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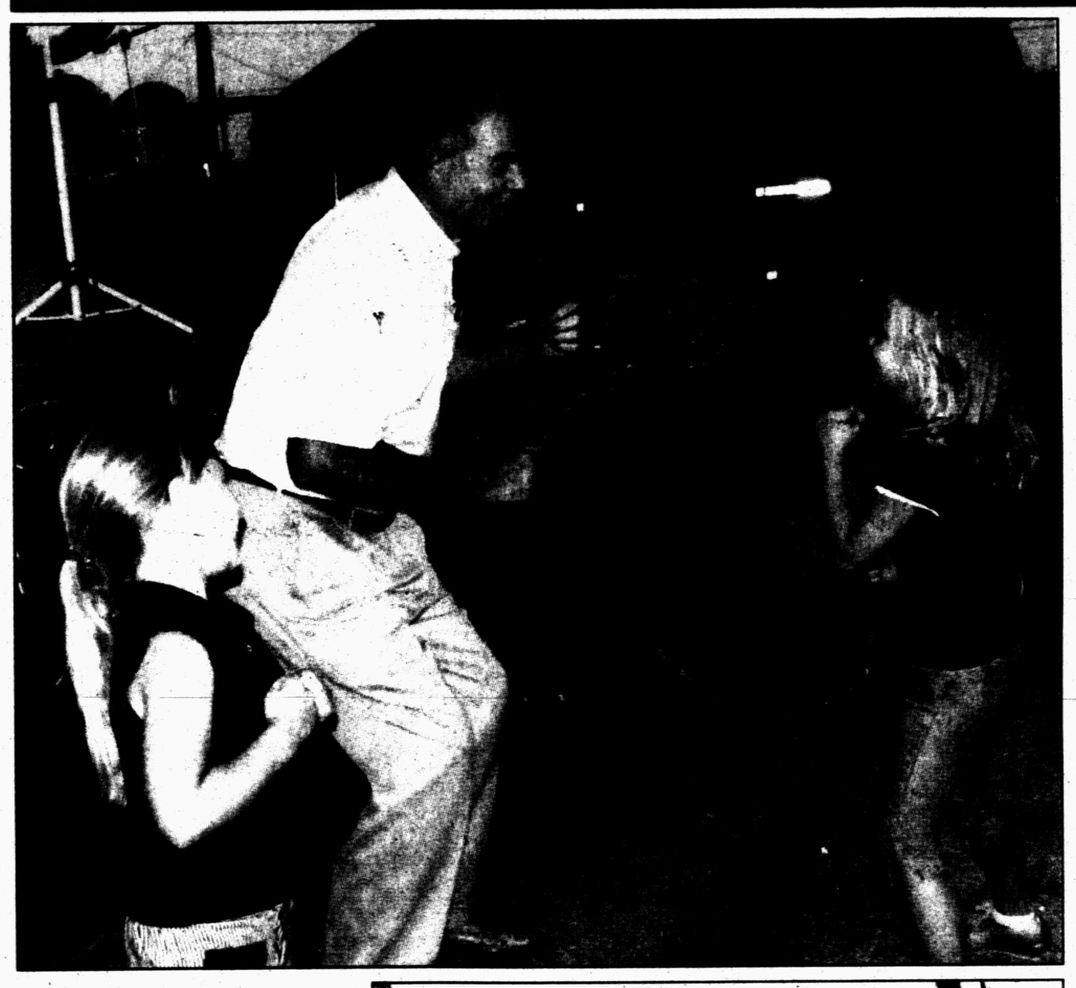
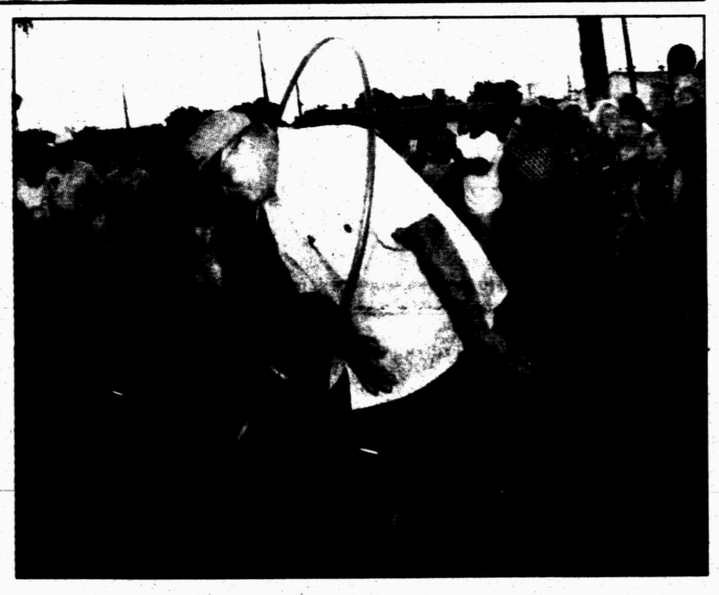
THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

MONDAY

June 7, 2004
Vol. 56 No. 32
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Jerry Hatfield





STILL TWISTING AWAY — Sweet Shop owner Jerry Hatfield won the twist contest with the help of Blake Bethel, 8, who had won the junior Hula Hoop contest while Megan Leatherwood, 6, boogies along during the 50th anniversary of the Sweet Shop. At right, Dr. Charles Church is shown as he captures the adult Hula Hoop title. (SDN Staff Photos by Jeff West)

Traffic, equipment buys on city council agenda

The Snyder City Council will consider several traffic changes and equipment for the police department at its meeting at 6:30 this evening.

The council once again will consider a tax freeze for citizens over 65 or those disabled. The item has been tabled several times pending action a special session of the Texas Legislature might take.

The council also will consider reducing the speed limit in the 1800 and 1900 blocks of Coleman from 30 to 20 mph and installing speed bumps. It will also look at placing a four-way stop at Ave. Q and 26th Street and a stop sign on Ave. Z at the entrance to Towle Park.

The police department is requesting the council approve the purchase of tasers, non-lethal weapons that use an electrical shock to temporarily disable a subject without doing permanent damage. Estimated cost is $17,000. Police Chief Steve Warren also will discuss a new computer for the department.

Two oil and gas-related items are on the agenda as the council considers an oil, gas and mineral lease with Sharp Image Energy and will also consider an application from Patterson Petroleum to drill for oil and/or gas within the Snyder city limits.

Vernest Tippens, Stephanie Ducheneaux, Dan Hicks and Ron Shaw, the four council members who won new terms when they ran unopposed, are scheduled to be sworn in and the council will elect a mayor-pro-tem.

The chamber of commerce will present its annual report on how money from the hotel/motel tax has been disbursed and the council will hear a zoning request and possibly approve it on first reading.

Contracts with Traylor and Associates for grant management and Enprotec/Hibbs & Todd for engineering services will also be considered.

More road work starts

There's good news and bad news for local drivers concerning road construction in Snyder.

More construction will start in Snyder this summer. The good news, however, is that the College Avenue project is running ahead of schedule.

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDot) has begun work in the area of 37th Street and Avenue E. According to Michael Molter, Snyder area highway engineer, the project involves doing work on the storm sewer drains.

Currently water jumps the curb and runs over the yards in that area, but the state will install a new inlet and tie it to the nearest culvert. The project should take about two months and cost is estimated $270,000.

Next week, workers will start on the area on 37th Street, west of El Paso. The project will involve some resurfacing of the streets as well as building and repairing some sidewalks and curbs.

The $600,000 project will repair the cracked and broken sidewalks between Houston and El Paso as well as make them more wheelchair accessible. There will also be some new sidewalk poured in the area, including the south side of 37th Street between Houston and El Paso.

Molter said the College Avenue project is still scheduled to be completed in October.

The contractor, Jones Brothers of Odessa, has until early January to finish, but the contract does provide an incentive that will pay the contractor $3,000 a day for each day they finish early.

The maximum is 25 days, for a possible total bonus of $75,000.

"The recent rain has caused some problems, but I think the project can still be finished in October," Molter said.

Hermleigh trustees will meet tonight

Hermleigh ISD board of trustees will meet at 8 o'clock this evening in the high school library.

Agenda items include the modification of the school calendar and setting the salary schedule for next school year, and possible changes to senior trip guidelines.

Supt. Marvin Beaty also will report on the district's building projects, finances and personnel.

Commissioners court eyes employee pay hike

By Jeff West
SDN Staff Writer

Scurry County employees could be in line for pay raises in light of a proposal getting a mostly favorable response. However, details regarding three department heads caused the Scurry County commissioners court this morning to table the plan.

The proposal called for a $1,000 annual increase for each department head. It also calls for other county employees' base pay to be increased to the current cap for that position.

The proposal would impact next year's budget by approximately $68,000. Elected officials are not be included in the proposal. Any cost-of-living increases would be in addition to the proposed pay hikes.

The proposal also calls for the caps on each position to be increased two percent yearly over the next nine years.

The court approved, on a split vote, dividing the districts of the two justices of the peace, giving newly-appointed JP Julie Culp more area.

Commissioner Chloanne Lindsey proposed moving voting box districts 9, 10, 11 and 13 to JP District 2, which she said would encompass much of the southern part of the county. Voting box 12 would not be included because JP District 1 Deborah Boyd lives in that district. Lindsey said the split would leave Snyder schools and the truancy issues with Boyd, who had told the commissioner she would like to keep that area of responsibility.

Commissioner Jerry House suggested adding voting boxes 5, 6 and 14 to JP District 2 as well. Some concern was expressed that adding that much to the new court might overload the one-person court.

Commissioner Ralph Trevey argued that, according to state law, voting district boundaries can only be changed during March and April. County Judge Rod Waller said it is his understanding that the law applied only to the voting districts themselves and not to the JP courts.

County Clerk Joan Bunch said she has talked to two attorneys for the state and both said the change is legal. The court voted to add the seven voting box districts to JP District 2 with Trevey voting against.

The vote was even tighter on a plan to forego replacing a permanent bathroom at Winston Park and buying 18 portable toilets and a vacuum trailer to clean.

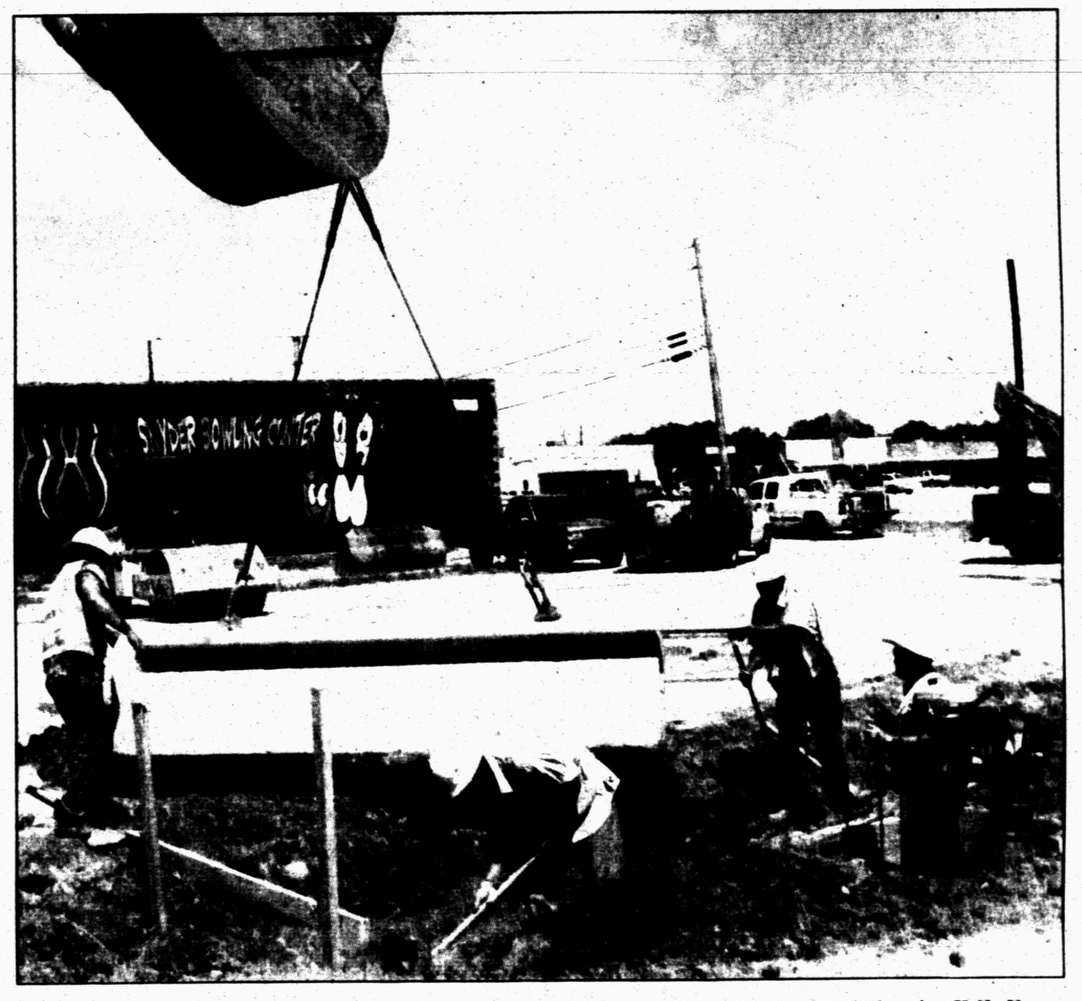
According to park officials, the change would drop the cost from $12,000 to $8,000 and give the county more versatility. Scott Crenweldge, parks director, said the 18 portable units could be put where they are needed. He mentioned events at the airport and even an event in Fluvanna where they could be used. He said the portables could be set up in the park during summer and taken down in winter months when they aren't needed.

Precinct 3 Commissioner Howard Limmer favored replacing the restrooms.

"We have the money (from an insurance company) to replace what was there and I think the citizens deserve a real rest room," Limmer said.

Waller said he liked the idea of versatility that the portables provide. The judge also said he liked the idea of not having to rent the portables when extra facilities are needed. The county voted to purchase the portable toilets on a 3-2 with Limmer and Trevey voting no.

The court unanimously approved the acceptance of credit cards in the county clerk's office. Others, including Sheriff Darren Jackson, said he would like to implement credit card payment in his department so people could pay fines and post bonds. He was told that other offices would have to wait until next meeting since they weren't on the agenda.



HEAVY LIFTING — Donald McMullan, right, works with Ruben Garza, Paul Garcia, E.Z. Franco and Santo Lopez, from left, to install a part of the storm sewer drain system on College Ave. (SDN Staff Photo by Jeff West)

ASK US

Q—What number do I call to get tickets for *Texas Legacies* at Palo Duro Canyon?
A—Call 1-877-58TEXAS, or www.epictexas.com.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Donna Powell..

...has lived in Snyder the past two years, moving with her husband, James, from Big Spring. Donna is a homemaker who enjoys camping, fishing and cross-stitch. James is a mail carrier and has worked for the U.S. Postal Service for 12 years.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Double, no triple, our troubles and we'd still be better off than any other people on earth.
—Ronald Reagan

JUN 07 2004

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 this evening is "Our Search for Two Worlds," followed by "The Truth Shall Make You Free."

Ritz auditions

Audition for the Ritz Theatre production of *Harvey* in July will be held at 6 p.m. today.

Hermleigh Masonic Lodge

Hermleigh Masonic Lodge will hold its monthly stated meeting at 7:30 tonight. A meal will follow and all Master Masons are welcome.

York Rite Masons to meet

York Rite Masons will meet at 7:30 tonight at the Masonic Hall to pay dues and elect new officers.

AA meeting

An AA meeting is held at noon every Tuesday and Friday at the Witherspoon house next door to the First Presbyterian Church. The meeting is non-smoking and closed. For more information, call 574-2656, or 207-1325.

Water aerobics

Water aerobics for seniors is held from 10-11 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday at the WTC pool.

GED, ESL classes

GED and ESL classes at Western Texas College are held from 8 a.m. until noon every Tuesday through Thursday and from 6 to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays through June 30. Classes will then resume in August. For more information call 573-8511, ext. 322.

Swimming lessons

Swimming lessons at WTC will be held Monday through Thursday through June 17. There will be sessions for ages 3-5, 6-8 and 9-10. Cost is $25 per student. Call Lisa Christensen at 573-8697 for more information.

What's up guidelines

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

'Transit of Venus' due Tuesday

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — With concerts and sleepovers, astronomy buffs are giddily preparing to watch Venus' silhouette cross the face of the sun on Tuesday — the first time that sight has appeared in 122 years.

"Some people have been waiting all their lives for this. Nobody alive has seen it," said astronomer Peter Boyce, who plans to watch the "transit of Venus" from Massachusetts' Nantucket Island.

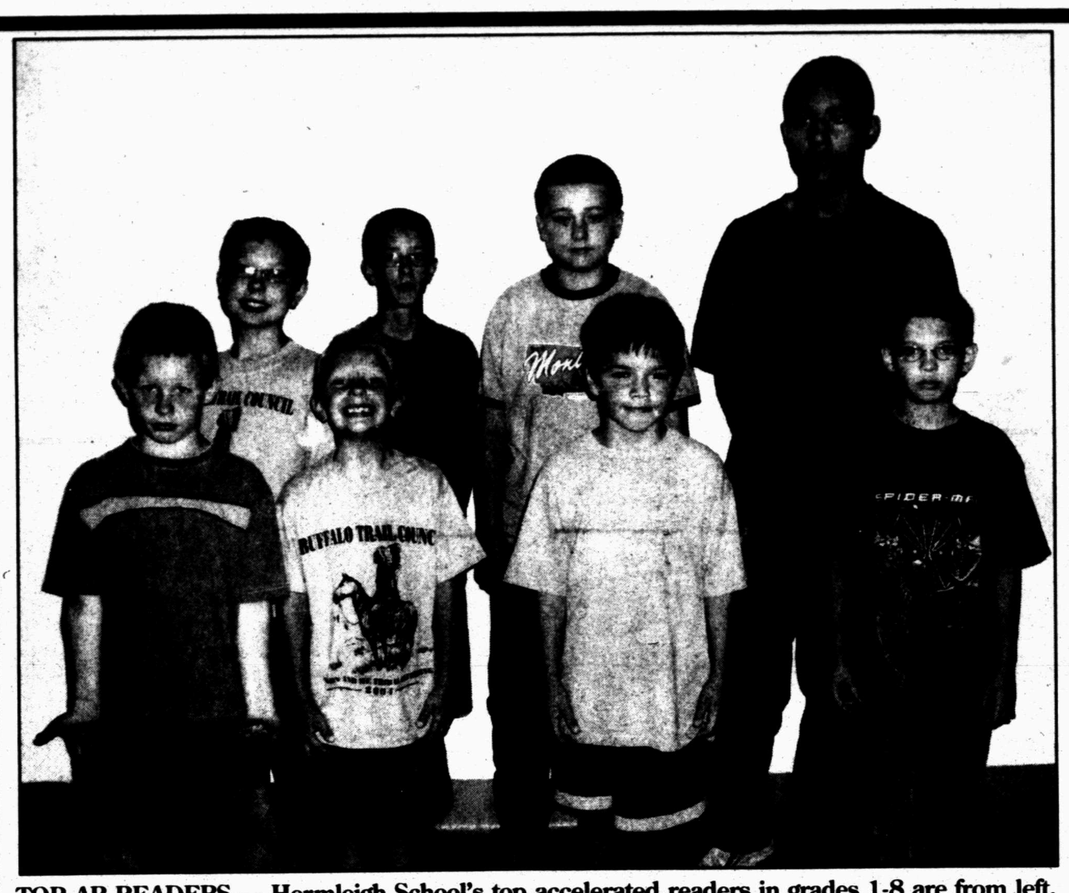
People across much of the Earth will be able to see it, but it won't be visible in the western United States. In the Midwest and East, viewers can watch its final stages for a couple hours starting at sunrise, if skies aren't clouded over.

Transits of Venus occur twice — eight years apart — about every century, when the sun, Venus and Earth precisely line up. Past transits — the last pair were in 1874 and 1882 — helped astronomers calculate Earth's distance from the sun. This time, Tuesday's transit and one in 2012 carry little scientific significance, but they've still stirred up interest.

Thousands of planetariums, libraries and astronomy clubs are hosting programs to educate the public about the transit and give them a chance to view it safely.

In New York City, the Hayden Planetarium at the American Museum of Natural History plans to set up a bank of telescopes in Central Park to give people a view once the sun rises above Manhattan's skyline. The sun's image will be projected onto white screens so that dozens of people can watch the passage of Venus, which will appear as a small black dot. Other scopes will give them a direct view through dark solar filters.

"If there are sunspots you'll actually see this dot overtake them as it slides slowly across the sun's disc," said Neil deGrasse Tyson, the planetarium's director.



TOP AR READERS — Hermleigh School's top accelerated readers in grades 1-8 are from left, front row, Gage Gray, 11 points; Aaron Williamson, 20; Aaron Lane, 20; and Aaron Jernigan, 20; back row, Jordan Williamson, 66; Jaron Perry, 387; Samuel Lee, 479; and Derek Anderson, 130. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Taking statins to prevent heart attacks may lower cancer risks

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — People taking statins to lower their cholesterol and ward off heart attacks may have even more reason to keep swallowing their medicine: New data suggests the drugs also may fight off cancer.

The latest evidence, released Sunday at a large cancer conference, found that people who took statins for at least five years appeared to cut their risk of colon cancer in half. Earlier work has shown reductions in breast and prostate cancer as well as across-the-board cancer risk.

Experts have other reasons to think the statins might be cancer fighters. Experiments involving lab animals and cells growing in test tubes both suggest a possible role for statins.

However, researchers seem unanimous in saying the evidence is still too weak to recommend taking statins for cancer-prevention alone, although they acknowledge those on the pills for other reasons may be getting a big bonus benefit.

The data so far "fit with what we know from the lab," said Dr. Monica Morrow of Northwestern University. "But we can't say this is enough proof for people to go out and take statins."

To be convinced, doctors say they would need to see a carefully controlled experiment designed specifically to show that statins reduce cancer risk. The data so far are based largely on watching what happens to people who go on statins for reasons that have nothing to do with cancer.

The latest of these studies, directed by Dr. Stephen Gruber of the University of Michigan, was presented at a meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

His team, working in Israel, looked at 1,708 people who had colon cancer and 1,737 who did not. Those on statins for at least five years had about a 50 percent reduction in the risk of this malignancy.

Adjusting for other factors that could possibly explain the difference, such as better health habits, did not change the strong link between statins and lowered risk. Also, those who took other varieties of cholesterol drugs had no cancer protection.

"I think these data are very exciting and potentially good news for future studies that will allow us to come up with clinical recommendations," Gruber said.

However, experts have been misled by such data in the past. For instance, based on similar studies, doctors long believed that taking estrogen supplements after menopause would lower women's risk heart attacks. A careful experiment eventually proved this wrong, and it is still unclear why the estrogen users seemed to have less risk.

If statins do lower the risk of cancer, scientists say it may have nothing to do with their effect on cholesterol. One theory is that statins could ward off the disease by lowering inflammation. Another is that their primary job — reducing an enzyme called HMG CoA — could block the working of some cancer-causing genes.

One concern of suggesting statins to prevent cancer without definitive proof of their worth is the risk of exposing people to possible side effects, even when the risk is small. Statins can cause muscle and liver problems.

"The consensus is yes, this agent does have the ability to reduce the incidence of breast cancer, but the risk of blood clots needs to be kept in mind," said the study's director, Dr. Silvana Martino of the Cancer Institute Medical Group in Santa Monica, Calif.

Cell phone usuage up for inmates

HOUSTON (AP) — A different kind of prison cell has been beneficial to inmates who use them to stay in contact with the outside world.

Even though providing prisoners with cellular telephones is illegal, they're among the most prized contraband in the Texas prison system. Inmates are sometimes using them to run criminal enterprises from inside Texas Department of Criminal Justice lockups.

"It's a big problem," Lt. Terry Cobbs of the prison system's inspector general's office told the Houston Chronicle in today's editions. "And they're not getting the phones so that they can call their mothers on Mother's Day. They're getting them to keep their communications open on the outside with their organized criminal activities and to make sure they're getting all the drugs that they need."

Fifty cell phone prosecutions are in progress, most with multiple defendants, said TDCJ Inspector General John Moriarty. He said that 47 of those originated at the Darrington Unit in Brazoria County.

Arthur Velasquez, the warden at Darrington since September 2002, has been a warden at various Texas prisons for almost 20 of his 27 years with the corrections system. He said it wasn't until early last year that he noticed the proliferation of cell phones.

State lawmakers in 2003 made it a third-degree felony to provide an inmate with a cell phone, punishable by up to 10 years in prison and a $10,000 fine.

But inmates keep finding ways to get the phones into prison, said Cobbs. He said a recent investigation at the Darrington Unit was an example of how widespread the problem has become.

The FBI's Violent Crime Task Force in Austin was monitoring cell phone calls from a Darrington inmate to his associates on the outside. The agency informed Cobbs of the investigation last fall.

"We knew who had the phone," he said. "We knew who he was talking to and we were recording those calls. So we decided to let them keep talking unless we learned of something that we needed to stop."

events

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RESULTS

Saturday's Lottery Numbers
Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 25-28-37-43-44. Bonus Ball: 18.

Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: none.

Number matching five of five: 6. Prize: $14,525.

Number matching four of five, plus Bonus Ball: 27. Prize: $2,929.

Number matching four of five: 1,538. Prize: $110.

Number matching three of five, plus Bonus Ball: 1,362. Prize: $111.

Number matching three of five: 59,602. Prize: $5.

Number matching two of five, plus Bonus Ball: 17,517. Prize: $5.

Number matching one of five, plus Bonus Ball: 78,769. Prize: $3.

Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: $87 million.

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Saturday by the Texas Lottery:

2-22-23-31-36

Pick 3
(Day) 3-9-5
(Night) 3-3-2

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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Do NOT miss this exciting adventure

RECEIVE AWARDS — Snyder ISD's Family Literacy program presented awards last week. Parents participating in HIPPY and their children are pictured. Through HIPPY, parents learn how to help their children learn at home. (Staff Photos by Shirley A. Gorman)

New policy for shooting at vehicles developed by sheriff

HOUSTON (AP) — The Harris County Sheriff's Department is developing a tough new policy against shooting at vehicles following a newspaper report that deputies have shot 22 people since 1999 by firing on vehicles in violation of their training.

The Houston Chronicle investigation found that deputies have killed six people and wounded 16 others. Nineteen of the shooting victims were unarmed and only two were fleeing after violent crimes.

Sheriff Tommy Thomas said he has known about the problem for at least a year but hoped that additional training that began in spring 2003 would help. The department plans to distribute new rules to deputies next week, but no one will be punished retroactively.

"It boils down to unless someone is using deadly force other than the vehicle, you don't shoot at them," Thomas said.

The newspaper found that deputies in at least seven cases fired in self defense after deliberately placing themselves in danger by standing in front of a suspect's moving vehicle. In many such cases, the suspects had committed minor property crimes.

Deputies shot at up to seven passengers — including a 2-year-old girl — who were not involved in criminal activity, the newspaper reported. In at least four cases, officers who claimed to be firing in self defense kept shooting after the vehicles passed them, wounding suspects in the side or back.

Several other law enforcement agencies, including the police departments in New York, Cincinnati and Boston, forbid officers from shooting into vehicles unless an occupant is pointing a gun or using some type of deadly force other than the vehicle itself.

"It is simple physics that bullets don't stop 2,000-pound moving vehicles," said Assistant Chief Michael McCort of the Phoenix Police Department. "Either you don't significantly disable a driver and they go off down the road at high speeds, or you do and you have a heavy projectile moving down the street that nobody is controlling. Is it going to hit a kid walking down the street?"

Juan Cisneros was shot three times in the head by a Harris County deputy in January 2003 as an acquaintance tried to break into a pickup truck parked at a restaurant. Cisneros said he had tried to get his friend to stop, and he eventually helped police catch the man. He was never charged with a crime.

"If I was the one breaking into a vehicle, that would be OK," said Cisneros, who now walks with a cane and cannot move his left arm. "But in Texas ... they shoot and ask questions later."

Today's chuckle

Duck, Good Samaritan need rescuing

DOYLESTOWN, Pa. (AP) — A duck stuck in muck up to his nuck, er, neck, was rescued by a 73-year-old man in hip waders who then became stuck himself and had to be extracted by emergency personnel.

Because of low water levels, the pond that ensnared the duckling had turned into a muddy quagmire. When Walt Lutz heard a mother duck frantically quacking near the pond on his property Friday, he decided the duckling needed rescuing.

"The harder it struggled, the deeper it went," said Lutz, a retired account executive for Honeywell.

He pulled on his hip boots, grabbed a shovel and waded through the muck to free the duckling. But soon Lutz also found himself stuck in the thigh-deep muck.

While he'd freed the duck easily, he couldn't free himself after a 20-minute struggle. Despite his protests his wife called 911.

Using 10-inch-wide planks, police and ambulance personnel formed a frame around Lutz, attached a belt to him and pulled him out.

"I just did what I thought had to be done," he said later.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Woman wants a baby now, but boyfriend isn't ready

DEAR ABBY: I am almost 22 and become very emotional when I hear about friends who are expecting. All my friends from high school have children. My mother already had two children by the time she was my age.

My boyfriend and I are madly in love; however, he continues to tell me he's not ready to be a parent. We don't take precautions when we have sex, but I haven't become pregnant yet.

Abby, should I be feeling desperate to have a child? Am I rushing parenthood? — **WANTS A BABY NOW**

DEAR WANTS: Before you make a mistake that could affect three lives (yours, your boyfriend's and that of an innocent child), I urge you to get to the bottom of what's missing in your life that has made you "desperate" to fill that void with a baby. You have a way to go before you'll be ready to become a mother — and your first stop along the way should be at the altar.

Parenthood can be rewarding and fulfilling, provided the couple is prepared, emotionally and financially, for the new arrival. But your boyfriend has made it clear that he isn't ready. Please respect that fact and do what is necessary to prevent a "surprise." Having a child because your parents had two at your age, or because your friends from high school have children, is a poor reason to become a parent.

**

DEAR ABBY: I am a college freshman (female), living more than 300 miles from home. Despite the distance and the fact that I am 18, I am still under my parents' thumb. They call me every day to ask what I ate for breakfast, lunch and dinner. They chose my major for me, and the prospect of spending my life in that profession doesn't thrill me.

I have never had the strength to tell my parents how I feel or what I think, even when I knew that they were wrong or unfair. I love them and respect their opinions, but I believe I deserve more input regarding my own future — especially since I am paying more than half the cost of my education. How can I free myself from their well-meaning, but strangulating nets? — **FRUSTRATED IN NEW YORK**

DEAR FRUSTRATED: Cutting the cord will take some work on your part. You are the "good child" who never questioned or rebelled, so it's entirely possible that your parents think you're in 100 percent agreement with them. The daily phone calls indicate that they're having trouble accepting that you have left the nest and are on your own.

The place to start is at the student health center, inquiring about counseling services. Your inability to stand up for yourself and express your true feelings can be remedied with assertiveness training and counseling, which will help you learn where your parents leave off and you begin. It may not be easy, but I assure you it will be time well spent.

**

DEAR ABBY: I invited a neighbor to my son's bar mitzvah. I did not invite their children, who are 8 and 6.

When they RSVP'd, they said that all four of them were attending. What can I do? — **ON THE SPOT IN NEW JERSEY**

DEAR ON THE SPOT: You welcome them graciously. I am surprised that you excluded the children in the first place, since a bar mitzvah or bat mitzvah usually includes children, and is not considered an adults-only affair.

**

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

**

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

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—

Financier John Jacob Astor once said, "A man who has a million dollars is as well off as if he were rich!"

—

Fifty percent of all mail sent in 1985 consisted of greeting cards.

World Almanac

Monday, June 7, 2004

Today is the 159th day of 2004 and the 80th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1776, Richard Henry Lee declared to Congress "that these united colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states."

In 1893, Mohandas Gandhi carried out his first act of civil disobedience - refusing to comply with racial segregation rules on a South African train.

In 2000, U.S. District Judge Thomas Jackson ordered that Microsoft be split into two separate companies (reversed in 2001).

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Paul Gauguin (1848-1903), painter; Tom Jones (1940-), singer, is 64; Jenny Jones (1946-), TV personality, is 58; Liam Neeson (1952-), actor, is 52; Prince (1958-), musician/singer, is 46.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1936, the New York Yankees won a 16-inning game, the longest ever without a strikeout.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Art is either plagiarism or revolution." — Paul Gauguin

TODAY'S FACT: Twenty-five of the first printed copies of the Declaration of Independence, known as the Dunlap Broadsides, exist today.

TODAY'S NUMBER: 35.7 — average age of a Microsoft employee.

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (June 3) and last quarter (June 9)

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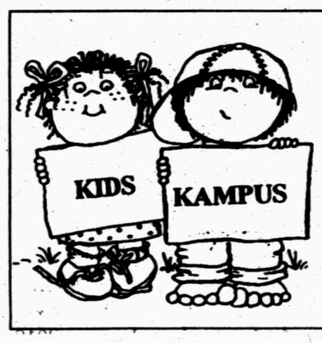

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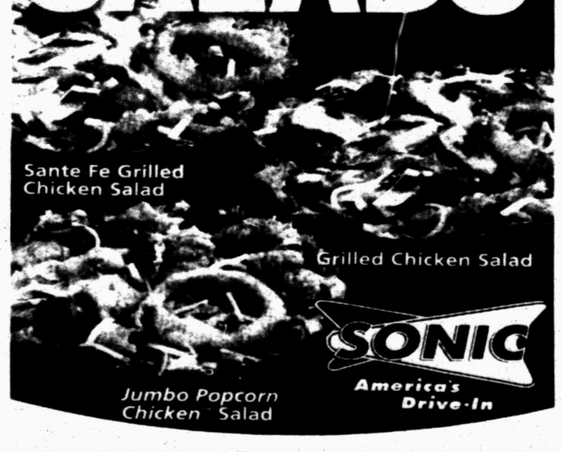

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JUN 07 2004

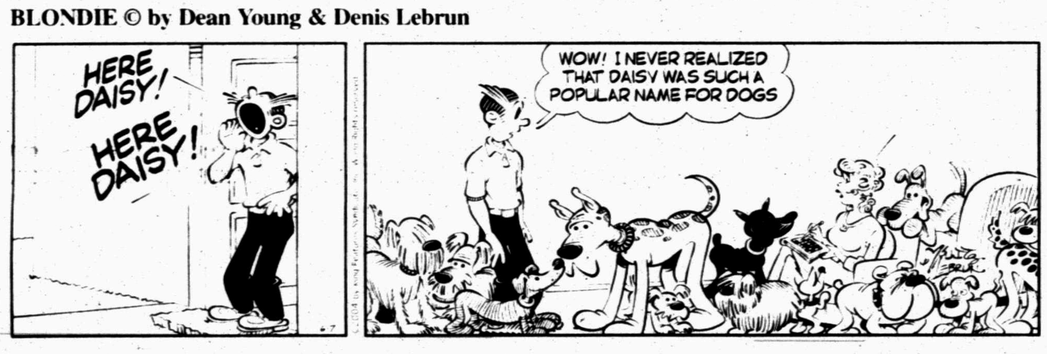
ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman

THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom

SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski

BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell

BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun



THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 "Nova" network
4 Choke
7 Orange veggie
10 Web addr.
11 Crowbars
13 Smog monitor
14 Moo companion
15 Slugger Hank —
16 Half a score
17 Fairy tale beings
19 Put — (save)
21 After expenses
22 Kennel sound
23 Serpent
26 North Star
30 Declare frankly
31 — de mer
32 Commotion
33 Took a load off
34 Invite
35 "Instead of" word
36 Naval officers
39 Go biking
40 Orbison or Acuff
41 German name part
42 Supply food
45 Goose eggs
48 Ad — (wing it)
49 Watching
51 Cask
53 Billboards
54 Orphan Annie's pooch
55 — de cologne
56 Energy
57 Mac rivals
58 Kind of humor

DOWN

1 Place for a pint
2 Small nail
3 Picnic fare
4 Payola
5 Melodies
6 Prizm maker
7 Sasquatch cousin
8 Mimicked
9 Long hair
11 Cook's gadget
12 Gourmet delicacy
18 Once more
20 Hot tub
22 Egg yellow
23 Florist's need
24 Court star — Lendl
25 Lobster traps
26 Gap between mountains
27 Foray
28 Think-tank output
29 Type of mate
31 Quite a few
35 Late-night host
37 Anger
38 Skirt panels
39 Ocean fish
41 Peddles
42 Show approval
43 Helper
44 Cook's meas.
45 Brass component
46 Used thriftily
47 Flame-broil
50 High-pitched woof
52 Dude

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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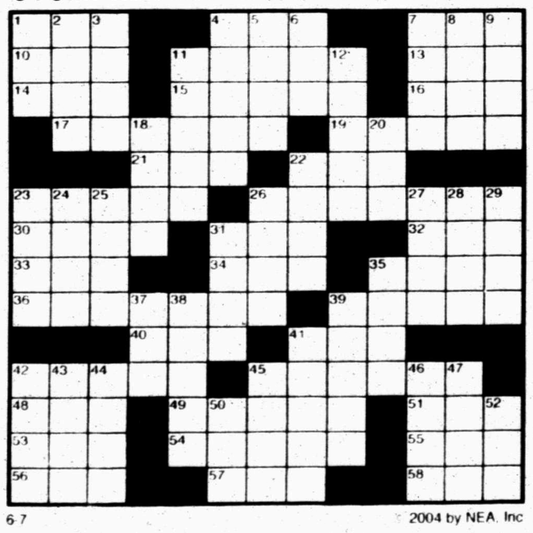

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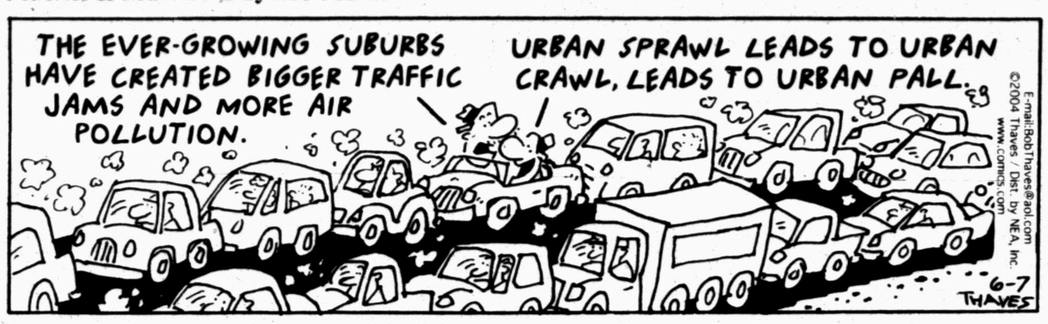
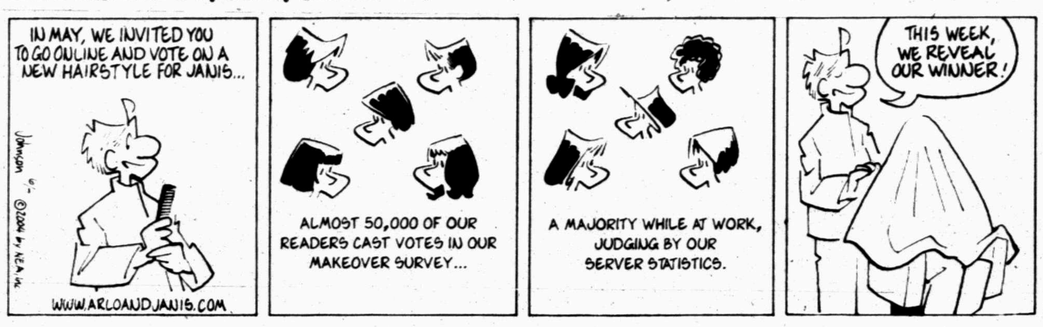
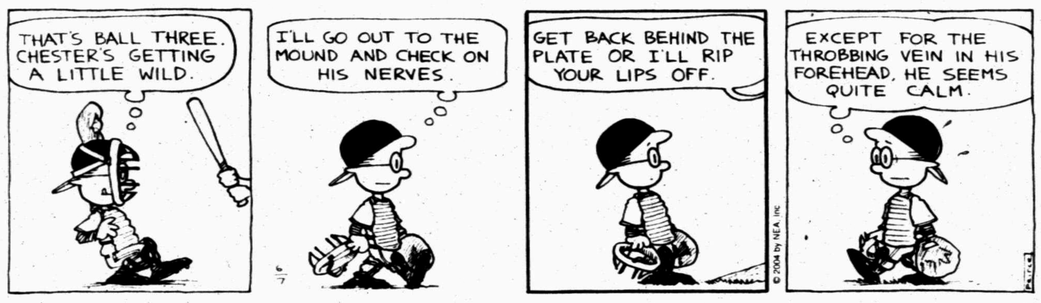
FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



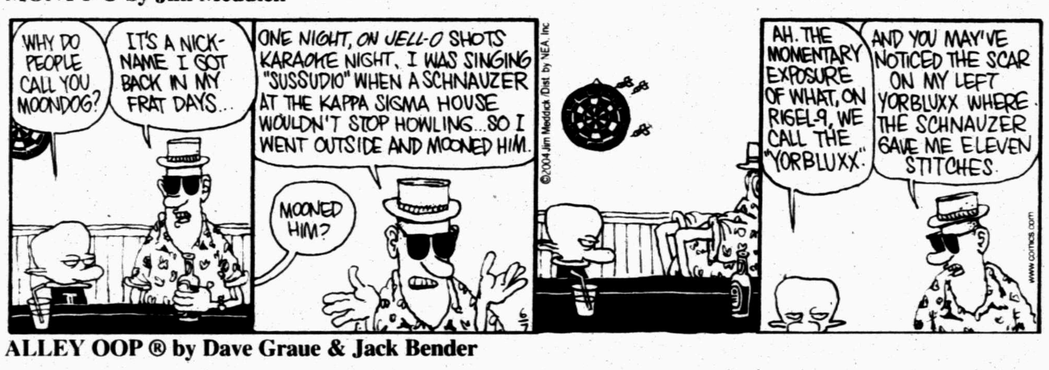
ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce



MONTY ® by Jim Meddick



ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender

BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen

HERMAN ® by Jim Unger

"We already ate at home.
We just want to see how much we saved."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"THAT MUST BE WORSE THAN MY SNOWSUIT WHEN IT COMES TIME TO GO TO THE RESTROOM."

SPORTS

Sideline Views

by Bobby Allen

Ronald Reagan was a giant in my childhood, an ever-present fixture during that long stretch through adolescence.

When he was elected president, I was nine and in fourth grade, and when his second term ended I was a senior in high school.

The day Reagan was shot was one of two of the most shocking days of my young life, along with the murder of John Lennon.

Reagan's famous quip after taking that bullet in 1981 — "I forgot to duck" — showed his wit and indomitable spirit to the world, and his speech after the Challenger disaster remains the most moving presidential speech of my lifetime.

Reagan had charisma and a way of making us feel better about ourselves, individually and collectively.

Frank Gifford recalls an incident in 1976 involving the 40th president, who died Saturday at 93. It also involved Lennon in the booth and the encounter stands as a testament to Reagan's charm, and gives an indication as to why he was so wildly popular.

Gifford writes in his book *The Whole Ten Yards*:

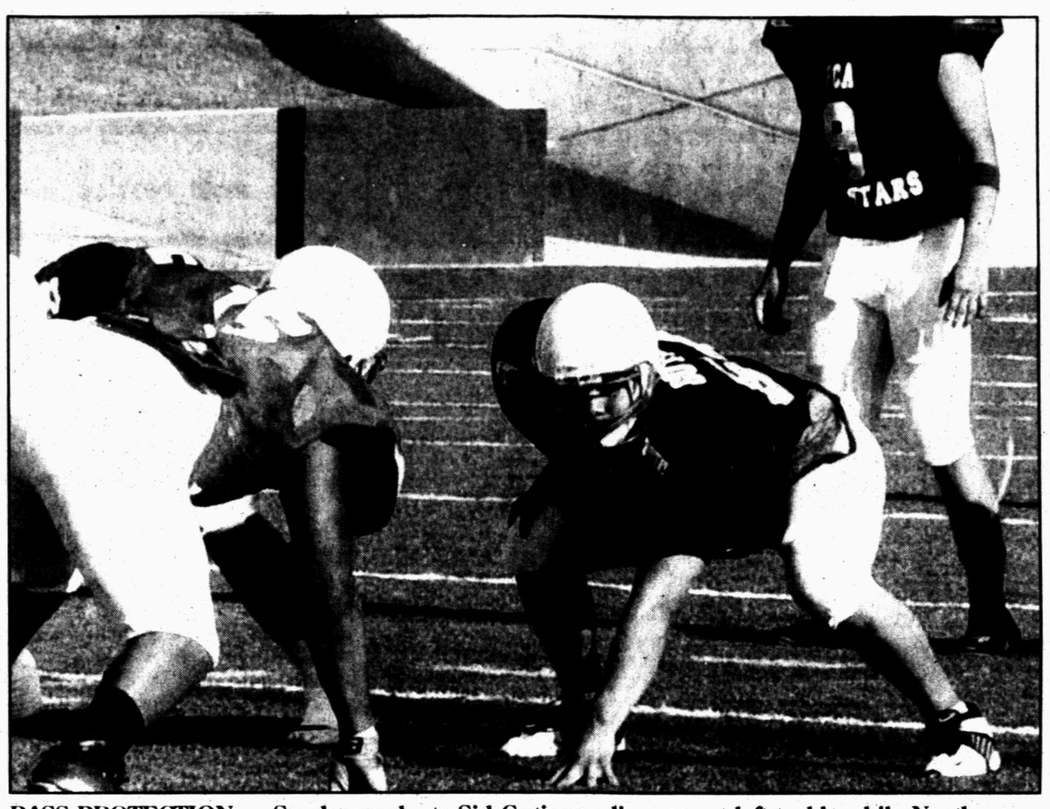
"The weirdest scene I ever witnessed in the broadcast booth happened in 1976. The night before a game in Los Angeles, I ran into John Lennon at a cocktail party. On impulse, I invited him on the show. He liked the idea, but warned me that he knew nothing about football. Meanwhile, I'd forgotten we had arranged for Reagan to come on the same show.

"Now it's just before halftime. I turned around and there's Reagan with his arm around Lennon, explaining what's going on down on the field. And John looked absolutely enthralled. Here were two of the most political, ideological and cultural opposites on the entire planet standing in the 'Monday Night' booth — acting exactly like father and son."

Reagan was the right man at a time when much was going wrong with America, and treated those who disagreed with him with respect.

Right now, we could use someone with his ability to unite Americans and keep the partisan shilling on the backbench, where it belongs.

Godspeed, Mr. President.



PASS PROTECTION — Snyder graduate Sid Gutierrez lines up at left tackle while North quarterback Ben Hamilton looks over the defense at Saturday's Myrle Greathouse Fellowship of Christain Athletes All-Star game in Abilene. Gutierrez and Brock Tyrrell represented Snyder on the offensive line, while teammate Isaac Ramon racked up seven tackles in the North's 41-20 victory. (Contributed Photo by Ronny Collins)

Lightning, Flames face final battle for Stanley Cup tonight

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — The Calgary Flames and Tampa Bay Lightning have spent two weeks, six games and 21 periods trying unsuccessfully to separate themselves in the Stanley Cup finals. Finally, they must.

No team has established a home-ice advantage, with each winning twice in the other team's arena. Stars for both teams seem to excel one night, only to disappear the next. The longest winning streak either team has is one.

No wonder Lightning coach John Tortorella is pleased the finals will have a proper and perhaps inevitable finish, one he successfully forecast last week: Game 7 tonight, for the Stanley Cup, win it or else.

"I think it's a good fit the way both teams have played to have it come down to a Game 7," Tortorella said Sunday.

Even if a seven-game series might not truly distinguish one team from another in one of the most unpredictable finals in NHL history — one where the momentum, intangibles, the upper hand seem to swing erratically not just every game, but sometimes every period.

Calgary took away home-ice advantage by winning 4-1 in Tampa in Game 1; Tampa Bay seized it back with an all-out, Flames-like defensive effort to win 1-0 in Game 4.

The Flames answered by winning what seemed to be the pivotal game, a 3-2 overtime decision in Game 5 in Tampa that gave them the opportunity of a lifetime for a Canadian team: The chance to win the Stanley Cup at home.

But they couldn't pull it off, breaking the hearts of an entire city by losing 3-2 in double overtime Saturday night on Martin St. Louis' goal, after Tortorella all but guaranteed the victory.

Now, it's here, possibly the last game any NHL team plays for months and months, if a long-anticipated labor dispute delays or shuts down the 2004-05 season.

"Game 7s are games you remember, and we're going to remember this game for a long time," Lightning captain Dave Andreychuk said Sunday, after both teams made their second five-hour flight between the two cities in three days.

For Andreychuk, it's his 11th Game 7 in a playoff series, two short of Scott Stevens' record.

Pistons shock bumbling Lakers in Finals opener

LOS ANGELES (AP) — While the Lakers stumbled and strained through the second half of their first home loss in the playoffs, a few scattered cries eventually grew to a small chorus from the flummoxed crowd.

"Shoot! Shoot! Shoot!"

That's easier shouted than done against the Pistons' stifling defense — and the Lakers have a whole new respect for the bruising Eastern Conference champions after Detroit's 87-75 victory in Game 1 of the NBA Finals on Sunday night.

"I don't know if we could ever defend better," Pistons coach Larry Brown said. "We contested shots. We did an unbelievable job, and I think that's what it's going to take."

Kobe Bryant heard the chants, firing up 27 shots of mostly dubious quality while scoring 25 points. But though Shaquille O'Neal went 13-for-16 on the way to 34 points, he didn't get the ball nearly enough in the second half.

"That's a good team, and we have to rise up and meet that challenge," O'Neal said. "We know that now."

The Lakers' struggles also sparked another mini-controversy in a season chock-full of them. Coach Phil Jackson said he thought O'Neal looked tired in the second half.

"Tired of waiting," O'Neal responded. "I don't think a person going 13-for-16 is a sign of being tired by any means."

Chauncey Billups scored 22 points for the Pistons, who weren't much better on offense than the Lakers. But Rasheed Wallace scored six of his 14 points in the fourth quarter, and Detroit poured its energy into a defense that kept the ball away from O'Neal.

Though the Pistons have exactly six games of NBA Finals experience on their roster, they were not intimidated by the Lakers' star-packed crowd or the nine championship banners on the arena wall. They still believe they're tough enough to end the West's streak of five straight series victories in the NBA Finals.

"We're never scared," said playoff scoring leader Richard Hamilton, who had just 12 points on 5-of-16 shooting. "We're going to go out there and have each other's back."

Only an incredible defensive team could shut down the Lakers, and the Pistons certainly put another chokehold on another powerful opponent. They blanketed Los Angeles on nearly every possession, forcing difficult passes and tougher shots by the sheer force of their athleticism.

Shaq scored nearly every time he got the ball low in the paint, but the Pistons attacked Los Angeles' entry passes and also forced O'Neal to commit six turnovers. He got just eight shots in the second half, while Bryant missed 10 of his 15 — and also clanged consecutive 3-pointers in the fourth quarter to kill the Lakers' last attempt at a rally.

O'Neal went 8-for-12 from the line, but didn't shoot a free throw in the second half as the Lakers failed to find him underneath. He still was angry after the game until getting a hug and a kiss from his wife and daughter on the way out of Staples Center.

The rest of the Lakers got no more than a handful of open looks. From Ben Wallace's dangerous presence in the middle to Billups' harassment of Gary Payton and Derek Fisher, the Pistons were all over the Lakers.

By the final possession, the Lakers didn't even try: Payton dribbled out the final 10 seconds of his first finals game since 1996 with pure disgust on his face.

Game 2 in the best-of-seven series is Tuesday night, with Game 3 in Auburn Hills on Thursday night.

"It's a seven-game series, and there's always Tuesday," Bryant said.

Payton and Karl Malone, the Lakers' ringless duo, both went scoreless in the first half. Malone had the worst playoff game of his 19-season career, scoring four points on 2-of-9 shooting, and Payton — who had three points — bettered his career playoff-low by one point.

Mussina mows down Rangers

NEW YORK (AP) — Jason Giambi overheard manager Joe Torre and pitching coach Mel Stottlemyre talking about taking Mike Mussina out of the ballgame in the ninth inning.

So with two outs in the eighth, Giambi did all he could to help give the Yankees' starter a shot at a shutout — he homered.

Giambi's solo shot gave New York a two-run lead and Mussina got his chance, but Mariano Rivera ended up finishing off the Yankees' 2-1 win over the Texas Rangers on Sunday.

"(Stottlemyre) told me I was coming out. I talked him into letting me stay in, then I threw one down the middle," Mussina said.

Mussina allowed a first-pitch triple to Rod Barajas to start the ninth, but didn't make many mistakes in his best outing of the season.

He had the Rangers fooled all day, mixing his fastball with a tricky knuckle curve to win his sixth straight decision. He struck out a season-high 10.

The right-hander never went to a three-ball count and didn't let a runner reach second until Laynce Nix hit a ground-rule double to left-center with one out in the eighth.

Mussina (7-4) gave up a single to Eric Young with one out in the third, then retired his next 12 batters before giving up a single to ex-Yankees second baseman Alfonso Soriano with two outs in the seventh.

Perryton finishes off Graham

SNYDER — Perryton's Brendan Baker hit a grand slam in the bottom of the seventh inning of game two of the Region I-3A championship series, completing the sweep with a 7-5 win over Graham at Moffet Field.

Perryton will represent Region I at the state baseball tournament, the first time the school has reached that plateau.

Perryton won game one, 9-5, in nine innings on Friday. Perryton threw out the potential winning run at the plate in the seventh and eighth innings, then scored four in the top of the ninth for the win.

Perryton (31-7) is scheduled to play Forney (30-5) Wednesday night in the state semifinal matchup in Austin.

La Grange (31-1), Region III winner and the top-ranked 3A team in Texas, will battle Region IV champion Llano (27-9) in the other semifinal game Wednesday.

The state championship contest is scheduled for 2 p.m. Thursday.

Lindale shuts out Wharton for Class 3A softball title

AUSTIN (AP) — Randi Warren struck out 10 and Misti Cosby hit a two-run homer to lead Lindale to a 5-0 victory over Wharton in the UIL Class 3A state softball championship on Saturday.

Lindale (22-4) won its first championship in three straight state tournament appearances. Both teams were eliminated in the state semifinal round last year.

Lindale scored in the first two innings off Wharton's fielding errors. Cosby also had an RBI double in the second. Though Wharton connected for two hits in response, Warren's fastball and Lindale's defense cut off Wharton's hitting until the seventh inning.

Both teams were retired in order after the second, until the top of the fifth when Lindale right fielder Hali Boyette singled to drive in Blair Camp for an RBI.

Warren (21-6) was the game's most valuable player.

Major League Baseball

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Florida	32	25	.561	—
Philadelphia	29	26	.527	2
Atlanta	28	28	.500	3½
New York	28	28	.500	3½
Montreal	18	37	.327	13

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cincinnati	34	22	.607	—
St. Louis	32	24	.571	2
Houston	30	25	.545	3½
Chicago	29	26	.527	4½
Milwaukee	27	27	.500	6
Pittsburgh	24	29	.453	8½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	30	24	.556	—
San Diego	31	25	.554	—
San Francisco	28	28	.500	3
Arizona	22	35	.386	9½
Colorado	21	34	.382	9½

Sunday's Games

Atlanta 6, Philadelphia 4
N.Y. Mets 5, Florida 2
Cincinnati 6, Montreal 5
Houston 3, St. Louis 2
Chicago Cubs 4, Pittsburgh 1
San Francisco 16, Colorado 4
Arizona 6, Los Angeles 5
San Diego 8, Milwaukee 3

Today's Games

San Francisco (Tomko 1-4) at Colorado (Estes 6-3), 3:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (K.Wells 3-4) at Texas (Dickey 4-5), 7:05 p.m.
St. Louis (Carpenter 6-1) at Chicago Cubs (Rusch 2-0), 7:05 p.m.
Houston (Duckworth 1-0) at Seattle (Nageotte 0-1), 9:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Lidle 4-4) at Oakland (Mulder 6-2), 9:05 p.m.

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	35	20	.636	—
Boston	33	23	.589	2½
Baltimore	25	27	.481	8½
Toronto	25	32	.439	11
Tampa Bay	21	33	.389	13½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	30	24	.556	—
Minnesota	30	26	.536	1
Cleveland	25	29	.463	5
Detroit	25	31	.446	6
Kansas City	20	34	.370	10

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Anaheim	33	23	.589	—
Oakland	31	24	.564	1½
Texas	30	24	.556	2
Seattle	21	34	.382	11½

Sunday's Games

N.Y. Yankees 2, Texas 1
Baltimore 5, Tampa Bay 4
Minnesota 6, Detroit 5
Boston 5, Kansas City 3
Cleveland 7, Anaheim 0
Oakland 8, Toronto 3
Seattle 5, Chicago White Sox 4

Today's Games

Pittsburgh (K.Wells 3-4) at Texas (Dickey 4-5), 7:05 p.m.
Houston (Duckworth 1-0) at Seattle (Nageotte 0-1), 9:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Lidle 4-4) at Oakland (Mulder 6-2), 9:05 p.m.

Sports Briefs

Youth baseball league

Sign-ups for the Snyder youth baseball league will continue today through Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. at the Boys and Girls Club. The league is open to boys and girls and every player will play every inning and get a chance to play every position. Contact Fred Rameriz at 573-7034 or 575-3733.

Ladies play day

The SCGA hosts a ladies play day at 9 a.m. each Tuesday. Format is odds and evens.

Strength and conditioning camp

SHS football coaches are hosting a strength and conditioning camp beginning today at the field house. The camp is free and is open to all SHS students, and will run from Monday through Thursday for each of the next two weeks.

Sophomores through seniors will lift from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and freshmen will work from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

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Beginning on June 30, 2004, Cox Communications will make the following change in the ***Snyder*** franchise area: Channel **255, Fuel** will be added to the digital channel lineup as a part of the Sports & Information Tier. On July 1, 2004 Cox Communications will begin supporting CableCARD™ devices. The monthly rental fee for the CableCARD™ device will be $2.99 a month. Installation charges associated with the CableCARD™ device will be $49.99.
Inquires concerning this change or any other cable-related issue can be made at Cox Communications, 2211 Ave. R, Snyder, TX 79549, or by phone at 325-573-3536.

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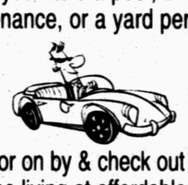
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$3,500 OBO 863-2300

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Reagan legacy: Peace and debt passed on

AP Analysis

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ronald Reagan told Americans that government was the problem. They haven't been quite the same since.

Lionized by his party, mimicked by opponents when not mocked by them, he spoke the verities of a new age of conservatism that remains the strongest thread in American politics.

A gift and a burden came from the Reagan years.

The gift: the landmark arms control agreements that brought the world steps back from nuclear Armageddon, combined with a toughness his admirers say was the final thrust of Cold War victory. After his time, the Berlin Wall came down.

The burden: the sensational cost of that toughness and more. Reagan powered up the military while attacking the anti-poverty programs he said did not work. His shining city was built on a mountain of debt.

He talked more than he did. Still, the talk mattered and resonates today.

Welfare reform, entitlement reform, tax cuts, a balanced budget, a crime crackdown featuring support — even eagerness — for the death penalty, a rallying against family breakdown. Both parties wanted to do those things after Reagan took a crack at them.

Could all that have happened without Reagan first?

Historians are supposed to hedge until the dust long settles, says Tim Blessing of Alvernia College, longtime organizer of scholarly rankings of presidents. "But," he ventured years after Reagan's presidency, "no."

"Reagan lent legitimacy to what 10 years earlier would have been considered wild-eyed radicalism," Blessing said.

These days, Peter J. Wallison, former White House counsel to Reagan, sees a familiar pattern in President Bush's leadership, although few would grant this president the communication skills of the 40th president.

Bush's devotion to tax cuts in a time of high deficits or recession, his willingness to take foreign policy stands at odds with allies and many Americans, and his uncompromising talk of an "axis of evil" all seem inspired by the Reagan playbook.

"It is hard to escape the thought that George W. Bush learned some important things about being president from observing Ronald Reagan," Wallison said.

Reagan remained in form long enough after his presidency to appreciate, in typical good cheer, the "theft of ideas that you and I recognize as our own."

Yet for the conservatives who regard his vision as the essential truth, the devil has been in the details — rising homelessness during years of growth, programs Americans do not want touched (and Reagan did not) when push comes to shove, and exploding deficits left for successors to tame.

Still, Andy Kohut, president of the Gallup Organization in the 1980s and now head of the Pew Research Center, has little doubt Reagan edged Americans to the right in a way that endured.

Gradually the public's appetite for government scaled back, he said. "He arrived at a time as president when the public opinion was ripe for that political leadership."

Reagan remained such a point of reference after his presidency that Bill Clinton's 1992 Democratic campaign polled people on Reagan's popularity, by way of figuring out how to beat the first President Bush.

But Democrats do not invoke Reagan with the reverence that Republicans have expressed for Franklin Roosevelt or that people of all stripes reserve for truly bridging figures down the centuries.

Some of the things Republicans most cherish about him, like the Strategic Defense Initiative or Reaganomics or calling the Soviet Union the "Evil Empire," are things his opponents most ridiculed. Consensus exists only on his ability to connect with people.

"He was mocked at the time," ideological soul mate Margaret Thatcher, former British prime minister, said on Reagan's 84th birthday in 1995, "and he didn't give a damn because he knew he was right."

What his legacy will be for the ages is a question for a future era. Blessing says it can take 40 years of context and probing through papers for a president to be given his right place in the pantheon.

Dwight Eisenhower moved up the scale as the years passed. FDR consistently towered. As for Reagan, a tendency not to take him seriously persists.

He did not win a really big actual war, build huge dams or carve out a country. When historians talk about a president who whipped Americans into a gung-ho spirit, they talk about Teddy Roosevelt or his cousin, FDR.

Instead, analyst William Schneider wrote in a first-blush look by various authors at "The Reagan Legacy," "He did what all successful political innovators do — he created new facts."

Reagan started changing things in a hurry, with a 1980 platform that put the GOP on a course it still follows. Out went decades of Republican support for the Equal Rights Amendment for women, an initiative now long dead.

In came unyielding language against abortion, much toughened from its introduction four years earlier. Leaping beyond the mere tax simplification calls of old, the platform went for dramatic tax cuts across the board.

And this was a compromise document worked out with moderates.

Cities working to lure NASA facility to state

FAIRFAX, Va. (AP) — Houston offered up low taxes, a diverse workforce and a temperate climate.

Newport News advertised its upscale business district, rich cultural attractions and low cost of living.

Orlando, home of Walt Disney World, plugged its "worldwide brand of imagination and creativity."

Hoping to lure a new NASA business center with at least 500 employees, officials from six cities with ties to NASA made competing pitches last week in Fairfax at a NASA-sponsored forum for interested bidders. The NASA Shared Services Center, expected to open late next year, is designed to consolidate finance, procurement, information technology and personnel offices scattered among about ten NASA centers across the country.

The city that lands the new center will gain between 500 and 800 new workers with an average of salary of about $60,000, NASA officials have said. At the opening of a two-day forum, about 200 contractors and economic development officials from across the country packed a hotel conference room to sell their respective cities and size up the competition.

Picking a city is a two-step process, officials said. A city first must be included in a prime contractor's bid, and then NASA must select a winning contractor.

Other companies expected to make bids include IBM and Lockheed Martin Corp., both of which sent representatives to the forum. But contractors declined to discuss their proposals or the cities they may prefer.

The three other cities competing for the center are Cleveland; Stennis, Miss.; and Huntsville, Ala. Bids must be submitted to NASA by September, officials said, with a selection to be made by NASA next March. The center is slated to open as early as October of 2005.

Cheney interviewed over CIA leak

WASHINGTON (AP) — Investigators questioned Vice President Dick Cheney recently in the probe of who in the Bush administration leaked the name of a covert CIA operative last year, a source familiar with the investigation said Saturday.

The interview of the vice president follows an acknowledgment by President Bush that he has consulted with a private attorney regarding the probe, indicating that Bush, also, expects to be questioned.

A federal grand jury in recent months has questioned numerous White House and administration officials to learn who revealed the name of CIA operative Valerie Plame, wife of former Ambassador Joseph Wilson, to the news media.

Disclosure of an undercover officer's identity can be a federal crime.

Cheney's office said earlier this week that if the vice president were to seek counsel on any issue, he would turn to Terrence O'Donnell, a senior partner in the Washington law firm of Williams & Connelly. Cheney has consulted with O'Donnell for years.

"Given the fact that there is an ongoing investigation, it is appropriate to refer requests for comment to the Office of Special Counsel," said Cheney spokesman Kevin Kellems.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Something is more than nicotime addiction

DEAR DR. GOTT: My husband quit smoking cigarettes almost two years ago. Since then, he has continued to use nicotine patches. While I am thrilled that he gave up smoking, I am concerned about the risks of long-term nicotine-patch usage.

DEAR READER: The habituation to smoking is, as I have previously written, not simply an addiction to nicotine. It also involves social issues (having a beer and a butt with friends); psychological aspects (relaxation and the smell and taste of cigarette smoke); and concerns about control and choice ("I want to smoke because I want to smoke").

In most cases, once a smoker quits, the nicotine addiction lasts only about two weeks, occasionally, longer in some ex-smokers. Therefore, the use of the nicotine patch, inhaler or gum is useful only for the first month of abstinence. After that, despite the use of nicotine supplements, the addiction is largely social: the urge to smoke after a drink or a satisfying dinner; continued contact with smokers (such as in a bar or bowling alley); or the response to stress.

The long-term consequences of nicotine supplements in a nonsmoker have not been studied. I am not aware, however, of any significant potential complications. Nonetheless, I encourage your husband to taper his use of nicotine patches because nicotine is not really the problem. His smoking-cessation program has, to date, been successful. Congratulations to him.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: What is ringworm? Is it contagious?

DEAR READER: Ringworm is a contagious fungal infection of the skin, spread by direct contact. It usually appears as an itchy, enlarging ring of inflammation with a red, scaly interior. Treatment with antifungus drugs (Nizoral, Tinactin, Lamisil and others) is almost always effective.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My 9-year-old son requires several courses of Augmentin annually for tonsillitis and ear infections. He has become allergic to the antibiotic, which — I've been told — is a derivative of penicillin. Should we just say he is allergic to penicillin? Should he wear a bracelet indicating the allergy?

DEAR READER: These questions should appropriately be resolved by your son's pediatrician, perhaps with the help of an otolaryngologist and an allergist.

Drug allergies are a serious medical concern and must not be ignored. So you need to explore other options in coping with your son's health problem. For example, perhaps he needs a tonsillectomy and/or testing to define the extent of his allergy. Also, as I am sure you are aware, pediatric specialists have recently been discouraging practitioners from prescribing antibiotics for ear infections, claiming that this therapy is not superior to watching and waiting — and using pain relievers.

Request a sit-down appointment with the pediatrician so that the three of you (your son should be present) can decide on a strategy to help the child discover treatment that is free of risk.

DEAR DR. GOTT: As a registered nurse, I look forward every day to your column, which I find clearly written, interesting, often amusing, and pertinent. You appear to have a sensitivity and "bedside manner" that is sadly lacking in the current generation of physicians. Please keep writing.

DEAR READER: Thank you for your compliment and support. I guess I can't argue about being in the "current generation of physicians"; I just have to accept the title of "Columnist Who is an Old Fogy"!

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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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	12.30	12.10	12.15	+ .28
AT&T Corp	16.70	16.50	16.67	+ .22
Albertsons	24.16	23.88	23.99	
Alltel	50.83	50.41	50.76	+ .41
AmEl Pw	31.29	31.06	31.29	+ .35
AndarkPtr	56.10	55.18	56.04	+ .34
ATMOS Egy	24.70	24.46	24.61	+ .23
Aviall	17.71	17.50	17.69	+ .19
BP PLC	53.80	53.60	53.80	+ .55
BakerHughes	34.33	33.60	34.20	+ .41
Bank of Amer	84.31	83.73	84.05	+ .45
BellSouth	25.23	24.95	25.22	+ .30
BurlNoSFe	34.24	33.83	33.98	+ .31
Caterpillar	77.09	76.15	76.92	+ 1.42
CenterPoint	10.74	10.65	10.73	+ .10
ChevronTex	91.39	90.53	91.38	+ 1.18
Citigroup	47.08	46.83	46.95	+ .40
CocaCola	52.35	52.11	52.33	+ .06
ColgatePal	57.42	56.93	57.20	+ .28
CmclMetals	30.58	30.30	30.36	+ .20
ConocoPhill	74.68	74.14	74.60	+ .66
Cooper Inds	57.62	57.42	57.53	+ .29
DaimlrChry	46.98	46.75	46.92	+ .91
DeltaAirLines	5.89	5.78	5.82	+ .06
Dillards Inc	20.34	19.90	20.29	+ .41
DowChem	39.65	39.30	39.62	+ .38
DuPont	43.34	42.92	43.30	+ .48
EastmanChem	46.22	45.84	46.21	+ .51
EstKodak	25.78	25.38	25.64	+ .28
EDS Corp	16.62	16.31	16.61	+ .33
Entergy	54.50	54.17	54.20	+ .01
ExxonMobil	44.00	43.62	43.92	+ .55
FootLocker	23.30	22.92	23.15	+ .22
GenDynam	98.65	97.47	97.47	+ .06
GenElec	31.60	31.41	31.57	+ .34
GenMills	47.47	47.06	47.38	— .47
GenMotors	47.00	46.61	46.87	+ .65
GaPacific	36.87	35.75	36.81	+ 1.34
Goodrich	29.94	29.35	29.93	+ 1.23
Goodyear	8.99	8.72	8.87	+ .21
GtAtlPac	6.85	5.66	6.67	— .16
Halliburtn	29.50	28.79	29.45	+ .60
Hanson PLC	39.15	38.95	38.99	+ .27
HarteHanks	23.28	23.06	23.26	+ .15
HomeDepot	35.88	35.26	35.36	+ .03
HoneywellIntl	34.21	33.97	34.12	+ .38
IBM	88.99	88.02	88.22	+ .66
IntlPaper	42.30	41.85	42.30	+ .53
JohnsonJn	56.53	56.17	56.36	— .02
KinderMorg	59.30	59.09	59.16	— .18
Kroger Co	16.79	16.52	16.68	— .03
LockheedM	49.97	49.50	49.69	+ .39
Lowes Cos	55.33	54.50	55.20	+ .83
Lubys	5.58	5.46	5.51	— .05
LucentTech	3.48	3.42	3.44	+ .04
MarathonOil	33.90	33.25	33.87	+ .71
MayDeptStr	28.93	28.72	28.83	+ .18
Medtronic	49.67	49.27	49.33	— .16
Motorola	20.11	19.97	20.05	+ .28
NCR Corp	48.69	48.41	48.68	+ .22
Navistar	39.64	39.13	39.13	— .01
PNM Rescs	30.54	30.33	30.47	+ .21
Penney JC	36.88	36.30	36.85	+ .51
PepBoys	24.68	24.50	24.64	+ .12
PepsiCo	54.59	54.32	54.54	+ .20
PhelpDodge	68.98	68.00	68.55	+ 1.21
PilgrimsPride	27.46	27.06	27.10	— .03
Praxair s	37.73	37.40	37.67	+ .42
ProctGamb	108.45	107.97	108.34	+ .47
RadioShack	30.02	29.76	29.97	+ .21
RoyalDut	50.90	50.61	50.89	+ .54
SBC Comm	24.22	23.93	24.16	+ .23
SaraLee	23.23	23.08	23.09	+ .10
Scripps EW	107.85	107.15	107.50	+ .10
SearsRoeb	37.27	36.91	37.21	+ .31
SherwinW	39.25	39.00	39.20	+ .36
SouthernCo	29.35	29.17	29.23	+ .09
SwstAirl	15.69	15.43	15.49	— .11
SprintFON	17.69	17.37	17.67	+ .53
Sunoco Inc	61.13	59.72	60.98	+ .87
TXU Corp	37.14	36.61	36.92	+ .34
TempleInland	66.63	65.95	66.37	+ .44
TexInd	37.79	36.80	37.75	+ 1.16
TexasInst	25.85	25.53	25.62	+ .41
Textron	56.51	55.83	56.46	+ .63
TimeWarner	17.36	17.04	17.06	— .13
TrinityInds	28.83	28.61	28.72	+ .20
TylerTech	9.01	8.90	8.95	+ .06
UnionPacif	59.76	59.13	59.74	+ .78
USSteel	30.16	29.62	29.95	+ .52
UnitedTech	86.42	86.04	86.19	+ .44
Unocal	35.35	34.92	35.35	+ .39
VerizonComm	35.30	35.00	35.30	+ .34
WalMart	57.24	56.58	56.82	+ .23
WellsFargo	59.13	58.73	58.78	+ .19
WstnGasRs	56.78	56.22	56.78	+ .55
WinnDixie	6.13	6.06	6.11	+ .08
Xerox Cp	13.69	13.45	13.67	+ .27
YumBrands	37.14	36.80	36.87	— .20

JUN 07 2004

Trial set for man accused of funding terrorists

DALLAS (AP) — Five brothers whose computer company did business in the Middle East are scheduled to go on trial this week on charges that they made illegal shipments of computer equipment to countries that support terrorism and tried to cover up the deals.

The trial in federal district court in Dallas, however, will not include the most explosive charges in the original indictment — that the men funneled money to the terrorist group Hamas.

The men, all Palestinian-born brothers, are expected to stand trial on the Hamas-related charges this fall.

The case drew enough attention in the aftermath of the September 2001 terror attacks that Attorney General John Ashcroft took the unusual step of personally announcing the indictments.

The men — Ghassan Elashi, Bayan Elashi, Basman Elashi, Hazim Elashi and Ihsan Elashyi — ran a company called InfoCom Corp., which sold computer equipment and hosted Web sites for groups in the Middle East. The company is also a defendant.

Prospective jurors have been called to Judge Sam A. Lindsay's courtroom this morning to fill out questionnaires, then will face questioning by lawyers for both sides on Tuesday — a process more often seen in capital-murder cases.

Opening arguments are expected Wednesday, and the trial on up to 25 criminal counts is expected to last two to three weeks.

Through one of their attorneys, the Elashi brothers declined to comment but have maintained their innocence. They have said they were singled out because they helped run a Texas-based charity that gave money to Palestinians, including, authorities say, the wives and children of suicide bombers.

Ghassan Elashi was chairman of the self-described Muslim charity, the Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development. The organization was closed and its assets seized in December 2001 after the Treasury Department accused it of being a Hamas front.

Authorities raided InfoCom on Sept. 5, 2001 and later charged that the Elashis used the Richardson company to make illegal shipments of computers and computer parts to Syria and Libya, which the government has designated state sponsors of terrorism, from 1997 to 2000.

InfoCom lacked licenses to ship technology to Libya or Syria, and a shipment to Libya was routed through Malta to hide its final destination, prosecutors charged.

Tim Evans, lawyer for Ghassan Elashi, objected to a criminal trial on charges of shipping and export violations. He suggested that large companies accused of such violations merely pay a fine instead of facing criminal prosecution.

"Unfortunately, many members of our government have chosen to twist, spin and exaggerate facts to claim victories in what they describe as the war on terrorism," Evans said in a statement. "Attorney General John Ashcroft, himself, conducted the press release on this indictment, need I say more?"

James T. Jacks, the lead prosecutor for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Dallas, declined to comment. A spokeswoman for the Commerce Department said criminal charges were filed partly because of the Elashis' alleged ties to Hamas.

Jonathan Turley, a law professor at George Washington University, said export violations are usually handled as a civil case and that the Justice Department filed criminal charges to ensure a conviction even if a jury acquitted the Elashis on the charge of funneling money to Hamas.

To win on the export-violation charges, the Elashis' lawyers may have to prove they were unfairly singled out for prosecution — a difficult task — Turley said.

"This is a signature prosecution for the Ashcroft Justice Department," Turley said. "The case seems to be a continuation of a no-holds-barred prosecution against the Holy Land Foundation and anyone connected to the foundation."

Holy Land Foundation was located across the street from InfoCom in a rundown business park in suburban Richardson. The group appealed the government seizure of its assets to the U.S. Supreme Court, which rejected the case.

The government also shut down two other U.S.-based Muslim groups that it accused of funneling money to terrorists.

The original indictment against the Elashi brothers charged that they funneled more than $100,000 to Mousa Abu Marzook, an admitted Hamas member. Marzook had invested $250,000 in InfoCom in the early 1990s in exchange for 40 percent of the company's profits and to hide his assets, authorities charged.

The U.S. government had designated Marzook a terrorist in 1995, making transactions with him illegal.

Texas lawmaker's wife dies

DALLAS (AP) — The wife of state Rep. Jim Pitts, R-Waxahachie, died Sunday at a Dallas hospital following a Friday night accident in which her car was hit by a suspected drunken driver.

Pitts said his wife, Evelyn Pitts, 57, had suffered major brain damage. Stacy Meier, a spokeswoman for Baylor University Medical Center, confirmed the death.

Mrs. Pitts was riding in the passenger seat of her 2002 Mercedes Benz, which was being driven by her teenage son when it was struck Friday night in Dallas.

The other car was driven by Christopher Thorton, 32, police said. Thorton was charged with intoxication assault, according to jail records.

Thorton was being treated at Baylor under police supervision. He was listed in fair condition.

Ryan Pitts, 17, suffered minor cuts and was released from the hospital Saturday.

Mrs. Pitts graduated from Waxahachie High School and earned a business degree from Southern Methodist University. She serves on the Ellis County Hospital board of directors, the Waxahachie Foundation, the HOPE Clinic board of directors and the Ellis County Museum board.

Pitts said his wife was also vice chairwoman of the board at Baylor Medical Center in Waxahachie.

Pitts, a lawyer, represents Ellis and Hill counties. He serves on several House committees, including Ways and Means; Appropriations; and Redistricting. He was first elected as a state representative in 1992.

Oil Patch News

Borden County

Marshall and Winston Inc. will drill the No. 2-A Blackard, a 9,890-foot wildcat located 10 miles northwest of Gail. Location is in Section 10, Block 32, T5N, T&P survey.

Chevron will drill the No. 3335 Jo-Mill field unit, 15 miles southwest of Gail. Planned for a depth of 7,500 feet, location is in Section 39, Block 33, T4N, T&P survey.

Chevron will drill the No. 2615 Jo-Mill field unit, 15 miles southwest of Gail. Contracted for a depth of 7,500 feet, location is in Section 7, Block 32, T4N, T&P survey.

Chevron will drill the No. 2518 Jo-Mill field unit, 15 miles southwest of Gail. Also planned for a depth of 7,500 feet, drill site is in Section 12, Block 33, T4N, T&P survey.

Howard County

Sharp Image Energy will drill the No. 1 Anderson, an 8,400-foot wildcat located four miles northeast of Big Spring. Location is in Section 28, Block 32, T1N, T&P survey.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 06-07-04
♠ 6 4 3
♥ K Q 9 5 3
♦ 7 6 2
♣ A 5

West
♠ 9 7
♥ 10 4
♦ A Q J 5 3
♣ J 7 6 2

East
♠ A K 10 5 2
♥ J 8
♦ 8
♣ 10 9 8 4 3

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

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: East-West

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

Opening lead: ♦ 5

Monday, June 7, 2004

There is luck in bridge

By Phillip Alder

Bridge is the only game in which the inexperienced can beat world champions. Today's deal was played in a match between four experts and four greenhorns.

At both tables, South opened one no-trump, showing 15-17 points. North responded two diamonds, a transfer that guaranteed at least five hearts. South completed the transfer as requested, and North invited game by continuing with two no-trump. There the paths diverged.

The neophyte South was new to transfers. She passed out two no-trump, thinking that she had shown support for her partner's suit when she bid two hearts. In truth, she could have had just a low doubleton.

Two no-trump would have been defeated by a club lead, but the expert sitting West naturally led from his longer and stronger diamond suit. He selected the five (rather than the "normal" queen) in case partner had king-doubleton and declarer 10-fourth. South won the first trick with her diamond 10, then ran five heart tricks, discarding the diamond four from hand. Next, since diamonds were surely 5-1 (from A-Q-J-5, West would have led the queen), declarer played a spade toward her hand and got home with an overtrick!

What happened to the experts? South corrected two no-trump back to three hearts. West led the spade nine. East won with the king and accurately shifted to his singleton diamond. West won with the jack, cashed the diamond ace, and gave his partner a diamond ruff. East took the spade ace and gave his partner a spade ruff, so three hearts finished two down!

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Your Complete Area

Business Directory

Texas Treasures
Concrete Benches · Concrete Birdbaths · Other Yard Decorations
Old Fashion Recipes, Jellies, Preserves, Pickles, Peppers and other vegetables
573-7567

Here's My Card...

Advertise Your Business Here.
Call Carolyn 573-5486

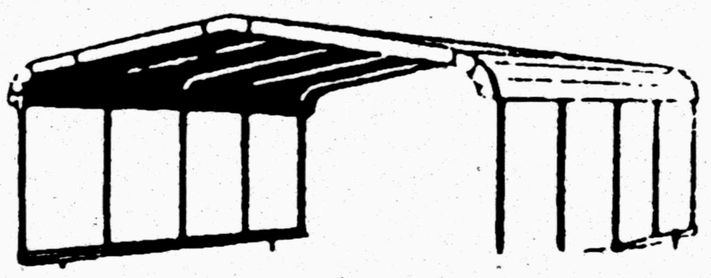
Advertise Your Business Here.
Call Carolyn 573-5486

NSA Independent Distributor WATER & AIR FILTERS
Tom's Marine and Chemical Pump Sales & Service, Inc.
315 E. Highway • Snyder, Texas 79549
Tom Machen (325) 573-6562 Home 573-5219

Hillside Monument
Next Door To
Hillside Memorial Gardens
Specializing in Pre-Need Family Memorial Estates
Colorado City Hwy.
573-5251 Night 573-5536

BUSINESS CARD DIRECTORY

Spotlight



Tom's Marine Sales & Service, Inc. now carries carports.

These carports are exceptionally well built and attractive additions to your home. An 18'X21' carport is only $595.00 and the installation is FREE!

Each carport features galvanized framimg and anchors for ground installation. The roofs are made from 29 guage steel and are trimmed for a finished appearance.

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Bush sees hope for U.N. resolution

SEA ISLAND, Ga. (AP) — The Bush White House voiced hope today that a new agreement between the interim Iraqi government and the United States will pave the way for a breakthrough early this week on a new U.N. resolution for Iraq.

Eyeing the opening of the Group of Eight annual summit here Tuesday, Bush and his top aides are lobbying their counterparts for a U.N. Security Council resolution that would endorse the handover of sovereignty in three weeks and authorize a multinational force to remain in Iraq to help provide security.

National security adviser Condoleezza Rice, talking to reporters here today on the eve of the summit, hailed the deal reached over the weekend between the leader of the new Iraqi government and the United States.

An exchange of letters between the two governments made clear that sovereignty will be transferred at the end of the month and outlined a new military partnership, under which Iraqis would have some say over the actions of U.S. commanders.

The agreement "certainly demonstrates that the multinational coalition, with a U.S. commander, of course, and the Iraqi government, have an understanding about how they should go forward," Rice said, "and we believe that understanding should now give comfort to all that the Iraqis will indeed have full sovereignty."

"The Iraqis will have command of their own forces," she said. "There will be mechanisms for the coordination and consultation as well as for decisions of policy issues like policy on sensitive offensive operations."

Supreme Court clears path for Mexican trucks on U.S. roads

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court ruled unanimously today that the Bush administration can skip a lengthy environmental study and open U.S. roadways to Mexican trucks as soon as it wishes.

The high court ruled against labor and environmental organizations that have long fought expansion of Mexican trucking within the borders of the United States despite a guarantee this country made when it signed the North American Free Trade Agreement more than a decade ago.

Ruling on narrow procedural issues, the Supreme Court said the president has authority to open the border, and a federal agency responsible for truck safety has no say in the matter. Thus, the agency was under no obligation to study environmental effects from opening the border, as a lower federal court had ordered.

As a practical matter, today's ruling may mean little. The Bush administration had already begun the court-ordered study and is expected to complete it soon. The study could only delay, not prevent, the border opening, and the White House had already said that it would let the trucks roll as soon as it was free to do so.

President Bush ordered the opening of all U.S. roads to Mexican trucks in 2002, but the dispute has been tied up in courts.

The long fight, begun during the Clinton administration, had ground down to a last quarrel over an environmental assessment, or study, called an EA.

U.S. plans to pull out one-third of troops by end of next year

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The United States wants to withdraw a third of its 37,000 troops from South Korea by the end of next year, U.S. and South Korean officials said today as the two countries discussed plans for repositioning soldiers along the Cold War's last frontier.

The withdrawal would be the first major troop cut on the Korean Peninsula since the early 1990s, when the two allies agreed to remove 7,000 U.S. troops.

The planned U.S. troop reduction is seen as part of Washington's global effort to realign its forces so they can better respond to emergencies worldwide.

Last week, U.S. and German officials said the United States has yet to complete plans for any troop withdrawals from Germany and is still consulting with allies over its intention to fundamentally rearrange American forces around the world.

The U.S. proposal for South Korea came Sunday as both sides prepared to open the two-day Future of the Alliance talks today, according to a statement released by U.S. Forces Korea. The statement confirmed comments made earlier today by Kim Sook, head of the South Korean Foreign Ministry's North American bureau.

According to Kim, the U.S. side told the South Koreans the proposal will not affect U.S. soldiers' ability to defend South Korea because of more modern weapons systems it plans to bring in. Washington has promised to spend $11 billion in the next five years to upgrade its firepower in the region.

Washington proposed withdrawing 12,500 U.S. troops over 2004-05 and intends for the figure to include about 3,600 already slated to be redeployed later this year from South Korea to Iraq, the U.S. statement said.

"Details are being worked out as the process of consultation with the Republic of Korea continues," the statement said.

The U.S. delegation, led by Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Lawless, suggested the pullout be completed by December 2005, Kim said.

Kim said officials at the South Korean National Security Council, Defense Ministry and Foreign Ministry would review the proposal before giving a response: "We'll formulate a position and then notify the United States."

He said the issue was unlikely to be discussed again during the talks, which end Tuesday. The talks are supposed to focus on a separate plan to move U.S. troops farther south, away from the Demilitarized Zone between North and South Korea.

Troop levels are a prickly issue in South Korea, where many still have painful memories of the communist North Korean invasion that triggered the 1950-53 Korean War.

Weekend arrests top police blotter

• *Arrests*

Police arrested two people at 9:03 p.m. Saturday in the 1800 block of Scurry Street. A 33-year-old male was arrested on a traffic warrant and for driving while intoxicated and a 27-year-old female was arrested for public intoxication.

A 19-year-old male was arrested at 41st Street and College Avenue at 11:13 p.m. Saturday on warrants for failure to appear and expired inspection sticker.

A 17-year-old male was arrested on charges of public intoxication in the 1400 block of 27th Street at 11:39 p.m. Saturday.

Police responded to a call about a male pounding on a door in the 2800 block of Ave. Y at 6:35 a.m. Sunday. The man left, but police located the vehicle he was driving and arrested Gerado Luna Jr., 32, for felony driving while intoxicated, driving while license invalid and burglary with the intent to cause assault.

Two men were arrested at 1:27 p.m. Sunday in the 1400 block of E. 36th Street. A 19-year-old male was arrested on charges of assault and an 18-year-old male was arrested on charges of assault and warrants for no driver's license, no liability insurance and consumption of alcohol by a minor.

A report of juveniles in a pick-up drinking at North Park resulted in the arrest of three males, a 20-year-old, a 23-year-old and a 17-year-old. All three are being held for immigration officials.

Police responded to 29th Street and Ave. X at 6:09 p.m. on reports of a male walking around drinking trying to get into a house. Arrested was a 20-year-old male on charges of consumption of alcohol by a minor and evading arrest.

• *Criminal trespassing*

Officers were called to the 300 block of 35th Street Saturday morning in reference to people trespassing on the property and taking an air conditioning unit.

A male told officers Saturday afternoon that another male had assaulted him, but he did not wish to file charges. He did request a criminal trespass warning be issued.

Officers were summoned to the 2100 block of O'Neal at 5:55 p.m. Saturday as ex-renters were going into the residence. Officers were to locate the people and advise them of the complaint.

A woman told officers that she had seen persons going into a residence in the 2800 block of Avenue I. The owner reported cash missing and requested a close patrol of the residence.

Rainfall Reports

Snyder	.51
North of city	1.50
East of city	.70
West of city	.50
Lake Thomas	.30
Hermleigh	1.00
Fluvanna	1.70
Polar	1.00
Loyd Mountain	1.00
Camp Springs	1.50
Dunn	.40
Ira	.30
Dermott	.30
Union	.50
Gail	.50
Gins	
Inadale	.70

Totals as reported by area residents for the weekend.

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

Friendly Flower Shop
3203 1/2 College Ave
325-573-3851

COUNTRYPLACE
Floral & Gifts
4213 College
325-573-1817

Independently Owned & Operated
WCFH
WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME
200 East 37th St.
Snyder, Texas
325-573-6200

Nation mourns as family prepares to bury Reagan

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — Ten years ago, Ronald Reagan wrote poignantly about his diagnosis of Alzheimer's, calling it "the journey that will lead me into the sunset of my life." Today, his family prepared for his last journey, one that will take his remains to the Capitol and then to his final resting place in California.

His body was to be moved today from a Santa Monica funeral home to the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library. Following a private ceremony, it will lie in repose at the library through Tuesday night, giving Reagan's fellow Californians a chance to pay their final respects to the man who was their governor from 1967 to 1975.

Scores of people began gathering at the Santa Monica funeral home before dawn today to add to impromptu memorials placed on the lawn in front. Crowds also started arriving early at Moorpark College, where mourners were to take shuttle buses a short distance to the library later in the day.

On Wednesday, the former president's body was to be flown to Washington, D.C. Following a state funeral, it will lie in state in the Capitol Rotunda until Friday and the federal government will shut down that day in Reagan's honor.

The funeral will be at Washington National Cathedral, where President Bush will be among the speakers. The body will then be returned to Reagan's library in Simi Valley for a private burial service.

Reagan, 93, died at home Saturday of pneumonia.

On Sunday, mourners milled around the funeral home, many leaving behind American flags, flowers and jars of jelly beans — Reagan's favorite treat.

"Thank you for changing the world," said a handwritten note among the tokens of remembrance.

People did the same at Reagan's boyhood home in Dixon, Ill.

Ken Dunwoody, who grew up outside Dixon, said Reagan, while an icon of Republican politics, transcended political partisanship. "I just think of him as being an American," said Dunwoody, 82. "I wish we all could get back to that."

Clarification

In the weekend edition of the Snyder Daily News, the last sentence of the story on Cogdell Memorial Hospital was incomplete.

The sentence should have read Hanes said the most important issue currently facing the hospital is maintaining the current number of physicians.

JUN 07 2004

Today's Weather

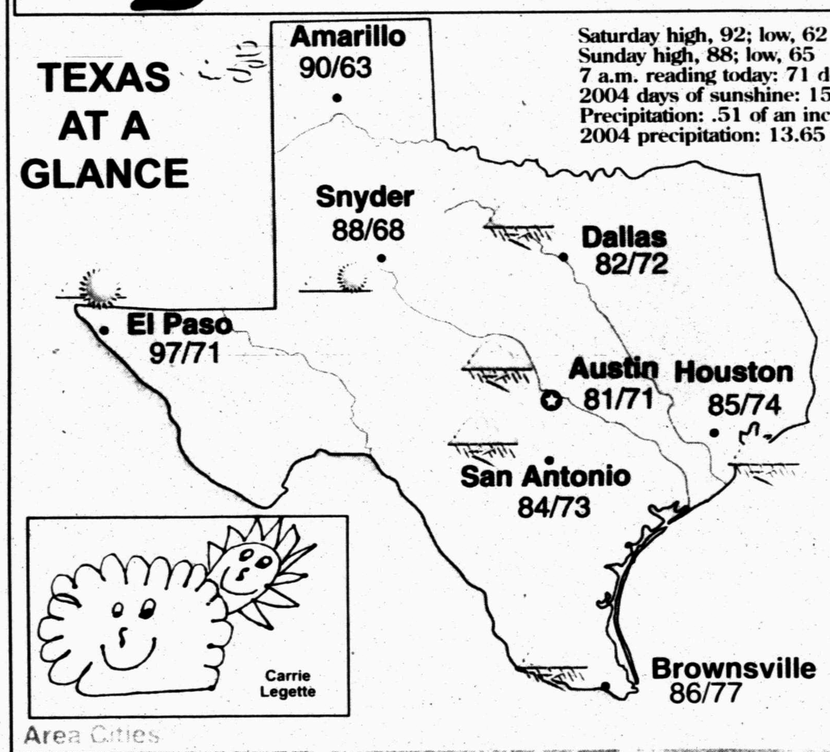
Local 3-Day Forecast

Tue 6/8	Wed 6/9	Thu 6/10
88/68	**89/66**	**92/70**
Partly cloudy. High 88F. Winds SSE at 10 to 20 mph.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the mid 60s.	Plenty of sun. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 70s.
Sunrise 6:35 AM, Sunset 8:50 PM	Sunrise 6:35 AM, Sunset 8:51 PM	Sunrise 6:35 AM, Sunset 8:51 PM

Texas Savings Bank
Community Minded.
2619 College Avenue
573-9305
FDIC

TEXAS AT A GLANCE

Saturday high, 92; low, 62
Sunday high, 88; low, 65
7 a.m. reading today: 71 degrees
2004 days of sunshine: 150 of 158
Precipitation: .51 of an inch
2004 precipitation: 13.65



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	85	69	pt sunny	El Paso	97	71	mst sunny	Midland	92	69	mst sunny
Amarillo	90	63	windy	Fort Stockton	93	68	sunny	Raymondville	86	74	t-storm
Austin	81	71	t-storm	Gainesville	81	68	t-storm	Rosenberg	82	73	t-storm
Beaumont	86	73	t-storm	Greenville	82	69	t-storm	San Antonio	84	73	t-storm
Brownsville	86	77	t-storm	Houston	85	74	t-storm	San Marcos	82	72	t-storm
Brownwood	84	69	pt sunny	Kingsville	85	74	t-storm	Sulphur Springs	82	69	t-storm
Corpus Christi	83	77	t-storm	Livingston	85	70	t-storm	Sweetwater	87	69	pt sunny
Corsicana	81	70	t-storm	Longview	84	70	t-storm	Tyler	84	70	t-storm
Dallas	82	72	t-storm	Lubbock	90	67	windy	Weatherford	81	68	t-storm
Del Rio	87	74	cloudy	Lufkin	85	71	t-storm	Wichita Falls	87	68	windy

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	83	67	t-storm	Houston	85	74	t-storm	Phoenix	102	76	sunny
Boston	87	68	mst sunny	Los Angeles	70	58	pt sunny	San Francisco	64	53	rain
Chicago	89	70	mst sunny	Miami	87	78	t-storm	Seattle	75	55	pt sunny
Dallas	82	72	t-storm	Minneapolis	81	62	t-storm	St. Louis	90	73	t-storm
Denver	84	58	pt sunny	New York	87	70	mst sunny	Washington, DC	90	71	pt sunny

Moon Phases

Full	Last	New	First
Jun 3	Jun 9	Jun 17	Jun 25

UV Index

Tue 6/8	Wed 6/9	Thu 6/10
Extreme	Extreme	Extreme

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

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Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Tuesday, June 8, 2004

You can expect much success in the year ahead in situations where you are strongly motivated to succeed. When you place importance on something, you'll do everything humanly possible to make certain it becomes a fait accompli.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Should success elude you today it will be because you'll be too easily distracted from doing what is necessary to reach your goals. To achieve your goals, full attention is required.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Pride can cause you to pretend to know something about a subject when, in truth, you know little. Unfortunately, events will put you to the test today and you'll end up being embarrassed.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — In order to keep something confidential today, it may be necessary for you to avoid associates who have an agenda of ferreting out what you know. They'll try to catch you off guard.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Don't allow yourself to be placed in the awkward position today of having to side with one pal against another concerning a dispute that they have. You'll end up being a patsy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Make patience your partner today, not speed, if you have any hopes of reaping rewards. No matter how urgent the need for completion, hasty mistakes will delay your efforts even further.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Move cautiously when involved in a joint venture today, especially if the control over matters is not directly under your supervision. Keep a sharp eye on what everybody else is doing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — If you fail to do something today for someone dear to you that you promised to take care of, friction will quickly develop. If this involves a family member, the entire household could be disrupted.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Be particularly careful today when handling dangerous tools or gadgets, especially if you're not too familiar with how to work them. Any carelessness on your part could cause an accident.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — The warmth of your personality and willingness to cooperate with others is what will count today, not how much money you have when dealing with others. Put your wallet away.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Normally when you start something you follow through to its successful conclusion. Today, however, you could leave a trail of unsightly, half-finished tasks in your wake wherever you go.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Should a proposition be presented to you today that sounds terrific, don't jump at it without taking the proper time and attention to study it thoroughly. Chances are it's not all that it seems.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Unless you're aware of the fact, those with whom you pal around today will have a considerable influence over your spending pattern. If they are extravagant, you'll fall right in line.

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Trial to begin in border vigilante case

HEBBRONVILLE (AP) — A South Texas couple says the U.S. Border Patrol hasn't been much help in stemming the flow of illegal immigrants who make their way into the country across their ranch land.

After continuing to find broken fences, food containers and other messes from migrants, Joe and Betty Lou Sutton last year called on Ranch Rescue, an Arizona-based group of armed vigilantes who believe citizens should protect the U.S.-Mexican border themselves.

Now, the Suttons' ranch is at the center of a federal court case alleging abuses against migrants.

Jury selection begins today in a trial for Ranch Rescue volunteer Casey Nethercott. The Douglas, Ariz., man is accused of pistol-whipping two Salvadorans who attempted to cross the Suttons' land. Nethercott has pleaded innocent to felony counts of assault, unlawful detention and unlawful possession of a weapon.

A civil trial naming the Suttons and Ranch Rescue among the defendants is scheduled for August.

The case is the latest against members of such vigilante groups.

Ranch Rescue is one of at least three citizen patrol groups who say they are patriots fighting what they call a homeland invasion. They have been called to private lands more frequently because of Border Patrol crackdowns on more populated portions of the 2,000-mile border.

Nethercott, 35, joined Ranch Rescue's Sutton Ranch mission, dubbed "Operation Falcon." On March 18, the volunteers set up camp, donned camouflage and prepared equipment that included assault rifles, handguns, night-vision devices and Nethercott's Rottweiller, prosecutors said.

Fatima Leiva and Edwin Mancia were crossing the ranch, reportedly on their way to family and jobs in Houston, when Nethercott's dog attacked them and Nethercott hit Mancia with the back of his handgun, injuring him, prosecutors said. Nethercott is accused of making the couple repeatedly kneel and stand, and interrogated them before releasing them outside the ranch gate.

Jim Hogg County police spotted the couple on the highway that passes the ranch, and brought them to the Border Patrol, which contacted the Mexican consul in Laredo, Daniel Hernandez Josef.

Ten days before, four Mexicans who were found walking barefoot from the ranch had been taken in.

"The Mexicans told me their story and I thought, well, some crazy rancher," Hernandez Josef said. "Then about 10 days later, the same thing happened."

Nethercott's lawyer, Joseph Jacobson, said his client was taken in on shoddy evidence, including an unfair police lineup.

"People were shown a lineup in which Casey is the only person with a shaved head and, of six people, one of two that didn't have any facial hair," he said.

Ranch Rescue, meanwhile has continued its patrols and dropped its support for Nethercott. Jack Foote, an Army veteran and a Ranch Rescue founder, accused Nethercott of stealing Ranch Rescue equipment and called him a "dangerous psychopath."

"The Ranch Rescue network does not get involved in many issues," Foote said. "We are strictly about private property rights."

On his Web site, Foote recruits "soldiers" from all over the United States who sign on to catch migrants and then turn them over to authorities.

Bridge on Seguin's hit list

SEGUIN (AP) — A bridge that blocked a favorite city view and was never used because of structural problems will be demolished at about half the cost required to build it.

The pedestrian bridge over the Guadalupe River became an eyesore, blocking the view of a dam and historic power plant in Starcke Park. Residents complained about the bridge's chain link fencing.

"The bridge was so unattractive," Mayor Betty Ann Matthies told the San Antonio Express-News in today's online edition. "It was not in keeping with what we want for our park."

The bridge was completed in 2002 at a cost of $800,000. The project was a partnership between the Seguin City Council and the Schertz-Seguin Local Government Corp., which built a pipeline to bring water to Schertz and Seguin from the Carrizo Aquifer in Gonzales County.

The groups had decided that the bridge would double as a structure to carry the pipeline over the river to the water plant at Starcke Park.

But after completion, the bridge started to sag and engineers discovered a serious structural flaw in the design. If the pipeline was filled with water, the bridge likely would collapse. Repairs to make it safe were estimated at $200,000.

Also, the bridge's planned location had been moved slightly to get it out of the state's right of way for the Texas Business 123 bridge over the river. But moving the pedestrian bridge location 40 feet upstream caused it to block the view of the dam and the historic power plant.

So city leaders must spend $325,000 to tear down the bridge. Two years of negotiations between Seguin leaders, the SSLGC, the engineers, construction contractors and subcontractors have resulted in a settlement to the city, which will pay for the demolition and rerouting the water pipeline along the riverbed. Matthies said she hopes the bridge can be removed in August.

Veterans gather in Coastal Bend

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — A group of Purple Heart recipients is redoubling its efforts to ensure that hospitalized Texas veterans are treated well.

But sometimes they're not, said Harvey Webb, senior vice commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart's Department of Texas.

"I go into those (Veterans Administration) hospitals and I talk to each one of those veterans and ask, 'Are you OK?' or 'Has everyone been treating you OK?' " Webb told the Corpus Christi Caller-Times in today's online edition. "You ought to hear some of the stories they tell me about the way they're treated. It's incredible."

About 30 Texas Purple Heart recipients met in Corpus Christi this weekend for the military group's annual convention.

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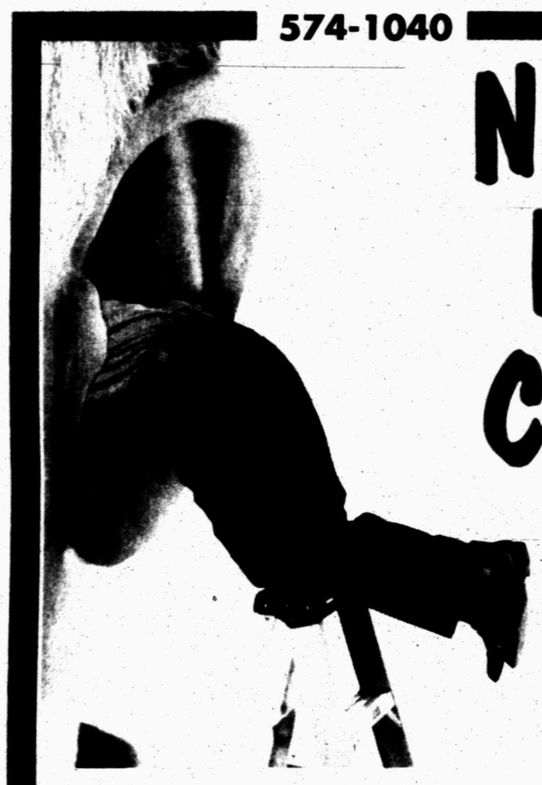

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Let's Go Fiddlin' Around

in Snyder, Texas at the

West Texas Western Swing Music Festival
June 9 - 12, 2004
Scurry County Coliseum

2004 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2004
6:30 - 9:30 Welcome Home Burgers and Beans Dinner, jam session. RSVP for dinner and bring your instruments. Price $6 per person.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2004
11:30 am Welcome Ceremonies
12:00 -1:15 pm Ted Scanion and the Desperados
1:45 pm - 3:15 pm Clyde Brewer and the River Road Boys
3:30 pm - 4:45 pm Billy Mata and the Texas Tradition
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm SUPPER BREAK
6:30 pm - 7:45 pm Ted Scanion and the Desperados
8:00 pm - 9:15 pm Clyde Brewer and the River Road Boys
9:30 pm - 11:00 pm Billy Mata & The Texas Tradition

THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2004
12:00 -1:15 pm Jake Hooker and the Outsiders
1:30 pm - 2:45 pm Curtis Potter
3:00 pm - 4:15 pm Snuffy Elmore
4:30 pm - 5:00 pm Travis Bishop
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm SUPPER BREAK
6:30 pm - 7:45 pm Jake Hooker and the Outsiders
8:00 pm - 9:15 pm Curtis Potter
9:30 pm - 11:00 pm Snuffy Elmore

FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 2004
11:30 am -12:45 pm Bobby Flores
1:00 pm - 2:15 pm Dave Alexander and his Big Texas Swing Band
2:30 pm - 3:45 pm Playboys II
4:00 pm - 5:15 pm Cindy Nix and the Bluff Creek Edition
5:15 pm - 6:30 pm SUPPER BREAK featuring Texas Sand
6:30 pm - 7:45 pm Bobby Flores
8:00 pm - 9:15 pm Dave Alexander and his Big Texas Swing Band
9:30 pm - 11:00 pm Playboys II

SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 2004
11:30 am -12:30 pm Mike O'Daniels "Get Out of Town Band"
12:45 pm - 2:00 pm Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys
2:15 pm - 3:30 pm Eddie McAlvain and the Mavericks
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm Moe Bandy
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm SUPPER BREAK featuring Texas Sand
6:30 pm - 7:45 pm Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys
8:00 pm - 9:30 pm Eddie McAlvain and the Mavericks
10:00 pm - 11:00 pm Moe Bandy