INSIDE

Family Wants Monkey 2
Sophomore Tennis Champs 5
Midday Stocks 7
Handheld Computers Popular ...9
IRA Limits Raised 10

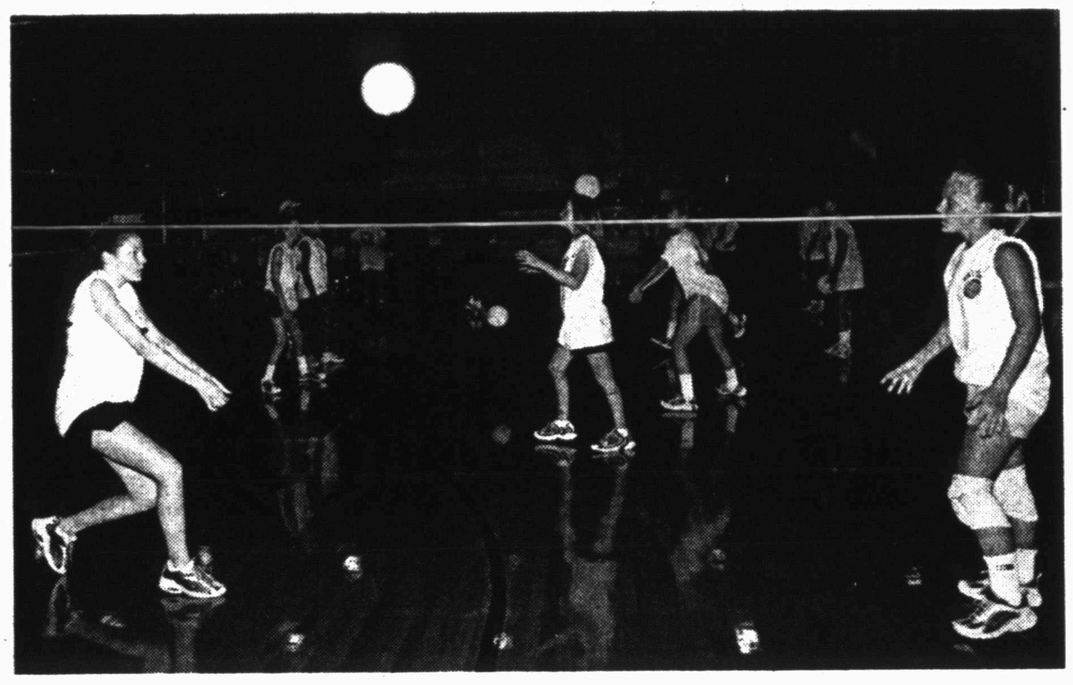
WT-Int. Crude - $31.43
WTIC Posted - $28.50

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY
July 20, 2000
Vol. 52 No. 69
10 Pages 50¢

Home Of Shilla Kinney

Time to volley...



VOLLEYBALL CAMP — Sara Potter (left) bumps the ball to partner Alex Ray during volleyball camp this morning at Snyder High School. (SDN Staff Photo)

Health insurance and budget on city agenda

Snyder's city council will meet in a called session this evening at 6:30 to consider bids on employee health insurance and to continue work on the 2000-01 budget.

Snyder's city administration is hoping to receive additional bids for employee's health insurance before the 2000-01 budget has to be approved, but through Monday's special meeting, only one firm bid had been received.

"If no other bids are received, then we can accept the one firm bid, or we can extend the present carrier's policy for one month with hopes we get other bids," said City Secretary Jeanne Johnson during Monday night's budget work session.

Johnson said the extension would not be at the rate the city is currently paying, however.

Johnson said four different insurance companies submitted a total of seven bids, but only one included firm rates.

"The other bids are contingent on the insurance companies receiving health information on some of our employees," said Johnson.

She explained that the city has requested physicians and hospitals furnish the health information to the insurance companies, but added that the companies had not received all the information in a timely fashion.

"All in all, we sent out 20 letters to different doctors and physicians. Some sent the information back, and some have not," said Johnson.

Johnson further explained the insurance companies had the bid packages a full month before they were due for consideration.

"In that time, only one company called seeking information," said Johnson.

Johnson said the city administration was surprised with the response from the insurance companies.

On Monday, the council voted to table action on employee health insurance matters until this evening's called session.

"Maybe we will have more firm bids Thursday," Johnson said during Monday's meeting.

Figures presented to the council indicates insurance costs could be as much as $86,000 higher than this year.

The council is expected to consider several budget revisions this evening, also.

On Monday, it received additional information about possible budget revisions with little comment from members.

Revisions include a proposal for a 2.7 percent pay increase for employees that would add $70,850 to the budget, and a three percent increase in water and sewer rates which would generate $101,850 in additional income.

Information was also provided on how much a penny increase in the present tax rate of $0.3935 would generate. This totals $22,615.

Naming of running mate close, says Bush

AUSTIN (AP) — George W. Bush says he is getting close to a decision on his running mate and suggests one political priority: "You want somebody who's not going to hurt you."

Twelve days before the opening of the national convention that will formally make him the Republican presidential candidate, Bush told reporters at an impromptu news conference on Wednesday: "I will make up my mind soon."

A number of Republicans are urging the Texan to sit on his lead in polls and make a "safe" pick, giving greater weight to a candidate's potential to do harm than his or her prospects for bolstering the ticket.

Oklahoma Gov. Frank Keating and even Dick Cheney — head of Bush's search — have emerged as favorites of the take-no-chances crowd, though Bush himself has not said whether either is a candidate.

Others mentioned as potential running mates include Govs. Tom Ridge of Pennsylvania and George Pataki of New York; Sens. Chuck Hagel of Nebraska, and Fred Thompson and Bill Frist, both of Tennessee; and Rep. John Kasich of Ohio.

The two-term Texas governor has winnowed his list and has shared his thoughts with a small number of advisers, all sworn to secrecy. He could announce his decision as early as Monday, though he has not ruled out waiting until the July 31-Aug. 3 Republican convention in Philadelphia.

In an interview aboard his campaign plane Tuesday night, Bush openly ruled out two potential candidates — retired Gen. Colin Powell and Senator Connie Mack of Florida — but stopped and smiled when Cheney's name was mentioned.

"I'm not going there," Bush said.

Republican operative Rich Galen said of Cheney, "He'd be a smart pick, an elder with gravitas," adding that the former defense secretary's history of heart problems might be a factor.

On the Democratic side, the most mentioned running mate prospects for Al Gore are House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt, Florida Sen. Bob Graham, Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry and former Maine Sen. George Mitchell.

Gore said Thursday he has not yet decided, and he indicated there was no rush since the Republican convention comes first. In an interview with CNN, he promised with a smile to announce his choice before the third night of the Democratic National Convention — Aug. 16 — when the delegates' balloting begins.

Warren Christopher, head of Gore's selection effort, has been asking Democratic lawmakers about the idea of picking Mitchell, party sources say.

Bush, in a discussion about the history of vice presidential selections abroad his plane, said a running mate rarely helps a ticket because voters size up the presidential candidate, not his No. 2. On the other hand, a bad or controversial choice can hurt the icket, he said.

"You want somebody who can do the job, wants the job and is willing to work for you. You want somebody who's not going to hurt you," Bush said.

Marriage penalty tax still under veto attack

WASHINGTON (AP) — Upping the ante in their tax cut confrontation with President Clinton, congressional Republicans on Thursday prepared to pass a less costly five-year version of their bill to eliminate the marriage penalty tax in hopes of making a threatened veto more difficult.

"I want to get something on his desk that's signable," said House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., said Wednesday.

Under the agreement, which the House and Senate were aiming to pass Thursday, millions of married couples would get some tax relief this calendar year, but the total revenue cost of $89.8 billion over five years is lower than amounts in earlier GOP bills.

Democrats on the Senate Finance Committee, however, produced an estimate showing that the new version was still too expensive at $280 billion over 10 years, even more than the 10-year, $248 billion version that passed the Senate earlier this week. An official 10-year cost estimate for the bill was not available, and Republicans were undeterred.

"This agreement means that we will give President Clinton every reason to sign the bill into law and help end the marriage penalty," said Rep. Bill Archer, R-Texas, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee.

If the compromise passes both houses of Congress this week, the president would be forced to decide whether to sign or veto the bill before the end of the Republican National Convention, which starts July 31. Clinton had made his approval conditional upon Congress passing an acceptable prescription drug benefit plan for Medicare.

Vice President Al Gore, in Iowa on Wednesday campaigning for president, said he remained opposed to the Republican measure, in part because it is "very, very expensive" and could benefit people who don't need it.

Peace talks resume at bargaining table

THURMONT, Md. (AP) — In a wild diplomatic roller-coaster ride, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak agreed to return to the bargaining table at Camp David, reviving tumultuous peace talks that had been declared a failure only a short time earlier.

With the fate of Jerusalem the main point of dispute, the Mideast summit entered a 10th day Thursday minus President Clinton, who was traveling to Japan for a weekend summit of leading industrialized nations.

"The gaps remain substantial, but there has been progress," Clinton said of the marathon effort to end 52 years of conflict. "And we must all be prepared to go the extra mile."

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright was taking the reins of the talks Thursday, as she did a week earlier during a daylong absence by Clinton. She held a morning meeting with the U.S. delegation team to map out the day's negotiating strategy, a State Department official said.

Bleary-eyed and haggard from days of sometimes round-the-clock negotiations at the secluded presidential retreat in Maryland's Catoctin Mountains, Clinton himself delivered the dramatic news that the parties would push on with their peace effort after all.

"Nobody wanted to quit, nobody wanted to give up," the president hoarsely told reporters at a news conference hastily convened after midnight in the small-town elementary school that has served as the summit press center. Only a short time earlier, the White House had tersely declared that the summit had ended with no accord.

Clinton, who had shuttled back and forth between the two leaders for nine straight days trying to try to bridge the gaps between them, cautioned that "there should be no illusion about the difficult task ahead."

Palestinians welcomed the revival of the talks, which came as both Barak and Arafat were preparing to catch planes home.

"This is a new opportunity I hope will be used to reach an agreement," said Hassan Abdel Rahman, the Washington envoy of Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organization. "I hope this effort will succeed."

Israel expressed renewed determination to arrive at some accord.

"We need to find a solution," Barak aide Eldad Yaniv told Israel radio, speaking from near Camp David. "We need to really turn every stone to find a solution."

The two sides have not been able to agree on the boundaries of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip or the fate of several million Palestinian refugees. The real dealbreaker was Jerusalem, the ancient city claimed by both sides as their capital.

Neither side showed any sign of yielding ground on their conflicting claims to the city.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Some folks have a clear conscience only because it's never been used."

There's still time for a summer vacation, all it takes is time, lots of money and a theme.

According to the travel experts, a theme vacation is in vogue this year.

The travel agent can help you find not only the fastest transportation but also the place to commit the seven deadly sins.

—Gluttony: The obvious choice is New Orleans where diners never met a meal they didn't like. You don't even have to pronounce it to eat it.

—Avarice: Another obvious one is Las Vegas, often called Sin City. It's a neon-drenched oasis and a place to practice greed which ends up being good mostly for the casino owners.

—Anger: Try Belfast. Folks who are hot under the collar can find companionship with really angry folks who have been practicing their trade for almost a century.

—Lust: Visit Los Angeles. L.A. is the capital of the world media market, sending its sleaze around the world in movies, commercials, videos, video games and magazines.

—Envy: New York is the place. No matter how hard you work, there are people in Manhattan who are doing better. Feast on "it could have been me, but it's not."

—Pride: Tokyo believes it's not only better than New York, it believes it may one day own New York and the rest of the USA.

—Sloth: The place to rest is in Hawaii. Lay on the beach, don't shave, eat fresh pineapple delivered fresh to your lounge chair. You don't have to get up. You don't even have to say, "thank you."

And if you can't travel that far, there are places in the Lone Star State where you can likely violate the seven don'ts. Likely, we say, because we sure can't admit to having been there. We only heard the big boys talk about them.

—Gluttony: San Antonio has its fair share of eating establishments. And anyone can say "chips and salsa.

—Avarice: Houston is a good choice. Might also try the Jacksboro highway out of Fort Worth. Don't forget Galveston and El Paso.

—Anger: Lubbock. It seems like everybody is mad up there, at least at the city and county government.

—Lust: A dead heat, between Austin and Dallas.

—Envy: Fort Worth. They never did like Dallas. But there are plenty of dot.com folks in Austin that don't live like real people back in Scurry County.

—Pride: It's gotta be abilene. Shoot, they don't even admit they don't have drinking water.

—Sloth: Corpus and Galveston. You don't have to worry about sharks and stingrays, if you don't wade into the water.

And for a heavenly virtue: stay home, cook out and hire somebody to mow the grass.

ASK US

A—Are tickets on sale yet for the Aug. 26 chamber banquet?

Q—Yes. Tickets can be purchased at the chamber office, 2302 Ave. R and are $12.50 each.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 99 degrees; low, 71; 7 a.m. Thursday, 73; no precipitation; total for 2000, 14.77.

• Area Forecast: Tonight, mostly clear; low 70-75; SE wind 5-15 mph. Friday, mostly sunny; high near 100; S wind 10-20 mph

Cami Mitchell
Sunny

Sunset: 8:47 p.m.
Sunrise: 6:55 a.m.
Of 201 days in 2000, the sun has shone 198 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

One should count each day a separate life.

—Seneca

Blockbuster will deliver movies via new technology

DALLAS (AP) — The world's leading video rental chain has taken a big step toward making a trip to the corner video store unnecessary.

Blockbuster Inc. and Enron Broadband Services have struck a 20-year agreement to deliver movies on demand to consumers' computers or televisions over high-speed telephone lines.

The two Texas companies were expected to offer the movies in selected cities by year's end. Those cities have not been determined.

Consumers will be able to choose for the first time from an extensive library of movies through their computer or television screens with VHS quality — and VCR-like control, the companies said Wednesday.

"We said a year ago that we would transition Blockbuster from a retail powerhouse to a multichannel powerhouse in the delivery of home entertainment," said John Antioco, chairman and CEO of Dallas-based Blockbuster. "This is the deal that will make it happen."

Consumers will need a set-top box that can be bought or rented and a high-speed Internet connection, such as a digital subscriber line (DSL).

The companies are working out details on what to charge customers.

Teen-age boy accused in counselor's slaying

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Kristie LeGrange hoped she could help the 17-year-old boy who had battled psychotic episodes, sleeplessness and learning disorders. The 26-year-old counselor specialized in working with troubled youngsters.

But authorities say the teenager killed LaGrange this week, bashing her head in with a brick during a counseling session at his trailer home.

"She could have chosen any profession, many would have paid better with better benefits," her brother Chris said Tuesday, a day after the slaying. "But the benefits she was looking for were eternal."

Jack Chance was arrested on suspicion of murder after police found him driving LeGrange's car with her body in the trunk.

"She was a person who truly died doing what she loved to do," said Mark Hayes, chief executive of North Care, the counseling center where LeGrange worked.

Psychologists from North Care visit clients at their homes. Teams go out on initial visits but after that, counselors go alone.

"She was never concerned about that, I don't believe," sister-in-law Kim LeGrange said Wednesday. "She really cared about those kids she was seeing."

LeGrange had gone to the trailer home Monday for an appointment with Chance. He lived there with his grandmother, her common-law husband and another child, the manager of the park said.

Police believe Chance was alone when he allegedly killed LeGrange, then dragged the body to her car. Chance's grandmother told police that her grandson said he had harmed his counselor. A short time later, police said they found him driving the car.

Kathy Chance said her son had suffered from mental illness all his life and had the educational level of a second- or third-grader.

"He really liked her," she said about LeGrange. "I had told her that he needed help, more help than he had been getting."

The victim's family has released what they called a "Letter to a Killer," written primarily by LeGrange's brother. In it, LeGrange's mother, Betty, wrote that Chance had destroyed her life.

"Dare I say I despise you with every bone in my body. She would probably say 'forgive him.'"

Family seeking to keep monkey

NEW YORK (AP) — If Roman Flikshtein had known Cookie was one of an endangered species, he'd never have plunked down $4,500 for the furry little monkey five years ago.

Cookie — a Ceropithecus diana — could be packed off soon to an animal rescue center at the Detroit zoo. Having such a pet violates federal and state law and courts have ruled that state officials can remove the rare monkey from the family's home.

"I'm ready to go to jail, but I won't give my baby up," Inna Flikshtein said Wednesday.

Roman Flikshtein, who owns a Queens dental laboratory, bought Cookie at a pet store in 1995. To the animal lover who always wanted a monkey, the exotic-looking African simian seemed perfect.

Pet store owner Dennis Borghese said the monkey came from a Florida breeder.

"It wasn't imported, and it wasn't from the black market," Borghese said. "I felt that it needed nurturing, and I wanted it to have a good home."

Both men said they were unaware then that the species was endangered.

That didn't come up until two years ago. Flikshtein said a professional animal handler sent a letter to the state Department of Environmental Conservation reporting that a diana monkey, kept as a family pet, had bitten someone.

The Flikshteins said the bite allegation was false but it triggered the chain of official actions.

Flikshtein applied for a permit to keep the monkey but was rejected. A DEC letter said the state did not issue licenses to keep endangered or threatened species as pets.

DEC attorney Gail Hintz said the agency did not want to seize Cookie, preferring the family gave the monkey up voluntarily.

TLR adviser says fight against suit abuse important

Jay Lawrence, an adviser to Texans for Lawsuit Reform (TLR), was in town Wednesday to encourage Snyder community leaders, business owners and consumers to become involved in the fight for civil justice reforms.

Speaking to local citizens at the Snyder Kiwanis Club, Lawrence told area residents that frivolous lawsuits and other tort reform issues cost Texas business owners and consumers dearly.

"Lawsuit abuse extracts a terrible toll on all Texans: consumers, retirees, families, workers and small and large businesses," he said. "Every single excessive judgement, excessive settlement, excessive legal fee and unnecessarily filed lawsuit raises the price of things we buy and reduces the value of our savings, investments and retirement. It also erodes the confidence in our court and our government."

TLR, the state's largest tort reform organization consisting of over 6,540 members representing Texas consumers and business owners, has made great strides in reforming Texas' civil justice system in the last four years.

Since 1995, the Texas Legislature has passed fourteen separate bills to help control frivolous lawsuits.

Emerging tort issues include the growing threat of class action lawsuits; laws that don't allow Texas juries to assign fault to all guilty parties and excessive legal fees.

Although these reforms have resulted in savings to Texas consumers of up to $2.8 billion in insurance premiums, Lawrence said additional reforms are still needed in Texas.

"Serious abuses like meritless class action lawsuits and laws that don't allow Texas juries to assign fault to all guilty parties still plague ours system and cost our state dearly," he said. "New challenges to our legal system require ongoing vigilance."

Lawrence cited the fee arrangement made by former Attorney General Dan Morales with the five contingency-fee lawyers involved in the tobacco settlement as an example of excessive fee arrangements that ultimately impact Texas taypayers.

"Texas must work together to fix our civil justice system and rid our state of abusive lawsuits," he said. "We must stop cases where a few lawyers get millions of dollars while their clients get pennies. We must ensure that if someone brings an abusive lawsuit, they have to pay the consequences from their own pocket."

CBS slip-up tipped viewers to next 'Survivor' kicked off

NEW YORK (AP) — Someone call a tribal council!

A posting that briefly appeared on a CBS Web site Wednesday inadvertently revealed which contestant was kicked off "Survivor," hours before TV viewers learned the secret.

A writer who was checking the www.cbs.com Web site for news of "Survivor" on Wednesday afternoon said he was startled to see a headline revealing which of the nine remaining island inhabitants would be voted off at the end of the show.

The writer, Richard Foster, said he clicked on to the Web site and saw a full story of what happened in the episode — similar to what CBS usually posts after the episode airs each Wednesday at 8 p.m. Eastern. He said that he began downloading the article, but that it disappeared from the Web site before he could complete the job.

Foster immediately posted his own article about what he saw on the Web site he works for, www.richmond.com, which is devoted to news about Richmond, Va.

The posting said that Greg Buis, the wacky Colorado resident best known for pretending a coconut was a cell phone, was sent home.

Six hours later, viewers in the Eastern and Central time zones saw the scoop was real. Other details, which Foster also passed along, panned out as well when the episode aired: An archery competition, with winner and loser; an obstacle course aced by youth basketball coach Gervase Peterson.

In a one-sentence statement, CBS spokesman Chris Ender said, "Clearly some of our friends in the hacking community are among the biggest fans among the 25 million people who love 'Survivor.'"

Otherwise, officials at CBS would not comment on the disclosure or what steps would be taken to prevent future leaks. The network has been trying hard to keep secret who stays and who goes on the island, knowing the mystery is key to the appeal of the enormously successful summer series, which was taped weeks ago.

"We continue to decline comment on all rumors and speculation pertaining to 'Survivor,' except to note that there has been hacking into our system in the past," said Gil Schwartz, a CBS spokesman.

Fans of the show were already buzzing about another computer user's discovery that CBS Web designers, in content supposedly unavailable to the public, had placed a red X over pictures of all 16 "Survivor" contestants except for one — Gervase Peterson.

That has led many fans to conclude that Peterson will be the million-dollar winner on the show's final episode, which airs Aug. 23.

On the Net:
http://www.cbs.com

Berry's World

"We've had just about enough of your rebelliousness, Brother John."

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Friday, July 21, 2000

An unusual set of circumstance might open up some very unique possibilities for you in the year ahead. They will be set in motion through knowledge you've acquired and will now put to use.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Chances are you'll be able to see a little clearer and a bit further today than your contemporaries. What you envision could turn out to be inspirational to all within earshot. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that'll govern you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) It's true that you might feel like the reigns are being yanked right out of your hands today concerning an important personal endeavor. Don't fret. Change works to your advantage.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today, team effort works to your advantage, so encourage it whenever and wherever possible. You'll shore up your cohorts, and they'll strengthen you in return.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Follow your logical, preconceived game plan today and the end results should work out as well as you envision. This is especially true in career-related matters.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Associates who may not have been willing to lift a finger for you previously in support of one of your ideas might be of a different frame of mind today. Restate your case.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) It's continuity of purpose that will greatly enhance your probabilities for success today, especially concerning home-related matters. Know what you want and go for it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) First be frank and forthright with your associates today, and they will share much needed-information with you. Mutual trust encourages honest exchanges.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Keep your nose to the grindstone today, because greater profitable possibilities are prevalent in all your work related endeavors today. You could generate gains from more than one source.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) If you don't put material objectives over your non-worldly ones today, this could be a very rewarding day for you. Good things come to you through a circuitous social route.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Don't discount the advice of competent allies today, but, by the same token, don't tune out your own perceptions. A blend of the two could make for a dynamite conclusion.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) From a least expected teacher, something of great value can be learned today. Be openminded to everyone who wants to express an opinion on the affairs of the day.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Try not to waste your time today on insignificant objectives, because you're now in an exceptionally good achievement cycle. What you desire can be attained. Go after something big.

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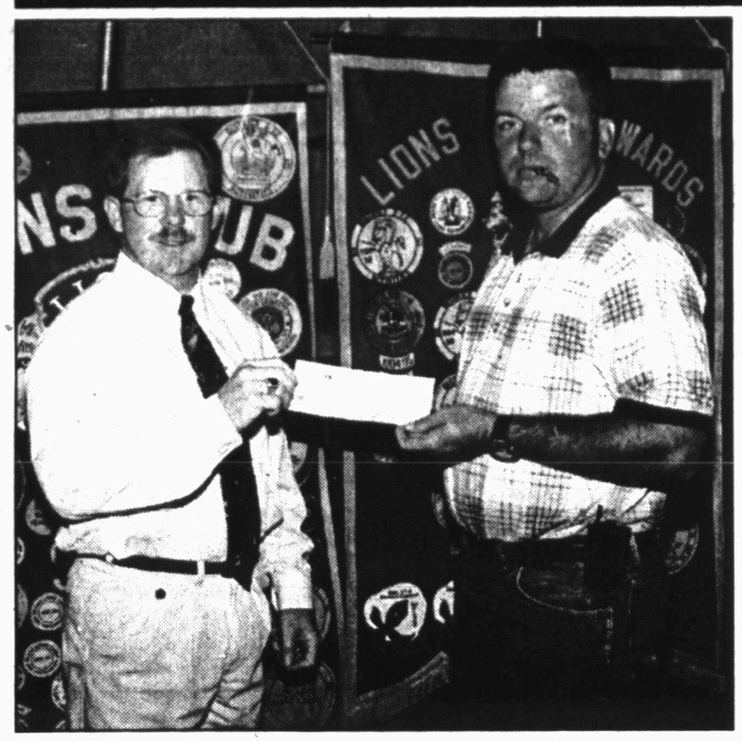

LIONS DONATE TO LL AGAIN — Lions Club members could remember sponsoring the Little League in Snyder as far back as 1953. They again donated $400 to Little League at Tuesday's meeting at the Martha Ann Woman's Club. President Mike Hartman (left) made the presentation to Little League board member and team manager David Tate. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Ask Anne & Nan

By Anne B. Adams and Nancy Nash-Cummings

Melted cheese gets classy kick

DEAR ANNE AND NAN: When my husband and I visited Switzerland and Austria a few years ago, we were served a unique cheese dish that we enjoyed very much. The utensil it was served with had a heating element in the top, and the bottom was marble. The block of cheese was put on the marble, and as the top of the cheese got soft from the heat, we scraped the soft part off with a knife and put it on pieces of boiled potato or hunks of French-style bread. As we scraped off one layer, the heat melted the next layer. Do you have any information about this dish? We sure would like to try this at home. — **DONNA J. WATSON, Port St. Lucie, Fla.**

DEAR DONNA: The melted-cheese meal you describe is called Raclette. Nan and her husband once enjoyed Raclette in, of all places, the Bahamas. Some Swiss friends had the special cheese and the Raclette maker. We couldn't find a simple Raclette maker like the picture you drew in your letter. Kathy Little of Thidwick's Kitchen in Lebanon, N.H., can't find the simple, inexpensive versions, either. Her store does carry two Raclette makers. One is a very pricey model used by restaurants, and the other is for home use. It's called a Raclette Grill, and it sells for $149.95 plus shipping. For more information, call Kathy at (800) 333-8556, or write to her at 12 Centerra Parkway, Suite 40, Lebanon, NH 03766.

FEEDBACK: RETURNING VIETNAM POW BRACELET — Jen Bauer of Pipersville, Pa., has one of these bracelets, which she wants to return to the family of the prisoner of war. Thanks to Pru Derby Joyce of Newport, N.H., and Geraldine Benya and Eliz Mihalik of Geneva, Ohio, we learned about the National League of POW/MIA Families. This organization can provide information on the current status of missing Americans whose names appear on POW/MIA bracelets. In order to protect families' privacy, this organization doesn't give out the family's addresses, but they will, upon request, forward your letter or bracelet to the family.

Eliz notes, "Please be patient. It sometimes takes four to five months for a reply."

The address is: The National League of POW/MIA Families, 1001 Connecticut Ave. N.W. Suite 919, Washington, D.C. 20036-5504; (202) 223-6846

Ginger Daul of Fort Smith, Ariz., says there's a Web site to help bracelet wearers find families. It's www.thewallusa.com/bracelet.

Geinger writes, "As the wife of a former MIA, I have always replied to the wonderful people who wore my husband's bracelet that I would be very honored if they would keep the bracelet, with my deepest thanks."

Write to "Ask Anne & Nan" at P.O. Box 240, Hartland, VT 05048. Our new book, "Clean It, Fix It, Find It," is ready. The price is $14.95 plus $4 shipping and handling. Add $1 shipping and handling for each additional book ordered. Mail your order to Enfield Distribution, P.O. Box 699, Enfield, NH 03748. Or call toll-free (888) 216-7611.

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Bridge

By Phillip Alder

	North 07-20-00 ♠ 6 5 4 2 ♥ A K 3 ♦ 8 4 3 ♣ 7 6 2	
West ♠ A Q ♥ Q J 10 5 ♦ 10 7 6 ♣ 9 8 5 3		East ♠ 8 3 ♥ 9 8 2 ♦ K J 9 5 2 ♣ J 10 4
	South ♠ K J 10 9 7 ♥ 7 6 4 ♦ A Q ♣ A K Q	

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♥ Q

Consider using the higher card

By Phillip Alder

Charlie Chaplin said, "I remain just one thing, and one thing only — and that is a clown. It places me on a far higher plane than any..." what?

When defending, if you can see that a key suit lies favorably for declarer, remember that he doesn't know it — unless your partner holds his cards carelessly. Declarer isn't likely to assume Christmas has come early; if he has another line that is mathematically preferable, he will go for that option. Yet sometimes you must be ready to push declarer down the wrong path.

Maybe South should have steered into five clubs. Yet Hamman's Rule, named after the world's top-ranked player, Bob of that ilk, states that if three notrump is a logical bid, it is the one you should make.

South saw that either five diamond or five club tricks would see him home. With this in mind, declarer won the first trick with dummy's spade king, then ran the club jack.

If West had won with the queen and cleared the spades, South would have been forced to resort to the diamond suit. And when they turn out to be 3-3 with the queen onside, declarer would have nine tricks.

Yet West saw this coming, winning trick two with the club ace, not the queen. He continued with a spade to South's ace. Declarer, thinking he had five easy club tricks, went into the dummy in diamonds and repeated the "proven" club finesse through East. However, West produced the queen out of his back pocket and ran the spades for one down.

Charlie Chaplin claimed to be on a higher plane that any politician!

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Hospital

ADMISSIONS: July 19—Raymond Guzman.

DISMISSALS: Mary Moffett, Luther Bedwell and Debbi Black.

CENSUS: 38 (Med./Surg.-13 and Long-term Care-25)

Lemonade stand closed by officials

LONGMONT, Colo. (AP) — Eleven-year-old Caitlin Rezac got a crash course in business this summer when her lemonade stand was shut down by health officials.

August 4...

Alzheimer's seminar set in Abilene

"Caregiving: A Map Through the Maze," a seminar for caregivers, is scheduled for Friday, Aug. 4, at Southern Hills Church of Christ, 3666 Buffalo Gap Road in Abilene.

The seminar is sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association of West Central Texas and made possible by the Texas Department on Aging and the West Central Texas Area Agency on Aging. There is neither charge for attending nor any advance registration required. The program is designed for caregivers of patients with Alzheimer's or related disorders; all interested persons are welcome to attend.

Keynote speaker for the program will be Dr. Loralu Raburn, a neurologist from Amarillo who specializes in Alzheimer's disease. She provides information of the disease that is practical and easily understood. In her morning session, "The Maze of Alzheimer's," Dr. Raburn will give an overview of Alzheimer's disease and an explanation of the physiological events that take place. The afternoon talk, "Negotiating the Maze," will provide information and guidance for families struggling with the problems brought about by Alzheimer's disease and related disorders.

Opening speaker at 9:15 a.m. will be Dr. Mike Steadham, executive director of the Ministry of Counseling and Enrichment operated by the First Baptist Church in Abilene. His presentation is entitled "The Therapuetic Power of Humor."

Judy Landers will speak at 10 a.m. on "Nursing Home: A Family Perspective." Ms. Landers has spent 20 years working in the health-care industry and has also gone through the experience of placing her mother as a patient in a long-term care facility.

Registration for the event will begin at 8:30 a.m., and the program will conclude at 3:30 p.m. Each person attending will receive a packet of helpful brochures.

To receive a seminar program or any additional information, call the Alzheimer's Association of West Central Texas at (915) 672-2907, or (888) 511-4132 outside the Abilene calling area.

Snyder Garden Club is selecting yards of month

Snyder Garden Club and Snyder Beautification Committee will select yards of the month with the final decision made the last week of July.

The area judged will be the northwest part of town. The south border will be the north side of 21st Street, west border is the west side of College Ave. up to N. 8th Street; the north border is the south side of Huffman; and the east border is the city limits.

The final judging for this summer to honor small and large yards of the month and the most improved business will be in August.

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

Horseshoe Pitching For Fun; horseshoe courts located at the coliseum; everybody welcome, for further information call 573-9762.

Rock and Roll Quilting Club evening meeting; Hermleigh Community Center; for more information call 863-2426; 6:30 p.m.

Deep Creek Cloggers lesson; American Legion; 6:30 to 8 p.m.

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

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; for information call 573-8268, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

Nuestra Nueva Esperanza AA; Park Club; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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

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

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

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

Scurry County AA closed meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8268, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

Just For Today NA open meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-0949 or 573-8018; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

Scurry County AA open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8268, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 10 a.m.

Rev. Billy Graham may have to skip Amsterdam meet

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Poor health may keep Billy Graham from attending the world gathering of evangelists next week in Amsterdam.

Organizers said Wednesday they won't know until the last minute whether the 81-year-old evangelist will be well enough to make it.

If he doesn't, "provisions have been made for him to address the conference by satellite," spokesman Mark DeMoss said.

Graham has spent more than a month at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., after undergoing a procedure to relieve fluid buildup around his brain. Graham, who has Parkinson's disease, is undergoing physical therapy.

Franklin Graham said his father finished writing his opening message Wednesday and sent it to be translated for non-English-speaking evangelists among the 10,000 expected to attend the gathering July 29 through Aug. 6.

"He realizes this conference doesn't hinge on him," Franklin Graham said. "He wants the focus to be on the evangelists."

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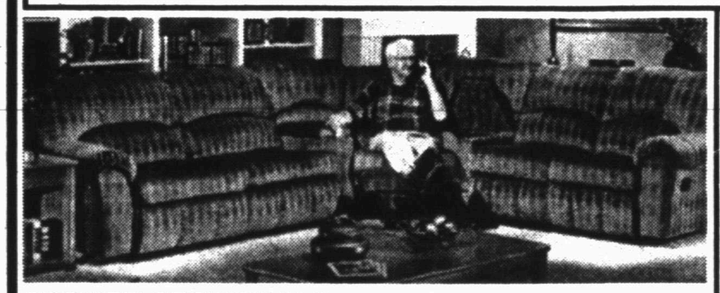

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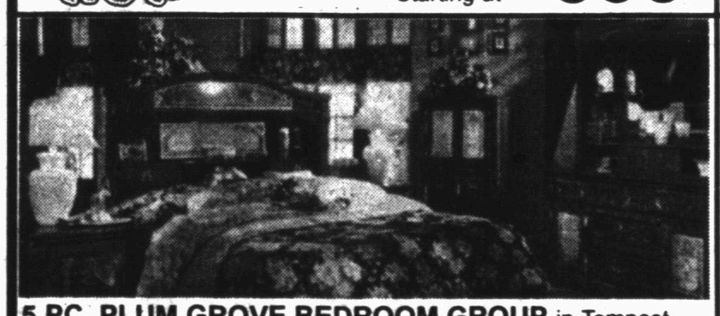

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Reg. $1,499.95 HOT SALE $988

6 PC FAMILY ROOM GROUP Includes sofa, chair, rocker and 3 all wood tables. Honey pine finish.

Reg. $599.95 HOT SALE $398

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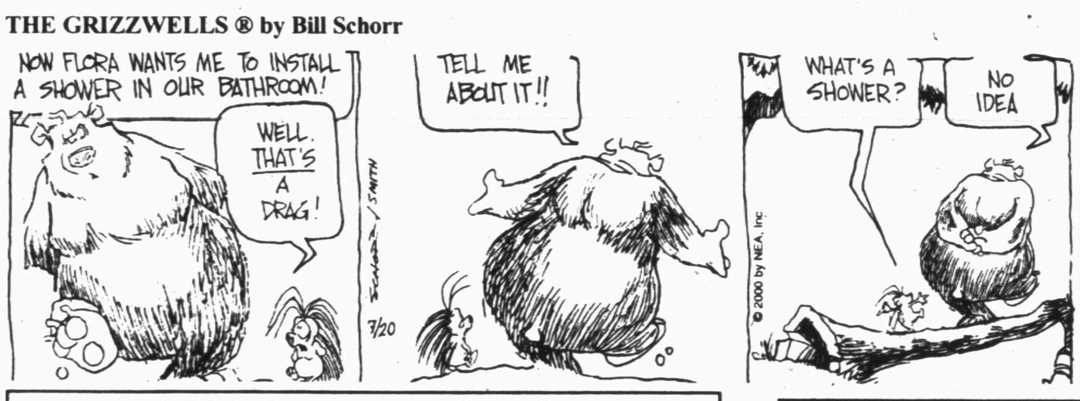

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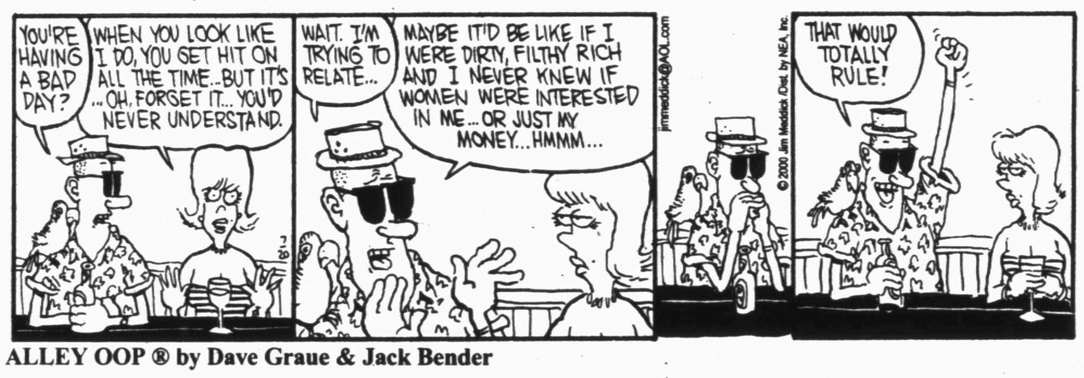

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"You've laid the new rug!"

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Depart
6 Type of suit
10 Snoozing
12 Looking glass
14 That is to say
15 Each
16 Expected
17 Cleaning cloth
19 Ms. Sommer
20 Endless
23 Fatigued
26 Architect I.M. —
27 Put
30 Have ambitions
32 Electron tube
34 Part of a trouser leg
35 Make indebted
36 Zodiac sign
37 Lump
39 Was ill
40 On the loose (2 wds.)
42 Cow sounds
45 Fuss
46 Pres. inits.
49 "— — what your country . . ."
51 Fur-bearing animal
54 Word relating to Jewish dietary laws
55 Agree
56 — avis
57 Yellow fever mosquito

DOWN

1 Arrive at O'Hare
2 Brother of Jacob
3 Egyptian singer
4 Collar shape
5 Slippery fish
6 Type of code
7 Bay window
8 Baseballer Hershiser
9 Clock sound
11 Funeral pile
12 Item used in an ignition system
13 Female ruff
18 Dada artist
20 Pennsylvania port
21 Despot
22 Auto safety device (2 wds.)
23 Howl
24 Medieval serf
25 Lhasa — (dog breed)
27 Dirt
28 Margin
29 Set up (golf balls)
31 Imitate
33 Tennis player Nastase
38 Awful
40 Actor Ed —
41 Gossip columnist Barrett
42 Atlas page
43 Gravel ridges
44 Gumbo veggie
46 A Scott
47 Have supper
48 Corrodes
50 Eggs
52 N. Amer. nation
53 Mao — -tung

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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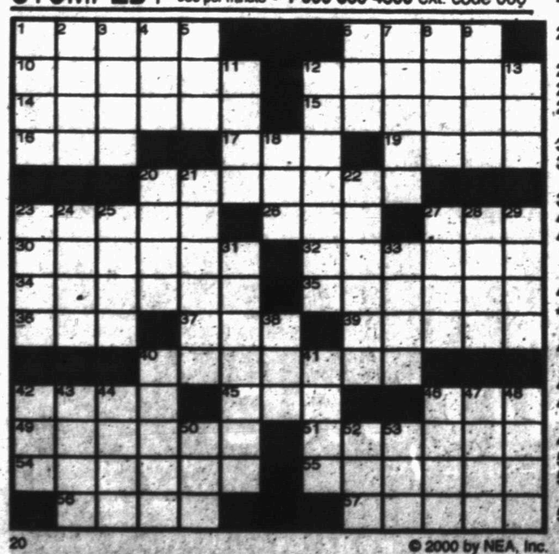

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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE WHAT'S GOIN' ON IN THE MOVIE NEXT DOOR!"

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

SPORTS

Sports Briefs

WGA Ladies Match Play

The Women's Golf Association of Snyder Country Club will host The Ladies Match Play Partership Saturday starting at 8 a.m. Lunch and awards will follow play. Also scheduled is the annual Raggedy Ann and Andy Tourney August 11-13.

Kiwanis Club tournament

Snyder Kiwanis Club will host the Cargile Scholarship Foundation Benefit Golf Tournament Aug. 5 at Western Texas College.

Format will be a four-person scramble, and entry fee is $30 per person. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top four teams, along with prizes for closest-to-the-hole and longest drive. $10,000 will be awarded for a hole-in-one.

To register, call the WTC pro shop at 573-9291, or Russell Fisk at 573-3438 or 573-3267.

Men's blowout partnership

The 12th annual Blowout Partnership will be held Aug. 25-27 at Snyder Country Club. The field will be limited to 60 teams, pre-flighted by combined handicap.

A practice round will be held Aug. 25. Saturday's format will be scramble, and Sunday's will be lowball.

Entry fee is $310 per team. Deadline to register is Aug. 18.

For more information, call the SCC pro shop at 573-7101.

Ranch hand competition

The second in a series of four ranch rodeos will be July 28-29 at the Rotan Sheriff Posse Arena. The top three teams from each rodeo will advance to the finals, to be held Oct. 6-7 in Snyder.

Events include team doctoring, team mugging, team penning, wild cow milking and calf branding. Other rodeo dates are Aug. 18-19 and Sept. 16-17.

For more information, call Terry Fowler at (915) 735-2989, Glen Overby at (915) 735-3669, or Larry Nachlinger at 573-2039.

SCC Junior Club Championship

The Snyder Country Club Junior Club Championship will be July 28. Entry fee is $10. Players must be 18-years-old or younger, and must be a member of the club. To register, call the SCC pro shop at 573-7101.

Adult-child tourney

An adult-child golf tournament will be held July 29 at Snyder Country Club. Cost is $20 per team, and includes a hamburger lunch. Players of all ages are welcome. To register, call the SCC pro shop at 573-7101.

Athletic physicals

All athletes needing to take a physical must do so by Aug. 4. An appointment must be made with one of the following doctors: Burleson, Cooper, Thompson, Nussey or Rakov.

Athletes requiring physicals include all incoming 7th and 9th graders, students new to SISD, students participating in athletics for the first time, and any student whose medical history form requires them to do so.

All athletes not needing a physical must return all completed forms to their coach, the athletic director's office, or Steve Krueger.

Incoming 7th and 9th graders can pick up physical forms in the doctors' offices.

WGA play day, swingers

The Women's Golf Association of Snyder Country Club will hold its weekly play day at 9 a.m. Tuesday. Format will be play the pro.

Also, the Friday mixed-foursomes event will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Horseshoe pitching

Snyder Slingers Horseshoe Club has league play at 7 p.m. Thursdays at the courts adjacent to the coliseum.

For more information, call T.C. Nunn at 573-6710 or Terry Duncan at 573-5589.

Local's grandson wins ribbons, bronze medal

Brownwood's Tanner Brown, the grandson of Tommy and Mary Williams of Snyder, turned in a strong performance recently at the National Junior Olympic Trampoline and Tumbling Championships in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Ten-year-old Tanner, who is also the nephew of Snyder's Glenn and Marilyn Chauncy, brought home two ribbons and a bronze medal.

Brown grabbed third place in the double-mini trampoline competition, after finishing seventh in tumbling, and 10th in trampoline.

Tanner is the son of Johnny and Julie Brown of Brownwood, and is a first-year member of the Seal Gymnastics Team.

Tanner Brown

All Stars lose first game of tourney, 10-4

Snyder's 9 and 10-year-old all-stars lost their first game of the sub-sectional Little League tourney in Abilene Wednesday night as Ft. Worth Westside took at 10-4 win.

"Errors killed us," said coach Ray Conner. "Both offensively and defensively."

"We're hoping for a better outing tonight when we play Wichita Falls," said Conner.

The locals play Wichita Falls at 6 o'clock.

Ft. Worth will play Plano, said Conner.

Snyder got on the board first as both Dustin Murdock and Brent Bollinger crossed the plate in the first inning.

However, Snyder did not score again until the fourth inning when Murdock scored again.

In the meantime, Ft. Worth tallied four runs in the third, and added three more in the fourth.

Snyder's final run of the game came in the sixth inning when Conner scored after drawing a walk and advancing on wild pitches from the Ft. Worth pitcher.

For the night, Snyder had five hits, all singles.

Conner, Lance Day, Brooks Gafford, Riley Davis and Ryan Gonzales all had single base hits.

The winner of the tourney will advance to the sectional tourney where it will meet the winner of the Panhandle sub-sectional tournament.

The sectional winner will participate in the state tournament July 28-29 in Waco.

Harnisch cracks code

HOUSTON (AP) — Pete Harnisch has cracked the code for successful pitching at Enron Field.

Harnisch pitched a four-hitter for his second straight complete game, leading the Cincinnati Reds over the Houston Astros 4-0 Wednesday night at usually hitter-friendly Enron Field.

"He knows how to pitch here," Astros right fielder Lance Berkman said. "He keeps you off the plate and makes you hit to the gaps. I don't know if they had a great scouting report on us or what, but they knew how to pitch us. He makes you hit to the gaps and that's how you pitch here."

Harnisch (3-5) beat his old teammates for the fifth straight time. In his previous start at Colorado on Friday, he pitched the first complete game at Coors Field this season and snapped the Reds' string of 103 games without a complete game.

Harnisch struck out four and walked two in his 11th career shutout. It was the first complete game shutout at Enron Field and the first back-to-back complete games by a Cincinnati pitcher since David Wells did it in 1995.

TENNIS CHAMPS — Afton Sutter, left, and Jackie Beccue won first place in girls doubles in a tennis tournament in Big Spring over the weekend. Both are sophomores at Snyder High School and on the varsity tennis team. The duo will compete in another tournament this weekend in Sweetwater. (SDN Staff Photo)

Stunning throw, controversial play saves the Texas Rangers

ANAHEIM (AP) — A stunning throw by Scarborough Green and a controversial play at the plate saved John Wetteland and the Texas Rangers.

Green, a ninth-inning defensive replacement in right field, threw Scott Spiezio out at home to end the game Wednesday night, preserving Texas' 3-2 win over the Anaheim Angels.

Wetteland nearly had his second blown save in two nights. After surrendering a game-winning, three-run homer to pinch-hitter Armando Rios on Tuesday night in San Francisco, Wetteland served up a single to Kevin Stocker with Spiezio on second and two outs in the ninth.

Green charged the ball and made a perfect throw on the fly to home plate, where catcher Ivan Rodriguez tagged out Spiezio on a close play.

"I was just trying to block the plate," Rodriguez said. "It was a tough position to be in, with the ball coming from right field and not being able to see the runner."

Spiezio and Angels manager Mike Scioscia disputed the call made by umpire Doug Eddings, who tried to convince Scioscia that Spiezio's foot didn't touch the plate. Television replays indicated otherwise.

"I thought I was safe, no questions about it," Spiezio said. "But it doesn't matter if I think I was safe. Obviously, someone else didn't think so, and he's the one that matters. I haven't looked at the video or anything, but if I did, I'd probably see that I might be right."

Wetteland, who earned his 300th career save in Anaheim two months ago, barely escaped with his 24th save of the season.

Green, who replaced Chad Curtis, has started only four games in right field all season.

"He's got a good arm, but the thing about that throw is that it was accurate," Rangers manager Johnny Oates said. "We saw this spring that he was just as liable to throw it on the screen or in the dugout as he is to throw it to home plate."

The Angels outhit the Rangers 13-10, but stranded nine runners en route to their third loss in 11 games. They left the bases loaded in the seventh when Stocker grounded out against reliever Doug Davis.

Anaheim also had two runners picked off first by Texas starter Kenny Rogers (10-7), whose 12-7 career record against the Angels includes a perfect game on July 28, 1994, the first one thrown by a left-hander in AL history.

Rogers, trying to avoid losing three consecutive starts for the second time this season — and second time in his career — won for the seventh time in nine decisions. He allowed two runs and eight hits in 6 2-3 innings.

Darin Erstad, Mo Vaughn and Garret Anderson, all left-handed hitters, were a combined 1-for-8 with a walk against Rogers. Prior to the game, lefties were hitting .338 against the 12-year veteran — the highest average against any southpaw in the league.

"I just tried to change my pattern a little here and there," Rogers said. "I haven't been getting lefties out, and I pretty much pitched terrible to lefties the first half of the season. Erstad and Vaughn are really tough hitters, but today was much better."

Gabe Kapler homered and Dave Martinez had a pair of RBI singles as the Rangers ended a three-game losing streak.

Martinez, whose single to center in the fourth drove in Rodriguez with the game's first run, put Texas back in front 2-1 in the sixth with a single off Kent Bottenfield (6-8). Rodriguez had led off the inning with the Rangers' major league-leading 199th double.

Kapler, who had his fifth three-hit game of the season and second in two nights, made it 3-1 in the seventh with a leadoff homer.

Spiezio got the run back for the Angels with a two-out RBI single in the seventh.

Wednesday 17th Stage Tour de France results

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (AP) — Results Wednesday of the 17th stage of the Tour de France, a 96-mile route from Evian-les-Bains, France, to Lausanne, Switzerland:

1. Erik Dekker, Holland, Rabobank, 3 hours, 24 minutes, 53 seconds.
2. Erik Zabel, Germany, Deutsche Telekom, same time.
3. Fred Rodriguez, United States, Mapei, same time.
4. Francois Simon, France, Bonjour, same time.
5. Robbie McEwen, Australia, Farm Frites, same time.
6. Mario Aerts, Belgium, Lotto, same time.
7. Massimiliano Mori, Italy, Saeco, same time.
8. Romans Vainsteins, Latvia, Vini Cadriola, same time.
9. Nico Mattan, Belgium, Cofidis, same time.
10. Christophe Moreau, France, Festina, same time.

Major League Baseball

American League
All Times EDT

East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	49	40	.551	—
Boston	48	42	.533	1½
Toronto	51	45	.531	1½
Baltimore	40	52	.435	10½
Tampa Bay	37	55	.402	13½
Central Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Chicago	60	34	.638	—
Cleveland	49	44	.527	10½
Detroit	42	49	.462	16½
Kansas City	42	50	.457	17
Minnesota	41	56	.423	20½
West Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Seattle	55	38	.591	—
Oakland	50	43	.538	5
Anaheim	51	44	.537	5
Texas	45	47	.489	9½

Thursday's Games

Detroit (Blair 5-2) at N.Y. Yankees (Pettitte 9-5), 12:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Parque 9-2) at Minnesota (Mays 4-11), 1:05 p.m.
Boston (R.Martines 7-5) at Baltimore (Ponson 5-5), 1:35 p.m., 1st game
Seattle (Sele 11-4) at Oakland (Heredia 10-7), 3:35 p.m.
Kansas City (Suppan 3-6) at Cleveland (Brower 2-2), 7:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Trachsel 6-9) at Toronto (Wells 15-3), 7:05 p.m.
Boston (Schourek 2-8) at Baltimore (Erickson 4-7), 7:35 p.m., 2nd game
Texas (Perisho 2-2) at Anaheim (Etherton 4-1), 10:05 p.m.

Friday's Games

Kansas City (Reichert 3-6) at Detroit (Weaver 6-7), 7:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Rapp 5-6) at Toronto (Halladay 4-5), 7:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Yan 4-6) at N.Y. Yankees (Gooden 3-3), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Baldwin 12-4) at Boston (Wakefield 6-5), 7:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Colon 9-6) at Minnesota (Redman 7-4), 8:05 p.m.
Texas (Glynn 1-0) at Seattle (Abbott 5-3), 10:05 p.m.
Anaheim (Washburn 5-2) at Oakland (Hudson 10-2), 10:05 p.m.

National League
All Times EDT

East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	57	37	.606	—
New York	52	41	.559	4½
Florida	47	46	.505	9½
Montreal	43	48	.473	12½
Philadelphia	42	51	.452	14½
Central Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
St. Louis	54	40	.574	—
Cincinnati	48	46	.511	6
Chicago	40	53	.430	13½
Milwaukee	40	55	.421	14½
Pittsburgh	39	54	.419	14½
Houston	32	62	.340	22
West Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Arizona	54	41	.568	—
San Francisco	51	41	.554	1½
Los Angeles	48	45	.516	5
Colorado	47	45	.511	5½
San Diego	42	52	.447	11½

Thursday's Games

N.Y. Mets (Hampton 9-6) at Montreal (Hermanson 7-7), 1:35 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Silva 5-4) at Milwaukee (Haynes 9-8), 2:05 p.m.
Philadelphia (Chen 5-0) at Chicago Cubs (Tapani 6-7), 2:20 p.m.
Atlanta (Glavine 10-5 and Millwood 5-8) at Florida (Dempster 9-6 and Burnett 0-0), 2, 4:05 p.m.
St. Louis (Kile 11-6) at Arizona (Johnson 14-2), 4:35 p.m.
San Diego (Williams 4-2) at San Francisco (Rueter 6-5), 7:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Williamson 3-6) at Houston (Lima 2-13), 8:05 p.m.
Colorado (Yoshii 4-10) at Los Angeles (Park 9-7), 10:10 p.m.

Friday's Games

Milwaukee (Snyder 3-4) at Chicago Cubs (Wood 4-6), 3:20 p.m.
Philadelphia (Anderson 2-5) at Pittsburgh (Byrd 2-7), 7:05 p.m.
Montreal (Thurman 1-1) at Florida (C.Smith 0-2), 7:05 p.m.
Arizona (Morgan 4-2 or Daal 2-10) at Cincinnati (Parris 5-12), 7:35 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Leiter 10-3) at Atlanta (Mulholland 9-9), 7:40 p.m.
St. Louis (Ankiel 6-5) at Houston (Elarton 9-3), 8:05 p.m.
San Diego (Eaton 1-1) at Colorado (Bohannon 4-6), 9:05 p.m.
San Francisco (Estes 9-3) at Los Angeles (Perez

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'West Wing' and 'Sopranos' earn 18 Emmy nominations

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "The Sopranos" and "The West Wing" each received a leading 18 Emmy nominations Thursday, setting up a showdown between television's favorite mob boss and chief executive.

HBO's drama about a mobster battling the feds, his family and a nervous breakdown, and NBC's behind-the-scenes look at the White House will compete for best dramatic series honors and in most of the major acting categories at the Primetime Emmy Awards.

Nancy Marchand, who died in June, received a best supporting actress nomination for her role as mob mom Livia Soprano in "The Sopranos."

Other top contenders are the TV movies "RKO 281," about Orson Welles' making of the classic "Citizen Kane," which received 13 bids, and "Annie," which got 12.

The TV movie "Introducing Dorothy Dandridge" and the sitcom "Will & Grace" also were among top contenders with 11 nominations apiece.

NBC, with 97 nominations, was the leading network, followed by HBO with 86, ABC with 64, CBS 41 and Fox 26.

The awards are to be presented Sept. 10 in ceremonies broadcast by ABC-TV.

The nominations were announced by Edie Falco of "The Sopranos," last year's winner in the best dramatic actress category and again a nominee, and by Michael Badalucco of "The Practice." He also has a chance of winning again as best supporting dramatic actor.

Other drama series bids went to "ER," "Law & Order" and last year's winner, "The Practice."

In addition to "Will & Grace," comedy series nominees were "Everybody Loves Raymond," "Frasier," "Friends" and "Sex and the City."

Last year's comedy winner, "Ally McBeal," failed to make the category and received only three nominations.

"The West Wing" drew nominations for five of its cast members including Martin Sheen (President Josiah Bartlet) as best dramatic actor, and Stockard Channing (Bartlet's physician-wife) for supporting actress.

Sheen will be competing with James Gandolfini of "The Sopranos," along with Dennis Franz of "NYPD Blue" and Sam Waterston and Jerry Orbach, both of "Law & Order."

Competing with Falco for lead dramatic actress are Lorraine Bracco also of "The Sopranos," Amy Brenneman of "Judging Amy," Sela Ward of "Once and Again" and former "ER" cast member Julianna Margulies.

Nominees for lead actor in a comedy include Michael J. Fox of "Spin City," who stepped away from the sitcom because of his battle against Parkinson's disease. Other nominees are Kelsey Grammer of "Frasier," John Lithgow of "3rd Rock From the Sun," Eric McCormack of "Will & Grace" and Ray Romano "Everybody Loves Raymond."

Among comedy series lead actresses, nominees are Jenna Elfman of "Dharma & Greg," Patricia Heaton of "Everybody Loves Raymond," Jane Kaczmarek of "Malcolm in the Middle," Debra Messing of "Will & Grace" and Sarah Jessica Parker of "Sex and the City."

Along with "RKO 281," "Introducing Dorothy Dandridge" and "Annie," the TV movie category nominees are "Tuesdays With Morrie" and "If These Walls Could Talk 2."

Best miniseries nominees are "Arabian Nights," "The Beach Boys: An American Family," "The Corner," "Jesus" and "P.T Barnum."

Nominees for comedy supporting actress include Jennifer Aniston and Lisa Kudrow of "Friends," Kim Cattrall of "Sex and the City," Megan Mullally of "Will & Grace" and Doris Roberts of "Everybody Loves Raymond."

Their male counterparts are Peter Boyle and Brad Garrett of "Everybody Loves Raymond," Sean Hayes of "Will & Grace," Peter MacNicol of "Ally McBeal" and David Hyde Pierce of "Frasier."

Besides Marchand and Channing, nominees for supporting dramatic actress are Allison Janney of "The West Wing," Tyne Daley of "Judging Amy" and Holland Taylor of "The Practice."

Two "West Wing" actors, Richard Schiff and John Spencer, will compete for dramatic supporting actor with Badalucco, Dominic Chianese and Steve Harris of "The Practice."

Killer executed in Oklahoma

McALESTER, Okla. (AP) — A man who killed five people during a 1989 spree across four states was executed by injection early Thursday for murdering a 31-year-old woman in her parents' floral shop.

Gregg Francis Braun, 39, received the death penalty for shooting and killing Gwendolyn Sue Miller, 31, in Ardmore.

"I can't forgive him tonight," said Miller's husband, Dusty, who came to the prison Wednesday with their three children. "Maybe I can sometime down the line."

Three days before Mrs. Miller's slaying, Braun, a 28-year-old college graduate with a degree in criminal justice went to a Garden City, Kan., convenience store to rob it. He killed the clerk out of fear she could identify him and went to another store and killed another employee.

The bodies of Barbara Kochendorfer and Mary Rains were found on a rural road. They left eight young children.

On July 20, 1989, Braun shot E.P. "Pete" Spurrier while robbing a Pampa, Texas, photo development store. He killed Geraldine Valdez three days later at a Springer, N.M., convenience store, telling a deputy "it wasn't as good as shooting craps in Vegas, but it was all right."

Braun received life sentences for the murders in Kansas, New Mexico and Texas.

Braun's father, Lelyn Braun, a prominent Garden City lawyer at the time of the murders, blamed cocaine and other drugs for making Braun go "completely bonkers."

"He's very beautiful, God-fearing, prepared to meet his creator," Braun said, describing his son now. "He's found peace with God."

Retired Green Beret colonel convicted in wife's murder

WILMINGTON, N.C. (AP) — A retired Green Beret colonel who was twice prosecuted for the 1991 slaying of his wife has been found guilty of the killing at a third trial.

George Marecek, 68, was sentenced Wednesday to 30 years in prison for second-degree murder. It took jurors less than three hours to find him guilty.

"I accept the verdict of the jury," Marecek said before sentencing. "I have always obeyed your rules and the court's rules. I ask the court for your mercy to understand that all of my life my behavior, my conduct and actions have been honorable."

Superior Court Judge Ernest Fullwood rejected a defense request for leniency in consideration of Marecek's 36-year military career. The judge imposed the same 30-year sentence in 1997 when another jury found Marecek guilty of second-degree murder.

"I think the verdict is just," said Marecek's daughter Susan Kirk, who testified against her father. "It's hard to accept, but it's just."

Defense attorneys said they would appeal the decision.

The body of Marecek's wife, Viparet Seawong Marecek, 42, was found in the Cape Fear River in June 1991 near the Fort Fisher cottage where the couple was vacationing from Fayetteville.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp s	32⅛	31½	31⅝ +	⅛
AT&T Corp	33¾	33 5-16	33½—	7-16
Albertsons	31⅜	30⅝	31 5-16 +	¼
Alltel	63 5-16	61¾	62½ +	⅜
AmerOnline s	61 13-16	60½	61 7-16 +	2 3-16
AndarkPtr	48½	47⅞	48 1-16—	⅛
ATMOS Egy	19⅞	19 11-16	19¾	
Aviall	5 7-16	5⅜	5⅜ +	1-16
BP Amoco s	53½	53⅛	53⅛—	9-16
BakerHughes	33⅞	33	33⅛—	⅜
Bank of Amer	47¾	46⅛	47 11-16 +	1½
BellSouth	41 9-16	40 13-16	41⅛—	7-16
Beth Steel	3 13-16	3 11-16	3¾ +	1-16
BurlNoSFe	25¾	24 15-16	25 3-16 +	3-16
Caterpillar	38 7-16	37 9-16	37⅝—	5-16
Chevron	82	81 1-16	81 1-16—	⅞
Citigroup	69 9-16	68 3-16	69⅜ +	1⅜
Coastal	62 15-16	61 13-16	62 13-16 +	1
CocaCola	60⅝	59⅞	60⅜—	⅛
ColgatePal	56	54	54⅞ +	5-16
ComclMetals	28⅛	28	28 1-16	
Cooperin	34 7-16	34 3-16	34¼ +	3-16
DaimlrChry	56¼	55 11-16	56 +	½
DallSemicn s	46⅝	45 13-16	46¼ +	15-16
DeltaAirl	55¼	54¼	54⅞ +	1¼
Dillards Inc	14 13-16	14 5-16	14 9-16—	3-16
DowChem s	31	30 9-16	30¾—	1-32
DuPont	44½	44 1-16	44⅜ +	⅛
EastmanChem	47 9-16	47 3-16	47 7-16 +	3-16
EstKodak	59⅞	59	59 13-16 +	¾
EDS Corp	45 15-16	45	45¼—	3-16
Entergy	30 15-16	30½	30 15-16 +	⅜
ExxonMobil	79½	78 7-16	78 13-16 +	⅛
Flowers	22⅛	21½	21 9-16—	13-16
FordMotor	48	47⅜	47⅝ +	3-16
GenDynam	55 11-16	54¼	55 11-16 +	1 9-16
GenElec s	54	52 13-16	53 11-16 +	⅝
GenMills s	35 5-16	34⅞	35 5-16 +	5-16
GenMotors	61 9-16	61	61¼ +	5-16
GaPacGP	25¼	24 15-16	25⅛ +	3-16
GlobalMar	28¾	28⅛	28 3-16—	1-16
Goodrich	32 15-16	31 15-16	32 13-16 +	⅞
Goodyear s	22	21 13-16	21⅞ +	1-16
GtAtlPac	15 7-16	15⅜	15 7-16 +	1-16
Halliburtn	45 11-16	44⅞	45 3-16 +	¼
Hanson ADS	33⅛	33	33 —	1-16
HarteHanks	26 5-16	26	26 3-16 +	3-16
HomeDepot s	58	57	57 13-16 +	11-16
HoneywellIntl	37¾	36 11-16	36¾—	7-16
IBM	114⅞	110¼	113 13-16 +	9 21-32
IntlPaper	34 15-16	34 7-16	34⅝	
JohnsonJn	93¼	92	92 —	1 3-16
K mart	7¾	7 9-16	7 11-16	
Kroger Co	21 15-16	21 5-16	21 13-16 +	9-16
Litton	46⅝	46	46 5-16 +	5-16
LockheedM	26¾	25½	26⅝ +	1¼
Lowes (3	47 3-16	46⅝	46 11-16—	⅛
Lubys	7¾	7 9-16	7¾ +	3-16
LucentTech	61	54	54⅝—	9⅞
MayDeptStr	27⅜	27¼	27¼—	1-16
Medtronic s	51 13-16	50⅞	51½ +	1
MorganJP	134⅜	130⅞	134¼ +	4¼
Motorola s	38 7-16	36¾	38 5-16 +	1⅝
NCR Corp	38	37	37 11-16 +	1 1-16
Navistar	33⅜	32 11-16	32 11-16—	7-16
Penney JC	16⅞	16⅝	16⅝—	3-16
PepBoys	5 13-16	5¾	5¾—	1-16
PepsiCo	44⅜	43 11 16	44⅛ +	¾
Pharmacia	53¾	52	52¼—	1¼
PhelpDodge	39 5-16	38½	38½—	¼
PhilipPet	52	51 5-16	51⅜—	3-16
PilgrmPrd B	8	7½	7⅞ +	⅜
Polaroid	19 5-16	18 7-16	18 7-16—	13-16
Praxair	39⅛	39 1-16	39 7-16 +	13-16
ProctGamb	59 9-16	58¾	59 1-16	
PubS NwMx	18⅛	17½	17⅞ +	⅜
RadioShack	58	56¾	56⅞—	½
ReliantEngy	32 13-16	32⅛	32 9-16—	⅛
RoyalDut	59⅝	59	59 1-16—	⅜
SBC Comm	45 9-16	43 13-16	45 1-16 +	1 7-16
SaraLee	20	19 13-16	19⅞	
Scripps EW	50½	50¼	50½ +	7-16
SearsRoeb	34¾	34 3-16	34 7-16—	⅜
SherwinW	22	21 9-16	21¾—	1-16
SmithkldBchm	62	61⅜	61⅜—	⅜
SouthernCo	25 3-16	24 15-16	25⅛	
SwstAirl	21 13-16	21½	21 11-16 +	3-16
SprintFON	53½	42 9-16	44⅛—	1⅛
SprintPCS s	64⅞	64 3-16	64 3-16 +	21-64
Sunoco Inc	29	28⅜	28 11-16—	⅜
TXU Corp	31 7-16	31	31⅜	
TempleInland	42 5-16	41⅝	41 15-16 +	¼
Texaco	51 5-16	50½	50¾—	9-16
TexInd	30¾	30⅜	30 11-16 +	¼
TexasInst s	69 5-16	67⅜	69¼ +	1¾
Textron	60 3-16	59	59 11-16 +	5-16
TriconGlbR	28 15-16	28	28⅞ +	13-16
TrinityInds	19	18⅞	18⅞	
TritonEngy	39 3-16	38	38 —	¼
TylerTech	2⅞	2 13-16	2⅞ +	⅛
USX-Marathn	25⅞	25 3-16	25⅞ +	5-16
USX-USS	18 15-16	18¾	18 15-16 +	1-16
UnCarbde	48⅜	47⅞	48 —	3-16
UnionPacif	43⅛	42⅜	42 7-16 +	⅛
UnitedTech	58	56⅞	57⅜—	⅛
Unocal	31⅜	30 5-16	30 7-16—	9-16
Venator Grp	13¼	13	13¼ +	¼
VerizonComm	46⅝	44½	46 —	15-16
WalMart	60 11-16	59 9-16	60 3-16 +	3-16
WellsFargo	43 7-16	42¼	43 5-16 +	1⅛
WstnGasRs	20 1-16	19 13-16	20	
WinnDixie	14⅝	14 7-16	14 9-16 +	1-16
Xerox Cp	19 3-16	18¾	19 +	⅛

Local Interest STOCKS

Patterson	26 3/4	-3/16
Dell	51 11/16	+5/16
Wal Mart	60 9/16	+9/16
Compac	27 3/4	+1/4
Dol. Gen.	19 15/16	0
GTE	62 1/4	+3/16
SBC Comm.	44 9/16	+15/16
BJ Services	66 13/16	-3/8
LU	54 13/16	-9 11/16
Cisco Sys.	68 55/64	+2 3/64

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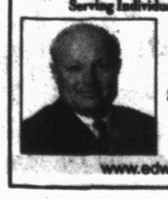
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Audit faults Army for not accounting for all shipments

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Army's record-keeping is so poor that it cannot confirm the receipt of hundreds of millions of dollars worth of spare parts and other materials, including some classified items, congressional auditors found.

The Army could not account for $883 million in shipped inventory in the 1998 budget year, in addition to confirmed shipment losses of $297,000 that year, the General Accounting Office said in a report released Wednesday.

"The Army does not know the exact extent to which shipped inventory is lost or stolen because of weaknesses in inventory controls and financial management practices," the report said. It said the Army failed to follow up on late shipments and to maintain records of shipment losses.

The $883 million of unconfirmed inventory was not all lost, the report said. It said the inventory had been shipped from warehouses, suppliers and other sources but was not acknowledged as received.

"Some of these shipments that had not been acknowledged as received may represent additional lost or stolen items," the report said, adding that the Army's "underlying records are not sufficiently reliable to determine the extent of losses actually incurred."

In a written response to a draft of the report, the Defense Department agreed that changes are needed and said the Army will increase oversight of shipped inventory. The Army also is in the process of changing its automation systems so that they retain records of unconfirmed warehoused material shipments, it said.

The review of Army procedures for tracking and controlling spare parts and other inventory items was requested by Sens. Thomas Harkin of Iowa and Dick Durbin of Illinois and Reps. Peter DeFazio of Oregon and Carolyn Maloney of New York.

Date Book

Thursday, July 20, 2000
Today is the 202nd day of 2000 and the 31st day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1880, the first Egyptian obelisk to be brought to the United States arrived in New York City. The obelisk now stands in the city's Central Park.

On this day in 1944, Adolf Hitler was injured in a failed attempt on his life by a group of German officers.

On this day in 1975, Viking 1 became the first spacecraft from Earth to land on Mars.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Petrarch (1304-1374), poet-scholar; Anne Hutchinson (1591-1643), American religious leader; Theda Bara (1890-1955), actress; Edmund Hillary (1919-), mountain climber, is 81; Natalie Wood (1938-1981), actress; Diana Rigg (1938-), actress, is 62; Tony Oliva (1940-), baseball great, is 60; Carlos Santana (1947-), musician, is 53.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1958, Jim Bunning of the Detroit Tigers pitched a no-hitter against the Boston Red Sox. The Tigers won 3-0.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "To be able to say how much you love is to love but little." — Petrarch, "To Laura in Death"

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (July 16) and last quarter (July 24).

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Handheld computers become popular

WASHINGTON (AP) — Brett Bendickson, a Web site developer at the University of Arizona, says he couldn't get along without his handheld computer. He reads magazine articles on it, writes down ideas and downloads every piece of interesting new software he can find.

"I've used it while on the road to log in and check e-mail and even to restart production systems," he boasts of his Palm IIIe.

With faster, more expandable and more useful handheld computers on the market, more Americans are opting for a pocket-size gadget costing a few hundred dollars rather than lug around a laptop computer that can cost a hefty $2,000.

Finding one to buy may be the hardest part of all.

Palm Inc., the nation's largest manufacturer of handhelds, is exceeding its own rosy sales projections, and is experiencing nationwide supply problems because of the demand.

"Even with our strong performance, demand for Palm products still outstripped supply in an environment of industry-wide component shortages," Carl Yankowski, Palm's CEO, said in an earnings briefing.

The explosion in popularity of handheld computers has closely tracked the devices' increased functionality.

The earliest generation of Palms were little more than electronic Rolodexes — with an address book, calculator and memo pad for note-taking. They couldn't be used by workers for such routine tasks as accessing the corporate network and reading e-mail.

The latest generation from Palm, Handspring Inc. and vendors using Microsoft Corp.'s Pocket PC operating system have added all sorts of attachments, including telephone and wireless modems that allow their owners to write and receive e-mail and faxes, send and receive pages, download files and even browse the Web. The only limitation is the amount of data that can be viewed at once on the small screen.

Fellow handheld users can beam information back and forth using infrared technology, and some of their devices now come with color screens. They also have the option of add-on gadgets and software that can play music, view and take pictures, allow users to read complete books and even function as a television remote control.

The functionality is so improved that many doctors now use handhelds to keep track of patient records, and workers at some Texas oil fields and the morning hosts at an Indiana radio station use them to input and exchange information.

"For us, it's about providing our customers with choice and easy access, so they can connect wherever and whenever they want," said Prudential spokesman Mike Hanretta. Prudential customers and employees can access insurance quotes and stock quotes, and even find real estate listings or find a real estate agent with a wireless Palm VII. "This way, customers aren't tethered to a PC."

But the more the handhelds inherit from personal computers, the more they will become vulnerable to one of the perils of Internet connectivity — viruses.

Right now, there are no viruses that directly infect handheld computers or mobile phones, but researchers and security professionals agree it's only a matter of time.

David Chess, an AT&T researcher and antivirus expert, said there are two criteria that a handheld-borne virus would have to meet. First, handheld programs must be able to alter one another, or send themselves to another system. Second, users must regularly share programs or have their handhelds regularly connected to each other to ensure the spread of the virus.

The first requirement has already been met, Chess said, but Americans don't have their handhelds fully hooked up to each other yet. "A virus that never spread off the system it's written on isn't a big problem for the world," Chess said.

Still, Chess said "it's pretty much inevitable" that we will soon have handheld devices that satisfy both requirements.

Two antivirus companies, McAfee.com and Symantec, already have developed antivirus software for Palm and Pocket PC operating systems.

McAfee's program resides chiefly on the desktop computer, with a small component on the handheld. Although there aren't any handheld viruses that infect the handheld itself, they can still be carriers.

For example, a Pocket PC user checks his e-mail wirelessly, and unknowingly receives a virus, attached to a message. There's no problem yet, but as soon as the user connects the handheld with a desktop computer to synchronize information, the virus transfers itself into an atmosphere where it can thrive.

"As wireless handhelds proliferate in the marketplace, there's a tremendous rear entry into corporate networks for viruses to be introduced," said Srivats Sampath, president and CEO of McAfee.com.

On the Net: McAfee.com: http://www.mcafee.com
Symantec: http://www.symantec.com

National Park Service has fire hazards

WASHINGTON (AP) — At Yosemite National Park in California, defective sprinklers meant to protect buildings from fires — including structures where workers live — haven't been replaced despite a national recall.

At Prince William Forest Park in Virginia, the 115 wooden cabins lack smoke detectors and fire extinguishers. And the 250 buildings in Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park in California have never had formal fire-safety inspections, despite 41 structural blazes since 1988.

Such lapses in fire prevention efforts are common nationwide, says a General Accounting Office study that criticized the National Park Service.

"Structural fire safety efforts in national parks are not effective," GAO official Jim Wells told a House Budget task force hearing Wednesday.

Among the complaints at six parks visited were fire extinguishers left unchecked for years, overnight accommodations not inspected by certified safety officials and cabins without smoke detectors.

"It saddens me that despite an annual budget of $1 billion to operate its parks, the Park Service cannot manage to keep their structures safe from fire," said Rep. George Radanovich, R-Calif.

Park officials didn't dispute the findings, but said they expect to coordinate plans nationally by September about how to meet safety standards. The service created a post in Boise, Idaho, to coordinate fire-safety plans and budgeted $6.6 million during the next five years to install fire alarms and upgrade fire hydrants in 46 projects.

"The report offers us an opportunity to begin the development of a comprehensive structural fire program," said Maureen Finnerty, associate director of park operations at the Interior Department.

With 30,000 buildings in 379 parks, the service is the country's third largest landlord behind the Defense Department and U.S. Postal Service. Despite publicity for wildland fires such as Yellowstone National Park in 1988, there have been more than 1,400 building fires at national parks since 1990.

But the service never singled out firefighting in its budgets, leaving local managers to develop their own safety plans until recent years.

"We have known for quite some time that the programs needed a close looking at," said Ed Duncan, fire management officer at Yosemite. "There is never enough (money) to cover all the needs that we have."

At Yosemite, officials missed a U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission deadline to have a company replace its defective sprinkler heads that sometimes fail to respond when heated. The park still qualifies for replacement parts, but its own workers will have to install the heads, Duncan said.

Another difficulty facing park officials is the need to upgrade historic buildings with modern firefighting equipment. The 123-room Ahwahnee Hotel in Yosemite is getting a new smoke detection system this year to replace its 20-year-old version. But officials plan to hire a special contractor for advice on how to install sprinklers in the hotel, a historic national landmark.

Jody Lyle, a spokesman for Sequoia, said many park buildings are small sheds that the public doesn't visit. She noted that even modern smoke detectors and sprinklers didn't prevent a fire this year in the new John Muir Lodge at her park.

"Everywhere that a visitor is going to be in the parks, whether it's a gift shop or a lodge or public building, there are smoke detectors," she said. "We would love to see an increase in funding so we could fix some of these problems."

On the Net: General Accounting Office: http://www.gao.gov
The National Park Service: http://www.nps.gov

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

One-way conversationalists may find themselves alone

DEAR ABBY: What has happened to the art of conversation? My husband and I practically run away from some people — not because of what they are saying, but how much they talk.

We were having dinner in a restaurant recently, and a new acquaintance came in alone. We invited him to join us, and from that moment on, we never spoke again — just listened as the man droned on and on nonstop. I couldn't believe he could talk and eat at the same time. Another time, a relative we hadn't seen in about 15 years came to our home for dinner. He sat down at our table and proceeded to talk, talk, talk. When he left five hours later, I told my husband that other than knowing where we live, he doesn't know a thing about us.

I have read about young men and women who, even though they are educated, cannot get dates. Perhaps they should ask themselves when they are with new people, who is doing the talking? Both of them? Or is one of them dominating the conversation so there isn't any real give-and-take of ideas?

Please, people: Ask questions about the person you are with. Wait for an answer before jumping in again. I guarantee you'll have friends all around you instead of people walking backward to get out of your range. — **HEARD ENOUGH IN EAU CLAIRE, WIS.**

DEAR HEARD ENOUGH: I agree. Being a good listener will do more for a person's popularity rating than being a good talker. People enjoy talking about themselves and their interests if given the chance. And they usually regard the person who's an appreciative audience as a fascinating conversationalist.

Some individuals talk incessantly out of nervousness or because they're compulsive talkers. However, to turn a conversation into a soliloquy is selfish. One of the most appealing traits a person can have is a sincere interest in other people. A person who comes into your company and does all the talking is no less a hog than the person who comes to your table and eats all the food.

**

DEAR ABBY: I am a day-care provider in Maryland with a touchy problem. The parents of one of my charges (he's 12 months old) have him in an unsafe car seat. It's an infant rear-facing seat for tiny babies that they have turned forward. He hangs over the edges, and I can't even see how it's attached by the seat belt, if it is at all. This child weighs 20 pounds and needs a proper car seat.

If anything happened to him because I didn't say something, I would never forgive myself. But I don't think it's my place to butt in. These are wonderful people, and I really care about their kids. Please advise me. — **DAY-CARE DILEMMA**

DEAR D.D.: Speak up. The parents can be excused for their ignorance, but there is no excuse for keeping silent when you know a child is in danger — and that child is in danger every time he is placed in his parents' car. Please don't procrastinate.

**

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby's "Keepers," P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Greenspan: Economy may be slowing

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan said Thursday the economy is showing signs of slowing but indicated the Fed isn't ready to declare victory in its battle against inflation.

Presenting the Fed's midyear economic report to Congress, Greenspan said the economy seems to be cooling from its red-hot pace, a change many economists and members of the Fed believe is needed to prevent an outbreak of inflation.

"Aggregate demand may be moving closer into line with the rate of advance in the economy's potential," Greenspan told the Senate Banking Committee. Still, he said, "We cannot yet be sure that the slower expansion of domestic final demand, at a pace more in line with potential supply, will persist."

Wall Street apparently was not spooked by Greenspan's worries about inflation. While he spoke, stock indexes were reversing Wednesday's losses, with the Dow Jones industrial average up 150 points and the Nasdaq adding 120 points.

Stock market volatility, rising interest rates and surging oil prices, which can reduce the amount of money people have to spend on other things, all have been factors in slowing growth, Greenspan said.

He said it's too early to draw definitive conclusions that the economy is on a sustained path of moderate growth.

Economists were encouraged. "He's saying the economy is moving in the right direction but would like see to more movement in that direction," said Gary Thayer, chief economist for A.G. Edwards & Sons Inc. "Still, he left the door open to further rate hikes if the economy should accelerate."

Greenspan tied his worries to the tight labor market and fears that workers will demand big boosts in wages and benefits — costs that could be passed along to consumers as higher prices, meaning more inflation.

Many protesters ring U.S. base in Japan

OKINAWA CITY, Japan (AP) — Thousands of people formed a chain around a major U.S. air base Thursday to protest the American military presence ahead of President Clinton's visit for the weekend's Group of Eight summit.

Organizers claimed to have mobilized more than 25,000 people for the chain, which stretched 11 miles around Kadena air base, one of the largest U.S. military installations here.

There was no independent confirmation of the numbers, but it appeared to be one of the largest anti-base protests in years. In several areas, the protesters stood three or four deep. Many wore headbands with anti-base slogans and came with their children.

"As teachers, we have vowed never to send our students to war again," said Isao Kaneshiro, head of a local teachers' union. "I want President Clinton to know that we don't want his troops here."

There were no immediate reports of arrests or incidents at the protest, held as G-8 leaders were to begin arriving on Okinawa for the annual summit that starts Friday and lasts through Sunday.

Most of the leaders held bilateral meetings in Tokyo before flying on to Okinawa. Clinton was to hold meeting with Japan's Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori on Thursday, but postponed that at the last minute because of Mideast peace talks being held in the United States.

Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers stood in for Clinton Thursday in Tokyo at pre-G-8 meeting with developing countries. He was accompanied by Gene Sperling, the national economic adviser, and Lael Brainard, deputy national economic adviser.

The G-8 consists of the United States, Japan, Russia, England, Italy, Canada, Germany and France. The group has held summits each year for the past 25 years. This is the fourth summit Japan has hosted, and the first it has held outside of Tokyo.

This year's summit was expected to focus on information technology and ways to alleviate the "digital divide," money laundering and financial crimes, debt relief for the world's poorest nations, and the global economy in general.

But the summit was also expected to be heavy on the photo op.

The meetings are to be held at a subtropical, beachside resort in the city of Nago, on the northern part of Okinawa. Officials hope it will put Okinawa on the international map for tourism — its most important source of income after the military bases.

Gore says Bush's push for big tax cuts hampers health plans

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa (AP) — Al Gore is taking on George W. Bush on his home ground, contending the Texas governor's decision to push for big tax cuts has hampered health programs in a state where more than 1 million children are not insured.

Thursday, before flying to San Antonio, the Democratic vice president said that he and President Clinton had led an administration that turned a federal deficit into a surplus while Republican Bush's decisions could "squander the surplus" in Texas.

Bush's "decision to make the top priority tax cuts for the wealthy has produced a budget shortfall" in Texas, Gore said in an interview on CNN. Texas officials have been talking of a $610 million shortfall but have said it will be covered by a $1.1 billion surplus that has been built up.

Bush campaign officials worked to mount a counteroffensive, orchestrating a series of events in Texas.

These included a midday news conference in Austin by Bush and a separate statement by a top Democratic legislative committee chairman on the solvency of Texas' budget.

State Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander also said she and legislative leaders would be happy to meet Gore in San Antonio and "brief him on the facts." But Gore spokesman Doug Hattaway said Thursday that meeting would not take place since "it probably would not be very productive to meet with a comptroller accused of cooking the books to help Bush."

Bush spokesman Ari Fleischer's take on the whole issue: "If this race comes down to Bush's stewardship versus Gore's leadership, that's a contest we would relish."

In heading to San Antonio, Gore was going to a city where childhood immunization rates are among the lowest for any big city.

Obituaries

H.H. Buchanan

1925-2000

Houston H. Buchanan, lifetime resident of Snyder, died Wednesday, July 19, in Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene after a lengthy illness.

Service for Mr. Buchanan, 74, is set for 10 a.m. Saturday in Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens.

The Rev. Miller Robinson, retired Baptist minister, will officiate.

Mr. Buchanan was born on Sept. 12, 1925 in Scurry County and married Helen Mae Dunning in 1945 in Sioux Falls, S.D. She died in 1968. He retired from Chevron Oil in 1972, later owning and operating Massey Ferguson Implement Co. in Snyder. He was a veteran of World War II serving in the Army Air Corp. Mr. Buchanan was a member of Colonial Hill Baptist Church.

Survivors include two daughters and sons-in-law, Barbara and Jack Daniels of Rockport and Anita and Stanley Corvin of Elizabethtown, Ky.; one sister, Jewel Moore of San Angelo; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Harold and Janelle Buchanan of Snyder and Kenneth and Nita Buchanan of Eldorado, Tex.; one grandson, Jason; one step granddaughter, Debra Ann; two step grandsons, Jack Jr. and Lyndon; and four step great-grandchildren.

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Patricia Valentine

1941-2000

DICKINSON — Patricia "Patt" Valentine of Hitchcock, a Snyder native, died Tuesday, July 18, at UTMB in Galveston.

Service for Mrs. Valentine, 58, is set for 10 a.m. Thursday in the Chapel of James Crowder Funeral Home in Dickinson with Larry Garza officiating. Interment is to follow at Galveston Memorial Park Cemetery in Hitchcock.

Born on Sept. 21, 1941 in Snyder to Daisy and Ernest Rinehart, she was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Kathleen Cockrell.

Survivors include a daughter, Valecia Brunkow; a son, Ben Valentine of Houston; two sisters, Melba Copelin of Odessa and Delma Hall of Lubbock; a brother, Robert Rinehart of Lubbock; and three grandchildren Nikki Green and Amber and Daisy Brunkow.

J.E. Deatherage

1903-2000

HAMBY — J.E. "Emmett" Deatherage, brother of Minnie Mae Swint of Snyder, died Monday, July 17, at a Clyde nursing home.

Funeral service is set for 10 a.m. Friday in the Hamby First Baptist Church with the Rev. Oscar Fanning officiating. Burial will follow in the Hamby Cemetery directed by North's Funeral Home.

Born in Bonham, Mr. Deatherage moved to the Hamby community in 1919. He married Myrtle Lee Harendt in 1928; she died in 1982. Mr. Deatherage was a farmer and a carpenter and was a deacon of Hamby Baptist Church.

Other survivors include two sons, Ray Deatherage of Abilene and John Deatherage of Anson; two daughters, Dean Snow of Irving and Helen Stokes of Abilene; nine grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

Man threatens suicide

• ***Man threatens suicide***

A woman contacted officers at 11:18 p.m. Wednesday to request that officers check on her 33-year-old son-in-law in reference to him calling her daughter and threatening to commit suicide.

Officers did make contact with the man and an offense report was filed for threatened suicide.

• ***Family violence***

Officers took a report for family violence at 10:30 a.m.

• ***Officers arrest four***

Leeroy Tavarez, 19, of 122 Milburn was taken into custody at 5:23 p.m. for aggravated assault/family violence.

A Nolan County warrant for Class A theft by check sent a 21-year-old woman to jail Wednesday. She was arrested by officers at 7 p.m. in the 100 block of East 37th Street.

Two subjects were placed into custody Wednesday for the offense of public intoxication. A 73-year-old man was arrested at 9:24 p.m. and a 19-year-old man was arrested at 9:50 p.m.

• ***Accidents***

A hit and run accident report was filed at Western Texas College Wednesday morning.

Benito Cavazos Jr. of Crosbyton reported that an unknown vehicle had struck his 1991 Chevrolet Camaro sometime between 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. while it was parked in the college's visitor parking lot and then left the scene.

At 10:34 a.m., a two-vehicle accident occurred in the 3700 block of Avenue V. Involved were a parked, unoccupied 1999 Chevrolet Suburban owned by Iva Grace Haywood of 1800 Avenue I and a 1986 Chevrolet Caprice driven by Lillie Hudson Cooper of 2111 42nd Street.

Officers investigated a two-vehicle mishap at 5:14 p.m. in the 1800 block of Scott Street. A 1991 Pontiac Grand Am and a 1995 Mercury Villager van were involved. Yvonne Garcia, 13, of 4200 Avenue R was the driver of the Grand Am and Samuel Daniel Barrera, 33, of 1806 Scott was the driver of the van.

An accident report was filed at 8:59 p.m. in the 3600 block of Avenue B. Involved were a 1993 Chevrolet S-10 pickup driven by Jay Gordon Scott, 16, of 2908 33rd Street and a parked, unoccupied 1999 GMC Suburban owned by John Harless of Ira.

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200 East 37th St. Snyder, Texas

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

FBC worship service

The First Baptist Church Sunday morning worship service airs at 3 p.m. today and every Thursday on TV Channel 2.

Lucky 13 bake sale

Lucky 13 Club will hold a bake sale from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday at Wal-Mart.

Carwash Saturday

A car wash will begin at 8:30 a.m. Saturday at Wal-Mart for Christina Arellano, queen candidate. Donations suggested are $5 for cars, and $7 for trucks and vans. Proceeds benefit Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Dance slated Saturday

Dance to the rhythmical sounds of Zabor Saturday at the Latin American Center. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Admission is $5 per person and $8 for couple. Kids 12 and under are free. Proceeds will benefit Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Medical Funds set up

Medical funds have been established at American State Bank and West Texas State Bank for Jamie Justiss to help defray medical expenses. He is the son of Matt and Barbara Arnett of Fluvanna and the grandson of Robert and Mary Langford of Snyder.

Kings Kids registration

Registration for Kings Kids and Mothers Day Out is underway for next school year at First Baptist Church. The program is for children one to four-years-old, and pre-K. Call 573-5683 or 573-7401 or come by 1701 27th St. for more information.

Joy School pre-registration

Pre-registration for Joy School is now underway. Joy School will be accepting infants through pre-K five days a week. For more information, call 573-3554.

Sonshine School registration

Pre-registration for Sonshine School at 37th Street Church of Christ is in progress. The classes begin Aug. 15 for ages two to five and will be held Tuesday and Thursday. For more information, call Lora Lord at 573-1700, or the church office at 573-0154.

Bible study tapes

Bible study tapes air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 p.m. Monday is "Responsibilities of a Father," followed by "Great Is Our God."

LVN class testing

Students wishing to enroll in the fall Licensed Vocational Nursing class at Western Texas College should contact the counseling office to arrange for the pre-entrance exam to be given through Tuesday. Interviews will be conducted through Aug. 7. For more information, call the counseling office at 573-8511, ext. 313.

GED exams

GED examinations will be administered Thursday, July 27, in the testing center at WTC. Call Emily Hataway at 574-2112 or Molly Kattes at 573-2919 for more information.

SHS class of 1975 reunion

Members of the class of 1975 are urged to send in reservations for the class reunion to Karen Wadleigh at 1906 30th St., or call 573-8455, by July 28. The reunion is Aug. 5.

Bible Club

Northside Missionary Baptist Church will be having a Bible Club for grades 1-6 from 1-3 p.m. July 31-Aug. 4. The church is located at 1909 16th St. For more information, call 573-7105.

Holiday poems sought

Mesquite Country Writers Guild is soliciting original, short holiday poems for its quarterly poetry newsletter, "Bards of A Feather." The deadline is Aug. 15. Submissions may be mailed to 9221 S. Hwy. 208 in Hermleigh, 79526, or e-mailed to dade@bigcountry.net.

Northeast Elementary cookbooks

Copies of the Northeast Elementary millennium cookbook are still available for $7. Call Diane Arnold at 573-2159.

Computer courses

A variety of computer courses are being offered this summer by the Continuing Ed division of WTC. Call 573-8511, ext. 390, for a list of classes.

Cancer treatment transportation

Transportation for cancer patients is available every day free of charge to Lubbock, Abilene or Midland. For more information call Martha Schiebel at 573-8626 or Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993. If not home, leave message on answering machine.

Lotto Texas

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

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 50 were: 9-28-35-51-53-54

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $30 million.

Pentagon gets boost in funds under bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House approved a $20 billion increase in Pentagon spending for next year, including pay raises designed to keep men and women from leaving the military for civilian life.

By a vote of 367-58, the House Wednesday approved a compromise $288 billion defense appropriations bill and sent it to the Senate.

Rep. Martin Frost, D-Texas, said the legislation "provides the funding for the security and defense of the United States and assures that our military strength remains second to none."

The pay raise, he said, is of "great importance especially for younger military members with families and for mid-career personnel who are considering abandoning the military for the civilian world."

The bill spends nearly $20 billion more on Pentagon programs in the year starting Oct. 1 than this year and $3.3 billion more than requested by President Clinton.

House okays raising IRA contribution limits

WASHINGTON (AP) — Trying to get more Americans to save, the House passed a bill that would raise contribution limits for individual retirement accounts and 401(k)s while encouraging more businesses to offer pensions.

"By expanding retirement savings options, we'll be helping those workers who need the most help in saving for retirement," said Rep. Rob Portman of Ohio, the prime Republican sponsor.

The House voted 401-25 to send the measure to the Senate, with 182 Democrats joining nearly all Republicans in favor. Senate supporters say they will push for action in early September, but it is unclear if President Clinton would sign it into law.

The U.S. savings rate recently dropped to zero as a percentage of after-tax income, even as the aging baby boom generation faces a Social Security system in future financial jeopardy — and 75 million Americans have no employer-sponsored retirement plan.

The bill, which would reduce government revenue by $52.2 billion over 10 years, would gradually raise annual IRA contribution limits from $2,000 to $5,000 and boost annual 401(k) plan contributions from $10,500 to $15,000.

People over age 50 would have accelerated "catch-up" limits, which would particularly benefit women who left the work force temporarily to care for children. Several changes would be made in federal pension rules to encourage more employers to offer pensions and permit workers to carry retirement plans from job to job.

"This encourages employers to continue to put money on the table to help lower-wage workers," said Rep. Ben Cardin, D-Md. "It's a well-balanced approach."

IRAs were authorized in 1974 but contribution limits have been increased only once, by $500 in 1981. More than 36 million people now participate in 401(k) plans — roughly a third of the U.S. work force — but the average account balance is only about $37,300, the Employee Benefit Research Institute says.

At the same time, traditional employer-provided pension plans have dropped from 114,000 in 1987 to 45,000 in 1997, and only about half of people over age 65 receive income from pensions.

"The work force has changed, our retirement needs have changed, and the pension system has changed," said Rep. Bill Archer, R-Texas, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. "This is the right legislation at the right time."

Despite the lopsided bipartisan vote, the White House released a statement saying the president "strongly opposes" the bill because it would mainly add to retirement tax benefits for higher-income people rather than the lower-income workers most in need of help saving money. The statement did not use the word veto, however.

"A better approach is to enact pension and retirement savings incentives to reach tens of millions of working Americans who do not participate in employer-provided pension plans and have little or no retirement savings," the White House statement said.

A Democratic alternative modeled after government-subsidized retirement savings account proposals made by Clinton would provide a 50 percent federal tax credit — a maximum of $1,000 — for lower-income worker contributions of up to $2,000. The credit would phase out above $75,000 income for a married couple, $37,500 for a single taxpayer.

"The problem isn't so much what's in" the main bill, said Rep. Earl Pomeroy, D-N.D. "The problem is what's left out."

But the House voted 221-200 to defeat the Democratic alternative. Republicans insisted their bill would help lower-income workers by making it easier for employers to provide pensions in the first place.

"Employers maximize their benefits and, in fact, it maximizes the employees' savings capability," said Rep. Bill Thomas, R-Calif. "It fits our needs today."

Senate Finance Committee Chairman William Roth, appearing with House supporters at a news conference before the vote, noted that the Senate endorsed a similar approach in votes last week and said he would push for final passage this fall in the waning days of the congressional session.

"Even though it's late, it's not too late to get this legislation through," the Delaware Republican said. "This bill goes a long, long way toward helping Americans prepare for retirement."

The bill is H.R. 1102.
On the Net:
Congress:
http://thomas.loc.gov

Senate bill will allow drug importation

WASHINGTON (AP) — Alarmed by complaints that Americans are paying more for drugs than foreign consumers, the Senate agreed to lift a ban on importing prescription drugs.

The measure, which passed 74-21 on Wednesday, was attached to the agriculture spending bill currently being debated in the Senate. The debate centers on complaints that Americans are paying more for drugs available at a cheaper cost in some other countries.

"The American public wants affordable medicines," said Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass. "I believe we should do all we can to reduce the financial burden imposed on our citizens by high drug costs."

Added Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., "If someone else is paying half price or a third of the price than is being charged to the American consumer ... why can't the American consumer have access to those drugs in a global economy?"

Critics charged it was too risky to import drugs.

Sen. John Breaux, D-La., said the Food and Drug Administration and Department of Health and Human Services are already overburdened. Certifying that drugs overseas are safe would be too much, he said.

"They can't do that," Breaux said. "That's an impossible burden."

Current law allows only a manufacturer to reimport its product into this country. The measure approved by the Senate would allow pharmacists and drug wholesale distributors to purchase and import drugs that have been shipped from the United States to other nations.

The House has already passed similar measures. One House provision would prohibit the Food and Drug Administration from enforcing the import ban. The other House provision would allow Americans to legally bring prescription drugs across the border from Canada and Mexico.

A provision added to the Senate proposal by Sen. Thad Cochran, R-Miss., sought to add additional safeguards by requiring the Secretary of Health and Human Services to certify that there would be cost reductions and that there would be no safety risks to U.S. consumers.

The debate has drawn heavy opposition from the pharmaceutical industry, which has taken several full-page newspaper ads in recent days urging Americans to call Congress.

In a statement after the vote, Alan Holmer, president of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, said the Senate's action "could jeopardize patient safety and would not ensure any savings for consumers."

"Both the House and Senate measures are based on the mistaken notion that importation is a solution to make medicines more affordable in the U.S.," Holmer said. "The real solution is to expand drug coverage for those who most need it — elderly and disabled Americans."

The White House has not taken a formal position on the proposal, an FDA spokesman said.

The bill is S. 1191
On the Net: Congressional legislation:
http://thomas.loc.gov

Eddie Murphy film opening next week

LOS ANGELES (AP) — It's tough to be a Klump, even if you're Eddie Murphy.

The comedian spent up to five hours every day in the makeup chair to create the six characters he plays in the movie "Nutty Professor II: The Klumps," opening next week.

"I can tell you that I've seen many films on video, played every video game, heard every album. ... I've seen it all in that chair," Murphy said this week.

As sweet, dumpy genius Sherman Klump, he again faces his "Nutty Professor" nemesis Buddy Love. In addition, four Klump family members who sat at the dinner table in the first comedy return for the sequel.

Tuesday, August 1
Snyder Daily News

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Sports injuries can have consequences

DEAR DR. GOTT: My 18-year-old son is an avid (and capable) high-school football player. He is counting on an athletic scholarship to college.

However, he has a tendency to head injuries when he plays. Along with having his "bell rung" almost weekly, he has suffered three concussions to date. In each instance, he was momentarily dazed and couldn't remember the score. The last concussion caused a temporary loss of consciousness, after which he was benched for two weeks. Will these minor episodes harm him?

DEAR READER: Until recently, team physicians took a fairly relaxed view of sports-induced closed-head injuries, which are common in football, soccer, hockey and lacrosse — in both girls and boys.

But last year, based on a study of such injuries, investigators discovered an unnerving principle: apparently minor head injuries often lead to permanent problems with cognitive thinking and memory. This relation is even more striking if the athlete has experienced post-traumatic confusion or loss of consciousness. The experts concluded that three concussions were the limit; above that, some brain damage was almost a certainty.

Consequently, many sports-medicine authorities now recommend prolonged prohibition from contact athletics — up to a month following severe concussions — and permanent prohibition if the athlete has had three such episodes.

While I'm not suggesting that your son give up football entirely — this is a decision that you and he will have to make, with appropriate medical consultation — I urge you to consider this option very seriously. It would be a shame if your son experienced irreparable nervous-system disorders as a result of avoidable trauma. Moreover, as you know, college-level football is a lot rougher than the high-school equivalent; thus your son is very likely to suffer more significant trauma if he were to continue to play.

If he were my son, I'd put the skids on him because I'd rather have a child who is an intact adult than a youngster whose only claim to fame was a rough-and-tumble adolescent sport. To answer your unasked next question: Yes, I do like football, but not at the risk of serious injury. Should we talk about boxing?

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have been prescribed atenolol for migraine headaches. What is this drug? Is it dangerous?

DEAR READER: Atenolol is a long-acting beta-blocker that produces relaxation of blood vessels. It is commonly used to treat hypertension and is useful therapy for certain heart disorders. In some patients with migraine, it prevents headaches or reduces their frequency. By and large, it is a safe drug but must be used with caution in people with asthma or heart failure. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Headaches." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: During an auto accident six months ago, I struck the windshield and banged my forehead. I did not lose consciousness and, at the hospital, had a normal CT scan that ruled out bleeding into the brain. Nonetheless, I still experience swelling, numbness and tingling. Should I see a specialist?

DEAR READER: The symptoms you describe are common after head injuries sustained during a motor vehicle accident. The fact that you were not knocked out and had a normal CT scan is important, positive news. Still, you probably sustained a significant blow to your frontal bone. In my experience, the symptoms of such trauma may persist for up to a year. Although you should certainly check with a doctor, examination by a specialist is probably not necessary unless your physician requests it.

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