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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY
Feb. 20, 2003
Vol. 54 No. 253
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Jerry Webb

Francene Noah...

Incumbent files for mayor's post

Francene Noah filed for her second term as Snyder's mayor Wednesday afternoon becoming the first person to file for any local office for the May 3 election.

A long-time educator, Noah, 70, is currently the external coach for the Accelerated Schools Grant Program at Central Elementary.

She has lived in Snyder since 1954 and taught school in the county for some 30 years. She retired from teaching in 1992 with her last position being the resource teacher at West Elementary.


Francene Noah

Snyder's present mayor, the first woman to hold the post, married Matt Allen in 1950. Allen died in 1987. In 1990, she married Stanley Noah who died in 1999.

"I just appreciate the chance to serve our community," said Noah. "I am looking forward to the next two years."

Besides the mayor's post, the terms of at-large council members Terry Martin and John Reed are expiring.

Trustee terms also are expiring on the Snyder, Hermleigh and Ira school boards.

At Ira, the board terms of Dennis Taylor and Shane Smith expire. The terms of at-large trustees Alan Culp, Tim Dacus and Joe Roemisch are expiring at Hermleigh.

The terms of Richard Chambers and Mike Levens will be up for election on the SISD board.

The deadline for filing for any of the offices is March 19, and the last day to register to vote is April 13. Early voting is April 3.

Western Texas College will not have a trustee election this year as board terms expire in even years.

Powell awaits Turkey's help against Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State Colin Powell said today "there may be some creative things we can do" to gain acceptance of a proposed U.S. aid package meant to pave the way for Turkey to help in a war against Iraq.


Colin Powell

During a State Department news conference with NATO Secretary Lord Robertson, Powell did not elaborate on those refinements but said he expected to hear from Turkey by day's end. As for the United States, "Our position is firm," Powell said.

White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said, meanwhile, that the deadlock continued.

Implying the United States might deploy troops elsewhere instead, Fleischer said "we have to deal with realities, and we will."

Flying to Atlanta with President Bush, the spokesman said the United States had no final offer to make to Turkey. "This is not a bluff," he said.

And in Turkey, Foreign Minister Yasar Yakis brushed aside U.S. warnings that time was running out. He said a vote in parliament to base tens of thousands of U.S. troops was unlikely before early next week.

But Yakis left open the possibility the government could decide in principle earlier and leave the final authorization for next week.

A senior U.S. official said late Wednesday the United States had not set a deadline. But the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said, "We want an answer now."

In Ankara, foreign minister Yasar Yakis said a parliamentary vote on basing U.S. troops in Turkey is not likely before next week, but the government could decide in principle earlier than that and save final authorization for later.

Earlier Wednesday, Powell interceded with Turkish Prime Minister Abdullah Gul in an apparently unsuccessful effort to break a deadlock over U.S. economic assistance. Powell and State Department spokesman Richard Boucher gave no indication the telephone diplomacy produced a breakthrough.

In Ankara, Turkey's economy minister said the dispute should be resolved "within the coming days."

The remark by Ali Babacan was initially reported by CNN-Turk television and confirmed early today by a spokesman at his office, Halit Ertugrul.

At issue is the size of an economic aid package that would allow Turkey's parliament to approve the deployment of U.S. soldiers there. Turkey has delayed a vote on the troops, waiting for approval of a multibillion-dollar aid package that would compensate Ankara for any losses during a war with Iraq.

A Turkish official in Washington said the country wanted more than the United States had offered but the American side was holding firm. The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said his government would make up its mind quickly.

"We are waiting to hear back from the Turks," Powell told reporters. "I think they understand the importance of this issue to us, and to our efforts."

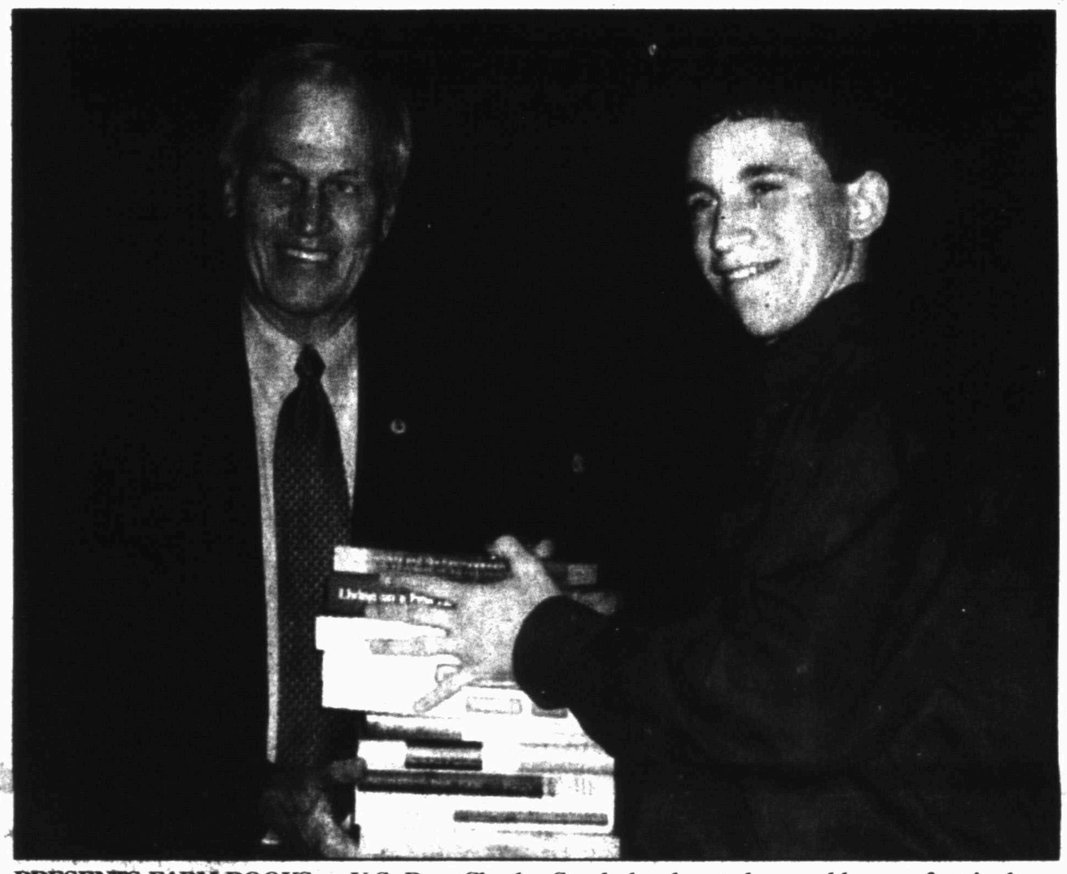
Pilots may be able to carry guns soon

WASHINGTON (AP) — A few commercial pilots will be able to carry guns in the cockpit, at least for the foreseeable future.

But not many pilots will want to if they have to carry their weapons in cases and undergo extensive psychological testing, said Capt. Fred Bates, an American Airlines pilot who heads a group of pilots working with the Transportation Security Administration to put the program in place.

"There are going to be fewer pilots who are willing to go through an extensive process," Bates said. "Unsafe and unworkable" is how he characterized the TSA's requirement that pilots carry guns in locked cases inside a bag when going to and from the airport.

The TSA announced on Wednesday its preliminary plan for arming pilots, which could change before Tuesday's deadline for it to issue rules for the program. The plan calls for pilots to undergo psychological and background checks before being selected for a five-day training program.


PRESENTS FARM BOOKS — U.S. Rep. Charles Stenholm donated several boxes of agriculture books to Hermleigh School Wednesday afternoon. Terrel Culp, president of the Beta Club, accepted on behalf of the school. Culp, who will attend West Point in the fall, was nominated for the academy by Stenholm. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Stenholm speaks at HISD on a wide variety of topics

By Shirley A. Gorman
SDN News Editor

U. S. Rep. Charles Stenholm visited Hermleigh School Wednesday afternoon to donate several boxes of agriculture books for the school's library.

He made the presentation to Terrel Culp, who is president of the Beta Club. Culp, who will attend West Point next fall, was nominated by Stenholm.

Stenholm spoke briefly about his farm background and the importance of getting an education. He explained the meaning and value of seniority and what it means to be the ranking Democrat on the House Agriculture Committee. When he was first elected representative of the 17th District he said he had no seniority. He also described himself as a "Conservative Democrat" and noted that he has served under five presidents, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton, George Bush and George W. Bush.

Then he opened a question and answer session, with questions ranging from lighter topics such as "what do you do?" and "how much do you make?" to more serious ones like possible war with Iraq, the economy and terrorism.

Stenholm told the students that he stands with President Bush on war with Iraq, but does not support him on his current economic plan. Nor did he agree with last year's tax cut.

Stenholm said he believes that Saddam Hussein has weapons of mass destruction — chemical and biological but not nuclear — and that he will not hesitate to use them against Americans because he has already used them to kill thousands of his own people.

He told the students that it is very likely that Saddam will provide these weapons to terrorists if he isn't stopped. Stenholm noted that should war be declared, the U.S. will have the support of many nations and that "we won't have to go it alone."

He said the cost of war is estimated from $60-$200 billion.

Stenholm noted that both Osama bin Laden and terrorists remain threats. However, he said the U.S. is learning more about fighting terrorists all the time. He's confident that bin Laden will be caught.

He also said that according to bin Laden's most recent statement, that he believes he is planning additional terror attacks against the U.S.

On an equally somber note, one student asked Stenholm where he was on Sept. 11, 2001. In somber detail, he described how the events of that horrific day unfolded.

He said he saw something that day that he hopes never to see again — people fleeing frantically from the Capitol building.

Policemen were loudly yelling for everyone to exit the building as fast as possible. He said that in all likelihood the fourth plane that the heroic passengers brought down in Pensylvannia probably was to strike either the Capitol Building or the White House.

He also noted shortly after the attacks, anthrax was released in the Capitol and he wasn't able to use his office for about three months while it was eradicated.

After a student asked Stenholm how much money he made, he answered "$155,000" and then she asked "a week?"

He explained that that was his yearly salary. He also added that he keeps two offices and two homes, one in Washington D.C. and one in Stamford.

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN

by Brian Brisendine



Just when we thought the fad of reality television couldn't get any more ridiculous, FOX television is proving us wrong.

The channel's newest show seems far-fetched to us, but we doubt they'd air it unless they were confident it could draw a crowd.

Married by America debuts soon and the jist is that viewers will meet contestar.ts, then call in to pair them with their peers. The lucky singles, that have yet to meet, then will jump into the relationship with both feet by tying the knot.

We courted the missus for two years before we finally convinced her we'd make do as a husband. Even now, she's sometimes still not convinced, but that's beside the point.

Someone should get hold of these folks and tell them how much marriage can change a lifestyle before they jump into the commitment with a total stranger.

Our personal habits can easily be divided into the categories of before and after we were married. Some examples:

Before — we could stay up until 3 a.m. and endlessly flip through the channels, watching nothing in particular.

After — both actions are punishable with dirty looks and household chores.

Before — we could eat half a bag of chips, drink three soft drinks and call it dinner.

After — the chips are now monitored closely and the bag must be folded nicely and clipped before being placed back in the cupboard.

Before — we could leave the toilet seat up, or we could leave the toilet seat down. We were master of the toilet seat. The toilet seat did whatever we told the toilet seat to do.

After — we expect to find the toilet seat permanently glued down any day now.

Before — we could take a shower without consulting the bathroom schedule.

After — we now enter the bathroom only in emergency situations and we make sure nothing is moved or tampered with in any way.

Before — we could remove our socks, form them into little balls and throw them into the hamper with a nice, last-second fade-away jumper.

After — we fold our dirty laundry more carefully than we used to bother with the clean stuff.

Before — we could set a drink on any piece of furniture in the house.

After — we're forced to keep a coaster with us at all times.

Before — a night out meant food and a movie (burger and an action flick).

After — a night out means dinner and a show (Red Lobster and a chick flick).

Before — our next car was going to be a BMW.

After — those new Saturns look pretty affordable.

Before — ESPN was a powerhouse on our television.

After — The Food Network and HGTV should pay us royalties.

Not all is bad though. The most compelling reason for our cheerful view of marriage:

Before — our roommate was 6'2", 220 pounds, sported a mustache and could beat us up.

After — trust us when we advise our new roomy is worlds better looking and has no mustache.

Unfortunately though, she too can probably beat us up.

ASK US

Q—Where is Western Texas College getting $600,000 for the sports complex?

A—The plan is to borrow the money.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Kristin Kuhl...



...is receptionist at the First Baptist Church. In addition to answering the phone, Kristin helps others in the office and visitors who drop in. She has been in that position for 1½ years. Living in Snyder for the past eight years, she enjoys kids of all ages and helping others. She is the daughter of Bobby and Patty Kuhl of Snyder and enjoys spending time with her family and helping others.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

One can never consent to creep when one feels an impulse to soar.

—Helen Keller

FEB 20 20 03

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Library closes early

The Scurry County Library will close at 6 p.m. today instead of its regular time of 9 p.m.

Annual enchilada dinner

The Knights of Columbus, Council 8875, will hold its fourth annual enchilada dinner from 11 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. on Sunday at West Elementary. Adult tickets are $5.

Support groups

Adult family violence support group and children's family violence support group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Monday at Gateway Family Service. For information call 573-1822.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 this evening is "Why Right is Right," followed by "Advice to Those Who Marry."

Ira ISD pictures proofs

The picture proofs for Ira ISD casual pictures and friendship pictures have been passed out to students. Envelopes are also available to purchase copies of each class group picture. Proofs must be returned by Tuesday with or without purchasing a package of pictures.

Weather spotter training

The National Weather Service will conduct a Skywarn spotter training class from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday at the Snyder Fire Station, 1911 27th. Any interested person is invited.

Community garden planning meeting

A planning meeting for the 2003 community garden will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the First Presbyterian Church. Persons interested in growing food for the needy, or having a family garden at the site are welcome to attend.

Genealogical Society

The Scurry County Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Scurry County Library. The program will be "Stories of Early Transportation: Horse and Buggy Days."

SJHS's *Bye Bye Birdie*

Snyder Junior High School drama and choir departments will present *Bye Bye Birdie*, next Thursday and Friday and March 1,3-4 at the junior high auditorium. Tickets are $5 each and will go on sale Friday. All seats are reserved.

FBC services televised

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

GED pre-registration and testing dates

Mandatory pre-registration for the GED tests will be next Thursday at the GED testing center at WTC in building 7B. Testing will be from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. The math portion of the test will be given at 8 a.m. Friday, Feb. 28. For more information about the GED test, call Molly Kattes, 573-2919, or Emily Hataway, 573-8511, ext. 297, or 574-2112. It is recommended that candidates receive some preparation before attempting the test.

Snyder Oaks family council

The family council of Snyder Oaks Care Center will meet from 6:30-7:30 next Thursday. The meeting is for resident's family members for a program presented by Brenda Elkins of the Area Agency of Aging.

Chicken spaghetti fundraiser

Scurry County Anti-Drug Connection will host a chicken spaghetti fundraiser Friday, Feb. 28, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center. Tickets are $6 for adults and $4 for children 6-12 and persons 50 and older. Carry-out orders will be available. Call 573-1141 or 574-1931 to purchase tickets; or come by 2513 College Ave.

Senior water aerobics

Senior water aerobics will be held from 10-11 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the WTC pool.

Withered flowers needed

The First Assembly of God youth group is needing withered flowers for a project. Call Camelia Soa at 574-2922 to have them picked up.

Trees still available

The Soil and Water Conservation office still has several varieties of trees available at $1 each. These include Lace Bark Elms, Shumard Oak, Sand Plums, Russian Olive, Honeylocust, Green Ash, American Honeysuckle, Desert Willow and Aromatic Sumac. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Relay for Life cookbooks

The cookbooks of the Cogdell Memorial Hospital Relay for Life team are now available for a $10 donation. All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society. Call Becky Craig at 573-2472, Jo Schooler at 573-7807 or 573-6374.

Relay for Life teams needed

Teams are now being recruited for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life in Scurry County to be held April 25-26 at Tiger Stadium. For more information, contact Margaret Presswood, recruitment chairperson, at 573-4873.

WTC adult basic education classes

Adult basic education classes at WTC will be held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. until noon, and from 6-9 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. Classes include E.S. L., GED and refresher courses. Certified teachers and Spanish speaking aides teach the classes. Call 573-8511, ext. 322.

Cancer treatment transportation

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

FBC support groups

Support groups dealing with divorce, death, cancer or caring for elderly parents meet at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at the First Baptist Church educational building. A special group for students facing these problems is held at the same time.

Study targets asthma

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Asthma, which has become the most common long-term childhood disease, is the focus of a new Central Texas study on how better to treat the respiratory ailment in both children and adults.

Researchers at The University of Texas Health Science Center plan to evaluate different ways to treat the disease among a diverse ethnic and age group of about 1,200 adults and children.

In the study, researchers will test two alternate models, one using nurses or respiratory technicians to provide frequent patient contact through telephone or home visits, along with 24-hour telephone access to a medical professional.

The standard care model in which patients seek physician or emergency room care when they have a problem will be compared in the study.

"The idea is when a child wakes up wheezing, the parents can call someone who knows their child's history and has orders from their physician," Dr. Autumn Dawn Galbreath, an assistant professor of medicine and project director, said.

One in 10 children has asthma, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The potentially life-threatening disease is characterized by wheezing, shortness of breath, tightness in the chest and coughing.



ROYAL BANQUET — Discovery School celebrated its royal banquet Friday with the crowning of two kings and queens. From left they are, Anthony Ortegon, Michelle Braziel, Hannah Downing and Kelton Shook. (Contributed Photo)

Johnny PayCheck dies at age 64

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Though he recorded dozens of hits during his career, country singer Johnny PayCheck was best known for one — the working man's anthem "Take This Job and Shove It."

"Well, I'd like to be remembered by all my work, instead of one song," PayCheck told The Associated Press last year. "But a lot of times you get tagged that way."

PayCheck, the one-time hard-drinking hell-raiser, died Tuesday at the age of 64, Grand Ole Opry spokeswoman Jessie Schmidt said. PayCheck had been bedridden in a nursing home with emphysema and asthma.

"I think he spoke to the blue-collar American public," said fellow musician Terri Clark. "He was a lifeline for real people who worked real jobs and who had to deal with life's hardships."

Specializing in earthy, plainspoken songs, PayCheck recorded 70 albums and had more than two dozen hit singles. His biggest was "Take This Job and Shove It," which became a national catch phrase in 1977 and was the basis of a 1981 movie.

His other hits included "Don't Take Her, She's All I Got," (which was revived 25 years later in 1996 by Tracy Byrd), "I'm the Only Hell Mama Ever Raised," "Slide Off Your Satin Sheets," "Old Violin" and "You Can Have Her."

"My music's always been about life. And situations. Situation comedies, situation life," he said in 1997.



Johnny PayCheck

Early in his career, PayCheck played in George Jones' band, and the two later recorded an album called "Double Trouble."

"But later in life we both mellowed," Jones said Wednesday. "The world will miss a great country singer and I will miss my friend."

Born Donald Eugene Lytle on May 31, 1938, in Greenfield, Ohio, he took the name Johnny Paycheck in the mid-1960s about a decade after moving to Nashville to build a country music career. He began capitalizing the "c" in PayCheck in the mid-1990s.

PayCheck's career was interrupted from 1989 to 1991 when he served two years in prison for shooting a man in the head in an Ohio bar in 1985. Ohio Gov. Richard Celeste commuted PayCheck's seven-to-nine-year sentence for aggravated assault, and the singer returned to his career.

His brush with the law wasn't his first. He was court-martialed and imprisoned for two years in the 1950s for slugging a naval officer.

He was sued by the Internal Revenue Service in 1982 for $103,000 in back taxes. This landed him in bankruptcy in 1990, when he listed debts of more than $1.6 million, most of it owed to the IRS.

After his prison release, he seemed to put his life in order. He gave anti-drug talks to young people and became a regular member of the Grand Ole Opry cast in 1997.

Still, PayCheck said when people came to hear him play, they still expected to see the whiskey-drinking, cocaine-using, wild-eyed performer with unkempt hair and a surly frown — a reputation he built early in his career.

Today's chuckle

Fleeing man breaks into six cars

HANNIBAL, Mo. (AP) — A 24-year-old man fleeing police apparently wasn't satisfied with just one stolen car.

Police said Mark D. O'Brien broke into a half-dozen cars and crashed or abandoned them before finally being taken into custody Friday. He was charged with violating his probation from a previous auto-theft offense.



The chase began in Hannibal in northeastern Missouri and ended with O'Brien's arrest in neighboring Ralls County, when he lost control of the sixth stolen vehicle, Hannibal Police Lt. Michael Lawzano said.

Police said the car thefts started about 1 p.m. Friday when a Ford Tempo was stolen and then abandoned. A GMC pickup truck was the next target, which was abandoned on an overpass. Next, a Chevrolet Lumina was swiped near a funeral home.

Authorities said O'Brien next stole a Chevrolet Astro van and left the city of Hannibal. They said he drove it about 10 miles from Hannibal, where the vehicle became disabled.

He left it and stole a Saturn car. As he was leaving, he ran into the same van that he had abandoned. The Saturn then got stuck and he abandoned it, too, authorities said. The suspect then allegedly stole a gray Dodge flatbed truck.

Eventually the driver lost control and officers were able to take him into custody, police said.

Date Book

Thursday, Feb. 20, 2003

Today is the 51st day of 2003 and the 61st day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1895, Frederick Douglass, a former slave who escaped to become a leader in the anti-slavery movement as well as a successful journalist and orator, died.

On this day in 1962, John Herschel Glenn Jr. became the first American, and the third person, to orbit Earth.

On this day in 1986, the space station Mir (Peace) was launched from a space center in Leninsk, Kazakhstan.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: William Prescott (1726-1795), Revolutionary soldier; Ansel Adams (1902-1984), photographer; Carl E. Stotz (1920-1992), founder of Little League Baseball; Robert Altman (1925-), director, is 78; Charles Barkley (1963-), athlete, is 40; Cindy Crawford (1966-), model, is 37.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1977, Cale Yarborough won the Daytona 500 after he finished last the year before.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Kids are great. That's one of the best things about our business, all the kids you get to meet. It's a shame they have to grow up to be regular people and come to the games and call you names." — Charles Barkley

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (Feb. 16) and last quarter (Feb. 23).

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events

LOTTO TEXAS™

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Wednesday's Lottery Numbers
Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — No ticket correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The ticket was worth an estimated $5 million.

The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 54 were: 21-27-35-39-41-42.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $7 million.

Pick 3
(Day) 0-5-8
(Night) 1-1-2
Cash Five
4-13-21-30-34

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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

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

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

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

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

Roy McQueen, Publisher
Wade Warren, Managing Editor
MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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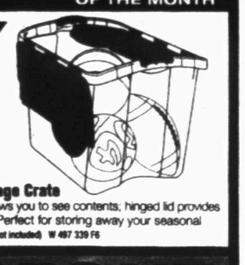
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Help Is Just Around The Corner

BARGAIN OF THE MONTH



cosco
8.88
Two-Step Stool
This handy stool with safety tread steps will give you a boost for extra reach. Folds down for easy transporting and storage. M 497 938 F4

BARGAIN OF THE MONTH



Sterilite
4.99
62-Qt. Storage Crate
Clear base allows you to see contents, hinged lid provides easy access. Perfect for storing away your seasonal items. (Contents not included) W 497 339 F6

BARGAIN OF THE MONTH



General Cable
9.99
8-Gauge Heavy-Duty Booster Cables 12' cables stay flexible, even in cold weather. SlimClamp provides easy battery post access. Incl. storage bag, work gloves and a mini flashlight. G 724 310 86

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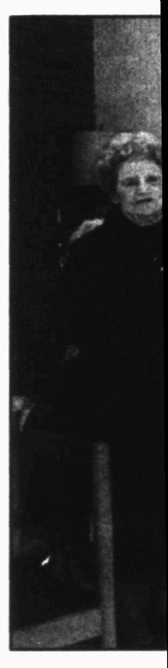
7:30 p.m., Thursday, March 6, 2003 • UTPB Gymnasium - Odessa
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Lifestyle

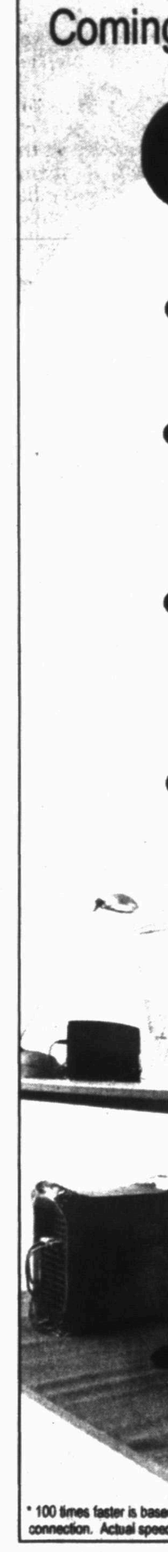


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ALTRURIAN D
High School s
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* 100 times faster is base
connection. Actual speed



HOSPICE QUILT — The volunteers for Odyssey Hospice met recently to work on a memory quilt. The quilt blocks were made to represent the hospice patients who died in 2002 and was displayed at the memorial service held Tuesday evening. Some of the quilters were from left, standing, Peggy Chandler, Charlene Hendrix, Ginny Griffith, Laura Jones, Ann Cross, Judy English, Ollie Holmes, Helen Tutt; seated, Gladys Smith, Edna Holmes and Betsy Armstrong. (Contributed Photo)



ALTRURIAN DAUGHTERS MEET — Jacinda Judah, Erin Cooley and Blake Robertson, Snyder High School speech students of Ron Hester, performed prose and poetry to members of the Altrurian Daughters Club at the Martha Ann Woman's Club. From left are Gussie Gray, Nona Morrison and Jean Sealy hostesses, Judah, Cooley, Robertson and Hester. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



North 02-20-03
♠ 8 5 2
♥ K 9 8 4
♦ A Q J 9
♣ 7 4

West
♠ J 10 7
♥ 5
♦ K 8 7 2
♣ A Q 6 3 2

East
♠ K Q 4 3
♥ 7 2
♦ 6 5 4 3
♣ 10 9 8

South
♠ A 9 6
♥ A Q J 10 6 3
♦ 10
♣ K J 5

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
1 ♥	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♠ J

Thursday, Feb. 20, 2003

Finesse one way or the other

By Phillip Alder

A two-way finesse occurs most often when declarer is missing a key queen. He has the equivalent of A-J-x opposite K-10-x and must decide which opponent holds her majesty. However, occasionally there is a two-way finesse for a king.

This deal was described by a colleague. How should the play and defense proceed in four hearts?

North has a textbook limit raise: 10-12 support points and four (or more) trumps.

With the ace-queen of clubs offside, declarer is in danger of losing four black-suit tricks. But for that to happen, East must gain the lead for a telling club shift. The columnist pointed out that South should let West win the first trick. Then, declarer takes the second spade, draws trumps, plays a diamond to dummy's ace, and calls for the diamond queen.

Here, East plays low, and declarer discards his last spade. West wins with the king, but South has 10 tricks via one spade, six hearts and three diamonds. (If East could cover with the diamond king, declarer would ruff and take the same 10 tricks.) The ruffing finesse is the perfect avoidance play to keep East off the lead.

However, the writer didn't mention that East could overtake with the spade queen at trick one. Whether declarer wins or ducks, he must now guess who holds the diamond king. Suppose South loses trick one. East shifts to the club 10, West capturing South's honor and reverting to spades. With this layout, after drawing trumps, South must take a normal diamond finesse. But if East has the king, South must take the ruffing finesse. Not so simple.

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Community Calendar

THURSDAY

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

AA Big Book Study; closed meeting; contact numbers are 574-8015, 574-1292 or 573-1141; 7 p.m.

Snyder Chapter 450 Order of the Eastern Star; Masonic Hall, 1912 35th Street; 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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

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

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

Hermleigh Community Center Family Night; 6:30 p.m.

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

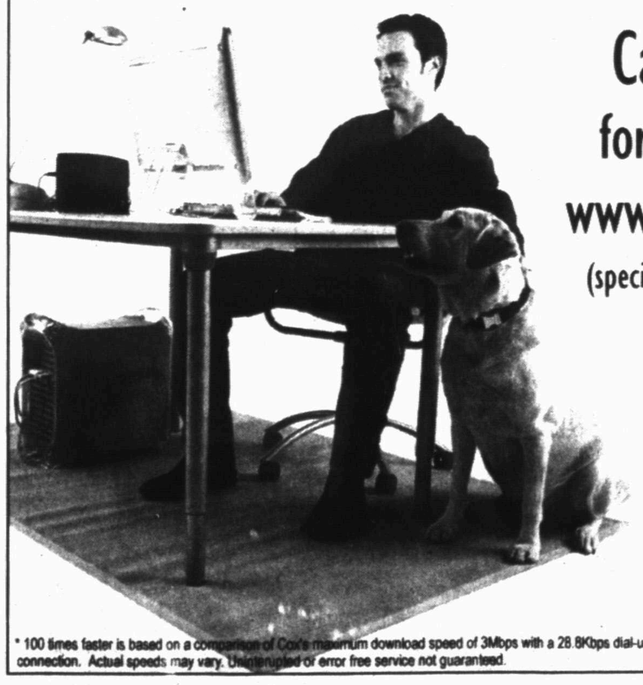
Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club; 573-3733, 573-2101 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

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

OPEN MONDAY thru SATURDAY
5 A.M. - 11 P.M.
CLOSED SUNDAY
DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS - Under $5
NIGHTLY SPECIALS -
Thursday & Friday - All You Can Eat Catfish or Ribs
Kerry's Pit & Grill
711 N. Ave. X 573-2783
Monday - Saturday 5:30 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. Closed Sunday

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1999 Mercury Cougar 2 Dr., Black	$9,500
2001 Mercury Sable White, Low Miles	$8,900
2002 Buick Century Program Car	$11,800
2002 Chevy Malibu 37K Miles, 4 Dr.	$9,500
2000 Chevy Cavalier Low Payments, High Gas Mileage	$6,500
1995 Ford Contour 4 Dr. Sedan	$3,750
2001 Suzuki Esteem Wagon 32K Miles	$7,000
2002 Buick LaSabre Great Price	$13,900
2001 Cadillac Deville Crimson Pearl	$24,500
2001 Olds Aurora One Owner, 16K Miles	$17,800
2001 Ford Focus 19K Miles, Like New	$7,900

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1988 Chevy 3/4 Ton Reg. Cab	$1,750
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1998 Chevy S10 Reg. Cab 5 Speed	$5,500
1988 Ford F250 Supercab	$4,700
1999 Chevy Blazer LS 4 Door	$9,900
2000 Ford Explorer XLT 48K Miles	$11,800
1993 Chevy Suburban	$4,500
1998 Chevy 1500 Z71 Silverado	$10,800
1998 Dodge 1500 ExCab Ramtuff	$12,500
2001 Chevy 1500 ExCab Z71 Loaded, 27K Miles	$21,500

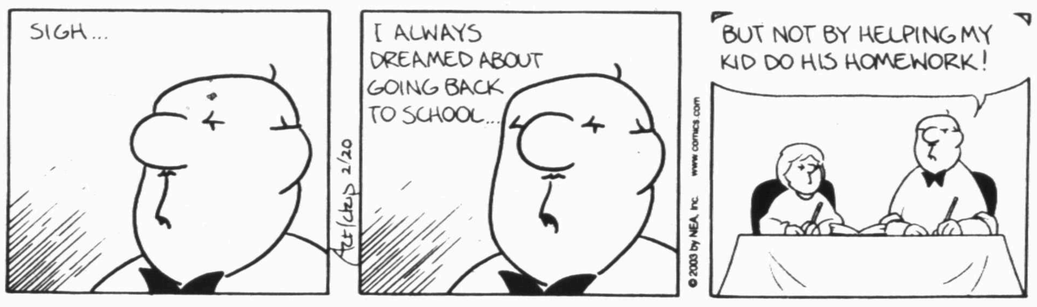
OVER 35 TRUCKS IN STOCK SALE PRICED

FEB 20 2003

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



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Kind of search
6 Huge being
11 Baby grand
12 Not as common
13 Is bratty (2 wds.)
15 Lama's chant
16 End a mortgage early
18 Make soaking wet
19 Expected to arrive
21 Howl
22 Brass component
23 Is grief-stricken
25 Not cooked
28 Throws off heat
30 Fast plane
31 Handball point
32 Model Carol —
33 Olsen of vaudeville
35 Harbor sight
37 Drain cleaner
38 Mince
40 Dregs
41 High pts.
42 Do arithmetic
43 Neither's follower
46 Court clown
48 Seventh planet
50 Fleet of warships
54 Quartet part
55 Bummer of a car
56 Damp
57 Law

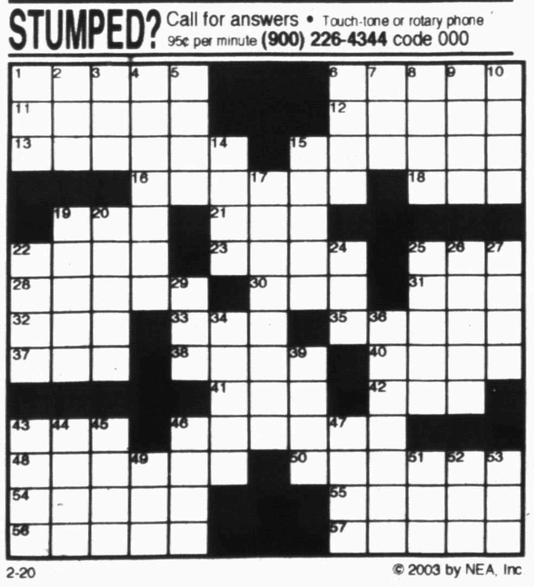
DOWN

1 Hot tub
2 Contraction
3 Willard's pet
4 Examine
5 Serve the wine
6 Cloudy
7 Songwriter Janis —
8 Poetry and painting
9 First-century emperor
10 Pitfall
14 Chest muscles
15 Possibly
17 Juts out
19 Vaguely
20 Merge
22 Ardor
24 Farm enclosure
25 Competed at Indy
26 Felt sore
27 Sprinkles
29 Instant lawn
34 Citrus trees
36 Worried
39 This, to Isabella
43 Squirrel food
44 Popular cookie
45 Sounded the bell
46 Group of peers
47 Perry's penner
49 Drink with eggs in it
51 Jacques' pal
52 Wyatt's cohort
53 Formic acid producer

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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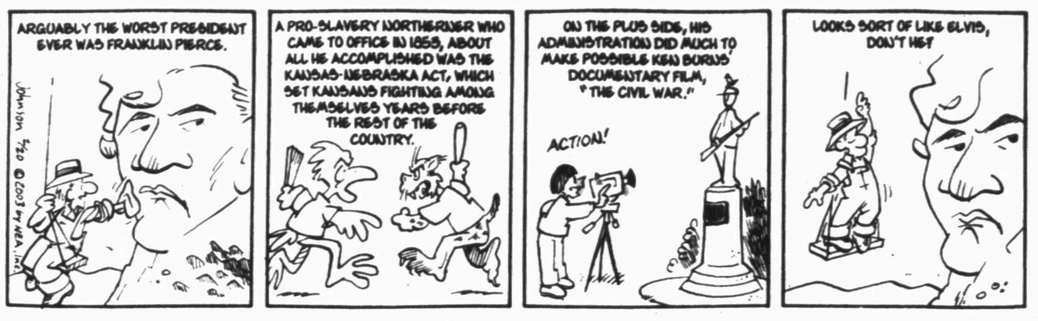


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FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



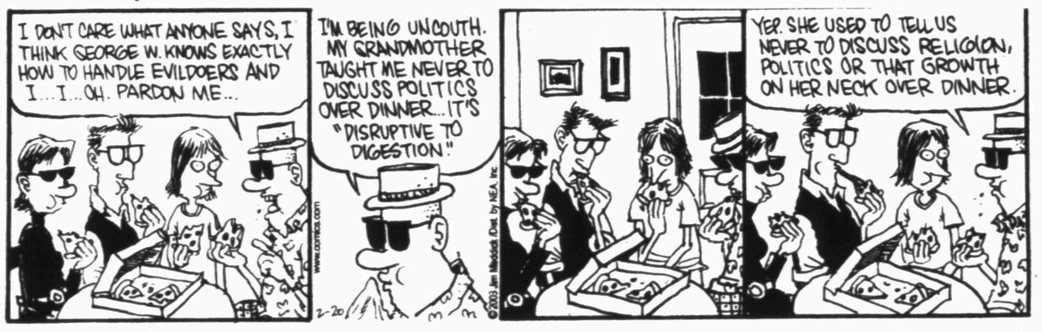
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MONTY ® by Jim Meddick



ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen



HERMAN ® by Jim Unger



Snyder Daily News

Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



"He ate the whole chocolate cake to protest the current economic situation in Russia."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



SPORTS

Five Lady Bulldogs earn spot on All-District team

District 7-A All-District Basketball Team



Sterling



Wilson



Calley



Nettles



Clements

Celeigh Sterling, Sr., Ira
Lindsey Wilson, Jr., Ira
Kylia Culp, Sr., Borden County
Pati Rodriguez, Sr., Borden County
Sara Cozart, Sr., Klondike
Taryn Southall, Sr., Klondike
Kara Southall, So., Klondike
Deisi Porras, Sr., Sands
Deanna Morales, So., Dawson
Kelsey Tubb, So., Grady

Honorable Mention:
Kali Clements, Sr., Ira
Michelle Nettles, Sr., Ira
Amanda Calley, Jr., Ira

MVP:
Bobbie Kempf, Sr., Borden County

Defensive Player of the Year:
Micha Hensley, Sr., Borden County
Newcomer of the Year:
MacKenzie Gregory, Fr., Klondike

Kobe tops 40 in seventh straight game

By The Associated Press

One of these days, Kobe Bryant will fail to score 40.

In the meantime, the points keep piling up.

Bryant reached 40 for the seventh consecutive game Wednesday night, hitting the big four-oh with 8.2 seconds left in a 93-87 victory over the Utah Jazz.

Bryant was booed until the end, when the sellout crowd of 19,911 in Salt Lake City realized he was about to continue the streak. With the crowd chanting "Ko-be! Ko-be!" Bryant got his 40th point on a free throw after the Jazz had no choice but to foul him.

"I never thought I'd hear that," Bryant said. "It felt like the Staples Center out there."

Bryant finished 15-for-29 from the floor and 4-of-6 on 3-pointers.

In other games, Portland crushed Golden State 125-98, Houston topped Phoenix 107-89, Detroit defeated Toronto 89-84, New Orleans downed Washington 87-75, Minnesota beat Denver 85-77, Philadelphia drubbed Chicago 110-82, Seattle defeated New York 103-94 and the Los Angeles Clippers topped Milwaukee 110-104.

Bryant has scored at least 35 in his last 11 games. The Lakers have gone 9-2 during that span.

"I don't really know what it is," Bryant said. "All this has done is help us win games. Maybe when I retire I can look back and see what an accomplishment it was."

When he finally does look back, Bryant will find himself in good company.

The last player to score 40 in as many consecutive games was Michael Jordan, who did it in nine straight early in the 1986-87 season. Wilt Chamberlain scored at least 40 in 14 consecutive games early in the 1961-62 season.

Bryant, who scored 52 the night before in a 106-99 double-overtime win over Houston, decided just before tipoff to play with a sore right knee as the Lakers were without Shaquille O'Neal for the third straight game.

"It's pretty remarkable what he's doing out there. He takes the challenge of winning very seriously," Lakers coach Phil Jackson said. "He's going to fight his way out of a paper bag. He has a knack for overcoming obstacles."

Trail Blazers 125, Warriors 98

At Portland, Bonzi Wells scored 29 points, 26 in the first half alone.

Portland bounded to a 76-49 halftime lead, the most first-half points scored in the NBA this season, en route to its third consecutive win. The Blazers led by as many as 33 points, and their final point total was a season high.

Golden State's Gilbert Arenas had 22 points in the first meeting between the teams since a postgame fracas Dec. 20.

"This is the same team that beat us on the last shot and we had a rumble with," Arenas said. "We came out like it never happened. They came out hungry."

Rockets 107, Suns 89

At Phoenix, Glen Rice made seven 3-pointers and scored 23 points, Cuttino Mobley scored 22 and Yao Ming outdueled Phoenix's Amare Stoudemire.

Rice, who played his second game after missing four weeks with a shoulder injury, tied his season high for points. Maurice Taylor added 13 points and Moochie Norris had 11 as the Rockets snapped a two-game skid.

Shawn Marion had 24 points and nine rebounds for Phoenix.

Pistons 89, Raptors 84

At Toronto, Chauncey Billups scored 18 points, including a key 3-pointer with 19.4 seconds left, as Eastern Conference-leading Detroit won for the ninth time in 10 games.

Vince Carter scored 16 points — only two in the second half — in his first game since declaring that the Raptors can still make the playoffs.

Corliss Williamson added 16 points for the Pistons, who improved to 37-16 overall and 17-11 on the road. Only Dallas has a better road record.

Hornets 87, Wizards 75

At New Orleans, Jamal Mashburn scored 24 points and Jamaal Magloire had 13 points and 14 rebounds. Mashburn hit a 3-pointer and a pair of runners as New Orleans scored on eight of nine possessions down the stretch to break open a tight game.

Michael Jordan scored 20 to lead Washington, but shot only 8-of-23 in his first game since turning 40.

Timberwolves 85, Nuggets 77

At Denver, Kevin Garnett had 25 points and 14 rebounds and Wally Szczerbiak added a season-high 24 points as Minnesota completed a four-game season sweep of the Nuggets.

Garnett was 4-for-4 from the line and hit a key jump shot in the fourth quarter in getting his 44th double-double of the year.

Lady Tigers fall at Midland

The Lady Tigers stumbled Tuesday, ending up on the short end of a 4-0 score at Midland High.

"They are a good 5A school, and we knew that going in," said head coach Shelly Hayes. "We wanted to see where we are."

Although Snyder (8-2) had seven hits, the team left six of those runners stranded to suffer its first shutout of the young season.

Midland played flawless defense, while the Lady Tigers were plagued by three errors.

"They had nine hits and left eight on base, so it could have been worse than it was," Hayes said.

Jacque Alvarez (3-1) pitched 6 1/3 innings and was tagged with her first loss of the season.

Both the varsity and the JV will compete in the Abilene tournament today through Saturday.

The squad will open the tournament against Breckenridge, which handed the Lady Tigers their first loss of the year, 8-6, in the championship game at the Mineral Wells tournament.

The contest is set for 5 p.m. this afternoon at Nelson Park, with Kelsi Johnson (2-0) penciled in as the starter.

Mavs rout Atlanta, 105-79

DALLAS (AP) — The Dallas Mavericks made sure their focus was on the game at hand, rather than on their next opponent.

Michael Finley scored 26 points as the Mavericks improved their league-best record to 41-12 with a 105-79 rout of the Atlanta Hawks on Tuesday night. Dallas takes on San Antonio, which has won nine straight, on Thursday in a Midwest Division showdown.

"We're going to enjoy this win for the night and then it's time to start getting mentally prepared to go to battle against San Antonio," Finley said. "They're playing tremendous team ball. They're one of the hottest teams in basketball, but we have confidence that we can continue to do what we've been doing."

Dallas, which lead San Antonio by four games, had been involved in a series of close games, and Tuesday night's blowout gave Mavericks coach Don Nelson a chance to rest his starters. The Mavericks' six previous games — three losses — had been decided by eight points or fewer.

Reserve Walt Williams added 15 points and reserve Shawn Bradley had 10 as the Mavericks took early control and went on to their third straight victory.

"This was a tune-up game," Nelson said. "The day after tomorrow will be the biggest game of the season, I think. It seems like nobody's going to beat San Antonio."

Dirk Nowitzki, Dallas' top scorer and rebounder, finished with only 14 points in 28 minutes against the Hawks after six consecutive games of 25 points or more.

Finley went 10-for-19 from the field, including 3-of-4 from 3-point range.

Santa Teresa football coach dies

SANTA TERESA, N.M. (AP) — Santa Teresa High School football coach Tommy Moss died this week. He was 54.

Moss, who had coached the Desert Warriors for less than a year, apparently died of heart failure Tuesday morning.

Moss led the Desert Warriors to a 2-8 record last season, after Santa Teresa had lost 25 consecutive games.

Former players said Moss brought a great deal of enthusiasm to the program.

"Coach was always so positive and he believed in us," said Rafael Valadez, a Santa Teresa senior. "He worked hard in what he did out there and he never stopped working. He was always trying to get us to become a better team."

Santa Teresa snapped a losing streak that began in 1999 with a 21-7, come-from-behind victory Sept. 27 against Socorro. The Desert Warriors also beat Anthony, Texas, 19-6, in the Desert Warriors' homecoming game on Oct. 4.

Moss coached teams in Friona and El Paso before coming to New Mexico. He also previously coached in Oklahoma.

"It's real unfortunate that coach Moss died," senior Danny Ramirez said. "He was a good guy and a good coach. He was always helping others. We'd have days where you could bring clothes to school for those less fortunate and he'd always bring something. That was a lesson learned. "

National Hockey League

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Atlantic Division							
New Jersey	35	16	4	4	78	153	118
Philadelphia	30	16	11	2	73	136	125
N.Y. Islanders	28	23	6	2	64	161	162
Pittsburgh	24	26	4	5	57	153	170
N.Y. Rangers	24	30	7	2	57	161	191
Northeast Division							
Ottawa	38	15	7	1	84	196	134
Toronto	33	21	4	1	71	169	143
Boston	28	23	6	2	64	172	163
Montreal	24	24	7	7	62	158	177
Buffalo	17	29	7	5	46	127	157
Southeast Division							
Washington	28	23	7	3	66	170	160
Tampa Bay	25	21	9	5	64	166	167
Florida	17	22	11	9	54	138	175
Carolina	18	29	8	6	50	130	173
Atlanta	20	31	4	4	48	157	209
WESTERN CONFERENCE							
Central Division							
St. Louis	31	16	8	5	75	194	157
Detroit	30	17	9	3	72	175	150
Chicago	24	23	10	3	61	147	145
Nashville	21	24	9	4	55	135	149
Columbus	22	29	6	2	52	158	182
Northwest Division							
Vancouver	34	16	9	0	77	180	150
Colorado	27	14	11	6	71	169	143
Minnesota	29	22	8	1	67	143	133
Edmonton	26	20	6	7	65	161	161
Calgary	18	29	10	4	50	133	175
Pacific Division							
Dallas	34	12	13	1	82	181	118
Anaheim	28	20	8	4	68	148	144
Los Angeles	25	26	4	4	58	153	161
Phoenix	22	25	7	4	55	147	158
San Jose	21	28	6	5	53	158	179

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

Wednesday's Games
Boston 1, Carolina 1, tie
Buffalo 2, Montreal 1, OT
Tampa Bay 2, Atlanta 0
Ottawa 5, New Jersey 3
N.Y. Rangers 4, Minnesota 2
Calgary 1, Dallas 1, tie
N.Y. Islanders 3, San Jose 0
Anaheim 2, Columbus 0

Thursday's Games
Florida at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Washington, 7 p.m.
Edmonton at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Vancouver at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Colorado at Pittsburgh, 8 p.m.
Los Angeles at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.
Calgary at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Phoenix at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.

Friday's Games
Los Angeles at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Colorado at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Boston at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Columbus at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Anaheim, 10:30 p.m.

National Basketball Association

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
New Jersey	36	18	.667	—
Boston	31	23	.574	5
Philadelphia	29	24	.547	6½
Orlando	26	29	.473	10½
Washington	25	28	.472	10½
New York	23	30	.434	12½
Miami	18	36	.333	18
Central Division				
Detroit	37	16	.698	—
Indiana	37	17	.685	½
New Orleans	29	27	.518	9½
Milwaukee	27	26	.509	10
Atlanta	20	34	.370	17½
Chicago	19	36	.345	19
Toronto	16	36	.308	20½
Cleveland	10	44	.185	27½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
Dallas	41	12	.774	—
San Antonio	37	16	.698	4
Minnesota	34	21	.618	8
Utah	32	22	.593	9½
Houston	28	25	.528	13
Memphis	16	36	.308	24½
Denver	12	43	.218	30
Pacific Division				
Sacramento	37	18	.673	—
Portland	35	18	.660	1
Phoenix	30	24	.556	6½
L.A. Lakers	28	25	.528	8
Golden State	24	30	.444	12½
Seattle	22	30	.423	13½
L.A. Clippers	19	34	.358	17

Wednesday's Games
Detroit 89, Toronto 84
New Orleans 87, Washington 75
L.A. Lakers 93, Utah 87
Houston 107, Phoenix 89
Minnesota 85, Denver 77
Philadelphia 110, Chicago 82
Seattle 103, New York 94
Portland 125, Golden State 98
L.A. Clippers 110, Milwaukee 104

Thursday's Games
Indiana at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Boston at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

Friday's Games
Phoenix at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Orlando, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Washington, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Memphis at New Orleans, 8:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Seattle, 10:30 p.m.
New York at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
Portland at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

Area Sports Calendar

TODAY

Baseball:	Snyder JV in Snyder tournament.
Basketball:	Borden County vs, New Home, Lubbock, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY

Baseball:	WTC at El Paso CC, DH, noon. Snyder JV in Snyder tournament.
Softball:	Snyder varsity at Abilene tourney. WTC at Cowtown Classic, Ft. Worth. Snyder JV at Abilene tourney.
Golf::	Snyder varsity boys at Midland. Snyder JV girls at Sweetwater.
Tennis:	Snyder varsity and JV at Odessa tourney.

SATURDAY

Baseball:	Snyder varsity at Pecos, DH, 1 p.m. WTC at El Paso CC, DH, noon. Snyder JV in Snyder tournament.
Softball:	Snyder varsity and JV at Abilene tourney. WTC at Cowtown Classic, Ft. Worth.
Tennis:	Snyder and JV at Odessa tourney.
Golf::	Snyder varsity boys at Midland Snyder JV girls at Sweetwater.
Powerlifting:	Snyder at Odessa High tourney, 9 a.m.

Little Dribblers

Majors

Mavericks 48, Blue Devils 35
Mavericks: Alex Hernandez 17, Gage West 11, Lashondrick Richardson 10, Brandon Lunsford 10. **Blue Devils:** Riley Davis 16, Jake Crenwelge 14, Tanner Bragg 3, Eric Trammell 2.

Rockets 25, Raptors 20
Rockets: Jordan Gafford 6, Matthew Rios 6, Branson Rameriz 5, Colby Barrera 4, Quintin Bass 4. **Raptors:** Bubba Perales 6, Emmanual Hernandez 6, Kenyon Gafford 5, Jonathan Kerr 2, Roy Lee Sanchez 1.

Timberwolves 42, Celtics 21
Timberwolves: Jared Cave 26, Kasey Young 10, Douglas Brunson 2, Tye Burton 2, Will Stewart 1, Alan Mehrafshan 1. **Celtics:** Kaden Seale 5, Garrett Hale 4, Taylor Davidson 4, Tye Holley 2, Jacob Kemp 2, Seth Nazier 2, Josh Sorrells 2.

Blue Devils 42, Magic 36
Blue Devils: Jake Crenwelge 26, Riley Davis 14, Tanner Bragg 2. **Magic:** Rey Juarez 22, Seth Sanchez 10, Jake Lionburger 2, Gabriel Acosta 2.

Raptors 34, Celtics 13
Raptors: Bubba Perales 15, Kenyon Gafford 11, Emmanual Hernandez 6, Roy Lee Sanchez 2. **Celtics:** Garrett Hale 7, Kaden Seale 2, Taylor Davidson 2, Seth Nazier 1, Jacob Kemp 1.

Mavericks 35, Celtics 14
Mavericks: Gregory Williams 18, Lashondrick Richardson 10, Robert Aguirre 4, Gage West 3. **Celtics:** Kaden Seale 5, Garrett Hale 3, Jacob Kemp 2, Seth Nazier 2, Josh Sorrells 2.

Magics 31, Rockets 19
Magic: Seth Sanchez 10, Rey Juarez 10, Clint McFatridge 2, Gabriel Acosta 2, Jake Lionbarger 2. **Rockets:** Jordan Gafford 13, Brandon Ramirez 2, Ryan Anderson 2, Matthew Rios 2.

Standings

Mavericks	9-0
Timberwolves	6-2
Magic	5-4
Raptors	4-4
Blue Devils	4-5
Rockets	2-7
Celtics	1-9

Sports Briefs

Babe Ruth League

There will be a meeting for Babe Ruth League summer baseball league tonight at 7 in the SHS film room.

Groundhog Open

The Scurry County golf course will host the Groundhog Open Saturday and Sunday. The format will be two-man scramble with a 1 p.m. shotgun start both days. Entry fee is $80 per team. Call Rick at the pro shop at 573-7101 for more information.

Tyson fight: It's on — for now

MEMPHIS (AP) — Clifford Etienne changed his mind and agreed to fight Mike Tyson as planned Saturday, marking another twist in the soap operalike saga that has enveloped the heavyweight fight for days.

Riley back at Oregon St.

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Four years after leaving Oregon State for the NFL, Mike Riley has rejoined the Beavers as head coach.

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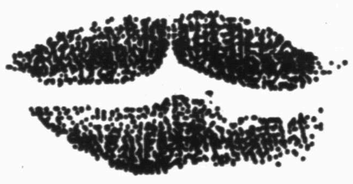
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FBI arrests Palestinian college professor

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — A Palestinian college professor previously accused of having terrorist ties was arrested early today by federal agents. He was one of several people arrested here, in Chicago and overseas, the FBI said.

Television reports showed Sami Al-Arian being led in handcuffs to FBI headquarters in Tampa after the arrest. His indictment is sealed until a court hearing scheduled for today afternoon.

"It's all about politics," Al-Arian told reporters as agents led him inside.

FBI spokeswoman Sara Oates said that three people were arrested in Tampa, one person was in custody in Chicago, and an undisclosed number of people were arrested overseas. She identified the other two arrested in Tampa as Sameeh Hammoudeh, 42, of Tampa, and Hatim Naji Fariz, 30, of Spring Hill, but she had no detail on those arrested elsewhere.

Randall Samborn, a spokesman for the U.S. attorney's office in Chicago, declined to comment, and the FBI there did not immediately return a phone call.

In Tampa, U.S. attorney's office spokesman Steve Cole said that Attorney General John Ashcroft would be holding an afternoon news conference in Washington with Paul Perez, U.S. attorney for the Middle District of Florida. He said that the arrests were related, but would not elaborate.

Al-Arian's criminal attorney, Nicholas Matassini, did not immediately return a phone call seeking comment.

Perez's office had said last year that Al-Arian was under federal investigation.

"This was disconcerting but not surprising," USF spokesman Michael Reich said about the arrest. He said university President Judy Genshaft will meet with the school's lawyers today to discuss it.

The tenured computer engineering professor was placed on forced leave and banned from campus shortly after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and his subsequent appearance on Fox News Channel. The school also is trying to dismiss him.

He was quizzed about links to known terrorists, and asked about tapes from the late 1980s and early 1990s in which he said "Death to Israel" in Arabic.

Al-Arian has said that he has never advocated violence against others and that his words were a statement against Israeli occupation. He also has consistently denied any connection to terrorists.

The university says that hurt the school's fund-raising efforts and resulted in threats being made against the school.

The university also claimed the professor raised money for terrorist groups, brought terrorists into the United States, and founded organizations that support terrorism.

Al-Arian and his brother-in-law, Mazen Al-Najjar, founded the World and Islam Studies Enterprises, a now-defunct Islamic think tank at USF that was raided by the FBI in 1995. Al-Arian also founded the Islamic Concern Project Inc. in 1988.

Al-Arian has lived in the United States since 1975 and had taught at the university since 1986.

Last month, the faculty union at the University of South Florida filed a grievance on Al-Arian's behalf, saying that banning him from campus violated the union's contract, Al-Arian's right to academic freedom and its own policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of ethnicity and religious affiliation.

His brother-in-law, who also had taught at the university, spent more than 3 1/2 years in jail on secret evidence linking him to terrorists. He was released in 2000 but arrested again in November 2001 and deported last August.

Scientists: Dumping excess snow in rivers may harm environment

By The Associated Press

As cities in the Northeast dig out from a powerful winter storm, many are using local rivers to dump tons of plowed snow that doesn't fit in parking lots or other urban spaces.

Some scientists say the river dumping carries an environmental risk. In Pennsylvania, for example, the accumulated snow could harm a sensitive insect species at the bottom of the food chain.

Robert East Jr., a biologist and director of environmental studies at Washington & Jefferson College in Washington, Pa., said stone flies — just beginning to emerge in Pennsylvania's rivers — could be threatened by the salts used to melt snow along the state's roadways.

"They're very sensitive to water quality, so any sort of pollution that they experience now — nitrates, phosphates, chlorides, salts — could devastate them," East said. "These organisms are important as part of the food chain in the streams. They break down leaves, they provide organic matter, and they're also part of the food chain for trout, large mouth bass, a lot of our game fish."

With little space to pile accumulated snow, Philadelphia officials decided to dump it into the city's rivers. Christine Ottow, a spokeswoman for Philadelphia's mayor's office, called dumping the snow in the river a "last resort." The city was buried under 18 inches of snow in this week's storm.

"But in this case it's just too much," Ottow said. "And if we don't get it out of here, when it starts to melt we'll have flooding — in which case we'd probably have runoff going in anyway."

While Pennsylvania and West Virginia have no rules that prohibit dumping snow into rivers and streams, other states do, including Maryland and Massachusetts.

New Jersey also prohibits dumping, but the ban was temporarily lifted after Gov. James E. McGreevey declared a state of emergency following the storm. New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection spokesman Al Ivany said Paterson, Jersey City, Newark and Stockton all received permission to dump snow into rivers.

Likewise, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection granted a waiver to the Coast Guard to dump snow from its base into Boston Harbor.

"It's a confined area, and they have good control over what they have on the base itself (to treat snow)," said Massachusetts DEP spokesman Ed Coletta.

In New York City, Department of Sanitation spokesman Vito Turso said the department stopped dumping snow into the East and Hudson rivers and New York harbor after a 1996 blizzard because of worries over pollution from rock salt and debris.

River and watershed groups said snow should be hauled away.

"Our preference is for this stuff to be dumped on open land where it can at least not go directly into rivers," said Tom Miner, executive director of the Connecticut River Watershed Council in Greenfield, Mass.

Dennis Buterbaugh, spokesman for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, said rivers typically are higher in the winter and better able to handle additional salt levels.

Jane Pauley to leave NBC Network after 27 years

NEW YORK (AP) — Jane Pauley, the co-anchor of "Dateline NBC," will be leaving NBC in June after 27 years with the network.

Her resignation was announced today on NBC's "Today" show, which she had anchored for 13 years before moving to the newsmagazine.

Pauley, 52, decided not to renew her contract, opting instead to begin the next phase of her career, said Ann Curry, a co-anchor on the "Today" show. Pauley had recently returned after taking several months off to write a book.

She did not immediately return telephone messages seeking comment.

The decision to leave the network was not easy for Pauley but "she felt the urge to try new things," Curry said. Details were not disclosed about her plans.

Bob Wright, the chairman of NBC, called Pauley "a pioneer who has been synonymous with NBC for nearly 30 years," Curry said.

Pauley was removed from "Today" in 1989 and replaced by Deborah Norville in a move that backfired on NBC.

Nutrition By Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Chest pains need more than supplements

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I am a 56-year-old male and I am having occasional minor chest pains that my friends tell me might be angina. I also have borderline high blood pressure. I do not feel this is serious to the point of needing to seek medical assistance. Some friends have encouraged me to take a supplement called CoQ-10. Is there any scientific evidence that this product helps the heart, and could there be any bad side effects? All I read is testimonials by the manufacturer. — **D.R., San Diego, Calif.**

DEAR D.R.: Your reluctance to seek medical care is risky business. You have no idea what is causing your chest pains, which could be anything from indigestion to an early sign of heart disease. If it is the latter, taking action now might save you from more serious problems down the road. In any case, you need to know what is causing the pain, especially given that you already have high blood pressure. It is in your best interest to find out before turning to any self-prescribed medications.

There is some evidence that Coenzyme Q-10, also known as CoQ-10 or ubiquinone, might be of help with certain types of heart disease. This is a substance that the body already produces on its own, and the effectiveness of additional amounts remains controversial. I suggest you discuss this with your health care professional when you go in to find out about your chest pain. If your physician is interested, there is a good article on alternative and complementary therapies for heart disease that include CoQ-10 and other substances in the June 2002 issue of the Journal Primary Care.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: What do you think of the safety of eating baked potato peelings? I wash and prick holes in the potato, put it in a sandwich bag with just a little water, and then put it in the microwave. The resulting peel is soft and really good-tasting. — **V.G., Reading, Pa.**

DEAR V.G.: The vitamins, minerals and fiber in a potato come primarily from the flesh. Although not a nutritional powerhouse, the peel does contain a small amount of iron and fiber, and it provides a good contrast to the smooth texture of the flesh. There's absolutely nothing unsafe about eating potato peels provided they are clean, free from sprouts and have no greenish discoloration.

I say this because potatoes can produce solanine, a bitter-tasting toxin that affects the nervous system. Solanine is produced when the potato is exposed to sunlight or allowed to sprout. It is most concentrated in the sprout, but it's also present in potatoes that have a green tint to the skin.

You can slow the production of solanine by storing your potatoes in a cool, dark place. Carefully cut away all sprouts and green portions before cooking. And discard any potatoes that taste bitter.

Regarding your plastic-bag cooking technique, I trust you have already checked with the bag manufacturer to verify that the product is safe for use in a microwave. All plastic bags are not the same, and a number of brands will melt in a microwave.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I've been trying to get my friends started on some supplements, but with no luck. One friend asked me, "How can taking so many supplements be good for you when most of them are encased in plastic?" I'm sure they're not encased in plastic, but I couldn't quite answer her question. Can you? — **B.L., Tampa, Fla.**

DEAR B.L.: The "plastic" encasement your friend refers to is a gelatin capsule. Plastics don't usually dissolve, but gelatin, which is a protein, does. Gelatin capsules have been in use for over a century and they provide a safe, tasteless enclosure that releases its contents into the stomach after about 19 to 20 minutes.

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

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

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	2.96	2.85	2.86	—.06
AOL TimeWrn	11.04	10.65	10.69	—.25
AT&T Corp rs	18.99	18.22	18.30	—.27
Albertsons	19.25	19.16	19.24	+.04
Alltel	44.17	43.40	43.40	—.62
AmEl Pw	21.00	20.56	20.70	—.09
AndarkPtr	44.51	43.99	44.24	+.35
ATMOS Egy	22.19	21.93	22.09	+.07
Aviall	6.92	6.87	6.92	—.01
BP PLC	39.10	38.50	38.60	+.14
BakerHughes	31.13	29.75	30.01	—.10
Bank of Amer	69.84	69.22	69.48	—.27
BellSouth	22.39	21.75	21.84	—.30
BurlNoSFe	25.58	25.20	25.32	+.07
Caterpillar	46.35	45.42	46.01	+.06
CenterPoint	4.96	4.68	4.77	—.03
ChevronTex	65.25	64.27	64.53	+.12
Citigroup	33.51	32.85	32.93	—.43
CocaCola	40.80	40.22	40.32	—.35
ColgatePal	50.65	50.00	50.01	—.49
CmclMetals s	14.17	14.10	14.10	—.05
ConocoPhill	49.72	49.00	49.11	—.38
Cooper Inds	38.32	37.73	37.88	—.25
DaimlrChry	30.50	29.42	29.71	—.19
DeltaAirl	9.00	8.75	8.79	—.21
Dillards Inc	14.16	13.87	13.96	—.30
DowChem	28.11	27.59	27.80	—.29
DuPont	37.38	36.63	36.77	—.34
EastmanChem	32.65	31.85	32.05	—.43
EstKodak	30.62	30.00	30.05	—.52
EDS Corp	16.40	16.21	16.21	—.10
Entergy	45.90	45.36	45.70	+.35
ExxonMobil	34.14	33.70	33.81	+.03
FootLocker	10.15	10.07	10.10	—.05
GenDynam	65.52	64.31	64.67	—.85
GenElec	23.50	23.14	23.19	—.16
GenMills	45.10	44.19	44.37	—.72
GenMotors	34.15	33.28	33.43	—.45
GaPacific	15.12	14.60	14.74	—.13
Goodrich	16.80	16.35	16.39	—.39
Goodyear	4.27	4.13	4.14	—.07
GtAtlPac	5.15	4.96	4.96	—.04
Halliburtn	19.74	18.86	18.98	—.42
Hanson ADS	23.99	23.87	23.87	+1.70
HarteHanks s	18.26	18.00	18.01	+.01
HomeDepot	21.98	21.58	21.70	—.14
HoneywellIntl	23.84	23.63	23.72	+.22
IBM	80.05	79.00	79.12	—.39
IntlPaper	35.47	34.79	34.98	—.19
JohnsonJn	53.33	51.98	52.05	—.52
KinderMorg	46.05	45.76	45.83	+.12
Kroger Co	13.97	13.79	13.83	—.06
LockheedM	47.45	46.62	46.84	—.84
Lowes Cos	35.21	34.87	35.20	+.20
Lubys	1.47	1.42	1.45	+.02
LucentTech	1.80	1.75	1.75	—.02
MarathonOil	22.33	21.99	22.03	—.05
MayDeptStr	19.56	19.10	19.16	—.54
Medtronic	44.99	44.43	44.60	—.05
Motorola	8.30	8.13	8.20	—.09
NCR Corp	18.38	17.95	18.36	+.76
Navistar	24.35	24.03	24.20	+.15
PNM Rescs	19.73	19.50	19.58	—.10
Penney JC	19.24	18.10	18.39	—.04
PepBoys	9.60	9.50	9.53	—.07
PepsiCo	40.15	39.55	39.75	—.30
Pharmacia	39.89	39.40	39.47	—.18
PhelpDodge	35.00	34.57	34.75	—.05
PilgrmPrd B	7.92	7.44	7.92	+.35
Praxair	53.61	52.61	53.01	—.35
ProctGamb	84.20	83.11	83.35	—.65
RadioShack	22.00	20.30	20.44	—.01
RoyalDut	40.15	39.34	39.48	—.08
SBC Comm	23.00	22.10	22.24	—.79
SaraLee	20.15	19.85	19.92	—.05
Scripps EW	78.94	78.54	78.70	+.23
SearsRoeb	22.50	21.35	21.63	—.64
SherwinW	26.99	26.64	26.87	+.03
SouthernCo	28.55	28.20	28.30	+.02
SwstAirl	12.48	12.31	12.34	—.15
SprintFON	12.85	12.56	12.65	+.14
SprintPCS	4.31	4.17	4.25	+.02
Sunoco Inc	34.15	33.73	33.79	—.18
TXU Corp	15.99	15.61	15.75	+.24
TempleInland	42.34	41.69	41.77	—.39
TexInd	20.20	19.82	20.05	—.15
TexasInst	16.75	16.19	16.23	—.18
Textron	38.03	37.39	37.45	—.31
TrinityInds	16.85	16.73	16.74	—.01
TylerTech	3.81	3.80	3.81	—.03
UnionPacif	56.34	55.92	56.08	+.33
USSteel	12.50	12.14	12.19	—.26
UnitedTech	62.50	60.80	60.95	—1.25
Unocal	26.37	25.94	26.07	—.03
VerizonComm	36.94	35.95	36.18	—.42
WalMart	48.88	48.07	48.15	—.62
WellsFargo	46.55	46.00	46.20	—.22
WstnGasRs	31.23	30.56	30.95	—1.73
WinnDixie	12.53	12.31	12.49	+.19
Xerox Cp	9.24	9.04	9.05	—.20
YumBrands s	23.42	23.09	23.38	+.31

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FEB 20 2003

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Better late than never to pursue college degree

DEAR ABBY: I would like to comment on the letter from "Jack of All Trades," who feels he is at a dead end because he has only a G.E.D.

I work for a college. Many of the students who come through our doors have G.E.D.s. We test the students to place them in classes for their level of learning.

"Jack" can get a degree, and he is never too old to start. Many older people are entering college for the first time today. He shouldn't hesitate. New classes begin all year long. — **BEVERLY P., WICHITA, KAN.**

DEAR BEVERLY: I hope "Jack" sees this column, because many people reached out to help him. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I was in "Jack's" shoes at one time. I had little education, no family and no direction.

It took determination to change my situation. I was married to an abusive man, had quit high school in 10th grade and had very little family support. I decided at 25 that it was time to take back my life.

I went to night school to get my G.E.D., then went on to college for eight years. After receiving my B.A. degree, I left my abusive marriage, landed a great job, and today I'm enrolled in an MBA program.

Good luck, "Jack"! You can do it. — **FINALLY EDUCATED IN TAMPA**

DEAR FINALLY EDUCATED: It's success stories like yours that inspire others.

DEAR ABBY: This is in reply to the 32-year-old "Jack" who feels he has done nothing with his life. Sooooo? The average healthy American is living 80 or more years, which means "Jack" has about 50 to go. Now more than ever, nontraditional students are going to college for the first time. A college adviser is there to help in areas of financial aid and selecting a major — and support groups such as SOS (Student Opportunity Services) help nontraditional students adjust to college life. — **BEEN THERE, DONE THAT, BILLINGS, MONT.**

DEAR BT/DT: Thank you for your helpful suggestions.

DEAR ABBY: The letter from "Jack of All Trades" really hit home. I, too, struggled with everything. It turned out I have attention deficit disorder (ADD). My life is now changed and, at 35, I am back in college. I'm learning and growing in every way and every day. I can also sleep at night. — **RON IN TOPEKA**

DEAR RON: You have made an excellent point. A person who has difficulty concentrating or is disorganized should be evaluated for ADD.

**

DEAR ABBY: My father moved out of the house last week and I am really hurting. What can I do to ease the pain besides the obvious: spend time with him on weekends, call him, etc.? I feel like I no longer have a dad — even though I still see him at least once a week. — **FEELING FATHERLESS IN NORTH DAKOTA**

DEAR FEELING FATHERLESS: Tell your father exactly how you feel. Your feelings are normal. Some family counseling sessions to ease the transition could be helpful for all of you.

**

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

**

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

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Berry's World

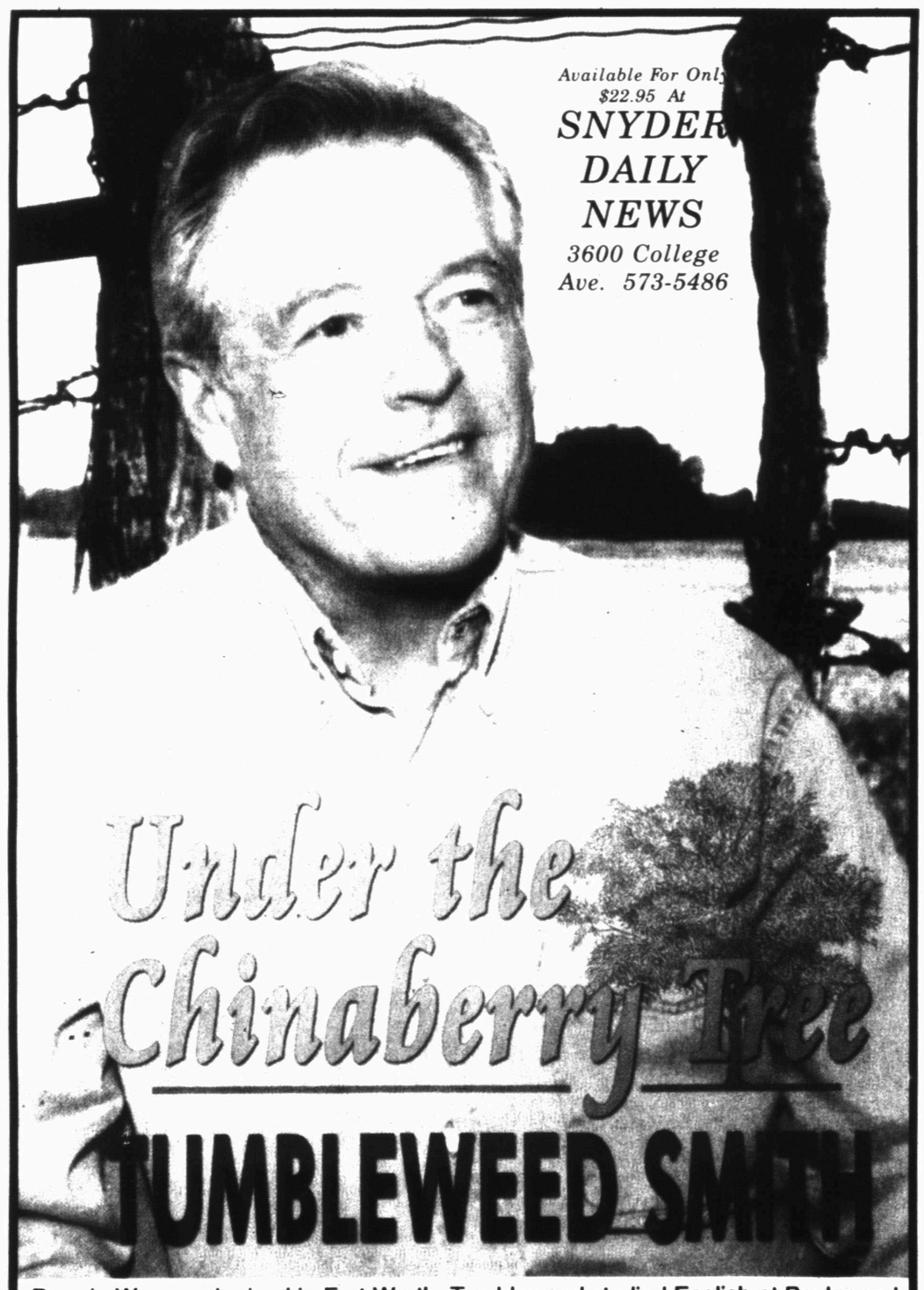


"I HAD A FEELING THAT SOMETHING LIKE THIS WOULD HAPPEN. HE'S BEEN SPENDING WAY TOO MUCH TIME LOOKING AT CAVE DRAWINGS."





SCHOOLHOUSE RAPS — Central third graders in Kori Glenn's and Melissa McNeil's classes recently presented *Schoolhouse Raps*. Sheila Sorrells is the music teacher. Mrs. Glenn's students (top photo) are back row from left, Beto Arellano, Samantha Mitchell, Glorianna Medrano, Samantha Edwards, Keenon Ward, Krystal Gomez and DaShay Smith; middle row, Armando Monroy, Corbin Holmesly, Gina Garcia, Samantha Aviles, Ashton Lee, Ramsey Alarcon; back row, Ashley Silva, Caleb Wilson, Adrian Segura, Codee Aplin and John Henry Ornelas. Mrs. McNeil's students (bottom photo) are back row from left, Khari Powell, Dalton Toland, Alex Rivera, M.J. Diaz, Robbie Rinehart, Daniel Shlezinger and Sarah Pyburn; middle row, Randy Vera, Meghan Garza, Cody Guerrero, Joe Garza, Ajay Garcia, Brandon Mireles, Dominique Diaz; front row, Samantha Rogers, Ryanna Martinez, Andrea Rodriguez, LaTasha Seale and Kendall Alarcon. (Staff Photos by Shirley A. Gorman)



Born in Waco and raised in Fort Worth, Tumbleweed studied English at Baylor and journalism at the University of Missouri, and he developed a love of travel at an early age. His radio program, THE SOUND OF TEXAS, and his syndicated newspaper column, ROLLING AROUND TEXAS, cover Texas' small towns, unique events, folklore, history and characters. Tumbleweed teaches oral history at the University of Texas of the Permian Basin. He lives in Big Spring with his wife Susan.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Peripheral neuropathy has many causes

DEAR DR. GOTT: Please provide information on peripheral neuropathy.

DEAR READER: Peripheral neuropathy simply means that nerves in the upper or lower extremities are not functioning normally. Initially, this causes numbness and tingling of the hands or feet, which progress to pain and, finally to weakness. Any factor affecting a nerve can lead to neuropathy. Thus, common causes include:

Direct pressure — from carpal tunnel syndrome, herniated discs or a tightly fitting cast, for example.

Exposure to cold or radiation, with attendant nerve damage.

Poor circulation from blood clots, diabetes or nerve trauma.

Drug reactions, especially to barbiturates and sulfa.

Toxic reactions to lead, arsenic and other heavy metals.

Carbon monoxide poisoning.

Nutritional disturbances, particularly deficiency of the B vitamins.

Malignancies, which can affect blood proteins, leading to nerve damage.

As you can see from this partial list, the diagnosis of peripheral neuropathy is a challenge that usually involves several medical specialists, such as internists and neurologists.

Treatment depends on the cause. There is no single "generic" therapy for everybody; each case requires individual attention.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I get vitamin B12 shots once a month for fatigue and other problems, but the injections don't seem to do what I would like them to do. Would it be safe to take the shot once a week?

DEAR READER: Weekly shots would not be harmful — but they won't do any good either.

B12, a vitamin necessary for blood production and normal nerve function, is stored in the body. Therefore, if you are unable to absorb B12 from the food you eat (a disease called "pernicious anemia"), your B12 level could easily be maintained by a vitamin injection every month or so. Vitamin B12 given more frequently than that is not retained and passes out in the urine.

I don't know what you expect B12 to do for you, but your expectations may be unrealistic. This vitamin is the doctor's traditional placebo: The pink liquid, when injected with optimism and fanfare, is sure to light up the most tired and depressed elderly person. It's quick and safe; there is no such thing as an overdose. Again, I want to emphasize that such benefits are purely psychological. B12 shots have been used for generations to treat vague feelings of fatigue and discontent — what used to be called "the vapors." This is not the same as treating a B12 deficiency, as I mentioned above, which is diagnosed by blood tests.

I recommend that you sit down with your doctor to discuss your symptoms — and your expectations. Of course, he may feel the compulsion to escape out the back door if you pull out three sheets of notes from your purse. But stall him, review your problems and follow his advice about more appropriate ways of treating your concerns. For instance, you may be depressed or have an underactive thyroid gland; both ailments are easily treated with medicine, but not B12.

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

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NASA is moving ahead with plans for space station orbiter

WASHINGTON (AP) — As investigators search for the cause of the Columbia disaster, NASA is moving ahead with plans to develop a new craft that would replace shuttles on space station missions by 2012 and respond quickly to space station emergencies.

The space agency released the first set of mission needs and requirements Wednesday for the orbital space plane, which would be designed to transport a crew of four to and from the International Space Station.

Although it includes few specifics, the plan stipulates the orbiter will be safer, cheaper and require less preparation time than the shuttle. It would be able to transport four crew members by 2012 — though it would be available for rescue missions by 2010. NASA says the craft should be able to transport injured or ill space station crew members to "definitive medical care" within 24 hours.

The release of the requirements showed NASA remains focused on the long-term priorities of space exploration, even as questions linger concerning the loss of Columbia and its seven-member crew on Feb. 1.

Experts at Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala., have been working for years on a successor to the shuttle. The project, known as the Space Launch Initiative, was divided last year into two parts — one focusing on a future launch vehicle, the other on a space station orbiter. The orbiter is expected to be ready sooner.

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Blast and fire at plant injure at least 22

CORBIN, Ky. (AP) — An explosion and fire at a southern Kentucky factory injured at least 22 workers today and authorities shut down an interstate because of a chemical cloud. At least 11 workers were critically injured.

Kentucky State Police spokeswoman Lt. Lisa Rudzinski said authorities were concerned about a large, black cloud of hydrogen cyanide and shut down a 13-mile stretch of Interstate 75 and were evacuating a 1.5-mile perimeter around the plant.

"Our first and foremost concern is to get all the people out of the direction of the smoke plume," Rudzinski said. "That chemical is very dangerous if inhaled. It's a serious situation."

The CTA Acoustics factory was still burning about three hours after the morning blast, according to Ray Bowman, a spokesman with the Division of Emergency Management.

Baptist Regional Medical Center was treating 11 critically injured people and 4 other victims. They had massive burns and complications from smoke inhalation, a hospital statement said.

Three other hospitals said they were treating victims.

Earlier, state officials said two people were unaccounted for, but Bowman later said they may be among those taken to hospitals.

According to Dr. Boyd Haley, chairman of the chemistry department at the University of Kentucky, hydrogen cyanide is a toxic poison that inhibits the body's ability to use oxygen.

"It's immediate suffocation, it doesn't take very much," Haley said.

According to state economic development officials, the plant makes acoustical and thermal insulation products for the industrial and automotive industries and employs 561 workers.

The plant was evacuated after the fire, said Dave Rosnowski, a spokesman for the company based in Madison Heights, Mich. He said he did not have further details.

CTA worker Rogers Bales told the Times-Tribune of Corbin he was inside the building when the rear of the plant exploded.

"Everybody saw a huge fireball, and everybody started running out," Bales said. "There was smoke and dust everywhere."

Near the plant's security building, a roll-call sheet was being passed around in an attempt to account for all workers.

Teen in botched surgery getting new heart, lungs

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — A 17-year-old girl underwent a second heart-lung transplant today, two weeks after a botched transplant with organs of the wrong blood type left her near death.

The family of Jesica Santillan was elated early today when it learned that donated organs had been shown to be a good match, said supporters who raised funds for the girl.

Jesica, who has type O-positive blood, was given a heart and lungs from a donor with type A blood in a transplant Feb. 7 at Duke University Hospital. Her condition steadily deteriorated as her body rejected the new organs.

A second set of organs was located late Wednesday and transplanted into Jesica in a four-hour operation this morning, hospital spokesman Jeffrey Molter said.

Renee McCormick, spokeswoman for a charity raising money for Jesica's care, said her heart was beating on its own afterward. Molter said she was still breathing with the help of a ventilator and was in critical condition, which is standard in such cases.

"This is a very serious surgery," Molter said. "We are hopeful that these organs will support her."

The procedure has a 50-50 success rate, said Mack Mahoney, a leader in fund-raising efforts to pay for the girl's medical care.

"So far, so good," McCormick said. "Her parents feel some relief right now. Everyone is incredibly hopeful and we're just so pleased, so thankful."

Lloyd Jordan of Carolina Donor Services said the donor family had requested anonymity. He said the donation was not "directed" — that is, the family did not specifically request that the organs be given to Jesica.

"We consider all donors and their families to be heroes," Jordan said. "These are the people who make the gift of life possible."

Jesica, who is from a small town near Guadalajara, Mexico, needed a transplant because a heart deformity kept her lungs from getting oxygen into her blood. Doctors said she would have died within six months without it.

The fact that a new set of compatible organs became available as Jesica neared death was "an amazingly good thing," Molter said. He noted that 80 percent of people awaiting transplants die before organs can be found.

"I think the word is getting out about organ donations. And in some ways, I think Jesica is a very lucky little girl," he said.

Bush touts economic proposal in Georgia

KENNESAW, Ga. (AP) — President Bush, on a day that new government reports documented a troubled economy, argued today that his multibillion-dollar tax cut plan would significantly improve the business outlook.

Bush traveled to Georgia not only to tout his stimulus plan but to single out Sen. Zell Miller, the only Senate Democrat who has come out in support of his economic proposals.'

"I agree with Zell, with this economic theory that when a person has more money in his pocket, they're likely to demand that somebody produce them a good or a service," he said. Miller, who accompanied the president to the stage stood alongside, applauding Bush's remarks.

"The cornerstone of good economic policy recognizes the money in Washington, D.C. is not the government's money, it's the people's money," Bush said, "and the more of it you have in your pocket, the more likely somebody's going to have a job."

In introducing Bush, Miller did not specifically back Bush's tax cuts, although he called Bush a man "of common sense" and said one should "not take money from the hard-earned taxpayer in the first place."

Miller, however, has decided to the Democratic sponsor of a measure containing Bush's proposals, his aides and Bush said.

The $674 billion tax-cut package includes provisions to accelerate personal tax cuts approved in 2001, eliminate dividend taxes and create "re-employment accounts" to help the jobless.

Bush highlighted a new private-sector "blue chip" economic forecast projecting that the economy would grow in the fourth quarter of this year by 3.3 percent compared to the same period last year.

Bush emphasized a portion of the report suggesting that such a level of growth depended on swift passage of his proposed tax cuts.

By contrast, more than 400 economists, including 10 Nobel laureates, said last week that Bush's tax plan wouldn't help the ailing economy immediately. Instead, they predicted that it would create deeper deficits that could drive up long-term interests rates and jeopardize the economy down the road.

White House says...

Congress has shortchanged local emergency staff in spending bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration and Democrats finally agree on something: Both say the $397.4 billion spending plan that the Republican-led Congress completed last week shortchanged anti-terrorism funds for state and local emergency workers.

Though Democrats have been making that charge for weeks, the White House joined in publicly only in the past several days. Both say that while President Bush proposed $3.5 billion in new aid to help state and local officials prepare for terrorist attacks, the new bill provided less. The administration says the new money amounts to $1.3 billion.

"There's a lot in there that could have and should have been done differently, particularly in the area of homeland defense," White House spokesman Ari Fleischer told reporters Wednesday as he criticized the reduction in Bush's proposal.

The bill — which Bush was expected to sign anyway today — does contain $3.5 billion for local police, fire fighters and other emergency workers. But about $2.2 billion of that is for existing programs that cover broad law enforcement and emergency purposes, like buying police cars or responding to floods.

Last Friday, Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge complained about the cut in Bush's plan. He also criticized the bill for specifying how some funds should be spent, which he said would limit the ability of state and local officials to decide how to use the money.

"That flexibility isn't available, isn't attached to all the dollars that we've received from Congress," Ridge said. He added that only $1.3 billion can be used "for the broad-based, needs-based grant program that the president had originally sought."

The overall measure finances every agency except the military for the federal budget year that runs through Sept. 30.

Several GOP aides to congressional leaders and the House and Senate Appropriations committees declined to comment Wednesday on the administration's remarks, while others could not be reached. Congress is in recess this week.

The White House comments could be an effort to divert criticism from state and local officials, who have lambasted lawmakers for not including more new anti-terror funds at a time when many governments are facing budget deficits of their own.

Christine LaPaille, spokeswoman for the National Governors' Association, said state officials wanted the bill to start a permanent federal commitment to helping them pay for battling terrorism.

"They need Congress to fund these programs as proposed by the president," LaPaille said. "And that didn't happen this session, and that is a problem."

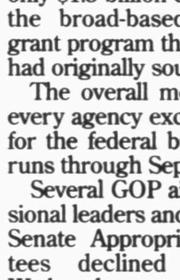
Obituaries

Vernon Moore

1949-2003

SAN ANGELO — Vernon Moore, a former resident of Snyder, died Tuesday, Feb. 18, after a long battle with cancer.

A memorial service for Mr. Moore, 54, is set for 2 p.m. Saturday in the Johnson's Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Ferris Akins officiating.



Vernon Moore

Born Jan. 17, 1949 in Roscoe he was reared in Snyder and married Kay Robertson on Feb. 27, 1988 in San Angelo. Mr. Moore was employed in aviation maintenance.

He was preceded in death by his father, George Moore.

Survivors include his wife, Kay Moore of San Angelo; two daughters, Erica Sage and Shelly Aylor of San Angelo; two sons, Denver Moore of San Angelo and David Aylor of Dallas; a brother, George Moore of San Angelo; a sister, Peg Moore of San Angelo; and his mother Jewell Moore of San Angelo.

Three arrested

•Arrests

Deputies arrested a 53-year-old man in the 2400 block of 28th Street at 5 p.m. Wednesday on a warrant for failure to appear before a judge at a hearing for enforcement of child support.

At 5:15 p.m. a 20-year-old man was taken into custody on warrants for motion to revoke probation.

A 23-year-old man was arrested in the 1300 block of 26th Street at 5:50 p.m. on two outstanding warrants.

•Close patrol

A coliseum employee requested a close patrol of the coliseum grounds because of several juveniles hanging around the locomotive.

•Noise complaint

An anonymous caller reported at 3:35 a.m. today that a dog in the 2100 block of 41st Street would not stop barking. An officer contacted the owners who advised they would bring the animal inside.

•Gas drive off

A clerk at Allsup's on College Ave. reported a gas drive off in the amount of $20.02 at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday.

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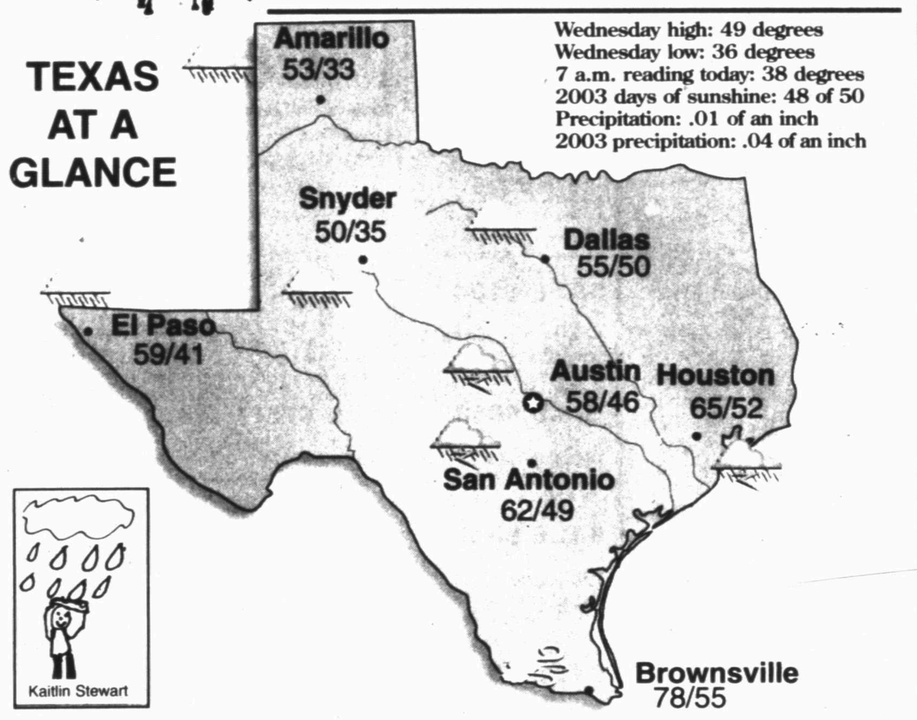
Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

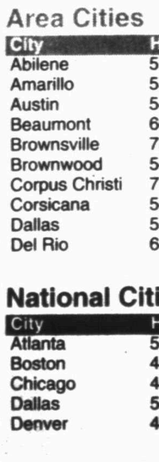
Fri 2/21	Sat 2/22	Sun 2/23
50/35	61/32	60/20
Cloudy with periods of rain. High near 50F. Winds N at 10 to 15 mph.	More sun than clouds. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the low 30s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the low 20s.
Sunrise 7:21 AM / Sunset 6:34 PM	Sunrise 7:20 AM / Sunset 6:35 PM	Sunrise 7:19 AM / Sunset 6:36 PM

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TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Wednesday high: 49 degrees
Wednesday low: 36 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 38 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 48 of 50
Precipitation: .01 of an inch
2003 precipitation: .04 of an inch


Kaitlin Stewart

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	51	42	rain	El Paso	59	41	rain	Midland	52	40	rain
Amarillo	53	33	rain	Fort Stockton	54	42	rain	Raymondville	77	50	pt sunny
Austin	58	46	t-storm	Gainesville	51	42	rain	Rosenberg	65	52	t-storm
Beaumont	66	52	t-storm	Greenville	51	44	rain	San Antonio	62	49	t-storm
Brownsville	78	55	windy	Houston	65	52	t-storm	San Marcos	60	48	t-storm
Brownwood	54	43	rain	Kingsville	75	50	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	53	46	rain
Corpus Christi	71	52	t-storm	Livingston	63	49	t-storm	Sweetwater	52	38	rain
Corsicana	54	48	rain	Longview	58	49	rain	Tyler	57	51	rain
Dallas	55	50	rain	Lubbock	54	36	rain	Weatherford	52	42	rain
Del Rio	64	49	rain	Lufkin	62	54	t-storm	Wichita Falls	55	43	rain

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	59	52	cloudy	Houston	65	52	t-storm	Phoenix	73	51	mst sunny
Boston	43	31	mst sunny	Los Angeles	73	51	mst sunny	San Francisco	62	46	pt sunny
Chicago	46	33	cloudy	Miami	81	71	pt sunny	Seattle	51	40	rain
Dallas	55	50	rain	Minneapolis	30	20	cloudy	St. Louis	51	38	cloudy
Denver	49	26	pt sunny	New York	45	32	mst sunny	Washington, DC	44	38	cloudy

Moon Phases

Full	Last	New	First
Feb 16	Feb 23	Mar 3	Mar 11

UV Index

Fri 2/21	Sat 2/22	Sun 2/23
2	6	6
Minimal	Moderate	Moderate

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

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FEB 20 2003

Budget cuts could be matter of life, death

AUSTIN (AP) — Budget cuts at the Texas Department of Health could be a matter of life or death, Health Commissioner Eduardo Sanchez told lawmakers.

Sanchez on Wednesday told budget writers that programs that help chronically ill children, low-income Texans with HIV who depend on the state for help with medicine and others would likely suffer from spending reductions.

The department is asking for $817 million for 2004-05, a 10 percent decrease from the current budget.

Among priorities are bioterrorism readiness, disease prevention, immunizations for children and combating obesity, Sanchez said.

The department has been considering cutting the program that helps low-income Texans get expensive drugs that help fight off deadly symptoms of HIV.

About 12,000 people depend on the program, a number expected to drop by at least 2,500 if income requirements are changed to make only the poorest of the poor eligible.

The department would need $48 million in the next two years to keep the program as it is.

Texas is facing a budget shortfall of $10 billion through 2005.

PRISON POPULATION

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst said plans are under way to free up 4,000 prison beds.

Part of the additional capacity could come from shortening a substance abuse program for offenders from nine to six months to free up 2,000 beds.

Another 1,000 beds could come from converting a youth commission facility in Bryan into an adult prison operated by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Plus, TDCJ said it can add an additional 1,000 prison beds to its existing operations, said Sen. John Whitmire, chairman of the Senate Criminal Justice Committee.

The news came a day after prison officials said they could reach their operating capacity within a few days.

Operating capacity is not maximum capacity. Instead, it is the figure prison officials say allows for the most efficient operations of the prisons.

SMALL-BUSINESS HELP

Sen. Kip Averitt, R-McGregor, on Wednesday filed legislation that would allow small businesses to join together to negotiate health insurance coverage for their employees.

Rep. John Smithee, R-Amarillo, plans to carry the bill in the House.

It's an idea Gov. Rick Perry pushed on the campaign trail and one that's praised by business groups.

"Sen. Averitt's bill will go a long way toward making health insurance more accessible and affordable to Texans," Perry said.

RAILROAD COMMISSION

The Senate on Wednesday approved the nomination of Taylor County Judge Victor Carrillo to fill a spot on the three-member Railroad Commission, which regulates oil, gas and pipelines. Carrillo replaced Tony Garza, who left the agency last year after President Bush nominated him to be U.S. ambassador to Mexico.

FILMING DELIBERATIONS

A Senate committee has approved a bill that would ban a person from making an audio or visual recording of a jury while it is deliberating.

The bill by Sen. John Lindsay, R-Houston, comes after the Court of Criminal Appeals last week barred a Houston judge from allowing the PBS series "Frontline" to videotape jury deliberations in a death penalty case.

The court determined that a video camera would create outside influence and pressure on the jury by allowing potentially millions of viewers to see the secret discussions.

The bill now moves before the full Senate.

VOUCHER DEBATE

More than 200 people from the Edgewood Independent School District were at the Capitol on Wednesday to urge lawmakers not to support a private school voucher program.

"Vouchers are not the answer," said Maria Gaona, flanked by dozens of other parents wearing maroon Edgewood ISD shirts at a news conference.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Friday, Feb. 21, 2003

You may find that your success will come in areas where you can devote substantial time and energies to being creative. Seek out ventures or enterprises that require resourcefulness.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Watch what you tell to whom today. Taking into your confidence someone who isn't discreet about what she or he reveals to others is not apt to keep your secret very secret for long.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Even though you might think you have a great idea today, it would be best not to spring any changes you take upon yourself onto your colleagues. They may not agree with you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Strive to honor all commitments you promised others, even if it will greatly inconvenience you to do so today. The reflection it would make on you won't be worth it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — There's a good chance you could be hampered in your efforts at work today by a slothful co-worker. Try to get him or her out of your way early, so you can make some progress on your own.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Lady Luck may be nowhere to be found today, so exercise good judgment in situations that possess strong elements of chance. If you don't, you could suffer a big loss.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — If everything is running smoothly, don't upset the apple cart today by attempting to change the way everyone is used to doing things. You'll end up authoring unnecessary dissension.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Before beginning any job today, lay out your game plan and method procedures. Lack of forethought when attending to a project could gum things up.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Your budget could be woefully teetering today, so take extreme caution not to totter it down. Don't make any purchases or spend funds on activities you can do without.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — You and your spouse could be at odds today concerning a household issue. If neither can yield a bit, wait until another day when you're in a better mood to readdress the situation.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Be careful not to allow your emotions or feelings to cloud your better judgment today and cause you to get yourself into a situation that would be difficult to unravel.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Disciplined, prudent management of your funds must be followed at all times today if you have any hope of staying on the plus side of the ledger. Something extravagant could be far too tempting today.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — No matter how good something sounds, don't try to pass off a story that simply isn't true. Chances are you'll be challenged on it, making you look bad when the facts are known.

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9 HOUR



WAREHOUSE FURNITURE

Varsity Square • Snyder

SALE

CLOSED FRIDAY TO MARK DOWN FOR SALE

4TH ANNUAL STOREWIDE SALE OF REGULAR GOODS, DISCOUNT ITEMS, SOME ODDS & ENDS AND SOME SLIGHTLY DAMAGED ITEMS. ABSOLUTELY OUR BEST PRICES OF THE YEAR.

ONE DAY ONLY SATURDAY 10 A.M. 'TIL 7 P.M.

A $350,000.00 INVENTORY OFFERED DIRECT TO THE PUBLIC AT UP TO 55% OFF!

NO MONEY DOWN, NO PAYMENT, NO INTEREST TIL AUGUST 2003

ACCENT DECORATOR FOOTSTOOLS Only a few, Closeout Reg. $24.95 SALE $10

MAN'S SIZE RECLINER WhileThey Last Reg. $179.95 SALE $88

STURDY METAL DAYBED Complete With Rails And Bedding Reg. $179.95 SALE $88

GLIDER ROCKER & MATCHING OTTOMAN Sturdy construction. Choice of colors Reg. $249.95 SALE $117

SEVERAL ACCENT DRESSING TABLE CHAIRS White Wrough Iron Choice of Colors Reg. $69.95 SALE $44

3 PC COFFEE TABLE & END TABLE SET Glass Top-Black With Brass Accent Base. Reg. $99.95 SALE $49

FUTON SOFA With thick pad - sturdy built sofa by day - sleeps 2 people by night Reg. $249.95 SALE $149

5 PC. FAMILY ROOM GROUP Sofa, Rocker, Chair and 2 End Tables, Closeout, Reg. $599.95 SALE $299

EXTRA SALES HELP

LIVING ROOM SUITES

3 PC CORNER SECTIONAL with sleeper and 2 recliners - rich blue cover Reg. $1799.95 SALE $1047

BEAUTIFUL SOFA & LOVESEAT In deep cushion style - choice of colors Reg. $999.95 SALE $688

3 PC. CORNER SECTIONAL Complete with 2 recliners, nice cover Reg. $1099.95 SALE $648

3 PC LIVING ROOM GROUP Includes Sofa, loveseat and chair,1 only Reg. 799.95 SALE $537

CREDIT CO. ON DUTY

BEDROOM SUITES

6 PC TRADITIONAL BEDROOM In mint and natural color. Reg. $1,499.95 SALE $797

7 PC CONTEMPORY BEDROOM In a rich natural color. Includes headboard, footboard, rails, dresser, mirror, chest, nightstand Reg.$1599.95 SALE $788

5 PC BEDROOM includes large dresser, hutch, mirror, bookcase headboard, nightstand and chest. Reg. $699.95 SALE $447

6 PC BEDROOM Large dresser, hutch mirror chest, nightstand, cannon ball head and foot. Reg. $1199.95 SALE $688

PLENTY OF PARKING

DINING SUITES

5 PC. CONTEMPORY WROUGHT IRON TABLE with deluxe chairs, 1 only Reg. $799.95 SALE $399

7 PC CHERRY LARGE TABLE With 6 deluxe chairs, 1 only - Reg. $949.95 SALE $547

8 PC. NATURAL ALL WOOD DINING ROOM Table bench, 6 chairs and Lazy Susan, floor sample Reg. $699.95 SALE $388

ODDS & ENDS

SEVERAL BAR STOOLS ON SALE Several styles and colors SALE $24 & Up

SOLID WOOD LAHGE DRESSER Hutch mirror and nightstand, close-out price Reg. $799.95 SALE $338

UP TO 60% OFF

BEDDING

1 YEAR WARRANTY SLEEP CARE SETS

Twin Size Sets Reg $179.95 ..... SALE $85

Full Size Sets Reg $229.95 ..... SALE $115

MARKET SPECIAL 15 YEAR WARRANTY SETS

Twin Size Sets Reg $249.95 ..... SALE $147

Full Size Sets Reg $349.95 ..... SALE $177

Queen Size Sets Reg $449.95 ..... SALE $227

King Size Sets Reg $599.95 ..... SALE $277

PILLOW TOP CYBER REST SETS 15 YEAR WARRANTY

Full Size Sets Reg. $449.95 ..... SALE $248

Queen Size Sets Reg $549.95 ..... SALE $298

King Size Sets Reg $699.95 ..... SALE $388

CREDIT TERMS

OCCASIONAL

SECRETARY DESK WITH DROP LID 3 drawers for storage room Reg. $199.95 SALE $117

CURIO CABINETS In a rich wood grain finish. Hurry for this value. Reg. $199.95 SALE $117

1 ONLY COMPUTER DESK In a rich wood grain finish, floor sample. Reg. $169.95 SALE $97

SLEEPER SOFAS

QUEEN SIZE SLEEPER SOFA Opens with queen mattress - choice of beautiful covers Reg. $699.95 SALE $399

ONE DAY ONLY

CHAIRS & RECLINERS

LARGE ROCKER-RECLINER with control handle - choice of colors. Reg. $299.95 SALE $199

SEVERAL RECLINERS BY LANE & BEST CHAIR Choice of colors Reg. $499.95 SALE $248

1 ONLY - WING BACK CHAIR Queen Anne style, Hurry for this one. Reg. $229.95 SALE $147

2 ONLY ENTERTAINMENT CENTERS Choice of cherry or black finish Reg. $199.95 Sale $97

9 HOURS ONLY

CLOSEOUT CORNER

3 PC. DROP LEAF TABLE With 2 high back chairs - 1 only - closeout price. Reg. $499.95 SALE $227

ALL CEDAR CHESTS AT CLOSEOUT PRICES Several styles and finishes. Reg. $499.95 SALE $188 & Up

LARGE EXTENSION TABLE With leaf plus 4 chairs, in oak finish, closeout price. Reg. $499.95 SALE $199

NAME BRANDS OFFERED

- Action Lane
- Ashley
- Custom
- Harden
- American
- Best Chair
- Benchcraft
- Vaughan
- Beautyrest
- Posture Beauty

ITEMS SOLD ON FIRST COME FIRST SERVED, U-HAUL-IT AND SAVE

4 DRAWER CHEST Good storage space, nice wood grain finish, 2 per family Reg. $69.95 SALE $33

DECORATOR WROUGHT IRON MAGAZINE BASKET Closeout Price Reg. $29.95 SALE $15

FINANCING AVAILABLE

- No Money Down
- No Interest if paid by August 2003
- $300 Minimum Purchase
- Applications Approved While You Wait

ALL ITEMS SUBJECT TO PRIOR SALE

TERMS OF SALE

- VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER AMERICAN EXPRESS
- ON THE SPOT FINANCING
- 6 MO. FREE LAYAWAY ON MOST ITEMS
- 6 MO. NO INTEREST OPTION IF PAID BY AUGUST 2003

LARGE GROUP OF DECORATOR LAMPS Choice of Styles & Colors SALE $18 & Up

IRON TWIN/FULL PYRAMID BUNK BED In Red, Blue, Black or White, Complete With Mattress. Reg. $399.95 SALE $277

DOORS OPEN 10:00 A.M. SHARP

'TIL 7:00 P.M. FOR 9 HOURS

*If purchase paid in full - no interest will be charged. If not paid - interest from purchase date is added to account.

SALE WILL BE CONDUCTED ON THE PREMISES OF

WAREHOUSE FURNITURE

1806 Varsity Square (Next To Eckerds) Snyder, Texas

No Early Shoppers Please

"A STORE YOU KNOW AND TRUST NOW OFFERS YOU QUALITY NAME BRAND FURNITURE AT UP TO 55% OFF THIS SATURDAY FOR 9 HOURS ONLY!!!"