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INSIDE
What's up . . . . . 2
Dear Abby . . . . . 3
Sports . . . . . 5
Scurry County Country . . . . . 8
Dr. Gott . . . . . 9

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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY
March 24, 2004
Vol. 55 No. 282
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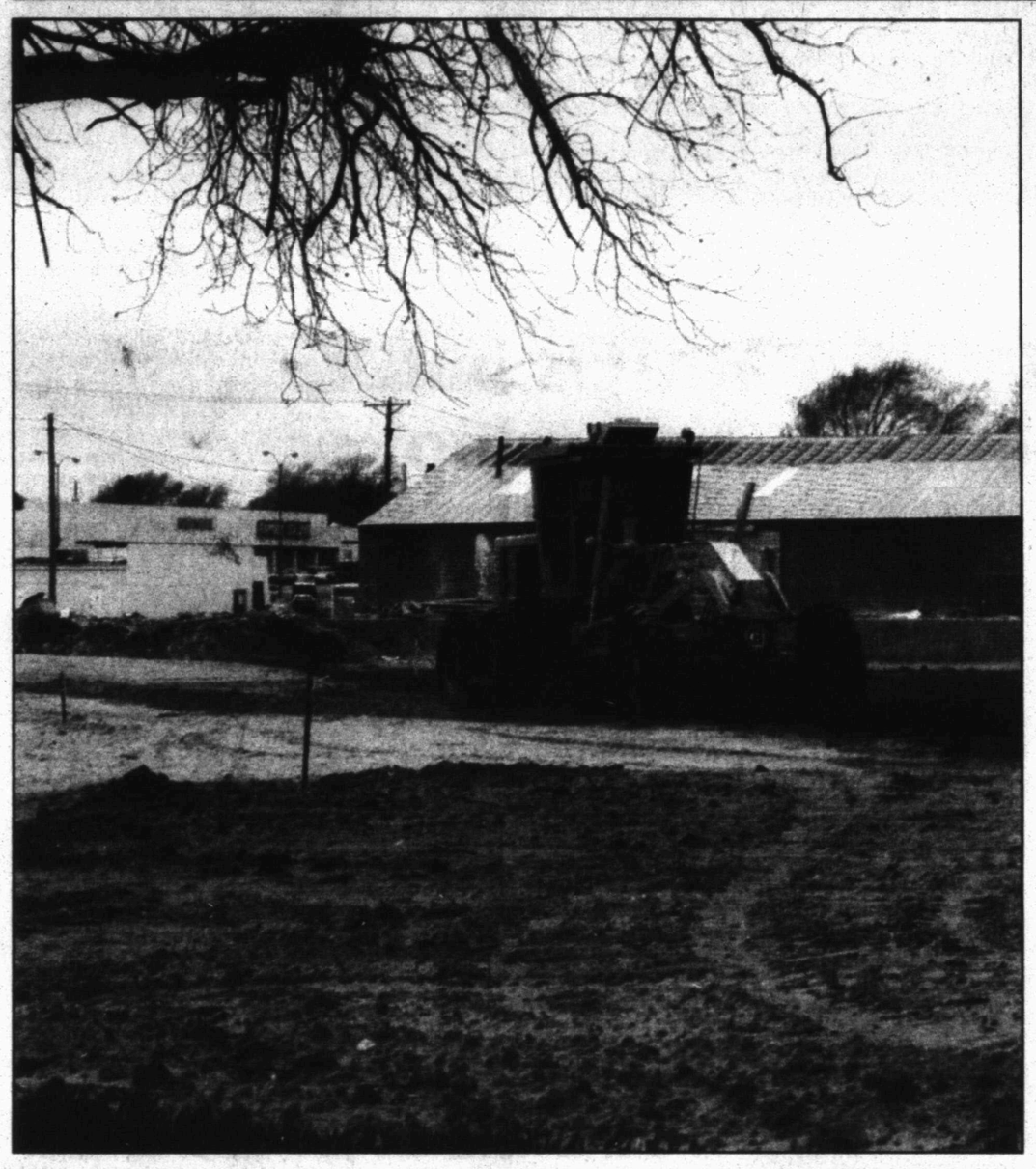
Home of Giles Kemp

MAR 24 2004



FIELD EXPANSION — Improvements are in the future of the Scurry County Boys and Girls Club. The club is gaining a double football field along with other improvements resulting from the funds raised by the Sammy Baugh birthday celebration. (SDN Staff Photo by Annie Rowe)

# Students score well on TAKS

## *Snyder, Hermleigh and Ira third grade students rank higher than state average on reading test*

Administrators in the Snyder, Hermleigh and Ira school districts had nothing but praise for students and teachers after the preliminary TAKS third grade reading exam results were released Tuesday.

All three school districts exceeded the state average with Ira scoring 100 percent passing.

Hermleigh ISD had 94.4 percent of its third graders pass, while Snyder ISD obtained 92 percent.

Supt. Larry Devitt at Ira said he was "tickled to death with the results.

"Our students, and third grade teacher Stacie Westmoreland, worked very hard to obtain these results," said Dr. Devitt.

Those words of praise were repeated at Hermleigh where Supt. Marvin Beaty said all the kids did a "great job."

"Our students did a great job," said Beaty. ""I give credit to the students and our third grade teacher, Joyce Lionberger."

Dr. Ronny Collins, SISD superintendent, also praised the work of the students and teachers at Central Elementary where third graders attend class in Snyder.

"A marvelous job," said Dr. Collins. "The teachers and kids all did a great job."

Principal at Central is Pam Hart and third grade teachers who teach reading are Paula Bowden, June Holcomb, Magdalena Jaimes, Deborah Judah, Melissa McNeil, Liffin Molter, Shana Robbins, Edilyn Smith, Kathy Spoor and Esther Stansell. In addition, Kathy Brooks is a reading specialist and Sue Gressett is a reading tutor.

"We've very proud of our students and all our teachers," said Hart. "We feel our entire school contributed to our success on the test."

Hart said 48 students reached the commended level at Central where students must answer 34 of the 36 questions.

"We had several students who aced the test," said Hart.

At Ira, six third graders reached the commended level while three did at Hermleigh.

According to the Texas Education Agency, in the spring of 2003, 89 percent of Texas students passed by being required to correctly answer 20 out of 36 questions.

This year, students had to correctly answer 23 out of 36 questions.

Any student who failed the test will be provided with additional instruction material to boost their reading skills. Each of these students also will receive a TAKS study guide from the state.

According to the Texas Education Agency, the performance of each student group improved significantly from last year when applying the higher standard required in 2004 to the 2003 results.

The following shows the gains achieved when comparing the 2004 results to the 2003 results at the same level or passing standard that was required in 2004.

- Eighyt-six percent of African-American students met the standard in 2004, an increase of nine points.
- Rates for Hispanic third-graders increased from 80 percent last year to 88 percent this year.
- Rates for white students improved from 94 percent to 96 percent.
- Economically disadvantaged students earned passing rates of 87 percent, a nine-point increase.
- Rates for limited English proficient students increased to 82 percent, up from 70 percent last year.
- The passing rates for special education students rose from 80 percent to 86 percent.

## THE SDN COLUMN

### MY TURN

by Shirley A. Gorman

*Stargate SG-1* concluded its seventh season Friday and what a tremendously great season it has been. Michael Shanks returned as Daniel Jackson, a civilian who has been given command of the Stargate program and the villainous Vice President Kinsey (deliciously played by Ronny Cox) has been up to his usual dirty tricks.

The most haunting events though were the death of Dr. Janet Fraiser (so wonderfully played by Teryl Rothery) and Col. Jack O'Neill's brain being over-loaded by the Ancients' secrets.

It's no surprise that the hit Sci-Fi series, one of the best in the genre, and three members of its superb ensemble cast have been nominated for Saturn Awards. For the past seven seasons, the stories blended action, adventure, humor and intrigue. The production team is also one of the best in the business.

Amanda Tapping, who plays my favorite character, Maj. Samantha Carter, is nominated for best supporting actress. She is terrific as the brainy scientist who can solve mind-bending problems.

Michael Shanks, as Daniel Jackson, and Richard Dean Anderson, who plays Col. O'Neill, are both up for the best actor award. Though both are equally deserving, I'm pulling for Anderson to win.

Shanks' character, an expert on ancient writings and civilizations, exited the series for a year after he "ascended;" but he made the mistake of helping his old buddies on *SG-1* so the other ascended beings kicked him out. I'm real glad he is back on *SG-1*.

Anderson is just plain wonderful as O'Neill. He's tough as nails when the situation calls for it and irreverent to authority figures and he has no respect for Kinsey. He can see the humor in just about any situation; and *The Simpsons* is his favorite TV show. He never understands what Maj. Carter is talking about, all he needs to know is "will her solution work?" And it usually does.

I wish the other players would have been nominated as well. Christopher Judge plays Teal'c, a former Jaffa, who now fights against the Goa'uld he formerly served.

Dr. Fraiser's death a few episodes ago was as jarring as it was poignant. Viewers were led to believe that O'Neill might have been the casualty. Instead, Dr. Fraiser was killed in the line of duty, shortly after saving a young Stargate soldier during a firefight on a distant planet.

For her eulogy, Maj. Carter read the names of all of the people the doctor had saved during her tenure at Stargate Command. Equally fitting at the end was the young soldier's wife giving birth to a baby girl that they named "Janet."

Gen. George Hammond, brought to life by Don. S. Davis, has been a superb Stargate commander. But he has now been given command of the Prometheus, the most powerful space ship Earth has.

I just love William Devane as the newly elected president who at first thought the Stargate program material he was given to read was a joke. I like the new character, Dr. Elizabeth Weir (played by Torri Higginson). Come July, she will head the cast of the new Sci-Fi series, *Stargate: Atlantis* that will follow new episodes of *SG-I*. I'm already counting the days.

# Vote on CEO could be made on Thursday

Cogdell Memorial Hospital board of managers has an executive session planned during Thursday morning's board meeting to discuss and possibly approve the employment of a new chief executive officer.

As it stands now, however, only Carol Hanes of Linden remains as a finalist.

Evan Moore, the CEO at the Comanche Hospital District, withdrew from consideration prior to a scheduled second interview Tuesday evening.

The two were the only candidates invited back for a second round of interviews after the interviews with five candidates.

Board chairman Dink Foree said it would be up to the board on what action is taken Thursday.

"I suppose we could start over with the process," said Foree. "It's up to the entire board."

In addition to the closed session, the board also will hear the year-end quality improvement report and the quality improvement plan for 2004 as presented by Jo Beth Hardegree.

Dr. Bid Cooper, chief of staff, will present the monthly medical report, and interim financial officer Richard Murphy will present the financial statements and monthly bills for certification.

Director of nurses and acting administrator Cheryl Chance will give the nursing and administrative report and the patient transfer report.

The meeting is at 7:30 a.m. in the hospital boardroom.

# New football field being built on club grounds

Obvious changes to the landscape behind the Scurry County Boy's and Girl's Club has left many residents wondering what the future holds for the facility.

"We're really looking up around the club," said Chad Welsh, director.

Earlier this year, the club was a victim of a burglary that left Welsh and the area children who utilize the facility with a deep sense of loss.

"We've been through some pretty rough times, but with a lot of help, things are really on track and improving for the club," he said.

The first noticeable facelift is the new football field that will be situated directly behind the club building. It will have a double field, which will give more room for the football games that are held there.

"It's going to be very, very nice," said Welsh. "I must say that it couldn't have happened without the help of Chloanne Lindsey and Precinct 4. They have done so much to make all of this happen. I can't thank them enough."

In addition to Lindsey, Welsh cited the efforts of Gary Bowen, Darryl Nachlinger, Corey Maxfield, Mike Uptergrove, Jeff Smith and Darrel Bills.

"They have all done so much. It's going to be a really nice field once it's all finished," said Welsh.

The Boys and Girls Club also was the recipient of a $10,000 donation raised by the Sammy Baugh 90th birthday celebration.

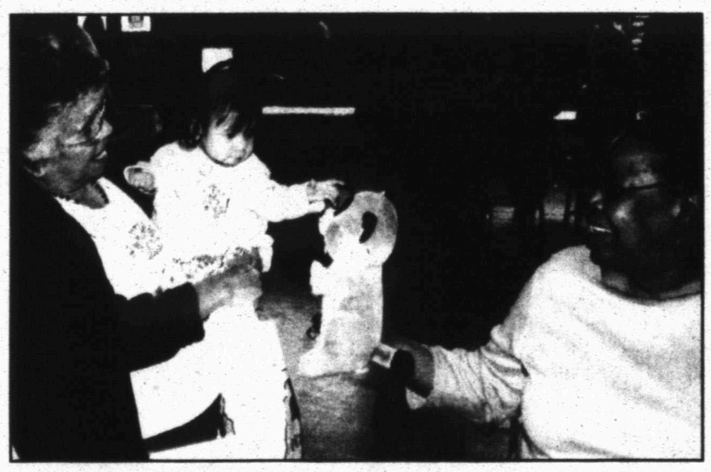
"That was a great gift for us," said Welsh. "There are going to be many improvements added as a result. I know I've said it before, but I'm very excited. Things are really looking up for the club."

# HISD trustees to meet

Hermleigh's school board will have a called meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday in the school library.

The lone action item is the approval of the textbook committee report.

Supt. Marvin Beaty will lead the discussion on several items to include the budget, athletic facilities, athletic supplies and ongoing construction projects.



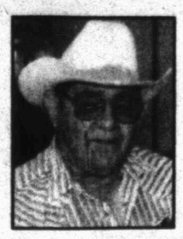
KEEPING KIDS HEALTHY — Savannah Lopez finds a raccoon fascinating at Tuesday's Scurry County Community Services health fair. Pictured with Savannah are Paula Rodriguez (left) and Anita Stevenson of Child Care Associates. (SDN Staff Photo by Annie Rowe)

## ASK US

**Q—When is the wedding of Joel and Kimberly Terry that was filmed at the Wagon Wheel Ranch in December set to air on TLC's "A Wedding Story"?**

**A—The wedding will air at 1:30 p.m. on April 5.**

## MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



### Rudy Hernandez...

...has lived in Snyder for three years. He is married to Cenaida Hernandez and they have two children, Sinda Narbar and Carlos Hernandez, both of Wyoming, Mich., and five grandchildren. His hobby is watching his grandchildren play sports.

## TODAY'S THOUGHT

**The only people who don't change their minds are incompetent or dead.**
**—Everett Dirksen**

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events

# WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

### Basketball banquet

The SHS Tigers and Lady Tigers basketball banquet will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday. Tickets are $5 and may be purchased at the high school or by calling 573-6301.

### Business-After-Hours

The Snyder chamber of commerce will host Business-After-Hours from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday in the chamber board room.

### WTC GED testing dates

Western Texas College has scheduled GED testing dates, the next set for Friday and registration is from 10:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Thursday. The remaining dates are April 16 and April 30. To take the test or for more information contact Betty Thompson at 573-2310 or Emily Hataway 573-8511, ext. 297 or 574-2112. It is recommended that candidates receive some preparation before attempting the test.

### What's up guidelines

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

# NASA tells how rocks formed on Mars

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — A salty pool of liquid water once sloshed on Mars, ebbing and flowing in an environment that could have supported life eons before a NASA spacecraft visited the now dry and frozen spot, the space agency said.

The Opportunity rover turned up the evidence while probing an outcrop of finely layered rock at its landing site on Mars, where the six-wheeled robot landed two months ago. Scientists said the rock likely formed in water, which evaporated to leave layer after layer of sediment behind.

"If we are correct in our interpretation this was a habitable environment," said Cornell University astronomer Steve Squyres, the mission's main scientist. "These are the kinds of environments that are very suitable for life."

Opportunity previously found clues that water once soaked rocks at Meridiani Planum, a broad and flat region of the planet. Those initial results left it unclear whether it was ground or surface water.

The new findings reveal those rocks likely formed at the bottom of a gently flowing body of saltwater. The rocks contain both ripple patterns and concentrations of salt that scientists consider telltale signs that they formed in standing water.

The environmental conditions required to allow a pool of water to persist on Mars confirm the planet once was a wetter and possibly warmer place. Such conditions would be conducive to life, scientists believe.

"This is a profound discovery, it has profound implications for astrobiology," Ed Weiler, NASA's associate administrator for space science, told a Tuesday news conference in Washington, D.C.

The water body was shallow, forming a sea, desert basin or salt flat that periodically flooded with water to depths of at least a few inches before evaporating.

The evidence does not indicate when liquid water covered the broad and flat region where Opportunity landed, or for how long. Nor does it indicate if any organisms actually lived on Mars, Squyres cautioned.

If life did flourish at the site when it was awash in water, the type of rock now found at the site is very capable of preserving evidence of any biochemical or biological material that may have been in the water, he said.

Opportunity, however, does not carry instruments capable of revealing traces of microbial life.

NASA intends to send one or more unmanned missions to Mars every 26 months, including a lander in 2009 that would be capable of prospecting for life. A mission slated for launch in 2013 would collect samples of rock and soil and return them to Earth for even more detailed analysis.

President Bush recently proposed a crewed mission to visit the planet but did not set a timeline for such an undertaking, which likely remains decades away.

Opportunity's microscopic images of the rock outcrop revealed that the sediments that bonded together to form the rocks were shaped into ripples by gently flowing water that stood at least 2 inches deep, said mission science team member John Grotzinger, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Today, Mars is largely dry and cold.

NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory launched Opportunity and its twin, Spirit, on a $820 million mission to probe Mars for exactly that type of evidence. A group of outside scientists reviewed the rover mission scientists' findings before they were announced.

—

On the Net:
http://marsrovers.jpl.nasa.gov/home/index.html

# Profits climb for HMOs but they are losing membership

HOUSTON (AP) — State regulators say Texas HMOs are making a profit again, but losing membership.

The formerly money-losing health maintenance organizations turned in impressive performances on the balance sheet for the second year in a row, despite the decline in enrollment numbers.

Figures released Tuesday by the Texas Department of Insurance show that HMOs in the state posted earnings of $166.6 million last year. That's a substantial jump from earnings of $20 million in 2002, and a far cry from the red ink that dogged the industry the previous six years.

Membership fell almost 17 percent to 2.7 million in 2003, the result of growing enrollment in less costly preferred provider organizations.

"I would forecast that you are going to continue to see HMO membership go down as membership rises in PPOs and other products," Dr. Gary Goldstein, chief executive of Humana Health Plan of Texas, told the Houston Chronicle.

For years, HMOs were in a race for market share, enrolling members as fast as they could but often failing to charge premiums that kept pace with medical cost inflation.

"This is the first year that we are getting close to figuring it out," said Leah Rummel, executive director of the Texas Association of Health Plans. "The problem is, it also means premiums are rising."

Rates softened some this year, but HMOs have still been particularly costly in comparison with their cheaper PPO plans, causing a decline in membership. Texas HMOs had almost 1 million more members at the end of 2001, compared with this year.

At Southwest Texas HMO, or HMO Blue, membership in its Houston-area plan decreased by more than 100,000 members in 2003.

Rummel said favorable state legislation introduced this year may help increase membership in HMOs. It would allow insurers to sell policies that do not have to cover many state-mandated benefits, meaning HMOs can offer packages that are more competitively priced, she said.

Other conditions have also been favorable for HMOs. In a Supreme Court challenge over liability issues, justices on Tuesday seemed unconvinced that patients with claims against their health plans should be able to collect large damage awards.

Insurers want to move such cases into federal court, where judgments against insurers result in relatively little or no money, and contend that a federal law and previous Supreme Court rulings require that course.

# Families of helicopter crash victims are planning services

ODESSA (AP) — A Mexican national's hopes of better treatment for his sick infant son turned to grief when the baby and his mother died in a medical helicopter's crash in rural West Texas.

Pedro Modesto was left planning funeral arrangements for his family. The 20-year-old man says that a wake will be held in Odessa, with funerals in their hometown of Ojinaga.

The air ambulance helicopter crashed Sunday en route to a Lubbock hospital, killing 20-year-old Ana Lillia Urias and their baby along with pilot Mickey Price, 46, of Dumas, and paramedic Paul Lujan, 32, of Crane. Registered nurse Ronald Stephens, 35, of Midland, survived.

Modesto told the Odessa American for Wednesday's editions through a translator that his 3-month-old son, Pedro Urias Modesto, had been ill for about a week, suffering from double pneumonia.

The boy was taken from a hospital in Ojinaga by ambulance to the port of entry where he was transferred to an ambulance that took him to Alpine's Big Bend Regional Medical Center. He was picked up there by the CareStar helicopter from Odessa's Medical Center Hospital to head for University Medical Center in Lubbock.

The helicopter lifted off from Big Bend Regional Medical Center at 1:43 a.m. Sunday and was last heard from at 2:19 a.m. It crashed about 75 miles southwest of Odessa.

# Today's chuckle

## Juror arrested for carrying marijuana

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — A juror was arrested after officers noticed he was trying to carry marijuana into a courthouse, police said.

Jimmy Andre Thompson, 30, was trying to reenter the Charleston County Courthouse Thursday when he was asked to empty his pockets before going through a metal detector, police said.

Officers saw Thompson pull out a small plastic bag containing a green, leafy substance, police said. He quickly shoved the bag back into his pants and pulled out a bag of peanuts.

Police said Thompson had about 18 grams of marijuana worth about $90.

"This is a first," said prosecutor Ralph Hoisington. "We've had an occasional pocketknife before, but no jurors have ever brought drugs in as far as I know."

## World Almanac

**Wednesday, March 24, 2004**

Today is the 84th day of 2004 and the fifth day of spring.

**TODAY'S HISTORY:** In 1882, Robert Koch announced his discovery of the tuberculosis bacterium.

In 1989, the Exxon Valdez ran aground in Prince William Sound off the southern coast of Alaska, leaking an estimated 11 million gallons of oil.

In 1999, NATO began bombing Serbian military targets in Yugoslavia in order to end ethnic cleansing in Kosovo.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS:** Harry Houdini (1874-1926), magician; Thomas E. Dewey (1902-1971), politician; Steve McQueen (1930-1980), actor; Lara Flynn Boyle (1970-), actress, is 34.

**TODAY'S SPORTS:** In 1936, the longest game in NHL history ended at 16 minutes, 30 seconds into the sixth overtime period.

**TODAY'S QUOTE:** "My decision on this matter is as certain and final as death and the staggering New Deal taxes." — Thomas E. Dewey, in 1948, announcing he would not run again for president.

**TODAY'S FACT:** While some preventative health measures are required for travel to certain countries, no immunizations are required for return into the United States.

**TODAY'S NUMBER:** 14, 000 — estimated number of people eventually killed in the largest industrial accident in history, when toxic gas leaked from a storage tank in a Union Carbide insecticide factory in Bhopal, India, on Dec. 24, 1984.

**TODAY'S MOON:** Between new moon (March 20) and first quarter (March 28)

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events

LOTTO TEXAS™ TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

**Tuesday's Lottery numbers**
**Mega Millions**

**ATLANTA (AP) — The jackpot in the multi-state Mega Millions lottery drawing grew to $53 million Wednesday.**

**None of the tickets sold for Tuesday's $43 million drawing matched all five lotto numbers and the Mega Ball. The next drawing will be Friday.**

**There were six second-prize winners from Tuesday night's drawing. Twenty players matched four of the five lotto numbers, plus the Mega Ball number. Those tickets are each worth $5,000.**

**The winning numbers from Tuesday's drawing were: 12, 22, 35, 39 and 46. The Mega Ball number was 32.**

**Texas Two Step**

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

**Winning numbers drawn: 4-11-19-32. Bonus Ball: 35.**

**Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Prize: $200,000.**

**Number matching four of four: 9. Prize: $1,159.**

**Number matching three of four, plus Bonus Ball: 29. Prize: $44.**

**Number matching three of four: 925. Prize: $19.**

**Number matching two of four, plus Bonus Ball: 598. Prize: $19.**

**Number matching one of four, plus Bonus Ball: 3,827. Prize: $7.**

**Number matching Bonus Ball alone: 6,603. Prize: $5.**

**Estimated jackpot for Friday night drawing: $250,000.**

**Cash Five**

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

**Winning numbers drawn: 3-5-8-21-32.**

**Number matching five of five: 0.**

**Matching four of five: 132. Prize: $414.**

**Matching three of five: 4,547. Prize: $8.**

**Matching two of five: 44,448. Prize: $2.**

**Next Cash 5 drawing: Wednesday night.**

**Pick 3**
**(Day) 3-4-5**
**(Night) 8-8-1**


## THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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# Dear Abby

**By Abigail Van Buren**

## *Teen who's ready for sex isn't ready to talk to mom*

**DEAR ABBY:** I am 15 and dating a guy I'll call Ted. Ted has had sex, but I have not. He says he'll wait until I'm ready. Well, I'm ready! It's just that I promised my mother I would wait, and she knows everything I do. I can't keep this from her, but I'm afraid to tell her. What should I do? — **AFRAID TO TELL MOTHER**

**DEAR AFRAID:** Continue to abstain. If you think you are mature enough to have sex, you should be adult enough to talk to your mother about it. You should also become fully informed about STDs. Call the Centers for Disease Control's National STD toll-free hotline, (800) 227-8922, or visit the American Social Health Association's special Web site for teens at www.iwannaknow.org.

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

The most difficult word to say in the English language is also one of the shortest. It's "no." Yet the inability to say that one simple word can complicate your life in ways you can't imagine, particularly when it comes to sex. So, I repeat — talk to your mother.

**

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm a senior in high school. Until recently no guy I've ever liked has been interested in me. One guy I've liked for a few years — "Marty" — finally asked me for a date. It's a problem because my friend "Lori" has liked him a lot longer than I have.

Lori doesn't know it, but Marty told my other friend that even though they've hung out together a few times, he's not interested in her. Lori thinks I'm stealing Marty from her, but I'm not. I don't feel I'm stealing anybody, and I'm so excited. Am I wrong for wanting to go?

I think Lori is blowing this whole thing out of proportion. Does she have the right to be jealous? Shouldn't she be happy for me? I wasn't jealous when she hung out with him — I supported her. But somehow, I can't help thinking I've betrayed her.

Abby, am I a horrible friend? — **CONFUSED IN OREGON**

**DEAR CONFUSED:** No, but as it stands, you are an ex-friend. I hope he's worth it.

**

**DEAR ABBY:** My boyfriend, "Justin," and I have been together for a little more than a year. We both work two jobs to support ourselves and make ends meet. I have student loans to pay off and so does Justin.

Abby, my birth control costs me $30 every three months, and sometimes it's difficult to find the extra money to pay for it. We have both agreed that having children right now would not be in our best interests.

Would it be too crass to ask Justin to help pay the cost? — **WONDERING IN VERMONT**

**DEAR WONDERING:** Crass? Not at all. Since the birth control is benefiting both of you, he should share the cost. Put it this way: Tell him it's time to pony up because of economic hardship. From my perspective, he's been getting a free ride for too long.

P.S. Planned Parenthood can provide you and your boyfriend with affordable birth control. To locate your nearest Planned Parenthood office, call toll-free (800) 230-7526, or log on to www.plannedparenthood.org.

**

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

**

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# Astro-graph

**By Bernice Bede Osol**

**Your Birthday**

**Thursday, March 25, 2004**

The year ahead could be payback time, with many of the good deeds you've done for others now being repaid — sometimes twofold. Where you'll feel the greatest impact, however, is in situations related to your career.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** — If someone suddenly withdraws his or her assistance on a project you think you need help with, don't panic. If you keep your cool, once you get started you'll find a way to do it alone.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** — It would be unwise today to attempt to match your friends, who are better off financially than you are, penny for penny in your spending. Instead, enjoy helping them with their selections.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** — The possibilities for achieving your objectives today may be better than you think, even though victory might not come easy on your first try. Be prepared to give it a second effort.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** — It's imperative that you have faith in your ideas today if you have any hope of succeeding. Self-doubts will keep you from making progressive moves, so don't allow them to take hold.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** — Be vigilant today for any unusual maneuvers or manipulations from one with whom you may be conducting business. This person could be waiting to catch you off guard and spring a ploy.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — Heed only the suggestions of those you know and trust at this time, because you are especially susceptible to what others have to say today — even wrongful information innocently planted.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** — You're likely to do quite well at anything to which you put your hand today. However, the fly in the ointment is that you could have a tendency to leave the things you begin half done.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** — A well-meaning associate could try to involve you in a project he or she believes in today, but chances are it'll be a harebrained idea. Don't heedlessly jump into anything without weighing its merits.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** — Make haste slowly today should you find yourself engaged in an important matter. Impulsive reactions put you at risk for making erroneous decisions that would require immediate correction.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — Unless you are extremely self-disciplined today, it is likely that you will waste much valuable time in getting started and squander the better part of the day. Set a schedule and stick to it.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** — Financial conditions could be a mixed bag for you today. Although you have the potential for gains, and probably will, you also have a tendency to be careless and waste your profits.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** — Only the truth will earn you respect and admiration today, exaggerations won't. So tell things like they are instead of embellishing the facts in order to impress others.

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## Famke Janssen will appear on 'Nip/Tuck'

NEW YORK (AP) — Famke Janssen will appear on 12 episodes of FX's plastic surgery drama, "Nip/Tuck."

She'll play a "life coach" for Joely Richardson's character. The second season of "Nip/Tuck" premieres June 22 (10 p.m. ET), FX announced Monday.

Set in Miami, the series follows the lives of two plastic surgeons and business partners who run a South Beach practice.

Janssen has starred in the "X-Men" films and the James Bond thriller "GoldenEye."

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Fire engines are rarely used in La Paz, Bolivia, because the city is at an elevation of about 12,000 feet. At that altitude, it is difficult for fires to get started because there is less oxygen in the atmosphere.

# State approves one cloud-seeding permit, despite opposition

AMARILLO (AP) — A High Plains groundwater conservation district's cloud-seeding plan is once again meeting with opposition, but state regulators have issued a permit for the weather modification.

The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation has approved a permit granting the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District authority to continue its weather modification program for the next four years. The permit will expire on March 13, 2008.

Opponents spoke at a recent TDLR public comment meeting. They say future options include getting Potter County to rescind a resolution allowing seeding over it and also a legislative avenue for a county to withdraw from a district.

Jay O'Brien of Amarillo, who leads ranchers opposing the permit, said proof of harm would be difficult.

But O'Brien said "anytime you have owners and operators of over three-quarters of the land saying, 'We do not want it,' you ought to have recognition by tax entities that they are not doing good."

O'Brien said he hoped Panhandle groundwater officials would realize that the people they say they are helping do not want them seeding over their land.

"All taxpayers in the groundwater district are having to pay for what the groundwater district calls an experiment, whether they live in the city or they are agricultural producers," O'Brien told the Amarillo Globe-News.

"I think it's time for all taxpayers to ask if this is why groundwater districts were established."

Sam Kiser, a northern Potter County rancher, said the county has been left "high and dry" by the cloud-seeding program.

Patrick Shaughnessy, TDLR spokesman, said "the opposition was not able to demonstrate they would be detrimentally affected by the operation of a weather modification project in its area."

Ranchers offered no solid evidence, he said.

"Without evidence of harm, the company is entitled to a permit," Shaughnessy said.

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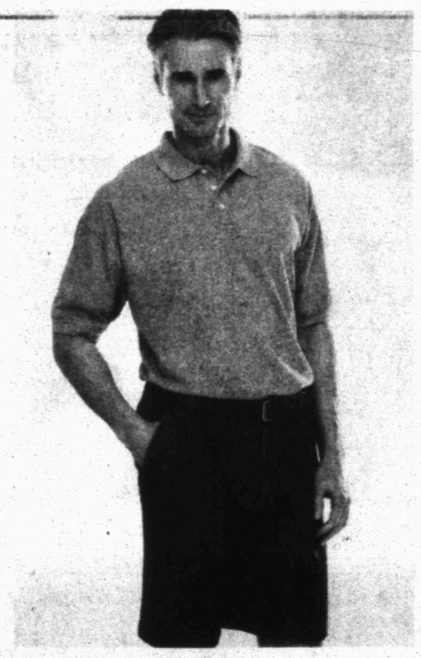

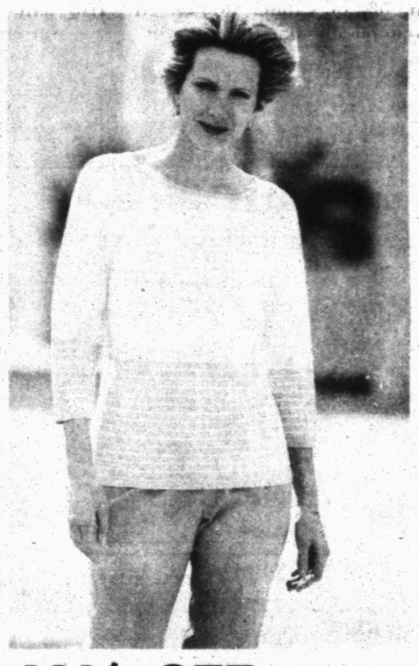

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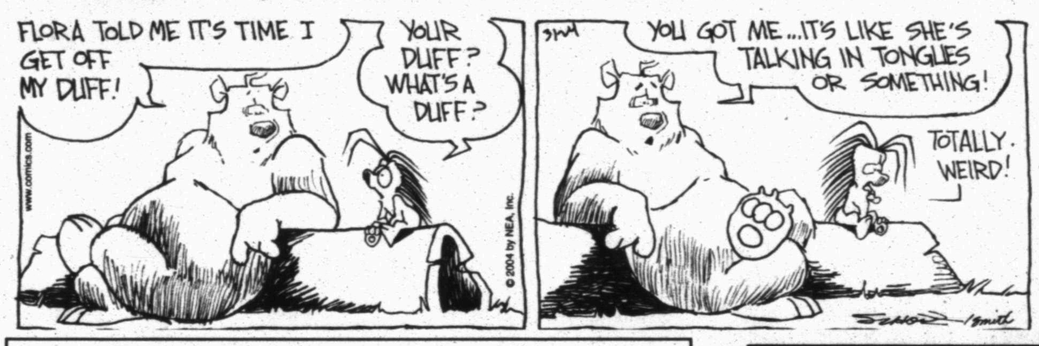


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# Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

## NEA Crossword Puzzle

**ACROSS**

1 Wheel rod
5 Hoarder
10 Convoys
12 Take 2 into 6
13 Virgilian hero
14 Spring blooms
15 Leave a mark
16 Road goo
18 Bear's refuge
19 Dots in the ocean
21 Founded
25 Rifle attachments
29 Brunch favorite
31 Roosevelt successor
33 Column
34 Walk the picket line
35 Ski race
37 Like a wolf's howl
38 Take an oath
40 Beads on grass
43 Fairy-tale character
44 Hatchet handle
48 Antenna
50 Flowering shrub
52 Throws angrily
53 Warm over
54 Slight color
55 Right, on a map

**DOWN**

1 Obi-Wan portrayer
2 TV's warrior princess
3 Sly look
4 LAX info
5 Polite word
6 Enthusiastic
7 Two-jawed gripper
8 Paradise
9 Thing in law
10 Scale notes
11 Droop-nosed fliers
12 Guides
17 Capp and Jolson
19 Standards
20 Post Office employee
21 Early jazz
22 Author Kingsley —
23 Put on the block
24 La senorita
26 Full-strength
27 Abu Dhabi leader
28 Wine served warm
30 Spades
32 Born as
36 Hall-of-Famer — Ott
39 Off in the distance
40 Lox purveyor
41 A Walton daughter
42 Robin appendage
44 Merry sound (hyph.)
45 Pub orders
46 Exploit
47 Edge a doily
48 Rear, to Popeye
49 Stone or Ice —
51 Final letter

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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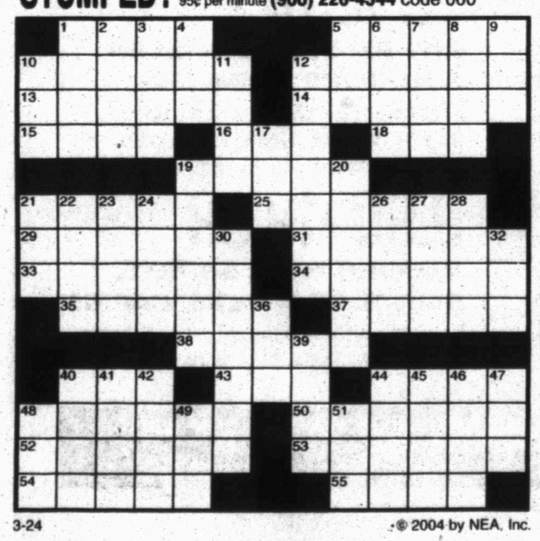

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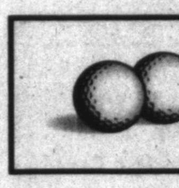

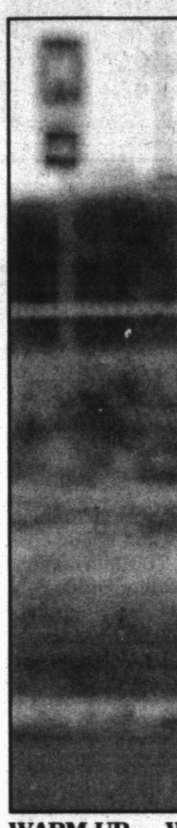

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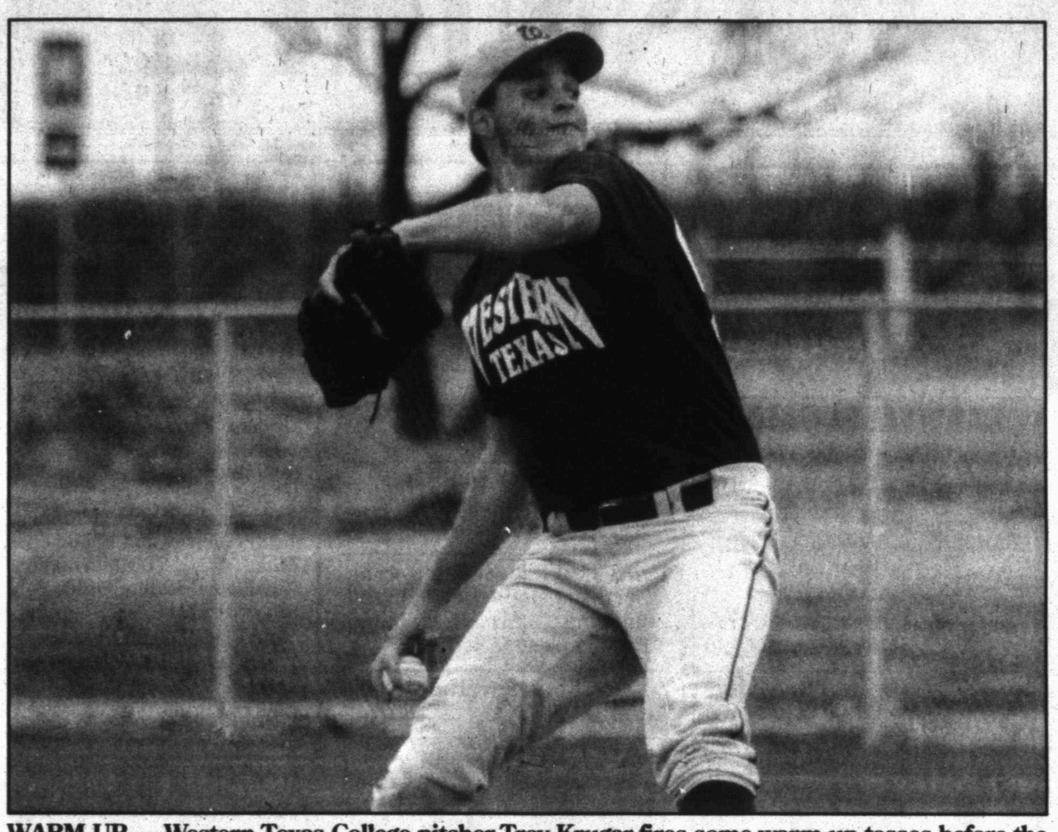

WARM UP — Western Texas College pitcher Troy Krugar fires some warm-up tosses before the third inning Tuesday in the Westerners tilt with Ranger Junior College. The Westerners fell, 6-2, and will face conference leader El Paso Friday. (SDN Staff Photo by Bobby Allen)

## Hermleigh track and field has strong meet at Coyote Classic

The Hermleigh Cardinals had several top five finishes over the weekend at the Borden County Coyote Classic track meet in Gail.

Joakim Ludvick took home the silver in the 400m dash with a time of 57 seconds. Keenon Garcia was fourth with a 57.9, and Eduardo Arellano was seventh in the event with a time of 61.5 seconds.

The 400m relay team featuring Dustin Williamson, Shane Berry, Michael Hermasillo and Ludvick was fourth with a time of 56.07.

The 1600m relay team of Arellano, Garcia, Jonathan McClure and Robby Anderson also was fourth with a 4:07.

For the Lady Cards, Brittany Kelly placed second in the long jump and third in the triple jump, and helped two relay teams earn bronze medals.

Kelly, Alicia Culp, Georgeann Smith and Brittany Jones were third in the 400 relay with a time of 59.24 while the same team captured the bronze in the 1600m relay

Kelley ran a 1:11.7 for third in the 400 dash.

Alana Culp and Amy Botts were fifth and sixth in the 1600 run, with Culp clocking in at 7:45 and Botts crossing the line in 10:50.

Alana Culp was fifth in the 800 run with a 3:27, while Danni Webb was sixth with a time of 4:00.

Webb earned fourth in the shot put, and Alicia Culp was fourth in the long jump and fifth in the triple jump.

The junior high Cardinals also had a productive meet.

K'Ana Garcia took home the gold in the 100m dash, breaking the tape at 14.77.

Garcia, Casey Williamson, Tomasa DeLaCruz and Dessie Gaddis also earned a gold in the 1600 relay with a time of 5:49.

Garcia also won the silver in the 200 sprint with a 32.6. Williamson (35.8) took home the bronze.

Gaddis claimed the silver in the 800 run, crossing the line at 3:02. She also was fourth in the 400 dash, finishing in 1:15. Marissa Davis came in one second later for sixth.

Davis ran the mile in 7:14 for fourth place, and was fifth in the long jump, leaping 9-11.5.

The jr. high boys took three of the top four spots in the 100 sprint.

Derek Anderson (13.81) picked up the silver, Julian Fuentes (15.3) wore the bronze (15.3) and Jeremy Eaton was fourth (15.4).

Fuentes won the silver in the 400 with a 1:12, Brett McClure was third with a 1:13, and Rustin Webb took fourth with a time of 1:25.

Anderson (:30) was third in the 100 sprint, McClure (:33) took fourth and Eaton (35.1) was sixth.

The 1600 relay squad of Anderson, McClure, Eaton and Fuentes was fourth (5:15).

Anderson won the silver in the shot put with a distance of 34-5.7/8, and Cody Gonzales was sixth in the discus with a throw of 50 feet.

## Area Sports Calendar

| | |
|---|---|
| **THURSDAY** | |
| Baseball: | SHS JV at Sweetwater Tournament |
| | WTC vs. Otero JC, noon |
| Track: | SJHS at Seminole |
| Rodeo: | WTC at Odessa |
| **FRIDAY** | |
| Baseball: | SHS varsity vs. Lamesa, district opener, 7:30 p.m. |
| | SHS JV at Sweetwater Tournament |
| | WTC vs. El Paso CC, DH, noon |
| Softball: | SHS varsity at Denver City, 5 p.m. |
| | SHS JV at Denver City, 7 p.m. |
| Tennis: | SHS at Brownwood Tournament |
| Track: | SHS varsity and JV at Levelland |
| Rodeo: | WTC at Odessa |
| **SATURDAY** | |
| Baseball: | SHS JV at Sweetwater Tournament |
| | WTC vs. El Paso CC, DH, noon |
| Softball: | WTC vs. Midland College, DH, 1 p.m. |
| | SHS varsity at Lubbock Monterey, 1 p.m. |
| Tennis: | SHS at Brownwood Tournament |
| Rodeo: | WTC at Odessa |

## Sports Briefs

### SGSA meeting

The Snyder Girls' Softball Association will meet at 8 p.m. today at Texas Savings Bank.

### Baseball Buddies

The SHS baseball program will kick off the second annual Baseball Buddies program this Saturday.

High school players will provide instruction for kids between 11 a.m. and noon free of charger at Lewis Field for the next three Saturdays.

### Prior will start season on DL

MESA, Ariz. (AP) — Mark Prior will start the season on the 15-day disabled list because of inflammation in his right Achilles' tendon.

The Chicago Cubs star has been throwing off the mound in spring training, but has not pitched in a Cactus League game because of the injury. He was originally scheduled to start the team's third game of the season on April 8 at Cincinnati.

If Prior doesn't pitch in any major league exhibition games, he would be eligible to come off the disabled list on April 10. The Cubs hope to have him for their first homestand April 12-19.

### Houston hires Tom Penders

HOUSTON (AP) — Tom Penders was hired to coach at Houston, the once-powerful program that hasn't won an NCAA tournament game in 20 years.

Penders and the university agreed to a five-year contract, but terms weren't finalized, officials said. Penders, a coach at Texas for 10 years, replaces Ray McCallum, who was reassigned March 8 after going 44-72 in four seasons.

Penders, 58, is best known for resuscitating Texas after his arrival in 1988 after successful stints at Tufts, Columbia, Fordham and Rhode Island. He led Texas to a 208-110 record and eight NCAA tournaments, including a regional final in 1990.

## Lady Tigers edge Merkel, 7-6

The Lady Tigers got their offense ignited Tuesday, and it was just in time.

Snyder (12-8, 4-0) got its toughest test yet in district, overcoming several defensive miscues as Ashley Martinez went the distance in the 7-6 victory.

"We hit the ball, and the hitting helped out," head coach Darren Pool said. "Ashley struggled a bit, and defensively we had a big let-down. They are a good hitting team, but we still have some work to do."

Terann Ragland opened the scoring in the first inning with an RBI double, then scored on an error after a Kelsi Johnson strike out. Amber Luecke drove in Johnson with a single, and the Lady Tigers held a 3-0 edge at the end of one.

Merkel (10-7, 2-2) tied it up at 3-3 in the top of the third.

In the bottom of the third, Rachel Clanton slapped an infield hit, then raced all the way around to score after the throw to first rolled to the wall.

Merkel again tied it in the top of fourth, then took a 6-5 lead.

Ragland tied it up again in the bottom of the frame with a two-out double, and the Lady Tigers put it away in the fifth.

Snyder will travel to Denver City Friday to take on the Phillies.

The JV Lady Tigers pummeled Merkel, 20-1, Tuesday.

Jessica Calvert led the offensive barrage with a triple and five RBIs, while Kendra Birks and Joshlyn Tovar drove in three each.

Sarah Covington, Tera Robinson, and Erin Hackeld added two RBIs apiece, and Courtney Tyrrell drove in a run on a triple.

The JV girls will play their Denver City counterparts following the 5 p.m. varsity game Friday.

## Wolves down Spurs, 86-81

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Sam Cassell had 14 points, 11 assists and 10 rebounds for his third career triple-double and the Minnesota Timberwolves held off the San Antonio Spurs 86-81 on Tuesday night to extend their lead over their Midwest Division rivals to three games.

Kevin Garnett scored 27 points, and Latrell Sprewell had 20.

Cassell, who went 10-for-11 from the free-throw line, recorded his first triple-double of the season despite being harassed by Spurs defensive specialist Bruce Bowen. Cassell finished 2-for-11 from the floor.

It was much different when the teams played Thursday. The Spurs routed the Wolves 106-86 in San Antonio.

With NBA commissioner David Stern in attendance, two of the league's leading MVP candidates — Garnett and Tim Duncan — gave a thrilling performance.

"That's the way the playoffs are going to be," Saunders said.

## Rangers pick up SS, complete deal

SURPRISE, Ariz. (AP) — The Texas Rangers completed the Alex Rodriguez trade Tuesday by getting a young shortstop.

Texas chose Joaquin Arias from a list of five New York Yankees prospects to complete the Feb. 16 trade that sent Rodriguez, the American League MVP, and $67 million to New York for second baseman Alfonso Soriano.

Arias, ranked the No. 4 prospect in the Yankees' system by Baseball America, hit .266 for Class A Battle Creek last season with three homers, 48 RBIs and 12 steals.

Arias, 19, will probably start the minor league season at Class A.

## Ranger tops WTC, 6-2

Western Texas College allowed the leadoff batter to reach base and score in each of the first four innings Tuesday, in losing to Ranger JC, 6-2.

Troy Krugar was saddled with the loss, as WTC (7-24, 2-10) used nine pitchers in the game.

"It's hard to win when the leadoff man gets on and scores every inning," head coach Billy Heffinger said.

After Ranger jumped out to a 2-0 lead in its half of the first off starter Logan Hill, leftfielder Matt Meredith tied it up with a two-run single in the bottom half of the frame.

Ranger responded with two more runs in the second, and it held up.

Hefflinger said the team needs to keep its same focus and demeanor in games where it trails as it does in close games.

"When we get in games that are tight, we're okay," he said. "When we get down about four runs, we try to press offensively."

Hefflinger said the team needs to step up in all areas if they are to compete with conference-leading El Paso Community College (17-4), which is five games up on defending champion Midland, and have taken seven of eight from Midland this season.

"We keep the intensity up like we did against Trinidad and Otero, we'll be okay," Hefflinger said. "But we have to play flawless baseball against El Paso."

## Tigers blanked by Pirates

Lubbock Cooper scored three runs in each of the first three innings Tuesday, using a pair of long balls and a complete game shutout from pitcher Rhyne Fuller to blank the Tigers, 10-0, in five innings Tuesday in the final pre-district game for Snyder.

"We did not play well. It's a good thing we got it out of our system," head coach Charles Bollinger said. "In baseball, you're going to have some bad days, and (Tuesday) was a bad day."

Snyder managed just four hits off Fuller, although the Tigers did have two runners in scoring position in the first inning.

Snyder also committed two costly errors behind pitchers Dustyn Williams, who got the loss, Ryan Mitchell and Lico Castillo.

"We had no timely hitting, and we had too many errors — it was one of those days," Bollinger said. "It may be a blessing in disguise. This lets the guys know they need to be prepared for every game. Cooper is definitely a good team. They are ranked fifth in the state for a reason, and they came to play."

Jordan Dea, Isaac Ramon and Eric Martinez each singled, and Alex Neal doubled for the only Snyder hits.

The Tigers open the district schedule Friday at 7:30 p.m. at Moffett Field against the Lamesa Golden Tors.

Ty Collier will get the start.

The JV Tigers fell to their Cooper counterparts, 14-5, as the Tigers used four pitchers, Kel Lancaster, Cade Simpson, Zack Garcia and Barrett Bowlin.

## NCAA Men's Tournament Pairings

**EAST RUTHERFORD REGIONAL**
**Semifinals**
**Thursday, March 25**
**At Continental Airlines Arena**
**East Rutherford, N.J.**
Oklahoma State (29-3) vs. Pittsburgh (31-4), 6:27 p.m.
Saint Joseph's (29-1) vs. Wake Forest (21-9), 30 minutes after first game.
**Championship**
**Saturday, March 27**
**At Continental Airlines Arena**
**East Rutherford, N.J.**
Semifinal winners

**ATLANTA REGIONAL**
**Semifinals**
**Friday, March 26**
**At The Georgia Dome**
**Atlanta**
Texas (25-7) vs. Xavier (25-10), 6:27 p.m.
Duke (29-5) vs. Illinois (26-6), 30 minutes after first game
**Championship**
**Sunday, March 28**
**At The Georgia Dome**
**Atlanta**
Semifinal winners

**ST. LOUIS REGIONAL**
**Semifinals**
**Friday, March 26**
**At Edward Jones Dome**
**St. Louis**
Alabama-Birmingham (22-9) vs. Kansas (23-8), 6:10 p.m.
Georgia Tech (25-9) vs. Nevada (25-8), 30 minutes after first game
**Championship**
**Sunday, March 28**
**At Edward Jones Dome**
**St. Louis**
Semifinal winners

**PHOENIX REGIONAL**
**Semifinals**
**Thursday, March 25**
**At America West Arena**
**Phoenix**
Vanderbilt (23-9) vs. Connecticut (29-6), 6:10 p.m.
Alabama (19-12) vs. Syracuse (23-7), 30 minutes after first game
**Championship**
**Saturday, March 27**
**At America West Arena**
**Phoenix**
Semifinal winners

**FINAL FOUR**
**At The Alamodome**
**San Antonio**
**Semifinals**
**Saturday, April 3**
East Rutherford champion vs. St. Louis champion, TBA
Atlanta champion vs. Phoenix champion, TBA
**Championship**
**Monday, April 5**
Semifinal winners

## National Basketball Association

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

| Atlantic Division | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| New Jersey | 42 | 28 | .600 | — |
| Miami | 33 | 37 | .471 | 9 |
| New York | 33 | 38 | .465 | 9½ |
| Boston | 31 | 40 | .437 | 11½ |
| Philadelphia | 29 | 42 | .408 | 13½ |
| Washington | 22 | 48 | .314 | 20 |
| Orlando | 19 | 53 | .264 | 24 |

| Central Division | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| x-Indiana | 51 | 19 | .729 | — |
| x-Detroit | 46 | 26 | .639 | 6 |
| New Orleans | 37 | 34 | .521 | 14½ |
| Milwaukee | 35 | 35 | .500 | 16 |
| Cleveland | 31 | 39 | .443 | 20 |
| Toronto | 30 | 40 | .429 | 21 |
| Atlanta | 22 | 49 | .310 | 29½ |
| Chicago | 20 | 51 | .282 | 31½ |

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

| Midwest Division | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| x-Minnesota | 49 | 22 | .690 | — |
| San Antonio | 46 | 25 | .648 | 3 |
| Dallas | 44 | 26 | .629 | 4½ |
| Memphis | 44 | 26 | .629 | 4½ |
| Houston | 40 | 29 | .580 | 8 |
| Utah | 37 | 34 | .521 | 12 |
| Denver | 37 | 35 | .514 | 12½ |

| Pacific Division | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| x-Sacramento | 51 | 20 | .718 | — |
| L.A. Lakers | 47 | 23 | .671 | 3½ |
| Portland | 35 | 35 | .500 | 15½ |
| Seattle | 32 | 38 | .457 | 18½ |
| Golden State | 29 | 40 | .420 | 21 |
| L.A. Clippers | 27 | 44 | .380 | 24 |
| Phoenix | 24 | 47 | .338 | 27 |

x-clinched playoff spot

**Tuesday's Games**
Phoenix 103, Cleveland 86
Memphis 95, Toronto 86
New Orleans 82, Detroit 81
Minnesota 86, San Antonio 81
New Jersey 84, Chicago 81
Utah 85, Washington 77
Milwaukee 112, Sacramento 101

**Wednesday's Games**
Miami at Orlando, 6 p.m.
Phoenix at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
Memphis at New York, 6:30 p.m.
Dallas at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Houston, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Denver, 8 p.m.
Utah at Seattle, 9 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Portland, 9 p.m.
Sacramento at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Golden State, 9:30 p.m.


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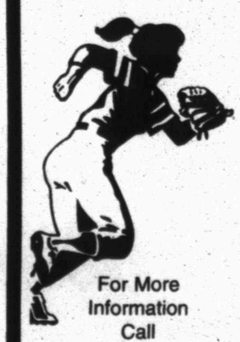
**SHS vs Merkel**



**Snyder Girls Softball Association**
**Signups**

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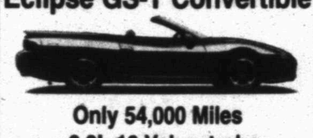
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# Anti-terror operation risks tribal backlash

WANA, Pakistan (AP) — A bombing and a series of rocket attacks in regions surrounding South Waziristan have raised fears that a bloody offensive by Pakistani forces against al-Qaida militants could be provoking a broad backlash.

Pakistani forces reported no fighting with al-Qaida militants today in South Waziristan, where thousands of troops have been battling hundreds of militants and their tribal supporters.

A roadside bomb exploded late Tuesday in northwestern Pakistan as an army vehicle passed as part of the military's sweep against suspected terrorists holed up in the rugged tribal regions along the Afghan border, police said.

Three rockets also slammed into Peshawar late Tuesday, wounding two people, a police official said. Nobody claimed responsibility for the attack in the capital of Pakistan's North West Frontier Province, said Mohammed Khan, a police inspector.

The attack illustrates the dangerous line President Gen. Pervez Musharraf is walking as he seeks to appease Washington without disrupting Pakistan's delicate balance of Islamic and secular concerns.

A 30-member delegation of tribal elders left Wana, the main town in South Waziristan, today for the area where most of the fighting has taken place.

The elders will try to track down tribesmen wanted for sheltering terrorists and find out where several kidnapped troops and government officials were being held, said Malik Ba Khan, a member of the delegation.

"We will make every effort to find a solution through negotiations. We will make every effort so that the situation becomes normal," Khan said.

Elders from other tribal regions held a meeting with Zalikhel tribesmen and had them take oaths on the Quran, Islam's holy book, that they will cooperate with the government, said Brig. Mahmood Shah, the regional military chief.

He said house-to-house searches were continuing and that anyone not cooperating would be punished.

"Homes of wanted people are being demolished," Shah said.

The militants who are under siege have radio sets and one group used them to threaten a paramilitary force when they finished searching one home, he said. Security forces seized items of "intelligence value," including video cassettes, books, telephone numbers and address books, he added.

"We demand that army and paramilitary troops should be immediately withdrawn," said Hafiz Hussain Ahmed, a lawmaker in Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam, a leading party in the alliance.

"This is our army and we will not let them be used for American interests," he said at a conference Tuesday in the southwestern city of Quetta.

Today, lawmakers from the coalition walked out of the lower house of Parliament to protest the speaker's decision not to allow them to speak out about the operation in South Waziristan.

Hundreds of militants — suspected of protecting a "high-value" terrorist suspect, possibly al-Qaida No. 2 Ayman al-Zawahri — have fiercely fought thousands of Pakistani forces using artillery and helicopter gunships.

Speculation is growing that the "high-value target" believed to have been hiding in the besieged region could have escaped, after the military discovered a mile-long tunnel leading from a besieged mud fortress.

# New Orleans port one of first to get new monitoring system

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Since 1936, a lone federal worker has sat in a tower along the Mississippi River, scanning the water with binoculars and radioing ship captains on whether to proceed or stop their vessels.

Not for long. The radioman will be gone by the end of the year, replaced by a new computerized system that will track and send messages to all large vessels on the lower Mississippi.

The system will be in place at all major U.S. seaports in 2005 — part of a security overhaul at the nation's ports, where officials fear a terrorist attack could cause economic and environmental disasters.

"Seaports have vulnerabilities that are far more difficult to address than airports," said Kim Petersen, executive director of the Maritime Security Council, adviser to the State Department on maritime anti-terrorism. "You have ports that have literally tens of thousands of miles of coastline that provide the possibility for access by criminals and terrorists."

Since Sept. 11, 2001, every foreign vessel over 300 tons has been forced to notify the Coast Guard four days before arriving at a U.S. port. The ship must provide a cargo list, its last five ports of call, destination in the United States and name, nationality and passport or identity number of every crew member.

The FBI, Coast Guard and other agencies say they've transformed their seaport patrols, restrictions and safety measures. Coast Guard officers around the country board any ship — sometimes dropping from helicopters — if they learn a member of its crew has suspicious paperwork.

New Orleans will be one of the country's first ports to institute a new system of monitoring all large commercial vessels. By January, commercial ships 65 feet or longer, except fishing boats, will be blocked from entering the port unless they're equipped with electronic boxes that automatically transmit data about the vessels to the Coast Guard.

All large oil tankers, cruise ships and large tug and tow boats on the river's lower 280 miles will show up as blips on computer screens in a downtown New Orleans office tower. With a mouse click, Coast Guard workers will be able to examine detailed information on each ship: where it came from, where the captain is headed and what's being hauled.

"We'll be able to track him from the moment he enters our coverage area for the entire time he's in that area. We'll be able to do a much better job," said Lt. Cmdr. Mark V. Kasper, who oversees vessel traffic on the lower Mississippi.

By 2005, the system will be mandatory for all large commercial vessels entering the ports of New Orleans, Los Angeles, Seattle, New York City, San Francisco and Houston. The installation will cost about $10,000 per ship.

The Coast Guard boards ships with sketchy paperwork, unusual cargo or any connection to countries deemed suspicious. Other agencies involved in security around the New Orleans port include Customs, the Louisiana National Guard and local police.

Special Agent Robert A. Burkes of the FBI's New Orleans bureau said his agents board a vessel about once a month, when the Coast Guard or another agency has concerns that a ship, cargo or crew member could indicate a link to terrorism.

"We end up interviewing people if anything about the ship, the shipping line, the ownership or the people on board raise any maritime agency's suspicions," said Burkes, who oversees anti-terrorism efforts in south Louisiana.

Huge tankers and barges aren't the only threat; The biggest maritime terrorist act against the United States was an explosion that killed 17 U.S. sailors aboard the USS Cole in 2000. The suicide bombers used a small boat in the attack.

On the lower Mississippi, potential terror targets include the levee — which prevents flooding in New Orleans — and the massive cruise ships that can carry up to 3,000 passengers.

Experts say such an attack could just as easily occur in U.S. waters.

Al-Qaida "has an array of goals, all of which could potentially be met by an attack against a ship or a seaport in the United States," Petersen said.

## Nutrition by Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

### *Gelatin and mad cow disease*

**DEAR DR. BLONZ:** I've been avoiding beef products since the mad cow problem surfaced. Now I see that my calcium pills contain small amounts of gelatin. (They are soft-gels.) Is there a possibility that the gelatin might be contaminated with prions? — **N.R., via e-mail**

**DEAR N.R.:** Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), otherwise known as mad cow disease, is a dangerous condition spread by a novel type of disease-causing protein known as a prion. This incurable disease affects the brain and spinal cord of cattle. The insidious nature of BSE and fears that consumption of prion-contaminated food can infect people rightfully concerns all consumers.

Gelatin is a type of protein that can come from the bones and hides of cattle, but it usually comes from pork. Irrespective of the animal source, the tissues used to make gelatin are considered by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to be low-risk for the spread of BSE.

In addition, the FDA published a guidance in 1997 that prohibits the making of gelatin from high-risk cows. In addition, the manufacturing process for gelatin involves acid and alkali treatments, and extensive washing coupled with high temperature sterilizations. All these steps further reduce risk.

Yet you use the word "possibility," and it is always difficult to speak in absolutes. Be assured that the process is such that the risk appears to be negligible, and gelatin retains the FDA's "generally regarded as safe" designation as an ingredient in foods, medications and dietary supplements.

**DR. BLONZ:** A friend and I were watching a TV program from our local hospital and some doctors were talking about vitamin E. They stated that it is now recommended that we take 800 IUs instead of the 400 IUs that has been the normal supplement amount in the past. We were wondering what your opinion of this would be. We both are senior citizens. I have had breast cancer for two years and I am on tamoxifen. I take a multiple vitamin plus vitamin C and calcium (1,500 milligrams). My friend takes about the same of everything, and had a bout with lung cancer many years ago and is very health-conscious. So if the 800 IUs of vitamin E would benefit us we would increase to that amount. Thank you for your opinion. — **C.C., Kankakee, Ill.**

**DEAR C.C.:** One of the difficulties with experts making statements through the media or online is that they don't know anything about individuals and their particular health histories. Advice is usually generic and is often based on findings that may have no relevance to a particular case. A worst-case scenario is if they are not even medical doctors, but hired salesmen using questionable "doctorate" degrees to promote a product that they are being paid to endorse.

I did not see the show you are referring to and do not know the basis on which the statements were made. Suffice it to say that individuals should always qualify what they say so that their recommendations are not taken out of context. The adult recommended daily allowance for vitamin E is the equivalent of 15 international units (IUs) per day. The daily value used on food and vitamin labeling is 30 IUs per day. I am unaware of any particular research suggesting that 800 IUs provides any extra measure of general protection; if you are looking for a supplement, 100 to 400 IUs of vitamin E per day seems more reasonable. Alpha-tocopherol is the "official" vitamin E, but if you have a choice, consider a natural source vitamin E that provides mixed tocopherols (alpha, beta, gamma and delta). Seeing as both you and your friend are taking other medications, I also recommend that you both discuss the matter with your respective physicians.

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

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

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## Horror writers are collaborating on book

NEW YORK (AP) — Horror writers Stephen King and Stewart O'Nan are collaborating on a book about a sometimes frightening mutual passion: the Boston Red Sox, who haven't won a World Series since 1918.

The two authors will attend Red Sox games throughout the year, diaries in hand. Their notes will be compiled and then published in a hardcover edition, by Scribner, at the end of the year.

"I just got back from spring training, and the guys are ready. I'm ready. Everyone's ready," O'Nan said in a recent statement. "This is the year. It's do-or-die time."

King, winner last fall of an honorary National Book Award, has written horror classics such as "The Shining," "The Stand" and "Carrie." O'Nan's works include "A Prayer for the Dying" and "The Night Country."

## Markets

### Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

| | High | Low | Last | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| AMR Corp | 10.99 | 10.60 | 10.67 | —.13 |
| AT&T Corp | 19.45 | 19.32 | 19.38 | +.01 |
| Albertsons | 22.90 | 22.52 | 22.67 | +.07 |
| Alltel | 49.23 | 48.71 | 48.79 | —.46 |
| AmEl Pw | 33.29 | 32.98 | 33.12 | —.03 |
| AndarkPtr | 52.52 | 51.37 | 51.38 | —.96 |
| ATMOS Egy | 25.47 | 25.27 | 25.31 | —.09 |
| Aviall | 14.99 | 14.65 | 14.65 | —.19 |
| BP PLC | 49.24 | 48.96 | 48.98 | —.17 |
| BakerHughes | 35.90 | 34.70 | 34.70 | —.78 |
| Bank of Amer | 79.20 | 78.17 | 78.31 | —.22 |
| BellSouth | 26.41 | 26.22 | 26.32 | —.19 |
| BurlNoSFe | 31.70 | 30.58 | 30.65 | +.20 |
| Caterpillar | 76.66 | 75.58 | 76.11 | +.26 |
| CenterPoint | 10.94 | 10.84 | 10.84 | —.06 |
| ChevronTex | 87.60 | 86.21 | 86.21 | —1.26 |
| Citigroup | 49.90 | 49.55 | 49.69 | —.11 |
| CocaCola | 48.50 | 48.17 | 48.24 | +.11 |
| ColgatePal | 53.21 | 52.81 | 52.85 | —.14 |
| CmclMetals | 31.89 | 30.46 | 30.49 | —.79 |
| ConocoPhill | 68.90 | 67.35 | 67.42 | —1.04 |
| Cooper Inds | 55.48 | 54.85 | 54.87 | —.28 |
| DaimlrChry | 40.50 | 40.11 | 40.27 | —.42 |
| DeltaAirLines | 7.40 | 7.07 | 7.08 | —.21 |
| Dillards Inc | 17.57 | 17.32 | 17.42 | +.03 |
| DowChem | 39.14 | 38.61 | 39.08 | +.06 |
| DuPont | 40.98 | 40.72 | 40.93 | +.23 |
| EastmanChem | 41.24 | 40.50 | 40.55 | —.64 |
| EstKodak | 25.29 | 25.03 | 25.03 | —.10 |
| EDS Corp | 19.19 | 18.99 | 19.02 | —.21 |
| Entergy | 57.94 | 57.52 | 57.73 | —.21 |
| ExxonMobil | 40.94 | 40.31 | 40.34 | —.42 |
| FootLocker | 23.41 | 23.10 | 23.32 | +.13 |
| GenDynam | 87.45 | 86.19 | 86.90 | +.80 |
| GenElec | 29.41 | 28.90 | 28.94 | —.26 |
| GenMills | 46.41 | 46.10 | 46.23 | —.12 |
| GenMotors | 45.24 | 44.99 | 45.12 | +.04 |
| GaPacific | 31.50 | 31.04 | 31.26 | +.19 |
| Goodrich | 27.49 | 27.30 | 27.32 | —.03 |
| Goodyear | 7.42 | 7.15 | 7.15 | —.26 |
| GtAtlPac | 7.39 | 7.30 | 7.36 | +.05 |
| Halliburtn | 28.96 | 28.35 | 28.43 | —.41 |
| Hanson PLC | 37.45 | 37.40 | 37.45 | |
| HarteHanks | 22.39 | 22.30 | 22.36 | —.04 |
| HomeDepot | 36.31 | 35.78 | 35.90 | —.31 |
| HoneywellIntl | 31.97 | 31.50 | 31.63 | —.28 |
| IBM | 92.11 | 91.30 | 91.35 | +.03 |
| IntlPaper | 40.55 | 40.18 | 40.26 | —.04 |
| JohnsonJn | 50.00 | 49.52 | 49.58 | —.07 |
| KinderMorg | 64.40 | 64.10 | 64.30 | +.17 |
| Kroger Co | 16.45 | 16.00 | 16.33 | +.14 |
| LockheedM | 45.09 | 44.70 | 44.75 | —.15 |
| Lowes Cos | 53.00 | 52.07 | 52.08 | —.81 |
| Lubys | 5.79 | 5.73 | 5.79 | +.10 |
| LucentTech | 3.94 | 3.88 | 3.90 | +.01 |
| MarathonOil | 33.15 | 32.40 | 32.47 | —.66 |
| MayDeptStr | 32.76 | 32.30 | 32.51 | +.03 |
| Medtronic | 47.02 | 46.30 | 46.33 | —.46 |
| Motorola | 16.79 | 16.50 | 16.70 | +.25 |
| NCR Corp | 41.39 | 40.66 | 41.10 | +.34 |
| Navistar | 43.80 | 43.27 | 43.29 | —.06 |
| PNM Rescs | 29.25 | 29.10 | 29.21 | |
| Penney JC | 33.81 | 33.45 | 33.56 | —.10 |
| PepBoys | 26.65 | 26.35 | 26.35 | —.15 |
| PepsiCo | 51.02 | 50.70 | 50.79 | —.17 |
| PhelpDodge | 78.71 | 76.21 | 76.29 | —2.29 |
| PilgrimsPride | 21.65 | 21.20 | 21.42 | —.26 |
| Praxair s | 35.05 | 34.65 | 34.87 | +.06 |
| ProctGamb | 103.30 | 102.51 | 102.60 | —.76 |
| RadioShack | 32.30 | 31.68 | 31.68 | —.40 |
| RoyalDut | 46.28 | 45.94 | 46.12 | —.24 |
| SBC Comm | 23.98 | 23.68 | 23.79 | —.19 |
| SaraLee | 21.81 | 21.60 | 21.69 | +.06 |
| Scripps EW | 97.45 | 97.00 | 97.02 | —.38 |
| SearsRoeb | 42.42 | 41.97 | 41.99 | —.24 |
| SherwinW | 34.77 | 34.50 | 34.68 | +.02 |
| SouthernCo | 30.08 | 29.85 | 29.94 | |
| SwstAirl | 13.46 | 13.31 | 13.40 | +.07 |
| SprintFON | 17.34 | 17.07 | 17.12 | —.17 |
| SprintPCS | 8.70 | 8.53 | 8.56 | —.07 |
| Sunoco Inc | 61.37 | 60.73 | 61.11 | +.12 |
| TXU Corp | 29.04 | 28.85 | 28.90 | —.18 |
| TempleInland | 60.19 | 59.49 | 59.70 | +.07 |
| TexInd | 30.80 | 30.33 | 30.35 | —.55 |
| TexasInst | 27.40 | 27.10 | 27.25 | +.10 |
| Textron | 51.74 | 50.93 | 51.17 | —.47 |
| TimeWarner | 16.63 | 16.40 | 16.41 | |
| TrinityInds | 26.45 | 26.29 | 26.32 | |
| TylerTech | 9.16 | 9.05 | 9.06 | —.09 |
| UnionPacif | 60.50 | 56.40 | 59.92 | —.59 |
| USSteel | 35.80 | 34.22 | 34.58 | —.93 |
| UnitedTech | 84.77 | 83.50 | 83.90 | —.48 |
| Unocal | 37.00 | 36.33 | 36.38 | —.48 |
| VerizonComm | 36.05 | 35.60 | 35.91 | —.15 |
| WalMart | 59.99 | 58.17 | 58.76 | +.55 |
| WellsFargo | 56.79 | 56.39 | 56.47 | —.15 |
| WstnGasRs | 49.36 | 48.89 | 48.91 | —.41 |
| WinnDixie | 8.14 | 7.68 | 7.68 | —.40 |
| Xerox Cp | 13.80 | 13.66 | 13.68 | —.22 |
| YumBrands | 37.20 | 36.90 | 37.00 | —.16 |

MAR 24 2004

Best Available Copy

# Scurry County Country

## Diversified

**By Greg Gruben, County Extension Agent**

**Spring Planting Preparation Before You Plant**

Annual flowers can provide landscaped areas with more seasonal variety and colorful accents than most other plants. The key to success with annuals is to plant only the area that can be adequately cared for. Remember, color can have more impact on the landscape than any other design element. However, nothing has a more negative impact than a poorly maintained color area.

**Soil Preparation**

Soil preparation is perhaps the most important aspect in maintaining areas with ornamental annuals. This begins with the addition of large quantities of organic matter to obtain optimum aeration, drainage and water holding characteristics.

Generally speaking, beds should consist of at least 50% organic matter for best results. In addition, bed areas should be raised to a minimum of 4-6 inches to avoid "drowning" during wet, rainy weather.

Since organic matter can be difficult to re-wet after excessive drying, a wetting agent can be used to achieve uniform water distribution throughout the soil.

**Adding Fertilizer**

Fertilizer should also be incorporated into new beds. Normal rate of application on new beds is generally 2 to 3 pounds per 100 square feet of a slow-release fertilizer formulation such as 19-5-9. Spade rototil or otherwise mix well until uniform and level off.

**Pre-Plant Weed Control**

To reduce weeding maintenance, rototil one of the commercially available soil sterilants, such as Roundup, into the soil about three weeks before planting. Then just before or immediately after planting, apply a pre-emergent herbicide labeled for ornamental use, such as Treflan, and leave it undisturbed on the surface.

Other methods of weed prevention include the use of a physical barrier such as a film of black plastic, which may be covered with a thin layer of decorative mulch. Be sure to punch numerous holes into the plastic with a garden rake to ensure adequate water penetration. Other weed barrier materials may also be used.

**When To Plant**

Wait...don't try to jump the gun on planting! Most spring annuals can't be planted until after the danger of killing frost has passed. Many warm season plants, such as periwinkles and caladiums, cannot tolerate cool soil temperature. Delay planting until the medium reaches 70 degrees.

Discard any plants that may have re-seeded themselves from last season. They'll be less vigorous and may not resemble their hybrid parents. If it's not possible for you to plant right away, keep plants in a lightly shaded spot and be sure to water them as needed. If possible, it is best to plant on a cloudy or overcast day or late in the day to reduce transplanting shock.

**Problems In The Garden**

**Diseases**

Plant disease-prone species (Zinnias, calendula, grandiflora petunias and stock) where air circulation is good, and keep the foliage dry. When this can't be done, fungicide treatment may be necessary.

**Insects**

The most common insects are aphids, white fly or spider mites which are controlled by various pesticides if control is initiated immediately before populations are too dense. Mites and white fly are less of a problem when plants are frequently watered. High temperatures increase insect populations necessitating more frequent pesticide treatment. Use extreme caution with pesticides. Be sure to read the label before use.

**Slugs and Snails**

These pests can feast on young bedding plants, especially marigolds, petunias and salvia. Place slug bait near new plantings in late afternoon and replenish as needed. Lightly sprinkle the baits to avoid eating by wild or domestic animals.

**Weeds**

Weeds may appear, even though you used mulch and pre-emergent herbicide. Be sure to remove weeds as soon as possible so they do not compete for water and nutrients. Remove them carefully especially when the annuals are young, so as not to disturb their roots.

## Murray, Inc. recalls 93,000 lawn tractors

BRENTWOOD, Tenn. (AP) — A lawn equipment manufacturer recalled more than 93,000 lawn tractors Tuesday because the fuel tanks could leak and cause a fire.

Murray Inc. said it has received two complaints of fires caused by the problem but no reports of injuries.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission said the 1.4-gallon tank on several models can crack and leak fuel.

The tractors were sold from 1997 to 2002 at stores nationwide, including Home Depot, for $859 to $1,259.

The model numbers are 40507X8, 42504X71, 42512X99, 425610X99, 40536X4, 42504X99, 42542X6, 425612X99, 405618X81, 42510, 42543X6 and 42575X81.

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Snyder Daily News
3600 College Ave.

## Strong peach, cantaloupe crops expected, according to reports

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — April showers should bring May flowers, and plenty of peaches and cantaloupes as well, Texas Cooperative Extension reports.

Dr. Larry Stein, Extension horticulturist in Uvalde, said peaches are beginning to bloom in his area, thanks to an adequate amount of chilling hours.

"Now we are just hoping we don't have a late freeze like last year that wiped out a lot of peaches," Stein said. "Right now everything is set up for a good crop."

Ideal conditions for peaches include a cool winter, followed by a warm spring with high soil moisture. Wet soil brings increased problems with a fungus called brown rot; however, none has been reported yet this year, Stein said.

The Winter Garden in southwest Texas specializes in Texstar and Florida King peach varieties. However, the variety of peach grown depends on each area and the number of chilling hours required, Stein said.

Sharon Smith of East Texas Peach and Berry Farm in Pittsburg said her peaches are doing well. Barring a late freeze or high winds and hail, she is expecting a good crop. Harvest should begin in the end of May, Smith said.

According to the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service, the state produced 6.7 million pounds of peaches in 2003.

Dr. Juan Anciso, Extension vegetable specialist in Weslaco, said cantaloupe seedlings are also beginning to emerge. Peaches are no longer grown in South Texas because of the warmer weather and the many problems the trees had. Slowly, producers stopped growing them in that area, he said.

"Cantaloupes, however, are doing quite well," Anciso said. "At planting time in January and early February, there was good soil moisture which helped out a lot."

Temperatures of 70 degrees and mostly sunny days made weather conditions excellent for planting, he said. Planting began as scheduled the last week of January, Anciso said. Harvest should begin in mid- to late-April and should be completed by late May.

Cantaloupe yields were down last year because of the low market prices, which dropped in the middle of harvest. This caused many cantaloupes to be left in the field because production costs were higher than market prices, Anciso said.

About 8,500 acres of cantaloupes were harvested in Texas in 2003, according to the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service. Anciso said growers are hoping prices will be better this year; fortunately, no disease has yet been reported. Although less acreage has been planted this year, quality is good, Anciso said.

Galen Chandler, district Extension administrator in Vernon, said range and pasture conditions in the Rolling Plains are beginning to improve after the recent rainfall. If showers continue, he said, people should be on the lookout for a great wildflower season.

The following specific livestock, crop and weather conditions were reported by district extension directors:

**PANHANDLE:** soil moisture very short to adequate. Warm temperatures and recent rain allowed wheat and rangelands to make noticeable growth. Wheat is rated as poor to excellent. Greenbug numbers have declined as a result of recent rain. Army cutworm problems continue. Land preparation continues for spring planting. Cattle are in fair condition; supplemental feeding continues.

**SOUTH PLAINS:** soil moisture excellent. Wheat is in fair condition. Winter wheat is behind in growth, but improving after recent rains. Ranges and pastures are in poor to fair condition. Supplemental feeding continues.

**ROLLING PLAINS:** soil moisture adequate to excellent. Range and pasture conditions are improving. Alfalfa is beginning to grow. Livestock conditions are improving. Stock tanks have caught much-needed runoff.

**NORTH TEXAS:** soil moisture short to adequate. Wheat is rated fair to good. Soybean and sorghum planting is getting ready to begin. Corn is beginning to emerge. Wheat pastures are improving. Livestock are in good condition.

**FAR WEST TEXAS:** soil moisture very short to adequate. Pastures are rated in very poor to fair condition. Winter wheat is rated from poor to fair. Livestock still receiving supplemental feeding. Forage availability is below-average.

**WEST CENTRAL TEXAS:** soil moisture adequate. Winter wheat conditions are improving after recent rains. Range and pastures are also improving.

**CENTRAL TEXAS:** soil moisture adequate. Fields are being prepared for spring planting. Corn and soybeans are being planted. Milk production is up.

**SOUTHWEST TEXAS:** soil moisture excellent. Pasture and ranges are green. Forage availability is above-average.

## ?Weather Whys?

**Topic: Rainbows**

**Q:** How are rainbows formed?

**A:** "You need two ingredients for rainbows — rainfall and sunlight," says Dr. Ping Yang of Texas A&M University's Department of Atmospheric Sciences. "For you to see a rainbow, the sun always has to be behind you. So to observe a rainbow, you must be facing the area of rainfall with the sun at your back," Yang explains.

"Sunlight strikes the area of rainfall, and the light is scattered from the raindrops and produces colors of the spectrum — from light purple or violet to red. Raindrops lit up by sunlight produce a spectrum of colors caused by bending of the light — thus a different angle to the rainbow can produce different colors to your eyes.

"That's why no two people ever see exactly the same rainbow — every person viewing it sees a different set of raindrops at a different angle. You can sometimes create a rainbow yourself by taking a garden hose, and with the sun at your back, turn it on to create a water spray.

"If you look at the spray at just the right angle, you'll see the spectrum of lights form — a rainbow. Areas of the country that have high amounts of rainfall, such as Hawaii or Florida, naturally have the most rainbows."

**Q:** How are double rainbows formed?

**A:** "A double rainbow — the correct term is secondary rainbow occurs the same way as the first rainbow in front of it except that two reflections are coming from the same area of rainfall, says Yang. Just the right angle is required for an observer to see two rainbows, and the secondary rainbow is always fainter or lighter looking in appearance. That's because the sunlight is reflected internally twice by the same raindrop.

"Also, notice that colors will always be reversed in a secondary rainbow. This is again caused by the way the light is reflecting off the raindrops.

**ABOUT WEATHER WHYS**

"Weather Whys" is a service of Texas A&M University's Department of Atmospheric Sciences. Past and current topics can be viewed via the web at http://rev.tamu.edu/weather-whys/.

For more information, please contact Keith Randall at (979) 845-4644 or kr@univrel.tamu.edu. Suggestions for future topics may be directed to news@univrel.tamu.edu.

## Markets

### Lubbock

The Lubbock Stockyards, Inc had a run of 645 head of livestock for the Thursday, March 18, sale. Cows were steady. Calves and yearlings were steady. Trading and demand were good.

**Slaughter cows:**
(High dressing, cutters, utility) 45-51
Canners and low cutters: 35-45
Slaughter bulls: 55-65
**Feeder steers:**
300-400: 115-140
400-500: 105-120
500-600: 90-107
600-700: 90-95
700-800: 82-92
**Feeder heifers:**
300-400: 105-120
400-500: 92-107
500-600: 85-95
600-700: 82-92
700-800: 75-85
**Feeder bulls – Good and choice**
500-600: 85-101
700-800: 75-85
**Cow and Calf Pairs**
Good: 650-950
Grade: 550-700
Springers: 425-950
Baby Calves: 125-190
Doodlers: 200-275

**COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**

**WEEKLY LAKE AND WATER DELIVERY REPORT**

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

| | ONE YEAR AGO 3-21-03 | LAST WEEK 3-14-04 | THIS WEEK 3-21-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| ELEVATION (FEET) | 16.60 | 18.83 | 18.81 |
| CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET) | 16,969 | 21,471 | 21,428 |
| PERCENT FULL | 8.46 | 10.70 | 10.68 |
| RAINFALL (INCHES) * | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| IVIE TO LAKE THOMAS (Gal.) | | 0 | 0 |
| SPENCE TO THOMAS (Gal.) | | 0 | 0 |

*RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT BIG SPRING/ODESSA INTAKE.

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

| | ONE YEAR AGO 3-21-03 | LAST WEEK 3-14-04 | THIS WEEK 3-21-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| ELEVATION (FEET) | 35.78 | 39.58 | 39.51 |
| CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET) | 30,510 | 40,490 | 40,287 |
| PERCENT FULL | 5.90 | 7.83 | 7.79 |
| RAINFALL (INCHES) * | | 0.60 | 0.10 |

* RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT SPENCE PUMP STATION

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

| | ONE YEAR AGO 3-21-03 | LAST WEEK 3-14-04 | THIS WEEK 3-21-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| ELEVATION (FEET) | 27.02 | 25.59 | 25.61 |
| CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET) | 206,457 | 193,019 | 193,202 |
| PERCENT FULL | 37.24 | 34.82 | 34.85 |
| RAINFALL (INCHES) * | | 0.00 | 0.00 |

* RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT DAM.

INFORMATION BASED ON NEW AREA CAPACITY CURVE DATA

MUNICIPAL WATER DELIVERIES IN GALLONS

| | LAST WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE 3-14-04 3-8-04 | THIS WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE 3-21-04 3-15-04 | THIS WEEKS PEAK DAY 3-21-04 3-15-04 |
|---|---|---|---|
| BIG SPRING | 3,337,143 | 3,438,571 | 4,150,000 |
| ODESSA | 12,334,000 | 13,019,300 | 15,210,200 |
| SNYDER | 1,452,671 | 1,470,200 | 1,585,600 |
| MIDLAND | 14,193,886 | 15,958,871 | 19,788,200 |
| SAN ANGELO | 10,430,429 | 10,110,614 | 12,000,000 |
| STANTON | 233,000 | 268,000 | 335,000 |

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Bric

By Phillip

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♣ Q 7
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♠ K
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♦ K
♣ A
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National

# Supreme Court takes up Pledge of Allegiance case

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans overwhelmingly want the phrase "under God" preserved in the Pledge of Allegiance, a new poll says as the Supreme Court examines whether the classroom salute crosses the division of church and state.

Almost nine in 10 people said the reference to God belongs in the pledge despite constitutional questions about the separation of church and state, according to an Associated Press poll.

The Supreme Court was hearing arguments today from a California atheist who objected to the daily pledges in his 9-year-old daughter's classroom. He sued her school and won, setting up the landmark appeal before a court that has repeatedly barred school-sponsored prayer from classrooms, playing fields and school ceremonies.

The pledge is different, argue officials at Elk Grove Unified School District near Sacramento, where the girl attends school. Superintendent Dave Gordon said popular opinion is on their side — but that's not all.

"It's not a popularity contest. If something is wrong, it should be corrected. No matter how many people support it," he said. "The argument that 'under God' in the pledge is pushing religion on children is wrong on the law. It's also wrong from a commonsense perspective."

God was not part of the original pledge written in 1892. Congress inserted it in 1954, after lobbying by religious leaders during the Cold War. Since then, it has become a familiar part of life for a generation of students.

The question put to the Supreme Court: Does the use of the pledge in public schools violate the Constitution's ban on government established religion?

Michael Newdow, the father who filed the lawsuit, compared the controversy to the issue of segregation in schools, which the Supreme Court took up 50 years ago in Brown v. Board of Education.

"Aren't we a better nation because we got rid of that stuff?" asked Newdow, a 50-year-old lawyer and doctor arguing his own case at the court.

The AP poll, conducted by Ipsos-Public Affairs, found college graduates were more likely than those who did not have a college degree to say the phrase "under God" should be removed. Democrats and independents were more likely than Republicans to think the phrase should be taken out.

Justices could dodge the issue altogether. They have been urged to throw out the case, without a ruling on the constitutional issue, because of questions about whether Newdow had custody when he filed the suit and needed the mother's consent.

The girl's mother, Sandra Banning, is a born-again Christian and supporter of the pledge.

# Scientists suggest ancient gene mutation led to evolution of humans

By The Associated Press

Igniting a scientific furor, scientists say they may have found the genetic mutation that first separated the earliest humans from their apelike ancestors.

The provocative discovery suggests that this genetic twist — toward smaller, weaker jaws — unleashed a cascade of profound biological changes. The smaller jaws would allow for dramatic brain growth necessary for toolmaking, language and other hallmarks of human evolution on the plains of East Africa.

The mutation is reported in the latest issue of the journal Nature, not by anthropologists, but by a team of biologists and plastic surgeons at the University of Pennsylvania and the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

The report provoked strong reactions throughout the hotly contested field of human origins with one scientist declaring it "counter to the fundamentals of evolution" and another pronouncing it "super."

The Pennsylvania researchers said their estimate of when this mutation first occurred — about 2.4 million years ago — generally overlaps with the first fossils of prehistoric humans featuring rounder skulls, flatter faces, smaller teeth and weaker jaws.

And, the remarkable genetic divergence persists to this day in every person, they said.

But nonhuman primates — including our closest animal relative, the chimpanzee — still carry the original big-jaw gene and thanks to stout muscles attached to the tops of their heads, they can bite and grind the toughest foods.

"We're not suggesting this mutation alone defines us as Homo sapiens," said Hansell Stedman of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. "But evolutionary events are extraordinarily rare. Over 2 million years since the mutation, the brain has nearly tripled in size. It's a very intriguing possibility."

University of Michigan biological anthropologist Milford Wolpoff called the research "just super."

"The other thing that was happening 21/2 million years ago is that people were beginning to make tools, which enabled them to prepare food outside their mouths," he said. "This is a confluence of genetic and fossil evidence."

Other researchers strenuously disagreed that human evolution could literally hinge on a single mutation affecting jaw muscles, and that once those muscles around the skull were unhooked like bungee cords, the brain suddenly could grow unfettered.

"Such a claim is counter to the fundamentals of evolution," said C. Owen Lovejoy of Kent State University.

## Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 03-24-04
♠ A 4
♥ K 3
♦ A 10 9 6 5 4
♣ 9 5 4

West
♠ 10 8 6 5
♥ J 10 4
♦ J 8 7 2
♣ Q 7

East
♠ Q 9 7 2
♥ A 9 8 7 5
♦ 4
♣ K J 2

South
♠ K J 3
♥ Q 6 2
♦ K Q
♣ A 10 8 6 3

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

| South | West | North | East |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 NT | Pass | 3 NT | All pass |

Opening lead: ♠ 5

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

### Isn't that the way it always goes?

By Phillip Alder

Once one opens a floodgate, the water never stops pouring in. For the last eight columns, I have been discussing declarer playing his second-lowest card. Then, suddenly I saw a deal reported by Australian Denis Young, on which this one is based. It features a defender always playing his second-lowest card!

South opens one no-trump, showing 15-17 points. The doubleton diamond honors are a drawback, but the five-card suit is a plus. North, hoping his long minor will be worth tricks, leaps straight to the nine-trick game.

West leads his fourth-highest spade. (It is normal to lead a major after this auction, because the responder didn't investigate a possible major-suit fit. Also, West, because his hand is so weak, might start with the heart jack, hoping to find his partner's length and strength. Here, though, South can survive that lead.)

South takes East's spade queen with his king and cashes the diamond king. West should play the seven, the famous second-lowest. And when South leads the diamond queen, West must drop the eight — again, his second-lowest.

A careful declarer will overtake the diamond queen with dummy's ace and continue with the diamond 10 to drive out the jack. Then, nine tricks are assured. But South, thinking that West must have started with J-8-7 of diamonds and East with the doubleton 4-2, may see overtricks in his future. He might let the diamond queen hold, planning to cross to the spade ace to run the diamonds. Here, though, that play costs the contract. Five diamond tricks suddenly become three; 11 tricks suddenly become eight.

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## Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

### Brain tumor can cause headaches

**DEAR DR. GOTT:** I'm male, 35, and have suffered from recurring headaches for several months. They have caused blurred vision that an ophthalmologist diagnosed as "choked discs" and referred me to an endocrinologist who diagnosed me with acromegaly. I was placed on medication and now must face the possibility of brain surgery to remove a tumor. I may need radiation therapy also. A CT scan showed that the tumor is invading the bone cells in my skull, confirmed by a second study. Will the treatment help? Will the radiation help?

**DEAR READER:** I cannot say. You have a serious and extremely unusual condition. A tumor (adenoma) in the pituitary gland is producing inappropriate amounts of growth hormone. Not only is the tumor causing pressure on the delicate nerve tissue affecting your whole body, it is causing headaches.

Without therapy, your tumor will probably cause permanent alterations in your appearance: coarser facial hair, prominent jaw, arthritis, enlarging feet, hands and skull. In addition, you may develop diabetes or suffer nerve damage or a malfunction in your extremities.

Acromegaly is the descriptive name given to patients with excess levels of growth hormone. In most cases, a combination of surgery and X-ray therapy will successfully treat the problem and curtail the complications I mentioned. (However, if your features have been affected, they may not return to normal for years.)

No one can predict if the tumor will re-grow, but your headaches will, in all likelihood, disappear with time.

To give you related information, I am sending you copies of my Health Reports "Headaches" and "Informed Approach to Surgery." Other readers who would like copies should send a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope and $2 per report to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092. Be sure to mention the title(s).

**DEAR DR. GOTT:** Is it possible that dreams can bring on vascular headaches? I find that upon awakening, my heart is pounding faster, often associated with a dream that may have been unpleasant. I do take medication for vascular headaches that gives good control if taken early on, but the dreams and headaches have me wondering.

**DEAR READER:** Dreams do not ordinarily affect vascular headaches, the cause of which is unknown. These pounding headaches come and go, but are generally not as severe as migraine and are not associated with "warning" symptoms, such as visual disturbances. Vascular headaches are often successfully treated with the inhalation of supplemental oxygen.

Unpleasant dreams can significantly increase blood pressure and, as you've discovered, pulse rate. Hypertension itself can sometimes trigger headaches. Thus, it may not be the dreams that are affecting you as much as the physiologic alterations within your body stimulated by the dreams themselves. Try taking your headache medication at bedtime to see if you can prevent headaches from appearing during the night.

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

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*"Thrilling Fat Fighter guaranteed to reverse years of overeating…"*

## New Doctor Recommended "Super Pill" For Diet Failures Produces An Extremely High-Speed Weight Loss!

"…the safe miracle pill for weight loss never thought possible to exist… has finally been discovered. And it's now available in the U.S. for the first time."

If you are interested in high speed weight loss, this will be the most remarkable message you will ever read in your entire life.

Here is why:

There has just been discovered a high-tech, fat-fighting super formula, so powerful that it is literally turning the weight loss industry upside down. It contains no caffeine, no ma-huang, no ephedra, or any other harmful stimulant or dangerous drugs. It is ultra fast at eliminating fat from the human body. And so powerful… you can almost…

**Feel The Fat Being Melted Off Your Body!**

Infact, powerful anecdotal evidence suggests staggering losses in both pounds shed as well as clothing sizes dropped, often in record time. Some researchers think it works with your metabolism in such a way that...you never have to worry about "diet failure" again.

**Doctor's Fat Cure Finally Revealed!**

Here's how it works. One of the secrets is a special kidney bean extract called Phaseolamin 2250™ that works in a remarkable new way to block the main enzyme in the body that converts carbohydrates to fats.

Even better… Phaseolamin 2250™ goes to work immediately to block production of the enzyme alpha-amylase which is needed to breakdown starchy foods into simple sugars which "signal" your body to store fat. In fact, this new breakthrough even…

**Works Even If You Refuse Strenuous Exercise And Starvation Diets!**

How is this possible? Because of a unique delivery system utilizing new Biobeads™ technology. This manufacturing process uses special "matrix" layering of the caplet, and allows key ingredients to be released in response to the absorption needs of your body. Each and every caplet using this sophisticated process takes a whopping forty-four days to manufacture. Thus, this unique process produces maximum utilization of the ingredients making it truly a "killer" fat fighter.

Remarkably, a new Mayo Clinic study using Phaseolamin 2250™ showed individuals lost six times as much weight as those not taking phaesolein with no exercise required in the study and absolutely no changes in diet. And the best thing is...

**The Most Astonishing Results Seem To Happen For Those People Who Have Had The Most Trouble Losing Weight Before!**

Another reason "hard losers" seem to drop weight dramatically with this product even when nothing else has worked before is the addition of a brand new "blood sugar" product called Glucotrim™ recently discovered in Japan.

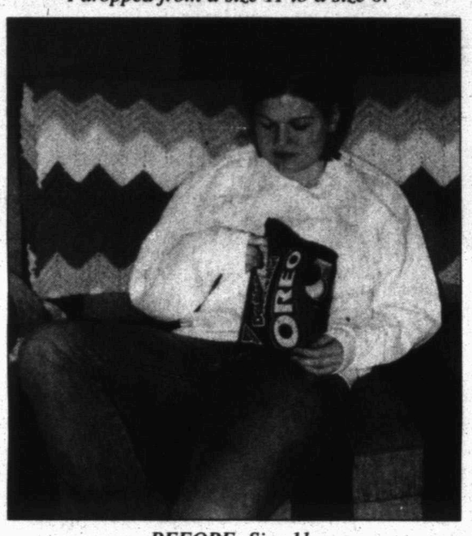
Recently, a two-part Glucotrim™ clinical study was also conducted by Dr. William V. Judy at the Institute of Biomedical Research in Bradenton, Florida. The results of these studies are considered to be a major breakthrough for the clinically obese who absolutely must lose weight.

Why does the formula seem to work so fast for many users? It is believed that the secret lies in the ingenious way in which Glucotrim™, phaesolein and the other ingredients are combined together in the formula. Researchers believe this results in a cascading, "synergistic" effect which is much more effective in supporting high-speed weight loss.

**You Never Have To Worry About Gaining Back A Single Ounce!**

The name of the product is Glucotonin™ and it's guaranteed to keep off all of the weight you lose… **permanently!** This is obviously no run-of-the-mill diet pill and it promises to deliver extraordinary results. So much so in fact…

*"I dropped from a size 11 to a size 6!"*



*BEFORE: Size 11*

*AFTER: Size 6*

*"I recently started taking Glucotonin™ and already have dropped from a size 11 to a size 6! It's amazing how fast I started seeing results. I used to hate to shop but now buying new clothes is one of my favorite things. By the way I still do love to eat, and tell all my friends that Glucotonin™ really does work!"*

*Erica Tyler*

**Japanese Biotech Engineers Issue Strong Warning!**

It should be quite obvious that this is not an ordinary diet pill. It cannot be found in health food stores or on the Internet. It is truly extra-ordinary. Therefore, because it is possible to become dangerously thin by using Glucotonin™ you should first consult with your physician to get advice on how fast it is safe for you to lose weight. Also, you and your physician… together… should determine your personal, perfect weight goal.

**Iron-Clad, Lifetime Money Back Guarantee!**

If you do not lose all the weight you want… if you don't lose the weight as fast as promised… if you gain the weight back after achieving your ideal weight… if in your lifetime for any reason whatsoever you are not totally satisfied with "Glucotonin™" just send back the empty container along with a simple note about how you took the capsules for 30 days and followed the easy instructions and Slim USA, the only company approved to offer Glucotonin™ in the U.S. will immediately send you back the money you paid for the product with no questions asked and no hassles.

Here's how to order. First…

**Don't Pay Anything Now!**

Slim USA doesn't want you to pay for this product… until… after you have tried it. Here's what they mean by that: All you have to do is place your order and, they'll ship you the product immediately...but they will NOT process your credit card for at least 30 days! That means, if you decide you don't like the product, all you have to do is send back the empty bottle(s) ...and...

**Your Credit Card Charge Will Be Destroyed... Without... Ever Being Processed!**

If you would rather order by sending them a check or money order, simply send a check...

**Postdated 30-Days Later!**

Why is Slim USA doing this? Because they don't want to deposit a single penny of your money until you've had a chance to try out this incredible new product and see for yourself how powerful it *really* is!

Does that sound strange to you? I'm sorry if it does but, no matter what... they intend to treat you like they would like to be treated. In other words, they think you deserve to be able to try this amazing product *before* you allow them to process your credit card or cash your check.

**Supply Options:**

The best news… is how affordable Glucotonin™ is, only $49.97 for a 30 day supply. Readers of this paper who would like to lose more than twenty pounds should order a sixty day supply for only $97.97. If you call today, mention this newspaper and you will receive a third bottle absolutely free with your sixty day order. (Buy two get one free).

Whatever quantity you order you must also pay an additional $6.95 per order for shipping and handling. Add only $5.00 and your Glucotonin™ will be shipped within 24 hours via United States Postal Service Priority Mail arriving as fast as five to seven days. (sometimes even sooner).

**It's Easy To Order!**

***For The Absolute-Fastest Service:*** Pick up your phone and call **800-495-3220** *(be sure to ask for Extension 4600 to get this incredible offer)* and order with your credit card. By the way, this is a toll-free number (it won't cost you a penny) and you can call anytime... 24-hours per day... 7-days a week.

Thank you.

The toll-free number to call is:

**800-495-3220**
**Ext. 4600**

or send check or money order to:

**Slim USA**
**2724 Roosevelt Street**
**P.O. Box 286**
**Dept. 4600**
**Clinton, IA 52732**

**Important Note:**

Remember, your Glucotonin™ will be sent to you immediately… and… if you aren't satisfied with this product for any reason, send back the unused portion within 30 days… and your credit card charge will be destroyed or… your check will never be deposited and sent back to you uncashed. You must be totally satisfied with the results.

These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to treat, diagnose, cure, or prevent any disease. Never use this product to lose weight too quickly. Most folks who are overweight should lose weight gradually, especially if you expect the weight loss to be permanent. Always follow a sensible, balanced diet that includes plenty of fruits and vegetables. You should also make time in your day for some type of physical activity. Erica's results may be atypical. Results are guaranteed but vary from individual to individual.

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MAR 24 2004

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

# Hamas leader: Militants not targeting U.S.

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — The new Hamas leader in Gaza said today the militant group had no plans to attack U.S. targets, while another top official in the organization said it has targeted Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon for death.

The Islamic group had made veiled threats it would retaliate against the United States for Israel's assassination of Hamas spiritual leader Sheik Ahmed Yassin on Monday, but it has rarely attacked American targets during the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Israel has gone on high alert since Yassin's death, and troops south of the West Bank city of Nablus stopped a Palestinian boy wearing a suicide bomb belt from crossing through a checkpoint. Soldiers removed the explosives-packed belt from the boy, Hussam Abdo, and sappers later detonated it, the army said.

It was unclear whether the boy was being sent as a suicide bomber or was a courier trying to smuggle the bomb belt through the checkpoint. The boy was in his mid-teens, according to his neighbors in Nablus. They identified him as a member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine militant group.

Abdel Aziz Rantisi, a hard-liner named Tuesday as Hamas' new Gaza chief, said the group's militant activities were aimed solely at Israel.

"We are inside Palestinian land and acting only inside Palestinian land. We are resisting the occupation, nothing else," Rantisi told reporters in Gaza. "Our resistance will continue just inside our border, here inside our country."

Rantisi denied reports that Hamas would join with al-Qaida, calling the claims "Zionist propaganda."

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat said today he opposed "any attack on civilians, whether they were Israel or Palestinian."

The State Department on Tuesday repeated a long-standing warning urging Americans not to travel to the Gaza Strip.

Today, overall Hamas leader Khaled Mashaal, who is based in Damascus, Syria, said the group's military wing would assess its abilities to kill Sharon.

"I hope that the holy warriors can retaliate against this awful crime by targeting the most prominent Zionist leaders ... including Sharon," Mashaal said in an interview posted on a Hamas Web site. "I hope they can succeed."

Israel has decided to target the entire Hamas leadership.

Rantisi, who survived an Israeli assassination attempt in June, said today he was not concerned.

"It's death by killing or cancer," said Rantisi, a trained physician. "If it's cardiac arrest or an Apache (helicopter), I prefer to be killed by an Apache."

Rantisi, 54, has appeared in public frequently since Yassin's death, but always in large crowds that deter an Israeli attack.

Tens of thousands of Palestinians at a Gaza City soccer stadium cheered the announcement Tuesday night that Rantisi had been chosen leader. One by one, senior Hamas officials got up and swore loyalty to him.

# Confusion hampered CIA efforts to stop bin Laden before 9-11

WASHINGTON (AP) — The CIA did not believe it had the authority to kill al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden before the Sept. 11 attacks, a federal commission said today during high-visibility hearings on missteps in U.S. counterterrorism policies.

The CIA also heavily depended on Afghan indigenous groups to attack bin Laden even though CIA Director George Tenet understood its chances of succeeding were only 10 to 20 percent, the federal commission investigating the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks said in a preliminary report.

The panel said officials at all levels of the Clinton and Bush administrations questioned the effectiveness of placing "the achievement of policy objectives in the hands of others. So, the commission needs to ask why that strategy remained largely unchanged throughout the period leading up to 9/11," the report said.

The commission was using the two-day hearing to examine diplomatic, military and intelligence efforts to stop al-Qaida before the Sept. 11 attacks against New York and Washington. The commission's findings are to be released this summer and are likely to provide fodder for both Republicans and Democrats in their fall election campaigns.

Also scheduled to appear today was Richard Clarke, counterterrorism adviser in both administrations. In a newly published book, Clarke accused President Bush of ignoring the threat posed by al-Qaida until the day of the attacks.

Clarke's charges were strongly rebutted Tuesday by Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld and Secretary of State Colin Powell. They said they were going beyond past practices of carrying out retaliatory strikes and had been developing a strategy for defeating al-Qaida.

Tenet told the commission, "Clearly there was no lack of care or focus in the face of one of the greatest dangers our country has ever faced."

After the Bush administration took office, officials "immediately understood what we were talking about here and bin Laden and al-Qaida became an agenda item early on" with national security adviser Condoleezza Rice, Tenet said.

In August 2001, the CIA gave Bush a highly secretive assessment on whether terrorists might attack the United States. It included no "specific, credible information about any threatened attacks in the United States," according to the commission report.

The White House was not informed about investigations that revealed that two al-Qaida operatives were in the United States or about the FBI investigation of Zacarias Moussaoui, the only person charged in the United States with being a Sept. 11 conspirator.

# Four arrested on various charges

***• Arrests***

Four subjects were arrested in Scurry County on Tuesday and this morning.

At 4:34 p.m. Tuesday, a 17-year-old female was taken into custody on a city warrant for no seat belt.

DPS troopers arrested a 51-year-old man at 8:39 p.m. Tuesday on Hwy. 350 near Ira for misdemeanor driving while intoxicated.

Two men were taken into custody in the 500 block of W. U.S. 84 at 4:14 a.m. today. A 23-year-old was arrested for misdemeanor DWI and a 21-year-old was charged with public intoxication.

***• Harassment***

A deputy was requested at a residence on CR 208 at 7:29 a.m. Tuesday and was told that a person had been harassing her by phone.

***• Forgery***

At 11:31 a.m. Tuesday, a caller in the 3900 block of Eastridge reported forged checks. An offense report for forgery was submitted.

***• Disturbance***

At 8:55 p.m. Tuesday, officers were requested at a home on Ave. B. The caller reported that a subject was there and had broken the window out of a vehicle and damaged the home. The subject had left the home before officers arrived, but an attempt to locate would continue. An offense report for Class C family violence was submitted.

***• Possible prowler***

A caller reported at 10:45 p.m. Tuesday of seeing a male outside her home in the 800 block of 16th St. An officer was unable to locate the subject, but maintained a close patrol.

# Obituaries

## William Gardner

**1922-2004**

McADOO — William F. Gardner, the brother of Nettie Faye Gardner of Snyder, died Monday, March 22, in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock.

No services for Mr. Gardner, 81, are scheduled at this time.

Born April 16, 1922 in Girard, he was a U.S. Air Force veteran and married Sybil Brantley on Aug. 29, 1953 in Lubbock.

Mr. Gardner moved from Abilene to McAdoo in 1954 and was a farmer. He was a former member of the McAdoo school board and gin board.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William Andrew and Nettie Grace Gardner; and a brother, Bob Gardner.

Survivors also include his wife, Sybil Gardner of McAdoo; a son, Mack Gardner of McAdoo; a daughter, Donna Edinburg of McAdoo; and two grandchildren.

## Turner Hunter

**1918-2004**

FLOYDADA — Turner Randall Hunter, the brother of Faye Chastain of Snyder, died Monday, March 22.

Funeral service for Mr. Hunter, 86, is set for 10 a.m. Thursday in the First United Methodist Church with Dr. David Jones officiating. Burial will follow in the Floyd County Memorial Park under the direction of Moore-Rose-White Funeral Home.

Born Feb. 25, 1918 in Paris, Texas, he was a 1935 graduate of Roaring Springs High School and attended VA School.

He married Sarah Eilon Campbell on April 7, 1940 in Jayton. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II.

Mr. Hunter, a member of the First United Methodist Church, moved from Afton to the McCoy community in Floyd County in 1949 where he farmed for many years. After retirement, he was a groundskeeper at Lighthouse Electric.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Sam David and Edna Turner Hunter; and a sister, Doris Thacker.

Survivors also include his wife, Sharah Hunter of Floydada; a son, Larry Hunter of Lubbock; a daughter, Barbara McCormick of Lubbock; two brothers, Sam Hunter of Iowa Park and John Hunter of Lubbock; four grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

## Sonnie Brown

**1937-2004**

SWEETWATER — Sonnie Jim Brown, the father of Mike Brown of Snyder, died Tuesday, March 23, in Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital.

Graveside service for Mr. Brown, 66, is set for 10 a.m. Thursday in the Garden of Memories Cemetery with the Rev. Oneal Westbrook officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of McCoy Funeral Home.

Born July 27, 1937 in Big Hill, Texas, he married Beverleye Crites on June 1, 1956 in Redfield, S.D.

Mr. Brown was a U.S. Air Force veteran of 20 years, serving in both Korea and Vietnam. He was a member of the Nolan County Honor Guard, past commander of the VFW and American Legion and a member of the N.C.O.A. He had operated a service station in Sweetwater and later worked at Texas State Technical College.

Survivors include his wife, Beverleye Brown of Sweetwater; another son and his wife, David and Terry Brown of Odessa; a daughter-in-law, Shellie Brown of Snyder; two daughters and a son-in-law, Jody and Rodney Whorton and Cindy Parker, all of Sweetwater; two sisters, Arlene Hernandez and Judy Mawhinney of Magnolia; four grandchildren; and four step grandchildren.

## Grace DuBose

**1931-2004**

MIDLAND — Grace DuBose, the grandmother of Paula Fritz of Snyder, died Friday, March 19, in Temple.

A memorial service for Mrs. Dubose, 72, is set for 2 p.m. Friday in the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Midland. Arrangements were under the direction of The Gabriels Funeral Chapel in Georgetown.

Born May 26, 1931, she was reared and educated in Crockett. She earned her associate degree from Stephens College in Columbia, Mo.

She married Bill Jordan, a geologist with Exxon, on June 7, 1952 and they lived in Eagle Nest, Hobbs, N.M., Andrews and Midland. He preceded her in death.

She married Bob DuBose on May 31, 2003 and they resided in Sun City Texas in Georgetown.

Survivors include her husband, Bob DuBose of Georgetown; five daughters, Sara Fritz of Midland and formerly of Snyder, Leela Patterson, Laura Grafe, Debbie Dobbs and Janet Sharp; a brother, John Arledge; and 10 other grandchildren.

## Anita Kubena

**1931-2004**

KERMIT — Anita Kubena, a former resident of Scurry County, died Monday, March 22, in Odessa.

Funeral service for Mrs. Kubena, 72, is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in the Belvue Baptist Church with the Rev. Gene Cannon officiating. Interment will follow in the Kermit Cemetery under the direction of Family Services Funeral Parlor.

Born in Rotan, she was married to Frankie Kubena who preceded her in death.

Survivors include a daughter, Tara Parker of Eunice, N.M.; a sister, Nina Evans of Corsicana; a brother-in-law, Jimmy Kubena of Snyder; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Personal, Professional Service
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Snyder, Texas
325-573-6200

## Today's Weather

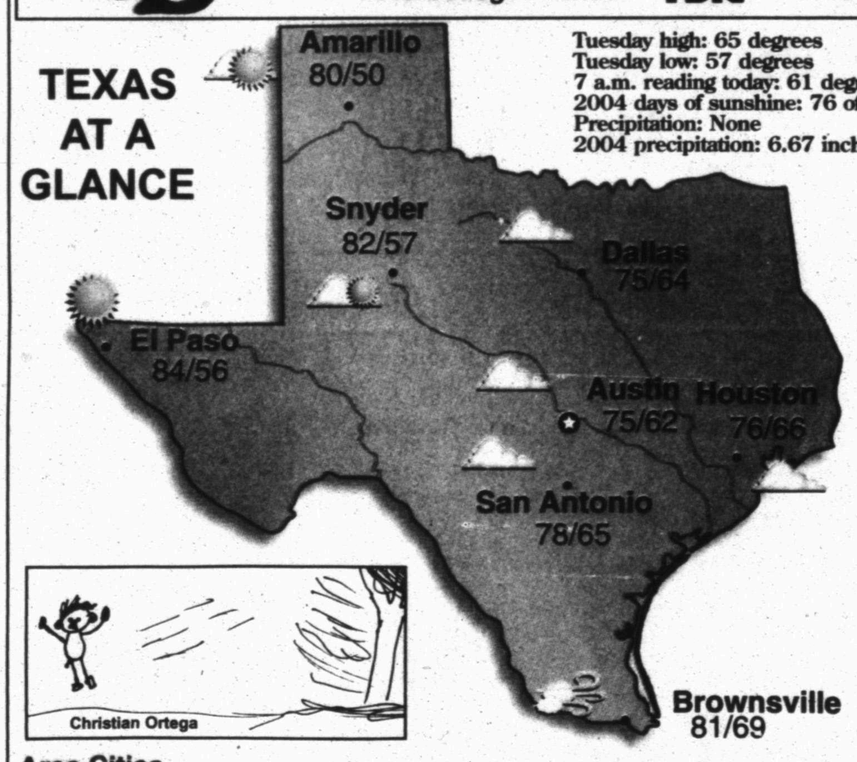
Local 3-Day Forecast

| Thu 3/25 | Fri 3/26 | Sat 3/27 |
|---|---|---|
| 82/57 | 84/57 | 80/53 |
| Clearing. Warm. High 82F. Winds SSW at 15 to 25 mph. | Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the upper 50s. | Clouds giving way to sun in the afternoon. |
| Sunrise 6:42 AM, Sunset 6:59 PM | Sunrise 6:40 AM, Sunset 6:59 PM | Sunrise 6:39 AM, Sunset 7:00 PM |

Texas Savings Bank
"MOVE IT ON OVER"
2619 College Avenue FDIC 573-9305

### TEXAS AT A GLANCE

Tuesday high: 65 degrees
Tuesday low: 57 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 61 degrees
2004 days of sunshine: 76 of 83
Precipitation: None
2004 precipitation: 6.67 inches




### Area Cities

| City | Hi | Lo | Cond. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Abilene | 81 | 61 | windy |
| Amarillo | 80 | 50 | mst sunny |
| Austin | 75 | 62 | cloudy |
| Beaumont | 76 | 65 | pt sunny |
| Brownsville | 81 | 69 | windy |
| Brownwood | 80 | 62 | pt sunny |
| Corpus Christi | 78 | 68 | windy |
| Corsicana | 75 | 63 | cloudy |
| Dallas | 75 | 64 | cloudy |
| Del Rio | 81 | 65 | pt sunny |
| El Paso | 84 | 56 | sunny |
| Fort Stockton | 85 | 58 | sunny |
| Gainesville | 74 | 59 | cloudy |
| Greenville | 73 | 61 | cloudy |
| Houston | 76 | 66 | cloudy |
| Kingsville | 82 | 66 | pt sunny |
| Livingston | 76 | 62 | pt sunny |
| Longview | 74 | 61 | cloudy |
| Lubbock | 82 | 53 | mst sunny |
| Lufkin | 76 | 64 | pt sunny |
| Midland | 85 | 58 | mst sunny |
| Raymondville | 82 | 66 | pt sunny |
| Rosenberg | 77 | 65 | cloudy |
| San Antonio | 78 | 65 | cloudy |
| San Marcos | 77 | 63 | pt sunny |
| Sulphur Springs | 72 | 60 | t-storm |
| Sweetwater | 82 | 60 | pt sunny |
| Tyler | 74 | 62 | cloudy |
| Weatherford | 76 | 60 | cloudy |
| Wichita Falls | 78 | 59 | windy |

### National Cities

| City | Hi | Lo | Cond. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Atlanta | 68 | 48 | pt sunny |
| Boston | 49 | 41 | sunny |
| Chicago | 57 | 46 | rain |
| Dallas | 75 | 64 | cloudy |
| Denver | 73 | 46 | mst sunny |
| Houston | 76 | 66 | cloudy |
| Los Angeles | 68 | 55 | pt sunny |
| Miami | 75 | 69 | windy |
| Minneapolis | 57 | 37 | pt sunny |
| New York | 54 | 43 | mst sunny |
| Phoenix | 89 | 63 | pt sunny |
| San Francisco | 64 | 51 | mst sunny |
| Seattle | 54 | 45 | rain |
| St. Louis | 68 | 54 | t-storm |
| Washington, DC | 61 | 45 | pt sunny |

### Moon Phases

| New | First | Full | Last |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mar 20 | Mar 28 | Apr 5 | Apr 12 |

### UV Index

| Thu 3/25 | Fri 3/26 | Sat 3/27 |
|---|---|---|
| 7 High | 8 High | 7 High |

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

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