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WT-Int. Crude - $27.48
WTIC Posted - $24.25
Natural Gas - $2.825

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

MONDAY

July 15, 2002
Vol. 54 No. 64
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Rona Sikes

Funds approved for part-time assistant DA

By Bobby Allen
SDN Staff Writer

Scurry County commissioners' court this morning, after a lengthy discussion with District Attorney Dana Cooley, unanimously approved $2,000 per month for a part-time contract position as an assistant district attorney.

The person who fills the position would not be a county employee and thus would not receive retirement or other employee benefits.

Cooley made the request for the county to fund $2,000 from funds the district attorney puts into the general fund from bond forfeitures. Cooley said the money is turned over to the county clerk, and that the county has control of the funds.

She added that she has the authority to authorize the position, but needed help from the court to approve usage of the bond forfeiture money to pay the salary. She said the $2,000 earmarked would be roughly half of the monthly salary. "I think we can get someone in here for $30,000 to $36,000.

Commissioner Roy Idom asked Cooley what her caseload volume is now compared with other years, and she stated that it has increased by 11 to 12 cases taken to the grand jury per month. She cited the drug task force as one reason for the increased caseload.

"We are operating with one attorney and one secretary," said Cooley. "Sometimes it can be an overwhelming job." Cooley said she would seek someone within the community for the position.

In other business, the court unanimously approved a request from county health department supervisor Cindy Nix to increase fees for permit rates for vendors in the county. She told the court the rates have been the same since they were instituted in 1994, and costs have increased.

"I don't want to make it hard for business in the county," she said. "We want to cover costs."

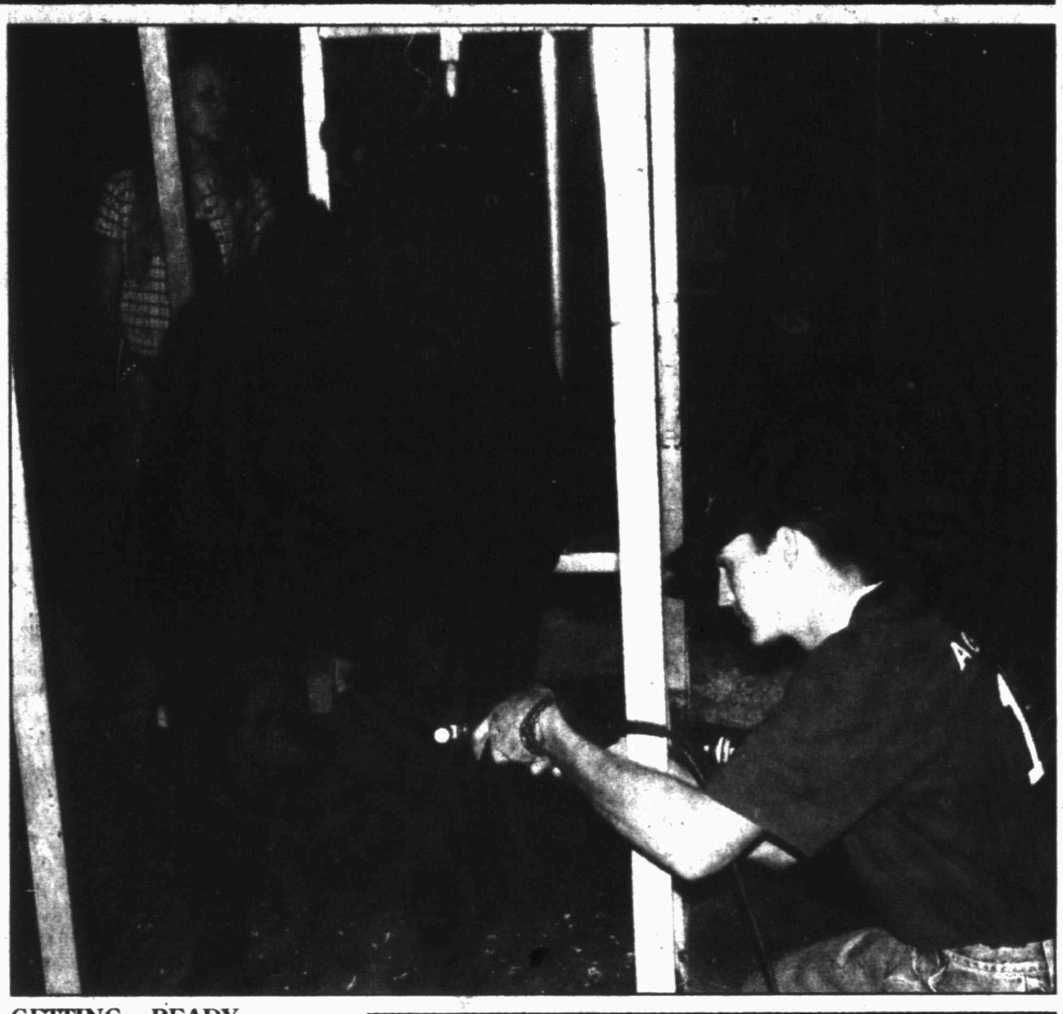
The court approved an increase affecting for-profit businesses from $75 to $100, for non-profit from $10 to $20 and for temporary vendors from $5 to $10. The temporary vendor permits also were increased from five days to seven.

The court also approved an increase request from county inspector Benny Marricle to increase septic inspection fees from $60 to $100 and real estate inspection fees from $30 to $50.

The court also agreed to sponsor a grant for Ira water improvements. Steve Dennis, an engineer with GSW and Associates, said the request is necessary because only incorporated cities and counties may apply for the grant. The county would have oversight of the grant, and would be required to match $12,500 of the $250,000 grant with in-kind services.

The vote was approved 2-1, with Precinct 4 commissioner Chloanne Lindsey voting no and Precinct 2 commissioner Roy Idom abstaining.

Commissioners' recessed for lunch at noon and were scheduled to reconvene at 1:30 this afternoon.



GETTING READY - Rusty Day gives a final trim to his steer, George, while Amanda Garner double-checks the front of the animal Sunday at the Best of Texas Junior Livestock Show at the Coliseum. (SDN Staff Photo by Bobby Allen)

Walker Lindh shocks court with guilty plea

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — John Walker Lindh, the American captured in Afghanistan fighting for the Taliban, agreed today to plead guilty to two charges in a surprise deal with prosecutors that could spare him from life in prison.

The deal, which caught even the trial judge off guard, was announced on the first day of what was supposed to be a weeklong series of hearings at which defense lawyers hoped to get statements Lindh made to investigators thrown out of his trial.

"There is a change in plea," defense attorney James Brosnahan told U.S. District Judge T.S. Ellis III at the outset of today's proceeding in federal court here.

Lindh's lawyer said his client would plead guilty to one charge of supplying services to the Taliban and another charge, not originally in the indictment, alleging he carried explosives in the commission of a felony.

Under terms of his deal with prosecutors, Lindh, 21, would serve two 10-year prison sentences and would cooperate fully with U.S. authorities in the investigation of the al-Qaida and terrorism.

Lindh was slated to begin trial on in late August on 10 charges that he conspired to murder U.S. citizens, contributed services to al-Qaida and the Taliban and used firearms during crimes of violence.

Three of counts carried the maximum of life imprisonment for Lindh, who was captured in early December and transferred to civilian custody in late January.

Brosnahan told the court a deal was completed late Sunday night, on the eve of a hearing that was to determine whether statements Lindh made to interrogators after his capture would be admissible in court.

The judge had opened the hearing by discussing procedures for protecting the identity of confidential witnesses in the proceedings planned for this week.

Ellis stopped when the defense attorney announced the plea change.

With his parents and younger sister seated behind him, Lindh rose in his green prison jumpsuit to face the judge, who asked him whether he wished to waive his right to trial.

"Yes, sir," Lindh responded.

Ellis then declared, "the court finds John Lindh fully capable and competent."

The judge asked Lindh a series of standard questions about his background.

"I attended some college in California as well as Yemen," Lindh explained in a soft voice.

The judge asked him to speaker louder. "Do you feel as though you can make a decision about your future today?" Ellis asked.

"Yes," responded Lindh, who would be 41 when freed from prison under terms of the plea deal, if the judge accepts it.

Ag leader in Snyder Tuesday for meeting

Susan Combs, Texas agriculture commissioner, will be in Snyder Tuesday afternoon to talk about rural development issues and to map out ideas to boost business opportunities in rural areas.

Combs will be at the Development Corporation of Snyder office at 3:15 p.m.

"It is clear that we need to think strategically if we're going to create new opportunities and boost the business environment in Snyder and in all rural Texas," said Combs. "Working together, we can come up with new ways to build a stronger economy and create more jobs. This meeting is an example of great partnerships at work for rural Texas."

Combs said economic development has long been a priority of the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). In fact, last year TDA created a Rural Development Division to oversee all rural development programs and initiatives of the department.

BEST OF TEXAS LIVESTOCK SHOW

CASHING IN — Ten-year-old Colby Mann counts his winnings Sunday morning after placing fourth in the junior showmanship steer competition. (SDN Staff Photo by Bobby Allen)

Towle Park Barn will be site of park planning

Towle Park Barn will be the location of a community-wide meeting at 6:30 this evening to gauge public reaction to Scurry County's master park plan.

The master plan is a necessary step in obtaining a state grant to fund the project, which has been discussed extensively by the commissioners' court and also at previous public meetings.

The county retained the firm Schrickel, Rollins and Associates of Arlington to work with the park staff in developing the master plan.

Information also was taken from a public survey taken last year.

Ideas implemented in the master plan include a fishing pier at the pond and a skate park for area youth.

An aquatic center also is being considered to replace the swimming pool, which is increasingly becoming a liability, according to park department employees.

The aquatic center will consist of a smaller pool and a water park, which will include slides, a play area and a shallow pool.

Lighted walking paths also are planned, as are several small pavilions for gatherings and an amphitheater.

Other ideas not included in the master plan also will be considered, according to Scott Crenwelge, parks director.

The idea of a second pond in the park is appealing to many, he said, and remains a possibility.

The grant being sought by the county is for $500,000. Other outside funding sources also could be tapped in the future.

All county residents are invited to attend and ice cream will be provided.

Hermleigh ISD...

Trustees keep regular time for meetings

Hermleigh ISD board meetings will remain the second Tuesday of the month as the school's trustees took no action on changing the meeting times during Friday night's meeting.

That meeting was postponed from Tuesday due to the lack of a quorum.

The trustees had explored the idea of meeting on Saturday mornings, said Supt. Jerry Church.

In other business Friday, the board agreed to hire Davis, Kinard & Co., as its audit firm for the current year, and contracted with Hobbs Alternative School.

"We did not reserve a particular number of spots at Hobbs," said Church. "But we are members if we ever have to use the school."

Trustees also set the sick-day buy-back pay for teachers as the same rate that substitutes are paid.

Currently, that is $60 per day, said Church. The district offers instructors five sick days per year.

ASK US

Q—Will there be a Watermelon Bowl this year?

A—The annual event is set for Aug. 17 at Travis Field, but rather than an intrasquad scrimmage, the Snyder Tigers will scrimmage Post.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Saturday, 89 degrees; low, 68; high Sunday, 90; low, 67; 7 a.m. Monday, 67; no precipitation; total for 2002, 13.71 inches.

Area Forecast: Partly cloudy; low, 65-70. Tuesday, partly cloudy, 20% rain chance; high near 90. Tuesday night, low near 70; 30% rain chance.

Louisa Guzman
Rain Chance

Sunset: 8:49 p.m.
Sunrise: 6:50 a.m.
Of 195 days in 2002, the sun has shone 188 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Time can be your best friend or your worst enemy.
—Ray Charles

JUL 15 2002

Pakistan convicts four Islamic militants

HYDERABAD, Pakistan (AP) — A Pakistani judge today convicted four Islamic militants in the kidnap-slaying of Wall Street Journal correspondent Daniel Pearl and sentenced the British-born chief defendant to death by hanging. The others received 25 year sentences.

Pakistani authorities braced for a violent reaction by Islamic extremists, already angry over President Pervez Musharraf's support for the United States in the war against terrorism. The U.S. Embassy in Islamabad went on a "heightened state of security readiness" after the verdict, spokesman John Kincannon said.

Judge Ali Ashraf Shah handed down the verdict against chief defendant Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh and the others — Salman Saqib, Fahad Naseem and Shaikh Adil — in the heavily guarded jail where the trial was held after it was moved from Karachi for security reasons. Defense lawyers said they would appeal.

In a statement read to reporters by his lawyer, Saeed said, "we'll see who will die first, me or the authorities who have arranged the death sentence for me."

"Musharraf should know that Almighty Allah is there and can get his revenge," said Saeed, who was moved to the prison's death row along with 79 other condemned inmates. "Now the jihad (holy war) between Islam and non-Muslims is going on and everybody is showing whether he is in favor of Islam or in favor of the non-believers."

Saeed's father, Ahmed Sheikh, said "an innocent man has been punished" because Musharraf had demanded a conviction.

The defendants were also collectively fined $32,000. Chief prosecutor Raja Quereshi said the money would go to Pearl's widow Mariane and their infant son, who was born after his father was killed.

Seven more suspects, including those who apparently killed Pearl, remain at large.

The 38-year-old journalist disappeared Jan. 23 in Karachi while researching links between Pakistani militants and Richard C. Reid, who was arrested in December on a flight from Paris to Miami with explosives in his shoes. A videotape received by U.S. diplomats in February confirmed that Pearl was dead.

"We continue to mourn Danny Pearl," said Steven Goldstein, vice president of Dow Jones & Co., parent company of The Wall Street Journal. "And we continue to hope that everyone responsible for his kidnapping and murder will be brought to justice. Today's verdict is one step in that direction."

In London, the British government welcomed the verdicts but opposed the death sentence for Saeed.

The Pearl family, in a statement posted on its Web site, said they were "grateful for the tireless efforts" by U.S. and Pakistani authorities "to bring those guilty of Danny's kidnapping and murder to justice."

"We hope and trust that the search for the remaining abductors and murderers will continue, so that all accomplices in this unthinkable crime will be brought to justice," the Pearl family said.

Reporters were barred from the courtroom when the sentence was handed down. Defense attorney Ria Bashir said all of the accused were present but "there was no reaction at all."

Bashir said the trial was fair but claimed the Pakistani government pressured the judge to appease the United States, which has sought Saeed's extradition to face charges in the Pearl kidnapping and the 1994 abduction in India of another American who was freed unharmed.

"There was no evidence to substantiate the charges," Bashir said. "The strategy of the Pakistani government is to please America even if Americans are crushing the Muslims."

Soon after Pearl disappeared, Pakistani and U.S. news organizations received e-mails from the previously unknown National Movement for the Restoration of Pakistani Sovereignty, demanding better treatment for Taliban and al-Qaida prisoners at the U.S. naval base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

FBI agents traced the e-mails to Naseem, who led authorities to Saeed and the other defendants, police said. Naseem's lawyer claimed his statement was coerced. Saeed admitted his role on the kidnapping during his first court appearance Feb. 14 but recanted. The statement was not admissible because it was not made under oath.

All four were arrested in February before the videotape of Pearl's death was received. A body believed to be Pearl's was found in May in a Karachi neighborhood. DNA tests are pending.

During the trial, the prosecution presented 23 witnesses, including taxi driver Nasir Abbas, who testified he saw Pearl get into a car with Saeed in front of a Karachi restaurant on the night the reporter vanished. The defense claimed the witness was coached by the government.

The defense produced only two character witnesses, Saeed's father and uncle.

Islamic extremists are rarely executed in Pakistan. The last prominent one was Haq Nawaz, who was hanged Feb. 28, 2001, for killing an Iranian diplomat a decade earlier. His death triggered bitter clashes between police and his supporters.

With tempers running high in conservative Islamic circles, authorities stepped up security throughout the country, especially in Karachi and around foreign embassies in the capital Islamabad. Police helicopters prowled the skies above Karachi, Pakistan's largest city and a center of Islamic extremism.

"We are worried about a terrorist attack," said Hyderabad police chief Moazzam Ansari. "It could be toxic, water contaminating, it could be a car bomb, it could be an attack on a jail to try to free the accused ... it could be to send a message to the government that if you come down hard on our people, then we will strike back."

The Pearl kidnapping was the first of five attacks against Westerners in Pakistan this year. It was followed by a grenade attack against a Protestant church in Islamabad on March 17 in which five people, including two Americans and the attacker, were killed.

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Date Book

Monday, July 15, 2002

Today is the 196th day of 2002 and the 25th day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1922, New York City's Bronx Zoo opened its platypus exhibit to the public. The star of the show was the first platypus to be exhibited in the United States.

On this day in 1933, Wiley Hardeman Post set off on the first round-the-world solo airplane flight.

On this day in 1975, the first USSR-US joint space project reached a high point with the linkup in space of Apollo 18 and Soyuz 19. The crafts were linked for 47 hours as they exchanged data, personnel and experiments.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-1669), artist; Clement Moore (1779-1863), poet and educator; Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini (1850-1917), religious worker; Iris Murdoch (1919-1999), writer; Julian Bream (1933-), musician, is 69; Linda Ronstadt (1946-), singer, is 56.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1973, Nolan Ryan of the California Angels pitched a no-hitter against the Detroit Tigers. California won 6-0. It was Ryan's second no-hitter in the space of two months.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Between saying and doing, many a pair of shoes is worn out." — Iris Murdoch.

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (July 10) and first quarter (July 17).

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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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events

LOTTO TEXAS™
TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Texas Lotto

AUSTIN (AP) — One ticket correctly matched all six numbers drawn Saturday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The ticket was worth an estimated $9 million.

The ticket was sold in Dallas.

The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 54 were: 5, 8, 11, 22, 29, 42.

Wednesday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $4 million.

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night by the Texas Lottery, in order:

2-3-8

Who Buys & Why

Key Motivators to Purchase Long-Term Care Insurance:

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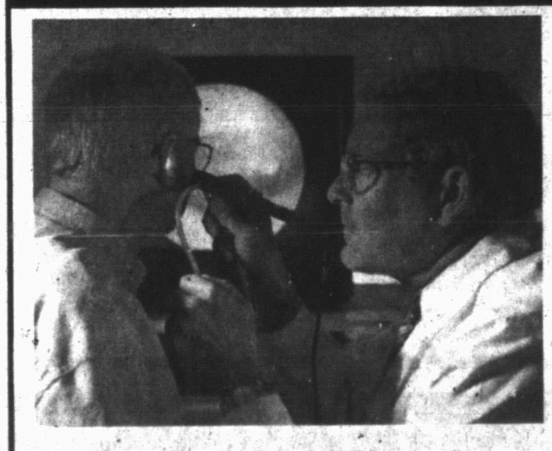

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Pfizer Inc. is buying rival Pharmacia

NEW YORK (AP) — In a surprising blockbuster merger that would expand the reach of the world's largest drug company, Pfizer Inc. has agreed to buy rival Pharmacia Corp. for $60 billion in stock.

The deal has been approved by the boards from both companies, Pfizer spokeswoman Mariann Caprino said today.

"It's a compelling strategic fit for Pfizer," Caprino said.

The merger would create a company that produces many of the common prescription drugs found in medicine cabinets around the world.

Already the world's biggest drug company before the deal, Pfizer's products include Viagra (anti-impotence), Lipitor (cholesterol) and Zoloft (depression), while Pharmacia's major drug is the arthritis medication Celebrex.

Pharmacia also makes the Rogaine hair products and the Nicorette smoking cessation line. Pfizer's over-the-counter products include everything from Listerine mouth wash and Rolaids tablets to Halls cough drops and Visine eye drops.

The new company would have combined annual revenue of $48 billion and a research-and-development budget of more than $7 billion.

"Combining Pfizer with Pharmacia is a strategic opportunity that immediately creates a global pharmaceutical company with unsurpassed resources and capabilities," Fred Hassan, chairman and chief executive officer of Pharmacia, said in a statement posted on Pfizer's Web site.

Said Hank McKinnell, chairman and chief executive officer of Pfizer: "By combining with Pharmacia, we are ensuring that our core capabilities in the discovery, development and commercialization of new medicines are strong around the world."

The timing of the deal is surprising considering the overall health of the economy and the many obstacles facing the drug sector.

Pharmaceutical companies are experiencing intense competition from generic drugs, pressure on prices from the federal government and a growing number of patents that are expiring. Their stock prices have fallen in recent months along with the rest of the market as distrust in corporate America grows almost daily amid several high-profile accounting scandals and bankruptcies.

The erosion of investor confidence and the downturn in the economy has created a major slump in merger and acquisition activity.

In the first six months of the year, only $200 billion in transactions in the United States was announced, according to Thomson Financial. At current prices, a Pfizer-Pharmacia merger alone would add up to more than a quarter of that amount.

The Pfizer-Pharmacia deal was first reported by The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal for today editions. Under the deal, Pharmacia shareholders would receive 1.4 shares of Pfizer stock for each share in Pharmacia — a 36 percent premium over the company's Friday closing price of $45.08.

The deal still needs approval from regulators and shareholders, but the Times and Journal reported that it is not expected to run into any major snags.

Pfizer, whose stock soared in the late 1990s with the success of Viagra, is no stranger to megamergers. In 2000, it completed a $115 billion acquisition of Warner-Lambert, gaining control the cholesterol-lowering drug Lipitor in the process.

That deal ranks as the largest global mergers ever.

Pharmacia, based in Peapack, N.J., was created through the merger of Pharmacia of Sweden and Upjohn Co. The company has 59,000 employees in more than 60 countries.

Pfizer, based in New York City, employs about 90,000 workers.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Tuesday, July 16, 2002

You may experience a profusion of opportunities in the year ahead, but take care: Examine each for their worth and do not ignore the smallest or most difficult ones.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Getting your way may be of enormous importance to you today, but it isn't likely to win you any admirers or provide you much in the way of benefits. Try to be accommodating instead. Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — There are indications today that you could lull yourself into a mode of unrealistic expectations. No matter how painful it may be for you to be pragmatic, you must do so — or suffer the consequences.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Trim all waste and unnecessary expenditures from your activities and transactions today. Large loses are possible if you spend without regard to the considerations at hand.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Don't embarrass yourself by trying to get involved with a hotshot today who thinks s/he is better than you and your associates. This jerk will wrongfully make you feel bad about yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — A battle of wills may transpire today between your inner being and your outer person. Your better nature may urge you to do one thing, while your less noble side could encourage the opposite.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — If you're naive today, you may trot off after a carrot being dangled by someone who is trying to take advantage of you. Once you're hooked, the only thing that will get eaten is you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Where there is a possible conflict of interest today, it may be wise to avoid a tempting partnership arrangement. Harmony of thought must be prevalent if a team is to be successful.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Method and procedure must be your first consideration today. Don't rush into anything without first thinking through all the steps. Consistency will depend upon planning.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — The odds clearly are not in your corner today. It is not a time to take chances on people or things.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Unless someone can make a solid, genuine contribution to an endeavor you've been handling alone, you'd be far better off continuing as you've been doing, no matter how badly you need help.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Objectives can be accomplished today, provided you know the difficulties involved and are prepared to take them on. Without knowing what you're getting into, projects will flop.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Overall, your financial trends at this time look encouraging; however, there can be intermittent bad days. Today may be one of them, so put off any action in this area until another day.

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Curtis opens in play

DALLAS (AP) — Tony Curtis is tackling "Some Like It Hot" again, but not in the part that he originally played on screen.

In a stage production for the Dallas Summer Musicals, Curtis plays Osgood Fielding III, the Miami millionaire who falls in love with Daphne, a man who has escaped from the mob by dressing up as a woman.

In the 1959 movie version, Curtis played one of the two cross-dressing heroes, opposite Jack Lemmon and Marilyn Monroe.

The play is the first foray onto the musical stage for the 77-year-old actor known for "Spartacus," "The Defiant Ones" and "The Great Race." The musical comedy opens this week.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Teens have reason to worry about friend's sticky fingers

DEAR ABBY: I read with interest the letter from "Worried Preteens in California," who were concerned about a friend who was shoplifting.

I have been a thief my entire life. I've stolen from my family, the families of my friends, and employers, stores and strangers.

I don't know exactly why I steal — I just do. Sometimes it's for vengeance; other times, it's for the challenge. I steal things I don't need or even want. The items usually have little or no value, and once I've gotten away with it, I wonder why I bothered.

I steal when I feel bad about myself. When life is going good, I don't even think about doing it.

"Worried" is smart not to want to be around "Joe" when he goes to the store. If he is there when Joe gets caught, he will land in jail with his pal.

Going to Joe's parents will only cause Joe to feel resentful and betrayed. "Worried" needs to tell Joe about the concerns he and his friends have — and let Joe know that his behavior is unacceptable.

Joe also needs to know he's jeopardizing the friendship when he puts his friends in a situation that could have a lifetime of legal and career implications. If Joe doesn't change his ways, "Worried" must end the friendship. — **BEEN THERE IN PHOENIX**

DEAR BEEN THERE: Thank you for sharing your personal experience, and I hope you have been the beneficiary of your own advice — and that you sought professional help. I agree that the boys must speak up. Silence indicates approval.

**

DEAR ABBY: I have a friend, "Elaine," whom I've known since we were 12. Over the years, we've stayed close and now enjoy successful lives with busy careers and marriages.

My problem: Elaine doesn't like to shop. Whenever she has a business or pleasure trip on the horizon — or special occasion to attend (a wedding, party, business meeting) — she comes over and picks out clothes, shoes, jewelry and luggage from MY closet.

When we were in our 20s and single, I didn't mind. Now, however, we're in our mid-50s, and Elaine's routine closet raids have become a huge annoyance.

I have told Elaine that some of the things she wants to borrow are gifts or to be worn only on special occasions. I don't want to risk losing or having them damaged. For her birthday, I've given her items similar to what she's borrowed from me — but there's no stopping her.

I feel like I'm being taken advantage of. Abby, how do I put an end to her annoying habit without ruining an otherwise wonderful friendship? — **RELUCTANT LENDER, AUSTIN, TEXAS**

DEAR RELUCTANT: It's not surprising you feel used, because you have been for the last 40 years. It's hard to assert yourself after having been passive for so long. However, until you summon the courage to tell your friend the truth, you might just as well hang a Macy's sign over your closet door. Have a truth session with Elaine before the week's out.

**

DEAR ABBY: I love the stories about "pennies from heaven."

My husband of 46 years used to pick up pennies and any other loose change he spotted on the ground. It embarrassed me, until I discovered he was putting the change in a jar. When the jar was full, he would take it to the priest at our church to add to the poor box. He still continues this commendable habit. He has filled jar after jar over the years. — **NO LONGER EMBARRASSED, PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA.**

DEAR N.L.E.: There is something fitting about pennies from heaven going to a charitable cause. I like your husband's style.

**

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

**

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

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Man is arrested in family's stabbing deaths in Whittier

WHITTIER, Calif. (AP) — A man was arrested and booked for investigation of murder in the stabbing deaths of four family members, police said.

Alfonso Ignacio Morales, 23, lived in the same neighborhood as the victims, Lt. Ray Peavy of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department said Sunday.

Officials also said 8-year-old Jasmine Ruiz was sexually assaulted before she and her family were slain. A preliminary investigation also found that at least two assailants carried out the quadruple homicide, said sheriff's Deputy Bill Spear.

The bodies of Miguel Ruiz, 37; his wife, Maritza Trejo, 41; their daughter, Jasmine; and Ruiz's 70-year-old grandmother, Anna Martinez, were found Saturday morning by Trejo's 21-year-old daughter, investigators said.

The bodies were found in separate rooms and the house had been ransacked, with walls and ceilings damaged, furniture overturned and drawers emptied, Peavy said.

Investigators expect to make additional arrests, Peavy said.

Morales was being held without bail, Peavy said. He described Morales as an acquaintance of the family.

No evidence of forced entry and no murder weapon have been found, Peavy said. Also, no one in the neighborhood reported unusual sounds or barking by the family's two dogs.

Investigators believe the family was killed Thursday.

A computer was found in a neighbor's backyard, and family members told authorities that computer equipment was missing from the home.

Peavy said Ruiz had no criminal record and that the family was not involved in "anything out of the ordinary."

"My entire family has just been stabbed to death. My brother, my grandma, my baby niece, my sister-in-law," Olga Ruiz, Miguel's sister, told the Los Angeles Times as she loaded the family's two dogs into her sport utility vehicle, stopping to hug crying neighbors.

Neighbors described the family as likable and hardworking. They were involved in computer and audio equipment sales and repair.

Mike Gutierrez said Thursday night was the last time he talked with Ruiz, his friend of nine years.

Guitierrez told the Times that Ruiz worked as a stereo technician at a store and fixed computers at home. Trejo sold audio equipment at a swap meet.

"It made his day when he was able to fix (the problem)," Gutierrez said.

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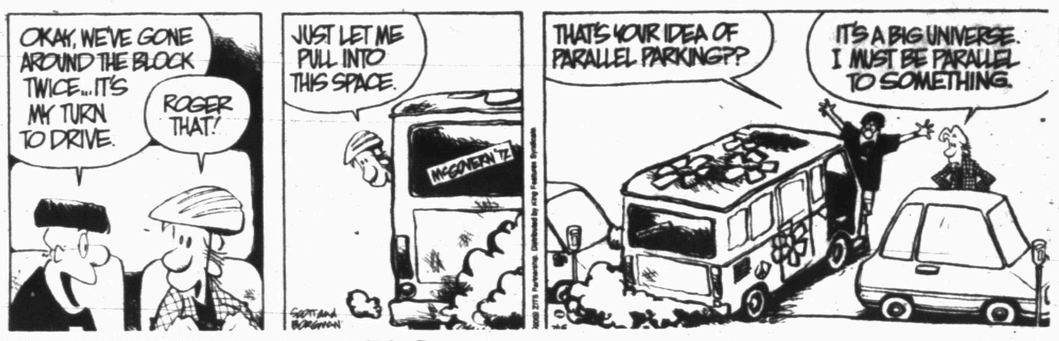

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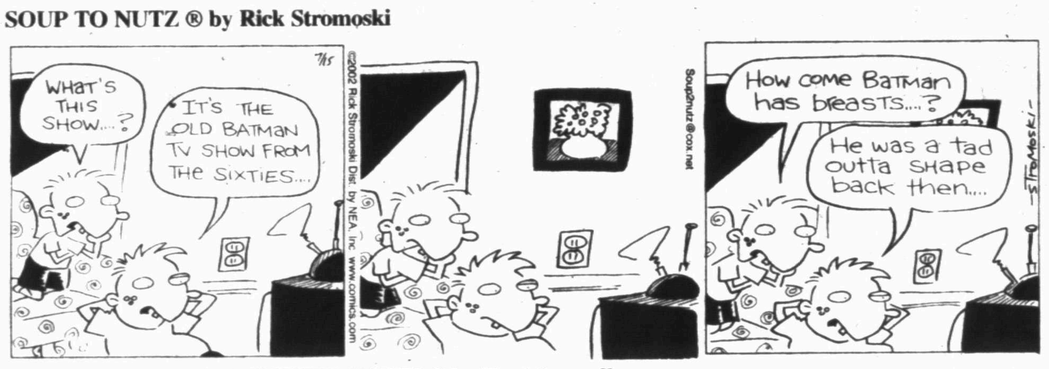

BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell

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THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Cosmetic safety org.
4 Kind of school
8 Hitter's stat
11 Garlands
13 Gazes at
14 Cul-de- –
15 Wight, e.g.
16 Fur
17 Compete
18 Zodiac fish
20 Bldg. units
21 Actor – Wallach
22 Groundhog mo.
24 Orange peels
27 Cornstalk tip
30 Baseball's Tommie –
31 Brownish-purple
32 Vet's office sound
34 Always, to Poe
35 Sarcastic remark
36 Luncheon salad
37 Skoals and cheers
39 Quizzes
40 Coral formation
41 – out (scrape by)
42 Wheel joiner
45 Sets free
49 Ipanema's city
50 Young beef
53 Disgusting
54 Assist
55 Visited
56 Taxi rider
57 Bind
58 Totally botch
59 Husk

DOWN

1 Turn over
2 Hubby of Lucy
3 Feels ill
4 Coca-Cola rival
5 Reuben bread
6 Lamprey
7 L.A. hours
8 Invitation letters
9 Lure
10 Sherbets
12 Withdraw
19 Subway opposites
20 Tummy muscles
22 Confront
23 Flight dir.
24 Funny Charlotte –
25 "– – the picture"
26 Agrippina's son
27 Vats
28 Ostrich cousins
29 Fast time
31 Feel for
33 "I – robbed!"
35 Brownie's org.
36 Vex (2 wds.)
38 Crack pilot
39 Sugar Ray stat
41 Barkin or DeGeneres
42 What Hamlet smelled (2 wds.)
43 Roman 13
44 Prospector's find
46 Kind of opera
47 Lira successor
48 Husky vehicle
50 TV accessory
51 – Claire, Wisc.
52 Jacques' pal

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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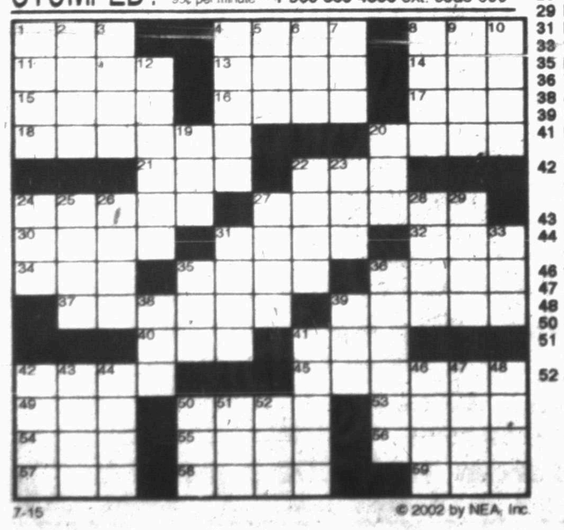

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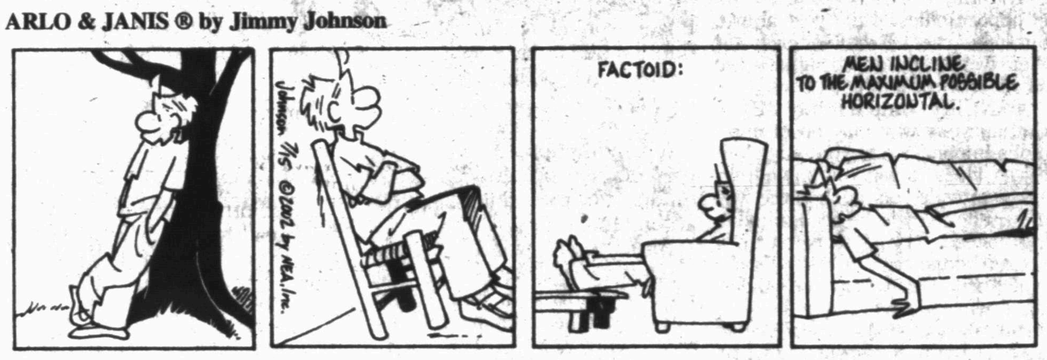

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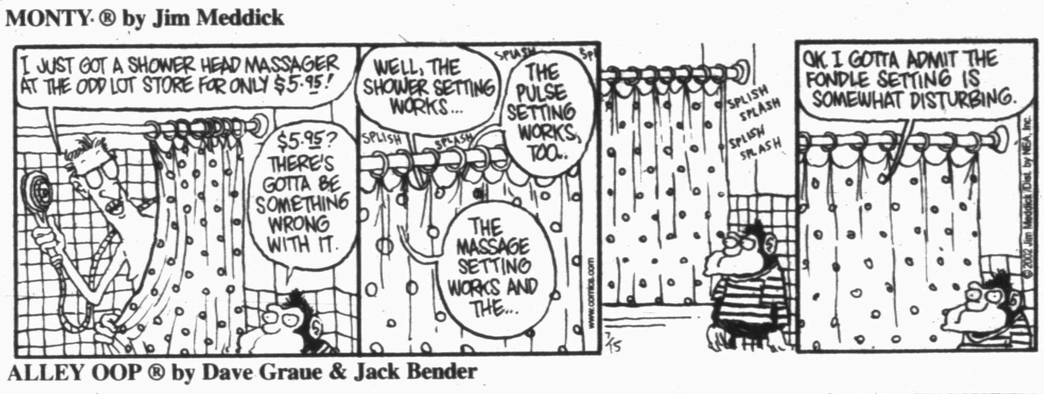
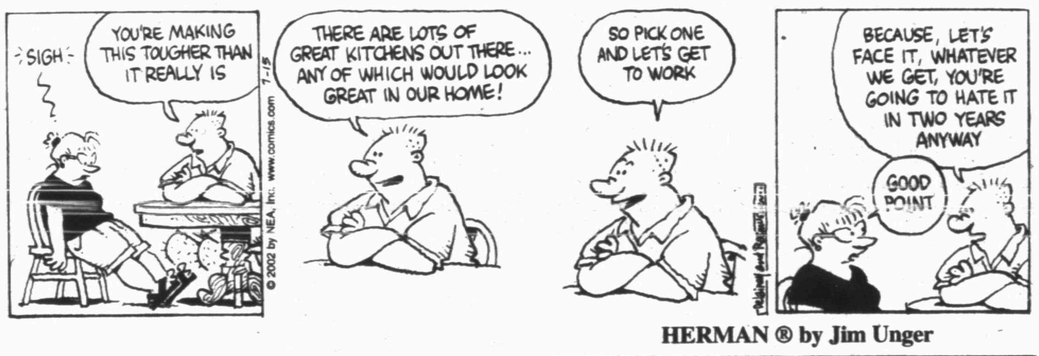


ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender

BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen



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"I knew you hadn't quit smoking."

Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"I THINK GOD DESERVES AN A+ FOR THAT ONE!"

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

SPORTS

Rodriguez homers not enough for Texas in 5-4 loss to Twins

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — In the end, Alex Rodriguez wasn't enough to beat the Minnesota Twins.

Even though Rodriguez pelted Minnesota's pitchers with two homeruns on Sunday, the Twins had too many players step up as they beat Texas 5-4.

The biggest hits came in the bottom of the eighth, after Rodriguez hit a two-run homer off reliever Mike Jackson to give the Rangers a 4-3 lead. Torii Hunter answered with a game-tying lead-off homer off Colby Lewis (1-2) and set the stage for David Ortiz.

Ortiz sent his solo shot to straight away center and Eddie Guardado came in to pitch the ninth.

"I lit up my cigar," said manager Ron Gardenhire, who watched the game from the clubhouse after being thrown out in the first for arguing with homeplate umpire Chris Guccione.

"We missed some chances early, but it turned out to be a pretty good day. These guys never quit," Gardenhire said.

Besides the heroics by Hunter and Ortiz, Minnesota also got a strong pitching performance from starter Kyle Lohse and key hits from Bobby Kielty, Michael Cuddyer and Luis Rivas, who filled in for Cristian Guzman, who also was ejected in the first for arguing. J.C. Romero (5-1) worked 1-3 innings for the win.

Lohse pitched well except for Rodriguez's shot to center in the sixth, which put the Rangers ahead 2-0. He went seven innings, allowing five hits and two runs — one unearned — while walking one and striking out six.

Dave Burba shut the Twins out until the seventh inning, when Kielty led off with a homer to cut Texas' lead to 2-1. Cuddyer, who came in as a pinch-hitter, got a ground rule double to put runners at second and third for Rivas, who brought them home with a single to give Minnesota a 3-2 lead before Rodriguez's second homer of the day.

With the win, Minnesota wins the four-game series 3-1.

"It's frustrating," Rangers starter Dave Burba said. "We get through the majority of the game, we have the momentum, and you think you're going to win. And they come back."

Despite the rough outing, Rangers manager Jerry Narron said he still has full confidence in Lewis, who's considered one of Texas' top young prospects. Lewis, drafted in 1999, advanced to the majors faster than any other of Texas' top picks since 1992.

"Any time you have the lead and you're pitching someone young in the eighth inning, it's not easy. But it's part of the learning process we're trying to push him through," Narron said.

Rodriguez echoed Narron.

"Colby's got a great future, he's got great stuff. He's just got to learn how to pitch."

Snyder ends tourney with 10-0 shutout

ABILENE — Snyder's 11 and 12-year-old all-stars closed out the District 5 tournament in high fashion.

Snyder got a stellar pitching performance from Lance Day and hits from everyone in the order Saturday night in a 10-0 blanking of Breckenridge at Will Hair Park.

It was Snyder's final game after setbacks to Dixie and Wylie ended its chances for a berth at sectionals.

Day was solid in five innings of work, limiting Breckenridge to only one hit and a walk. Day finished the game, which ended in the fifth on the 10-run mercy rule, with eight strikeouts.

All nine men in the order registered a hit for Snyder led by Seth Sanchez who blasted a solo home run and a single.

Jesse Conner belted a double and a single. Riley Davis and Ryan Arredondo slapped two singles apiece. Ryan Claxton doubled, and Day, Dustin Murdock, Brent Bollinger and Dillon Matthies singled.

The District 5 title went to Dixie, which topped Wylie for the right to advance to this week's sectional tournament.

Knuckleballer stymies Astros

HOUSTON (AP) — Knuckleballer Jared Fernandez got the feel of the major league baseball at an opportune time for the Cincinnati Reds.

"The big league ball seems smaller and more slippery than the Triple-A ball. Today it felt a lot better," Fernandez said after pitching seven strong innings for his first major league win as the Reds snapped a four-game losing streak with an 8-3 victory over the Houston Astros on Sunday.

Aaron Boone was 3-for-5 with two doubles to help stop the Astros' five-game winning streak.

Fernandez (1-0) struck out eight, tops for a Reds pitcher this season, in just his fourth major league start. Fernandez limited the Astros to three runs and seven hits.

It was his second start since being recalled from Triple-A Louisville on July 4th.

"The Triple-A balls seem bigger and the leather is rougher. Some of the balls were slipping out when I first came up, but today my stuff was as good as I've had," Fernanadez explained.

Fernandez impressed Houston's Julio Lugo and Daryle Ward.

"He was throwing pretty good. He was more effective at the begining of the game than he was at the end, but he threw some good knuckleballs. It's rough because you don't see those guys every day," Lugo said.

"He was very effective, he deserved to win," Ward added.

Tim Redding (3-5) allowed five runs and seven hits in 3 1-3 innings. He was lifted two batters after having an abrasion to his right knee after being spiked on a play at home plate in the fourth inning. He's listed as day to day.

Sean Casey started the Reds scoring in the first inning with an RBI single.

Houston had a chance to tie it in the third inning when Lugo led off with a double. But Lugo inexplicably tried to score on Craig Biggio's infield hit and was thrown out by a wide margin at home.

The Reds made it 2-0 in the fourth inning.

Raul Gonzalez' RBI single drove Redding out of the game. Corky Miller followed with a two-run double to the left corner off reliever Brandon Puffer to make it 5-0.

Lugo's two-run homer in the seventh inning closed the margin to 6-3. It was his sixth homer of the year.

Tagliabue gives pep talk to Cowboys

IRVING (AP) — NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue delivered a pep talk to the rebuilding Dallas Cowboys on Sunday as the team wrapped up its final mini-camp before training camp begins in two weeks.

"I think the Cowboys are well-positioned in a similar situation to where some of our other clubs have been in recent years, where they are rebuilding and have a good mix of veteran talent and young talent," Tagliabue said.

Tagliabue pointed to the turnaround of the St. Louis Rams, who were coming off a 4-12 season when he spoke to them four years ago. The Rams won the Super Bowl after the 1999 season.

"I think the Cowboys can make that kind of turnaround," Tagliabue said.

Tagliabue also said he expected running back Emmitt Smith to make history this year.

Smith needs 540 yards to pass Walter Payton as the NFL's leading rusher.

Sports Briefs

Cheerleader mini camp

The SHS Cheerleader Mini Camp for ages 4-12 is set for July 29 through Aug. 1. Cost is $40 per camper. Registration will be held Wednesday and Thursday from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Humble Smith office. Campers will compete during halftime of the first home football game.

Booster club meeting

Snyder Tiger Booster Club meets at 7 p.m. July 23 at the athletic film room. Parents of all SHS football players are urged to attend.

Softball meeting

Snyder Girls' Softball Association will hold a board meeting at 7:30 tonight at the BP Pipeline office on Ave. K.

Youth football camp

The free Snyder Tiger Football Camp will be held from 9 a.m. until noon Tuesday at the boys club. Players from six-years-old through the eighth grade can participate. The camp is hosted by SHS coach Chad Rogers and the Snyder Tigers. Hot dogs will be served for a $1.00. For more information, call 573-3344.

Cargile golf tournament

The Kiwanis Cargile Scholarship Foundation benefit Golf Tournament is set for Aug. 10 at Western Texas College. Format is four-person scramble and cost is $30 per player.

Cash prizes will go to the top four teams. Contests for closest-to-the-hole, longest drive and hole-in-one will be held. To register, call the pro shop at 573-9291.

Tennis events

The four-day Snyder Tennis Camp, hosted by SHS coach Ted Phillips, begins next Monday. Incoming fourth through seventh graders are eligible and cost is $30. Registration forms can be picked up at the SHS principal's office.

Snyder Tennis Booster Club is hosting a three-day tournament starting Friday. There will be singles and doubles competition in five age divisions, 12-under, 14-under, 16-under, 18-under and open. There will also be mixed doubles in the open division.

For more information on either event, contact Ted Phillips at 573-2525.

WGA weekly play day

The SCGA Women's Golf Association holds a weekly play day each Tuesday at 9 a.m. Format is queen of the hill.

Major League Baseball

National League
By The Associated Press
All Times EDT

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	58	34	.630	—
Montreal	48	43	.527	9½
Florida	45	46	.495	12½
New York	45	46	.495	12½
Philadelphia	41	49	.456	16
Central Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
St. Louis	49	39	.557	—
Cincinnati	47	44	.516	3½
Houston	44	46	.489	6
Pittsburgh	41	50	.451	9½
Chicago	38	51	.427	11½
Milwaukee	34	58	.370	17
West Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Los Angeles	55	37	.598	—
Arizona	54	37	.593	½
San Francisco	52	39	.571	2½
Colorado	43	49	.467	12
San Diego	36	55	.396	18½

Saturday's Games
Philadelphia 7, N.Y. Mets 6, 12 innings
Houston 2, Cincinnati 1
Chicago Cubs 9, Florida 2
San Francisco 6, Colorado 1
Arizona 7, Los Angeles 5
Montreal 6, Atlanta 3
Pittsburgh 5, Milwaukee 3
St. Louis 2, San Diego 1, 10 innings

Sunday's Games
N.Y. Mets 4, Philadelphia 2
Montreal 10, Atlanta 3
Milwaukee 5, Pittsburgh 3
Chicago Cubs 10, Florida 3
Cincinnati 8, Houston 3
Colorado 5, San Francisco 3
St. Louis 4, San Diego 1
Los Angeles 2, Arizona 1

Monday's Games
Philadelphia (Adams 4-6) at Montreal (Yoshii 2-2), 7:05 p.m.
Florida (Penny 3-3) at N.Y. Mets (Bacsik 1-0), 7:10 p.m.
Atlanta (Marquis 6-4) at Chicago Cubs (C.Zambrano 1-1), 8:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Benson 2-4) at Houston (Cruz 1-4), 8:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Reitsma 3-7) at Milwaukee (Cabrera 4-5), 8:05 p.m.
Colorado (Stark 4-1) at San Diego (Ol.Perez 3-1), 10:05 p.m.
St. Louis (T.Smith 2-0) at Los Angeles (Daal 7-4), 10:10 p.m.
Arizona (Helling 7-7) at San Francisco (Jensen 9-6), 10:15 p.m.

Tuesday's Games
Florida (Beckett 2-3) at N.Y. Mets (Leiter 8-7), 12:10 p.m.
Atlanta (Millwood 7-5) at Chicago Cubs (Lieber 6-6), 2:20 p.m.
Arizona (Johnson 12-3) at San Francisco (Ortiz 6-6), 3:05 p.m.
St. Louis (Benes 0-2) at Los Angeles (Nomo 9-5), 3:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Fogg 9-6) at Houston (Oswalt 10-5), 4:05 p.m.
Philadelphia (Wolf 4-6) at Montreal (Armas Jr. 8-8), 7:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Dessens 5-5) at Milwaukee (Sheets 4-10), 8:05 p.m.
Colorado (Jennings 9-4) at San Diego (Peavy 0-3), 10:05 p.m.

American League
All Times EDT

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	57	34	.626	—
Boston	53	36	.596	3
Baltimore	43	46	.483	13
Toronto	37	53	.411	19½
Tampa Bay	29	60	.326	27
Central Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Minnesota	53	40	.570	—
Chicago	44	49	.473	9
Cleveland	41	49	.456	10½
Kansas City	35	54	.393	16
Detroit	34	56	.378	17½
West Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Seattle	58	34	.630	—
Anaheim	53	37	.589	4
Oakland	53	39	.576	5
Texas	40	50	.444	17

Saturday's Games
Detroit 5, Chicago White Sox 3, 1st game
Detroit 3, Chicago White Sox 1, 2nd game
Toronto 4, Boston 1
Tampa Bay 4, Seattle 3, 10 innings
Texas 8, Minnesota 1
Oakland 6, Baltimore 0
Kansas City 4, Anaheim 0
N.Y. Yankees 14, Cleveland 5

Sunday's Games
Toronto 6, Boston 5
Cleveland 10, N.Y. Yankees 7
Seattle 7, Tampa Bay 6
Baltimore 6, Oakland 3
Minnesota 5, Texas 4
Kansas City 12, Anaheim 3
Chicago White Sox 6, Detroit 4

Monday's Games
Texas (Benoit 2-0) at Kansas City (Sedlacek 0-0), 4:05 p.m., 1st game
Boston (Arrojo 4-2) at Detroit (Lima 1-4), 7:05 p.m.
Seattle (Franklin 4-1) at Baltimore (Ponson 3-4), 7:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (O.Hernandez 5-2) at Toronto (Parris 1-2), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Glover 3-4) at Cleveland (Phillips 0-1), 7:05 p.m.
Oakland (Lilly 3-6) at Tampa Bay (Rupe 5-9), 7:15 p.m.
Texas (Bell 3-3) at Kansas City (Ru.Hernandez 0-0), 7:35 p.m., 2nd game
Anaheim (Lackey 1-1) at Minnesota (Santana 4-1), 8:05 p.m.

Tuesday's Games
Seattle (Pineiro 10-3) at Baltimore (Erickson 3-9), 12:35 p.m.
Anaheim (Washburn 10-2) at Minnesota (Milton 11-6), 1:05 p.m.
Boston (Burkett 8-3) at Detroit (Sparks 4-9), 2:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Weaver 7-8) at Toronto (Walker 3-1), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Wright 6-8) at Cleveland (Sabathia 6-8), 7:05 p.m.
Oakland (Mulder 10-5) at Tampa Bay (Sosa 0-1), 7:15 p.m.
Texas (Park 3-5) at Kansas City (May 2-6), 8:05 p.m.

Armstrong ready to make charge in mountain stages

PLOUAY, France (AP) — After a week of flat and fast riding in the Tour de France, Lance Armstrong is ready to get going.

He is in eighth place but comfortable with his position in his bid for a fourth straight title.

Armstrong trails Spain's Igor Gonzalez Galdeano of the Once team by 34 seconds, largely because a crash Saturday that entangled the Texan and slowed him by 27 seconds.

"I thought that if we were sure to lose the Tour, we would lose it in the first week," the star U.S. Postal Service rider said. "To be basically at the same time as them, I consider that to be limited damage."

Armstrong placed 35th in Sunday's eighth stage, a mostly flat, 135-mile run. He finished with the main pack, 1 minute, 55 seconds, behind stage winner Karsten Kroon.

Armstrong is expected to make up time in the mountain stages that begin Thursday. Last year, he won the Tour with an advantage of 6:44. He was 13:28 ahead of Gonzalez Galdeano thanks to his stunning performance in the Alps and Pyrenees.

Armstrong is impressed by the riders' speeds this year.

"They attack from the beginning, and they don't seem to ever stop," he said.

Today's time trial takes riders from Lanester to Lorient.

WNBA Glance

By The Associated Press
All Times EDT

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	14	6	.700	—
Charlotte	11	8	.579	2½
New York	11	9	.550	3
Orlando	9	9	.500	4
Miami	9	10	.474	4½
Indiana	8	11	.421	5½
Cleveland	7	12	.368	6½
Detroit	3	16	.158	10½
WESTERN CONFERENCE	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Los Angeles	15	3	.833	—
Houston	16	4	.800	—
Utah	13	6	.684	2½
Portland	11	9	.550	5
Seattle	9	11	.450	7
Phoenix	8	11	.421	7½
Minnesota	6	13	.316	9½
Sacramento	3	15	.167	12

Saturday's Games
New York 67, Washington 53
Utah 75, Phoenix 66
Charlotte 63, Minnesota 60
Miami 70, Orlando 56

Sunday's Games
No games scheduled

Monday's Game
All-Star Game at Washington, 7:30 p.m.

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12x30 units & other sizes available in **Snyder**

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Covenant Home
Health Care - Post
(806) 495-3533
231 East Main, Post, TX

HELP WANTED
Wait-staff needed at Rudy's, 4604 College. No phone calls!

Maintenance worker needed. Apply in person at Willow Park Inn, 1137 E. Hwy. 180.

Now hiring delivery drivers. Please apply in person at Pizza Inn, 3907 College Ave.

Employment

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

Now hiring at Plaza Restaurant, wait-staff, dishwashers and cooks. Pick up applications at restaurant.

NURSERY COORDINATOR for First Baptist Church. Part-time position. Must be able to organize, staff and maintain an efficient, caring nursery ministry. Pick up application at 1701 27th and return by July 19th.

Sandblaster needed. Clean driving record a must. Apply in person, Rhodes Welding, 3220 W. Hwy-180.

Snyder Oaks Care Center is now hiring LVN's on all shifts. We offer competitive benefits package including paying 2/3 of health insurance. Call 573-9377, ask for Vicky Crawford, Angela Gonzalez or Janice Childers or apply in person at 210 E. 37th St.

Taking applications for desk clerk. Apply in person at Days Inn, 800 E. Coliseum Dr.

Teller position available. Fast paced environment. Computer skills necessary and ability to work well with others. Send resume to: Teller
P.O. Box 949D
Snyder, TX 79550

White Buffalo Cafe
Hiring wait-staff & dishwashers for day & evening shifts.
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Farmer's Column

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All inclusive bunk bed w/drawers, mattresses, desk, shelves, $250. Blue valour hide-a-bed couch, $50.
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- **Garage sale ads will be published Friday, July 19th.**
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- **Sale ads will be grouped by location**
- **You get 4 garage sale signs**
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(Payment is due in advance.)

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PALLETS FOR SALE
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Chihuahuas for sale. Call 573-8864, ask for Josephina Vera. 505 N. College.

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Boston Terrier puppies. Very cute!! $150 Ready to go July 30th. Call 863-2729.

Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE
3203 Irving
Tuesday 9a.m. – ??

GARAGE SALE
Association for Retarded Citizens open each Tuesday and Thursday, 8a.m.-3:30p.m., 2504 Ave. W. Good used children's clothes. Donations of useable & sellable items accepted. For local pickup on items, call 573-4186, 573-5374 or 573-3729.

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Furnished 1 bedroom apartment, w/refrigerated air, for rent in Hermleigh. Nice & clean. Call 863-2700.

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*319 29th 2-1, $200 mo., $100/dep.
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1-888-596-6218
915-669-1452, 915-669-1501

2-1-1, fenced, corner lot. 2807 38th St. Call 573-4454.

2 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/RA. 2907 Ave. V Call 573-9068.

3-1, fenced yard, evaporative cooling. $250/mo., $100/dep. No pets. References required. 509 17th 573-0002

3-2-2 house located in south Snyder, CH/A, fireplace, W/D connections. $450/mo. Available Aug. 1st. Contact Corbin at 972-841-8452.

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Available Now
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321 35th St. 3-1-1 detached.....$24T
6.91 Acres 2[CONTRACT PENDING]& Pens
REDUCED 4-2-2 2211 27th.....$39T
Spacious 4 -[CONTRACT PENDING]Hill Ave.
160 A's 3-2-o[CONTRACT PENDING]rmleigh
Nice Storm Cellar 3-2-2cp 314 36th $37.5T
Reduced! Ne[CONTRACT PENDING]p....$90T
3202 40th 3-1-1 Nice Kitchen & Carpeting $29.5T
Good Floor Plan 3-1¾-2 4006 Jacksboro $54.9T
Handy Loc. REDUCED 4-1¾-2cp Det. $23.5T
New Carpet 2-1-2cp + appliances.....$18T
9.02 A's w/lovely home 3-2-2cp, Din. Rm + Den
Ira ISD 3-1¾-1cp on 4 acres.....$32.5T
Reduced 2211 44th 3-1-1, covered patio $39.5T
We Will Work For YOU!
We Need Listings
Doris Spikes.....573-6602

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Val Trammell - Apartment Mgr.
$99 Summer Move-In Special
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MISS YOUR PAPER?
Your Snyder Daily New should be delivered to you by 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Your Carrier strives to give prompt service, but should your paper be missing...
Please Call 573-5486
Before 6:30 p.m.
Monday through Saturday

Residents see wildfire-ravaged homes

MADRAS, Ore. (AP) — A wildfire slowed enough for residents to take their first look at the twisted sheet metal, charred furniture and melted glass of 18 ravaged homes in a subdivision of this north-central Oregon town.

Cooler weather and increased humidity slowed the fire Sunday, allowing crews to escort some owners into the Three Rivers community of retirement and vacation homes. The 16,000-acre blaze also burned 19 other buildings and three travel trailers, said Jeree Mills, a spokeswoman for the Northwest Fire Coordination Center.

Firefighters in yellow jackets took the group past smoldering stumps, piles of ash and twisted, scorched sheet metal roofing — all that remained of houses struck by the fire.

"By the time it got to our place, it was pretty well gone," said Merritt Williams, a retired engineer with a five-acre lot on the subdivision. His house was burned to ash but a shop was left standing.

Firefighters had fought the blaze house to house, and managed to save most of the structures in the 200-home development, said David Widmark, a fire center spokesman. Crews poured water and fire retardant on the homes and cleared away brush and trees.

Officials had no estimate on when the fire, started by lightning earlier in the week, would be contained.

An evacuation order remained in effect for the 200 homes in Three Rivers and 80 homes in the nearby Forest Park and Chinook Village developments.

About 1,000 firefighters battled the fire Sunday.

The fire was one of several raging in the West.

—In northwestern Arizona, a wildfire raced across nearly 1,000 acres of dry brush and trees on Sunday, stopping just short of a small community of about 200 near Kingman, officials said.

The lightning-caused fire exploded in size from 80 acres earlier in the day and burned to within a mile of the mountain subdivision of Pine Lake before changing directions, Bureau of Land Management fire information officer Bob Hall said.

—At least 25 homes in southwestern Colorado were evacuated Sunday and firefighters had to move their helicopter base when a wind-whipped wildfire expanded.

The blaze, about 200 miles southwest of Denver, had covered about 15,000 acres by late Sunday and officials said it was no more than 10 percent contained.

—In Wyoming, firefighters began building a fire line around a blaze in Yellowstone National Park that had grown to more than 7,300 acres. Several trails and campsites near the fire were closed, but the major tourist attractions in the park remained open.

—A wildfire started in Nevada by lightning Thursday night spread into Utah on Sunday, forcing the evacuation of homes and threatening an old mining camp designated as a state historical landmark. The 3,500-acre blaze was burning about 220 miles southwest of Salt Lake City. It was unclear how many homes were evacuated.

—In California, a fire exploded to 6,000 acres Sunday just south of Topaz Lake, on the Nevada line, some 25 miles southeast of Lake Tahoe. About 150 people were urged to evacuate a nearby campground.

Fabricated research involved in discovery

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP) — A discredited discovery of two new heavy elements in 1999 was based on fabricated research, lab officials acknowledged.

At a speech to employees last month, the lab's director, Charles Shank, said the supposedly landmark discovery of elements 118 and 116 was the result of scientific misconduct by one individual of a 15-member team at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Lab officials last year retracted the announcement of the discovery after the research team and other scientists were unable to duplicate the results, but the allegation of scientific misconduct is only now becoming public.

Shank's comments are detailed in the lab's official newsletter.

The individual singled out by Shank, but not identified by him, was identified by several newspapers as fired physicist Victor Ninov.

Ninov was suspended by the lab in November, later fired and has a grievance pending regarding his dismissal. There was no phone number listed in California for Ninov, and calls to the lab's spokesman seeking further comment were not immediately returned.

The announcement that scientists had discovered the two elements appeared in the June 1999 edition of the journal Physical Review of Letters. A proposed retraction was submitted to the journal last year.

Prior to the scrutiny of the discovery, the Lawrence Berkeley lab team said its work confirmed theories that began to circulate among physicists some 30 years ago about an "island of stability" for nuclei with approximately 114 protons and 184 neutrons.

In the original experiment, lead targets were bombarded with beams of high-energy krypton ions. The sequence of decay events for elements 118 and 116, if detected, would be consistent with theories of an "island of stability" for nuclei.

New album shows Sept. 11 influence

NEW YORK (AP) — The events of Sept. 11 have found their way into Bruce Springsteen's latest album.

The CD, "The Rising," features 15 songs that are influenced by the terror attacks, offering individual stories from all sides. It is Springsteen's first studio recording with the E Street Band in 15 years.

The singer-songwriter who has championed the daily lives of blue-collar workers naturally gravitated toward the heroes that emerged among police officers and firefighters.

"I felt that I saw nobility in people," he told The New York Times on Sunday. "Not the kind you read in the story books, but the kind where people go in to work every day, they come home every day and dinner's on the table every day ... These are the people that I want to write about.

After the 11th, I think one of the things people were shocked at was that that was alive in some fashion. I think that we live in a particular pop culture moment, that there's a theater of humiliation on TV and on the radio, a reflection of self-loathing. I don't think anyone could imagine these sacrifices."

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Breast calcifications need addressing

DEAR DR. GOTT: I am 60 and was recently found to have calcifications in my breasts. What is the difference between this and calcifications elsewhere in the body? Is treatment necessary?

DEAR READER: Calcium deposits often appear in parts of the body that are irritated or inflamed. For example, arteriosclerosis (age-related hardening of the arteries) is marked by calcium plaques in arterial walls. Inflamed tendons and ligaments may calcify, leading to limitation of motion and sharp pain on movement.

Similarly, breast tissue can become calcified in the presence of inflammation or tumors. Based on imaging studies, radiologists can usually determine if speckled breast calcifications are benign or are associated with malignant changes. This is one powerful advantage of periodic mammograms, which enable physicians to discover calcium deposits that cannot be felt during a breast examination.

I assume from your question that you had a mammogram, during which the doctor discovered areas of calcification in your breasts. Based on the pattern of these speckles, the doctor should have advised you whether to have a follow-up mammogram in a few months (to see if the pattern of calcium changes, indicating an active process requiring investigation) or whether you should proceed directly to a biopsy to determine if the calcifications are part of a growth.

Your physician can advise you about further testing and treatment. Breast calcifications may be a cause for concern; as a general rule, they are not related to calcifications elsewhere in the body.

A NOTE TO READERS: For an updated and revised Health Report on "Diabetes Mellitus," send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Be sure to mention the title. Also, be on the lookout for more updated Health Reports.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I've been diagnosed with peripheral neuropathy. What is this? Can it be cured?

DEAR READER: Peripheral neuropathy means that one or more nerves in your arms or legs is not working properly. This is caused by nerve irritation, inflammation or injury. Common causes include trauma, autoimmune diseases, infection, toxic agents (such as industrial poisons and lead), allergic reactions to drugs, vitamin deficiency (especially the B group), diabetes, thyroid disorders and malignancies. The reason for the neuropathy must be discovered before treatment can be considered.

The affliction is marked by pain, numbness and weakness in the distribution of the affected nerves. Carpal tunnel syndrome, for instance, a neuropathy of the hand, is produced by compression of the nerves in the wrist; it is treated with cortisone injections, physical therapy and surgical decompression. The neuropathy of diabetes usually affects the feet and may improve once the blood sugar level is brought to normal with medication and/or diet. Metabolic neuropathy (caused by dietary deficiencies) usually affects the hands and feet; it will ordinarily improve once the deficiencies are corrected.

Therefore, in answer to your question, the disorder has a legion of causes. Your problem can be successfully treated — and very likely cured — when the cause(s) have been identified.

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Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 07-15-02
♠ Q 10 9 6
♥ 7 4
♦ 6 5 2
♣ Q 10 9 6

West
♠ K 3
♥ A Q 9 8 3
♦ K Q 7 3
♣ J 3

East
♠ J 4 2
♥ K 10 6 5
♦ J 9 4
♣ K 7 4

South
♠ A 8 7 5
♥ J 2
♦ A 10 8
♣ A 8 5 2

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
1♣	1♥	Dbl.	3♣
3♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♥ A

North made an aggressive negative double, indicating four spades. East's three-club bid showed four hearts with 6-9 points, a so-called mixed raise. West would have made three hearts, for plus 140. So, if South could escape for two down in three spades, minus 100, he would get a good result; but three down, minus 150, would be bad. (West might have risked a double.)

East and West were Miguel Reygadas and Dr. George Rosenkranz, Mexico's most successful partnership.

The defense began with the heart ace, a heart to the king, and a diamond shift to declarer's ace. Now South would have done best to continue with a low spade. Declarer would have some guesswork, but he could get out for two down. However, South continued with the ace and another spade, in this reality an error.

After winning with the spade king, Rosenkranz cashed his two diamond tricks, then continued with another diamond, which conceded a ruff-and-discard while promoting his partner's spade jack. After ruffing with his last trump, Reygadas exited with a heart, both conceding a ruff-and-discard and ensuring a club trick for his side.

Declarer made one error, received two ruff-and-discards, and went three down.

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Monday, July 15, 2002

One error, two sluffs, three undertricks

By Phillip Alder

Rene Daumal, a French poet and critic, wrote, "Art has a double face, of expression and illusion, just like science has a double face: the reality of error and the phantom of truth."

By those definitions, bridge is closer to a science than an art. In this deal, from a club duplicate in Mexico City, give your expression to predict the play.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	13.90	13.35	13.60	—.20
AOL TimeWrn	13.05	12.56	12.71	—.43
AT&T Corp	10.52	10.21	10.43	—.01
Albertsons	28.68	27.75	27.99	—.94
Allstate	44.88	44.11	44.20	—.65
AmEl Pw	35.92	33.02	33.60	—1.91
AndarkPtr	45.00	44.00	44.28	—.40
ATMOS Egy	21.00	20.15	20.19	—.76
Availl	13.95	13.50	13.51	+.16
BP PLC	45.25	43.75	43.91	—2.79
BakerHughes	29.77	28.52	28.58	—.94
Bank of Amer	67.61	66.60	67.10	—1.51
BellSouth	31.16	30.53	30.72	—.53
BurlNoSFe	28.50	27.85	28.09	—.51
Caterpillar	45.50	44.40	44.50	—1.00
ChevronTex	82.30	80.60	80.80	—2.00
Citigroup	36.06	35.26	35.50	—.85
CocaCola	51.75	50.60	51.18	+.13
ColgatePal	49.10	48.11	48.30	—1.18
CmclMetals s	20.76	20.40	20.44	—.33
Cooper Inds	35.85	35.50	35.55	+.05
DaimlrChry	46.05	45.43	45.45	+.55
DeltaAirl	17.65	17.00	17.11	—.31
Dillards Inc	25.57	24.97	24.97	—.68
DowChem	30.26	28.80	29.39	—.86
DuPont	42.31	41.23	41.25	—2.03
EastmanChem	43.49	42.19	42.19	—1.55
EstKodak	29.16	28.44	28.65	—.25
EDS Corp	35.50	34.80	35.26	—.56
Entergy	38.18	36.68	36.95	—1.46
ExxonMobil	36.30	35.13	35.32	—1.21
FootLocker	13.50	13.11	13.12	—.38
GenDynam	96.31	92.91	93.20	—3.11
GenElec	28.52	25.25	28.08	—.52
GenMills	42.55	41.79	42.39	+.23
GenMotors	46.75	45.79	46.65	+.05
GaPacific	22.73	22.13	22.36	—.50
Goodrich	22.95	21.84	22.20	—.79
Goodyear	16.86	16.13	16.18	—.53
GtAtlPac	17.43	17.23	17.26	—.16
Halliburtn	13.57	12.91	12.92	—.60
Hanson ADS	31.51	30.35	30.62	—.53
HarteHanks s	19.50	18.99	19.14	—.35
HomeDepot	30.00	29.00	29.86	+.77
HoneywellIntl	32.75	32.17	32.42	—.15
IBM	69.47	67.61	68.26	—.95
IntlPaper	40.90	39.96	39.98	—.97
Johnson.In	49.69	47.52	47.58	—2.92
vjK mart	.57	.51	.51	—.06
KinderMorg	38.90	38.52	38.60	—.11
Kroger Co	19.88	19.50	19.65	—.38
LockheedM	60.51	58.30	58.81	—3.38
Lowes Cos	39.93	38.80	39.42	—.76
Lubys	6.01	6.00	6.01	+.01
LucentTech	2.66	2.42	2.56	
MaralthonOil	24.54	23.90	24.07	—.52
MayDeptStr	30.24	29.40	29.41	—.83
Medtronic	38.68	37.59	37.77	—.91
Motorola	13.80	13.33	13.68	—.08
NCR Corp	32.41	31.95	32.06	—.04
Navistar	30.04	29.46	29.52	—.54
PNM Rescs	19.80	18.92	19.14	—.41
Penney JC	18.35	18.06	18.10	—.44
PepBoys	13.39	12.55	12.59	—.82
PepsiCo	41.60	40.75	41.15	—.95
Pharmacia	40.55	37.46	38.30	+5.71
PhelpDodge	38.55	37.70	37.71	—.96
PhillipPet	52.60	50.00	51.85	—1.21
PilgrmPrd B	12.35	12.00	12.10	—.26
Praxair	51.51	50.00	50.00	—2.05
ProctGamb	83.20	81.10	81.55	—2.08
RadioShack	26.75	26.35	26.41	—.34
ReliantEngy	14.95	14.18	14.71	—.24
RoyalDut	47.95	46.70	46.82	—1.98
SBC Comm	29.20	28.70	28.95	—.69
SaraLee	18.45	17.77	18.15	
Scripps EW	76.24	75.40	75.66	—.78
SearsRoeb	47.17	46.35	46.66	+.14
SherwinW	28.35	27.72	27.72	—.71
SouthernCo	24.95	23.70	24.01	—1.28
SwstAirl	13.79	13.27	13.65	—.15
SprintFON	11.75	11.50	11.65	—.12
SprintPCS	6.00	5.75	5.94	—.08
Sunoco Inc	34.40	33.82	34.10	—.18
TXU Corp	40.60	39.00	40.20	—1.79
TempleInland	53.15	51.64	51.81	—1.68
TexInd	29.35	29.11	29.25	—.15
TexasInst	24.15	23.10	23.86	—.08
Textron	39.89	38.90	38.97	—.74
TrinityInds	19.82	19.20	19.21	—.75
TylerTech	5.08	4.95	5.00	—.03
UnionPacif	58.10	57.02	58.04	—.66
USSteel	18.37	17.70	18.03	—.34
UnitedTech	63.20	61.40	62.10	—1.21
Unocal	33.52	32.93	33.01	—.59
VerizonComm	34.65	33.90	34.02	—1.28
WalMart	52.50	51.50	51.82	—1.03
WellsFargo	47.70	46.90	47.01	—1.09
WstnGasRs	32.16	31.65	32.04	—.12
WinnDixie	16.09	16.00	16.04	—.08
Xerox Cp	9.22	9.00	9.17	—.20
YumBrands s	26.40	25.25	25.39	—1.10

JUL 15 2002

Orphan killer whale swims free toward unknown future

HANSON ISLAND, British Columbia (AP) — An orphan killer whale who strayed into central Puget Sound near Seattle last month eagerly fled her human helpers to strike out on her own in her native waters.

After pausing to play with some kelp, the 2-year-old whale swam out of Dong Chong Bay on Sunday heading west. The eight passing members of her birth pod headed east, though they were still within hearing range of each other.

"She's a toddler," said Vancouver Aquarium whale expert Lance Barrett-Lennard. Killer whales have about the same life span as humans, and their life stages roughly parallel those of humans.

The orca was kept in the temporary pen after she arrived late Saturday on a 400-mile, 13-hour trip aboard a donated high-speed ferry. She was captured in June after spending the winter by herself in Puget Sound.

The orcas that entered the bay — a very unusual move for killer whales, Barrett-Lennard said — were as tentative as the orphan. They entered the bay "slowly, inquisitively," he said.

"Your impression was that they were being coy," he said.

They milled around for a time at a distance, exchanging calls with the long-lost orca, then advanced a bit. She poked her head out of the water, as did some in the group.

"Her best chance is to find a female she can bond with closely," said aquarium vice president of operations Clint Wright, who oversaw coordination of her transport north.

The hope is that she will find a niche within her clan, but life as a solitary whale in these waters would offer her a more secure future than she could have found in Puget Sound, he said.

Killer whales, a kind of dolphin, are found in all the world's oceans. Resident pods in the inland waters of the United States and Canada are struggling with dwindling salmon runs, increasing human contact and pollution.

Within two hours of her release, the orca swam up to a passing motorboat. The orca was easily recognizable because of yellow transmitters attached to her with suction cups to help the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans keep an eye on her.

Bus and car collision kills three people

BUFFALO (AP) — Three people died Sunday when their car crossed the median on Interstate 45 and was struck by a chartered bus carrying students to a cheerleading camp in Galveston, the Department of Public Safety said.

No one on the bus was seriously injured, said DPS spokeswoman Tela Mange.

Ron Norris, general manager of Fort Worth-based Gotta Go Express, said one girl on the bus received a cut. The bus carried 48 people, including the driver.

Mange said it was raining heavily at the time of the accident, about 9:20 a.m., a half-mile south of Buffalo.

She said the driver of the car lost control of the vehicle, and it crossed the median. The vehicle spun 180 degrees and was struck in the rear by the bus.

Norris said the bus was one of four Champion Cheer of Colleyville chartered to take cheerleaders to a private camp in Galveston.

Rain hurts cantaloupe crops

By The Associated Press

Maine has its lobsters, and Georgia has its sweet Vidalia onions. Texas has its Pecos cantaloupes.

But the rough-skinned, sugary orbs grown in the arid soil of southwest Texas are more difficult to find this year.

A grocery store chain recently displayed the bad news to loyal melon fans in Dallas: No Pecos cantaloupes, due to recent rains, the sign read.

Citing everything from the weather to a declining number of farmers, Pecos area growers acknowledge they have not been able to meet demand for their cantaloupes so far this summer.

"It's nice to have a product everybody wants, but bad when you can't furnish all they want," A.B. Foster, 81, retired owner of the Pecos Cantaloupe Co., said Sunday night.

"It's a sad deal. All we can do is ship what we grow," said Foster, who remains close to the business in Pecos, in Reeves County.

The good news: Eighteen-wheelers filled with cantaloupes are leaving Pecos every day, and production is expected to grow.

"They are packing cantaloupes, and there will be increased volume in the next weeks," he said. "There's big demand for them, and we have to get to them the best we can."

The salty, sandy soil in Pecos, Reeves, and Presidio counties produces the moist melons known for their sweetness.

The arrival of the Texas and Pacific Railroad in 1881 helped propel the melons to fame when they began being served in dining cars.

Today consumers literally can't get enough of them, and some farmers blame the weather.

July rains effectively stopped the cantaloupe, watermelon and the end of the onion harvest in southwest Texas, the Texas Cooperative Extension reported last week.

"Pecos County this year has gotten quite a bit of rain, especially early on with quite a few events down there. They've been getting more rain than anyone around there," said Eric Platt, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Midland.

Grower Randy Taylor of Pecos believes unusual weather, including lower temperatures, has contributed to problems for his cantaloupes.

"Our crop is less than 50 percent what it usually is," he said. "We've got a lot of people wanting them, and we can't supply them right now."

A cantaloupe farmer near Saragosa lost his entire crop to hail about two weeks ago, just as he was about to begin harvesting.

Foster, who grew cantaloupes for 40 years, said the biggest problem is a declining number of growers.

"We just don't have the acreage this year that we used to have," he said. "I've been in this business when we had five packing sheds running at a time. Now we have one packing shed, and next week we'll have a second one."

He said the economy forced a number of growers, who must pump in water to farm in the hot, desert-dry country, to quit the business.

All is not lost.

Pecos producers said they expect to provide hungry connoisseurs with plenty of lucious melons before the season ends in September.

Foster expects production to ramp up shortly, and Taylor is equally confident.

"The crop will pick up the further we get into the season," he said.

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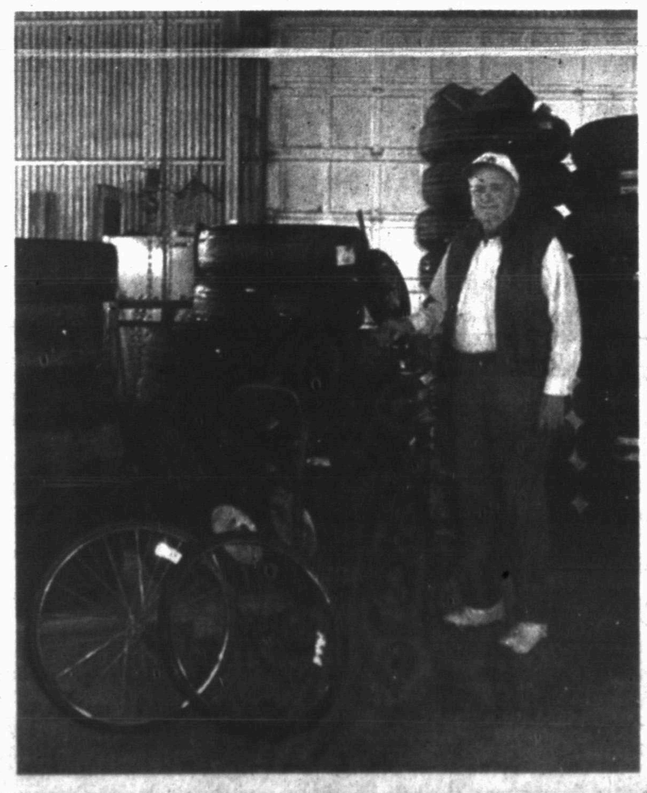

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

In France...

Spectators thwart assassination bid

PARIS (AP) — French President Jacques Chirac thanked spectators today for helping subdue a neo-Nazi who tried to assassinate him during the annual Bastille Day parade. People in the crowd knocked away the man's rifle as he fired a shot, then wrestled him to the ground, witnesses said.

The gunman pulled a rifle out of a guitar case and fired at least once from the crowds near Paris' Arc de Triomphe as Chirac, riding an open-top jeep about 50 yards away, reviewed troops for a parade on France's national holiday Sunday.

Chirac was unharmed and there were no other injuries, as spectators and police grabbed the man.

Paris police identified the man as 25-year-old Maxime Brunerie, a member of "neo-Nazi and hooligan" groups.

Police said the gunman was linked to a far-right student group, the Groupe Union Defense, among others, and had a history of psychiatric problems. The man was transferred to a psychiatric facility for testing. A doctor was to decide whether he was mentally fit to return to police headquarters.

French newspapers reported that Brunerie ran in March 2001 municipal elections for the National Republican Movement, the far-right party of Bruno Megret, who is a former lieutenant of National Front leader Jean-Marie Le Pen.

Megret condemned the attack on Chirac and said in a statement that his party rejects "all forms of extremism and activism." Le Pen also denounced the attack Sunday. Chirac crushed Le Pen in the second round of France's presidential election in May.

Arab plan seeks state recognition first

JERUSALEM (AP) — With a new round of Mideast diplomacy opening this week, Arab nations will present a plan calling for international recognition of a Palestinian state, followed by a two-year period to work out the final borders, a diplomatic source said today.

The talks that open Tuesday in New York are an attempt to revive Mideast peacemaking that collapsed more than a year ago amid persistent violence, and will include diplomats from the United States, the United Nations, Europe, and Russia, along with Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

With Israel's army occupying most Palestinian cities, and Palestinian militants attempting to carry out daily attacks, prospects for major breakthroughs appear dim.

The Arab plan, worked out in conjunction with the Palestinians, calls for Palestinian elections for a new leader and parliament in January as part of a broader reform effort, the source said.

Shortly after the balloting, the Palestinians would seek United Nations recognition for a state based on the borders that existed before the 1967 Mideast war, the diplomatic source said.

If the United Nations recognized a Palestinian state, the Israelis and Palestinians could then begin negotiations on final borders. There would be a one-year deadline to negotiate an agreement, followed by a second year to implement the deal, the source added.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Palestinian negotiator Ahmed Qureia held secret talks last year that included similar ideas, but it was never formally introduced amid the ongoing fighting.

It is not clear whether the latest proposal would receive a better reception this time.

Meanwhile, after a week of sharp criticism, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's Cabinet changed its position Sunday and decided not to support legislation that would prevent Arab citizens from buying land in some Jewish communities.

The issue has not been fully settled, and Sharon said he and his government still support the idea of allowing religious and ethnic groups to have their own communities.

With respect to the statehood plan, the Palestinians have sought a deal that would create a Palestinian state based on the 1967 borders, which include all of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, with a capital in east Jerusalem. They have been extremely wary of any interim agreements that leave the border issue and other key questions unresolved.

Sharon has often said that he does not believe a final agreement is possible at present, and the most that could be achieved is a long-term interim arrangement that would be in place for years, perhaps even a decade or more, before a final agreement is reached.

Sharon has also said that Israel will never pull back to the 1967 borders, which he and other Israeli leaders describe as insecure for Israel.

President Bush and Sharon have demanded that Yasser Arafat be replaced as the Palestinian leader, and that sweeping Palestinian reforms be implemented before serious peace negotiations can resume.

Arafat has said he will not step down.

Officials at WorldCom started to shift accounts in year 2000

WASHINGTON (AP) — Officials at WorldCom Inc. shifted accounts around as early as 2000, well before the nearly $4 billion in accounting irregularities that led the government to file civil fraud charges against the company, documents turned over to a House investigative panel show.

Several managers at WorldCom discovered the earlier juggling of the books, tried to do something about it and were brushed off by senior executives, Rep. Billy Tauzin, R-La., chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, said Sunday.

The latest revelation concerning one of the biggest accounting scandals battering investors' confidence came three days after Tauzin said new information indicated that WorldCom founder and former chief executive Bernard Ebbers was aware of the improper bookkeeping disclosed last month.

Ebbers' attorney has insisted he had no knowledge of the transactions.

Committee investigators received five boxes of documents from WorldCom on Thursday, the deadline set by the panel in its request for the records.

"There's quite an insight in these documents as to how corporate greed took over" in 2000 and the company started disguising expenses as capital expenditures to make itself appear more profitable, Tauzin said on ABC's "This Week."

"The documents also reveal a strange pattern of people inside the corporation discovering it, trying to do something about it and ultimately failing until recently," Tauzin said.

One of those was WorldCom internal auditor Cynthia Cooper, who met in 2000 with a finance department employee named Troy Normand. Normand expressed concerns to her about "aggressive accounting" that had caused him to consider resigning, Cooper wrote in a memo on their meeting.

Normand took his concerns to then-chief financial officer Scott Sullivan and company comptroller David Myers, both of whom assured him that "everything's fine," Tauzin said. Myers, who was the only person apart from Sullivan to have direct control over WorldCom's books, resigned to avoid being fired by the company when the board learned of the massive misstatement.

Sullivan and Ebbers, who were both ousted from the company, invoked their Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination at a congressional hearing.

Obituaries

Bud Gillean

1913-2002

ODESSA – Buster Virgel "Bud" Gillean, a retired Gulf Oil employee and former resident of Snyder, died Saturday, July 13, in Medical Center Hospital.

Funeral service for Mr. Gillean, 88, is set for 10 a.m. Tuesday in the Hubbard-Kelly Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Jimmy Braswell officiating. Interment will follow at 3 p.m. in the Roscoe Cemetery.

Born Sept. 7, 1913 in Mount Joy, Tex., he married Marie Hamilton on April 11, 1936 in Sweetwater. Mr. Gillean moved to Odessa from Snyder in 1958. A Baptist, he worked for Gulf Oil for 36 years.

Survivors include his wife, Marie Gillean of Odessa; a son, Max Gillean; two daughters, Mickey Holley and Sonja Johnson; two brothers, Cliff Gillean and Quentin Gillean; two sisters, Essie Gillean and Wanda Gillean; seven grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

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Inquiry reveals intelligence shortcomings

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lawmakers looking at intelligence failures leading up to the Sept. 11 attacks say they've uncovered numerous problems — but not a single, massive error that allowed the hijackings to occur.

The FBI and CIA weren't sharing information. Agencies lacked people to quickly translate intercepted conversations. The FBI's internal computer systems were hopelessly outdated. Human spying was given too low a priority. Intelligence and law enforcement officials were reluctant to take risks.

With their inquiry resuming Tuesday after a four-week break, members of the House and Senate intelligence committees now will start examining what can be done to correct such shortcomings.

"I don't know what would have protected us from Sept. 11. I hope to by the end of the inquiry," said House Minority Whip Nancy Pelosi of California, the top Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee.

No major changes to the FBI and CIA are expected as Congress considers President Bush's proposal to create a Homeland Security Department.

Police respond to 2 fights over weekend

•Fights

An unknown caller reported a fight just before 9 p.m. Saturday in the area of Ave. N and Dorsey. An offense report for family violence was filed.

At 3:25 this morning Roger Garza was assaulted by two men at the College Park Apartments, but he did not file a report.

•Theft

An employee of Key Energy requested deputies at 7:20 a.m. Saturday in reference to three batteries taken from an oilfield rig on CR 258. An offense report for Class B theft was submitted.

•Welfare concern

Police received two calls around 8 p.m. Sunday about an older man asking directions and possibly being disoriented near the Towle Park entrance. Officers made contact with the man and transported him back to his residence in the Golden Terrace Apartments.

•Close patrols

Lynn Chaney requested a close patrol of Dupree Motors just after 10 p.m. Saturday.

Betty Elam reported loud music coming from a vehicle in the 200 block of 36th Place just after midnight Saturday and a close patrol was initiated.

An unknown caller reported vehicles racing through Towle Park at 1:40 a.m. Sunday.

A woman requested a close patrol of her residence at the Western Crest Apartments just after 6:30 p.m. Sunday in reference to being harassed by another woman.

Edna Cave requested a close patrol in the 3900 block of Ave. O at 11:13 p.m. Sunday in reference to seeing someone on her patio.

A woman reported two juveniles hiding near the chamber of commerce building then running to the post office at 1:50 a.m. today.

•Information

Officers reported an unsecured padlock at the American Legion at 1:55 a.m. today, and officers secured the lock.

Just before 3 this morning, officers discovered an unsecured padlock on a storage trailer at the American Legion, and officers secured the lock.

•Gas drive off

Just before 11 a.m. Saturday, a clerk with Town and Country east reported a gas drive off worth $27.52.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Museum exhibit

A special exhibit of Harley-Davidson, Indian motorcycles and Cushman motor scooters continues through Aug. 22 at the Scurry County Museum on the Western Texas College campus. The free exhibit is entitled Ready To Roll and all bikes are owned by residents of Scurry County.

Medical fund

A medical fund has been established for James Weldon Buchanan at American State Bank to help with cancer treatment expenses. The account name is James Weldon Buchanan Medical Fund, #4802659.

AARP meeting

AARP will meet at 5:30 p.m. today for a potluck supper at the senior center. Guest speaker will be Gayle Lomax, Snyder ISD superintendent.

VFW auxiliary meeting

VFW Auxiliary Post 8231 will meet at 7 tonight at the post home. All members are encouraged to attend.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 this evening is "Love That Serves God," followed by "Mother."

Gateway Family Services

Gateway Family Services has a parenting discussion group from 10:30-11:30 a.m. every Tuesday, focusing on parenting issues and special challenges. The family violence support group also meets from 6:30-7:30 p.m. every Tuesday.

White Elephant auction

Snyder Lions Club will hold a White Elephant Auction at Tuesday's noon meeting at Martha Ann Woman's Club.

Mesquite Country Emmaus

Mesquite Country Emmasus will hold a community meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Word is Life Deliverance Church, 312 Coliseum Drive. Babe Chicks meet at 6 p.m.

Desert Reign Ministry

Desert Reign Ministry will perform at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Trinity United Methodist Church. The public is invited to hear country gospel music with a southwestern flair.

FBC services televised

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

Open house

Snyder Healthcare Center will host an open house from 2 to 6:15 p.m. Friday. Staff will provide tours of renovated facilities. There will be door prizes, entertainment and refreshments.

Girl Scout swim party

A Girl Scout swim party will be 5-7 p.m. Saturday at Towle Park pool, followed by a hot dog supper in the park. Girl Scout membership card is required for admittance. There will be a leader meeting during the party. Contact your leader or call 573-3926 for more information.

Adventures with Paul VBS

Adventures with Paul Vacation Bible School will be from 9 a.m. until noon July 22-24 at 37th St. Church of Christ. It is for ages two years through the sixth grade. For more information, call 573-0154.

Head Start registration

Head Start registration will be held Aug. 5-9 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Children must be at least three years old and family must meet income guidelines or child must have a diagnosed disability. Birth certificate, current immunization records, Social Security Card and proof of family income are required.

Fall poetry contest

Mesquite Country Writers Guild is accepting entries for its fall poetry contest. Theme is open and there is a 20-line limit. Deadline is Aug. 15 and entry fee is $2. First prize is $50, second is $30 and third is $20. Mail entries to Yvonne Nunn, 9221 S. State Hwy 208 in Hermleigh, 79526.

Cancer treatment transportation

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

Calling all poets

The Mesquite Country Writers Guild is inviting poets to send an original poem to be published in the fall newsletter, "Bards of a Feather." Theme is open with a 20-line limit. Mail entries to Yvonne Nunn, 9221 S. Hwy 208 in Hermleigh, 79526.

Hill Country braces for rain

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — While floodwaters continue to subside across Texas' Coastal Bend, residents of the Hill Country endured another rainy day Sunday and the threat of renewed flooding.

A week of heavy rains earlier this month filled reservoirs across the region, forcing flood gates to be opened.

More than 6 feet of water from the Nueces River covered the road to Darrell Byars' home Sunday as water continued to flow out of the Wesley Seale Dam at Lake Corpus Christi.

Byars, who has to use a boat to get to and from his property, said he wasn't leaving. "My yard is real high," he said in a story in today's Corpus Christi Caller-Times.

A dispatcher for the Uvalde County Sheriff's office said some low-water crossings were closed Sunday night after rains hit the area again.

Thunderstorms covered portions of the Hill Country that were just beginning to dry out from torrential rains and flooding earlier this month.

The National Weather Service issued a river flood warning for the Medina River at La Coste in Medina County Sunday night after 3 to 5 inches of rain fell in Bandera County. The river was above its flood stage of 15 feet and was expected to crest at 16 feet by today morning.

The National Weather Service issued a flash flood watch until 6 p.m. today for a wide area of the Hill Country and south-central Texas.

JUL 15 2002 2

Wildfires, drought hurt West's wild animals

ESPANOLA, N.M. (AP) — A New Mexico man recently surprised a visitor sitting in his kitchen eating a bowl of apples. The guest was a bear.

The startling appearance by the ursine visitor underscores a problem across the West this summer as catastrophic fires combined with drought have driven thousands of animals, from ants to antelopes, out of their wildland homes. Many have turned up on people's blackened doorsteps.

"A lot of evacuees in the Show Low and Pinetop-Lakeside area are returning home and finding visitors — wild ones," Arizona game officials said in a report on the 468,000-acre fire that forced the evacuations of 30,000 people and burned 467 homes.

After the huge blaze, the Arizona Game and Fish Department identified 200 fire-displaced species, including endangered Mexican gray wolves, mountain lions, coyotes, weasels, bobcats, snakes and 162 kinds of birds.

The privately run Wildlife Center in Espanola currently has three times the normal contingent of bears and other mammals.

"Normal is to have two-thirds of my cages empty at this time of year," said Katherine Ramsey, a veterinarian who now has 170 wild animals at the center, which rehabilitates and returns stressed animals to the wild.

Then there are the ants, the one wild species people notice universally in their homes. Ants follow an effective drought plan: They come inside when it dries up outside.

Deborah Gordon, an associate professor of biology at Stanford University, said only the weather, not chemicals, can drive them away.

"Putting out pesticides won't make any difference. ... They come in because of the weather and they go out because of the weather," she said in an online university publication.

If the drought persists in tandem with fire, animals face dramatically low birth rates over several years, biologists and other wildlife experts say.

"The antelope fawns are way, way down. Normally, going out into the prairies right now you'd see baby antelope everywhere. You're not seeing them," Ramsey said.

"I have heard of almost no baby bears born," she said. "That's because last year the females weren't heavy enough to get pregnant. So we're just not seeing them. We're going to see that in a lot of other species this year, too."

"It's going to take bears years to get body weight built up adequately so that they're carrying enough fat that they can get pregnant," Ramsey said. "It will be five years from this time before we have a good, active breeding population of bears."

That's if the drought ended tomorrow.

She recently beefed up a female black bear that wandered into the lakeside village of Eagle Nest, just south of some of New Mexico's biggest wildfires of the season.

"She's a yearling and was starving to death. She was so weak she could no longer walk. She came in to us weighing 17 pounds and went out weighing about 85 pounds," Ramsey said after releasing her back near Eagle Nest.

Another bear released last week at 150 pounds arrived weighing just 25 pounds, she said.

In Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado, the worst-hit states in the West, a combined 1.27 million acres have burned in 3,820 fires.

More than $1 billion in emergency firefighting money is in the congressional pipeline, said Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M. Of that, $200 million would apply to habitat restoration.

Oil Patch News

Scurry County

Kinder Morgan will drill the No. 1717 SACROC unit in the Kelly-Snyder field, five miles northwest of Snyder. Planned for a depth of 7,200 feet, drill site is in Section 293, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Kinder Morgan will drill the No. 1699 SACROC unit in the Kelly-Snyder field, five miles northwest of Snyder. Contracted for a depth of 7,200 feet, location is in Section 253, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Kinder Morgan will drill the No. 1551 SACROC unit in the Kelly-Snyder field, 5.5 miles northwest of Snyder. Planned depth is 7,200 feet, and location is in Section 292, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Kinder Morgan will drill the No. 1526 SACROC unit in the same field, five miles northwest of Snyder. Also planned for 7,200 feet, drill site is in Section 293, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Kinder Morgan will drill the No. 11826 SACROC unit in the Kelly-Snyder field, five miles northwest of Snyder. Planned depth is 7,200 feet, and location is in Section 296, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Borden County

Chevron has completed the No. 4338 Jo-Mill field unit, 15 miles southwest of Gail. The well was completed to produce 179 barrels of oil and 86 barrels of water. Perforations were from 7,342-380 feet, and location is in Section 22, Block 33, T4N, T&P survey.

Chevron has completed the No. 5225 Jo-Mill field unit, 15 miles southwest of Gail. The venture was finaled to produce 109 barrels of oil and 97 barrels of water. Perforations were from 7,460-500 feet, and location is in Section 28, Block 33, T4N, T&P survey.

Holly Petroleum Inc. has completed the No. 1 Cluck in the Ackerly field, three miles east of Ackerly. The well was completed to produce 42 barrels of oil and seven barrels of water. Perforations were from 8,152-257 feet, and location is in Section 7, Block 33, T4N, T&P survey.

Kent County

Occidental Permian has completed the No. 1125 Cogdell Canyon Reef field unit, 13 miles southwest of Clairemont. The well was finaled to produce 75 barrels of oil and 319 barrels of water. Perforations were from 6,8-8-838 feet, and location is in Section 772, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Mobil Producing will drill the No. G51AW Salt Creek field unit, nine miles northwest of Clairemont. Planned depth is 7,300 feet, and drill site is in the John Rodman survey No. 5.

Garza County

Shenandoah Petroleum Corp. will drill the No. 218, Macy Lott Spraberry unit in the Lazy –JL- field, 14 miles south of Post. The venture will be drilled to a depth of 6,100 feet, and location is in Section 21, Block 1, Jasper Hays survey.

Howard County

L.C.S. Production Co. will drill the No. 4-D Guitar Trust Estate re-entry in the Varel field, seven miles northwest of Big Spring. Planned for a depth of 3,250 feet, location is in Section 16, Block A, Bauer and Cockrell survey.

L.C.S. Production will drill the No. 9-D Guitar Trust Estate re-entry in the Varel field, eight miles northwest of Big Spring. Planned for a depth of 3,260 feet, location is in Section 16, Block A, Bauer & Cockrell survey.

Blair Exploration Inc. will drill the No. 1 May, a 11,000-foot wildcat located four miles southwest of Big Spring. Location is in Section 15, Block 33, T1S, T&P survey.

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Red, automatic, CD player, A/C, cruise, tilt
$8,500 or $192.74 mo.
10% down plus TT&L, 48 Mos. @9.65% WAC

2001 Pontiac Bonneville SE
Silver, power windows/locks, auto, bucket seats, 19K miles
$17,900 or $322.04 mo.
10% down plus TT&L, 60 Mos. @7.40% WAC

1992 Pontiac Grand Am 2 Dr. .. $3,000
Red, automatic, A/C, power windows/locks
1998 Olds Achieva 4 Dr. $4,500
Gold, automatic, power windows/locks
1996 Olds Cutlass $4,500
Green, V-6, automatic, power windows/locks
1988 Olds Cutlass Ciera $3,000
Silver, 4 door, power windows/locks
1998 Buick Century $8,400
White, custom, V-6, power windows/locks, 58K miles
1997 Lincoln Town Car $7,900
Black, leather, V-8
1997 Cadillac DeVille $13,250
Silver, leather, Northstar V-8, one owner

2000 Dodge Neon
Gold, automatic, CD, A/C
$7,850 or $142.07 mo.
10% down plus TT&L, 60 Mos. @9.65% WAC

2000 Nissan Altima GL
Titianium, leather, fully loaded, must see
$12,750 or $229.39 mo.
10% down plus TT&L, 60 Mos. @7.65% WAC

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1994 Chevy 1500 ExCab
Silverado, 350 V-8, Bucket Seats, 64,000 Miles $9,250

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Red, automatic, LS, 6,000 miles $14,500

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Black, gray leather, 36K miles, 4 bucket seats
2002 Toyota 4 Runner $23,750
White, SR5 pkg., automatic, 3,000 miles
2002 Chevy Trailblazer $22,750
GM Certified, blue, 6 cyl., auto, CD, 26,000 miles
2001 Dodge Durango Sport $20,000
Red, V-6, automatic, loaded, 13,000 miles
1999 Chevy Blazer 4X4 ..... $15,500
Pewter, LS pkg., V-6, 38,000 miles, CD player

2001 Chevy 1500 ExCab Z71 ..... $22,500
White, LS, 5300 Vortec V-8, like new
1994 Ford Reg. Cab Short Bed $4,850
V-8, school truck, great transportation
2001 Ford Supercrew F150 ..... $22,000
Red, XLT, 5.4L V-8, CD, AC, bedliner
2002 Ford Supercrew F150 XLT $24,000
toreador red, 5.4 L V-8, CD, AC, bedliner
2001 GMC 2500 HD ExCab $22,000
White, SLE, 6000 V-8, CD, power windows/locks

2-1999 Chevy Suburbans
LS, 2 WD, bucket seat, dual A/C, CD
$17,500

1997 Chevy Tahoe LS
White, bucket seats, dual A/C, CD
$9,500

2000 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab
Pewter, 350 V-8, Silverado, LS pkg.
$22,000

1995 Chevy 1500 ExCab Z71 ..... $13,000
Black, 350 V-8, Silverado, power windows/locks, CD player, 75K miles
1997 Chevy Venture Van $9,000
White, V-6, 3 door, power windows/locks
2000 Ford Windstar $14,000
White, 4 door, power everything, one owner
1983 Chevy El Camino $3,350
V-6, runs great, A/C, cruise & tilt
1994 Ford F250 Reg. Cab 4X4 ..... $8,650
White, automatic, V-8, 90,000 miles

1996 Jeep Grand Cherokee $4,500
Red, 4X4, solid SUV
1989 Dodge Ram Charger 4X4 ..... $3,850
97,000 miles, automatic, V-8
1998 Chevy 1 Ton Crew Cab 4X4 .... $13,650
Silverado, 454 V-8, cruise, tilt, cloth bench seats
1998 Chevy 2500 4X4 ..... $8,500
Reg. Cab, automatic, 350 V-8, A/C, cruise, tilt

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