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WT-Int. Crude - $21.55
WTIC Posted - $18.75

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY
Aug. 19, 1999
Vol. 51 No. 93
10 Pages 50¢
Home Of Larry Scott

Despite job cuts...

Positive attitude continues at SACROC

By Wade Warren
SDN Managing Editor

Despite the loss of six jobs at the SACROC Unit this week, optimism remains high for the future of the field.

Pete Hagist

"Our outlook is quite positive," said unit superintendent Pete Hagist.

"The unit is profitable because a lot of people have worked hard over the last four years to make it that way," Hagist said.

Hagist said monthly operating costs at the unit have been reduced by 50 per cent over the last four years – from $4 million a month to $2 million.

The loss of jobs was a result of the completion of the merger between PennzEnergy and Devon Energy Corporation of Oklahoma City.

Company-wide, 130 jobs were cut by the merger, including 90 in Houston.

Hagist said the cuts at SACROC involved PennzEnergy personnel and not contract workers.

The merger was approved Tuesday by shareholders of both companies. The intent to merge was announced in May.

"After those meetings Tuesday, PennzEnergy ceased to exist," said Hagist.

More than 99 percent of the shares represented by Devon were cast in favor of the merger during Tuesday's meeting, while approximately 92 percent of PennzEnergy shares cast approved the merger.

In the merger, each PennzEnergy share was converted into 0.4475 shares of common stock of the new Devon Energy Corporation. Each share of Devon common stock was converted into one share of the new Devon.

PennzEnergy shareholders will own approximately 31 percent of the combined company, and Devon shareholders will own approximately 69 percent.

Devon Energy Corporation now ranks in the top 10 of all U.S.-based independent oil and gas producers in terms of market capitalization, total proved reserves and annual production.

The company has capitalization of approximately $5 billion and proven reserves of approximately 660 million barrels of oil.

Besides the SACROC unit, it is also has operations in the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin, Caspian Sea region of Egypt and Venezuela and is one of the largest producers in the Gulf of Mexico with operations on 75 block and interest in an additional blocks.

James L. Pate, chairman of Devon Energy Corporation, said, "This merger has created a powerful new independent energy company. Devon is now poised to take advantage of substantial economies of scale, cost savings and opportunities for strategic expansion. This will result in improved value for all shareholders of the new Devon."

"This merger is the largest in Devon's history," said J. Larry Nichols, president and CEO of Devon. "It carries with it more opportunities to enhance shareholder value than anything we have accomplished to date."

"This is truly a banner day and I want to welcome all our new shareholders to Devon," added Nichols.

SACROC is the first CO2 project for Devon so that should be a plus for remaining employees at the Snyder unit, said Hagist.

Ritz production audition set

Auditions for the Ritz Community Theatre fall production, "I Remember Mama," will be held Friday and Monday from 5 to 7 p.m. at the theatre on the south side of the Snyder square.

The classic comedy, based on the story of "Mama's Bank Account" by Kathryn Forbes, is a heartwarming study of Norwegian-American family life early in this century.

The cast requires 10 women, four of whom could be teenagers. It also requires six men, two of these could be teenagers.

Some doubling of minor roles will be used.

The cast includes Mama and Papa; Katrin, eldest daughter and aspiring writer; Christine, a 15-year-old daughter; Nels, a 13-year-old son; Dagmar, the youngest child and an animal lover; Mr. Hyde, the boarder who reads classics to the family; Aunt Jenny, Aunt Trina and Aunt Sigrid, Mama's eccentric sisters.

Also in the cast are Uncle Chris, the colorful "black sheep" of the family; Mr. Thorkelson, the undertaker Jenny wants to marry; Dr. Johnson, who takes care of Dagmar in the hospital; Arne, Sigrid's son who has knee surgery; Jesse, Uncle Chris's lady friend; Dorothy and Madeline, Katrin's friends; and Florence Moorehead, a famous writer.

The production is scheduled for Oct. 29-31, and Nov. 4, 6 and 7.

The director is Ellie Dryden. For additional information, call 573-9739 or 573-8880.

David Denison returns to unit as Windham School principal

David Denison has returned to the Price Daniel Unit to serve as principal of the unit's Windham School.

Denison began his career with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice in 1992 at the Daniel Unit when he was employed as Windham School counselor.

He moved to Colorado City's Wallace Unit in 1994 and assisted in opening that unit. He was employed there as a counselor also.

In November 1995, Denison returned to Snyder to serve as vocational supervisor at Windham School's regional office.

He relocated in September, 1997 to the Roach Unit in Childress as principal of that unit's school.

Prior to his work with TDCJ, Denison taught in public schools.

He said he was looking for "new challenges" when he entered a career working within the prison system.

"I was also able to use my certification in counseling," Denison said.

Denison said he has not found a large contrast between working with public school students and inmates.

"What I've found is teaching is the same regardless of age. You have to find what academic level they are at and work with them on that level."

As principal, Denison will have the duties of supervising the staff, working with other departments on the unit and working with students on an "as-needed basis."

"I'm glad to be back in Snyder and I look forward to working with the staff at the Daniel Unit," Denison said.

He replaces Sharrylon Vestal who has moved to Colorado City to be principal of the Wallace and Ware Units.

Bob Martin, now assistant superintendent for region 5, was the unit's first principal. Bill Moss followed Martin and is now part of the regional education staff located in Snyder.

David Denison

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "We may not be able to change where we came from, but we have a big say in where we're going.

In the interest of equal time, some of the coffee shop guys have suggested some night courses for the gals. Tuition is on the revolving payment plan.

—Bad hair day 101: How to collect nifty gimme caps, suitable for any occasion.

—Beginning Weight Loss: Secrets to calibrating the bathroom scales.

—Intermediate Dieting: Anything goes with a diet cola.

—Music Appreciation: It ain't a band without a fiddle.

—Fine Arts and the Ecology: How to make table lamps out of empty beer cans.

—Secrets to overcoming the lawn mower that won't start (substitute for small engine repair): How to use a push reel mower.

—Cooking for two: Best places to make weekday reservations.

—How to win friends and influence people: pull for the same team he does.

—Saving for retirement 202: Finding a night job.

—Keeping the romance alive: Things to do while spending the night in the deer blind.

—Basic stuff 101: Directions – including north, south, east and west.

—Basic stuff 102: Measurements – including inches, feet and yards. (Example: 10 yards equals first down)

—Taking control of self: How to watch a black and white movie without shedding tears.

—Weekend adventures for the two of you: Caddying for him will provide quality time and bring you closer.

—Enjoying economic day trips: Getting to the lake and back in time to clean fish and fix supper.

—Beginning automotive: Finding the gas tank.

—Advanced automotive: Filling the gas tank.

—Social skills: How to go to the bathroom, alone.

—Gourmet cooking for the West Texan: Chicken fry goes with darn near anything.

—In-law relationships: Learn how to make brownies like his mother.

—Secrets to get him to keep the kids: Help them learn the rules of football and basketball.

—Knowing when he's interested: Learning anytime is the right time.

Death toll in Turkish quake exceeds 6,300; more expected

ISTANBUL, Turkey (AP) — With time running out to save thousands of people still missing under mountains of rubble, rescue workers worked frantically to pull out survivors today even as the death toll from western Turkey's worst recorded earthquake surpassed 6,000.

French, Israeli and Austrian rescue teams joined Turkish crews and civilians searching for loved ones in a massive effort to save the thousands of people trapped beneath the wreckage.

Amid the bleak news, there were some heartening words: An inferno at the major Tupras oil refinery in Izmit, set off by the quake, was brought under control.

And an 8-year-old boy was rescued in Izmit this morning by the Fairfax County, Va., Urban Search and Rescue Team, said Lt. Lorenzo Thrower, a spokesman for the team. Thrower said the team was also working to free a 27-year-old woman buried under 15 feet of rubble.

In the town of Yalova, one of the hardest hit areas, a 60-member French military rescue team tried to free 16-year-old Elmas Kizilkaya from the rubble of a seven-story building, but her ankle was trapped in the concrete.

"We may have to amputate her foot," said Capt. Jean-Marc Castagnet, head of the team.

Earlier, the French team amputated a man's hand to extract him from the rubble.

In Derince, near the epicenter, a married couple was rescued nearly 40 hours after the quake shook a couple out of their bed and brought it to rest just above them.

They spent nearly two days in a space just large enough for them to slither a few feet, shouting, praying and trying to forget about their gnawing thirst — until they saw a rescuer's hand.

"We expected to be crushed any moment," Kemal Yildirim said today. "We thought we were breathing our last breaths."

But such rescue stories were expected to dwindle as more time passed, swelling the death toll.

"About 99 percent of people rescued are rescued within the first 48 hours, and thereafter it is difficult to find people who have survived," said Helge Kvam, a spokesman for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Geneva.

The semi-official Anatolia news agency said that in the hard-hit Izmit and Golcuk areas, 3,000 people were killed, an increase of 1,000 from the earlier count. The agency later reported that the death toll in the town of Yalova rose from 350 to 1,311. The increases raise the official death toll to some 6,300.

The death toll was still expected to rise. By today, some 21,000 people were reported injured.

NEW TEACHER ORIENTATION — In-service began Wednesday for Western Texas College faculty and staff. Shown visiting before new teacher orientation Wednesday afternoon were WTC Vice President Bettie McQueen and new employees Ava Russell, Shane Christensen, Terry Stephens and Dani Day. (SDN Staff Photo)

ASK US

Q—Which football game will be Snyder's homecoming this fall?
A—It will be against Seminole on Sept. 24.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 98 degrees; low, 72; 7 a.m. Thursday, 75; no precipitation; total for 1999, 19.31 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, fair. Low 65-70. E-SE wind 5-10 mph. Friday, mostly sunny. High, mid 90s. SE wind 5-15 mph. Friday night, fair. Low 65-70.

Brett Cross
Hot

Sunset: 8:23 p.m.
Sunrise: 7:12 a.m.
Of 230 days in 1999, the sun has shone 223 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Courage is the price that life exacts for granting peace.
—Amelia Earhart

AUG 19 1999

Employers using transcripts for hire

WASHINGTON (AP) — Youngsters seeking work at more than 10,000 businesses, from McDonald's to IBM, are finding they cannot hide from a spotty academic career: Their high school records are being requested by companies worried that poor grades and lax attendance may suggest an employment risk.

Prospective employers hope they're sending a message to high school students and recent graduates that school performance and their commitment to learning matter — even in today's job market, where employers are crying for help.

"We let standards go down over the years; it's time to get them back to where they used to be," said John Wentling, the general manager of a McDonald's restaurant in Dover, Del.

Wentling is a participant in a campaign by the National Alliance of Businesses to encourage employers to study high school records when hiring.

One applicant this summer did not get a job after Wentling's check of the school records showed the applicant missed 12 days of school and was late 37 times.

"In our profession, we have to schedule according to hourly needs," said Wentling, who has about 70 employees. "We need to pick someone reliable, dependable and professional."

The two-year-old "Making Academics Counts" campaign grew out of discussions among business and education groups; they both wanted to produce better students who can continue their education, and make themselves more attractive to potential employers.

The alliance, which started out with about 2,000 participants, reached its goal of 10,000 this month, the group said Wednesday.

High school transcripts vary by district, or even school, but most usually include students' grades, attendance history, course work and teacher evaluations. Transcripts always have helped students get into college but were used less often for jobs.

Sometimes parents and students can be reluctant to give permission for the records' release because they worry employers will use the information on gender, race, disability and the like as an excuse to deny a job application.

However, business leaders facing shortages of skilled entry-level workers began to complain that students were graduating from high school without the skills — particularly in technology — necessary for today's workplace.

"There were days when I could get a manufacturing job with reading, writing and basic arithmetic," said Robin Willner, IBM's director of corporate social policy. "Those days are over."

International Business Machines Corp., based in Armonk, N.Y., asks for high school transcripts at all of the company's manufacturing facilities, which are in California, Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, Texas and Vermont.

About 30 percent of the company's 296,000 employees are in manufacturing and development.

Employers have not always cared to delve too deeply into entry-level applicants' school records. As recently as 1995, a federal education study found that employers ranked grades and school performance.

Fitness seminar here Saturday

Tiger Health and Fitness Center will host two Healing Arts of Fitness seminars Saturday.

The seminars will feature Cha Dikito, a well-known leader in the fitness industry for the past 10 years.

The morning seminar will held at Tiger Fitness Center in Snyder Shopping Center from 9 a.m. until noon, followed by a second session from 1-4 p.m.

Cost of the seminar is $15 for members and $20 for non-members. The gym is owned by Melody and Lane Martin of Snyder.

Cha Dikito is currently an active fitness practitioner and nutrition and spiritual enhancement instructor. She has completed her degree as a Physician of Natural Healing with additional certifications in Fitness Therapy.

Carl Morales and Jack Nail of Snyder, certified fitness trainers, will also be at the seminar.

They were certified by Cha Dikito.

Happy 1st Birthday Mia
Love, Mom & Dad

Correction...

In Wednesday's SDN, Emmadell Vernon's parents were listed incorrectly. She is the daughter of Bill and Vondell King of Snyder and L.T. Ewing of San Angelo

SCREENING — Kathy Landes, Tracy Munson and Elaine Gomez are conducting speech and language screening throughout Snyder's school district. They are shown with Rita Wolf's kindergarten students at Stanfield. From left clockwise are Landes, Munson, Taylor Duzan, Daniel Shezinger, Gomez and Mallorie Warren. (Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

Moratorium recommended on bulk sales of lake water

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States and Canada should not consider any bulk sales of Great Lakes water while the issue is being studied, a U.S.-Canadian commission said Wednesday.

"There should be a bias in favor of retaining water in the system and using it more efficiently and effectively," said Leonard Legault, chairman of the International Joint Commission's Canadian section.

The Great Lakes water has never been sold in bulk, and there are no requests pending in either country to move water out via pipeline, truck or ship. However, an aborted sales proposal last year aroused concern on both sides of the border, leading to the study.

"You fix the roof when the sun shines, and right now there are not any demands for big bulk removal," said Thomas Baldini, who heads the commission's U.S. section.

The commission — in an interim report released Wednesday — suggested a six-month moratorium on bulk water sales while it completes its yearlong study of the issue. That study is intended to help determine the governments' next steps.

There is sentiment in both governments for making sure the water doesn't become a long-haul commodity.

In Ottawa, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy issued a statement promising to introduce amendments to the International Boundary Waters Treaty Act this fall that will enable Canada to prohibit removal of water from the lakes. In Washington, legislation already has been introduced to ban bulk shipments of Great Lakes water pending joint action by both nations.

That bill's sponsor, Rep. Bart Stupak, D-Mich., said Wednesday that the report's conclusion that the lakes have no surplus water support his plan "for legislative action to prevent water sales now and set a policy for any future sales."

In general, experts are concerned only about large-scale movement that takes water out of the Great Lakes system.

Almost all of the water drawn out for irrigation, manufacturing and drinking water gets used locally and then makes its way back into the basin. The commission cited a 1995 statistic estimating that withdrawals that year amounted to 88,000 cubic feet per second and only 4,096 cubic feet per second was deemed to have been consumed, or not somehow returned to the system.

Of the lakes' entire volume (about 6 quadrillion gallons), rain and snow recycle only about 1 percent, Legault said.

"You can't think of the Great Lakes as a virtually bottomless reservoir," he told reporters. "The commission intends to examine both surface water and ground water in the Great Lakes basin.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Never ignore blood in urine

DEAR DR. GOTT: My 60-year-old husband has yellow stains on his underwear. I often notice that he also has a wet spot on his trousers after urinating. Occasionally, I notice blood stains, too. He says he feels fine — except for infrequent attacks of gout — and refuses to see a doctor. His only medicine is Indocin for his gout attacks. What should I do?

DEAR READER: As men age, they tend to lose precise control of bladder function. This usually results in urinary urgency, frequency and dribbling, leading to a few drops of urine deposited on a man's shorts. When the urine dries, it leaves a yellow stain, because of urochrome pigment that is normally present in urine. This stain is difficult to wash out. It is also unsightly but common; it often reflects prostate problems and other age-related urological conditions.

I am more concerned about the blood in your husband's urine. This is always abnormal, irrespective of its source. You may be labeled a nag for insisting your husband see a doctor, but he should — in particular a urologist. Bleeding from the reproductive tract — in both men and women — can be treated once its cause is diagnosed. But the symptom never — I repeat, never — should be disregarded.

By the way, your husband might also want to check with the doctor about taking allopurinol, a prescription medicine that usually prevents attacks of gout and can protect against gout-related kidney stones.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Bladder and Urinary Tract Infections." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Because of rheumatoid arthritis, I receive weekly injections of methotrexate. My arthritis has improved but, for the past week, my tongue has been swollen and my throat is so sore that I can barely swallow. My doctor ignores this and offers no solutions. What can I do?

DEAR READER: Bug your doctor. She should know better.

You have described an inflammation of the tongue called glossitis. This can result from a variety of causes, most of which are not serious.

However, you are taking methotrexate, an antimetabolite that can affect your immune system and reduce your white blood count. A reduction in the infection-fighting white blood cells will make your body more susceptible to infections, some of which — such as strep throat — can be deadly serious. Therefore, I urge you to insist that your doctor order a complete blood count to make sure that you have the proper number of cells. If the count is abnormal, you should immediately discontinue methotrexate, have a throat culture, receive therapy, and be closely monitored. On the other hand, if the count is normal, local treatment (such as salt water gargles) may make you feel better.

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Elderly woman acquitted

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — An elderly woman has been acquitted of attempted murder in a shooting that paralyzed her daughter and eventually led the younger woman to request to be taken off life support.

Shirley Egan, 68, squeezed her attorney's hand and smiled Wednesday night after a jury decided she didn't try to kill her daughter or her daughter's live-in boyfriend in March.

Ms. Egan said she knew her daughter, Georgette Smith, 42, didn't want her to go to prison.

"She's up there with God, I pray to her in God's hands," Ms. Egan said. "She was my best friend. We were together our whole lives."

Ms. Smith was paralyzed from the neck down, left barely able to speak and incapable of swallowing or controlling her bladder. In May, she won the right to be taken off life support, saying she did not blame her mother.

The day before she died, Ms. Smith gave a 20-minute videotaped deposition in which she said her mother didn't mean to shoot her when she opened fire. Jurors were riveted as they watched the tape Tuesday.

"I'm sure it was an accident. I know it was. She can't see that good," Ms. Smith said, struggling to pronounce each word from her hospital bed.

Prosecutors said Ms. Egan, who is blind in one eye, weighs 85 pounds and suffers from emphysema, opened fire March 8 after overhearing Ms. Smith and her boyfriend, Larry Videlock, talk about putting her in a nursing home.

After the verdict, Ms. Egan said she was tired of the influence Videlock was having over her daughter. "I think I was losing it," she said.

Her lawyer, Bob Wesley, told the jury that Ms. Egan was involuntarily intoxicated from prescription drugs and didn't intend to shoot the couple, only scare them.

"She is not to be blamed," he said.

Prosecutors disagreed.

"It's no accident when you pull this firearm and you aim it at two victims and you use your finger to pull this back," prosecutor Pam Smith told jurors in closing arguments, holding up the gun.

Ms. Egan was charged with two counts of attempted murder, which carries a maximum sentence of life in prison.

After Ms. Smith died, prosecutors considered charging Ms. Egan with murder, but decided against it, citing her poor health and closeness with her daughter.

In 1985, a prototype of Germany's high-speed ICE (Inter-City Express) train was the first rail vehicle in the world to exceed 248 mph on a test track.

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JUMPING JIVERS — Music students attending Lynn Baldwin's Summer Piano Jumping Jivers Camp included (top photo) from left, bottom row, Jaedee Elam of Seminole, Erin Hogan, Ashley Hyer; top, Sydney Wright, Vivi Weaver, Aryn Calley, Emily Jones, Claire Pollard and Glyn Wright. In the bottom photo are Amanda Calley, Laura Lyn Landa, Jerica Tyler of Post, Ellen Fagan of Houston, Faith Feaster of Roscoe, counselor; middle row, Karomy Drum, Jami Nell Thackerson of Colorado City, Annette Richardson of Big Spring, all counselors; top row, Brandon Robbins, Jerin Tyler of Post and Bailey Stoker, counselor. (Contributed Photo)

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

Horseshoe Pitching For Fun; horseshoe courts located at the coliseum; everybody welcome, for further information call 573-9762; 7 p.m.

Just For Today NA; Park Club; for information call 573-0949 or 573-8018; 6 p.m.

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

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

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

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

FRIDAY

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

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

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

Cornelius-Dodson House; open by appointment, call 573-9742.

Just For Today NA; Snyder Park Club; for information call 573-0949 or 573-8018; 6 p.m.

Hermleigh Community Center Family Night at 6:30.

Scurry County AA closed meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information cal 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

Scurry County AA open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 10 a.m. p.m.

Just For Today closed meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-0949 or 573-8018; 5 p.m.

Nationwide survey shows new ways to treat eye allergies

Here's a look at a new nationwide survey that shows how much more people can be doing to alleviate the nagging symptoms of eye allergies — itchy, watery, irritated eyes.

Results of the survey show that most of the 86 million people in this country who suffer from nose, head and throat allergies also suffer from eye allergies. However, more than half of these people do not mention their eye allergy symptoms to their doctors and most allergy sufferers are unaware of specific treatments that can relieve the nagging symptoms of allergies.

Fortunately, new research presented at the annual meeting of the American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology points to an effective treatment plan for eye allergy symptoms.

Results of this study showed that patients who used the leading allergy eye drop along with an oral antihistamine pill, had greater relief of eye allergy symptoms than those who took just the antihistamine pill along.

Oral antihistamines may even make eye allergy problems worse by causing eyes to become dry and more irritated. A free brochure about eye allergies is available by calling 1-888-728-2665 or visiting www.patonal.com.

BRIDAL COFFEE — A bridal coffee honoring Ryan and Joe Gordy was held on May 1 in the home of Lynda Patterson at 2801 32nd Street. Family members attending were, from left, Carol McMillan, mother of the bride; Heather McMillan, the bride's sister; honorees Ryan and Joe Gordy; Billie Gordy, mother of the groom; Julia Cox, paternal great-grandmother of the groom; and Yvonne King, paternal grandmother of the groom. Miss McMillan and Mr. Gordy were married May 29 in Graham at the First Presbyterian Church. They reside in Graham where they are both teachers. (Contributed Photo)

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

	North ♠ 8 7 3 ♥ Q J 4 ♦ A J 9 8 6 ♣ A 2	08-19-99
West ♠ A 10 6 5 2 ♥ 10 8 5 ♦ 5 2 ♣ J 8 4		East ♠ J 4 ♥ 9 7 6 2 ♦ K 4 3 ♣ Q 10 9 7
	South ♠ K Q 9 ♥ A K 3 ♦ Q 10 7 ♣ K 6 5 3	

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♠ 5

A fish a day keeps the defenders away

By Phillip Alder

Cecil Beaton, a British photographer, claimed, "She has a face that belongs to the sea and the wind, with large rocking-horse nostrils and teeth that you just know bite an apple every day." About whom was he talking?

Doctors supposedly recommend eating an apple a day, though why they would wish to reduce business isn't clear to me. Apparently eating fish is good for the brain. So, if you eat a lot of seafood, you should have no trouble finding the best play here. What would be your approach in three no-trump after West leads the spade five and East puts up the jack?

You have 29 combined high-card points and a good five-card suit in the dummy. How can there possibly be any problems? Well, first check your top tricks. There are only seven: one spade (given trick one), three hearts, one diamond and two clubs. The extras can come from the diamond suit, but if the finesse is losing, could a spade return from East be lethal? Yes, if the spades are splitting 5-2. The defenders might collect four spades and one diamond. (If the spades are 4-3, it doesn't matter what you do.)

However, you can disarm those spades by ducking at trick one. This allows you to cut the opponents' communication in the suit. Presumably East will return a spade, establishing his partner's suit, but West has no entry. When you get in, take the diamond finesse, not caring whether it wins or loses. You collect at least one overtrick, not an undertrick.

Cecil Beaton's uncomplimentary observations were about Katharine Hepburn.

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Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Jeremy Blevens, Manuel Barrera, Virginia Bethel, Abigail Garcia and Chad Thomas.

DISMISSALS: Abigail Garcia, Frances Hazle, Billy Neeley and Martha Braziel.

CENSUS: 43 (Med., Surg.-15, Long-term Care-23, ICU-1, OB-2, Nursery-2)

Births

John and Dollie Shults of Loraine announce the birth of their seven-pound son at 12:24 p.m. on Aug. 18 in Cogdeli Memorial Hospital.

It's OK to get up with the chickens, but we don't fancy sleeping in the chicken coop.

Confirm dates

In order to better accommodate clubs and organizations, Martha Ann Woman's Club caterer Sandra Brace asks that members planning to have September meetings at the clubhouse to inform her of times and dates and what to serve.

In addition, a yearbook from each club is needed as soon as they are available to plan the following monthly meetings, holidays and other occasions.

The woman's club is available for special events and information may be obtained by calling 573-3427.

The fourth Wednesday game day and luncheon will be held next Wednesday. Reservations are needed by 5 p.m. Tuesday. Also, MAWC directors are planning a garage sale in September with the date to be announced, and Tablescapes on Oct. 30.

The WR
Whistle Stop
& The Tea Room
On The Square
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American Heart Association.
Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke
Help Your Heart Recipes
This recipe is intended to be part of an overall healthful eating plan. Total fat intake should be less than 30 percent of your total calories for a day — not for each food or recipe.

Minted Cantaloupe Soup with Fresh Lime

8-ounce container nonfat or low-fat vanilla yogurt
4 cups diced cantaloupe
1 tablespoon plus 1 teaspoon sugar
¼ cup chopped fresh mint leaves
1½ to 2 tablespoons fresh lime juice
Sprigs of fresh mint (optional)

Put yogurt, cantaloupe, sugar, and ¼ cup mint, in order listed, in a food processor or blender. Process until smooth.
Pour into a large stainless steel or glass bowl, cover with plastic wrap, and refrigerate until well chilled, at least 1 hour.
To serve, stir in lime juice. Pour soup into individual bowls, garnish with mint leaves, and serve immediately.
Serves 4.

Nutrient Analysis per Serving
126 kcal Calories, 4 g Protein, 28 g Carbohydrates, 1 g Fiber, 1 mg Cholesterol, 53 mg Sodium, 1 g Total Fat, 0 g Saturated Fat, 0 g Polyunsaturated Fat, 0 g Monounsaturated Fat

American Heart Association Cookbook, 6th Edition, ©1998. Reprinted with permission from Times Book, a division of Random House, Inc., New York.
Visit our Web site at: http//www.americanheart.org/

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Comic Page

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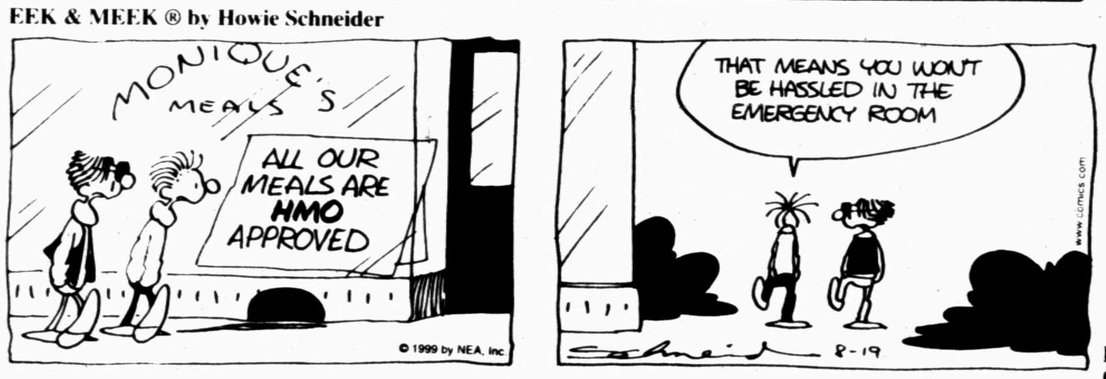

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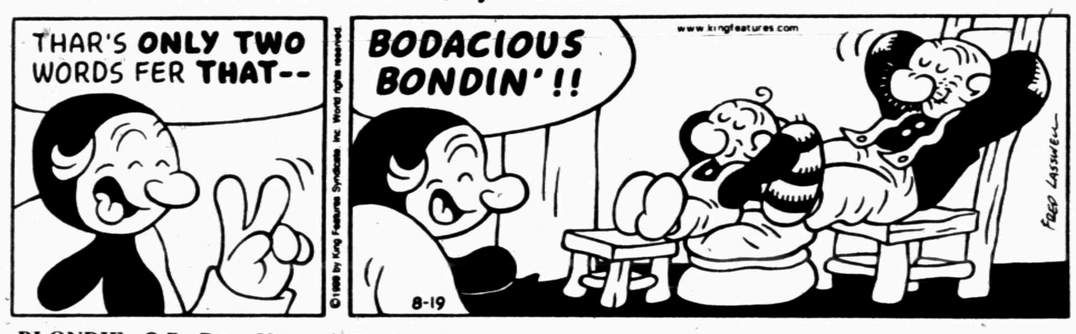

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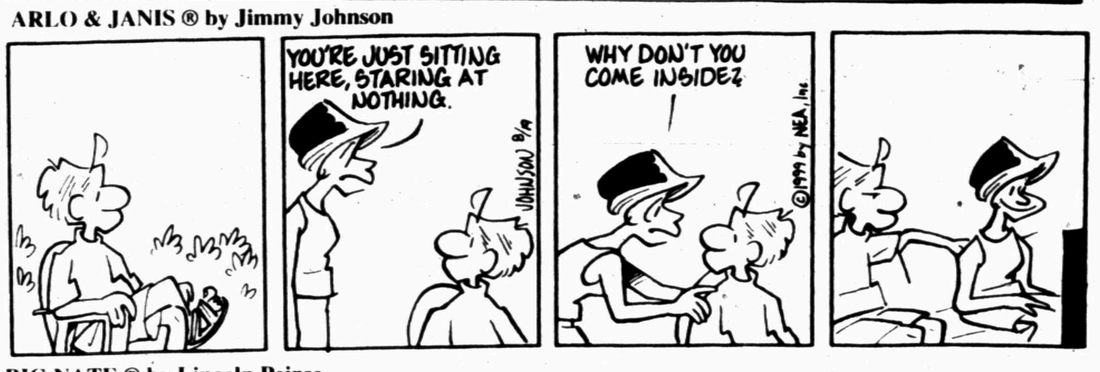

BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce

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ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender

BETTY ™ by Delainey and Rasmussen

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Mistreat
7 Peaceful
13 Marriage seeker
14 Actress Signoret
15 Acid neutralizer
16 Deteriorated
17 Bar brew
18 Actor Gulager
20 Coin of France
21 Con's "room"
23 Motorists' org.
24 Guns the engine
25 Tints
27 Not alfresco
29 "— Boot"
31 Roman 905
32 Card-player's call
33 Wide shoe size
34 Antarctic landscape item
37 Periods of time
40 Mark of a wound
41 Cassis-flavored drink
43 Type of missile
45 Soup container
46 Call — — day
47 Unclose (poet.)
48 Stir
51 Of medicine
54 Makes a fencing move
55 Brown pigment
56 Arrange
57 Wiped out

DOWN

1 Musician Hayes
2 Soothed
3 Plausible
4 Actress Hagen
5 Spain's Costa del —
6 Writer Jong
7 Outflow
8 Tear
9 Comedian Philips
10 Made sounds
11 Romantically involved (2 wds.)
12 Equatorial constellation
19 Medieval poem
22 Bookkeeper's record
24 Comic Joan —
26 Levantine ketch
28 Pintail duck
30 Most serpentine
34 Mythical aviator
35 Regulations
36 Peach center
38 Oak nuts
39 Lying on one's back
40 Opera house, La —
42 Increase
44 Group of ten
49 Playwright Betti
50 Sun. speech
52 Manner
53 It's in the bag

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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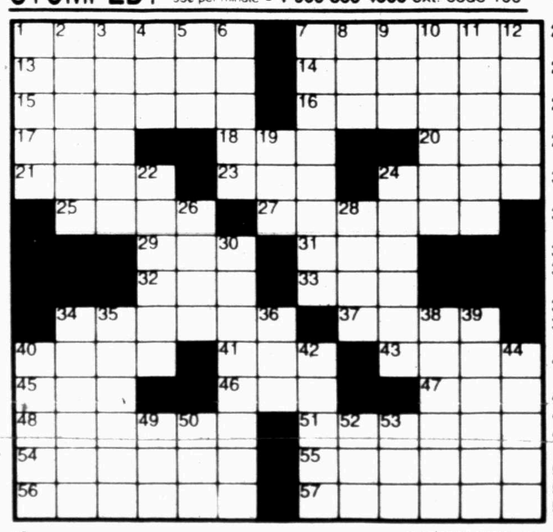

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HERMAN® by Jim Unger

"I had to dig it all by hand."

"WOW, GRAMPA! YOU MEAN YOU WERE AROUND BEFORE MOM WAS BORN?"

SPORTS

Listed as day-to-day...

Clay suffers sprained left knee

From local wire reports

WICHITA FALLS — Former Snyder Tiger and current Dallas Cowboy tight end Hayward Clay saw his progress come to a temporary halt Wednesday night when he suffered a sprained left knee during practice.

Head coach Chan Gailey was willing to roll the dice Wednesday night and practice on the artificial turf of Memorial Stadium, where James McKnight suffered a season-ending knee injury and a long list of other players were hurt during an intrasquad scrimmage two weeks ago.

The Cowboys were injury-free until the final play of a two-hour practice, when Clay went down hard during a goal-line drill.

The Snyder graduate sprained his left knee and underwent an MRI late Wednesday night. The MRI was "inconclusive" and Clay was to begin treatment this morning, according to Brett Daniels, the Cowboys' asst. director of media relations.

In another injury note, the groin problem that kept running back Chris Warren out of seven games last year has taken him out of training camp for a few days.

Warren left Tuesday for examination by the Colorado therapist who treated him during the off-season. Warren was expected to return to the team late Wednesday or Thursday morning.

Trainer Jim Maurer said Warren requested the trip for further treatment from the specialist. Maurer called the visit "a maintenance thing," adding that Warren had some soreness.

"It surprises me because I had asked him a couple of times how he was doing and there didn't seem to be any ill effects of anything," Gailey said Wednesday. "I'm anxious to talk to him to see what exactly brought this on and was he feeling that bad, and that kind of stuff."

Warren's injury was so bad that he wasn't declared fully healed until June — 10 months after he initially strained it.

His status for Saturday night's exhibition game against New England was unclear.

"There's still three games to play and a couple of weeks," Gailey said. "We know basically what he's about."

Although Warren played in only nine games as Emmitt Smith's backup, he scored five touchdowns and had Dallas' two longest runs of the season. He averaged 4.9 yards on 59 carries.

Rangers' domination of Indians continues, 6-1

CLEVELAND (AP) — Based on the explosive way the Texas Rangers have been hitting lately, it was just a matter of time until they overwhelmed the suddenly slumping Cleveland Indians.

Rafael Palmeiro hit a three-run homer and Royce Clayton had a two-run shot in a five-run seventh inning Wednesday night, giving the Rangers a 6-1 victory.

The Rangers have 44 runs and 60 hits during a four-game winning streak that has helped them to a 61/2-game lead in the AL West.

Texas has pounded Cleveland pitching, hitting 10 homers in winning the first three games of the four-game series by a combined 34-10 score.

John Burkett (4-6) pitched eight strong innings to get his first victory since July 22. He held Cleveland's lineup to one run and five hits and had a season-high eight strikeouts.

Burkett lowered his ERA from 6.30 to 5.90.

"I felt more comfortable than I have all year," Burkett said. "When it is an important game, I believe I'm going to do it. I was confident and felt good."

Palmeiro snapped a 1-1 tie in the seventh with his 33rd homer of the season. Rusty Greer opened the inning with a single and went to third on a double by Juan Gonzalez before Palmeiro homered off Charles Nagy (13-8).

"Nagy always pitches me tough. He just made a mistake and left a pitch up in the zone. I looked at their defensive alignment, and the second baseman and first baseman were back. I was just trying to hit it their way and score the runner from third," said Palmeiro, who has nine homers in his last 20 games.

After Todd Zeile singled, Nagy was replaced by Ricardo Rincon, who was helped by two sensational fielding plays.

Roberto Alomar made a diving stop of a sharp grounder and flipped the ball over his back to shortstop Omar Vizquel to force Zeile. Clayton then hit his seventh homer for a 6-1 lead.

After Tom Goodwin walked, Mark McLemore hit a drive into the gap in right-center, but Manny Ramirez made a running, backhanded catch and doubled Goodwin off first base to end the inning.

Texas, which has 17 homers in its last five games, scratched out a first-inning run when McLemore singled, and later scored.

Cleveland tied it in the sixth. Vizquel got a bunt single, stole second and scored on Ramirez's one-out single.

Five-run eighth inning fuels Astros' 6-4 victory

HOUSTON (AP) — It took the Houston Astros until the eighth inning to finally crack the Milwaukee Brewers, and when they did, it was Carl Everett who got the big hit.

Everett hit a two-run double that highlighted a five-run rally Wednesday night as the Astros beat the Brewers 6-4 and took sole possession of first place in the NL Central.

"Being back in first place by any margin is better than no margin at all," Astros manager Larry Dierker said. "We get to rest on that for 24 hours and be out there again."

Everett is hitting .475 and has hit in eight of his 10 games since returning from a hamstring injury Aug. 6.

"This was a team victory," Everett said. "Russ Johnson has been spectacular for us. He came up with the big hit to start us off. Then we just kept going."

Houston moved one game ahead of Cincinnati with its third straight victory. The Reds lost 12-6 to Pittsburgh. Milwaukee dropped its fourth in a row.

Hideo Nomo took a 4-1 lead into the eighth, but singles by pinch-hitter Johnson and Craig Biggio and a walk to pinch-hitter Ken Caminiti loaded the bases.

"I was mainly just throwing straight pitches and they were swinging at them," Nomo said. "This is my second-toughest type of defeat. The first type is when I get the loss."

With Jeff Bagwell at the plate, a wild pitch by reliever Eric Plunk (2-3) scored a run. After Bagwell struck out, Everett followed with a double down the right-field line that tied it at 4.

"What really hurt us was the wild pitch," Brewers manager Jim Lefebvre said. "We got the strikeout on Bagwell and then Everett came back that with big hit."

Everett stole third, and Lance Berkman walked with one out. Reliever Bob Wickman struck out Bill Spiers before Paul Bako singled home the go-ahead run. Ricky Gutierrez also delivered an RBI single to complete the five-run eighth.

Johnson is hitting .666 in his last nine at-bats as a pinch-hitter, including a double, stolen base and three runs scored.

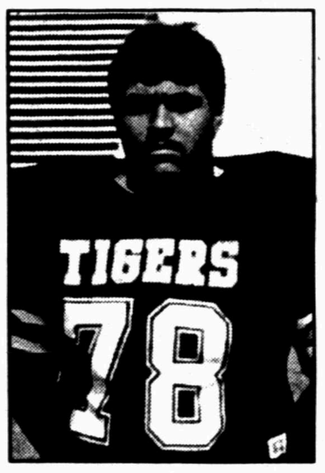
"I was just trying to get on base and do my part," Johnson said. "This is a great team. Nomo pitched a great game and we had to fight back to win this game."

Brian Williams (2-1) pitched the eighth for Houston and got the victory. Billy Wagner got his 30th save in 32 opportunities, striking out three in the ninth.

Nomo allowed six hits in seven strong innings. At one stretch, he retired five batters on five pitches.

"He pitched really well against this lineup," Brewers manager Jim Lefebvre said. "We have a lot of confidence when he pitches, so I think we play better behind him."

Area grid squads to scrimmage tonight



Joe Esparza

Three area football teams will see their first scrimmage action tonight, while another will hit the field on Friday.

The Snyder Tigers visit Colorado City at 7 o 'clock, while Ira hosts Blackwell while Borden County welcomes Dawson. The Bulldogs and Coyotes get underway at 6.

The Hermleigh Cardinals will get in one more day of practice before their first scrimmage. The Cards travel to Paint Creek for a 6 o'clock start on Friday.

When Snyder meets up with C-City, the Tigers will be without the services of senior co-captain Joe Esparza. The starting guard was to have undergone knee surgery this morning in San Angelo, and is expected to be out six weeks.

"Joe tore his anterior cruciate ligament, and that's a big loss," Snyder coach David Baugh said. "The doctor said he might be able to clean up his knee and get him back in about six weeks, so we'll see. Until then Mark Medley and Max Blackwell will split time at strong guard. They both play quite a bit on defense, so we're going to split their time on offense."

Freshman action is slated for 5 o'clock, with the junior varsity starting at 6. All three Snyder scrimmages will be held at Wolf Stadium.

Ira, Hermleigh and Borden County will scrimmage again next week, while Snyder opens its non-district schedule.

The Cardinals will scrimmage Three Way at Wilson next Thursday, followed on Friday by Ira hosting Trent, and Borden County visiting Jayton.

The Tigers kick off their season Aug. 27 on the road at Monahans. Kickoff is set for 7:30 p.m.

Redskins coax Patriot all-pro Irving Fryar out of retirement

FROSTBURG, Md. (AP) — The Washington Redskins have agreed to terms with receiver Irving Fryar, luring the five-time Pro Bowl receiver out of retirement, The Associated Press has learned.

"The signing's a foregone conclusion," a team source, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said Wednesday night.

The source said Fryar could come as early as Thursday and that he could be in uniform for Friday's home exhibition game against Buffalo.

Irving retired at the end of last season after a 15-year career with New England, Miami and Philadelphia.

Weekly Sports Schedule

THURSDAY

Football: Snyder 9th, JV and varsity at Colorado City, scrimmage, 5 p.m., 6 p.m., 7 p.m.

Football: Blackwell at Ira, scrimmage, 6 p.m.

Football: Dawson at Borden County, scrimmage, 6 p.m.

Tennis: Frenship at Snyder JV.

FRIDAY

Football: Hermleigh at Paint Creek, scrimmage, 6 p.m.

Volleyball: Snyder varsity at Bev Ball tourney, Abilene.

Volleyball: Snyder JV at Odessa tourney.

SATURDAY

Tennis: Snyder varsity at Levelland.

Volleyball: Snyder varsity at Bev Ball tourney.

Volleyball: Bronte, Denver City and Lubbock Cooper at Snyder 9th, 10 a.m.

Women's Golf Association

Individual Match Play

FIRST FLIGHT

Winner: Kaye Cypert def. Martha Fagin, 4 and 3.

Consolation: Anita Talbott def. Stacy Reed, 3 and 2.

SECOND FLIGHT

Winner: Esther Guelker def. Jo Sterling, 1 up.

Consolation: Suzy Reed def. Peggy Hardin, 2 up.

THIRD FLIGHT

Winner: Juanita Hester def. Kathy Stevens, 1 up.

Consolation: Norma Thompson def. Donna Stehley, 1 up.

FOURTH FLIGHT

Winner: Dolores Jones def. Gwen Sealy, 1 up in 19 holes.

Consolation: Colleen Duke def. Marie Dollins, forfeit.

SDN Sports Briefs

Slingin' Sammy Baugh Snyder tourney

The eighth annual Slingin' Sammy Baugh Snyder Golf Tournament will be held Sept. 11 at Western Texas College. Shotgun starts will be at 8 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Format will be a four-person scramble and cost is $140 per team. All proceeds benefit Snyder I.S.D. golf programs.

Prizes will be $600 for first place, $400 for second, $350 for third, $300 for fourth and $250 for fifth. A hole-in-one on No. 15 will win a golf cart.

To register, go by the WTC pro shop. Deadline for entry is Sept. 10.

SISD sports tickets

Season passes for all Snyder volleyball and basketball games are on sale now at the SISD business administration office. Passes are $30 for each sport, or $50 for a combined volleyball/basketball pass. The passes are good for all home games, from the varsity level through seventh grade. If purchased individually, adult tickets to home games are $2 each.

SCC scramble and MGA

A members' scramble is held each Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at Snyder Country Club. At 5:30 each Thursday, the Men's Golf Association hosts a 9-hole event. Thursday's format varies.

Bowling league meeting

The Men's Commercial Bowling League will hold its meeting Sept. 2 at 7 p.m. at Snyder Lanes. League play begins Sept. 9.

Major League Baseball

American League
All Times EDT

East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	73	46	.613	—
Boston	67	53	.558	6½
Toronto	65	58	.528	10
Baltimore	53	66	.445	20
Tampa Bay	52	69	.430	22
Central Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	72	47	.605	—
Chicago	57	62	.479	15
Minnesota	50	68	.424	21½
Kansas City	48	71	.403	24
Detroit	47	73	.392	25½
West Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Texas	72	49	.595	—
Oakland	65	55	.542	6½
Seattle	60	60	.500	11½
Anaheim	48	71	.403	23

Wednesday's Games

Seattle 5, Toronto 1
Baltimore 2, Minnesota 0
Tampa Bay 4, Detroit 0
Texas 6, Cleveland 1
Boston 7, Oakland 4
Chicago 4, Anaheim 3
Kansas City 3, New York 0

Thursday's Games

Kansas City (Stein 0-0) at New York (Cone 11-7), 12:05 p.m.
Anaheim (Ortiz 0-0) at Chicago (Parque 9-8), 2:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Perkins 1-5) at Baltimore (J.Johnson 3-7), 3:05 p.m.
Oakland (Hudson 7-1) at Boston (Martinez 17-3), 6:05 p.m.
Texas (Morgan 12-7) at Cleveland (Karsay 9-1), 7:05 p.m.
Only games scheduled

Friday's Games

Kansas City (Suppan 7-7) at Tampa Bay (Rupe 7-6), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago (Snyder 9-8) at Baltimore (Ponson 11-8), 7:35 p.m.
New York (Irabu 9-4) at Minnesota (Radke 9-11), 8:05 p.m.
Boston (Portugal 7-10) at Texas (Loaiza 5-1), 8:35 p.m.
Detroit (Moehler 8-12) at Anaheim (Finley 7-10), 10:05 p.m.
Toronto (Hamilton 5-7) at Oakland (Oquist 9-7), 10:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Colon 12-4) at Seattle (Halama 9-4), 10:05 p.m.

National League

All Times EDT
East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	74	48	.607	—
Atlanta	73	49	.598	1
Philadelphia	64	56	.533	9
Florida	50	71	.413	23½
Montreal	49	71	.408	24
Central Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	73	49	.598	—
Cincinnati	70	48	.593	1
St. Louis	62	60	.508	11
Pittsburgh	60	60	.500	12
Milwaukee	54	64	.458	17
Chicago	51	68	.429	20½
West Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Arizona	70	51	.579	—
San Francisco	61	59	.508	8½
San Diego	55	66	.455	15
Los Angeles	54	67	.446	16
Colorado	54	68	.443	16½

Wednesday's Games

Colorado 4, Atlanta 1
San Francisco 5, Montreal 4
Pittsburgh 12, Cincinnati 6
Houston 6, Milwaukee 4
Philadelphia 6, St. Louis 5
Los Angeles 7, Florida 0
Arizona 3, Chicago 1
New York 9, San Diego 1

Thursday's Games

Milwaukee (Karl 8-10) at Houston (Holt 3-11), 1:35 p.m.
Atlanta (Smoltz 8-6) at Colorado (Kile 7-11), 4:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Benson 10-8) at Cincinnati (Harnisch 12-6), 7:05 p.m.
Only games scheduled

Friday's Games

Colorado (Astacio 13-9) at Chicago (Farnsworth 2-6), 3:20 p.m.
Houston (Reynolds 14-9) at Florida (Dempster 5-6), 7:05 p.m.
Arizona (Stottlemyre 4-1) at Pittsburgh (Ritchie 11-8), 7:05 p.m.
Montreal (Powell 1-5) at Cincinnati (Neagle 3-4), 7:05 p.m.
Los Angeles (K.Brown 14-6) at Philadelphia (Person 7-3), 7:35 p.m.
St. Louis (Oliver 7-8) at New York (Hershiser 12-9), 7:40 p.m.
San Diego (Clement 6-11) at Atlanta (Glavine 10-9), 7:40 p.m.
San Francisco (Rueter 10-7) at Milwaukee (Pulsipher 3-3), 8:05 p.m.

NFL Preseason

Thursday's Game

Seattle at San Francisco, 8 p.m.

Friday's Games

Cincinnati at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at N.Y. Jets, 7:30 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Carolina, 8 p.m.
Buffalo at Washington, 8 p.m.
Tennessee at Arizona, 10 p.m.

Saturday's Games

Minnesota at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Jacksonville at N.Y. Giants, 7 p.m.
Baltimore at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
St. Louis at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Dallas at New England, 8 p.m.
Indianapolis at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Kansas City, 8:30 p.m.
Miami at San Diego, 11 p.m.

Monday's Game

Denver vs. Green Bay at Madison, Wis., 8 p.m.

WNBA Glance

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
yx-New York	17	13	.567	—
Charlotte	15	16	.484	2½
Orlando	14	16	.467	3
Detroit	13	17	.433	4
Washington	12	19	.387	5½
Cleveland	6	24	.200	11
WESTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
yx-Houston	25	5	.833	—
x-Los Angeles	19	11	.633	6
x-Sacramento	19	12	.613	6½
Phoenix	15	16	.484	10½
Minnesota	14	16	.467	11
Utah	13	17	.433	12

y-clinched conference title
x-clinched playoff berth

Wednesday's Games

Orlando 93, Detroit 81
Houston 70, Phoenix 60
Los Angeles 72, Minnesota 54

Thursday's Game

Cleveland at New York, 7:30 p.m.

Friday's Games

Detroit at Charlotte, 8 p.m.
Orlando at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Utah at Phoenix, 10 p.m.
Houston at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

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•Hermleigh Cardinals &
•Borden County Coyotes

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All Proceeds Benefit Noah Project West a shelter for victims of family violence

Head of LAPD seeks total gun control

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The head of the Los Angeles Police Department called for "total gun control" as he released 911 tapes that captured the terror unleashed by a gunman's rampage at a Jewish community center.

"Do we want to see another incident or do we want to bite the bullet and get these guns off the street?" Bernard Parks said Wednesday.

The chief wants a ban on assault weapons and "Saturday Night Special" handguns. He also has called for a ban on gun shows and strict regulation of gun sales.

The 911 tapes revealed the fear and panic as well as fast action by employees of North Valley Jewish Community Center, where three boys, a teen-age counselor and a receptionist were wounded Aug. 10.

Callers provided dispatchers with vital information about the location and what was happening, but there also was some confusion over the gunman's description and weapon.

"Please hurry. He's got a huge machine gun," cried the first woman to call 911. "I don't know how many people are dead, but there's hundreds of children. There's a summer camp here."

As a dispatcher sought information about the shooter, the woman said she had seen a white, heavyset man wearing black.

In another call a woman shouted, "There's been a shooting here. He shot the whole damn place! ... Oh my God!"

As an officer tried to question her, she shouted, "Somebody just came in and shot up our whole school. ... He came in with a shotgun."

The dispatcher tried to calm her, telling her: "You're my only link."

She then gave him details including the address of the center and who was there. "There's 200 people in camp and there's 60 or 70 in nursery school and staff," she said, telling the emergency operator she was under her desk.

Police arrived within four minutes of the first call.

One caller reported that children said an Asian man had opened fire. Another call described the gunman as Hispanic. Still another said it was a teen-ager.

The very first description phoned in matched that of Buford Furrow Jr., 37, the white supremacist who eventually surrendered. He faces charges of attempted murder in the shooting at the center and the murder of a postal worker shot to death a short distance away.

The weapon turned out to be a 9 mm semiautomatic assault weapon, not a machine gun or shotgun.

Parks said he believes the public is ready for a wide-ranging ban on guns, but lawmakers and the National Rifle Association have deterred such efforts.

"The resolve of the citizens has been high for a long time," Parks said. "The resolve of public officials is not as high."

The NRA's lobbying arm has said that Furrow was in violation of gun control laws already in place in California and has questioned whether new gun control proposals would have prevented the shootings.

NRA President Charlton Heston said that he believes Parks "is clearly one of the finest police chiefs in L.A. history" but that Parks' "comments about the NRA were inappropriate."

"He's surely entitled to his opinions on assault weapons and handguns, though he is inadequately informed on their place in the Bill of Rights," Heston said.

Farmers use Internet more

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — Before Lyle Samuelson hits the fields each morning, he hits the Internet. Sitting at his computer desk with a cup of coffee, the Sarles farmer logs on and checks the latest crop reports, weather forecasts and commodity prices.

"Getting information this way is so much easier," he said. "It's something you can sit and do early in the morning, and it only takes a few minutes."

Samuelson is among a growing number of farmers who find computers and Internet access to be an important part of farming. He has even started selling computers in the winter.

From 1997 to 1999, the percentage of farmers nationwide with access to the Internet more than doubled — from just 13 percent to 29 percent, according to a June survey by the Agriculture Department's Agricultural Statistics Service.

In North Dakota, the figure increased from 11 percent to 32 percent, with an equal number saying they use their computers and the Internet regularly in their farm operation.

In South Dakota, 29 percent of farmers had Internet access, compared with 38 percent in Montana and 27 percent in Minnesota.

For many, it is becoming a primary source for sharing and gathering information and even for purchasing purchases ranging from chemicals and fertilizers to tractors and combines.

"A lot of farmers out there have e-mail now, and it certainly makes it a very easy and useful way of exchanging information," said Tim Bryan, a fourth-generation farmer near the small town of Bowbells.

Bryan has used computers in his operation for about a decade, at first mostly for bookkeeping purposes. He signed on to the Internet only about three years ago.

"We're always seeking information, whether it's on new crop varieties or access to certain chemicals we need," he said. "The Internet is a way to keep connected and keep track of trends."

Samuelson said other farmers make up about 30 percent of his customer list for computer sales.

"A lot of people like the idea that they can look at the markets on the Internet every morning," he said.

Recognizing the growing popularity of the Internet among farmers, the North Dakota State University Extension Service, the state Agriculture Department and many manufacturers and suppliers have for years posted much of their information on Internet web sites.

Washington led all states in the percentage of farmers with Internet access at 50 percent, up from 20 percent in 1997. In Kentucky, just 14 percent of farmers had access to the Internet, according to USDA statistics.

Hilton, union settle bias complaint

BOSTON (AP) — Three waitresses who alleged they were barred from working at a new pub because they didn't speak with an Irish brogue will work there now as part of a settlement of their discrimination claim against Hilton.

Gloria DiMartino, Dorothy "Dottie" Webb and Jo Murray had each worked at the Logan airport Ramada's bar for more than three decades until it closed last weekend. In June they filed a complaint with the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination, alleging that Hilton — which has taken over the old hotel and is renovating it — intended to open Kitty O'Shea's, an Irish theme bar, and give first preference for jobs in the new bar to those with Irish accents.

Beverly Hills, Calif.-based Hilton Hotels Corp. officials had denied wrongdoing.

With the settlement, the women will be allowed to work in the new Irish pub at the $100 million hotel, slated to open Sept. 15.

"Eveyone is going to have a job," said Coleman Nee, a spokesman for the Logan Airport Hilton Hotel and Towers.

Local 26 union President Janice Loux said the hotel workers accepted a new contract with hotel management and agreed to drop the bias complaint. The new hotel will employ 500 workers, compared with the 250 to 300 at the old Ramada.

Hilton General Manager Bert James said he was pleased the issue was resolved.

Kennedy flight came close to jet before crash

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) — An hour before it crashed, John F. Kennedy Jr.'s plane came close enough to an American Airlines plane that a radar controller alerted the crew on the jetliner, investigators said.

The National Transportation Safety Board confirmed the incident but it was not clear how close the planes came to each other, The Providence Journal reported Wednesday.

The planes were close enough to prompt the traffic advisory to the commercial plane, but there was "no apparent risk of collision," according to NTSB spokesman Paul Schlamm.

Such advisories are not rare, Schlamm said. He said the incident was not serious enough to require a course adjustment.

Kennedy's plane went down off Martha's Vineyard, Mass., on July 16. Kennedy, his wife and his sister-in-law died. One possible explanation for the crash is that Kennedy was disoriented by nighttime haze.

A radar controller on New York's Long Island issued the traffic advisory to the American Airlines crew while the two planes were northwest of White Plains, N.Y., 150 miles from the crash site. The pilot told the radar controller that he could see the smaller plane from his cockpit.

Kennedy's Piper Saratoga, which was heading from New Jersey to Massachusetts, did not receive an advisory, Schlamm said.

Markets Midday Stocks

NEWYORK(AP)

	High	Low	Last	Chg
AMR Corp	62¼	60¼	61⅝	+ ¼
AT&T Corp s	48 7-16	47 13-16	48	— ⅛
Albertsons	50 9-16	49 9-16	49 11-16	— 1¼
AlldSignal	62¼	61¼	61 5-16	— 1⅛
Alltel	70⅞	69 9-16	69 9-16	—1 7-16
AmOnline s	98 1-16	96⅛	96 15-16	— 2⅛
Ameritech	70⅝	68⅛	68 3-16	— 2⅛
AndarkPtr	36⅛	36 3/16	36 3/16	+ ⅛
ArmcoInc	6 13-16	6 13-16	6 13-16	— ⅛
AtlRichfld	92¼	91¼	91 13-16	— 1⅛
ATMOS Egy	25¼	25 3-16	25 3-16	— ¼
Avialt	13¾	13¼	13¼	— 7-16
BP Amoco	117⅛	116 11-16	117⅛	—1 3-16
BakerHughes	35¼	34¼	35	+ ⅜
Bank of Amer	64 11-16	64	64⅛	— ⅛
BellAtl	63¼	62 15-16	63 1-16	— 1 129-256
BellSouth s	48 3-16	47 1-16	47⅛	— 1¼
BethSteel	8⅛	8 1-16	8 1-16	— 1-16
BurlNoSFe	30 1-16	29 11-16	29⅞	— ¼
CBS Corp	46 5-16	45 11-16	45 11-16	— ⅛
Caterpillar	60 11-16	60 1-16	60 5-16	—11-16
CenSoWst	21½	21¼	21½	— 1-16
Chevron	94½	93 9-16	94 3-16	— ¼
Citigroup s	46⅞	46 4/16	46½	— 17-32
Coastal	42 11-16	42⅞	42 11-16	+ 1-16
CocaCola	58⅝	57 13-16	57 15-16	— 9-16
ColgatePal s	49 5-16	48¾	48 7-16	—11-16
ComclMetals			33 3-16	3333
CooperIn	54 13-16	54 9-16	54⅛	— ¼
CyprusAmax	13⅞	13½	13¼	+ 3-16
DaimlrChry n	76⅞	75¾	76 1-16	— 1¼
DallSemicn	48 15-16	48¼	48⅞	— ¼
DeltaAirl s	52 13-16	51¼	52⅛	+ 7-16
Dillards Inc	28 15-16	28 9-16	28⅝	— ⅛
DowChem	126¼	125 7-16	125 9-16	—1 9-16
DuPont	71 5-16	70½	70¾	— 3-16
EastmanChem	51¼	50 15-16	50 15-16	—11-16
EstKodak	72⅞	72 7-16	72 13-16	
EDS Corp	56	55¾	55 11-16	— ½
Entergy	28 11-16	28¾	28 11-16	— 1-16
Exxon	82⅛	81¼	81⅛	—11-16
Flowers	15¾	15½	15 11-16	— 1-16
FordMotor	50 11-16	50¼	50 5-16	— 9-16
GTE Cp	73¾	73 1-16	73 3-16	—13-16
GenDynam	60 7-16	59 11-16	60	— 9-16
GenElec	111⅛	110¼	110 7-16	— 1¼
GenMills	82 15-16	82⅛	82⅞	— 1-16
GenMotors	63 5-16	62 5-16	63⅛	+ 7-16
GaPacGP s	45 11-16	45 3-16	45⅜	— ⅛
GlobalMar	19 1-16	18 9-16	19	+ ⅛
Goodrich	39⅞	39 5-16	39 7-16	— ¼
Goodyear s	57	55 9-16	55¾	— 1⅛
GtAtlPac	34 15-16	34 11-16	34⅞	— 3-16
Halliburtn	48 9-16	47½	48½	+11-16
Hanson ADS	43¼	43¼	43¼	— ½
HarteHanks	23 13-16	23¾	23¾	— 9-16
HomeDepot	61 15-16	60½	60 11-16	— 1 15-16
IBM s	124⅞	123	123 9-16	— 5-16
IntlPaper	52⅛	52 1-16	52 7-16	— 5-16
JohnsonJn	96	94¾	94⅞	—1 5-16
K mart	13¼	13 9-16	13¼	— ¼
Kroger Co s	23¼	23	23¼	+11-16
Litton	63 15-16	63¾	63 11-16	— ¼
LockheedM s	37¾	37¼	37⅜	— 3-16
Lowes Cos	48⅜	47 9-16	47⅞	—1 1-16
Lubys	14⅛	14	14	— ⅛
LucentTech s	64⅛	62 13-16	63 1-16	— 1⅛
MayDeptStr s	40	39 7-16	39½	—11-16
MediaOne	70¼	69½	69½	— 1¼
Medtronic	73¾	72 13-16	73 1-16	—15-16
Mobil	105¼	105¼	105⅜	— ⅛
Monsanto	40¾	39¾	39¾	— ¼
MorganJP	132½	131 3-16	132	—15-16
Motorola	88 3-16	86¼	86 15-16	— 1¼
NCR Corp	44½	43¾	43¾	— 1
Navistar	47⅞	47¼	47⅛	—13-16
Penney JC	41¼	41⅛	41⅛	— ⅛
PepBoys	15⅜	15⅜	15⅜	— ⅛
PepsiCo	35¾	35¼	35¼	— ⅛
PhelpDodge	58¼	57 11-16	58 1-16	—11-16
PhilipPet	52 11-16	51 13-16	52 5-16	— ¼
PilgrmPrd B	11 7-16	11⅛	11 7-16	+ 5-16
Polaroid	24 13-16	24 5-16	24 7-16	— 5-16
Praxair	48 15-16	48 7-16	48⅜	— 7-16
ProctGamb	95⅛	94 1-16	94 13-16	+ 1-16
PubSNwMx	18 15-16	18¾	18¾	— 5-16
ReliantEngy	26½	26¼	26 7-16	— 3-16
RoyalDut	63 13-16	62 13-16	63¼	
SBC Comm	53¾	52 11-16	52¾	—1 15-16
SaraLee s	21¼	21 5-16	21 7-16	— 3-16
Scripps EW	48 15-16	48 15-16	48 15-16	
SearsRoeb	40½	40 1-16	40 3-16	— 7-16
SherwinW	26	25 13-16	25 15-16	— ⅛
SmithklBchm	64¼	63 11-16	64⅛	+ 5-16
SouthernCo	26 3-16	26	26 1-16	— ¼
SwstAirl s	17 11-16	17¼	17 9-16	— 3-16
SprintFON s	51	49½	49¾	—1 13-16
SprintPCS n	58¼	57¼	58 1-16	— ⅛
Sunoco Inc	33 9-16	33 5-16	33¼	
TNP Ent			37	3737
Tandy s	47½	46¾	46¾	+ 1¼
TempleInland	71 3-16	70 5-16	70 11-16	— ⅛
Tenneco	21¼	20⅞	21	— ⅛
Texaco	64	63 7-16	63¾	+ ⅛
TexInd	34¼	34½	34 11-16	— ¼
TexasInst s	73 1-16	71 5-16	71 9-16	—1 7-16
TexUtil	39¼	39½	39¾	— 1-16
Textron	81 9-16	80⅝	80¾	—1 7-16
TriconGlbR	43¾	42½	42 15-16	— 9-16
TrinityInds	31¼	31 3-16	31 7-16	— 5-16
TritonEngy	12 7-16	12¼	12½	— ⅛
US West Inc	55 13-16	55 3-16	55 7-16	— ¼
USX-Marathn	31 7-16	31	31 5-16	— 3-16
USX-USS			27¾	2727½
UnCarbde	63¾	62 11-16	63¼	— ¾
UnionPacif	53¾	53 5-16	53¾	+ 3-16
UnitedTech s	66¼	66 3-16	66¼	—13-16
Unocal	41	40¾	40 15-16	+ 1-16
Venator Grp	9 1-16	8¾	8¾	— 1⅛
WalMart s	46	44¼	45 1-16	—1 5-16
WellsFargo	41¼	40¾	40¾	— ⅛
WstnGasRs	16½	16	16½	+ 7-16
WinnDixie	37¾	36 13-16	37 3-16	— ¼
Xerox Cp s	49¾	48 13-16	49¼	+ 1-16

Local Interest STOCKS

Patterson	13 1/8	+1/2
Dell	43 7/8	-11/16
Wal Mart	45 1/8	-1 1/4
Compac	23 5/8	+1/8
Dol. Gen.	25 15/16	-9/16
GTE	73 1/16	-15/16
SBC Comm.	52 11/16	-2
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LU	63 1/4	-15/16
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Without privacy warnings...

Intel plans to cancel ads on Web sites

WASHINGTON (AP) — In the latest move to discourage government regulation, Intel Corp. said it will require Internet sites that carry its advertising to warn consumers what personal details are being collected about them online.

Intel, which spent $1.3 billion on all advertising last year, is among the largest buyers of ads on the Internet, especially with its prominent campaign featuring the familiar "Intel Inside" swirl logo.

Intel's announcement Wednesday follows similar threats earlier this year by IBM, Microsoft Corp. and The Walt Disney Co. to withhold advertising from Web sites that do not publish adequate privacy warnings.

"We're now joining the ranks," said Ann Lewnes, Intel's director of worldwide advertising.

The high-tech industry wants to convince the federal government that it can regulate itself and that new privacy laws are not needed to protect consumers on the Internet.

Intel said it will require by Jan. 1 that all the roughly 200 "Intel Inside" sites worldwide comply with privacy guidelines developed by the Online Privacy Alliance, a trade group of companies on the Web.

The Federal Trade Commission, which recommended to Congress this summer that new Internet privacy laws are not needed, praised Intel's announcement.

The FTC told lawmakers that some Web sites "still do not understand the importance of consumer privacy," but decided companies voluntarily were creating rules for handling sensitive personal information.

"Web sites will know they won't get advertising dollars unless they protect consumers' privacy," said Vicki Streitfeld, a spokeswoman for the FTC. "It's the kind of thing we hope will create strong incentives to create their own privacy policies."

The OPA guidelines require Web sites to tell consumers what information is being collected, allow people to ask not to have any information gathered about them, keep private details secure and allow consumers to review their information for accuracy and correct it.

As part of that "Intel Inside" campaign, which includes the largest share of the company's ad expenditures, Intel pays a special premium — mostly to computer markers — to include the familiar logo in their advertisements.

Intel earlier this summer told other Internet sites where it buys traditional ads they must publish privacy policies by Sept. 1.

Lewnes said Intel estimates that about 70 percent of Web sites that carry the company's ads already publish privacy policies, and predicted the others will shortly.

"We don't anticipate a very large problem," she said.

Intel angered privacy groups earlier this year when it included in its latest Pentium III computer processors a unique serial number to transmit to Web sites that request it to help verify the identity of consumers.

Intel said the feature will help eliminate online fraud and control access to sensitive data.

WAITING — Speech and language screenings are being conducted throughout Snyder ISD. Stanfield kindergarten students in Rita Wolf's class waiting their turn include from left, Nolan Duzan, Mekayla Duzan, Kelsey Davis, Hunter Cox, Donald McVey, Kyler Billingsley, Jentri Driggers. Helpers include Janine Schoolcraft, Julie Proctor and Martha Dillard. (Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Friday, August 20, 1999

More running around or unplanned travel could be possible for you in the year ahead. For some of you born today, there's a chance you might even journey out of the country.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Your talent for organization and your ability to effectively delegate who should be doing what will prove to be two very valuable assets today as you go about your work. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that'll govern you in the year ahead. Send the required refund form and for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Fortunately for you, today could be one of those rare days when you squeeze in under the wire just in the nick of time, even though you may leave things to the last minute.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Don't even think about tossing in the towel today should things look bleak in an involvement you've undertaken. You'll be a remarkably strong finisher and this could surprise even yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) There is a strong possibility today that you might reap gains in several ways you'd least expect. Once opened, these material avenues could produce again.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Be flexible and ready to flow with events today, because although things might not go exactly as you plan, the results could be comparable to those for which you wished.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Several bargains that others have overlooked could pop up right under your nose today, enabling you to pick up some things that'll prove to be of great value to you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Another chance meeting could be in the offing today with a person you may have met only recently. Because of the encounter, it could reinforce a basis for a friendship.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Something unusual and of a fleeting nature could help you achieve an ambitious objective today. However, you must be able to recognize it quickly in order to take advantage of it.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Arrangements you have with your more progressive contacts will prove to be your best source for advancing your personal interests today. Traditionalists could slow you down.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Don't readily discount a concept you get today that you might conceive as radical. Although it may be a departure from your normal way of thinking, it could be extremely innovative.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Listen carefully when involved in conversations today. A valuable point of view you hadn't considered could prove to be extremely helpful to you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Several new step savers might spring from the application of new and untried procedures to old assignments today. They will enhance your productivity well into the future.

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Berry's World

Lawsuit disputes changes

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Environmental groups say new "dolphin-safe" tuna standards taking effect next month amount to consumer fraud and predict dolphins will die in much larger numbers with the reintroduction of huge, encircling nets.

The groups sued in federal court here Wednesday, seeking to overturn a finding by Commerce Secretary William Daley that cleared the way for revisions in the decade-old "dolphin-safe" standard to take effect in September.

"It's a death warrant for dolphins," said Sam LaBudde, a marine biologist who led the "dolphin-safe" campaign in the 1980s after posing as a cook on a Mexican tuna boat and videotaping the slaughter.

The existing standard, which bans encircling nets and requires observers on the tuna boats to certify that no dolphins are harmed, has dramatically decreased dolphin deaths. Fewer than 2,000 dolphins were reported killed because of tuna fishing last year, compared with 133,000 in 1986.

But the Latin American fleet generally has not complied and has been barred from selling its tuna in lucrative U.S. markets. Mexican officials consider the "dolphin-safe" standard an unfair trade barrier.

In response, President Clinton signed a 1997 law changing the rules to allow the large, encircling nets as long as boats carry observers and allow the dolphins to escape without injury.

Environmentalists got an amendment passed that put off the changes until the government could prove the nets don't harm dolphins. Despite extensive evidence to the contrary by the department's own scientists, the plaintiffs say, Daley declared in April that researchers couldn't prove such harm.

Dolphins have been at risk because schools of yellowfin tuna often swim below dolphin herds off the central Pacific coast. From the 1950s to 1980s, dolphin populations were decimated as tuna fishermen hauled in both species in hydraulic nets, keeping the tuna and sloughing off the rest.

Not all environmental groups back the lawsuit.

LaBudde says that places too much faith in the ability of a solitary observer.

Date Book

Thursday, Aug. 19, 1999

Today is the 231st day of 1999 and the 60th day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1929, "Amos 'n' Andy" was first broadcast on the NBC radio network. It had previously been broadcast by WGN.

On this day in 1934, Adolf Hitler was elected president of Germany.

On this day in 1960, U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers was sentenced in Moscow to ten years in prison for spying. He was released 19 months later.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Bernard Baruch (1870-1965), financier-U.S. public official; Orville Wright (1871-1948), inventor; Ogden Nash (1902-1971), humorous poet; Malcolm Forbes (1919-1990), publisher; Gene Roddenberry (1921-1991), television producer; Willie Shoemaker (1931-), jockey, is 68; Jill St. John (1940-), actress, is 59; Bill Clinton (1946-), U.S. president, is 53; John Stamos (1963-), actor, is 36.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1917, the first baseball game to be played on New York's Polo Grounds led to the arrest of managers John McGraw and Christy Mathewson for playing baseball on Sunday.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "A door is what a dog is perpetually on the wrong side of." — Ogden Nash

TODAY'S MOON: Day after first quarter (Aug. 18).

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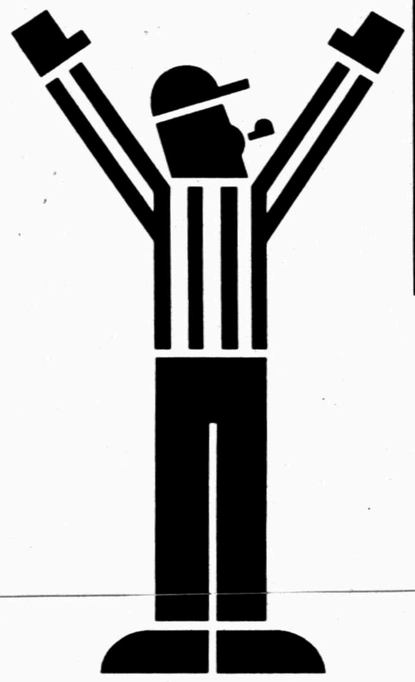

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PAPER

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Demos, GOP still eye tax issue

WASHINGTON (AP) — Girding for a fall clash over the budget and tax cuts, Republicans and Democrats are spending the lazy days of August trying to sell voters on their view of how to use projected federal surpluses.

Fanning the flames of political rhetoric, anti-tax activists are showering voters with letters and lawmakers with petitions during the summer congressional recess.

House and Senate Republicans have scheduled more than 600 events nationwide to extol the $792 billion, 10-year tax cut passed by Congress earlier this month. House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., was in the Seattle suburbs Wednesday to tout the bill's gradual elimination of inheritance taxes.

The speaker, who plans appearances in seven states over the next 10 days, said he was "perplexed" by President Clinton's pledge to veto the bill and said the president "sees the surplus as a great opportunity to make government bigger."

"I think the president's judgment is impaired by his desire to expand the size and scope of government," Hastert said. "We see the surplus as the best opportunity to bring some fairness to the tax code."

Over a decade, the bill also would reduce all income tax rates by one percentage point, cut capital gains taxes, improve retirement savings, ease the "marriage penalty" paid by many two-income couples, gradually eliminate the alternative minimum tax, provide new breaks for education and health care and benefit large and small businesses.

At many GOP events, people affiliated with tax opposition groups are making a show of support for the GOP bill. In Texas, for example, about 150 members of Citizens for a Sound Economy — including one dressed as the Grim Reaper for the inheritance tax — planned to attend a town hall meeting with House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Texas.

Liz Tobias, the group's tax and budget director, said activists also are writing letters to newspaper editors and calling lawmakers "to deliver this clear message: Strike out new spending and deliver my tax cut."

Another major tax cut supporter, the National Federation of Independent Business, is urging its 600,000 members to call, write or e-mail the White House.

"We want to be sure the White House hears small business' voice on this critical issue," said Jack Faris, president of the business organization.

Republicans believe their public relations blitz, focusing on careful explanation of the huge bill's many specific provisions for individuals, will overcome public indifference to tax cuts.

Coast Guard searching for family

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Coast Guard and its Canadian counterpart are searching for a family of four that disappeared off the East Coast while sailing from Florida to the Midwest.

Richard Stewart, Debbie Stewart and their children, Chad, 16, and Mischa, 12, of Ludlow Falls, Ohio, last spoke to their relatives around July 25 from Newport, R.I., according to Coast Guard Cmdr. Jim McPherson.

Investigators say the family's credit cards were last used on July 26 in Newport. Their cellular phone was last activated on Aug. 3 near Piscataway, N.J., located about 20 miles inland from the entrance to the Hudson River.

In the more than two weeks since, there has been no contact with the Stewarts. The Coast Guard has been unable to locate them despite an aerial search along the East Coast and calls to marinas along the New England coast, the Hudson River Valley and the St. Lawrence Seaway, which parallels the U.S.-Canadian border.

"They have basically vanished," said McPherson, speaking from Coast Guard headquarters in Washington. "We have no reports of finding life jackets or life rings or (signals from) emergency beacons."

Searchers have investigated the possibilities of a hoax and that the family is simply overdue, but the time that has passed and the lack of contact with relatives have raised concerns. Richard Stewart is described as an inexperienced sailor.

"We've had situations where we've had single-hand sailors change their itinerary and not tell anybody, but it's seldom that you have an entire family disappear," McPherson said.

The family was aboard a 65-foot sailboat, the "Jolly Joyce." The ketch is cream-colored with two white sails and carries a gray 10-foot dinghy.

The Dayton (Ohio) Daily News reported today that the family had been living on the boat in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., since buying it in January. Chad and Mischa are home-schooled, according to their older sister, Beth Stewart. She told the newspaper she stayed behind in Ludlow Falls, near Dayton, to run the family's two video rental stores. The family home is also up for sale.

Coast Guard officials said the Stewarts intended to sail north along the coast to the St. Lawrence Seaway and then to the Great Lakes. The ultimate destination was the Michigan home of Debbie Stewart's parents, Beth Stewart told the Daily News.

En route, one of the boat's two engines died near Newport and the other started faltering, so the family docked there and sought repairs, said Coast Guard Petty Officer Al Bennett, based at Atlantic Area Headquarters in Portsmouth, Va.

The Stewarts had problems finding parts because the boat was nearly 30 years old. Bennett said a family friend located some parts in Louisiana and intended to install them in Fort Lauderdale, but the Stewarts never returned, Bennett said.

"Someone in Newport overheard them saying they might keep going (to the Great Lakes), but we're not sure," he said.

Although the family initially decided against using the Hudson River because they would have had to take down the sailboat's mast upon reaching the Erie Canal, the Coast Guard has searched and called marinas throughout New York because of the nearby cell phone use. The phone was turned on but no call completed.

The Canadians are also searching off Nova Scotia and along the St. Lawrence River on the assumption the Stewarts could have continued north.

"We don't know which way they went and our search area is literally the Atlantic Ocean and the Hudson River," said McPherson. "What we're hoping is somebody gives us a better search area."

Governor says he would have passed background checks

ROANOKE, Va. (AP) — George W. Bush said today that he could have passed stringent background checks for illegal drug use when his father was president, from 1989-1993.

In his most specific comments to date about an issue he insists he doesn't want to discuss, Bush told reporters today, "Not only could I have passed in today's White House, I could have passed the standards applied under the most stringent conditions when my dad was president, a 15-year period."

Bush spokeswoman Mindy Tucker said the Republican presidential front-runner was saying that he has not done illegal drugs at any time since 1974, when the 53-year-old Bush was 28.

"Over 20 years ago, I did some things ... I made some mistakes and I learned from those," Bush said today. "That's all I intend to talk about."

Asked if Bush could have met the standard when his father was vice president, from 1981-1989, Tucker said, "My understanding is he was answering questions regarding when his dad was president, not vice president."

She said Bush would not go into any more detail about his earlier years.

Boyden Gray, White House counsel for President Bush, said the younger Bush never was asked to undergo a background check while his father was president. The Bush White House asked staff members if they had done any illegal drugs in the last 15 years.

Bush was peppered for the second straight day with questions about whether he had ever used illegal drugs.

"I'm going to tell people that we need to clean up the process. I'm going to tell people that the politics of personal destruction have got to end," he said. "I'm going to tell people that I made mistakes and that I've learned from those mistakes. And if they like it, I hope they give me a chance, and if they don't like it, they can find somebody else to vote for."

Bush, who has avoided talking about the drug issue, said he thought it was relevant to ask whether he could pass a federal background check that he would subject his own employees to. "The answer is absolutely," he said.

The drug questions came as the Texas governor visited the West End Center for Youth. "You can be governor too, but you've got to make the right choices," he told one child. "When someone says drugs are cool, you've got to say drugs are not cool."

Afterward, Bush toured the city market area downtown. A man, carrying a big green sign with the word "snort," yelled, "Just answer the question. Did you do it? Don't feed the frenzy, just answer the question. Al Gore answered the question."

Bush testily refused to answer questions Wednesday about whether he had ever used illegal drugs, insisting that such personal issues have no place in the 2000 presidential race.

But later in the day, The Dallas Morning News asked him about the requirement that federal employees answer questions about drug use to get high-level security clearances.

"As I understand it, the current form asks the question, 'Did somebody use drugs within the last seven years?' and I will be glad to answer that question, and the answer is 'No,'" he told the newspaper.

At Wednesday's news conference, Bush said rumors about his personal life were "ridiculous and absurd," possibly planted by political opponents.

"You know what happens? Somebody floats a rumor and that causes you to ask a question," Bush told reporters. "And that's the game in American politics, and I refuse to play it."

Since his first campaign for Texas governor in 1994, Bush has declined to answer some questions about his past.

Bush has said he quit drinking

Obituaries

Winnie Vickers

1908-1999

Services are pending at White Funeral Home in Tahoka for Winnie Vickers, 90, who died Wednesday, Aug. 18, in Snyder Oaks Care Center.

She was born on Oct. 8, 1908 and is survived by two daughters, Kathy Dabney of Snyder and DaOnne Curry of Longview.

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Police activity is light Wednesday

Activity was relatively quiet for local law enforcement Wednesday as only one arrest was made and one offense report filed.

Department of Public Safety troopers arrested a 40-year-old male at 7:36 p.m. on Business Hwy. 84 for driving while license suspended.

Patsy Brumit reported the theft of a lawnmower and a chainsaw from her residence in the 1500 block of North College Avenue at 9:48 a.m. Deputies filed an offense report for Class B theft.

Officers also assisted one motorist in unlocking a vehicle and handled reports of harassing phone calls and a reckless driver.

Divided court continues probe

WASHINGTON (AP) — A divided federal court has given Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr authority to continue his investigation of President Clinton and his wife, Hillary, even as there were fresh indications Starr wants to quit before the job is done.

Citing Starr's "unusually productive" record of 24 indictments, 16 convictions and a presidential impeachment during his five-year probe, two Republican-appointed appeals court judges wrote Wednesday that they gave Starr the go-ahead to carry on after he said his work wasn't finished.

Starr has said his office was trying to wrap up its work and there has been speculation he might leave office before a final report was filed. Starr said Wednesday his office was working with the Justice Department on "whether appropriate matters can be referred back to the department."

Justice Department officials have told Starr they probably would be unable to take over his unfinished investigation, a department official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Youth football, volleyball

Signup for youth football and volleyball, as well as for cheerleaders, continues today through Friday at the Boys and Girls Club. Participants must be ages 9-12 by Aug. 31. A fee of $25 and birth certificate is required. Parents must accompany the child. Football uniforms will be issued at time of signup. Call 573-3344 for more information.

Church of Nazarene revival

First Church of Nazarene will hold a revival today through Sunday. Weeknight services begin at 7 p.m. and the Sunday service is set for 10:45 a.m. and will be followed by lunch on the grounds. Keith and Peggy Hatter are the evangelists.

SHS cheerleader fund raiser

Snyder High cheerleaders will have a bake sale and car wash from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at Wal-Mart. Donations will be accepted for the car wash.

School supplies needed

Snyder ISD and the Scurry County welfare board are seeking donations for school supplies for needy children. Boxes are set up at Wal-Mart, United and Lawrence IGA. For more information, call Mary Ann Juarez at 574-6012.

Joy School

Joy School at East Side Church of Christ is now state licensed and will be open five days a week. The school is for ages 18 months to pre-kindergarten. Parents may choose days wanted. Call 573-3554 for 575-1138 for more information.

Sonshine School

Registration for Sonshine School at 37th Street Church of Christ is being held for pre-school through age five. Classes begin next Thursday. For more information call the church office at 573-0154 or Lora Lord at 573-1700.

King's Kids registration

First Baptist Church is registering for King's Kids, ages 1-5, and for Mothers' Day Out, six months to five years old. Call 573-2631 for more information.

Children's Day Out

Children's Day Out, a Tuesday-Thursday child care program at First United Methodist Church, has begun, but spaces are available for two and three year olds. Call 573-4770.

Bible study tapes

Bible study video tapes air each week on cable TV channel 2. The tapes to be shown at 7 p.m. Monday are "What Does the Church See?" followed by "The Waiting Father?"

Hermleigh booster club

The Hermleigh booster club will meet at 7 p.m. Monday in the high school cafeteria. Officers will be elected for the new school year.

Cub Scout rally

There will be a rally for Cub Scouts at 7 p.m. Tuesday at West Elementary. Scouts will meet at 9 a.m. Saturday in the WTC parking lot to pick up litter on CR 400o. Cub Scouts are for boys first grade (seven years old) through the fifth grade. For more information, call James Garvin at 573-3310.

Rock and Roll quilting club

The quilting club meets every Monday from 8 a.m. until noon at Hermleigh Community Center for free quilting lessons. Everyone is invited. Call 863-2426 for more information.

Fair booths available

Food and vendor booths are available for the Scurry County Fair to be held Sept. 16-18 in the Scurry County Coliseum. Costs vary, depending on size and type. For more information, call Sandra Barboza at the chamber, 573-/3558.

Items needed

The First Church of Nazarene is accepting garage sale items for the church building fund for a new feliowship hall. Call Ethel Herrington at 574-1714 for more information.

Garage sale items needed

Lighthouse Assembly of God, 1900 Trinity Blvd., is accepting items for their garage sale to benefit the church building fund. Furniture, clothes, appliances and other items are appreciated. Call 573-5124 or 573-2947 for pickup.

Canyon community reunion

The Canyon community reunion will be held Sept. 25 beginning at 9 a.m. at the Ira Community Center. For further information or donations contact Cecil or Dorothy Lankford at 573-5246.

Road to Recovery program

Volunteers are needed to take patients to Abilene or Lubbock one day a week for cancer treatment. Following approval American Cancer Society, drivers will be provided liability insurance and can be reimbursed for fuel expenses incurred for the trip. For more information, contact ASC Road to Recovery volunteer coordinator Martha Schiebel at 573-8626 and leave a message, or Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993.

Support groups

Four different support groups meet at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at the First Baptist Church. The groups include divorce recovery, cancer support group, grief support and adult children caring for aging parents. Child care is provided.

Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Lotto Texas numbers drawn Wednesday by the Texas Lottery:

20-27-37-41-42-48

Estimated Lotto Texas jackpot: $10 million

Pick 3

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

2-6-3

(two, six, three)

Record numbers reported

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's school enrollment swelled to a record for the fourth consecutive year, riding the crest of a second baby boom and increased immigration, the Education Department said today.

Public and private school students in kindergarten-through-12th grade will step into their classrooms this fall 53.2 million strong, surpassing last fall's enrollment by a half-million students, according to an annual report that surveys schools on their fall enrollments.

College enrollment also hit a record, for the second time with 14.9 million students this fall.

The student growth is tied to increased immigration and the so-called baby boom echo, a 1980s rise in births much like the first baby boom post-World War II population explosion.

The new figures, which Education Department statisticians used to make projections, give more fuel to the Clinton administration's bid to hire new teachers and increase school building. The White House proposals have met stiff and constant opposition from a Republican-led Congress, which prefers that federal money be sent to states and local school boards to use on projects of their choosing.

"Many of our schools are overcrowded and will stay that way," Education Secretary Richard W. Riley said in statement. "And the situation will only get worse if we don't act quickly to build new schools and fix old ones."

School construction and repair spending reached a record $17 billion last year.

In public school enrollment, the growth industry is in America's high schools.

Projections from this year through 2009 indicate a 9 percent increase.

Contempt motion filed against Bush

AUSTIN (AP) — The former head of the Texas Funeral Service Commission has asked that Gov. George W. Bush be held in contempt of court for denying that he had talked with the head of a company while it was being investigated by the agency.

Bush acknowledged Wednesday that he had a brief conversation with Robert Waltrip, chairman of Service Corp. International, a Houston-based funeral home company. But he said there was no discussion of the commission's probe.

"It's a 20-second conversation," said Bush, a GOP presidential hopeful. "That's hardly enough time to even say hello, much less sit down and have a substantive discussion."

Whether Bush spoke with Waltrip while his company's embalming practices were being investigated has become an issue because of a whistleblower lawsuit filed by Eliza May, the former head of the commission.

Ms. May was fired in February, and she says she lost her job because of her agency's investigation of Waltrip's company, which has donated money to Bush. The governor is not a defendant, but she subpoenaed him to answer questions in the case.

Bush tried to have the subpoena dismissed. He filed an affidavit on July 20 stating: "I have had no conversations with SCI officials, agents or representatives concerning the investigation or any dispute arising from it."

Bush's spokeswoman, Linda Edwards, called Wednesday's contempt motion "nothing more than a publicity stunt." Bush called the case frivolous and said it was politically motivated.

Ms. May is a former treasurer of the state Democratic Party.

The Funeral Commission inquiry resulted in a recommended fine of $445,000. SCI is fighting the fine and says the agency misinterpreted state embalming law.

Ms. May's contempt motion accuses Bush of making "false, misleading and deceptive" statements in the affidavit. Her lawyers cite a Newsweek magazine article that recounted a conversation between Bush and Waltrip on April 15, 1998.

Waltrip and SCI lobbyist Johnnie Rogers had come to the governor's office to give Joe Albaugh, Bush's executive assistant, a copy of a letter addressed to the head of the Funeral Commission. It complained of tactics being used in the investigation, SCI spokesman Bill Miller said.

He said Waltrip and Rogers were waiting to give a copy to Allbaugh when Bush walked out, on his way elsewhere. Allbaugh now manages Bush's presidential campaign.

Newsweek reported that, according to Rogers, Bush said to Waltrip, "Hey Bobby, are those people still messing with you?"

When Waltrip responded yes, the magazine reported, Rogers said the governor turned to him and said: "Hey, Johnnie B. Are you taking care of him?" Rogers said he replied, "I'm doing my best, governor."

Rogers hasn't returned calls from The Associated Press. Bush said he doesn't remember what was said.

"All I know is it lasted no time. And that hardly constitutes a serious discussion," Bush said. "I did not have any knowledge at all of Waltrip's problem with this case."

Scientists report gene swap results

ATLANTA (AP) — Scientists may have built a better mouse.

Researchers reported today that they transformed aloof laboratory mice into much more social creatures — even loving ones — by transplanting a single gene, raising the possibility that such switches from one species to another can alter behavior.

The research could lead to new treatments for psychological disorders such as autism and schizophrenia that are marked by isolation, the Emory University researchers suggested today in the journal Nature.

The work involved mice and prairie voles, a small rodent known for its monogamous, social lifestyle and strong bond with mates.

The scientists bred mice with a prairie vole gene that caused the development of receptors that respond to vasopressin, a hormone in the brain that affects social behavior, among other things.

Unaltered male mice put in a cage with a female would sniff her briefly and then scamper off to explore. Altered mice would spend significantly more time with the female — and researchers said it was quality time.

"They spent more time with her, smelling her, grooming her and generally being nice to her," said Larry Young, a psychology professor at Emory and leader of the research team.

The location of the receptors within the brain — which differs greatly in every species examined so far — is believed to affect how most animals interact. The team used mice because their genes are easy to manipulate.

"We think there's something about the distribution of receptors that gives a species its typical social behavior," Young said.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Seeds of Love and Peace Sown By Humble Dandelion

by Abigail Van Buren

© 1999 Universal Press Syndicate

DEAR ABBY: It's been more than 20 years since I sprawled on the grass, discussing dandelions with my daughter, who was not yet 10. Our headline news was filled with trouble in some Middle Eastern country.

As we lay together in the grass, my daughter asked, "What happens to dandelion seeds when they blow away?" I explained that they plant themselves and grow to make new dandelions. Before I could tell her that's why Daddy doesn't want them in our grass, she excitedly said, "Wouldn't it be great if we could put *love* on the seeds and blow them to the people fighting with each other, so love could grow instead?"

Her innocent, loving thought inspired me to write the following:

"If I could blow my thoughts like dandelions to the wind,
"Thoughts of love, peace and hope I'd send
"To seed hearts and souls the world therein."

Twenty years later our moment shared and my little poem came to mind yet again. I still have a loving daughter and still have the same dream. Perhaps these loving thoughts of my little girl will seed and inspire yet other loving thoughts to grow in this complex world we share. I pray that God will give our love seeds to grow.

ANN McCLAIN WASHINGTON, MISSOULA, MONT.

DEAR ANN: The sentiments of your inspirational poem are a heartwarming reminder that we reap what we sow. Thank you for sharing it.

***

DEAR ABBY: I have read with interest the letters you have printed from readers about the difficulties they encountered when trying to settle the family estate after the parents pass on.

Before Mom and Dad died, they let it be known they didn't want any arguments or hard feelings during or after we kids divided up their worldly possessions. As executor of the estate, I felt responsible but had not yet devised a method for dividing the estate.

The day we six brothers and sisters arrived at the homestead in Oconto, Wis., Mom and Dad must have been watching over us. During the preliminary discussion, one of my sisters suggested that we put our names in a bowl for anything we wanted in the house and simply draw for it with no limitations. The next two days we spent together turned out to be the most heartwarming, enjoyable experience for all of us. I still remember my sisters *ordering* me to put my name in the bowl for an antique dish that I wasn't interested in but they thought my wife might like.

I still have the small aluminum bowl with all our names engraved on it. I also still have the note my wife gave me as I left our house for Oconto: "Dear Bill, please remember that there is no material thing on this Earth more important than family."

BILL HOPPE, WAUKESHA, WIS.

DEAR BILL: Regardless of the material possessions your parents may or may not have left behind, you come from a wealthy family. And your wife is a jewel.

***

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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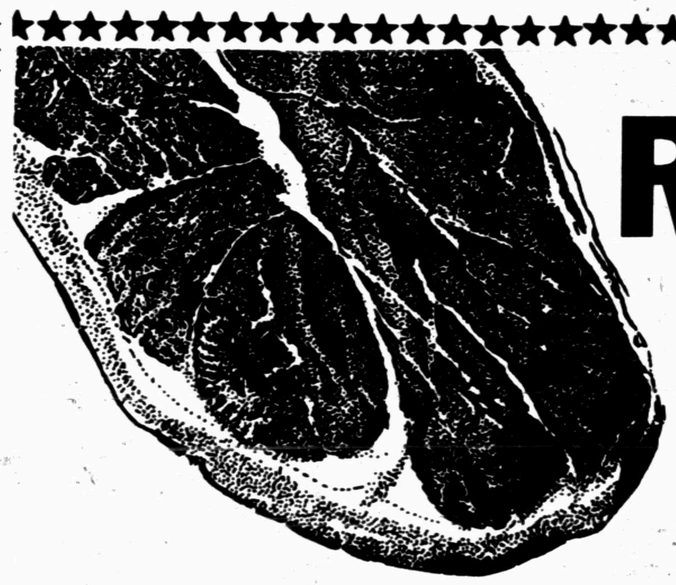

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