

...home of Clara B. Jones

MONDAY

Snyder Daily News

April 16
1990

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10 Pages 50¢

Ask Us

Commissioners okay policy for developing 1991 budget

County commissioners today approved a comprehensive policy for developing the 1991 calendar year budget, including a goal of no new taxes and a new "zero-based" line item justification requirement, and set a Tuesday meeting with county department heads to begin the budget-writing process.

In the absence of County Judge Bobby Goodwin, who was attending an out-of-town funeral,

County Auditor Linda Franklin presented the policy that Goodwin had written and addressed to department heads.

Budget request forms from the various departments are due in Goodwin's office by May 8, Franklin said.

Referring to an operational audit early this year, Franklin said, "In response to the Coopers & Lybrands recommendation that Scurry County use a zero-

based budget, we are going to use a limited form for 1991. Zero base means we must justify all line items as though they were a new line item."

Franklin noted that county budget-drafters had previously considered a department's financial history in allocating funds.

A new budget item, she said, will be "capital outlay," for purchases of fixed assets like equipment, furniture, fixtures, buildings and land, with such items being defined as having a useful life of more than two years and costing more than \$300.

"Due to declining economic (see BUDGET, page 8)

The inevitable: income tax day

WASHINGTON (AP) — Internal Revenue Service Form 4868 is one of the most-sought pieces of paper in the nation today as an estimated 6 million Americans abandon hopes of meeting the midnight deadline for filing a federal tax return.

Filing a Form 4868, along with a check for estimated taxes owed, automatically extends the return deadline to Aug. 15.

IRS offices and Postal Service branches in many parts of the country planned extra hours today to accommodate those who put off the inevitable.

The IRS did not estimate how

many couples and individuals were waiting until the last minute to file. But the agency predicted that about 34 million returns — more than 30 percent of the 111 million expected this year — would be filed April 7 or later.

Residents of New England and New Yorkers who mail their returns to the IRS Service Center in Andover, Mass., have until midnight Tuesday because Monday is Patriots' Day, a state holiday in Massachusetts.

As the 1989 return-filing season drew to a close, the Tax Foundation offered some sobering news: (see TAXES, page 8)

SISD board to meet; boilers are key topic

Snyder public schools board of trustees will entertain a curriculum report from junior high school principal Gary Patterson, recognize Stanfield Elementary for achievement on the TEAMS tests and consider a request to take bids for two boilers at the high school in a 7 p.m. board meeting today.

Also on the agenda are the resignation of two instructors, approval of past minutes and payment of bills.

During a board workshop ses-

sion last Tuesday, Maintenance Director Lawton Taylor told the board that two hot water boilers at the high school are in excess of 30 years old and in need of replacement.

Taylor asked permission to write specifications and take bids on the necessary replacements, and the board is expected to give him that permission this evening. In informing the board about the boilers, Taylor said Tuesday that he estimates the cost at between \$120,000-\$130,000 for both.

Meeting at Hobbs will address at-risk campus

There will be a community meeting at the Hobbs school cafeteria at 8 p.m. Tuesday to discuss a Cooperative Alternative Program school for at-risk high school students.

Discussion will center on the possibility of having the school on the Hobbs ISD campus.

Frank Davis of the Sweetwater public school system will be at the meeting to answer questions.

There are currently 14 schools interested in the cooperative effort, representing five counties. There is a possibility that as many as 300 students would be in attendance at the school, which would be funded by per capita funds and federal and state grants.

Hobbs school is located in Fisher County at the intersection of Farm Roads 611 and 1614.



'INDIANS' — Western Texas College students Joy McSpadden, Jeff Hicks and Rodney Gestes (left to right) are among those in the college's production of "Ten Little Indians," which opens Tuesday in the Fine Arts Theatre. (WTC Photo)

'10 Indians' opens Tuesday at WTC's Fine Arts Theatre

"Ten Little Indians," the mystery which opens Tuesday in the Western Texas College Fine Arts Theatre, is Agatha Christie at her best, says director Jim Rambo.

The play has intrigued audiences for 45 years and been made into movies more than

once. It is based on a book which is a favorite of many Christie fans, even today.

The setting is a large country house on an island off the coast of Devon which can be reached only by boat. On the mantelpiece is a cluster of statuettes, 10 little Indians, with the nursery rhyme

embossed above telling how each little Indian met his death until there was none.

Eight guests, along with a housekeeper and butler, are present at the invitation of an absentee host they have never met. While they are assembled for cocktails prior to dinner, a voice comes out of the air and accuses everyone present of murder—not the sort of murder on which a conviction can be obtained in the courts, but murder just the same.

Startled, they begin exchanging information about themselves. One of the little Indian statuettes topples off the mantelpiece and breaks, and one of the guests chokes to death of cyanide potassium which someone has dropped into his drink.

One by one, the other guests begin to die.

Along with the mystery there is an element of comedy, and Rambo is emphasizing that.

Galen Price has designed the lighting and set to add to the atmosphere.

Tickets for the Tuesday and Thursday night performances are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. The Friday and Saturday performances serve as a dinner theater, with tickets \$13 each. Featured on the menu will be breast of chicken supreme with wild rice, steamed broccoli, and orange/purple onion salad, hot rolls, pound cake with fresh strawberries, and tea and coffee.

Curtain time will be 8 p.m. for each performance. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Tickets may be reserved by calling the box office at 573-8511, ext. 234. Dinner theatre tickets must be picked up by noon on Friday.

Absentee balloting begins in local and area board elections

Absentee voting in the May 5 local board elections began today at the respective offices of the entities holding the elections —

Snyder public schools administration building, Western Texas College and City Hall.

Absentee voting will extend through May 2 and will be held during regular working hours.

In addition to the local elections, absentee voting is to begin Tuesday in the Ira and Hermleigh school board elections. Both schools are closed today for Easter holidays.

Place 2 on the Western Texas College board of trustees is the only contested race among the local boards.

Carl Williams and William R. "Bill" Hibbs are opponents for Place 2 on the college board, seeking to replace incumbent Roy Baze, who is not seeking another term.

The only other position up for election on the college board is Place 1 and incumbent Bill Wilson Jr. is running unopposed.

Incumbents are also the only ones to run for four places on the Snyder City Council. Seeking reelection are Vernest Tippens, District 1; Ralph Williamson, District 2; Joe Coronado, District 3; and Jack K. "Jackie" Greene (see ABSENTEE, page 8)

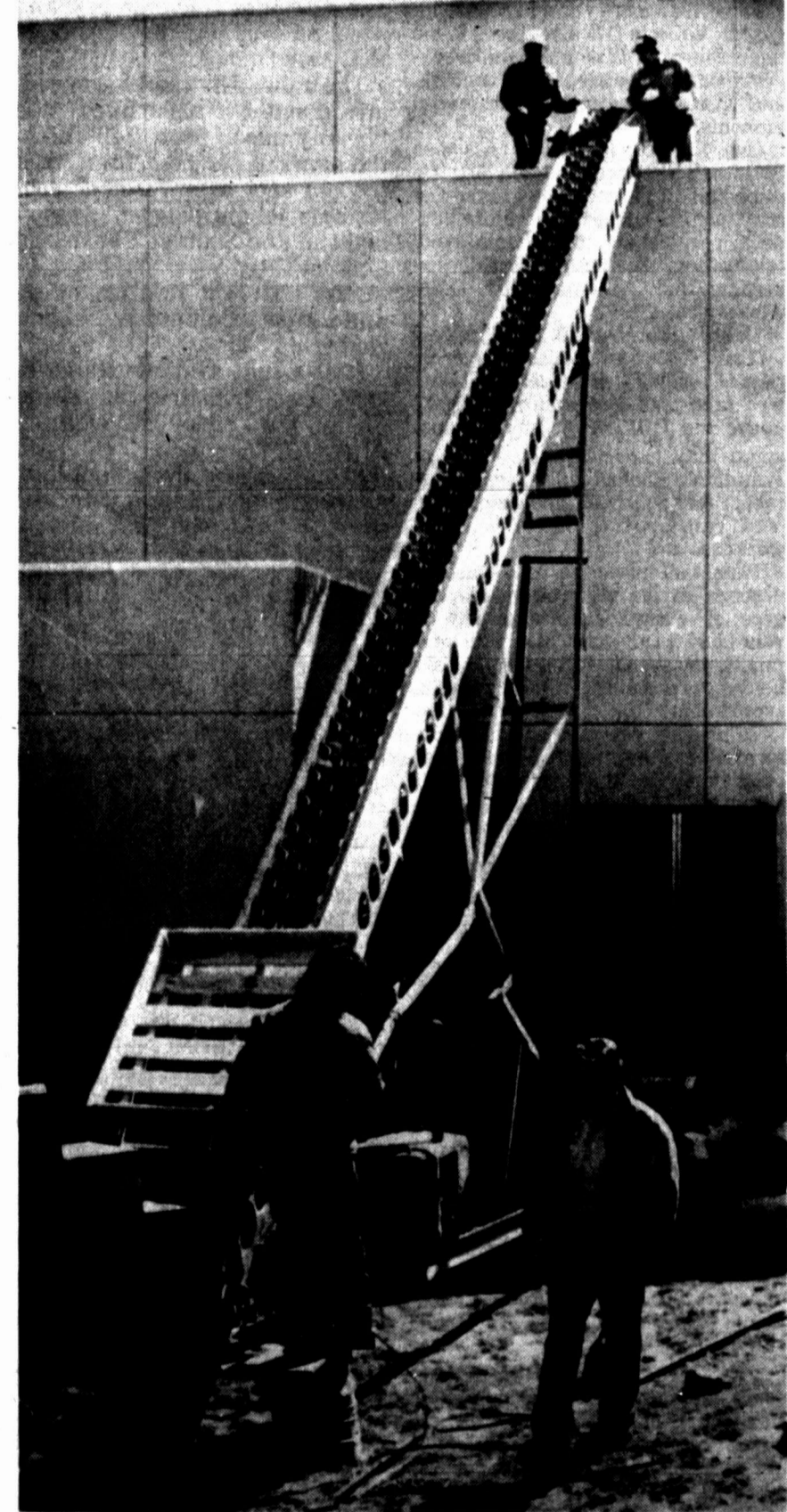
Wildflower entries due Wednesday

Wednesday is the deadline to submit entries in the wild flower photography contest, held as a part of Scurry County's Wild Flower Day at Western Texas College.

Contest information can be obtained by contacting the county museum on the college campus.

Sunday, April 22, has been set as the date for Wild Flower Day, an observance marking its sixth year.

Wild Flower Day will again include exhibits of creative writing and art by public school students, the wild flower photography contest, displays of wild flower specimens in the museum and a marked trail in the college wild flower management area.



ROOF REPAIR — Juan Rodriguez and Ben Rodriguez, left to right on ground, and Ricky Miranda and Manuel Vasquez were among those working on roof repair at Western Texas College recently. (Howard Bigham Photo)

Q—How much did the city council workshop in Sweetwater cost?

A—The bill for two days came to \$1,018.73.

In Brief

Train on fire

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — A leaking gas cylinder sparked a raging fire on a moving passenger train in eastern India today, burning at least 71 people to death and leaving 50 injured, officials said.

News agencies reported higher death tolls. Press Trust of India said at least 80 people were killed; United News of India said the toll exceeded 100.

The train was passing through Patna, 500 miles southeast of New Delhi, when the fire broke out at 9:30 a.m.

The blaze swept through two cars of the 16-car train before firefighters could extinguish it, said District Magistrate S.K. Sharma, the top civil administrator in the Patna region.

He said 71 bodies were found in the burned cars, and 50 people were hospitalized with burns.

"The heat was so intense no one dared to enter the train for at least a half hour after the fire," Sharma said by telephone.

Local

VFW elections

The VFW and auxiliary will meet at the post home at 7:30 p.m. today for the election of officers.

Surveys due

Snyder High School officials are in the process of writing a campus improvement plan and students were to receive surveys today.

Parents are encouraged to fill out the survey and return it to the high school. Local residents who do not have high school students may also participate in the survey by picking up a form at the administration office.

Trial

Jurors were being selected this morning in the 132nd District Court trial of 56-year-old Jim Bob Weatherford of Breckenridge, who is accused of felony theft in the alleged May 3, 1988, theft of a utility trailer from a Snyder man.

The case is being prosecuted by District Attorney Ernie B. Armstrong and Assistant District Attorney Dana W. Cooley. Weatherford is being defended by attorney E. Mark Piland of Colorado City.

Weather

Snyder Temperatures: High Saturday, 78 degrees; low, 52 degrees; reading at 7 a.m. Sunday, 63 degrees; .01 of an inch precipitation; high Sunday, 95 degrees; low, 56 degrees; reading at 7 a.m. Monday, 57 degrees; total precipitation for 1990 to date, 6.47 inches.

Snyder Area Forecast: Monday night, partly cloudy with a 40 percent chance of thunderstorms. Low in the lower 60s. South wind 10 to 20 mph. Tuesday, increasing clouds and turning cooler in the afternoon with a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. High in the lower 70s. Southwest wind 10 to 20 mph and gusty becoming northeast 10 to 20 mph and gusty in the afternoon.

D'Escoto: war still possible

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The return to Nicaragua of thousands of armed rebels threatens to reignite Nicaragua's civil war, Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto was quoted as saying in Sunday news reports.

D'Escoto, who spoke to reporters Saturday night on a stopover in Mexico en route to Europe, said Washington would be responsible for any flareup in hostilities.

"The United States created a monster similar to the Frankenstein story, that once it's alive, nobody can stop it," D'Escoto said.

D'Escoto stopped in Mexico on his way to Paris, where he was to participate in a committee meeting with Nelson Mandela, leader of South Africa's African National Congress.

The ruling Sandinistas turn over power April 25 to Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, whose National Opposition Union trounced the ruling Sandinistas in the Feb. 25 elections.

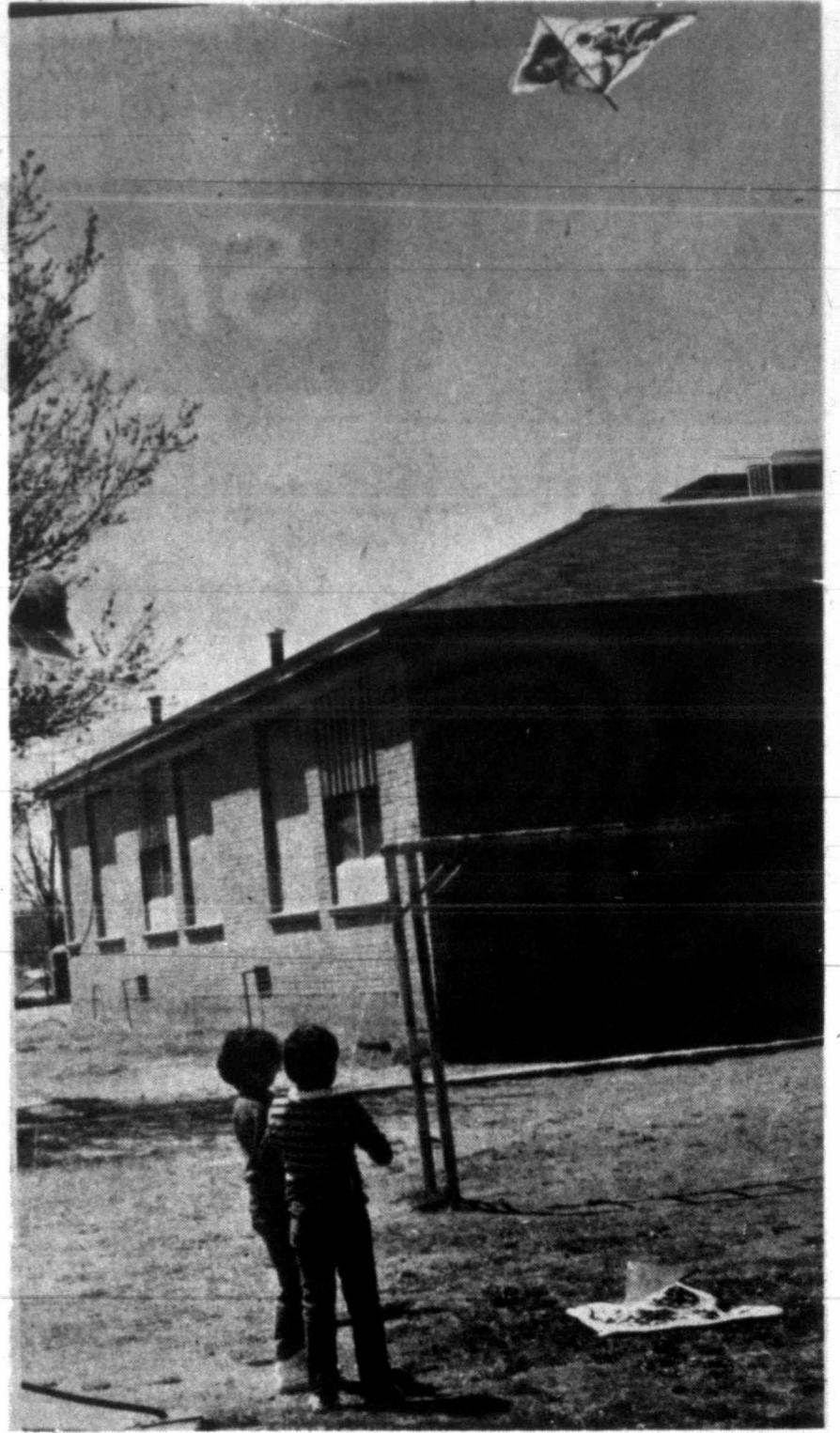
Leaders of the Contra rebels are scheduled to meet this week with representatives of Mrs. Chamorro's incoming government to negotiate a definitive cease-fire.

The Contras have been fighting the Sandinistas since 1981 and many rebel leaders have insisted they will not give up the fight until the Sandinistas give up all political and military power in Nicaragua.

The war has killed some 30,000 people since it began two years after the fall of Anastasio Somoza's dictatorship.

D'Escoto said the Contras, who have poured back into Nicaragua from camps in Honduras, continue to attack government targets.

"After the victory of Mrs. Chamorro, we wanted to have a peaceful transition on the 25th of this month, but the return of the Contras and the fact that they have not been disarmed foretells the worst," D'Escoto was quoted as saying.



FUN IN THE SUN—Last week Hermleigh Elementary School students tried their hand at flying kites during recess. Kite flying gave the students a needed break between achievement tests. (SDN Staff Photos)

In Texas...

NAACP trying to change racially offensive names

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — "Nigger Creek" and "Dead Negro Draw" should be wiped off the Texas map, says an NAACP of-

icial working to replace those and other racially offensive place names with expressions of black pride.

Gary Bledsoe, NAACP Austin chapter president, said he resolved to eliminate slurs from the map during an outing two years ago, when he ran across "Nigger Creek" and "Niggerhead Hill" within an hour's drive of the Capitol.

"I couldn't believe what I saw and how totally offensive that was," he said recently.

Many Texas locations were tagged with such names because blacks lived there at some point. Bledsoe is looking to rename 33 places.

There are six "Negro Creeks" in Texas, a "Negro Crossing" near San Angelo and "Negros Liberty Settlement," "Negro Bend" and "Negro Gully," all in Liberty County east of Houston.

"Negro" was substituted for "nigger" in a comprehensive 1962 name switch by the Board of Geographic Names in Reston, Va. The board is responsible for deciding which names are used on all maps produced in the United States.

But Bledsoe said old maps still are in use, and official name changes don't always alter what places are called.

"It's horrible, the psychological damage that is done by naming something like that," Bledsoe said. "And these were official actions."

He consulted the librarian of the George Washington Carver branch of the Austin public library and proposed new names for the 33 sites identified in a computer search.

Some of the suggested names include "ebony" and "freedom." Others honor individuals: John Jefferson, a black-Seminole Indian scout with the U.S. Cavalry; pianist-composer Scott Joplin; Ada Smith, an Austin historian who died recently; and Milton Holland, the first black Texan to win the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Bledsoe said he has the support

of other Texas chapters of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The Travis County Commissioner's Court has worked for months to change "Nigger Creek" and "Niggerhead Hill" to "Warbler Creek" and "Warbler Hill." The proposed names are awaiting a nod from the Board of Geographic Names, which relies on community approval in deciding such requests.

Mike Igau, a white man who owns the two sites, said he would like to see an end to the names that came with the ranch his family bought in 1910.

"Frankly, we never did like the designation anyway, but we never had anything to do with the naming of it," Igau said. "I think we need to rename these landmarks if they're offensive to any group or person."

He said the county's proposed names celebrate the rare golden-cheeked warbler that lives in the region.

Lawsuit links birth defects, pollution

PAMPA, Texas (AP) — A negligence lawsuit stemming from a deadly explosion at a chemical plant has produced evidence linking pollution to Down's syndrome.

Between 1980 and 1985, six children were born with Down's syndrome in this small Panhandle area. The Texas Department of Health and U.S. Centers for Disease Control have said the number is "significantly more than expected" in a population of 25,000. The agencies found no cause for the birth defects.

More than 250 people from Pampa and nearby Kingsmill have joined a lawsuit against Hoechst Celanese Corp., alleging negligence in three deaths and numerous injuries from a 1987 explosion at its chemical plant.

On Friday, Dr. John Denko, an Amarillo pathologist, submitted a report to state District Court in Houston in the lawsuit, saying the number of Down's cases probably "is related to the environmental pollutants from the Celanese site."

Another Pampa area doctor told the court in a letter obtained by The Pampa News that in 1985 he noted "something most unusual" in the number of Down's cases in the area.

Dr. Gott

Peter Gott, M.D.



By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: How soon after taking a fat-soluble vitamin can you take it again without damage of overload? I'm thinking of vitamin E in particular.

DEAR READER: The fat-soluble vitamins (A, D, E and K) are stored in substantial amounts in the body's tissues. In particular, vitamin A is stored in large quantities in the liver. When the liver is saturated with vitamin A, it would take a well-nourished adult 200 days to use up just half the reserve, if no more vitamin A were ingested. Vitamin D is also stored in the liver; the reserve would require several months to be used up. Vitamins E and K are stored in less substantial amounts.

Once the storage potential has been exhausted, the excess fat-soluble vitamins spill into the bloodstream and may poison tissues. Therefore, experts recommend that people avoid taking these vitamins in quantities exceeding the Recommended Daily Allowances.

Unlike vitamins A, D and K, excess vitamin E seems to cause little or no tissue toxicity. However, patients who take high-dose vitamin E (well above the RDA of 10 international units) may experience an array of symptoms, including nausea, diarrhea, rapid pulse, blurred vision, lowered resistance to infection, rash, weakness and fatigue.

Thus, the answer to your question depends on the vitamin and the degree of excessive consumption. If your body is fully saturated with vitamin E, you should wait several weeks before resuming this vitamin supplement.

To provide you with additional information, I am sending you a free copy of my Health Report "Fats I — Vitamins and Minerals." Other readers who would like a copy should send \$1.25 with their name and address to P.O. Box 91369, Cleveland, OH 44101-3369. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I've heard that a dry mouth could be an indication of a disorder within the body. At 69, I now have the condition and wake up several times a week with a mouth that can best be described as being as dry as sand. Is this a warning of some unknown problem?

DEAR READER: Xerostomia (dry mouth) is caused by a reduction in the amount of saliva. It is a symptom of several diseases, including diabetes, mouth infection, stones in the salivary ducts and Sjogren's syndrome (an unusual condition of self-allergy associated with arthritis).

Many drugs, such as antihistamines, cause xerostomia as a side effect.

People who mouth-breathe at night (because of allergies, sinus congestion or other mechanical problems in the throat) often awaken with dry mouths because the moisture is evaporated by this habit.

If your mouth is dry all the time, day and night, you should be examined by a doctor to determine if there is a hidden disease or infection to blame. On the other hand, if this occurs inconsistently and only at night,

you probably breathe through the mouth — and, as is usually the case, you also snore.

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Miss Norway is crowned Miss Universe

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Miss Norway Mona Grudt has been crowned Miss Universe 1990 and wins an audition for a major Hollywood movie.

The auburn-haired 19-year-old, affectionately nicknamed the "beauty queen from Hell" after the name of her hometown, took the top spot over 70 other contestants in the pageant Sunday night at the Shubert Theater in Century City.

Miss USA was first runner-up and Miss Colombia second runner-up.

Miss Grudt said she wants to work as a pediatric nurse and "help the poor children in Africa."

"Now I can be an ambassador, not just for Norway, but for the whole world," she said. "I will try to make girls believe this is more than a beauty contest, and that you have to be something more than empty inside to win this."

She said that when she called her parents in Norway with the news, "My mother was screaming. You couldn't make sense of what she said."

The global glamour parade featured a first-ever entry from the Soviet Union and a prize package to the winner worth \$220,000. It includes an audition for a major studio film and a \$40,000 personal appearance contract.

The green-eyed, 5-foot-6 winner turned 19 on April 6 while preparing for the pageant. She said she is a fan of Bruce Springsteen and actress Meryl Streep.

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TEN LITTLE INDIANS
WESTERN TEXAS COLLEGE THEATRE
Don't miss Agatha Christie's famous mystery comedy!

SHOW ONLY
Tuesday, April 17 Thursday, April 19
Curtain: 8:00 p.m. Fine Arts Theatre
Tickets: Adults \$5; Students \$3

DINNER THEATRE
Friday, April 20 Saturday, April 21
Dinner: 7:00 p.m., WTC Cafeteria
Curtain: 8:00 p.m., Fine Arts Theatre
Tickets: \$13

For reservations call the Fine Arts Division office, 573-8511, ext. 234
(Note Dinner Theatre tickets must be picked up by noon Friday, April 20)

Oil Patch News

Borden County
Sharpe Image Energy Inc. will drill the No. 1 Santa Barbara, a 5,800-foot re-entry wildcat 7.5 miles north of Vincent. Location is in Section 68, Block 25, H&TC survey.

Garza County
Hrubetz Operating Co. will drill the No. 719 RSA San Andres unit in the Rocker A field, three miles northwest of Justiceburg. The re-entry project is planned for a depth of 2,900 feet, and location is in Section 879, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Hrubetz Operating will drill the No. 26-SA Stanolind Stoker in the Rocker A field, three miles northwest of Justiceburg. The re-entry project is set for 2,900 feet, and drill site is in Section 938, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Hrubetz Operating will drill the No. 25-5A Stanolind Stoker in the Rocker A field, three miles northwest of Justiceburg. The re-entry is planned for a depth of

2,800 feet and location is in Section 938, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Hrubetz Operating will drill the No. 19-SA Skelly Stoker, a Rocker A field re-entry, three miles northwest of Justiceburg. Also planned for a depth of 2,800 feet, location is in Section 939, Block 97, H&TC survey.

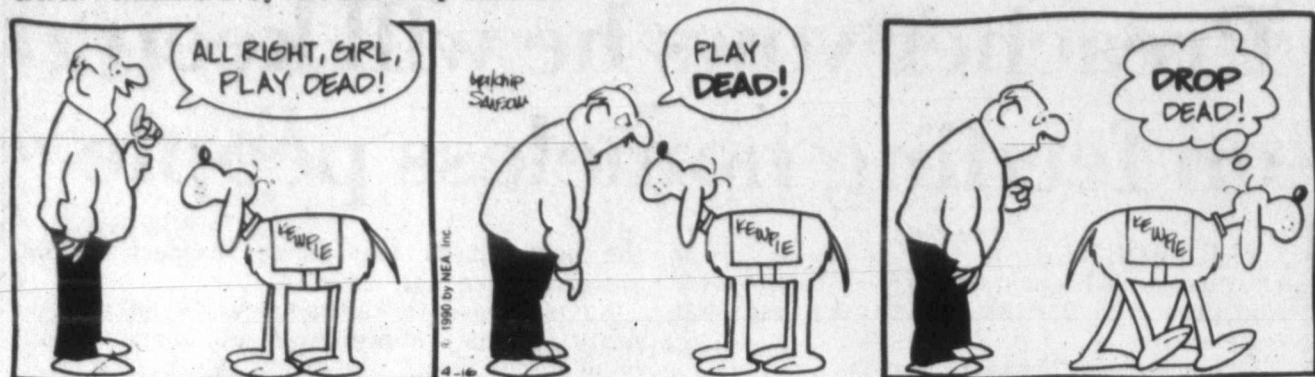
Kent County
Charles B. Gillespie Jr. has plugged and abandoned the No. 1-C Morrison, a 6,265-foot wildcat, 18 miles northwest of Clairomont. Location was in Section 40, Block 2, H&GN survey.

Marathon Oil Co. will drill the No. 8 Roy R. Chisum in the Boomerang south field, six miles northwest of Clairomont. Planned for a depth of 7,000 feet, location is in Section 49, Block L, H&TC survey.

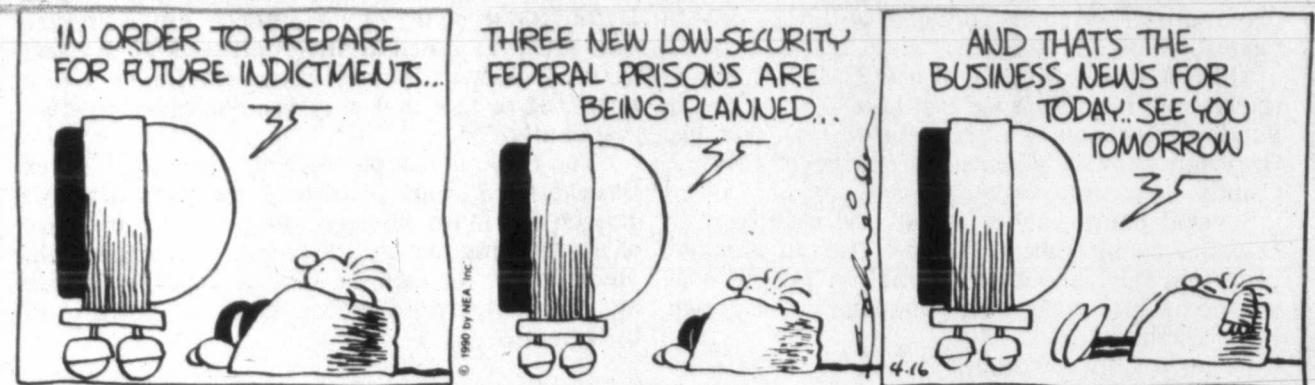
In 1929, aviator Charles Lindbergh married Anne Spencer Morrow in Englewood, N.J.

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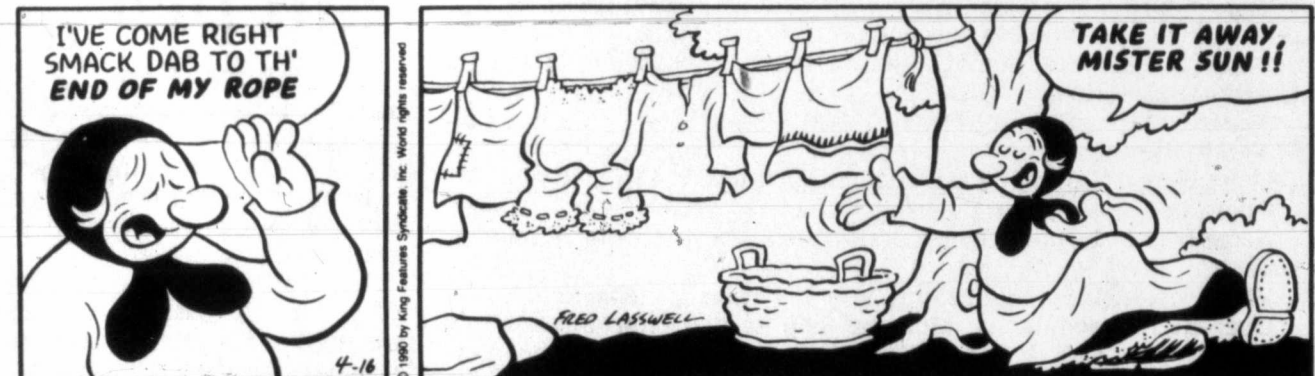
EKK & MEEK® by Howie Schneider



FLASH GORDON By Dan Barry



Barney Google and Snuffy Smith By Fred Lasswell



BLONDIE by Dean Young and Stan Drake



GRIZZWELLS® by Bill Schorr



FRANK & ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



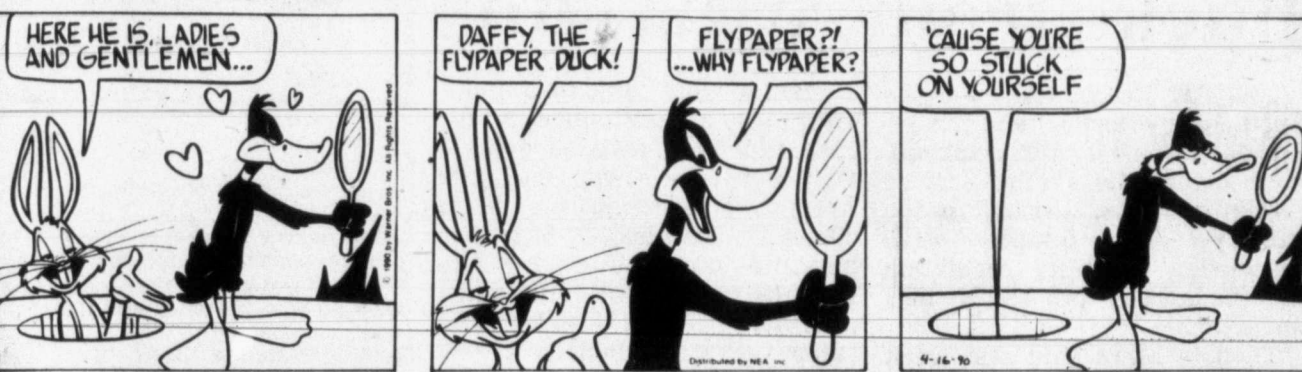
ARLO & JANIS® by Jimmy Johnson



WINTHROP® by Dick Cavalli



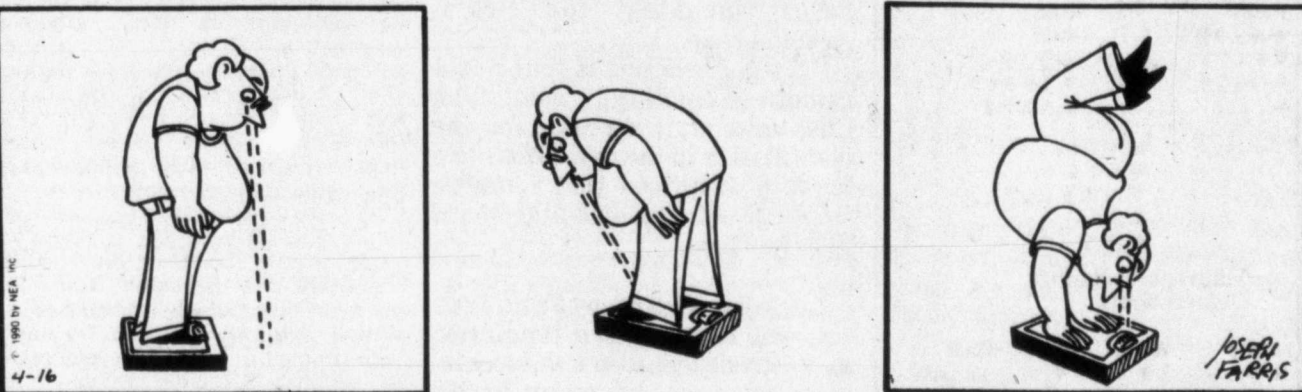
BUGS BUNNY® by Warner Bros.



ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue



PHIPPS™ by Joseph Farris



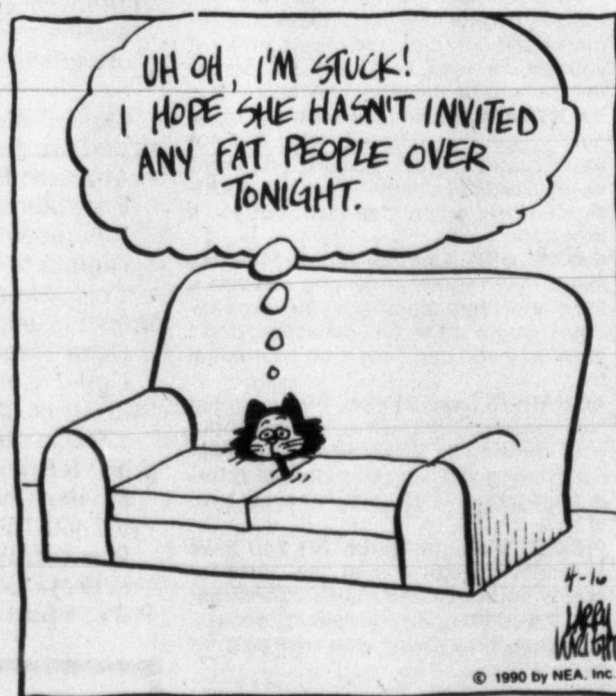
SNAFU® by Bruce Beattie



DENNIS THE MENACE



KIT 'N' CARLYLE® by Larry Wright



LAFF-A-DAY



NEA PUZZLES

ACROSS

- 1 Senorita's aunt
- 4 Likewise
- 9 Actress
- Redgrave
- 10 Peppiest
- 13 North Atlantic bird
- 14 Insect feelers
- 15 Decimal unit
- 16 Make a choice
- 17 Concerning (2 wds.)
- 18 — Jones averages
- 20 Tropical tree
- 23 Annual
- 26 Disturbance
- 30 Art deco illustrator
- 31 River in Ireland
- 33 Tea for —
- 34 Join
- 35 Government

DOWN

- 1 Playful child
- 2 Floods
- 3 Literary miscellany
- 4 Aug. time
- 5 Inhabitant
- 6 More
- 7 Between N.C. and Ark.
- 8 Gravel ridges
- 9 Landing boat
- 10 Wipe out (sl.)
- 11 Grafted, in
- 12 Pipe-fitting unit
- 16 Wise bird
- 19 Pay dirt
- 21 Rabbit
- 22 Unclose (poet.)
- 23 Abominable snowman
- 24 Ireland
- 25 Red Sea country
- 27 Else
- 28 Military fugitive
- 29 Crumbles
- 32 Egyptian deity
- 35 — la-la
- 36 Bustle
- 38 Open
- 40 Baseball player Mel —
- 42 At a distance
- 44 Chop off
- 45 Journalist Seavard
- 46 Prong
- 48 — de France
- 50 Affirmatives
- 51 Small lizard
- 53 Football gp.
- 54 Besides
- 55 College deg.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

C	A	P	S	N	A	P	S	N	A	G
O	F	A	S	U	R	E	T	O	L	L
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N	E	S	S	E	T	T	I	S	T	

Tennessee lab vying for piece of collider pie

OAK RIDGE, Tenn. (AP) — Tennessee lost the race to land the superconducting super collider, but the state will likely have a leading role in spinoff construction, said Oak Ridge National Laboratory officials.

Scientists from several nations and American universities will meet at Oak Ridge in April to discuss construction of a megaton detector, said Bill Appleton, laboratory associate director for physical sciences and advanced materials.

The detector will measure energy produced by byproducts of proton collisions in the super collider. Protons will smash into one another at nearly the speed of light around the 53-mile

underground track that will surround Waxahachie, Texas, just south of Dallas.

Bill Bugg, head of the University of Tennessee's physics department, said countries participating in the detector project will each construct a large piece. The finished product will weigh about 50,000 tons — roughly the equivalent of 500 steam locomotives.

Scientists from the Soviet Union will be in charge of building a giant magnet and providing raw materials for about 5 million silicon diode detectors for a 3,000-ton hadron calorimeter that will measure the energy produced.

One of the participants will be

in charge of putting the pieces together and testing the detector to ensure the device works before it goes to Texas.

"We would imagine that that would be done here," Appleton said.

He said he expects the workshop to draw people from the Soviet Union, Italy, Switzerland, India, West Germany and other nations.

"All of those countries have high-energy physicists who want to use the SSC for fundamental studies, and since the SSC will be the best high-energy physics accelerator in the world when it's finished, they all want to be a part of it," Appleton said.

Participating universities in-

clude Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Mississippi, Alabama, Carnegie Mellon, Johns Hopkins and California Institute of Technology.

The Oak Ridge workshop will be the last of a series held successively at Geneva, Rome, Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico, and most recently, Moscow.

Work has already started at Oak Ridge, where proposals for the project are being written. Four scientists have been transferred to the new Oak Ridge Detector Center within the laboratory, and job offers have gone out to two others to come work on the project.

UT and Oak Ridge are planning

a Joint Institute for High Energy Physics, one of four such cooperative efforts that also include the joint institutes for Heavy Ion Research, already in operation; Computational Science, which should be in place by next spring; and Energy and Environment.

Although winning federal approval to build the detector is no sure thing, forming the collaborative effort is "the way to bet," Bugg said.

Six international collaborations are preparing detector proposals, and the super collider laboratory will choose from them in November.

The winners will then submit formal proposals to the Energy

Department. "Sort of the conventional wisdom is that there will be at least two detectors," Appleton said.

Super collisions will create 200 to 1,000 particles in a hoped-for replication of the big bang — the theory that the universe started at a single instant with an enormous release of energy.

Measurements by the detectors might reveal the nature of forces that hold matter together and what exactly that matter is. No one is certain where the findings will lead.

"It's unpeeling the next level of knowledge about the world," said Bugg. "We've been asking these questions for a long time."

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Letter Battle Breaks Out Over Women in Combat

DEAR ABBY: As a former WAC, may I contribute my thoughts concerning women in combat? I served in World War II for three years on a proving ground under combat conditions, evaluating weapons and helping to train troops in the use of those weapons. My observations were as follows:

1. A significant number of men are not suitable for combat duty.
2. A larger percentage of women are not suitable for combat duty.
3. People are reluctant to take orders from squeaky-voiced little people who appear to be younger and/or weaker than they are.
4. People will readily take orders from an older woman who is demonstrably competent.
5. In a real way, you use what you have.

FORMER WAC, MAINE

DEAR ABBY: Concerning women in the military, I believe that women should be allowed to serve their

country in any capacity they choose — providing they are fully qualified. However, they are limited by nature. Putting it bluntly, men are the breadwinners and women are the baby makers. We have never seen a man endure menstrual periods, pregnancy, labor, childbirth or menopause. And we never will.

REALISTIC IN SEATTLE

DEAR ABBY: This letter is in response to "A Future Female Soldier": My feeling is that any woman who can qualify for combat should be able to participate. This also goes for African-Americans, Asians, Native Americans, Hispanics and any other individual who can make the grade.

America has become obsessed with the need to classify people and to qualify them for careers, benefits, etc., based upon race and gender. I hope I live to see the day when we can overcome this overriding concern with "minority status" and in-

stead look to a person's abilities, qualifications and desire to handle the task at hand.

SKIP SCHWEISS, PARKER, COLO.

DEAR ABBY: The reluctance to send women into war is a relic of the past. It was a code of battle that existed when brave soldiers, men of honor and courage, faced each other in combat to protect their women and children. In this age of nuclear targeting, we conveniently forget that we are all equally in the gun-sights, including those who are in hospitals, schools and nursing homes. There is no "safe" haven. To cling to the notion that our men will protect us delicate females is buying into the macho mythology of the "good war." Modern warfare makes this fantasy obsolete.

JUDITH A. MURPHY, M.D., PALO ALTO, CALIF.

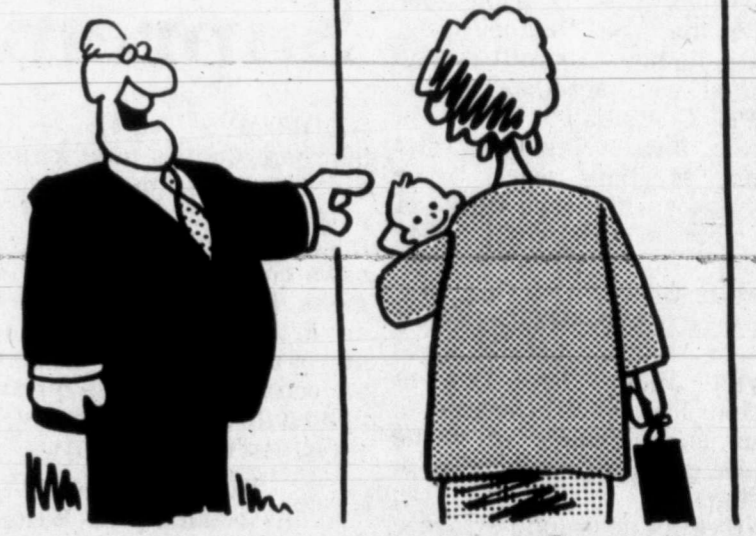
DEAR ABBY: Why does everyone ignore the sexual aspect of women in combat? One thing that cannot be changed by legislation is the natural desire for males and females to mate. With all that "togetherness," a lot of "soldiers" would be getting pregnant. (The Army might have to provide day-care centers on the front lines!) Another idea: All women who request combat duty should agree to have a tubal ligation. It would remove one major problem and make a lot of GIs happy.

JOHN J. CONRAD, MORTON GROVE, ILL.

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