday, falling to Philadelphia's Karl Dargan in an 18-11 decision in the challenger's bracket.

Vasquez was sent to the challenger's bracket by Vicente Escobedo of Woodland, Calif., a fighter Vasquez beat at the Western Trials. Escobedo won an 18-16 decision over Vasquez Thursday.

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Sat. 2:15, 7:15, 9:20
Sun. 2:15, 7:15
Tues. 7:15 Only
Wed. 7:15 Only
Thurs. 7:15 Only

MIRACLE PG
Fri. 7:00, 9:30
Sat. 2:00, 7:00, 9:30
Sun 2:00, 7:00
Tues. 7:00 Only
Wed. 7:00 Only
Thurs. 7:00 Only

Closed Mondays - Tuesday 'Poor Boy' Night $3, Miracle Only
Wed. buy drink-get free popcorn also
Wednesday College Night - Buy one ticket get one FREE with college I.D. Only.

MOVIES Best of the Best

50 FIRST DATES PG13

Henry Roth (Adam Sandler), a veterinarian at an aquarium in Hawaii, falls in love with a girl, Lucy (Drew Barrymore), with short-term memory loss, but he has to keep getting her to fall in love with him every time they meet in order for them to have a relationship, since she never remembers the last time she met him. **Starring: Adam Sandler, Drew Barrymore**

MIRACLE PG

This is the true story of coach Herb Brooks who had been the last player cut from the U.S. hockey team the last time the team won the Gold at the Olympics (in 1960). Brooks got his chance at being part of a medal-winning team, however, when he led the U.S. hockey team to victory over the Soviets at the 1980 Winter Olympics at Lake Placid despite overwhelming odds. **Starring: Kurt Russell, Eddie Cahill, Patricia Clarkson, Noah Emmerich, Patrick O'Brien Demsey**

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Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Abilene

Contract 6108-82-001 for REHAB PICNIC AREAS in HOWARD County, etc will be opened on March 18, 2004 at 2:00 pm at the District Office for an estimate of $206,928.50.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 12354

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div. Office (s)

Abilene District
District Engineer
4250 N. Clack
Abilene, Texas 79604-0150
Phone: 325-676-6800

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex or national origin.

Announcements

NEW CLUB
"KATZ"
1607 25th
Limited number of memberships available (only 53 left). Opening in March. Join the fun at this new private club (must be 21 to join). Send name, address & phone number with $30 check or M.O. made out to KATZ for a one-year membership to:
3112 Ave. C
Snyder, TX 79549
Kathy 207-0962

Lost & Found

FOUND
male Jack Russell mix, vicinity behind Wal-Mart. Red collar, no tags. 806-796-2382

LOST
large black/white mix breed dog. Last seen Tues. 2/10, vicinity of CR 466 & S. 208, near Hart Ranch. Call 573-6332 (wk#), ask for Mary.

LOST
Large grey/white female Pit Bull. Also (2) 5-mo. old female Pit Bull puppies, (1 grey/white and 1 black brindle/white). Large reward.
207-3565 573-7702

CALL FOR RESULTS!
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CLASSIFIEDS

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Father seeking place to hunt with son. Responsible, Your rules, safety conscious. 6 yr. old wants to learn hunting, Varmints, Rabbits, Deer. Please call 574-2465.

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1992 "25th Anniversary"
blue Camaro. $2,500 573-0699

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Fun Fun Fun
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HIRING IMMEDIATELY!
Truck drivers needed with oilfield experience. Must be able to travel. No need to relocate. Two years truck driving experience required. Class A CDL and good driving record a must.
Call **1-800-588-2669**
Mon.–Fri., 8a.m.–5p.m.

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needed part-time at Purple Sage Motel, weekdays and some weekends. Needs phone. Must be non-smoker & hard working. Training & uniforms provided. Apply in person.

MINIMAL PHYSICAL LABOR!
Truck drivers needed. Must be able to travel. No need to relocate. Two years truck driving experience required. Class A CDL and good driving record a must. Call 1-800-588-2669
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Need students for summer jobs at Fun Valley Family Resort in South Fork, Colorado. Jobs available: office, housekeeping, dining room, horse wrangler, kitchen & others. Salary, room, board, bonus. Write: Personnel Director 9010 Ravenwood Granbury, TX 76049

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

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

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

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2110 40th - Nice, Clean 3-1, FP ...$30's
2906 37th - Firs Contract Pending ...$20's
Cute - 210 33rd St. $29.9T
212 28th Large 3-2, game room $58T
2214 40th 3-1½-1 ....$39.5T
2101 41st Neat, clean, corner, 3-1-1cp $30's
208 35th - Cute 2-1-1, dining $23T
New! 2 story, 3-2, game room, 5 acres $100's
2803 El Paso Great Location & Extra Nice!! 4-2, office ....Reduced to $107.5T
3749 Avondale Updated/Darling 3-1¾, storage $30's
Colonial Hill - 3-1¾-2 ....$74.5T
Wants Offer! 4003 Midland 4-2-2 $90's
2901 Westridge - Must See! 3-2-2LA's-2 $100's
4507 Galveston - Extra Nice - 3-2-2, pool ..Call
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2215 40th 3-1 ....Low $30's
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Large Family Home - 2807 Westridge 6 bdrm, 4 bath-4 car gar...Reduced $175T
2800 Denis Contract Pending 146.9T
2609 37th 3-2½-2, 3 LA's $107.5T
4517 Galveston 3-2-2, 2 LA's....$97.5T
3001 Beaumont 3-2-2, 2 LA's...$97.5T
3201 Hous Contract Pending d $92T
4704 El Paso 3-2-2....$89.9T
2904 34th Contract Pending $87.5T
New! 3108 Hill Ave. 3-2-2-1cp....$74.9T
1534 CR 265 3-1, 20 acres.....Red. $63T
3607 Houston 3-2-2 ....$57T
1601 Hilltop Lane 3-1-2cp....$49.5T
2212 28th 2-2-2LA's-2 ....$44.5T
4109 Eastri Contract Pending $41.5T
New! 2214 40th 3-2-1 ....$39.5T
3749 Avondale 3-1¾ $39T
West 180 3-1-2 ....$31.5T
224 33rd 2-1- Contract Pending $25T
New! 1381 N. Ave. P 2-1, 4 lots $22.5T
New! 207 34th 2-1-1 ....$16T
Mobile Home 4-2, country living....Call
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No damages for Rosie or magazine

NEW YORK (AP) — The judge who heard the breach of contract trial between Rosie O'Donnell and the publisher of her now-defunct magazine declared Thursday that neither side deserved any money damages or legal fees.

State judge Ira Gammerman found that Gruner + Jahr- USA, Rosie's publisher until its last issue in December 2002, and O'Donnell, the magazine's editor-in-chief, had both violated their joint venture agreement.

Gammerman, who heard the two-week trial without a jury, had warned at the trial's end in November that the dueling $100 million-plus lawsuits were "ill-conceived" and he did not believe he would award anything to either side.

Thursday's decision affirmed Gammerman's initial thinking. "In the words of a most perceptive journalist, 'Gruner + Jahr USA Publishing and Rosie O'Donnell may deserve each other, but not monetary damages,'" the judge wrote in his decision.

G+J said in a statement it disagreed and "is exploring its options."

O'Donnell spokeswoman Cindi Berger said: "When you're sued for $100 million and you don't have to pay anything, that is definitely a win."

Berger noted that Thursday's ruling also found G+J had in fact breached the comedic actress' right to editorial control of the magazine.

O'Donnell and G+J sued each other for more than $100 million last year after the demise of Rosie, which was reminiscent of Oprah Winfrey's successful magazine, "O." The glossy was launched while O'Donnell was hosting a daily television talk show.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	15.80	15.05	15.12	—.39
AT&T Corp	20.10	19.89	19.89	—.11
Albertsons	24.38	24.09	24.09	+.06
Alltel	51.72	50.75	51.03	—.35
AmEl Pw	33.81	33.21	33.26	—.52
AndarkPtr	51.25	50.80	51.01	—.05
ATMOS Egy	26.55	26.20	26.23	—.23
Aviall	15.27	15.12	15.18	—.11
BP PLC	48.80	48.25	48.29	+.16
BakerHughes	36.70	35.85	35.87	—.16
Bank of Amer	81.36	80.71	80.91	—.46
BellSouth	27.66	27.45	27.63	+.23
BurlNoSFe	32.45	32.05	32.14	—.06
Caterpillar	78.65	76.89	77.09	—1.44
CenterPoint	10.52	10.37	10.39	—.10
ChevronTex	87.35	86.40	86.62	+.04
Citigroup	49.17	48.54	48.59	—.53
CocaCola	50.75	50.16	50.53	—.47
ColgatePal	57.04	56.15	56.35	—.15
CmclMetals	29.72	28.96	28.96	—.58
ConocoPhill	68.85	68.23	68.41	+.04
Cooper Inds	55.30	54.64	54.64	—.46
DaimlrChry	46.13	44.80	44.94	—1.75
DeltaAirLines	9.72	9.31	9.35	—.25
Dillards Inc	17.26	16.85	16.87	—.22
DowChem	43.79	42.91	43.10	—.06
DuPont	45.90	45.26	45.40	—.14
EastmanChem	43.30	42.28	42.28	—.76
EstKodak	29.11	28.65	28.65	—.31
EDS Corp	20.40	19.81	19.86	—.51
Entergy	58.79	57.87	57.87	—.85
ExxonMobil	42.45	42.10	42.17	+.22
FootLocker	25.64	25.14	25.21	—.53
GenDynam	95.60	94.25	94.38	—.88
GenIElec	32.89	32.54	32.58	—.02
GenMills	45.25	45.00	45.02	+.02
GenMotors	49.60	48.55	48.56	—1.04
GaPacific	31.27	30.76	31.05	+.20
Goodrich	30.86	30.36	30.36	—.25
Goodyear	8.40	8.03	8.07	—.31
GtAtlPac	7.98	7.77	7.77	+.05
Halliburtn	31.43	31.01	31.14	—.04
Hanson PLC	42.65	42.05	42.05	—.35
HarteHanks	22.36	22.26	22.26	—.27
HomeDepot	35.75	35.16	35.16	—.40
HoneywellIntl	35.98	35.52	35.58	—.14
IBM	98.60	97.29	97.40	—.40
IntlPaper	43.77	43.52	43.52	+.02
JohnsonJn	53.79	53.25	53.26	—.31
KinderMorg	60.36	59.64	59.77	—.38
Kroger Co	19.51	19.19	19.32	+.07
LockheedM	48.72	48.08	48.26	—.20
Lowes Cos	57.91	57.00	57.07	—.46
Lubys	3.65	3.62	3.62	—.10
LucentTech	4.09	3.93	3.95	—.08
MarathonOil	34.36	33.94	34.03	+.03
MayDeptStr	35.66	35.07	35.10	—.42
Medtronic	48.60	48.20	48.32	+.20
Motorola	17.50	17.30	17.34	—.07
NCR Corp	44.99	44.20	44.33	—.69
Navistar	48.50	47.55	47.88	—.71
PNM Rescs	31.08	30.61	30.64	—.36
Penney JC	28.21	27.93	27.97	—.24
PepBoys	22.49	22.04	22.05	—.44
PepsiCo	51.81	51.45	51.65	+.32
PhelpDodge	81.75	80.10	80.20	—1.68
PilgrimsPride	20.65	20.30	20.39	—.38
Praxair s	37.09	36.29	36.37	—.49
ProctGamb	102.74	102.10	102.14	—.29
RadioShack	35.45	34.75	34.84	—.57
RoyalDut	49.00	48.17	48.17	—.33
SBC Comm	24.25	23.81	23.89	—.30
SaraLee	21.95	21.61	21.64	—.14
Scripps EW	99.97	99.40	99.94	—.09
SearsRoeb	46.09	45.36	45.80	+.17
SherwinW	35.55	35.20	35.20	—.18
SouthernCo	30.08	29.75	29.82	—.19
SwstAirl	14.83	14.59	14.62	
SprintFON	18.73	18.20	18.26	—.51
SprintPCS	9.90	9.39	9.57	—.21
Sunoco Inc	58.60	57.78	58.02	—.22
TXU Corp	25.34	24.75	24.85	+.22
TempleInland	65.00	64.70	64.79	+.49
TexInd	36.32	35.78	35.78	—.48
TexasInst	31.10	30.50	30.56	—.34
Textron	56.49	55.17	55.22	—.59
TimeWarner	17.83	17.49	17.60	—.15
TrinityInds	31.27	30.62	30.69	—.48
TylerTech	9.52	9.26	9.28	—.25
UnionPacif	64.48	64.16	64.28	+.09
USSteel	35.71	34.88	34.91	—.80
UnitedTech	97.75	96.88	96.89	—.35
Unocal	37.47	36.90	36.96	—.17
VerizonComm	37.85	37.31	37.42	+.07
WalMart	58.98	58.55	58.78	+.40
WellsFargo	57.66	57.09	57.19	—.38
WstnGasRs	49.40	48.84	48.92	—.08
WinnDixie	6.30	6.15	6.19	—.09
Xerox Cp	14.89	14.50	14.50	—.19
YumBrands	35.80	35.40	35.42	—.18

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Proverbs 24:5

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Psalm 143:11

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Psalm 143:11

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Proverbs 8:14

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National

NASA bumps shuttle flight to next year

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Space shuttles will not fly again until next year and when Discovery does lift off on the first post-Columbia mission, Atlantis will be on standby for a potential rescue mission.

NASA's senior spaceflight officials decided Thursday evening to push back the next launch to March 2005 because of lingering work and engineering concerns, and picked Discovery to be first up.

The space agency had been aiming for a fall 2004 launch.

"We said, 'Stop. Let's go ahead and extend the schedule and let's figure out what the right way is to go about'" meeting the recommendations of the Columbia accident investigators, said NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe. "We're not going to be driven by the calendar. This is going to be a milestone-driven event."

The space agency is struggling to come up with shuttle wing repair kits and inspection booms for astronauts in orbit. Engineers also are still trying to figure out how to keep the fuel-tank foam insulation from breaking off, as a section did during Columbia's doomed flight, and dealing with possible corrosion in the rudder speed brakes.

Because of the Columbia disaster one year ago, NASA decided last month that all shuttles from now on will be devoted to completing the international space station. That way, the astronauts can inspect and repair their ships at the orbiting outpost and await rescue there if any damage is too grave.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 02-20-04
♠ 4
♥ J
♦ Q J 7 6 2
♣ J 9 7 4 3 2

West
♠ Q J 8 5 3
♥ Q 9 7 5 3
♦ 5 4
♣ 5

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

South
♠ A K 10 7 6 2
♥ K 10 8 6 4
♦ 3
♣ K

Dealer: East
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
			1 ♦
1 ♠	Dbl.	Pass	3 ♣
3 ♠	Dbl.	All pass	

Opening lead: ♣ 5

Friday, Feb. 20, 2004

Try to describe your hand at once

By Phillip Alder

We have been looking at showing two-suited hands via a Michaels Cue-Bid or the Unusual No-Trump. Usually, these conventions allow the intervenor to describe his hand in one bid, then leave the running to partner, who knows how well their hands mesh (fit).

Ironically, though, on this deal from the 2001 Summer Nationals in Toronto, a Michaels Cue-Bid would have been a disaster! It was sent to me by Audrey Wicks, from Irvine, Calif.

If South uses a Michaels Cue-Bid, overcalling one diamond with two diamonds, North will surely correct to three clubs, and East will double. (Often, a second-round double by the opener is for takeout, but that would be illogical in this position, since South has promised at least 5-5 in the majors.)

Against three clubs doubled, probably East will lead the diamond ace, cash the club ace and heart ace, then either play another heart or shift to his spade. Eventually, East will also collect the diamond king and four more trump tricks: plus 800.

At the table, South overcalled one spade. West made a negative double, promising four or five hearts. After North passed, East jumped to three clubs. Now North-South were off the hook. But South could not resist bidding one more time. And knowing West had hearts, South repeated his spades. Mrs. Wicks was delighted to double.

The defense was ruthless, collecting 800. After a club to East's ace, she shifted to her spade. Declarer won and tried a low heart, but East won with the ace and returned her second heart. Now South was cooked.

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	YOUR PRICE	4.9% *YOUR PAYMENT
2001 Chevy Impala Maroon, 37K Miles	$12,500	$235.99
2003 Pontiac Sunfire Coupe Green 13K Miles	$9,500	$178.99
2003 Chevy Cavalier Sedan Red, 9K Miles	$9,500	$178.99
2003 Chevy Cavalier Coupe Black, 10K Miles	$8,900	$167.99
2001 Chevy Monte Carlo Coupe Red 33K Miles	$12,500	$235.99
2003 Olds Alero Sedan 14K Miles	$11,500	$216.99
2001 Chevy Cavalier Coupe Red, 18K Miles	$8,500	$160.99
2001 Saturn L300 Sedan Lt. Blue, 29K Miles	$12,900	$242.99
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TTL Down, 60 mo., WAC, Must be Approved by GMAC

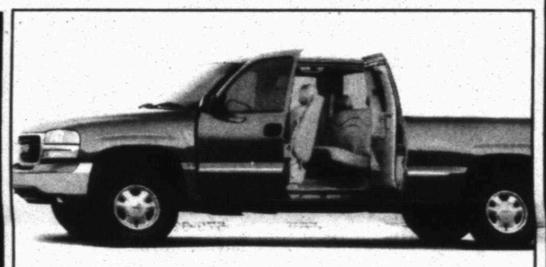
***GM Certified Vehicles have passed the 100 point mechanical inspection process.**

2002 Ford F250 Crew Cab

C5441A - One owner, short bed, 4x4, black, Lariat trim, gray leather, power bucket seats, ultra chrome polished wheels, Goodyear LT 285 175R16 white letter tires, chrome full length nerf bars, chrome 2" tube grille guard, chrome billet grille, bedliner, 7.3L Powerstroke Engine

$32,000

- •2000 Dodge Neon Sedan Automatic, A/C $5,500
- •1999 Pontiac Grand Am Sedan SE 62K Miles $6,900
- •1997 Chevy Monte Carlo Green, V-6 Automatic $5,500
- •1999 Buick Regal Grand Sport Leather $8,850
- •1997 Chevy Tahoe LT Pkg. Green $8,500
- •2001 Ford F150 4x4 Reg Cab $9,500
- •1989 Ford F250 Supercab 5 Speed $2,000
- •1988 GMC Pickup Runs Good $2,350



2000 GMC 1500 Ext. Cab

C6706A - SLE trim pkg., H.D. trailering pkg., 3 door, AM/FM stereo with CD player, power windows, power locks, cruise control, tilt steering, power split bench seat, Vortec 5.3L V-8, anti lock brakes, pewter metallic, 56K miles, one owner

$15,500

2002 Chevy 2 Door Blazer Sport

C6341A - Vortec 4300 V-6 engine, automatic transmission, LS pkg., bronze mist metallic, tan custom cloth bucket seats, power windows, power locks, power mirrors, AM/FM stereo with CD player, console with cupholders and storage, A/C, cruise control, tilt steering, H.D. black tube grille guard, black tube taillight protectors, luggage rack, 26K miles.

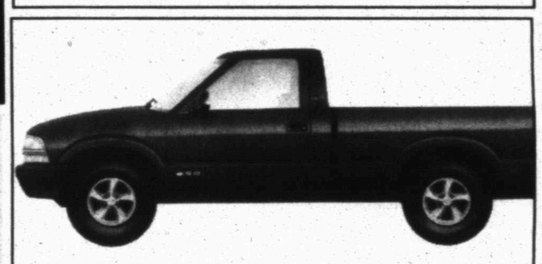
$12,500

6 Tahoes or Yukons Available Starting at $11,500

2002 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab

C1234 - Shortbed, 4x4, LS trim pkg., H.D. pkg., H.D. trailering pkg., summit white, dual tan custom cloth bucket seats, overhead lighted console, AM/FM stereo cassette, CD and theft lock, power windows, power locks, brakes, bedliner, 6.0L, V-8 engine, H.D. automatic transmission, electronic rear view mirror, temp and compass, 1 owner

$19,500



2003 Chevy S10 Reg. Cab Pickup

P8729 - LS pkg., 4 cylinder, automatic transmission, bright yellow, custom cloth, graphite split bench seats, AM/FM stereo with CD player, anti lock brakes, custom cast aluminum wheels, 3K miles, like new, priced used

$12,000

2003 GMC 1500 Shortbed Reg. Cab

A2402A - Vortec 4300 V-6, automatic transmission, custom cast aluminum wheels, summit white, tan custom cloth split bench seat with arm rest, AM/FM stereo, CD player, cruise control, tilt steering, tinted windows, 16K miles, one owner, like new

$15,850

2001 GMC 1500 Short Bed Reg. Cab Sportside

G6421A - 4300 Vortec V-6, H.D. 5 speed manual transmission, charcoal, gray custom cloth split bench seat with arm rest, AM/FM stereo cassette, 32K miles, SL pkg., polished aluminum wheels

$12,550

2003 Chevy 1500 Ext. Cab 4x4 Z71 Pkg.

C6636A - H.D. trailering pkg., 4 door, LS trim pkg., AM/FM stereo with CD, dual control A/C, pewter metallic, custom cloth split bench seat with arm rest, 16" cast aluminum wheels, antilock brake system, electronic rear view mirror, compass and temp, Vortec 5.3L V-8, one owner

$22,500

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Diverted plane resumes flight to Morocco

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — Law enforcement agents were questioning two passengers who were removed from a Moroccan-bound jetliner that was diverted to Bangor, officials said today.

The Royal Air Morac flight, which had left New York's Kennedy International Airport Thursday evening, resumed its trip to Casablanca early today after it was refueled and the remaining passengers were rescreened.

The FBI identified one of the removed passengers as 27-year-old investment banker Zubiar Ali Ghias, who had been reported missing to Chicago police last Saturday.

The second passenger, whose name was not released, was sitting next to Ghias, Bangor police Sgt. James Owens said.

Bangor police removed both from the flight and took them to the FBI's Bangor office, Owens said. Neither was under arrest, he said.

Tony Caruso, assistant director of Bangor International Airport, also said two people were removed from the flight.

FBI spokeswoman Gail Marcinkiewicz said she knew only that Ghias was talking to federal agents but that it was possible other passengers were being questioned. "It would make sense that we would interview a number of people," she said.

Officers make several calls

Arrest

At 9:50 p.m. Thursday DPS troopers took a 36-year-old man into custody for fictitious registration. The man was arrested four miles south on Hwy. 208.

Accident

DPS troopers responded to a one-vehicle, non-injury accident at FM 2835 and CR 3128 at 4:42 p.m. Thursday.

Disturbance

At 8:48 a.m. Thursday a caller reported an argument between a husband and wife at a residence on Brick Plant Rd. No assault had occurred.

Officers were requested to a residence on 27th St. at 10:35 p.m. Thursday where two men were involved in a disagreement.

Criminal mischief

A resident of a home in the 200 block of 32nd St. reported at 12:30 p.m. that some damage was done to her home and a vacant house next door.

Officer requested

Officers were called to the 1400 block of Green Ave. at 11:35 p.m. Thursday where a subject was at a residence and refused to leave.

Auditions set for Ritz spring play

Auditions for the spring production at the Ritz Community Theatre, *On Golden Pond*, will be from 5-7 p.m. Monday at the theatre.

Cast requirements are for four men and two women.

"The popular comedy is a touching, funny love story of a spirited elderly couple and the relationships with their daughter, her fiancée, and his teenge son," said Elle Dryden of the Ritz.

The play opens as Norman and Ethel return to their summer cottage on Golden Pond for the 44th year, and continues with their adventures during the summer.

The local mailman also makes an appearance in on scene.

For additional information, call Dryden at 573-9739.

Close friend provides damaging testimony against M. Stewart

NEW YORK (AP) — A close friend of Martha Stewart provided the last major link in a chain of evidence the government hopes will convince jurors that she lied about her sale of ImClone Systems stock.

Mariana Pasternak, whose friendship with the homemaking mogul goes back 20 years, testified Thursday that Stewart confided to her just after she sold the stock that ImClone CEO Sam Waksal had tried to sell his own shares.

Prosecutors say Stewart lied to investigators on April 10, 2002, when she claimed she never recalled being told the Waksals were selling before she dumped her ImClone shares on Dec. 27, 2001.

Pasternak said she had the conversation with Stewart on Dec. 30, 2001, on a terrace at Las Ventanas in Los Cabos, Mexico, a lush resort where they were vacationing.

"I remember Martha saying Sam was walking funny at the Christmas party, that he was selling or trying to sell his stock, that his daughter was selling or trying to sell her stock," Pasternak testified.

She said Stewart added: "Isn't it nice to have brokers who tell you those things?"

ImClone shares tumbled shortly after Stewart sold her shares on news that the Food and Drug Administration would not review ImClone's application for approval of its highly touted cancer drug, Erbitux.

While Stewart is not charged with knowing about the drug review, she told investigators in 2002 she did not recall being told anything about Waksal trying to sell his ImClone stock.

Waksal, a friend of both Stewart and Pasternak, is serving a seven-year prison sentence for insider trading. He and his family frantically sold, or tried to sell, their shares ahead of the drug announcement.

Stewart and her broker, Peter Bacanovic, who is also on trial, claim they had made a deal earlier in December 2001 to sell Stewart's ImClone shares if the stock fell below $60. Prosecutors say that was a cover story.

The government was expected to rest its case against the pair early today. Pasternak, one of the final government witnesses, added to the already damaging testimony against Stewart.

Douglas Faneuil, a young former Merrill Lynch & Co. assistant, has testified Bacanovic ordered him on Dec. 27, 2001, to alert Stewart that the Waksals were trying to sell — then pressured him to cover it up.

And Ann Armstrong, a personal assistant to Stewart, testified Stewart altered a computer log of a message left by Bacanovic on Dec. 27, 2001, then quickly ordered her to change it back.

Obituaries

Ruby Mixon

1915-2004

Ruby Raye Mason Mixon, longtime Snyder resident, died Sunday, Feb. 15, at her home after a sudden illness.

Ruby Mixon

Service for Mrs. Mixon, 88, will be at 11 a.m. Saturday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Mike Henson, pastor of First Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens.

Born Aug. 27, 1915 in Edgerly, La., she married Jim H. Mixon on Nov. 8, 1938 in Sweetwater. He died on Nov. 5, 1980.

Mrs. Mixon, a graduate of Ranger High School, moved to Snyder in 1948 when her husband was manager for J.C. Penney. They later purchased Mixon Tire and Supply that they operated for 24 years.

She had also worked for Gulf Oil in Odessa, J.C. Penney in Breckenridge, the Graham Brown Shoe Co. in Sherman and for Wes-T-Go Conoco in Snyder. Mrs. Mixon was a longtime member of the First Baptist Church.

She also was preceded in death by her parents, Ruby Ray (Doc) and Clara Skillern Mason; a sister, Anita Mansker; and a brother, Milton Mason.

Survivors include two daughters and sons-in-law, Judy and Stuart Long of Houston and Janice and Chuck Galloway of Snyder; a sister, Tera Crook of Arlington; a brother-in-law, Toke Mansker of Fort Worth; four grandchildren, Jim Cole of Midland, Meredith Long Angelico and husband Scott of San Antonio, Garret Long of Ann Arbor, Mich., and Brittany Long of Austin.

Dusty Hargrove

1980-2004

CROSS PLAINS — Dusty Ryan Hargrove, nephew of Roger and Kathy White of Snyder, died Thursday, Feb. 19, in Brownwood Regional Medical Center.

Funeral service for Mr. Hargrove, 24, is set for 3 p.m. Saturday in the First Baptist Church with Joe Coppinger and Bay Kirkham officiating. Burial will follow in Hyles and Hargrove Family Cemetery in Callahan County under the direction of Higginbotham Funeral Home.

Born Feb. 10, 1980 in Abilene to Jim and Cliffadean White Hargrove, he was reared in Cross Plains, graduating from Cross Plains High School in 1998. He was a member of Cottonwood Baptist Church.

Survivors include his parents, Jim and Cliffadean Hargrove of Cross Plains; two sisters and their husbands, Kelli and Frankie Hyles of Cross Plains, and Kami and Tad Timmons of Granbury; a son, Tristan Hargrove of Cross Plains; four nieces, Mykea Douglass, Kelbi Hyles, Shana Hyles, Christin Hamilton; and several cousins.

The family requests donations be made to the Cross Plains Athletic Booster Club or the Callahan County Jr. Livestock Show.

Personal, Professional Service

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3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Wes Morgan

1931-2004

LUBBOCK — Wes Virgil Morgan, the father of Tommy Dill of Snyder, died Friday, Feb. 13, in Emporia, Kan.

Funeral service for Mr. Moore, 72, will be held at 2 p.m. Monday in the New Life Center with Jeff McCreight, pastor, officiating. Private burial will be in the Union Hill Cemetery in Mineral Wells.

Born March 13, 1931 in Philip, S.D., he married Janice Pearl Morgan who preceded him in death.

Mr. Morgan was a retired businessman and had worked as a gold miner in South Dakota, had been an EMS technician, a crop duster, a Chevrolet dealer, a justice of the peace and a constable in Stanton where he lived for 20 years.

Mr. Morgan had been a resident since 1983 and drove a truck since 1990 so that he could travel.

Survivors include a daughter, Tiffany Salazar of Lubbock; three other sons, Zachary Weston of Lubbock, Ricky Dill of Brownfield and Roy Dill of Big Spring; a sister, Mona Marie Ellis of Phoenix; and nine grandchildren.

Sue Walker

1918-2004

Sue Ella Bentley Walker, a former resident of Snyder, died Thursday, Feb. 19, in Dallas.

Sue Walker

Graveside service for Mrs. Walker, 85, will be held at 1.30 p.m. Sunday in Hillside Memorial Gardens.

Mrs. Walker was born in 1918 in Claude and attended elementary school near Slaton and graduated from Union High School.

In the late 1930s she went to work in El Paso, where she met Raymon J. "Red" Walker. They were married Nov. 30, 1941. When Pearl Harbor was attacked, she and her husband moved to San Diego where he enlisted in the Navy. Mrs. Walker worked in San Diego while he was stationed there, then moved to Bayonne, N.J., where she worked at the Military Freight Depot in Bayonne while he made 14 Atlantic crossings, including the D-Day landing at Normandy.

Mrs. Walker's husband was discharged in 1945 and went to work for Texaco that required sometimes moving twice in a year throughout West Texas. They resided in Snyder from 1954 to 2000.

Mrs. Walker operated Snyder Reproductions, a blueprint business, in the garage behind her home. She was a Girl Scout leader, a docent of the Scurry County Museum at Western Texas College, and leader of the senior citizens aquatic exercise group at the college. She was a longtime member of Colonial Hill Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband, Red Walker; a son and daughter-in-law, James and Lynn Walker; two daughters and sons-in-law, Molly and Michael Droge, and Amber and Eric Devlin; two grandsons, Matthew and Owen Walker of Virginia; two step-grandsons, Matthew and Michael Devlin of New York; two sisters, Anne Fails of El Paso and Neva Longenecker of Keller; and many nieces and nephews.

Roxie Ellington

1925-2004

HURST — Roxie Kathleen Ellington, 78, of Hurst, died away Thursday, Feb. 12, at a Fort Worth hospital.

Inurment is set for 1 p.m. Monday in the Snyder Cemetery under the direction of Forest Ridge Funeral Home.

Roxie Ellington

Mrs. Ellington, born on Nov. 5, 1925, in Aspermont, was preceded in death by her son, Joe Fuller.

Surviving are her husband, William Ellington of Hurst; a son, Doug Fuller of Kilgore; a daughter, Patsy Ellington of Colorado City; a brother, James Hazel of Carlsbad, N.M.; 10 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and several uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces, and nephews.

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Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Sat 2/21	Sun 2/22	Mon 2/23
59/40	62/44	61/40
Considerable cloudiness. High 59F. Winds ESE at 10 to 20 mph.	Occasional showers. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 40s.	Overcast. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the low 40s.
Sunrise 7:21 AM, Sunset 6:34 PM	Sunrise 7:20 AM, Sunset 6:35 PM	Sunrise 7:19 AM, Sunset 6:36 PM

–Come Rain or Shine–
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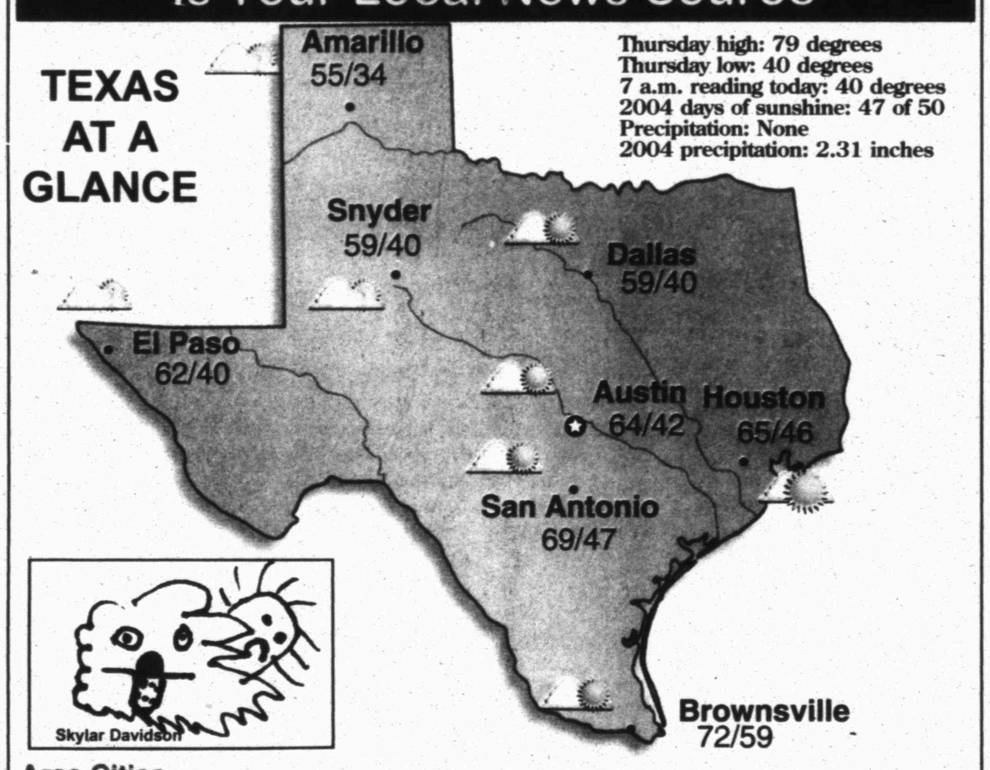
TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Thursday high: 79 degrees
Thursday low: 40 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 40 degrees
2004 days of sunshine: 47 of 50
Precipitation: None
2004 precipitation: 2.31 inches

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	60	41	pt sunny	El Paso	62	40	cloudy	Midland	60	42	cloudy
Amarillo	55	34	cloudy	Fort Stockton	60	42	cloudy	Raymondville	72	56	pt sunny
Austin	64	42	pt sunny	Gainesville	56	37	mst sunny	Rosenberg	65	45	mst sunny
Beaumont	64	44	mst sunny	Greenville	57	37	mst sunny	San Antonio	69	47	pt sunny
Brownsville	72	59	pt sunny	Houston	65	46	mst sunny	San Marcos	65	42	pt sunny
Brownwood	62	40	pt sunny	Kingsville	70	53	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	57	37	mst sunny
Corpus Christi	67	53	pt sunny	Livingston	64	39	mst sunny	Sweetwater	61	42	pt sunny
Corsicana	59	39	mst sunny	Longview	60	37	mst sunny	Tyler	58	37	mst sunny
Dallas	59	40	pt sunny	Lubbock	58	38	cloudy	Weatherford	58	37	mst sunny
Del Rio	68	50	cloudy	Lufkin	63	38	sunny	Wichita Falls	59	39	pt sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	56	32	pt sunny	Houston	65	46	mst sunny	Phoenix	66	47	rain
Boston	42	33	rain	Los Angeles	57	50	rain	San Francisco	55	48	rain
Chicago	38	27	windy	Miami	80	63	pt sunny	Seattle	54	40	pt sunny
Dallas	59	40	pt sunny	Minneapolis	33	19	pt sunny	St. Louis	44	29	mst sunny
Denver	45	28	pt sunny	New York	49	33	rain	Washington, DC	56	32	pt sunny

Moon Phases

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

UV Index

Sat 2/21	Sun 2/22	Mon 2/23
4	5	4
Low	Moderate	Low

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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