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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY
Jan. 21, 2004
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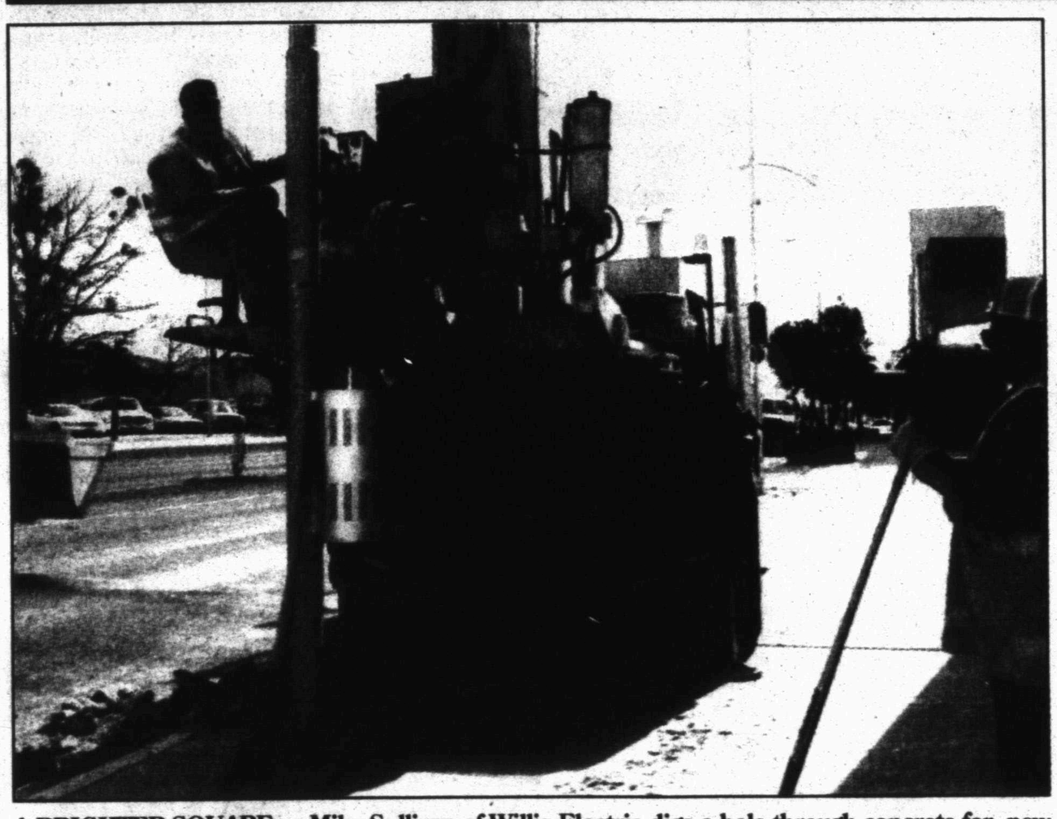
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Phyllis Smith

JAN 21 2004



A BRIGHTER SQUARE — Mike Sullivan of Willis Electric digs a hole through concrete for new lights at the intersection of 25th and College Ave. while Salvador Ramos looks on. (SDN Staff Photo by Annie Rowe)

Friday, Saturday...

SHS will host speech tourney

The Texas Forensics Association speech tournament will be held at Snyder High School on Friday, starting at 4 p.m. and continuing unti 11 p.m. and Saturday from 7:30 a.m. until about 7 p.m.

The tournament is one of eight qualifying meets at which participants may qualify for the state meet in Bryan March 4-6.

"We are very excited about this tournament," said Snyder High School speech teacher Ron Hester. "There will be participants from 22 schools here on Friday and Saturday."

Hester added the speech students will come from as far away as Pampa.

"We'll have schools of all sizes here. There will be very big schools, such as Abilene, down to very small schools like Wall that will be here. It's a really nice mix of students."

Hester said the tournament is the Snyder program's major fundraiser for the year. Money raised will be used for meeting expenses of the speech team for the remainder of the school year and possibly sending some students to debate camp this summer.

"Hosting the tournament really helps us increase our funds. It provides more money to help the kids in the program," he said.

Hester said that the tournament brings a large number of participants and teachers into the Snyder community and he appreciates the support of local businesses.

"We appreciate all the help that we get from the businesses in Snyder. The hotels are good about helping with rooms for our judges and the participants who stay for the tournament. The restaurants are also great about staying open later so participants can get something to eat. We have a lot of help in many ways," he said.

Hester said that he is expecting 140 speech students on Friday and 170 are expected on Saturday.

"That's a lot of kids that will be here. We think it will be as successful as ever."

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN

by Jo Ann Nunley

During President George Bush's State of the Union speech Tuesday, he encouraged us to say "Thank You" to the veterans of America at every opportunity available.

We have several holidays recognizing those serving or having served in the armed forces such as Armed Forces Day, May 15; Memorial Day May 31; Flag Day, June 14; Independence Day, July 4; Veteran's Day, Nov. 11; and Pearl Harbor Day, Dec. 7.

Many songs have been written to salute and remember men and women who are making a sacrifice or have made the ultimate sacrifice to keep us free.

A veteran and survivor of Pearl Harbor, John H. Roddy of Snyder shared the following information, The Story of Taps, with me, both with tears in our eyes — him as the giver, me as the recipient.

We have all heard the haunting melody of "Taps." Its song gives us that lump in our throats and usually tears in our eyes. But do you know the story behind the song?

Reportedly, it all began in 1862 during the Civil War, when Union Army Capt. Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harrison's Landing, Va.

The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land and during the night, Capt. Ellicombe heard the moans of a soldier who was severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life to bring the stricken man back for medical attention. Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, the Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward the encampment. When he reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier had died during the retrieval.

The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light he saw the face of the soldier.

It was his own son. The boy had been studying music in the south when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army. The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission to give his son full military burial despite his enemy status. His request was only partially granted.

He asked for a military band to play a funeral dirge (a hymn of grief). The request was denied because of the son's enemy status.

Out of respect for the grieving captain, the Army did grant him a lone bugler. The bugler was asked to play a series of notes scribbled on a piece of paper he found in the boy's uniform. The wish was granted, and the haunting melody which we now know as "Taps" used at military funerals, was born.

Day is done, Gone the sun,
From the lakes, From the hills,
From the Sky, All is well, safely rest, — God is nigh.

Fading light, Dims the sight,
And a star, Gems the sky,
Gleaning bright, From afar,
Drawing nigh, Falls the night.

Thanks and praise, For our days, Neath the sun, Neath the stars,
Neath the sky, as we go, This we know, God is nigh.

From TxDOT...

Airport receives grant

By Annie Rowe
SDN Staff Writer

The Scurry County Airport is looking to the future with the development of an airport layout plan.

The Texas Department of Transportation has approved $40,000 in funding for the airport to be used in the development and preparation of a plan.

The airport layout plan is basically a highly developed map that will show where current roads and structures are located. Additionally, the layout will have information such as security information, runway length, ground contours and water drainage. The plan also will show where future buildings, roads, fences or other improvements are planned.

"This is more than just a map, it's required by the department of transportation and it's very detailed," said Rodger Sullenger, manager of Scurry County Airport. "The county has contracted with the engineering firm of Parkhill, Smith and Cooper to do the work which is going to take a considerable amount of time."

The funding for the layout plan will be paid with 90 percent funding from the Texas Department of Transportation and 10 percent funding from Scurry County.

"Of the $40,000 in costs, the county is only going to have to pay $4,000, which is very good considering the amount of work that will go into it," said Sullenger.

Scurry County Airport is among 275 community airports in Texas eligible for funding. Arrivals and departures at community airports account for more than three million flight hours per year and provide aircraft facilities for agricultural, medical, business and commuter use.

"Community airports support a great deal of travel activity," said Mark Cross, public information representative for TxDOT. The layout plan is required when airports are working, or plan to begin working, on improvements. It's useful when the airport needs to convey information to other offices. The plan lets the other entities know what the airport will build and where."

Upon completion of the layout plan, a contract for the construction and improvement project will be awarded later this year.

Ira ISD choses not to participate in class action lawsuits

Ira ISD board of trustees Tuesday opted not to participate in class action lawsuits against various oil companies over alleged underpayment of ad valorem taxes.

Dr. Larry Devitt, Ira school superintendent, said some of the firms allegedly involved in the underpayment of taxes had been a great help to the school district in various ways over the years so the board decided not to act on the item that had previously been tabled.

In action items, the trustees conducted the annual evaluation of Dr. Devitt and school principal, Dale Pectol.

"The evaluations were in closed session and no action was taken following the evaluations," said Dr. Devitt.

The trustees also approved the 2002-2003 audit as given by Rick Rodgers, CPA, of Hamlin. The board also approved a letter of engagement for the 2003-2004 audit with Rodgers.

Trustees also called the school board election for May 15 as the terms of Keith Clements and Dirk Dunn will expire. Clements represents Place 6 while Dunn represents Place 7.

The board also approved Dr. Devitt and business manager Jan Duke to serve as investment officers.

Several monthly reports also were given by Dr. Devitt and Pectol.

Bush: Troubled times in parts of the country

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush, drawing from his State of the Union speech, said today that America's economy is strong but "there are still troubled times" in some parts of the country. Democrats said Bush's election-year address underscored how paltry his achievements have been.

The morning after he addressed a national television audience and a joint session of Congress, Bush flew to Toledo, Ohio to begin a two day swing that also will take him to Arizona and New Mexico to highlight his job training and counter-terrorism proposals.

He said, "this economy is strong ... I fully recognize that in Ohio there are still troubled times."

Bush spoke at Owens Community College to highlight his $250 million proposal for new job-training grants channeled through community colleges.

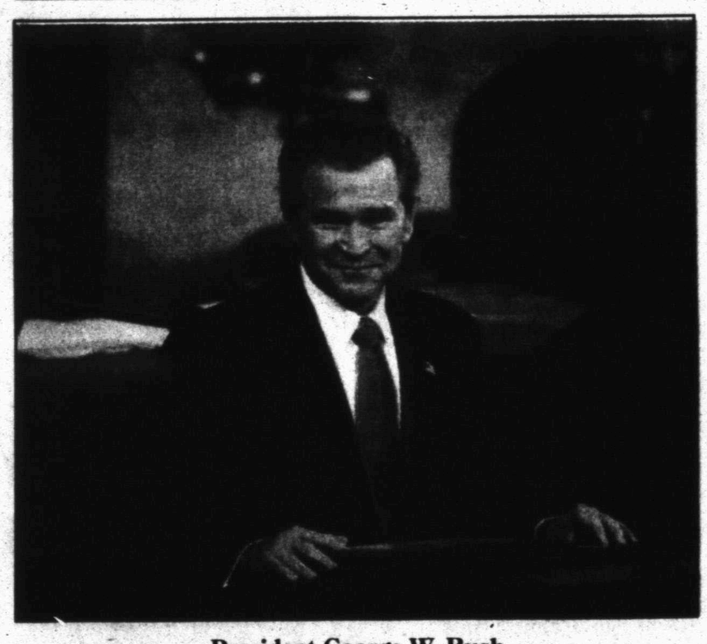
Bush began a two-day, three-state swing in Ohio with its 20 electoral votes. Today marked his 14th trip to the state.

Later today, he was heading to Arizona, with 10 electoral votes, which he also won narrowly in 2000. Thursday, he is off to New Mexico, which went to Democrat Al Gore in 2000 by 366 votes.

In his State of the Union speech, the president touted his administration's successes: the toppling and capture of Saddam Hussein, the revival of economic growth, and the passage of major tax cuts and a Medicare prescription drug benefit.

"America this evening is a nation called to great responsibilities," Bush said in his 54-minute address Tuesday evening. "And we are rising to meet them."

The address contained few major new proposals, underlining the limitations of a budget burdened by deficits and a campaign year in which far-reaching legislative accomplishments probably will be hard to come by.



President George W. Bush

Jury hearing state witnesses

An eight-woman, four-man jury was hearing testimony this morning in the trial of Johnny Vasquez, 20, of 4700 Ave. R.

Vasquez is charged with burglary of a home with intent to commit assault on Aug. 23. The defendant was indicted for the crime in September.

Witnesses for the state began testifying Tuesday afternoon and this morning, assistant district attorney Ben Smith continued to put prosecution witnesses on the stand.

Vasquez's attorney is Pete Greene of Snyder.

ASK US

Q—When are the state basketball tourneys?

A—The girls tourney begins March 4, while the boys start a week later on March 11 at the Erwin Center on the University of Texas campus.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Shandon Stephens...

...has been a Snyder resident for seven months, moving from Cheyenne, Wyo. to attend school at Howard College in Big Spring where she is studying cosmetology. She is the daughter of Steven and Lavanna Dube of Douglas, Wyo. Her favorite hobbies are fixing hair and makeup, watching movies and bowling.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

There are no obstacles that hard work and preparation cannot cure.
—Barbara Jordan

Best Available Copy

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

WTC adult basic education classes

Adult basic education classes at WTC are 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.

Krispie Kreme Doughnuts

Snyder Little Dribblers will be selling Krispie Kreme Doughnuts from 7 a.m. until noon Saturday at Wal-Mart for $6 per dozen.

Stanfield Winter Wonderland

Stanfield Elementary students and their families are invited to the annual Winter Wonderland from 5-7 p.m. Saturday in the school cafeteria and gym. Tickets will be on sale Thursday and Friday from 8-8:30 a.m. and are 5 for $1. Tickets at the door Saturday will be 4 for $1.

Marriage enhancement seminar

Snyder's First Church of the Nazarene is offering a marriage enhancement seminar, *Making Marriage Work*, from 2-5 p.m. Saturday and also Saturday, Jan. 31. Call 573-5601 for more information.

Chili supper

Hermleigh senior class will hold a chili supper from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Sunday in the Hermleigh cafeteria. Adult tickets are $5, and a child's plate is $3.

Concert at Word Is Life

"Moving into Worship," a concert in movement with Randall Bane, is set for 7 p.m. Sunday at the Word Is Life Church, 312 Coliseum Dr.

Chamber of commerce to meet

The Snyder Chamber of Commerce board will meet at 11:30 a.m. Monday at the chamber.

United Way fundraiser

United Way is selling tickets for a Super Bowl Prizes project, one for $2 or six for $10. Items include black leather chair-and-a-half, 19-inch TV, two large topping Pizza Hut pizzas. To purchase tickets or for more information call 207-1929, 573-5311, 207-1385 or 574-1931.

TOPS open house

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) #56 will hold an open house from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Tuesday at Trinity United Methodist Church.

LVN testing dates

The last LVN testing date is Tuesday. To reserve a time, you must contact the WTC counseling office at 573-8511, ext. 313. Limited seating is available.

Senior swimnastics

Senior swimnastics are at 10 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the WTC pool.

Book fair

Scurry Community Services is hosting its annual book fair from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Jan. 26-30. Family night is 5-6:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Windbreak trees

The Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conversation District is taking orders through Jan. 31 for windbreak trees. Large trees available are Oaks, Pines, Desert Willows, Golden Raintree, Texas Redbud and Chinese Pistache and more. To place orders, call 573-6317.

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.

What's up guidelines

Effective Feb. 1, items for What's Up will be published twice at no charge, the day before and the day of the event. Events or activities requiring additional publicity will be referred to the advertising department where a special non-profit rate is available.

Iran election crisis deepens as V-Ps, Cabinet ministers resign

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Some Iranian Cabinet ministers and vice presidents have resigned to protest the disqualifications of thousands of prospective election candidates, Vice President Mohammad Ali Abtahi said today.

Abtahi did not say how many officials resigned nor did he identify them.

"A number of Cabinet ministers and a number of vice presidents have resigned. Naturally, they are waiting to see how things go," Abtahi said after a Cabinet meeting at the Presidential Palace.

"The Cabinet ministers are very serious in their resignation."

When asked if he had also resigned, Abtahi smiled but did not respond.

The resignations are the latest twist in an ongoing political crisis between reformists and hard-liners.

The crisis was triggered when supervisory bodies affiliated with Iran's Guardian Council, an unelected body controlled by hard-liners, disqualified more than a third of the 8,200 people who applied as candidates in the Feb. 20 elections.

State media controlled by hard-liners say those disqualified failed to meet the legal criteria for candidacy, but reformists maintain the move was intended to skew the elections in favor of conservatives.

"Such disqualifications of prospective candidates is against democracy. The 1979 Islamic revolution was based on democracy, and such methods (by hard-liners) damage our Islamic democracy and turn elections into sham elections," Abtahi said.

The announcement of the resignations came a day after the Guardian Council said it was reinstating 200 candidates and would reconsider the cases of thousands more. That came after fierce opposition from reformists.

Interior Minister Abdolvahed Mousavi Lari presented a report during today's Cabinet session saying the hard-liners want to secure at least 180 seats in the 290-seat parliament.

Abtahi said that in recent days a presidential committee has "exerted much effort to reverse the situation, but practically, there has been little progress."

GIFTED AND TALENTED MEETING — A gifted and talented parent meeting for grades 6-12 will begin at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Snyder Junior High School's library. Information on the program and how to nominate your child for it will be included. An interpreter will also be provided. Pictured discussing the upcoming meeting are SJHS gifted and talented teachers from left, Sonja Hanks, Theresa Vest, Virginia Trevey and Elaine Bragg. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Researchers find that sleep is essential for creative thinking

By The Associated Press

Everybody feels refreshed following a good night's sleep. But can you wake up smarter? More artistic perhaps?

German scientists say they have demonstrated for the first time that our sleeping brains continue working on problems that baffle us during the day, and the right answer may come more easily after 8 hours of rest.

The German study is considered to be the first hard evidence supporting the common sense notion that creativity and problem solving appear to be directly linked to adequate sleep, scientists say. Other researchers who did not contribute to the experiment say it provides a valuable reminder for overtired workers and students that sleep is often the best medicine.

Previous studies have shown that 70 million Americans are sleep-deprived, contributing to increased accidents, worsening health and lower test scores. But the new German experiment takes the subject a step further to show how sleep can help to turn yesterday's problem into today's solution.

"A single study never settles an issue once and for all, but I would say this study does advance the field significantly," said Dr. Carl E. Hunt, director of the National Center on Sleep Disorders Research at the National Institutes of Health.

"It's going to have potentially important results for children for school performance and for adults for work performance," Hunt said.

Scientists at the University of Luebeck in Germany found that volunteers taking a simple math test were three times more likely than sleep-deprived participants to figure out a hidden rule for converting the numbers into the right answer if they had eight hours of sleep. The results appear in Thursday's issue of the journal Nature.

The study involved 106 people divided into five separate groups of equal numbers of men and women ages 18 to 32. One group slept, another stayed awake all night, and a third stayed awake all day for eight-hour periods before testing following training in the main experiment. Two other groups were used in a supplemental experiment.

The study participants performed a "number reduction task" according to two rules that allowed them to transform strings of eight digits into a new string that fit the rules. A third rule was hidden in the pattern, and researchers monitored the test subjects continuously to see when they figure out the third rule.

The group that got eight hours of sleep before tackling the problem was nearly three times more likely to figure out the rule than the group that stayed awake at night.

Jan Born, who led the study, said the results support biochemical studies of the brain that indicate memories are restructured before they are stored. Creativity also appears to be enhanced in the process, he said.

"This restructuring might be occurring in such a way that the problem is easier to solve," Born said.

Born said the exact process in the sleeping brain for sharpening these abilities remains unclear. The changes leading to creativity or problem-solving insight occur during "slow wave" or deep sleep that typically occurs in the first four hours of the sleep cycle, he said.

The results also may explain the memory problems associated with aging because older people typically have trouble getting enough sleep, especially the kind of deep sleep needed to process memories, Born said.

"Even gradual decreases in the total time for slow wave sleep and deep sleep is correlated to a kind of decrease in memory function, and in turn to a decrease in the ability to recognize hidden structures or the awareness of such things," Born said.

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World Almanac

Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2004

Today is the 21st day of 2004 and the 31st day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1793, King Louis XVI of France went to the guillotine in Paris.

In 1941, the United States ended its prohibition on sending weapons to the Soviet Union.

In 1976, the Concorde supersonic aircraft went into service.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Stonewall Jackson (1824-1863); soldier; Telly Savalas (1924-1994), actor; Jack Nicklaus (1940-), golfer, is 64; Placido Domingo (1941-), opera singer, is 63; Geena Davis (1957-), actress, is 47.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1979, the Pittsburgh Steelers defeated the Dallas Cowboys, 35-31, in Super Bowl XIII to become the first NFL team to win three Super Bowls.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Golf is a game of precision, not strength." — Jack Nicklaus

TODAY'S FACT: According to the Tax Foundation, in 2002, New Mexico got more than any other state in federal outlays per $1 of tax revenue contributed ($2.37); New Jersey got the least of any state (62 cents).

TODAY'S NUMBER: 1,109,000 — The approximate number of people killed in the Battle of Stalingrad (1942-1943), the deadliest battle of modern times.

TODAY'S MOON: New moon (Jan. 21)

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NASA is sued over loss of lab

HOUSTON (AP)— A Southeast Texas company has filed an $87.7 million claim against NASA for the loss of a research laboratory that was aboard the Columbia when it disintegrated over Texas last year.

Spacehab's claim is based on the cost to replace the lab, which was about the size of a school bus and was used as living and work quarters for the astronauts.

The Webster-based company's draft claim filed in July was denied by NASA. It now seeks approval of a revised claim that includes findings from the Columbia Accident Investigation Board report released in August.

"Simply the fact that the report shows that it was an issue with the shuttle itself that caused the destruction and therefore the loss of our module, that is to some degree a global indication and justification for the claim," said Kimberly Campbell, a Spacehab spokeswoman.

The board determined that the disaster was caused by a a piece of foam insulation that broke off the external fuel tank during liftoff and smashed into the leading edge of the shuttle's left wing.

events

LOTTO TEXAS
TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Tuesday's Lottery Numbers
Mega Millions

ATLANTA (AP) — The jackpot in the multi-state Mega Millions lottery drawing grew to $51 million Wednesday.

None of the tickets sold for Tuesday's $42 million drawing matched all five lotto numbers and the Mega Ball. The next drawing will be Friday.

There were nine second-prize winners from Tuesday night's drawing. Each matched the five lotto numbers but did not match the Mega Ball number. Those tickets are each worth $175,000.

Also, 38 players matched four of the five lotto numbers, plus the Mega Ball number. Those tickets are each worth $5,000.

The winning numbers from Tuesday's drawing were: 5, 7, 14, 21 and 45. The Mega Ball number was 36.

Texas Two Step

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Tuesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 5-22-24-29 (numerical order). Bonus Ball: 34.

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 1. Prize: $400,000 (estimate).

Number matching four of four: 7. Prize: $1,720.

Number matching three of four, plus Bonus Ball: 18. Prize: $81.

Number matching three of four: 920. Prize: $22.

Number matching two of four, plus Bonus Ball: 575. Prize: $23.

Number matching one of four, plus Bonus Ball: 3,652. Prize: $7.

Number matching Bonus Ball alone: 6,529. Prize: $5.

Estimated jackpot for Friday night drawing: $200,000.

Cash Five

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

Winning numbers drawn: 27-24-36-30-25.

Number matching five of five: 2.

Prize per winner: $21,187.

Winning tickets sold in: Allen, San Antonio.

Matching four of five: 95. Prize: $201.

Matching three of five: 3,484. Prize: $13.

Matching two of five: 39,002. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Wednesday night.

Pick 3
(Day) 1-7-5
(Night) 3-2-2

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Wade Warren, Managing Editor
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Dear A

By Abigail V

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Hot-tempered lovers want to find way to fight fair

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I have been seeing each other for three years. We moved in together eight months ago and have been talking about marriage as soon as we're financially stable.

Abby, we both have hot tempers. We don't get violent, but we flare up at the drop of a hat. We tend to take things personally and become defensive. When we fight, it's all-out war. Neither of us seems to be able to stop until it's too late, and by then, we have usually said hurtful things for which we're sorry.

How do people learn to fight fair and control their tempers? We love each other very much. — **HURT IN NEW JERSEY**

DEAR HURT: Learning to "fight fair" is an acquired skill, and like any other skill it takes self-control and practice. When people disagree, it is helpful to stay on the subject when talking it out. That means refraining from dragging in baggage from previous arguments.

Another technique that can avert misunderstanding is to "mirror" what the other person has said. ("I heard you say you didn't like my outfit. Did you mean I'm getting fat?") In other words, the person might not have liked the color or style, but how will you know if you don't ask?

Another helpful technique is to ask yourself, before venting, "Is it true? Is it kind? It is hurtful? Is it helpful?" A trial lawyer once told me, "You can't unring the bell." This holds true in relationships as well as courtrooms.

I have published a booklet, "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It," that readers have told me is helpful. It may be ordered by sending a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

**

DEAR ABBY: I am a gospel minister, and members of the congregation are divided over whether to hold a baby shower for an unwed mother who is a member of the congregation. I have been told that it "is just not done." The expectant mother has made it right by repenting and asking for prayer.

Is there any rule of etiquette that prohibits having a baby shower for an unwed mother?

I want to help the young woman because the long road ahead will be difficult. But I also want to keep the congregation from dividing over the matter. — **MINISTER IN GEORGIA**

DEAR MINISTER: There is no rule of etiquette that prohibits an unwed mother from being given a shower. And because of her unmarried status, she is going to need all the help she can get. Babies are expensive.

Since she repented, perhaps you should remind your flock of:

1. The Golden Rule. (Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.)

2. Judge not lest ye be judged. And ...

3. Let he (or she) who is without sin cast the first stone.

Your work is cut out for you, because your congregation seems to have forgotten a principle of their religion: Love one another.

**

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

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Mars rover begins probing mineral content

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — Scientists awaited data from the Spirit Rover after it started probing the mineral composition of a large martian rock dubbed Adirondack.

The six-wheeled robot broke out its "Swiss army knife" of gadgets this week to examine some of the Red Planet's soil and on Tuesday turned its attention to the rock, NASA scientists said.

Mission members had not decided whether to use a tool to drill past the surface of the sharply angled rock to get measurements from its core. The data could help reveal how the rock, located in Mars' Gusev Crater, was formed and offer clues to Mars' geologic past.

"Mars is not going to give up her secrets easily but the key is, we have the tools to unlock it," the mission's principal investigator, Steve Squyres of Cornell University, told reporters.

Earlier in the week, the rover used its entire tool kit for the first time to complete an analysis of the martian soil to determine its mineral composition.

Scientists said the results of the probe — which included the first-ever analysis by a Mossbauer spectrometer outside Earth — raised as many questions as answers.

"We have now a number of hypotheses about what's going on in the martian soil," Squyres said. "We don't know that this soil came from the Gusev Crater. The stuff could have come from somewhere else. It's going to be very interesting to dig some holes and see if it looks the same" deeper down.

The German-made Mossbauer spectrometer, a small metal box attached to the rover's robotic arm, told scientists of a mix of minerals in the soil, including olivine and iron.

Squyres said scientists were surprised to find olivine, a mineral usually associated with volcanic eruptions. Mission members now believe the soil could be a layer of finely ground lava, he said.

"That would be a surprise to me," he said. "I think we're going to learn wonderful things by using the (rover) wheels to scrape and push" the soil away to see what's underneath.

Another tool noted iron, argon, sulfur, chlorine, nickel and zinc in the soil, said Dr. Johannes Brueckner of Germany's Max Planck Institute for Chemistry.

Most of the minerals have been noted by previous Mars expeditions, including those of Pathfinder and Viking, but this marks the first time scientists have detected nickel and zinc, he said.

Scientists think the sulfur and chlorine — the building blocks of salt — might be a clue to what is holding the soil in minuscule clumps a few tenths of a millimeter in diameter.

Judge in Scott Peterson murder case moves trial

MODESTO, Calif. (AP) — Scott Peterson's murder trial is being moved to the San Francisco Bay area because of hostility toward Peterson in his dead wife's hometown.

Judge Al Girolami ruled earlier this month that the trial had to be moved out of Modesto to make sure Peterson got a fair trial in the slaying of his wife, Laci, and unborn son.

Four counties had offered to host the trial, and on Tuesday the judge picked San Mateo County, situated south of San Francisco and about 90 miles away from Modesto.

Girolami had said he wanted a county close enough to Modesto that witnesses could drive there.

"I'm satisfied we can get a fair and impartial jury in San Mateo," Girolami said, adding that he wants another judge appointed to handle the trial.

The trial is scheduled to start Monday but will probably be postponed. A hearing is scheduled later this week to discuss a delay. Prosecutors asked for two weeks to move their operation from Stanislaus County to San Mateo County.

Peterson, 31, is charged with two counts of murder for allegedly killing his pregnant wife just before Christmas 2002 and dumping her body in the San Francisco Bay. In April, her remains and those of the fetus she was carrying washed ashore in the bay two miles from where her husband said he was fishing when she vanished.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 01-21-04
♠ K 7 4
♥ J 8 7 4
♦ A J 9 6 5
♣ Q

West
♠ 10 5
♥ A 9 6
♦ 10 7
♣ A J 9 7 3 2

East
♠ A 6
♥ K Q 3 2
♦ Q 3 2
♣ K 10 6 5

South
♠ Q J 9 8 3 2
♥ 10 5
♦ K 8 4
♣ 8 4

Dealer: West
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
	Pass	Pass	1 NT
2 ♦	3 NT	4 ♥	Dbl.
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Dbl.
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening lead: ♠ 5

Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2004

The lead changes hands on deal 120

By Phillip Alder

After 119 of the 128 boards in the final of last year's Bermuda Bowl, the United States led Italy by 12 international match points (imps). This was deal 120.

At the other table, Eric Rodwell (North) opened a characteristically aggressive one diamond, which might have been on only a doubleton. Giorgio Duboin (East) passed, Jeff Meckstroth (South) responded one spade, and Norberto Bocchi (West) overcalled two clubs. Now North doubled, promising exactly three-card spade support. East redoubled to show his values. South ran to two spades. West doubled to say that, although he couldn't open, he liked his hand. East jumped to three no-trump, which ended the bidding. East won trick one with the spade ace and took his 10 top tricks, North carefully keeping all of his hearts: plus 430 to Italy.

At this table, Paul Soloway (East) opened one 14-16 no-trump. Alfredo Versace (South) overcalled two diamonds, showing a long major suit. Over Bob Hamman's three no-trump, Lorenzo Lauria contested with four hearts, which said he was happy to play in either major. Soloway doubled that and South's four spades.

Hamman led a trump. Soloway won with the ace and returned his second spade. (Would you have shifted to the heart king? Then, East-West could have cashed out for one down, giving Italy only eight imps.) Reading the layout perfectly, Versace won trick two in the dummy and ran the diamond jack through East. So, he ended with an overtrick for plus 690 and a whopping 15 imps to Italy. The lead had changed hands.

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Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Thursday, Jan. 22, 2004

It's quite possible that you may become involved in two very worthwhile projects in the year ahead. Each will be operated from the wings without seeking the limelight, yet you'll be duly credited for your contributions.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — By underplaying your presence at a gathering today, you'll become the center of attention. Your charm is enhanced by projecting a low-key effect.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Conditions are especially propitious today for advancing a secret ambition you've been harboring. Once you get the signals that things are looking positive, move vigorously ahead.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Don't hesitate to offer your suggestions should a friend ask for your input. You have a marvelous faculty today for helping others sort out their complicated affairs and will do so by teaching.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Challenging conditions may be responsible for stimulating your finer qualities today. Once you put them into action, you'll achieve your objectives without trampling over others.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — One of the smartest things you'll know how to do today will be to draw upon others for good ideas and then use them in ways that make you look good in the eyes of your peers.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Be on your toes today; if you're alert you will be able to spot a new way to add to your resources or earnings. It could come about through a joint venture in which you're involved.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — If you take the time today to get together with someone you'd like to build a more meaningful relationship with, your chances of doing so are good. Bonds can be strengthened.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — An important work matter can be worked out today to your satisfaction, provided you are diplomatic enough to get past the obstacles that have confronted you. It may be now or never.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — A get-together with a number of acquaintances today may provide just the atmosphere you've been looking for to talk to someone in the crowd about an idea you've been anxious to promote.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Don't rest on your laurels today if a money-saving idea pops into your head. At the very least, check it out and lay the groundwork for it so that you can proceed toward your goal when ready.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — One of your greatest talents is being able to offer some sage advice to others in a manner none can find offensive. Today your suggestions may be needed as well as heeded.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Your possibilities for ending up in the profit column today look very encouraging. Using both your logic and your intuition when assessing situations is what will do the trick.

Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker wheel can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Visit www.bernice4u.com for more advice.

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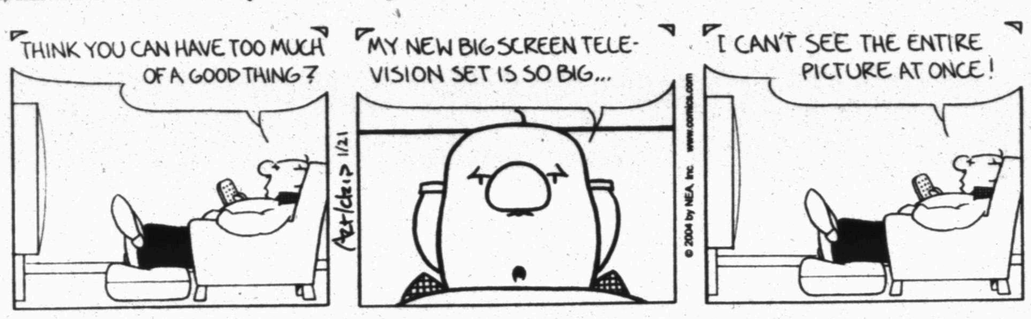
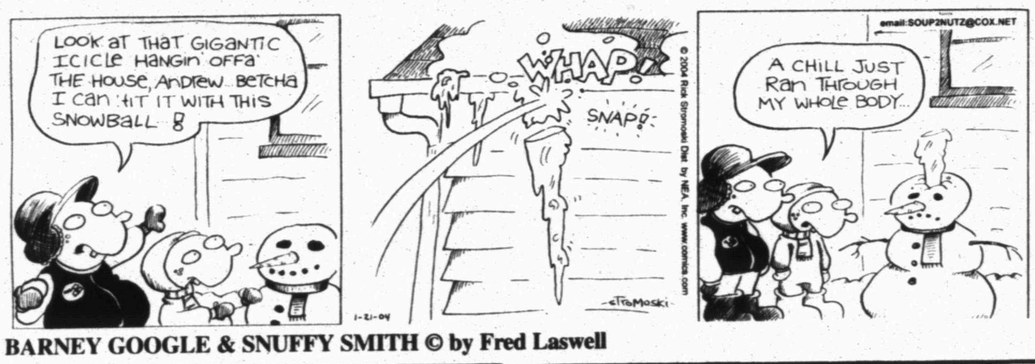


SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



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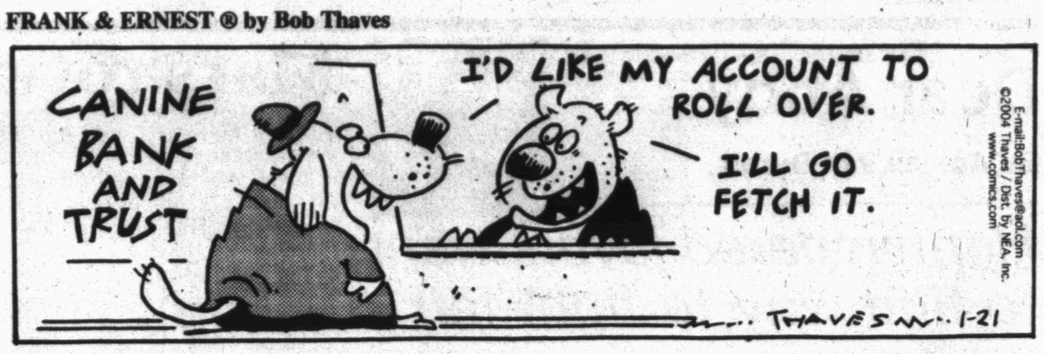
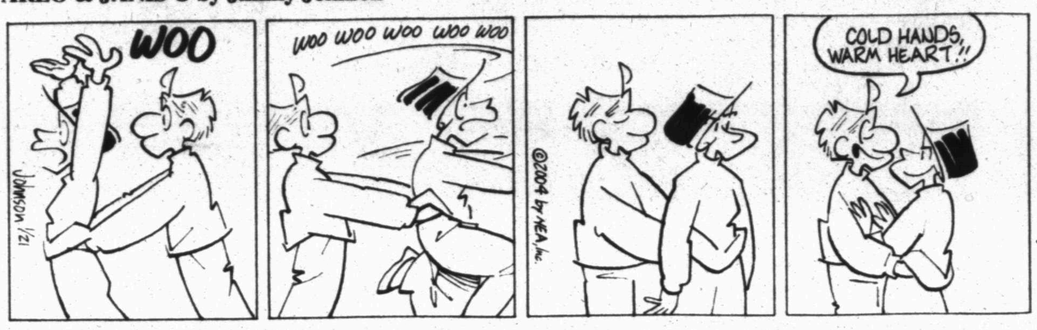


ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



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BETTY™ by Delainey & Rasmussen

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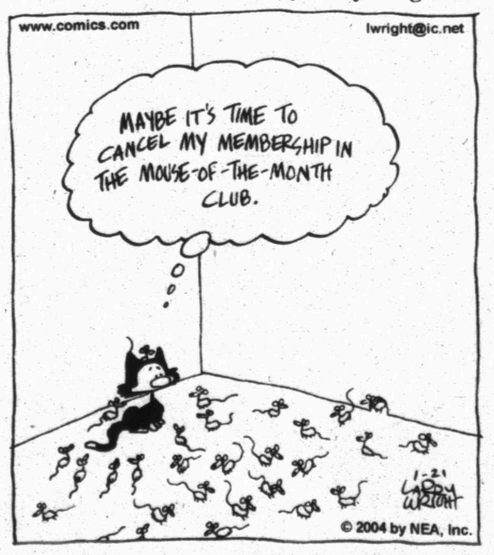
"Nurse, you'd better put these on."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Jewelry fastener
6 Seer's deck
11 Felt hat
13 Surroundings
14 Pounced
15 Banish
16 Insurance gp.
17 Family mem.
18 Masseuse employer
21 "Peer Gynt" dramatist
23 Cosmic force, to Lao-Tzu
26 — de cologne
27 Cartoon shriek
28 Mispronounce "s"
29 Sign
31 Poker stake
32 First name in cakedom
33 Tow truck
36 Iowa town
37 Untold centuries
38 Historical period
39 Method
40 Sing
42 Med. personnel
43 Checkroom item
44 Muscle spasm
46 Grasshopper
49 Skirted the issue
53 Ill-behaved
54 Government
55 Sixth —
56 Wasps' homes

DOWN

1 Grey Cup sports org.
2 Bruce — of kung fu
3 Nabokov novel
4 Ex-frosh
5 Prime minister
6 Connection (hyph.)
7 Swiss mountains
8 "Road movie" locale
9 Above, to poets
10 Famous mummy
12 Sun-dried bricks
13 Consumer gds.
18 Playground gear
19 Canal site
20 Actress — Hepburn
22 Kebab holder
23 Fiddle with
24 Behind, on a ship
25 Met productions
28 Insect resin
30 W. Hemisphere alliance
34 Noisy fan
35 Pep up
40 Social stratum
41 Lawyer, briefly
43 Lean-tos
45 Coop up
46 Flour sack abbr.
47 Mine product
48 Preserve
50 Put down, slangily
51 CPR giver
52 — Moines

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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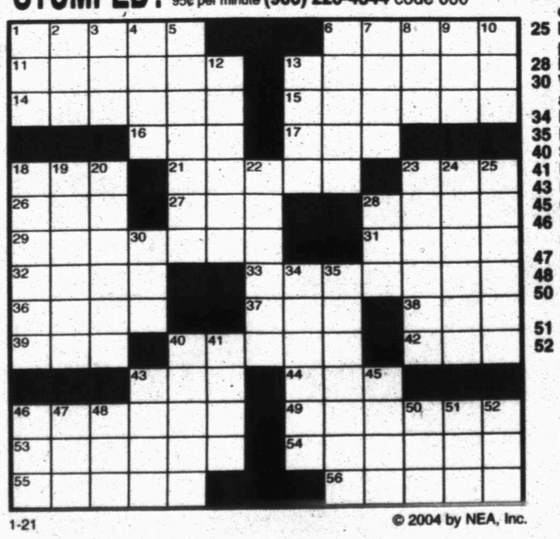

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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"BUT WE WERE GONNA KEEP OUR SNOWMAN COOL, SO HE WON'T MELT."

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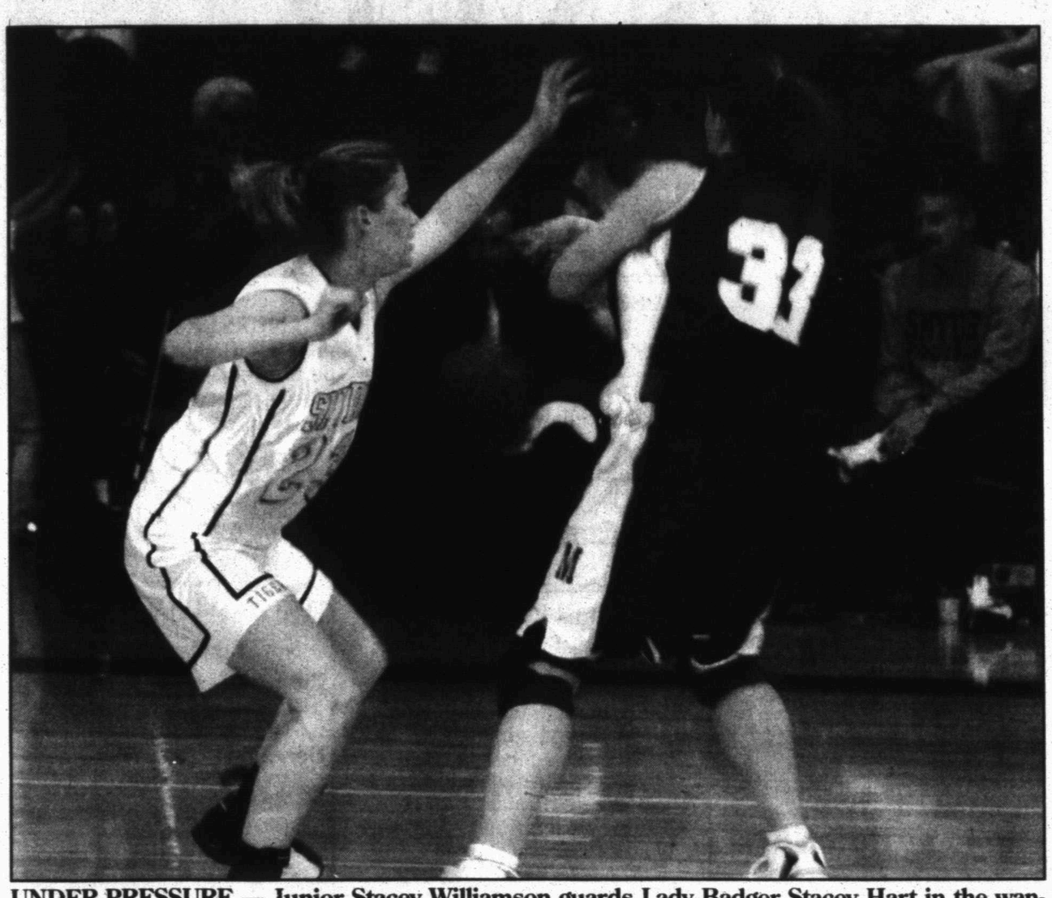
SPORTS



UNDER PRESSURE — Junior Stacey Williamson guards Lady Badger Stacey Hart in the waning moments of Snyder's 62-33 victory over Merkel Tuesday. The win sets up a showdown with 3-1 Lamesa Friday as the first half of the district schedule comes to a close. (SDN Staff Photo)

19 in a row...

Lady Tigers roll on, gear up for showdown with Lamesa

By Bobby Allen
SDN Sports Editor

The Lady Tigers sprinted out of the gate Tuesday, using a 14-1 run in the first quarter to easily outdistance Merkel, 62-33, for their 19th consecutive triumph.

Erin Burleson hit her first four shots — all from behind the three-point line — to help the Lady Tigers stay perfect in district heading into Friday's showdown at Lamesa.

"We came out hot and shot well and executed well," Snyder head coach Mike Martin said. "Tonight, everything came together — we hit our shots and got back and played good defense."

The Lady Tigers (21-2, 4-0) controlled every facet of the game, not allowing Merkel (3-20, 0-4) to grab an offensive rebound in the first half.

Freshman Jordan Stansell came off the bench to haul in eight rebounds, while Terann Ragland pulled down six boards and scored eight points.

After taking a 21-8 lead after the first quarter, Snyder opened the second period on a 13-2 run to effectively kill any chance Merkel had of getting back into the game.

Sirena Medrano had a clutch night from the field, connecting for 14 points. She also collected three rebounds.

The Lady Tigers did not have to worry about their foul shooting Tuesday, as they were sent to the line just four times, hitting three of those attempts, while eight of Merkel's first 17 points came from the charity stripe.

"We played at our momentum and speed," said sophomore Sequoya Powell, who recorded five points and two rebounds. "We controlled the tempo of the game."

Ragland said the team did a good job of getting open and playing solid interior defense.

"All we gave them were three's — they couldn't get inside," she said.

Stacey Williamson helped provide that solid, inside presence in limited minutes, securing five boards.

Sarah Henson added four points and Anna Henson, Teddi Crenwelge and Glyn Wright added two each.

Crenwelge said the team needs to maintain the same level of commitment the rest of the season.

"We need to keep working as hard as we have been," she said.

The victory sets up Friday night's showdown with Lamesa in a game that will have seeding ramifications in District 3-3A.

Lamesa topped Sweetwater 62-57 in double overtime, as Ashley Hunter pumped in 32 points for the Lady Tors.

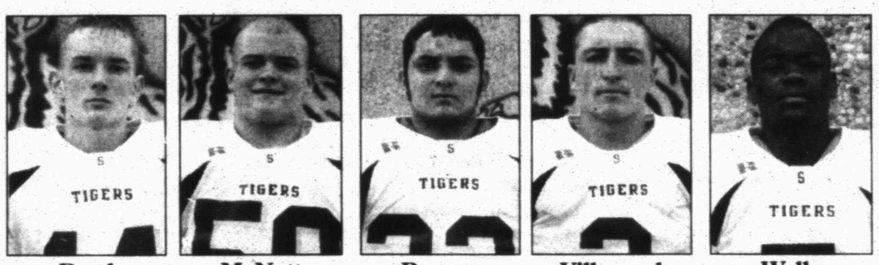
The win puts Lamesa one game back of Snyder in the standings at 3-1, while dropping Sweetwater to 2-2.

Seminole got its first district victory Tuesday, stopping Denver City, 59-47.

The junior varsity beat Merkel, 59-49, behind 19 points from Katie Crenwelge.

Jessica Taylor had 10, while Casey Gregory, Kelsy Shaw and Brianna Burk had seven each.

Five Tigers on Big Country team



Boyd McNatt Ramon Villarreal Wells

One of the best football seasons in Snyder history continues to net individual honors for some standout Tigers.

Snyder placed five players on the *Abilene Reporter News'* All-Big Country 3A squad.

Seniors Marcus Villarreal, Isaac Ramon, Justin Boyd, Malcome Wells and junior Ricky McNatt all earned slots on the squad after spectacular campaigns.

Villarreal, a District 3 first-team selection and the defensive MVP on the *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal's* All-South Plains team, allowed just six completions all season — with no touchdowns, grabbed three picks and recorded 19 tackles.

Ramon, the 3-3A defensive MVP, recorded 97 tackles, 14 for a loss. Ramon forced seven fumbles and recovered four, while recording three sacks and nabbing an interception.

All-district first-team running back Wells rushed for 1,041 yards and 15 touchdowns after coming on in the Fort Stockton game with over 200 yards.

He set a school record with six touchdowns against Levelland this season.

Boyd was the primary weapon of quarterback Boicy Martinez, collecting eight touchdowns and 672 yards on just 28 catches. He set a school wide out record with 31 knockdown blocks.

McNatt also was a first-team all-district selection totaling 12 pins and grading out at over 80 percent six times. He helped the Snyder offense rush for 2, 279 yards this year.

Tigers fall shy in upset bid

By Bobby Allen
SDN Sports Editor

The Tigers gave Merkel all they could handle Tuesday, playing at a frenetic defensive pace in a 39-32 loss that was much closer than the final tally.

Snyder (8-15, 0-2) limited Merkel to 17 first-half points, disrupting the flow of the Badgers' offense and effectively stopping Merkel's top player.

"We played hard and got after it," Snyder head coach Bud Birks said. "We had a chance, but it wasn't from lack of effort — the effort was great."

The Tigers hung around Merkel (19-4, 2-0) for three quarters after allowing the Badgers to bolt out to an 8-2 lead.

Israel Sosa nailed a three late in the fourth quarter to pull the Tigers to within six, and Isaac Ramon made it a five-point contest with another late trey before Merkel nailed its final seven foul shots to seal the win.

Lee Scott hit three from behind the arc to post a team-high 14, while sophomore Lico Castillo added 10.

Chris Cobb led all players with 17 points, but the Tigers' defense limited standout Riley Lambert to just seven points.

Despite the close score and the improved effort over last Friday's loss at Sweetwater, the Tigers to a man were not satisfied with just playing close.

"We played a lot better, but it's still a loss and we still have to bounce back. The kids did what I said, and everybody played their butts off," Birks said.

"I'm mad that we lost, but we played good and gave it all we had," Scott said. "Merkel is a good team, and we played our hardest. We need to keep it up the rest of district. We can win if we put our minds to it."

The Snyder junior Tigers handled Merkel Tuesday, 59-49.

Snyder will try to secure their first district win Friday when they travel to Lamesa to take on blood rival Lamesa.

The Golden Tors (9-13, 1-1) upended Sweetwater, 43-42.

"Lamesa is a tough place to play. It's a highly intense, competitive atmosphere," Birks said. "It's going to be a barn-burner — it always is."

Ira takes two at Sands

ACKERLY — The Ira Lady Bulldogs earned their second district win of the season Tuesday, riding an 18-point third quarter to a 54-42 triumph over Sands (1-3).

The teams played neck-and-neck until the third quarter, with Ira (8-10, 2-2) taking a 21-20 lead into the locker room at intermission.

Kelbi Pitner and Lindsey Wilson did the bulk of the damage, knocking in 21 and 20, respectively.

"The girls came out early and executed at both ends," Lady Bulldog head coach Brent Parr said. "Winning back-to-back games on the road shows how focused this team is."

Parr said the team closed out the first half on a roll and it carried over into the decisive third stanza.

Amanda Calley stepped up with eight points, Shae Allen and Whitney Payne added two each and Kate Wall hit a free throw for the Lady Bulldogs, who host Borden County Friday.

The Coyotes are 4-0 in district, and Parr expects a tough game.

"They are extremely talented," he said. "It should be an exciting game.

Ira 61, Sands 34

The Bulldogs moved into a second-place tie with Borden County Tuesday, routing Sands, 61-34, to improve to 3-1 in district play. Grady remained perfect in district with a 70-49 win over Dawson.

Ira (8-7, 3-1) led 32-17 at halftime, extending the lead to 51-26 with a 19-point third quarter.

Brian Proctor had a season-high 22 points for the Bulldogs, while Jake Barnes added 16 from the paint.

Wes Kellner added 15 for Ira, which hosts Borden County Friday.

Hermleigh swept by Westbrook

The Hermleigh Cardinals have struggled with slow starts all season, and that trend continued Tuesday.

Hermleigh (1-14, 0-3) gave up 56 first-half points — 32 in the second quarter — in a 68-46 loss to Westbrook.

The Cardinals cranked up the defensive intensity in the second half, limiting Westbrook (6-9, 2-2) to two points in the third quarter and just 12 total in the second half.

Shane Berry had a team-high 12 points, Jonathan McClure pumped in 10 and Justin Williamson added eight for Hermleigh, which will travel to Highland Friday.

Westbrook 72, Hermleigh 42

The Lady Cardinals rallied in the second half, but could not overcome a 20-point halftime deficit in a 72-42 loss to Westbrook Tuesday.

Hermleigh (5-10, 0-4) got scoring contributions from eight players, led by Alana Culp's 14.

Brittany Jones added 12, and Brittney Kelly knocked in five.

Alicia Culp hit for four and Georgeanne Smith, Christy Garcia and Valerie West had two each.

Danni Webb added a free throw for Hermleigh.

Sports Briefs

Meet the Tigers

The baseball and softball booster club will host 'Meet the Tigers' Saturday at Scurry County Coliseum.

A hamburger supper will be served at 5 p.m. Cost is $5.

Player introductions will begin at 6 p.m. to include the SHS and WTC baseball and softball teams.

Cow chip bingo will commence at 7 p.m. Tickets are $10 and will be available at the door.

Volleyball tournament

There will be an indoor volleyball tournament Saturday at Scurry County Boys and Girls club. Call 573-7321 for more information.

Cunningham returns to Kansas City

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Gunther Cunningham returned to the Kansas City Chiefs as their defensive coordinator, three years after he was fired as the team's head coach.

He replaces Greg Robinson, who resigned last week after Kansas City lost to Indianapolis in the AFC playoffs.

Rams hire former Cardinals' DC

ST. LOUIS (AP) — The St. Louis Rams hired Larry Marmie to replace Lovie Smith as defensive coordinator. Marmie spent the last eight seasons with the Arizona Cardinals, including the last 3½ seasons as defensive coordinator. Smith became head coach of the Chicago Bears last week.

Expos renew lease, replace turf

MONTREAL (AP) — The Expos renewed their Olympic Stadium lease for 2004 and are replacing the ballpark's hard artificial surface with FieldTurf.

The Expos were bought by the other 29 teams before the 2002 season. Their home opener is April 23 against Philadelphia.

Area Sports Calendar

THURSDAY

Basketball: Snyder frosh boys at Jim Ned Tournament, 6:30 p.m.
Ira junior high vs. Grady, 6 p.m.
HJHS at Highland Tournament

FRIDAY

Basketball: Snyder varsity girls at Lamesa, 6:30 p.m.
Snyder varsity boys at Lamesa, 8 p.m.
Ira varsity girls and boys vs. Borden County, 6:30 p.m.
Hermleigh varsity boys and girls at Highland, 6:30 p.m.
Snyder JV boys at Lamesa, 6 p.m.
Snyder JV girls at Lamesa, 5 p.m.
Snyder frosh boys at Lamesa, 5 p.m.
Snyder frosh girls at Lamesa, 8 p.m.

National Basketball Association

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New Jersey	21	18	.538	—
Boston	21	23	.477	2½
New York	19	24	.442	4
Philadelphia	18	23	.439	4
Miami	16	26	.381	6½
Washington	12	28	.300	9½
Orlando	11	31	.262	11½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	33	11	.750	—
Detroit	29	14	.674	3½
New Orleans	23	18	.561	8½
Milwaukee	22	19	.537	9½
Toronto	20	19	.513	10½
Cleveland	14	27	.341	17½
Chicago	12	29	.293	19½
Atlanta	12	30	.286	20

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	27	12	.692	—
San Antonio	27	15	.643	1½
Dallas	25	16	.610	3
Denver	25	18	.581	4
Houston	23	17	.575	4½
Memphis	22	18	.550	5½
Utah	21	20	.512	7

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Sacramento	29	10	.744	—
L.A. Lakers	25	13	.658	3½
Seattle	20	20	.500	9½
Golden State	17	23	.425	12½
Portland	17	23	.425	12½
L.A. Clippers	16	22	.421	12½
Phoenix	16	26	.381	14½

Tuesday's Games

Indiana 81, Detroit 69
Cleveland 99, Seattle 94
Boston 86, Miami 84
Dallas 106, New Jersey 93
Denver 96, Utah 75
Portland 109, Sacramento 104, OT

Today's Games

Minnesota at Toronto, 6 p.m.
Chicago at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.
Orlando at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Memphis, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Denver, 8 p.m.
New York at Houston, 8 p.m.
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Study finds radiation after breast surgery helps cancer patients

WASHINGTON (AP) — Radiation after surgery for early-stage breast cancer improves survival chances for most patients, according to a study that analyzed the case histories of more than 9,000 women.

Two doctors evaluated the results of 15 international studies and found that women who omitted radiation therapy after surgery were dying at a rate 8.6 percent higher than women who had the radiation.

A decision against radiation "may translate into a considerable survival disadvantage for patients," wrote Dr. Vincent Vinh-Hung of the Academic Hospital in Jette, Belgium, and Dr. Claire Verschraegen of the University of New Mexico Cancer Research and Treatment Center in Albuquerque.

A report on the analysis appears this week in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute.

Radiation is given to most early-stage breast cancer patients who choose to undergo a surgical technique, called lumpectomy, that removes the tumor but leaves the rest of the breast intact, according to an editorial in the journal by Dr. Katherine A. Vallis and Dr. Ian F. Tannock of the Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto.

The findings, they said, reinforce that practice.

All of the women in the studies had early-stage breast cancer and underwent breast-conserving surgery. In about half the cases, the patients went on to receive radiation therapy.

Besides improving survival rates, radiation significantly reduced the chance of a relapse of the disease, the study found. The authors found that women who did not undergo radiation were about three times as likely to develop cancer in the previously unaffected breast. The relapse rate was 0.4 percent to 2.1 percent per year for women who got radiation and 1.4 percent to 5.7 percent per year for women without it.

Despite the statistical survival benefit, however, Verschraegen said radiation is not appropriate for every patient. Some women may have other conditions, such as vascular disease or previous radiation treatments, that would make radiation therapy more risky than the cancer itself.

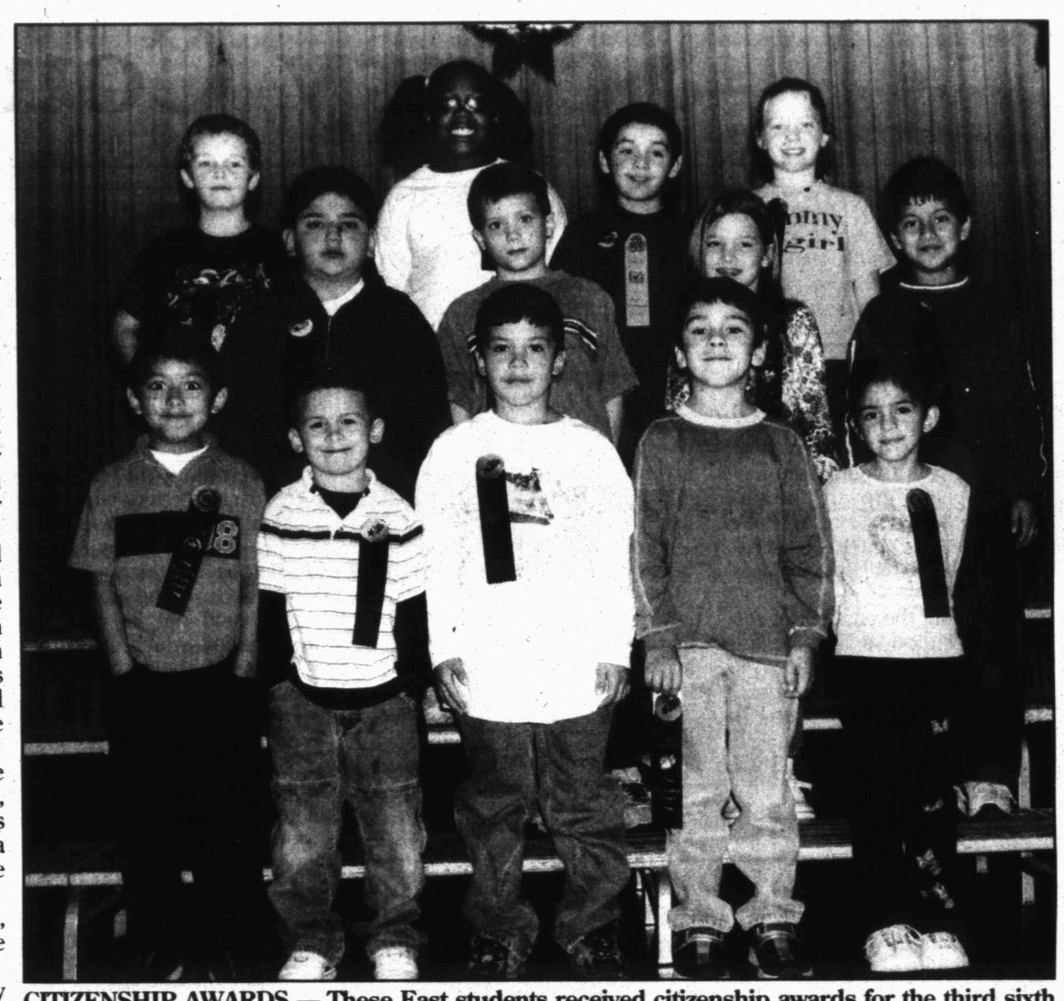
"These results should not be generalized," she said. Instead, Verschraegen said, physicians should evaluate each patient on a case-by-case basis and tailor the treatment appropriately.

Patients, said Verschraegen, should take an active role in the decision process.

"If a physician after surgery says that radiation is not needed, then it is important that the patient get a second opinion," she said.

A National Institutes of Health panel concluded in 2000 that radiation is necessary for all women who undergo a lumpectomy.

That panel said many women might also benefit from a combination of chemotherapy drugs to kill remaining cancer cells floating in the body. That post-surgery treatment is called "adjuvant therapy."



CITIZENSHIP AWARDS — These East students received citizenship awards for the third sixth weeks. Back row from left are Dylan Archer Pauchet, Jasmine Jackson, Joshua Sandoval and Jentri Driggers; middle row, Mario Ortega, Tyler Clanton, Savannah Glasscock, Brandon Mireles; front row, Troy Luevano (academic award); Anthony Sosa, Benjamin Barrera, Mark Baldwin and Willow Gray (most improved). Not pictured is Adrian Segura, citizenship. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Under new plan, reservists will be mobilized every 4-5 years

WASHINGTON (AP) — Members of the Army Reserve sometimes complain of not knowing when — or whether — they might be mobilized for active duty. Soon they may complain of knowing all too well.

Under a plan spelled out Tuesday by Lt. Gen. James R. Helmly, chief of the Army Reserve, the mobilization system would be changed fundamentally so that Reserve members would be scheduled for mobilization every four or five years for periods of nine to 12 months.

Gone would be the days of training limited to a weekend a month and two weeks during the summer.

Some in the Army Reserve have gone many years without being mobilized; others have been mobilized repeatedly. Helmly said his approach would remove the uncertainty but acknowledged this might not sit well with some Reserve members who count on not being mobilized.

"There will be some people who will say, 'I do not wish to be a part of that kind of force,'" Helmly said.

To offset those losses, he wants the Army to begin offering bonuses to soldiers leaving the active-duty Army to persuade them to join the Reserves.

Helmly's proposal has not received final approval from Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, according to Helmly's spokesman, Al Schilf.

Currently there is no official regularity to reserve call-ups, and some who joined expecting never to be mobilized have been shocked to find themselves in Iraq for full-year tours.

About 66,500 Army Reserve members currently are on active duty, both at home, in Iraq and elsewhere abroad. That is about one-third of the total Army Reserve of 205,000.

"The culture in the Army Reserve is changing," Helmly said. "We're changing from a force in reserve in which people believe they will never get mobilized to telling them upfront: The intent is to prepare you and your unit for mobilization, and the likelihood is you will be mobilized."

He was speaking for the Army Reserve, not the National Guard, which is managed differently, although officials said the Guard also is considering changing its mobilization system.

Under the new program, an Army Reserve unit would be placed every four or five years on call for up to nine months. While on call, the unit and its members could be called up on as little as five days' notice, Helmly said. The rest of the time they could expect not to be mobilized, except in an extreme emergency.

Helmly said he visited Army Reserve members in Iraq and Kuwait during the Christmas holidays.

"Their biggest concern is the predictability part" — not knowing how long they will be kept on active duty, he said. Some were angry that after being mobilized last year on 12-month orders, they were told months later of a new Pentagon policy that extended their service by six months.

Helmly conceded that the Pentagon made life difficult for many reservists last year. He said about 10,000 Army Reserve members were called to active duty on less than five days' notice. That's much less time than most people need to make adequate arrangements with their families and employers.

Another 8,000 were called to active duty and then demobilized without ever being used. Of that number, about 4,000 to 5,000 were called up a second time after being demobilized, he said.

Court postpones appeals hearing for convicted killers of reporter

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP) — An appeals court Wednesday again postponed a hearing on appeals by four Islamic militants convicted in the killing of Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl, a lawyer said.

The Sindh High court ordered the latest postponement because the prosecution and a lawyer for three of the convicts failed to appear at the hearing, said Abdul Waheed Katpar, a lawyer for Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh, who has been sentenced to death in Pearl's killing.

It was unclear why the prosecution and the attorney representing the three other convicted militants — Fahad Naseem, Salman Saqib and Sheikh Mohammed Adeel, who received 25-year prison terms — did not appear at the court.

No hearing has been held on the appeals since they were filed in December 2002. The court set the hearing for Feb. 17, Katpar said. On Jan. 27, the court will hear an application that Sheikh be allowed to attend the hearing.

Sheikh is said to have lured Pearl into a deadly trap in the back lanes of this port city, where he was kidnapped Jan. 23, 2002, and later killed.

All of the convicted men were involved in the kidnapping phase of the case. Seven more suspects, including those who allegedly killed Pearl, slitting his throat while a video camera rolled, remain at large.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Fallout from HIPAA

DEAR DR. GOTT: Under the new federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), what happens if one member of a couple contracts AIDS or other sexually transmitted diseases? Can the partners be informed?

If a terminally ill patient is in a coma, can the person designated in a living will be able to obtain relevant information? Or will all contact be refused?

Can our government be this stupid? (Don't answer that!)

DEAR READER: The concerns that prompted HIPAA relate to patient privacy. If a person has a living will or has granted a health care proxy to another individual, health information can be released under these circumstances.

To answer your question, my understanding is that sexually transmitted diseases must be reported to state health departments, who will — depending on state statute — follow up with potentially infected partners.

Health information on a patient in a coma cannot be released except under the circumstances I mentioned above.

HIPAA is strict. Therefore, it will probably be amended and modified in the next few years, as health professionals and the public become embroiled in it and concerned with it. For instance, I see no logical reason why in-hospital patients (or nursing home residents) cannot have their names posted on the doors to their rooms. When I visit a patient in these situations, I want to see Mrs. Smith, not Room 248.

Also, I believe that family members have a right 1) To learn of their relatives' hospitalizations (but not necessarily the diagnosis); 2) To be informed of the patients' status (e.g., critical, stable, etc.); and 3) To be told if an infectious disease is present (to protect a relative's health, if he or she were exposed).

Can the government be this stupid? Surely.

DEAR DR. GOTT: At 86, I had a bone density test that indicated a problem in my upper spine. I was prescribed a very pricey medication: Actonel once a week. Is this appropriate therapy?

DEAR READER: Actonel is an appropriate medication to treat osteoporosis, depending on your level of bone-calcium loss. While it can cause stomach upset in some people, if taken according to the manufacturer's directions, it should be safe.

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

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

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Taxes pay for most obesity health ills

ATLANTA (AP) — Taxpayers foot the doctor's bill for more than half of obesity-related medical costs, which reached a total of $75 billion in 2003, according to a new study.

The public pays about $39 billion a year — or about $175 per person — for obesity through Medicare and Medicaid programs, which cover sicknesses caused by obesity including type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, several types of cancer and gallbladder disease.

The study, to be published Friday in the journal Obesity Research, evaluates state-by-state expenditures related to weight problems. The research was done by the nonprofit group RTI International and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"Obesity has become a crucial health problem for our nation, and these findings show that the medical costs alone reflect the significance of the challenge," said Tommy Thompson, secretary for the Department of Health and Human Services. "Of course, the ultimate cost to Americans is measured in chronic disease and early death."

States spend about one-twentieth of their medical costs on obesity — from a low of 4 percent in Arizona to a high of 6.7 percent in Alaska.

California spends the most on health care for the obese, $7.7 billion, and Wyoming spends the least, $87 million.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	14.19	13.60	13.75	+.03
AT&T Corp	21.70	21.37	21.37	—.28
Albertsons	23.85	23.10	23.16	—.68
Alltel	50.30	49.80	49.98	—.22
AmEl Pw	31.60	31.08	31.40	+.25
AndarkPtr	52.09	51.46	51.51	—.65
ATMOS Egy	25.15	25.00	25.15	+.17
Aviall	16.26	16.00	16.26	+.16
BP PLC	49.99	49.70	49.94	+1.18
BakerHughes	34.88	34.06	34.66	+.52
Bank of Amer	80.77	79.95	80.71	+.64
BellSouth	29.73	29.50	29.58	—.10
BurlNoSFe	32.00	31.73	31.86	+.04
Caterpillar	82.57	81.44	82.31	+.16
CenterPoint	10.36	10.26	10.32	+.07
ChevronTex	86.83	86.14	86.74	+.71
Citigroup	49.98	49.20	49.93	+.64
CocaCola	49.93	49.66	49.70	—.23
ColgatePal	51.49	51.24	51.41	+.33
CmclMetals	30.30	29.85	29.91	—.09
ConocoPhill	66.93	66.56	66.89	+.32
Cooper Inds	58.50	57.54	57.54	—.98
DaimlrChry	48.16	47.77	48.14	+.12
DeltaAirLines	11.30	11.01	11.08	—.02
Dillards Inc	16.92	16.55	16.92	+.39
DowChem	40.62	39.85	40.31	—.30
DuPont	44.31	43.88	43.98	—.18
EastmanChem	39.56	39.10	39.22	—.31
EstKodak	26.78	26.45	26.74	+.39
EDS Corp	24.05	23.79	23.99	+.04
Entergy	57.25	56.70	57.23	+.06
ExxonMobil	41.08	40.81	41.05	+.17
FootLocker	24.86	24.45	24.62	—.38
GenDynam	93.80	92.29	93.80	—.03
GenElec	33.54	33.03	33.09	—.27
GenMills	46.00	45.51	45.54	—.39
GenMotors	54.21	53.58	53.86	—.01
GaPacific	29.85	29.50	29.70	—.09
Goodrich	32.07	31.88	32.03	+.03
Goodyear	9.81	9.35	9.81	+.30
GtAtlPac	8.47	8.20	8.47	+.09
Halliburtn	28.55	28.16	28.46	+.06
Hanson PLC	36.65	36.33	36.51	—.29
HarteHanks	22.22	22.00	22.21	—.08
HomeDepot	35.63	35.01	35.18	+.17
HoneywellIntl	35.81	35.00	35.21	—.45
IBM	97.40	96.64	96.90	—.20
IntlPaper	43.75	43.22	43.61	+.13
JohnsonJn	51.86	51.50	51.80	+.30
KinderMorg	60.49	60.04	60.37	—.07
Kroger Co	18.81	18.53	18.71	—.10
LockheedM	50.88	50.54	50.85	+.11
Lowes Cos	53.40	52.00	53.11	+.76
Lubys	3.64	3.60	3.61	—.02
LucentTech	4.72	4.42	4.51	—.24
MarathonOil	34.40	34.00	34.23	+.11
MayDeptStr	31.88	31.53	31.72	+.34
Medtronic	49.10	48.79	48.88	—.22
Motorola	17.15	16.42	16.55	—.50
NCR Corp	41.06	40.33	40.65	—.10
Navistar	49.98	49.59	49.70	—.37
PNM Rescs	29.85	29.57	29.85	+.29
Penney JC	26.60	26.30	26.54	+.08
PepBoys	23.19	22.70	23.13	+.01
PepsiCo	46.07	45.80	45.97	—.08
PhelpDodge	75.00	74.10	74.66	+.50
PilgrimsPride	17.37	16.84	17.19	+.09
Praxair s	38.17	37.46	37.48	—.68
ProctGamb	98.85	98.15	98.58	+.37
RadioShack	32.68	32.35	32.44	—.25
RoyalDut	48.49	48.18	48.44	+.43
SBC Comm	26.96	26.50	26.59	—.41
SaraLee	21.50	21.22	21.25	—.25
Scripps EW	92.88	92.45	92.59	—.31
SearsRoeb	46.44	45.87	45.92	
SherwinW	34.75	34.07	34.17	—.07
SouthernCo	29.89	29.58	29.86	+.19
SwstAirl	15.13	14.80	14.83	—.30
SprintFON	18.36	18.15	18.29	—.31
SprintPCS	8.38	7.81	7.88	—.16
Sunoco Inc	56.75	55.75	56.50	+.11
TXU Corp	24.25	23.87	24.25	+.28
TempleInland	62.68	61.99	62.00	—.24
TexInd	37.18	36.91	37.04	+.06
TexasInst	33.05	31.90	31.92	—1.51
Textron	56.95	56.40	56.51	—.43
TimeWarner	18.54	18.22	18.53	+.15
TrinityInds	33.40	32.97	33.12	—.10
TylerTech	11.05	10.40	10.64	—.35
UnionPacif	66.03	65.55	65.96	—.47
USSteel	37.90	35.51	36.55	+1.41
UnitedTech	94.90	93.25	93.91	—.89
Unocal	38.75	38.62	38.69	+.03
VerizonComm	37.18	36.75	36.95	—.24
WalMart	53.22	52.90	53.09	+.14
WellsFargo	57.55	57.01	57.48	+.13
WstnGasRs	48.89	48.54	48.61	—.24
WinnDixie	9.43	9.31	9.35	—.05
Xerox Cp	13.45	13.26	13.42	—.01
YumBrands	34.62	34.10	34.26	+.06

JAN 21 2004

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Scurry County Country

Diversified

By Greg Gruben, County Extension Agent

Solving the Mystery of Pruning Roses

February is the month when most modern roses need to be pruned. Even if your roses have already begun growth, the time has come to prune. Annual heavy pruning is essential to insure the prolific bloom and long-life of a rose bush.

Explaining the concept of rose pruning without a live bush to demonstrate on is difficult, so let your mind loose to help visualize the following steps in rose pruning:

•Pruning of roses is actually done year round. Every time you cut off old blooms and remove twiggy growth, you are actually promoting new growth. There are two times a year when you prune more seriously, spring and fall.

•You will need the following items: a good pair of hand pruners (preferably the scissor type, not anvil type), a sharp keyhole saw and large loppers, a heavy pair of leather gloves, a pruning compound and a dull knife.

•The first step in spring pruning of Hybrid Teas, Grandifloras, Floribundas and Climbing roses is to remove any canes that are dead or just old and non-productive. These canes are usually gray in color and scaly.

•This pruning will encourage future "basal" breaks which are the life-blood of any rose bush. Basal breaks refer to new shoots, soon to be producing canes, which arise from the graft union. These should not be confused with "suckers" which arise from the rootstock below the graft union. Remove all suckers.

•The next step involves taking a good look at the bud union. If you have any old, dry, scaly wood on the union, remove it. Use the dull knife to scrape the bud union to remove the scaly wood. By doing this it will again make it possible for new basal breaks to come about.

•Beginning to fine tune the pruning, remove all twiggy growth on the remaining canes (note: the fine tune pruning on climbing roses should be done after they bloom in the spring). Try to clean out the middle of the bush as much as possible. This allows for good air circulation to prevent insects and disease.

•Now you are ready to prune on the good healthy canes. If your roses have already flushed growth, it is important to prune each cane back to a dormant bud. A bud that has already begun growth and is then pruned will simply continue to grow vigorously and bloom very little. A dormant, non-growing bud will initiate growth after pruning and will produce an abundance of blooms.

•One comment used to describe pruning is to "prune to an outside bud." This means when picking the point on a given cane to cut back to, make sure there is a good bud on the cane facing toward the outside of the plant. This will insure the growth of the new bud is to the outside, therefore keeping the center of the rose bush clear and open for air circulation.

•Another guideline in pruning back an individual cane is to cut the cane at the point when the diameter of the cane is the size of a pencil or slightly larger. This is normally at a height of 18 to 14 inches. If there is the need to prune back to a dormant bud, the size of the cane may be larger and the cane length may be shorter.

•If old and large canes have been removed to the bud union, it is a good practice to seal these large cuts. This helps prevent insects and diseases from infecting the cuts. Smaller canes usually don't need to be sealed. Use some sort of sealing compound such as orange shellac or even Elmer's glue.

•When pruning is completed, remove any old foliage left on the canes and rake up and remove any leaves or twigs. This will help reduce the disease and insect pressure on the young, tender shoots and buds.

•The final product of your pruning should be a rose bush about 18 to 24 inches tall with 4 to 8 canes. Add some fertilizer, water and tender-loving-care, and that pitiful looking rose bush will soon give you a shower of flowers.

•**Q.** What about pruning miniature roses? When and how?

A. Miniatures should be pruned now, too. As for how to prune, use the same guidelines given for the larger type roses except do it in miniature. The end product will be a rose bush about 4 to 6 inches tall with 4 to 6 canes.

•If you don't have any miniature roses, plant some this spring. You will be surprised at the wealth of blooms such a small plant can produce.

•Use the miniatures in groups of threes, fives, or sevens to make a real splash. The miniatures also work well as a border plant along the front of a shrub bed. And finally, try some miniatures in clay pots and decorative containers to add color to decks, patios and apartment balconies.

Markets

Lubbock

The Lubbock Stockyards, Inc had a run of 648 head of livestock for the Thursday, Jan. 15, sale. Cows were $3 to $5 cheaper. Calves and yearlings were $2 to $3 higher. Trading and demand were good.

Slaughter cows:
(High dressing, cutters, utility) 40-48
Canners and low cutters: 32-42
Slaughter bulls: 52-64
Feeder steers:
300-400: 105-130
400-500: 95-120
500-600: 87-105
600-700: 85-95
700-800: 80-90
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 100-117
400-500: 90-105
500-600: 85-95
600-700: 80-87
700-800: 77-85
Feeder bulls – Good and choice
500-600: 82-95
700-800: 75-85
Cow and Calf Pairs
Good: 650-900
Grade: 575-700
Springers: 425-700
Baby Calves: 150-250
Doodlers: 200-250

Colorado City

The Colorado City Livestock Auction had a run of 421 head of cattle for the Wednesday, Jan. 14, sale. Market was active and demand good. Stocker and feeders were $2 to $4 higher. Bred cows were steady. Pairs were steady. Packer cows and bulls were steady to $1 lower.

Feeder Steers:
300-400: 105-111
400-500: 95-106
500-600: 83-97.50
600 to 700: 82-89.50
Feeder Heifers:
300-400: 92-104
400-500: 85-91
500-600: 85-90
600-700: 77.50-88
Replacement cows:
Bred cows: 600-760
Pairs: 680-800
Packer cows: 40-51.25
Old and Shelley: 30-36
Packer bulls: 58-64.25

VT researchers cloning cattle to be free of mad cow disease

BLACKSBURG, Va. (AP) — Scientists looking for a surefire way to stop mad cow disease are trying to clone cattle that are genetically engineered to resist the deadly brain-wasting illness.

The Biotechnology Industry Organization, a Washington trade group, says at least three research teams are trying to produce clones. One of those, a team in Korea, announced last month the birth of four "mad cow-proof" calves.

At Virginia Tech University, Will Eyestone and William Huckle say they are hoping for success soon, too.

"If all goes well, we're looking to have a cloned cow born later this year or early next year," Eyestone said.

Using such a tricky and expensive method to protect the beef of the future doesn't seem very practical, beef industry and consumer advocates say. Still, there is interest in the effort.

"We're not in support of cloning cattle," said James "Bo" Reagan, of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association in Denver.

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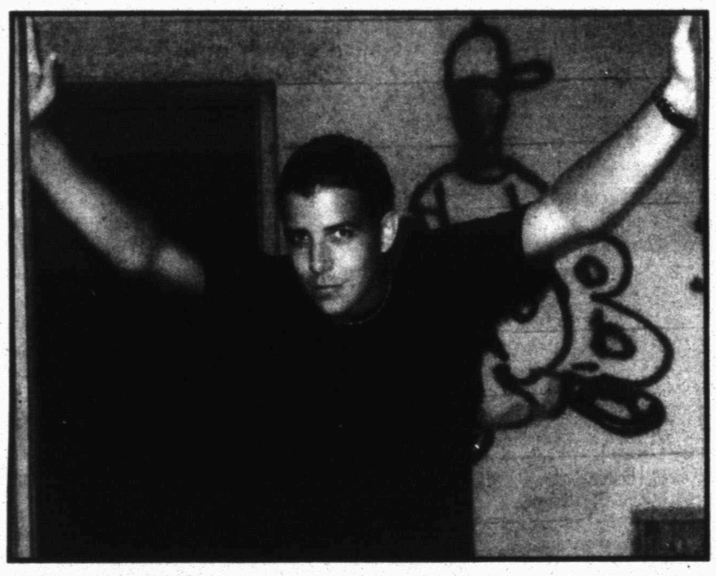

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?Weather Whys?

Topic: Mist and Drizzle

Q: What's the difference between mist and drizzle?

A: The real difference is only a slight one, says Andrew Odins of Texas A&M University. "Mist is composed of tiny droplets of water, so tiny they are suspended in the atmosphere," Odins explains.

"Mist reduces visibility, but not as much as fog, which it closely resembles. Technically speaking, during mist, visibility is one-half mile or more.

"Drizzle, on the other hand, is fairly uniform precipitation and is composed of small water drops that fall to the ground. The only real difference between drizzle and actual rain is that the droplets in drizzle are much smaller."

Q: So how much bigger are rain in drizzle compared to those in mist?"

A: Much larger, says Odins. "Drizzle contains drops that are .02 inch or smaller," Odins says. "There are even levels of drizzle -light drizzle (meaning visibility is about one-half mile); medium drizzle (visibility less than one-half mile) and heavy drizzle (visibility less than one-fourth mile).

"Mist is thinner than fog and the drops are so tiny that many float in the air, reducing visibility to between one-half mile and up to 1.2 miles. For purposes of measuring, the U.S. Weather Service does not regard fog, dew or frost as precipitation. "There is also such a thing as arctic mist, which is a mist of ice crystals and is a very light type of ice fog."

ABOUT WEATHER WHYS

"Weather Whys" is a service of Texas A&M University's Department of Atmospheric Sciences. Past and current topics can be viewed via the Web at http://rev.tamu.edu/weatherwhys/. For more information, please contact Keith Randall at Suggestions for future topics may be directed to news@univrel.tamu.edu.

Scurrying Around Snyder

Beth Davenheim, CEA—Family and Consumer Science, 2605 Avenue M, Snyder, Texas 79549

Cleaning the Home Office Organizing and Quick Clean Ups

The home office is a surprising repository for germs. A study at the University of Arizona indicated that the average desktop has more bacteria than any surface in the bathroom. Germs live on the telephone receiver, lurk on desktops, and hide out underneath piles of clutter.

Clutter Be-Gone

To get at the surfaces that need cleaning, start by getting desk clutter under control. At first, this may seem overwhelming, but establishing a simple routine can work wonders. The rule is: ***Deal with It – File It – Pitch*** It.

To put this rule into practice, make three piles.

Pile #1: Deal with It is for anything that needs to be acted on immediately, such as bills to pay and messages to return.

Pile #2: File It is for things that are not urgent, but need to be saved, such as bank statements, newspaper clippings, receipts, correspondences, etc. Label the sections in this pile by subject, month or category – whatever works best for you.

Pile #3: Pitch It is for things that need to be thrown away. Toss or recycle these items.

Let the Cleaning Begin

Once the clutter is gone, cleaning can begin. An all-purpose disinfectant cleaner will take care of dirt and germs on the phone and the desktop. To keep these surfaces continuously clean, add a pop-up container of wipes to the roster of desk accessories.

Dust mitts and cloths, either the electrostatic variety or those embedded with a dusting product, are great for easy cleaning of picture frames, desktops, computer screens and office accessories.

Vacuuming the carpet will get rid of those "dust bunnies." For the floor, use an all-in-one mopping unit with wet wipes or squirtable liquid to get rid of surface grime on vinyl, ceramic tile, laminate, linoleum and finished wood floors.

Read the Label

For all these products, read the label for proper use instructions and appropriate surfaces for which these products are formulated.

COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

WEEKLY LAKE AND WATER DELIVERY REPORT

LAKE J. B. THOMAS (200,604 ACRE FEET AT ELEVATION 2258.00 FT.)

	ONE YEAR AGO 1-19-03	LAST WEEK 1-12-04	THIS WEEK 1-19-04
ELEVATION (FEET)	17.24	17.26	17.30
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	18,188	18,228	18,306
PERCENT FULL	9.07	9.09	9.13
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.00	1.10
IVIE TO LAKE THOMAS (Gal.)		0	0
SPENCE TO THOMAS (Gal.)		0	0

*RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT BIG SPRING/ODESSA INTAKE.

E.V. SPENCE RESERVOIR (517,262 ACRE-FEET AT ELEVATION 1898.00 FT.)

	ONE YEAR AGO 1-19-03	LAST WEEK 1-12-04	THIS WEEK 1-19-04
ELEVATION (FEET)	37.21	38.54	38.47
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	34,032	37,555	37,363
PERCENT FULL	6.58	7.26	7.22
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.00	.25

* RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT SPENCE PUMP STATION

O.H. IVIE RESERVOIR (554,340 ACRE-FEET AT ELEVATION 1551.50 FT.)

	ONE YEAR AGO 1-19-03	LAST WEEK 1-12-04	THIS WEEK 1-19-04
ELEVATION (FEET)	27.55	25.80	25.82
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	211,667	194,939	195,122
PERCENT FULL	38.18	35.17	35.20
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.00	0.00

* RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT DAM.

INFORMATION BASED ON NEW AREA CAPACITY CURVE DATA

MUNICIPAL WATER DELIVERIES IN GALLONS

	LAST WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE 1-12-04 1-6-04	THIS WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE 1-19-04 1-13-04	THIS WEEKS PEAK DAY 1-19-04 1-13-04
BIG SPRING	3,381,429	2,880,000	3,190,000
ODESSA	12,930,200	12,137,514	13,473,300
SNYDER	1,670,571	1,539,986	2,004,000
MIDLAND	15,381,886	13,024,200	16,169,200
SAN ANGELO	13,648,143	10,309,286	11,369,000
STANTON	267,286	254,286	295,000

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Three Fort Hood soldiers killed in Iraq

By The Associated Press

Three Fort Hood soldiers, including a Texas native, were killed over the weekend when a roadside bomb detonated and overturned the vehicle they were traveling in, officials said Tuesday.

The soldiers were part of a joint U.S.-Iraqi patrol looking for roadside bombs Saturday morning in a town north of Baghdad, the Department of Defense said. All of the soldiers were with the 4th Infantry Division from Fort Hood.

Spc. Larry E. Polley Jr., 20, of Center, Texas, Sgt. Edmond L. Randle, 26, of Miami, and Pfc. Cody J. Orr, 21, of Ruskin, Fla., were killed in the incident.

Two other soldiers from Texas also were identified Tuesday by the Defense Deparatment as having died in Iraq.

Army Staff Sgt. Roland L. Castro, 26, San Antonio died Friday of a non-hostile gunshot wound in Camp Cedar II, Iraq, and Army Master Sgt. Kelly L. Hornbeck, 36, Fort Worth died Sunday at the 28th Combat Support Hospital of wounds received Friday when an explosive hit his vehicle south of Samarra, Iraq.

A total of 501 U.S. soldiers have died in Iraq since the U.S.-led invasion started March 20.

"He was raised up right here in my house. He was a good kid," Polley's grandmother, Ella Mae Polley said Tuesday from her home in Center, located near the Louisiana border about 60 miles southwest of Shreveport.

"He was an outgoing person," said Larry Earl Polley Sr., the soldier's father. "He liked fishing, video games and computers. He was an active person."

Polley said his son had talked to him about joining the military three years before he signed up with the Army in 2001. During a two-week leave over Christmas, both his father and grandmother tried to talk Polley into quitting after he finished his current hitch.

"He said he was going to retire in the Army," Larry Earl Polley Sr. said. "He told me, 'I'll be back.' It didn't happen that way."

Randle's mother, Karla Randle-West, described her son Tuesday as "everybody's favorite."

"They would fight over who would be his best friend," she said. "He never got in trouble, and everything he did, he excelled in."

Randle was attending Florida A&M University in Tallahassee when he joined the Army and enlisted because his scholarship didn't cover all the costs of his education, his mother said.

He intended to return to school but recently re-enlisted after being offered more money, she said.

Randle-West said her son expected to return to the United States in March, and the family already had planned a homecoming party. Randle would have turned 27 on Saturday, she said.

"It was about time for him to call again," his mother said. "He was telling me they were being very careful, and now this happened."

Orr was a 2001 graduate of East Bay High School in Ruskin, Fla., where news of his death was delivered in a Tuesday morning announcement. Auto shop teacher Wayne Nicholson said he didn't know Orr had gone into the service.

"He has the basic love for anything mechanical," Nicholson said.

Snyder Junior Livestock Show results

4-H and FFA members from throughout Scurry County competed in the contests' four divisions.

Judges for the competition carefully observed 516 entries during three days of vying for awards and a market spot at this year's sale.

The show began with the pig exhibition displaying 295 entries. The competition was divided into breed divisions.

Pig show
Breed Class #1
Duroc
1. Kaci Waller, Ira FFA
2. Cody Lomax, Ira FFA
3. Tanya Elam, Ira FFA
4. Cailey Young, Snyder FFA
5. Stetson Kincheloe, Snyder FFA
6. Allison Swigert, Snyder FFA
7. Jonathan Browning, Snyder FFA
8. Ashley Browning, Snyder FFA
9. Megan Thompson, Snyder FFA

Breed Class #2
Duroc
1. Tye Stone, Snyder FFA
2. K'Ana Garcia, Hermleigh FFA
3. Michael Zajicek, Snyder FFA
4. Stanley Forbes, Snyder FFA
5. Ashley Swigert, Snyder FFA
6. Ty Burton, Snyder FFA
7. Krystal Beasley, Hermleigh FFA
8. Amanda Elam, Ira FFA
9. Brailee Sanchez, Hermleigh FFA
10. Alan Zajicek, Snyder FFA

Breed Class #3
Duroc
1. Kellie Sanders, Snyder FFA
2. Sarah Gunset, Ira FFA
3. Kelton Garcia, Hermleigh FFA
4. Sydney Glass, Snyder FFA
5. Kell Odom, Ira FFA
6. Kelton Garcia, Hermleigh FFA
7. Taylor Beaty, Hermleigh FFA
8. Kailea Shaw, Scurry County 4-H
9. Jacob Beaty, Hermleigh FFA
10. Amy Sauceda, Snyder FFA

Breed Class #4
Duroc
1. Rance Dunn, Ira FFA
2. Seth Sanchez, Ira FFA
3. Courtney Pollard, Snyder FFA
4. Krystin House, Hermleigh FFA
5. Joey Harvey, Snyder FFA
6. Dale Cink, Ira FFA
7. Ralston Loveall, Snyder FFA
8. Melanie Kariainen, Hermleigh FFA
9. Sydney Glass, Snyder FFA
10. Ruben Deloera, Snyder FFA
11. Christopher Ward, Snyder FFA

Breed Class #5
Hampshire
1. Kelissa Craig, Scurry County 4-H
2. Ashton Burton, Snyder FFA
3. Amanda Whisenhunt, Snyder FFA
4. Rance Dunn, Ira FFA
5. Abby Levens, Snyder FFA
6. Logan West, Snyder FFA
7. Colton Guynes, Snyder FFA
8. Shae Rinehart, Hermleigh FFA
9. Blaine Proctor, Scurry County 4-H
10. J.P. Smith, Hermleigh FFA
11. Meggan Minor, Scurry County 4-H

Breed Class #6
Hampshire
1. Jacki Thompson, Snyder FFA
2. Austin Forbes, Snyder FFA
3. Trevor Kubena, Snyder FFA
4. Cody Lomax, Ira FFA
5. Stetson Kincheloe, Snyder FFA
6. Chance Tatum, Snyder FFA
7. Tanner Martin, Ira FFA
8. Jamie Dobbs, Ira FFA

Breed Class #7
Hampshire
1. Blaine Proctor, Scurry County 4-H
2. Keagan Herrley, Snyder FFA
3. Sarah Gunset, Ira FFA
4. Kendall Tidwell, Snyder FFA
5. Tyler Thompson, Snyder FFA
6. Macy Bilano, Scurry County 4-H
7. Pasha Porysev, Snyder FFA
8. Josh Falls, Snyder FFA
9. Jake Elam, Ira FFA
10. Samuel Lee, Hermleigh FFA

Breed Class #8
Hampshire
1. Kaycee Westlund, Snyder FFA
2. Logan West, Snyder FFA
3. Kira Bilano, Scurry County 4-H
4. Taylor Hollingsworth, Ira FFA
5. Kade Kruger, Snyder FFA
6. Seth Cotton, Ira FFA
7. Chance Young, Snyder FFA
8. Chelsea Young, Snyder FFA
9. Chris Dobbs, Ira FFA

Breed Class #9
Hampshire
1. K'Ana Garcia, Hermleigh FFA
2. Kellie Sanders, Snyder FFA
3. Keilea Shaw, Scurry County 4-H
4. Kelsey Shaw, Scurry County 4-H
5. Ty Collier, Snyder FFA
6. Courtney Pollard, Snyder FFA
7. Ashton Smith, Ira FFA
8. Rance Dunn, Ira FFA
9. Melanie Kariainen, Hermleigh FFA

Breed Class #10
Hampshire
1. Valerie West, Hermleigh FFA
2. Shae Rinehart, Hermleigh FFA
3. Joakim Lundvik, Hermleigh FFA
4. Brandon Lunsford, Ira FFA
5. Conor Johnson, Snyder FFA
6. Krystin House, Hermleigh FFA
7. Marissa Davis, Hermleigh FFA
8. Robby Anderson, Hermleigh FFA
9. Taylor Beaty, Hermleigh FFA

Breed Class #11
White OPB
1. Pasha Porysev, Snyder FFA
2. Malak Wills, Scurry County 4-H
3. Emma Nunley, Snyder FFA
4. Tanner Bloom, Snyder FFA
5. Ashton Smith, Ira FFA
6. Micah Henson, Snyder FFA

Breed Class #12
White OPB
1. Cody Wall, Snyder FFA
2. Chelsea Young, Snyder FFA
3. Conor Johnson, Snyder FFA
4. Remington Bloom, Snyder FFA
5. Jake Strickland, Snyder FFA
6. Ty Burton, Snyder FFA

Breed Class #13
White OPB
1. Sarah Gunset, Ira FFA
2. Macy Bilano, Scurry County 4-H
3. Ashton Wall, Snyder FFA
4. Lacie Thompson, Ira FFA
5. Austin Forbes, Snyder FFA
6. Micah Henson, Snyder FFA
7. Stetson Kincheloe, Snyder FFA
8. Kendra Tidwell, Snyder FFA
9. Wesley Kellner, Ira FFA
10. Jonathan Browning, Snyder FFA

Breed Class #14
Black OPB
1. Kade Kruger, Snyder FFA
2. Tanner Martin, Ira FFA
3. Dylan Early, Snyder FFA
4. Keagan Herrley, Snyder FFA
5. Whitney Payne, Ira FFA
6. Jada Bilano, Scurry County 4-H
7. Jessica Odom, Ira FFA
8. Christopher Ward, Snyder FFA
9. Megan Thompson, Snyder FFA
10. Tye Stone, Snyder FFA
Sarah Kellner, Ira FFA
Ricky Early, Snyder FFA

Breed Class #15
Black OPB
1. Ty Collier, Snyder FFA
2. Kelton Garcia, Hermleigh FFA
3. Trevor Kubena, Snyder FFA
4. Krystal Beasley, Hermleigh FFA
5. Jonathan Devitt, Ira FFA
6. Colton Guynes, Snyder FFA
7. Randy Loveall, Snyder FFA
8. Jonathan Browning, Snyder FFA
9. Austin Owens, Snyder FFA
10. Ashton Burton, Snyder FFA

Breed Class #16
Yorkshire
1. Rusty Smith, Snyder FFA
2. Logan West, Snyder FFA
3. Michael Parsley, Snyder FFA
4. Colton West, Snyder FFA
5. Chad Greene, Snyder FFA
6. Emma Nunley, Snyder FFA
7. Cailey Young, Snyder FFA
8. Cody Lomax, Ira FFA
9. Christopher Ward, Snyder FFA

Breed Class #17
Yorkshire
1. Lacie Thompson, Ira FFA
2. Wesley Kellner, Ira FFA
3. Kelsey Shaw, Scurry County 4-H
4. Joakim Lundvik, Hermleigh FFA
5. Kaycee Westlund, Snyder FFA
6. K'Ana Garcia, Hermleigh FFA
7. Dylan Early, Snyder FFA
8. Tana Holley, Snyder FFA
9. Chris Dobbs, Ira FFA

Breed Class #18
Yorkshire
1. Sydney Glass, Snyder FFA
2. Ricky Early, Snyder FFA
3. Dylan Early, Snyder FFA
4. Megan Kariainen, Hermleigh FFA
5. Stetson Kincheloe, Snyder FFA
6. Valerie West, Hermleigh FFA
7. Cody Wall, Snyder FFA
8. Jonathan Beaird, Ira FFA
9. Dylan Early, Snyder FFA

Breed Class #19
Yorkshire
1. Kellie Sanders, Snyder FFA
2. Amber Sanchez, Ira FFA
3. Conor Johnson, Snyder FFA
4. K'Ana Garcia, Hermleigh FFA
5. Seth Cotton, Ira FFA
6. Ricky Early, Snyder FFA
7. Sydney Glass, Snyder FFA
8. Megan Kariainen, Hermleigh FFA
9. Kelton Garcia, Hermleigh FFA

Breed Class #20
Crossbreed
1. Jacki Thompson, Snyder FFA
2. Ashton Wall, Snyder FFA
3. Kaycee Loveall, Snyder FFA
4. Allison Swigert, Snyder FFA
5. Rusty Smith, Snyder FFA
6. Jake Strickland, Snyder FFA
7. Chance Young, Snyder FFA
8. Michael Parsley, Snyder FFA
9. Pasha Porysev, Snyder FFA
10. Ashley Swigert, Snyder FFA

Breed Class #21
Crossbreed
1. Chance Tatum, Snyder FFA
2. Keagan Herrley, Snyder FFA
3. Xalee Northcutt, Snyder FFA
4. Susan Lee, Hermleigh FFA
5. Kailea Shaw, Scurry County 4-H
6. Kelsey Shaw, Scurry County 4-H
7. Kelissa Craig, Scurry County 4-H
8. Kira Bilano, Scurry County 4-H
9. Melanie Kariainen, Hermleigh FFA
10. Ashely Browning, Snyder FFA

Breed Class #22
Crossbreed
1. Remington Bloom, Snyder FFA
2. Cody Wall, Snyder FFA
3. Ashton Wall, Snyder FFA
4. Pasha Porysev, Snyder FFA
5. Ruben Deloera, Snyder FFA
6. Christopher Ward, Snyder FFA
7. Tyler Thompson, Snyder FFA
8. Tanner Bloom, Snyder FFA
9. Kellie Sanders, Snyder FFA
10. Seth Sanchez, Ira FFA

Breed Class #23
Crossbreed
1. Brandon Lunsford, Ira FFA
2. Kailea Shaw, Scurry County 4-H
3. Jordan Williamson, Hermleigh 4-H
4. Kell Odom, Ira FFA
5. Jordan Williamson, Hermleigh FFA
6. Jacob Beaty, Hermleigh FFA
7. Ricky Early, Snyder FFA
8. Rance Dunn, Ira FFA
9. Colton West, Snyder FFA
10. Jordan Smith, Ira FFA

Goat show
Class #1
1. Baily Nickerson, Ira FFA
2. Jordan Smith, Ira FFA
3. Joel Lollar, Ira FFA
4. Jordan Lollar, Ira FFA
5. Kellie Sanders, Snyder FFA
6. Joel Lollar, Ira FFA
7. Brance Scott, Snyder FFA
8. Susan Lee, Hermleigh FFA
9. J.P. Smith, Hermleigh FFA
10. Georganna Smith, Hermleigh FFA

Class #2
1. Baily Nickerson, Ira FFA
2. Joel Lollar, Ira FFA
3. Chad Nickerson, Ira FFA
4. Jordan Lollar, Ira FFA
5. Wesley Kellner, Ira FFA
6. Brittany Scott, Scurry County 4-H
7. Brittany Scott, Scurry County 4-H
8. Paige Anderson, Snyder FFA
9. Brance Scott, Snyder FFA
10. Sarah Kellner, Ira FFA

Class #3
1. Laramie Gilbert, Ira FFA
2. Brittany Scott, Scurry County 4-H
3. Rance Dunn, Ira FFA
4. Laramie Gilbert, Ira FFA
5. Ashton Smith, Ira FFA
6. Brance Scott, Snyder FFA
7 Cody Lomax, Ira FFA
8. Kellie Sanders, Snyder FFA
9. Joel Lollar, Ira FFA
10. Kelly Moore, Snyder FFA

Class #4
1. Chad Nickerson, Ira FFA
2. Kaci Waller, Ira FFA
3. Baily Nickerson, Ira FFA
4. Baily Nickerson, Ira FFA
5. Paige Anderson, Snyder FFA
6. Aryn May, Snyder FFA
7. Kelly Moore, Snyder FFA
8. Brittany Scott, Scurry County 4-H
9. Rainie Moore, Snyder FFA
10. Tyrelle Gilbert, Ira FFA

Class #5
1. Chad Nickerson, Ira FFA
2. Chad Nicherson, Ira FFA
3. Jessica Odom, Ira FFA
4. Paige Anderson, Snyder FFA
5. Bailey Minor, Ira FFA
6. Cody Lomax, Ira FFA
7. Samantha Berry, Hermleigh FFA
8. Rainie Moore, Snyder FFA
9. Annie Stribling, Snyder FFA
10. Annie Stribling, Snyder FFA

Lamb Show
Breed Class #1
Southdown
1. Bailey Minor, Ira FFA
2. Kell Odom, Ira FFA
3. Jake Strickland, Snyder FFA
4. Cassie Cochran, Snyder FFA

Breed Class #2
Southdown
1. Kylie Moreland, Scurry County 4-H
2. Kylie Moreland, Scurry County 4-H
3. Chad Nickerson, Ira FFA
4. Baily Nickerson, Ira FFA
5. Jake Riley, Ira FFA
6. Rainie Moore, Snyder FFA

Breed Class #3
Fine Wool
1. Seth Sanchez, Ira FFA
2. Alicia Culp, Hermleigh FFA
3. Kylie Moreland, Scurry County 4-H
4. Amber Sanchez, Ira FFA
5. Kylie Moreland, Scurry County 4-H

Breed Class #4
Fine Wool
1. Kelbi Pitner, Ira FFA
2. Lacie Thompson, Ira FFA
3. Kelbi Pitner, Ira FFA
4. Brandon Lunsford, Ira FFA
5. Seth Cotton, Ira FFA
6. Kelly Moore, Snyder FFA

Breed Class #5
Extra Fine Wool
1. Meggan Minor, Scurry County 4-H
2. Kaci Waller, Ira FFA
3. Bailey Minor, Ira FFA
4. Kelissa Craig, Scurry County 4-H
5. Stetson Kincheloe, Snyder FFA
6. Rainie Moore, Snyder FFA
7. Seth Sanchez, Ira FFA
8. Sarah Gunset, Ira FFA

Breed Class #6
Extra Fine Wool
1. Brandon Lunsford, Ira FFA
2. Kaci Waller, Ira FFA
3. Jake Riley, Ira FFA
4. Lacie Thompson, Ira FFA
5. Sarah McCown, Ira FFA
6. Sarah McCown, Ira FFA
7. Meggan Minor, Scurry County 4-H
8. Jessica Odom, Ira FFA
9. Pasha Porysev, Snyder FFA
10. Brandon Lunsford, Ira FFA

Breed Class #7
Extra Fine Wool
1. Corbin Smith, Scurry County 4-H
2. Kaci Waller, Ira FFA
3. Jessica Odom, Ira FFA
4. Meggan Minor, Scurry County 4-H
5. Bailey Minor, Ira FFA
6. Stetson Kincheloe, Snyder FFA
7. Tanya Elam, Ira FFA
8. Amber Baker, Ira FFA

Breed Class #8
Extra Fine Wool
1. Corbin Smith, Scurry County 4-H
2. Kaci Waller, Ira FFA
3. Corbin Smith, Scurry County 4-H
4. Amanda Elam, Ira FFA
5. Jessica Odom, Ira FFA
6. Amber Sanchez, Ira FFA
7. Kelissa Craig, Scurry County 4-H
8. Pasha Porysev, Snyder FFA

Breed Class #9
Medium Wool
1. Tye Stone, Snyder FFA
2. Kell Odom, Ira FFA
3. Jake Strickland, Snyder FFA
4. Tye Holley, Snyder FFA
5. Tana Holley, Snyder FFA
6. Alicia Culp, Hermleigh FFA
7. Pasha Porysev, Snyder FFA

Breed Class #10
Medium Wool
1. Tanya Elam, Ira FFA
2. Lacie Thompson, Ira FFA
3. Seth Cotton, Ira FFA
4. Brandon Lunsford, Ira FFA
5. Tye Holley, Snyder FFA
6. Amber Baker, Ira FFA
7. Cassie Cochran, Snyder FFA
8. Sarah Gunset, Ira FFA

Breed Class #11
Medium Wool
1. Corbin Smith, Scurry County 4-H
2. Meggan Minor, Scurry County 4-H
3. Amanda Elam, Ira FFA
4. Bailey Minor, Ira FFA
5. Jake Riley, Ira FFA
6. Lacie Thompson, Ira FFA
7. Kelly Moore, Snyder FFA

Steer and Heifer Show
Breed Class #1
American
1. Tyrelle Gilbert, Scurry County 4-H
2. Christopher Ward, Scurry County 4-H
3. Joshua Stansell, Scurry County 4-H

Breed Class #2
American
1. Chase Peterson, Scurry County 4-H
2. Jadon Guynes, Snyder FFA
3. Jada Bilano, Scurry County 4-H

Breed Class #3
American
1. Macy Bilano, Scurry County 4-H
2. Jada Bilano, Scurry County 4-H
3. Tyrelle Gilbert, Scurry County 4-H
4. A'Lex Koonce, Scurry County 4-H

Breed Class #4
British
1. Kira Bilano, Scurry County 4-H
2. Jordan Derryberry, Scurry County 4-H
3. Kinsey Guynes, Snyder FFA
4. Macy Bilano, Scurry County 4-H

Breed Class #5
British
1. Laramie Gilbert, Scurry County 4-H
2. Chad Pechacek, Scurry County 4-H
3. Christopher Ward, Scurry County 4-H
4. Brenon Rhodes, Scurry County 4-H

Breed Class #6
British
1. Cayelea Rhodes, Scurry County 4-H
2. Jordan Derryberry, Scurry County 4-H
3. Chad Pechacek, Scurry County 4-H

Breed Class #7
Exotic
1. Joshua Stansell, Scurry County 4-H
2. A'Lex Koonce, Scurry County 4-H
3. Jadon Guynes, Snyder FFA

Breed Class #8
Exotic
1. Chase Peterson, Scurry County 4-H
2. Chase Peterson, Scurry County 4-H
3. Kinsey Guynes, Snyder FFA
4. Laramie Gilbert, Scurry County 4-H

Breed Class #9
Exotic
1. Christopher Ward, Scurry County 4-H
2. A'Lex Koonce, Scurry County 4-H
3. Kira Bilano, Scurry County 4-H
4. Jadon Guynes, Snyder FFA

Today's chuckle

Inmate not so lucky after 2nd escape fails

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — This inmate might do well to find himself another nickname.

For the second time in a year, Keith "Lucky" Stratton tried to escape from a work crew — only to be collared under humiliating circumstances.

On Tuesday, the Multnomah County jail inmate doing time for auto theft jumped from a truck carrying a prisoner work crew through Portland's Parkrose neighborhood to Sauvie Island.

He threw open the door, did a barrel roll out and took off, said Multnomah County sheriff's Sgt. Dennis Bryant, the work crew supervisor.

Last April, the 32-year-old inmate escaped from a community transition program. Police found him hiding under a pile of dirty clothes and blankets in an apartment.

They spotted his feet poking out from under the pile.

This time around, it was the jail-issue pink underwear that gave him away. Someone called 9-1-1 and reported seeing a suspicious-looking man with pink underwear running behind a furniture store.

"The inmate was wearing brown work crew pants, but apparently they kept falling down," said sheriff's Lt. Michael Shults.

Stratton was still having trouble keeping his pants up when officers cornered him.

He was tackled, screaming, after refusing to surrender, Shults said.

Deputies were mystified as to why Stratton would flee, since he was to be released May 2 and now may face substantially more jail time for the escape.

Shults had one possible explanation: It was Stratton's birthday.

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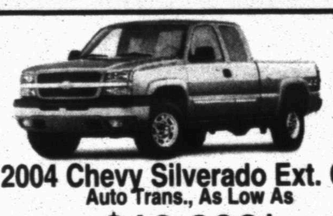

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Democrats to let spending bill pass

WASHINGON (AP) — Senate Democrats are abandoning their effort to block a delinquent $373 billion bill that would finance much of the government, but the two parties are still using the measure to hit each other over spending, overtime pay and other issues.

The Senate voted 48-45 today to continue Democratic delays that have bogged the bill down since December, 12 votes shy of the 60 needed to end the slowdown. The bill would finance biomedical research, job training and most other domestic programs for the federal budget year that started Oct. 1.

Before the vote, Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., said he believed the legislation would pass by next week regardless of whether Republicans dealt with Democratic complaints. The Democratic leader's assessment came after Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., reiterated that the GOP would not bow to Democratic demands for changes.

Daschle's prediction underscored that many Democrats are reluctant to derail a bill bearing increases for schools, veterans and thousands of home-district projects like park improvements.

The 1,182-page bill would finance 11 Cabinet-level departments and scores of other agencies, because it combines seven spending measures into a single, mammoth package. It covers everything from NASA to housing aid for the poor, from foreign aid to the District of Columbia's local government.

He said if Republicans refused to rewrite the disputed provisions, Democrats would use other legislation to wage their fights. The overall spending bill would impose a two-year delay in requiring labels on many foods to identify the countries they came from, would allow an administration move to reduce the number of white-collar workers eligible for overtime pay and would ease limits on the number of television stations a company can own.

"These issues will not go away," Daschle told reporters. "We will bring them back again and again and again."

At the White House, President Bush accused a minority in the Senate of blocking a vote on a bill "that is four months overdue and that fulfills important commitments" to FBI agents, AIDS victims in Africa and others.

Three arrested on various charges

• Arrests

Three arrests were made in Snyder and Scurry County on Tuesday.

A 34-year-old man was taken into custody on U.S. 84 near the city limits at 10:05 a.m. on a DPS warrant from Sulphur Springs for speeding and violation of promise to appear.

Officers arrested a 33-year-old woman at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the 1300 block of 26th St. on a warrant for misdemeanor theft by check and a Hockley County warrant for delivery of a controlled substance.

A 45-year-old woman was taken into custody in the 3000 block of 39th St. at 7:43 p.m. Tuesday on a warrant from Coryell County for driving while license suspended and failure to appear.

• Minor accident

DPS troopers investigated a one-vehicle rollover with no injuries on Hwy. 208 near Dunn which was reported at 11:42 p.m. Tuesday.

• Threats

An employee with World Finance requested an officer at 4:33 p.m. Tuesday in reference to a subject making threats to assault her. Officers made contact with the person making the threats.

• Family disturbance

An officer was requested at a home on Ave. U at 8:50 p.m. Tuesday to a report of an altercation between a wife and husband. An offense report for information only was submitted.

• Noise disturbance

A caller in the 400 block of 29th St. reported at 2:59 p.m. Tuesday some loud drum noises at a nearby residence. Officers advised the person to lower the sound.

A landlord of a residence in the 1200 block of 26th St. reported loud music at 3:36 p.m. Tuesday from a house in that area.

• Gas drive-off

Two gas drive-offs were reported from Town and Country east on Tuesday.

The first occurred at 10:16 a.m. in the amount of $20.50. The second theft occurred at 6:31 p.m. and was for $5.

Overtime pay plan won't stop lawsuits

WASHINGTON (AP) — A proposal that would drastically revamp the nation's overtime pay rules is confusing and won't curtail costly lawsuits against employers as the Bush administration hopes, a Republican senator said today.

The Labor Department's overtime plan is holding up passage of a major spending bill in Congress. Shortly before lawmakers were to take up the stalled bill again, Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., chairman of the labor appropriations subcommittee, summoned Labor Secretary Elaine Chao to a hearing to explain why her department was pressing for the overtime changes.

Chao said the current rules are outdated and confusing, and haven't been updated in decades. Employers are being subjected to $2 billion in "needless litigation" annually because companies and their workers do not clearly understand their obligations and rights, she said. The Labor Department could not say how many of the lawsuits came from willful violations by employers.

"Our intent is not to take away overtime — not at all," Chao said of the proposal. "Our purpose is to protect workers."

Specter said the proposal's new definitions of professional, executive and administrative employees are still ambiguous, and would face plenty of lawsuits. "I'd like to limit litigation ... but I don't think it does that," he said.

The plan, which is expected to be issued in final form by March 31 and does not require approval by Congress, has been embroiled in controversy because it would remove overtime protections for millions of higher-paid workers. But exactly how many people and what kinds of occupations would be affected are unclear.

The Labor Department claims that just 644,000 white-collar workers would lose their overtime pay. But the proposal itself reads that an additional 1.5 million to 2.7 million "will be more readily identified as exempt."

A study by a liberal think tank, the Economic Policy Institute, found that as many as 8 million workers could lose their overtime pay protections. Economist Jared Bernstein testified that the Labor Department only counts workers who currently are paid overtime, while EPI includes all workers covered by the protections, even if they never work overtime. Labor Department officials countered that EPI's study is erroneous because it counts part-time workers.

Congress is particularly sensitive to overtime pay changes in an election year. Specter, who is seeking union support for his reelection bid, has fought for a measure that would prevent the department from issuing any final regulations that would cut overtime pay protections for workers.

Obituaries

John Rodriguez

1941-2004

John Rodriguez, 62, died Tuesday, Jan. 20, in Snyder Oaks Care Center.

Rosary for Mr. Rodriguez will be held at 5:30 p.m. today in the Wright Colonial Funeral Home Chapel. Deacon Frank Ortegon will officiate.

Funeral service is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in the Wright Colonial Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Fr. Roy Badilles, pastor of St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, officiating. Burial will follow in the Snyder Cemetery.

Born Nov. 5, 1941 in Knippa, Texas, he married Eva Andrade on April 28, 1960 in Snyder.

Mr. Rodriguez was a mechanic for the Western Company until 1999. He was self-employed at Westside 66 until he began work for Production Pump, retiring in 2001.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ismael and Anita Rodriguez; and one brother, Ramijio Rodriguez.

Survivors include his wife, Eva Rodriguez of Snyder; four daughters and three sons-in-law, Carmen and Darrel Clement of Snyder, Gloria and Ron Utley of Artesia, N.M., Diana and Peyton Daniels and Anna Rodriguez of Snyder; three brothers, Moses Rodriguez of Lubbock, Gilbert Rodriguez of Hereford and Raymond Rodriguez of Snyder; one sister, Ofelia Hernandez of Snyder; and five grandchildren, Valarie Utley and Amanda Utley, both of Artesia, Lanxton Cole, Brent Cole and Brooke Wimmer, all of Snyder.

Glyn Murphy

1918-2004

BRECKENRIDGE — Glyn Ed Murphy, a former area resident, died Tuesday, Jan. 20, in Hendrick's Medical Center in Abilene.

A memorial service for Mr. Murphy, 85, is set for 2 p.m. Saturday in the Morehart Mortuary Chapel in Breckenridge. Cremation is planned.

Born Dec. 1, 1918 in Snyder to W. Ed and Frieda von Roeder Murphy, he was reared in Borden County and attended school in Gail before graduating from Ranger High School. He attended Texas Tech University and served as a master sergeant in the U.S. Army Corps during World War II.

Mr. Murphy was a rancher and also owned a vending machine business, moving to Breckenridge from House, N.M. in 1955. He was a member of the VFW, American Legion and Elks Lodge.

His parents, a son and a brother preceded him in death.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Maxine and Gerry Cockrell of Abilene; a son and daughter-in-law, Robert and Desley Murphy of Sidney, Australia; two brothers, Brent Murphy of Snyder and Bruce Murphy of New Mexico; and four grandchildren, Lynzey, Matt, Mareesha and Louis Murphy, all of Australia.

Memorials may be made to the Stephens County Memorial Hospital or to the Breckenridge Elks Lodge.

Ruth Sheldon

1908-2004

GOLDTHWAITE — Ruth Sheldon, a former resident of Snyder, died Monday, Jan. 19, in Forrest Ridge Nursing Home in Hamilton.

Funeral service for Mrs. Sheldon, 95, was set for 2:30 p.m. today in the Stacy-Wilkins Chapel in Goldthwaite with the Rev. Doyle Combs officiating. Burial was to follow in the Hurst Ranch Cemetery.

Born April 2, 1908 in Evant, she married William Clair Sheldon on Nov. 27, 1927. He preceded her in death as did her parents, Mattie and Bob Long.

Mrs. Sheldon was a homemaker and a member of the Northside Baptist Church in Snyder.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Gloria and Maxie Chaney of Star; grandchildren, Thresa and Tommy Moore of Snyder and Barry and Denby Chaney of Star; five great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Niedermayer

1926-2004

BIG SPRING — Earline Dorothy Kohl Niedermayer, sister of Alfred A. Kohl of Snyder, died Sunday, Jan. 18, in Comanche Trail Nursing Home.

Service for Mrs. Niedermayer, 77, is set for 3 p.m. Friday in the St. Paul Lutheran Church with the Revs. Wayne Frost of Big Spring and Mark Cattau of Dallas officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Born Dec. 2, 1926 in Harrold, she graduated from Harrold High School and Concordia Teacher's College in River Forest, Ill. She was a Lutheran schoolteacher for 15 years in Hickory, N.C., Houston, Fort Worth and Amarillo. Following her retirement, she was secretary to the president of Pioneer Gas in Amarillo for many years.

She married Joseph Van Niedermayer on June 10, 1961 in Amarillo. He preceded her in death as did her parents, Albert G. and Bertha Lutz Kohl; and a stepson, Neil Niedermayer.

Survivors include another brother and his wife, Carroll and Leighrene Kohl of Big Spring; a sister-in-law, Rosemary Kohl of Snyder; and many nieces and nephews.

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Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Thu 1/22	Fri 1/23	Sat 1/24
52/40	**51/41**	**64/35**
More clouds than sun. High 52F. Winds NNE at 5 to 10 mph.	Occasional showers. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the low 40s.	Showers. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the mid 30s.
Sunrise 7:44 AM, Sunset 6:07 PM	Sunrise 7:44 AM, Sunset 6:08 PM	Sunrise 7:43 AM, Sunset 6:08 PM

–Come Rain or Shine–
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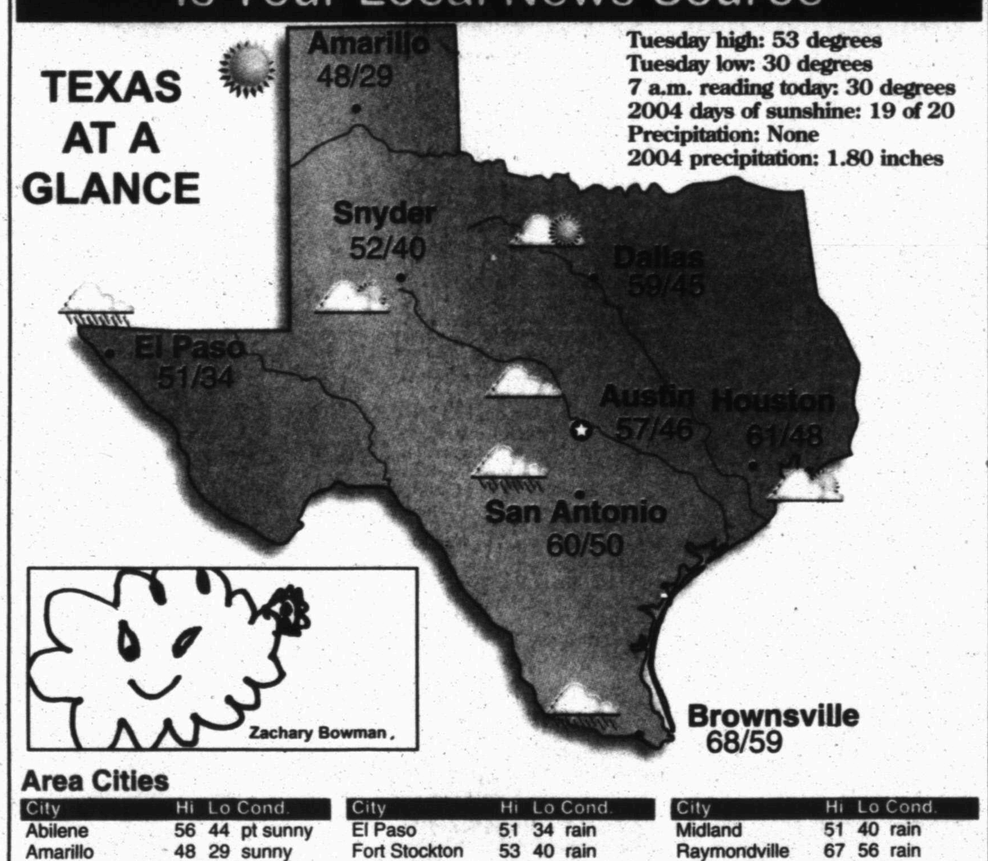
TEXAS AT A GLANCE

Tuesday high: 53 degrees
Tuesday low: 30 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 30 degrees
2004 days of sunshine: 19 of 20
Precipitation: None
2004 precipitation: 1.80 inches



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	56	44	pt sunny	El Paso	51	34	rain	Midland	51	40	rain
Amarillo	48	29	sunny	Fort Stockton	53	40	rain	Raymondville	67	56	rain
Austin	57	46	cloudy	Gainesville	56	40	pt sunny	Rosenberg	61	48	cloudy
Beaumont	61	46	pt sunny	Greenville	58	41	pt sunny	San Antonio	60	50	rain
Brownsville	68	59	rain	Houston	61	48	cloudy	San Marcos	59	47	cloudy
Brownwood	59	44	pt sunny	Kingsville	65	54	rain	Sulphur Springs	58	42	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	62	54	rain	Livingston	60	42	pt sunny	Sweetwater	54	43	cloudy
Corsicana	59	44	pt sunny	Longview	59	41	pt sunny	Tyler	59	41	pt sunny
Dallas	59	45	pt sunny	Lubbock	50	35	pt sunny	Weatherford	58	41	pt sunny
Del Rio	58	50	rain	Lufkin	61	42	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	56	40	pt sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	54	25	sunny	Houston	61	48	cloudy	Phoenix	64	46	rain
Boston	33	17	sn shower	Los Angeles	69	50	windy	San Francisco	58	42	mst sunny
Chicago	14	7	pt sunny	Miami	72	53	pt sunny	Seattle	50	42	cloudy
Dallas	59	45	pt sunny	Minneapolis	6	-2	pt sunny	St. Louis	31	23	pt sunny
Denver	43	24	sunny	New York	34	18	flurries	Washington, DC	42	20	windy

Moon Phases

New	First	Full	Last
Jan 21	Jan 29	Feb 6	Feb 13

UV Index

Thu 1/22	Fri 1/23	Sat 1/24
3	4	4
Low	Low	Low

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

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