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TUESDAY

Snyder Daily News

Ask Us

Q—When was the last time Western Texas College's basketball teams qualified for regional tournament play and how did they finish?

A—The Westerners last qualified for the 1986 regional where they lost in the second round. The Lady Dusters last qualified in 1989 where they won and advanced to the national tournament, finishing eighth.

In Brief

Big jackpot

LAS VEGAS (AP) — A Texas man said he was speechless Monday morning when he hit a slot machine jackpot of \$5.1 million.

"I was so excited I couldn't say anything," recalled Harold Williamson, a retired machinist from Kaufman, Texas.

"This is the most exciting thing that has ever happened to us," Williamson said as he accepted an oversized check with his wife, Pat. "You'll have to excuse me. I'm a little excited right now."

Williamson, 52, said he sat down with \$100 to play a Megabucks progressive slot machine at the Mirage Hotel and had played about 90 minutes when he lined up four "Lucky 7" symbols.

Local

Center party

Snyder Nursing Center will hold its monthly birthday party at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Family members are to help.

Fish fry

The Hermleigh Senior Class will sponsor a fish fry from 5-7 p.m. Saturday in the school cafeteria. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children.

A basketball game will follow the fish fry. Tickets are \$1.

Car show

The Snyder Wheels Car Show and Swap Meet will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Scurry County Coliseum.

Admission to the car show, held Saturday only, will be \$4 for adults and \$2 for children under age 12. Show time will be 11 a.m. until 8 p.m.

Dunn revival

Dunn Baptist Church will hold a revival March 15-17 with Friday and Saturday services set for 7 p.m. and Sunday services at 10:45 p.m.

Bro. Darold Baldwin, area missionary, will be the guest speaker. Rayford Dunagan, minister of music at Oak Street Baptist Church of Colorado City will direct the music.

Everyone is invited to attend.

Weather

Snyder Temperatures: High Monday, 84 degrees; low, 50 degrees; reading at 7 a.m. Tuesday, 51 degrees; no precipitation; total precipitation for 1991 to date, 1.64 inches.

Snyder Area Forecast: Tonight, fair. Low around 35. North wind 5-15 mph. Wednesday, fair. High in the lower 70s. Variable wind 5-15 mph.

Almanac: Sunset today, 7 p.m. Sunrise Wednesday, 6:57 a.m. Of 70 days in 1991, the sun has shone 65 days in Snyder.

Water rate hike ok'd by council

City water customers will see an increase in their water bills beginning in April, as Snyder City Council voted Monday to pass on an increase imposed by the Colorado River Municipal Water District.

The council convened for its regular monthly meeting at City Hall and also approved a request from Snyder High School athletic director David Baugh; accepted bids for roof replacement and water meters, passed a new ordinance on second reading and heard from city staff that rehabilitation of city water lines will begin March 18.

The council passed unanimously on first reading an ordinance which would increase city water rates by a nickel per 1,000 gallons. The ordinance is scheduled for a second reading during the council's April meeting, and pending approval, customers will see a slight increase in their April bill. If approved, consumers will pay \$6.40 instead of \$6.35 for the first 2,000 gallons and \$1.65 instead of \$1.60 for each additional 1,000 gallons.

The increase is the last of the three increases approved by the council in October of 1985 to fund the building of the O.H. Ivie Reservoir. Other increases were seen in January of 1986 and January 1987.

CRMWD general manager, O.H. Ivie — who was present at the meeting along with Snyder's four members of the district's board — told the council that the Ivie Reservoir will benefit Snyder by ensuring the city's main water supply, Lake Thomas.

Also approved unanimously by the council was a request from Snyder High School athletic director David Baugh for \$2,000 from the city's hotel-motel tax

fund to pay officiating costs of the annual Snyder Baseball Tournament.

It was noted that the three-day tournament, which begins Thursday at Moffett Field, will feature some 15 teams and 24

(see WATER, page 8)

Budget on hold for now

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Ann Richards says she expects to call the Legislature into special session in mid-July to write a budget for the next two fiscal years.

Richards said she expects the special session to begin the second or third week of July.

Waiting until after July 1 will give auditors time to complete their examination of state agency spending, and it will allow the governor's blue-ribbon committee to finish its study of the Texas tax system, she said.

"We will then be able to know by July 1 how much we can save by consolidation of some agencies and by cutting within some agencies, and we will know from some of the best minds in Texas what we have to do in relation to the revenue," she said.

"I expect we will be gone for most of June, come back the second or third week of July and we'll stay there until we get it done," Richards said.

Rep. Jim Rudd, D-Brownfield, the House Appropriations Committee chairman, said his panel would wait to write a budget until the audits are completed.



SHOWROOM SHINE — Snyder Wheels member Tracy Dennis polishes his 1932 Ford Coupe for this weekend's Snyder Wheels Car Show and Swap Meet at Scurry County Coliseum. The swap meet will begin Friday and continue through Sunday in the annex. The car show, featuring vehicles from across the state, will be Saturday in the coliseum. (SDN Staff Photo)

Baker tells Israeli immigrants...

Nations ready to close book of war, open book of peace

JERUSALEM (AP) — Secretary of State James A. Baker III told new Israeli immigrants today the nations of the Middle East "are very anxious to close the book of war."

And yet, even as Baker toured

the town of Carmiel in northern Israel, reporters were told North Korea had delivered about two dozen Scud-C missiles to Syria along with about 20 missile launchers.

The surface-to-surface weapons, said to be more powerful than the Scud-Bs that Iraq fired on Israel and Saudi Arabia, were delivered by ship in the last day or two, according to sources who spoke on condition they not be identified.

Baker, who is trying to nudge Israel into negotiations with Arab nations and with Palestinians, toured the West Bank by helicopter. The trip was an apparent effort by Israeli officials to show Baker, who has never been here before, how small distances are in the Middle East.

If Israel gave up the West Bank, for instance, it would be only eight miles wide at one point.

Baker, speaking in the courtyard of a language school where thousands of Ethiopian and Russian immigrants are taught Hebrew, declared:

"Let Desert Storm be the last great battle in the Middle East. ... The nations of the Middle East

are very anxious to close the book of war and open the book of peace. We must continue to seek a lasting peace between Israel, its Arab neighbors and the Palestinians."

Baker then returned to Jerusalem and met with 11 Palestinians at the home of Philip Wilcox, the U.S. consul general. No details of the meeting were immediately available.

Earlier, Baker met with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir for 75 minutes, discussing what Baker calls new signs of Arab willingness to accept Israel.

Baker met with Shamir in an effort to push the nascent peace process forward with a positive Israeli response.

They met for 75 minutes in "a very friendly, warm and cooperative atmosphere," Shamir's media adviser, Avi Pazner, reported.

He said Shamir agreed with Baker on a two-track approach to a Middle East settlement. "We have the feeling we can start to try to make the process of peace go," Pazner said.

Lake Ivie ensures local water supply, city council is told

Texas' newest lake's namesake told city council members Monday that the building of the Ivie Reservoir and Freese Dam ensured Snyder's water supply, Lake J.B. Thomas, by providing an ample water supply to Midland, Stanton and San Angelo.

O.H. Ivie, general manager of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, met with council members and Snyder's four district representatives to update them on CRMWD projects.

Ivie told the group a pipeline from Lake Ivie to Midland-Odessa, with the capability of taking water to Big Spring, would be the district's next project with price tag of some \$100 million. Construction has not begun on the pipeline, however, Ivie said it would be completed no later than 1995-1996.

He informed the council would

see an increase in water rates to fund the pipeline but that construction of the pipeline would ensure water supplies to member cities for the next 50 years.

Lake Thomas has a current level of 30,000 acre feet, some 18 percent of the lake's 204,000 acre feet capacity, the council was told.

CRMWD engineer Rod Lewis noted however the district "didn't anticipate any problems" with water shortages.

In answer to a question asked by Mayor Troy Williamson, Ivie said that in an emergency situation, water from the district's local ground wells and water from Lake Spence could give the city a sufficient water supply.

Rod Waller, John Fagin, Russell Yorgesen and David Holt serve as Snyder representatives on the district's board.



FINISHING TOUCHES — Kenneth Rinehart, left, and Raymond Valadez complete the painting of the outside of the North Booster Pump Station. Painting and repair work is also in progress at the W.S. Bigham Water Treatment Plant. (SDN Staff Photo)

The SDN Column

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "It's terrible to act like a fool, but it's much worse when you're not acting."

A retired clinical psychologist has done research on what makes a successful meeting and he says catering to a person's bottom is the most important factor.

Some might say that the chairman is the most important element of a successful meeting, but this guy claims it's the chair.

He calls it chair administration, a method of arranging people in what he calls a scientific manner to avoid ineffective communication and obscure discussions.

No fooling, the guy makes a living at this. His research has gone on for more than 40 years. During this time he has observed that the most common mistake is crowding too many chairs into a room.

The first rule is to have participants face one another. But another important rule is making

sure the chair fits the anatomy. He says many meeting-room chairs are designed for the bottoms of a kindergarten-age kid. He says attention span is directly related to the span provided for your posterior.

Another rule is to make sure there is one less chair than is needed. If attendees believe they're vying for seats, even a dull meeting will be viewed as successful.

Not all meeting experts agree. Some say people stay too long if they are too comfortable. Some say unwanted visitors will leave unless their bottoms are made to feel at ease.

We're not an expert, but for some 30 years we've attended our share of meetings. In terms of chairs, we're partial to those which recline and with a nearby gadget sporting a mute button.

With or without proper and planned seating, we believe the most important element of a successful meeting can be summed up in a single word — brief.

Plano Elementary School adopts year-around plan

Astrograph
By Bernice Bede Osol



March 13, 1991

Your year ahead might not be measured in ordinary terms. A number of beneficial surprises could be in the offing, of both the esthetic and material kind.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) A commercial endeavor that you have been contemplating should not be left to gather dust any longer. Properly handled, this might provide you with that second source of income you've been desiring. Pisces, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing \$1.25 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-3428. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Avail yourself of any opportunities today to go places where you can establish fresh contacts. You may be introduced to someone who could be important to your future.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Something may occur at this time that will enable you to reap benefits disproportionate to your involvement in an endeavor. Lady Luck will have a hand in the dispersal.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You could be luckier than usual today where new ventures are concerned, provided they are not too avant-garde or bizarre. Steer a middle course.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You are presently in a cycle where you might do things on a scale bigger than the one to which you're accustomed. Don't be intimidated by big shots or big numbers.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You shouldn't have too much trouble promoting support for a matter you believe in today. Others will be interested for the same reasons you are, and you'll effectively make your case.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You should be able to take charge of an important arrangement currently being mismanaged by someone you like today. You'll do a good job.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) One of the principle reasons you'll be warmly received by contemporaries today is your ability to make them think that the sound suggestions you supply are actually authored by them.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Your luck is focused in ways that could help you achieve meaningful objectives today. Tune into the trend and do something worthwhile.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) You should be extremely charismatic today in involvements that have social overtones. Don't be surprised when others cluster around you like months to a flame.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Even though your goals may not be readily apparent to associates today, the results you achieve will be. Keep in mind, in the final analysis, it is the bottom line that counts.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) If there is a written agreement you've been wanting to get signed, this is a good day to push for the "John Hancock." It should work out well for all parties concerned.

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Concert held Monday

MIDDLETOWN, Ohio (AP) — The McGuire Sisters, who have performed for presidents and royalty, returned to their roots for a concert celebrating this steel town's bicentennial.

The trio — Christine, Dorothy and Phyllis — grew up in a steelworkers' neighborhood here in the shadow of Armco Steel Corp. The show was Monday.

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STUDENTS RECOGNIZED — Snyder Masons recognized Snyder Junior High student Ellen Strayhorn for academic achievement and Greg McAden for outstanding citizenship during a morning assembly last week at the school. Presenting the award was local Mason Jack Gorman. (SDN Staff Photo)

Human shield returns to Kuwait

VIDOR, Texas (AP) — The last time Bobby Gene Parker went to the Persian Gulf region, he was held against his will, given too little food, and was used as a human shield at a Iraqi munitions plant.

He's on his way back. Parker left Monday for Qatar, a Persian Gulf coast country south of Kuwait, as an electrician

for Santa Fe Drilling Co. He eventually will be transferred to Kuwait to help rebuild the country's oil facilities.

The former hostage returned to the United States on Dec. 10 with 20 other freed hostages as part of a group released to former U.S. Treasury Secretary John Connally and Coastal Corp. chairman Oscar Wyatt.

Parker said he had been taken from his job with Kuwait Drilling Co. and held at a munitions plant 25 miles north of Baghdad. He lost 40 pounds during his captivity.

As Parker stepped off the Coastal corporate jet at Ellington Air Field, his wife, Lynda, dropped to her knees, kissed the

ground and shrieked with joy as she threw her arms around his neck.

Monday, she said she's trying not to worry about him.

"I don't think he's in any danger. That's the only reason I'm able to handle it," Mrs. Parker said in an interview from her home in Vidor, near the South Texas-Louisiana border. "He's doing what he wants to do, so I've got to be happy about it."

Parker said he'd eventually be assigned to Kuwait, where he will help extinguish oil well fires set by the Iraqis during the war, and then begin rebuilding Kuwaiti oil facilities.

"It's much safer than it was before because they (the Kuwaitis) are going to be watching," Parker said before leaving the country. "Iraq's no longer the power that it was."

Parker added he felt comforted by the large allied force presence in the region.

Mrs. Parker said that since the Persian Gulf War ended, Parker had discussed how he wanted to see Kuwait, a country he loved, as it was rebuilt.

Their son, Eric, is still in Saudi Arabia as a member of the Army's 475th Transport Group.

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Ira Senior Class

PLANO, Texas (AP) — The joyful cry, "School's out!" won't echo down the halls of at least one Dallas-area elementary school.

Other than getting slightly longer breaks, Carlisle Elementary pupils will be in class year-round.

Higher test scores and lower stress are expected to result from the revised calendar as Carlisle becomes the first school in North Texas to abandon the traditional school year that seems to revolve around summer vacation.

In addition to two-week breaks in March and October and the shortened summer hiatus, the new plan also extends the winter break from two to three weeks.

"From an educational perspective, people are really excited about it," said Carlisle principal Charles McCasland, who proposed the plan. "Teachers that have worked on a system like this know they don't have to spend all their time reviewing. And they know that more frequent breaks throughout the year, allowing time for rest, are really helpful."

The decision to implement the plan in Plano followed six months of discussion and debate. The school board approved the plan with 6-1 vote last week.

A majority of Carlisle parents approved the three-year pilot plan in a school election last fall. Supporters of year-round

schools say students retain more information, need less review and suffer less burnout because of the shorter, more frequent breaks.

But opponents of the plan say it will tear apart families that have children attending different schools and want to plan family vacations.

"A child is not a test score," said Bill Byers, who will have two children at Carlisle and two at Schimelpfenig Middle School next year. "A child is experiences. Family vacations, going to see grandparents and those kinds of experiences are going to be hindered."

Laurie Willardson, who will have two daughters at Carlisle next year, said she favors the year-round plan.

"I know that people will have some difficulties, and that's unfortunate," Ms. Willardson said. "But the dust will settle, and we will see some real educational benefits."

Almost 900 schools nationwide are now in session year-round, according to the National Association for Year-Round Education in San Diego.

The only other public school district in Texas to have adopted the year-round schedule is Conroe, said Julian Shaddix, the Texas Education Agency's assistant education commissioner for school administration.

Dr. Gott
Peter Gott, M.D.



By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Please provide information on vasovagal syncope. I've passed out four times in restaurants. What makes my blood pressure drop so suddenly? Glucose tolerance tests are negative.

DEAR READER: The pulse rate is under partial control of the vagus nerves. Stimulation of these nerves causes the heart rate to slow, thus an associated tendency toward low blood pressure, can temporarily deprive the brain of circulation and oxygen, leading to fainting (syncope). No one knows why some people exhibit accentuated responses to vagal stimulation, but the phenomenon is real and can result in periodic loss of consciousness.

Vasovagal syncope is often caused by intense physical or mental stimulation, such as pain, fright or the sight of blood. In fact, patients who feel lightheaded or pass out during routine blood tests usually do so because of low blood pressure and the slow pulse that follow stimulation of the vagus nerves by the brain.

The fainting is almost always preceded by symptoms of nausea, weakness and sweating; therefore, patients with vasovagal syncope can learn to prevent fainting by lying down or sitting with the head bowed between the knees. Also, these patients readily discover what kinds of stimulation cause the syncope, so patients learn to avoid such situations.

I do not know why you experience symptoms in restaurants. People with hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) may experience lightheadedness and weakness a couple of hours after eating sugar and high-calorie foods. Evidently, your glucose tests were nor-

mal. Therefore, you should be examined by a cardiologist or circulatory specialist to determine the cause of your symptom.

Remember that with vasovagal syncope, as with any cause of fainting due to deficient circulation, you can prevent serious injury (from falling) by getting your head down. This maneuver allows gravity to maintain adequate blood supply to the brain. Therefore, when you feel lightheaded, don't tough it out; bend over or lie down before you faint.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I've been diagnosed with interstitial cystitis. My doctor says there is no known cause or cure. Can you enlighten me?

DEAR READER: Interstitial cystitis, a non-infectious inflammation of the bladder lining, causes periodic urinary burning and urgency, often associated with blood in the urine (hematuria). The disorder, which seldom affects men, is diagnosed by a negative urine culture (showing the urine to be free of infectious organisms), in conjunction with cystoscopy, a technique during which a urological specialist examines the bladder lining with a lighted tube, in an attempt to identify the patchy areas of raw inflammation that characterize interstitial cystitis.

The cause of this affliction is unknown. Treatment usually consists of a high fluid intake (to dilute the urine and aid healing) and cautery, when the specialist gently burns the inflamed areas in the bladder.

Unfortunately, your doctor is correct: There is no cure for this condition. Nonetheless, with the techniques I described, patients' symptoms can be controlled.

To give you more information, I am sending you a free copy of my Health Report "Bladder." Other readers who would like a copy should send \$1.25 with their names and addresses to P.O. Box 91369, Cleveland, OH 44101-3369. Be sure to mention the title.

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PARTICIPANTS IN CONTEST — From left, Andrea Helm of Colorado City, Brooke Kubena, Ellen Strayhorn, Alicia Kubena and Cynthia Stansell were participants in the Lubbock Teacher's Piano Contest at Lubbock. (Private Photos)



PIANO PUPILS — These students of Bethel Studio of Music also entered the Lubbock competition. They are from left, bottom row, Carrie Perkins of Colorado City and Brook Baldrige of Jayton; top row, Sterling Cave, Nicki Riggs of Colorado City and Brandi Murphree of Rotan.



MORE CONTESTANTS — Also participating in the Lubbock competition were Paul O'Conner, Emily Zeck, Blenden Chisum, Karomy Drum and Allison Harvey of Jayton.



ENTER COMPETITION — These five young students also entered competition in Lubbock. They are Ruth Ann Riddell of Rotan, Trey Gorman, Brett Gibson, Angela Riggs of Colorado City and Shelly Jones.

Bridge By James Jacoby

NORTH 3-12-91			
♦ Q 7 3			
♥ Q J 9			
♦ A 7 5 4			
♦ 9 7 4			
WEST		EAST	
♦ 10 9 8		♦ 6 5 4 2	
♥ 7 3 2		♥ 5 4	
♦ J 8 6		♦ K Q 10 9 3	
♦ A Q 8 2		♦ K 10	
SOUTH			
♦ A K J			
♥ A K 10 8 6			
♦ 2			
♦ J 6 5 3			
Vulnerable: Both			
Dealer: South			
South	West	North	East
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥	All pass		
Opening lead: ♦ 10			

kings). Also, the game bonus is so large that any time you can smell a game, bid that game!

It looks as if you should play to ruff the fourth club in the dummy, but the defenders have the jump on you. The play would go something like this: Club to East's 10, trump return, club to East's king, trump, club to West's queen, trump — and no club ruff.

There is a better route to 10 tricks. Win the first trick in hand with the ace or king of spades, play a diamond to dummy's ace, ruff a diamond in hand, lead a trump to the dummy, ruff a second diamond with the king of hearts, return to dummy with another trump, and ruff the last diamond with the ace of hearts. Now overtake the carefully preserved jack of spades with dummy's queen, draw the final trump and cash the last spade winner.

Your 10 tricks are three spades, three top hearts in the dummy, the ace of diamonds and three diamond ruffs in hand.

This is called a dummy reversal and is one of the prettiest — and rarest — of declarer-play techniques.

James Jacoby's Books "Jacoby on Bridge" and "Jacoby on Card Games" (written with his father, the late Oswald Jacoby) are now available at bookstores. Both are published by Pharos Books.

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Upside-down play

By James Jacoby

Today's hand bears a certain similarity to yesterday's in that there is a chance to ruff a club loser in the dummy. However, appearances can be deceptive. How would you try to make four hearts against a spade lead?

You might think South is a little weak to jump straight to four hearts. However, he has a useful side-suit singleton and excellent controls (aces and

Almost all aphids are females that reproduce by parthenogenesis — without sex — resulting in offspring genetically identical to their mothers.

Piano pupils enter contest

Pupils from Bethel Studio of Music entered the Lubbock Music Teacher's Piano Contest at Texas Tech University recently. Those receiving superior ratings were Brandi Murphree, Ruth Ann Riddell, Angela Riggs and Shelley Jones.

Superior ratings and third place winners in their group were Cynthia Stansell, Nicki Riggs, Paul O'Conner and Brook Baldrige.

Receiving superior ratings and second place winners were Alicia Kubena, Karomy Drum and Brett Gibson.

Taking superior ratings and first place winners were Andrea Helm, Trey Gorman, Carrie Perkins, Sterling Cave, Brooke Kubena, Blenden Chisum, Emily Zeck, Ellen Strayhorn and Allison Harvey.

First place winners performed in the Winner's Recital at Tech at

the Hemmle Recital Hall. There were 475 pupils from West Texas and New Mexico competing in grade levels one through 12.

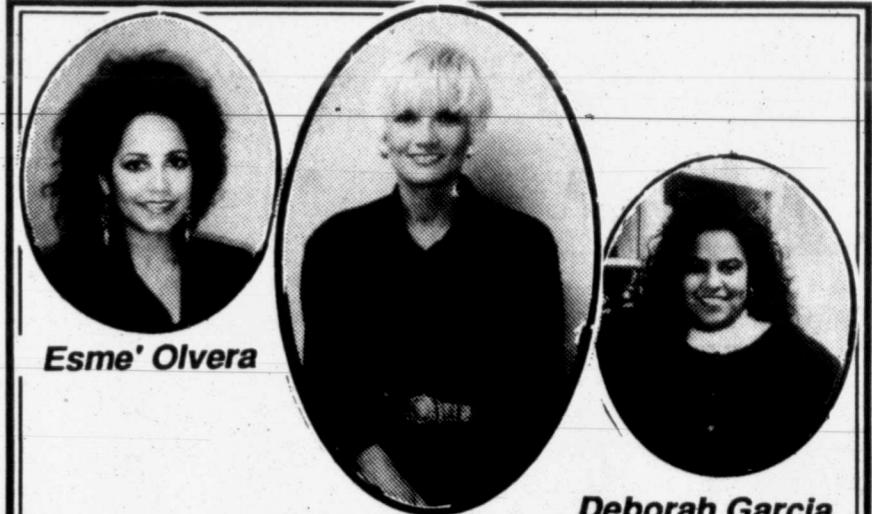
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Community Calendar

TUESDAY

Tiger Shark Swim Club; WTC; 6-18 years of age; 4-5:30 p.m. For information, call Mike Harrison at 573-8511 ext. 283.
Weight Watchers; First Assembly of God Church; 5:30 p.m.
Adult Children of Alcoholics; Park Club in Winston Park; 6:30 p.m.; For more information call 573-8885 or 573-9410.
Amitie Study Club; 7 p.m.
Beta Delta Phi; 7 p.m.
ACBL Open Pairs Duplicate Bridge; Snyder Country Club; 7 p.m.
TOPS TX56; weigh-in and meeting 7-8 p.m.; 2501 35th. For information, call Jean Yearwood at 573-9444 or Mae Cole at 573-8628.
Canyon Gun Club; 3201 Ave. U; 7:30 p.m.
Scurry Lodge 706; AF and AM degree classes; 7:30 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous (closed); Park Club in Winston Park; 8 p.m. For more information, call 573-8110, 573-3308 or 573-5867.
Al-Anon; Park Club at Winston Park; 8 p.m. For more information, call 573-3956 or 573-8626.



Esme Olvera

Deborah Garcia

Sandi Pavlik

Sandi and her Staff

were recently Guest Artists of the Texas Cosmetology Association and Greater Southwest Beauty Show held at the Fairmont Hotel in Dallas. Sandi, assisted by Esme' and Deborah taught "New Perming Techniques" by Redken Laboratories

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"Jesus answered, "It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.""
Matthew 4:4

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BORN LOSER by Art and Chip Sansom



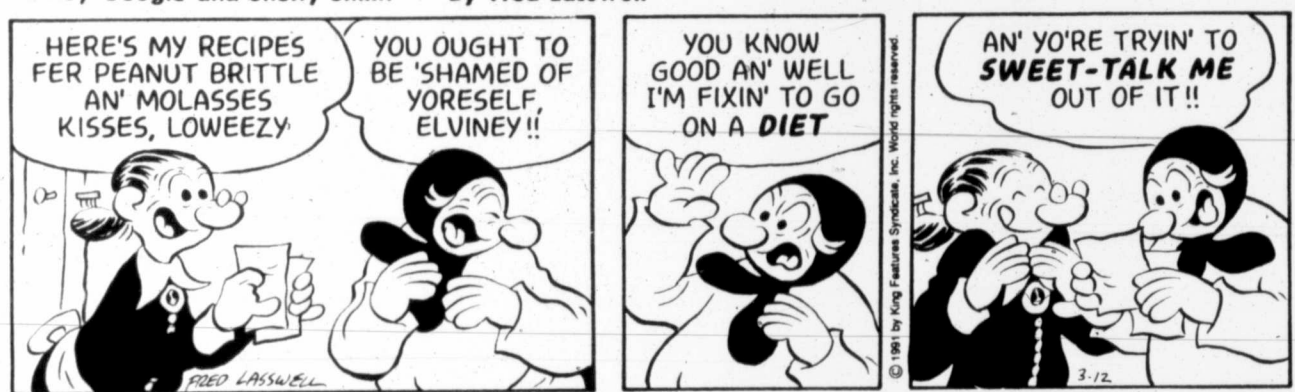
EK & MEEK by Howie Schneider



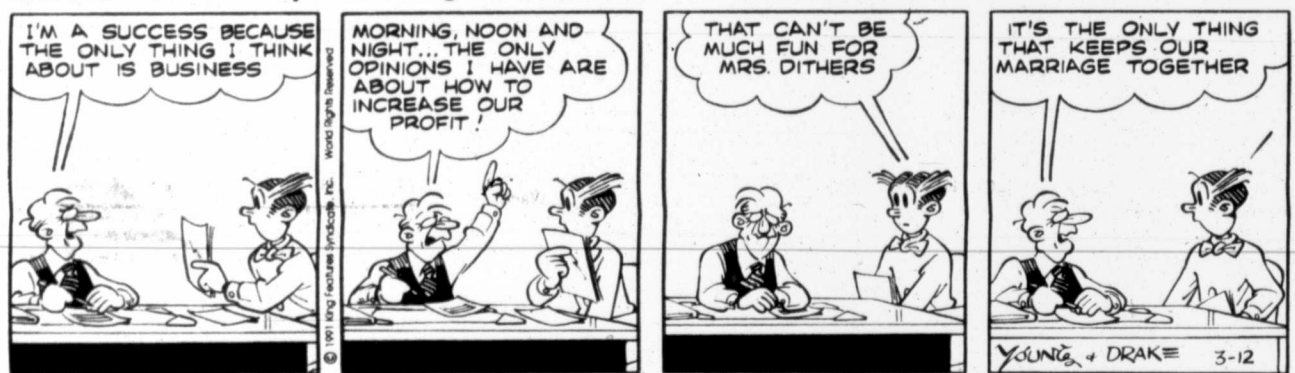
FLASH GORDON by Dan Barry



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



ROBOTMAN by Jim Meddick



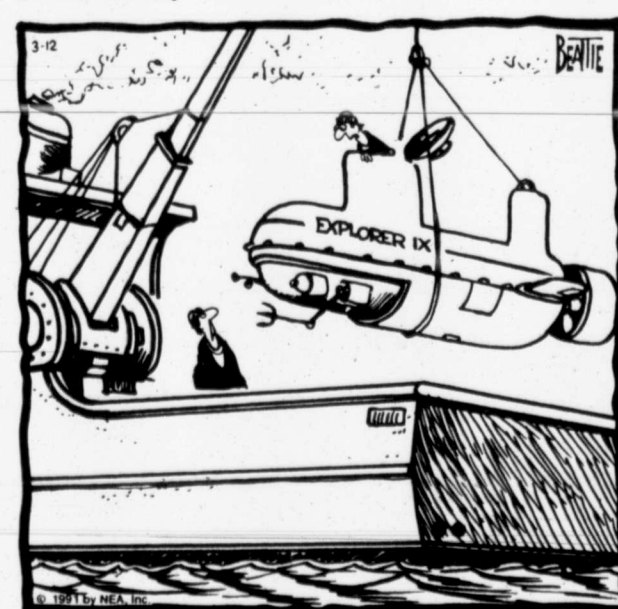
ALLEY OOP by Dave Graue



PHIPPS by Joseph Farris



SNAFU by Bruce Beattie



"Before I go looking for the Loch Ness monster, mind telling me what happened to Explorers I through VIII?"

DENNIS THE MENACE

FROM 40 YEARS AGO... HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DENNIS!



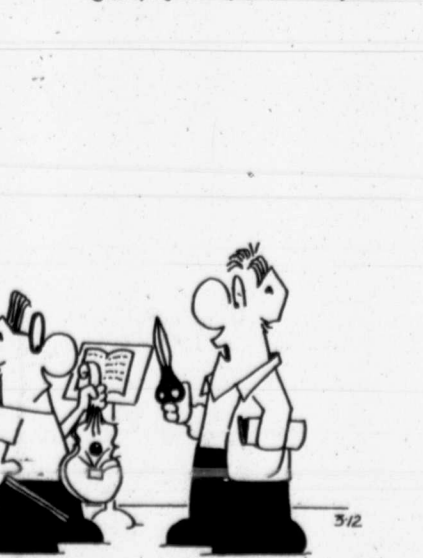
"It's TOO HEAVY, DAD. LET ME HOLD ONE OF THOSE LITTLE ONES."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE by Larry Wright



LAFF-A-DAY

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"That's enough practice for tonight."

NEA PUZZLES

ACROSS

- 1 12, Roman
- 4 — Kringie
- 8 Citizen —
- 12 Queen of the fairies
- 13 Affection
- 14 Flying saucers (abbr.)
- 15 — Khan
- 16 Layer of eye
- 17 Ungentlemanly men
- 18 Term in logic
- 20 The — R's
- 21 Over (poet.)
- 22 Actress West
- 23 All —
- 26 Packing plant
- 30 Olympic org.
- 31 Streams
- 33 Panhandler
- 34 Aug. time
- 35 Wary
- 36 UK broadcasters
- 37 Saltwater

- 39 On the ocean
- 40 Poetic contraction
- 41 Breakfast bread
- 43 Rolls up
- 46 Halo
- 50 Future attys. exam
- 51 — fu
- 52 Prickly seed
- 53 Emerald Isle
- 54 Bird
- 55 — de France
- 56 Jacob's son
- 57 Negatives
- 58 Highest note

DOWN

- 1 Dec. holiday
- 2 Villain in "Othello"
- 3 Construction beam (2 wds.)
- 4 Jane Fonda
- 5 Dog's name
- 6 Folk singer
- 7 Ocean
- 8 Coffecake
- 9 At a distance
- 10 Knob
- 11 Abstract being
- 19 Charged atom
- 20 Weed
- 22 Bryn —
- 23 Children
- 24 Flexible tube
- 25 Minutes of court
- 26 Female student
- 27 Recedes
- 28 Peasant
- 29 Non-profit org.
- 31 Gets away
- 32 Malicious look
- 38 Wild disorder
- 39 Chemical suffix
- 41 Rabbit
- 42 Eggs on
- 43 Insect
- 44 Information agcy.
- 45 Unusual
- 46 Distinctive air
- 47 Acting award
- 48 Cessation
- 49 Field
- 51 Actor Murray

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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		B	O	O	S	O	R					
T	U	C	S	O	N	E	T	H	E	N	E	
G	P	O	P	S	S	T	O	S	A	R		
I	D	L	E	E	S	A	U	I	T	O		
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56				57			58			

Davis set to meet with Mobley, Crow

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — The results of Texas A&M's investigation into the Aggie basketball program will be shared today with embattled coach Kermit Davis.

Davis and his Houston-based attorney, George Parnham, were to meet with A&M President William H. Mobley, athletic director John David Crow and A&M vice president for finance and administration Robert Smith, who conducted the investigation.

"I just think it's a meeting we knew was going to happen after the investigation was finalized," Davis said Monday.

Davis, 31, said he doesn't know what the report, which was finished late Friday, contains.

"I haven't seen their report," Davis told the Bryan-College Station Eagle. "I don't have any idea what's going to happen. I haven't seen any agenda, so I really couldn't speculate on what's going to happen."

Texas A&M's probe began in December after a published report said Davis violated National Collegiate Athletic Association rules in the recruitment of Syracuse transfer Tony Scott. Scott told the Syracuse Post-Standard that his transfer was arranged by talent scout Rob Johnson, and Scott also said he was promised extra benefits prohibited by NCAA rules.

Smith said in December that A&M had reported at least one violation to the NCAA.

Davis, who has maintained his innocence throughout the probe, said Scott lied to get Texas A&M on probation so he could transfer to another school and be eligible to play immediately. Scott, who has refused further comment, left A&M in February.

Speculation about the future of Davis has been an ongoing topic since the Post-Standard's story broke. The Houston Chronicle reported last Thursday that the decision to fire Davis had already been made and the first-year coach had been told of his ouster.

Davis has denied any knowledge about his fate, and Mobley on Friday denied that any decision had been made on Davis' future.

"The coach has not been fired," Mobley said last week. "Speculation on that is just totally out of line."

Mobley said he was given Smith's report Friday night and would spend the weekend reading and evaluating it.

The Aggies (8-21) finished their season Friday night with a 108-61 loss to fifth-ranked Arkansas.

UNLV forwards lead All-America squad

NEW YORK (AP) — Larry Johnson was an All-American playing for a national champion last season. There was, however, one more goal to accomplish.

"When I come back next year I'm going to help make Stacey Augmon player of the year," Johnson said after UNLV routed Duke to win the NCAA title.

Augmon isn't player of the year, but he's close as one of five members of the 1991 Associated Press All-America basketball team.

"For me, it really feels good," Johnson said Monday after learning he was a repeater on the honor team. "I thank God for all the players who play with me and I'm really happy about Stacey."

Thanks in large part to the play

of Johnson and Augmon, UNLV accomplished the expected in breathtaking fashion. Heading into the NCAA tournament, the team that was heavily favored to dominate the season is 30-0 and riding a 41-game winning streak.

Joining the UNLV forwards, both seniors, on the first team were sophomore center Shaquille O'Neal of Louisiana State, junior forward Billy Owens of Syracuse and sophomore guard Kenny Anderson of Georgia Tech.

Johnson, the 39th player to repeat as an All-American, averaged 20.9 points and 11 rebounds while shooting 67 percent from the field. Augmon averaged 17.2 points while hitting 59 percent of his shots and also had 7.4 rebounds, 3.4 assists and 2.3

steals a game.

The numbers for the UNLV forwards are even more impressive because they seldom played a full game as the Rebels outscored the opposition by almost 30 points a game.

Each member of a nationwide panel of sportswriters and broadcasters picked three teams, with points awarded on a 5-3-1 basis.

O'Neal was named to the first team on 62 of the 64 ballots cast and finished with 316 points; two more than Johnson, who had 61 first-team votes. Owens had 266 points, Anderson 259 and Augmon 253.

O'Neal, who led the nation with 14.6 rebounds a game, missed the final regular-season game and the Southeastern Conference

Howard vs. SPC...

Showdown set at juco event

WACO — The expected showdown between No. 1 Howard College and No. 3 South Plains College will take place in the Region 5 NJCAA basketball finals today at 6 p.m. at McLennan Community College's Highlander Gymnasium, after semifinal wins by both squads last night.

Howard, 31-1, came from a 12-point deficit at halftime to drop Odessa College, 93-90, followed

by a 15-point comeback by SPC, 31-1, which posted a 99-79 win over New Mexico Junior College.

The Texans shot only 31 percent from the floor in the first half but turned around to hit over 65 percent of their field goal attempts in the second period.

David Diaz sparked the South

Plains attack with a season-high 27 points trailed by Dwight Stewart's 16 and 15 from Charles Outlaw.

Will Scott turned in a 17-point effort for the Thunderbirds Monday after getting in early foul trouble.

Greg Brown contributed 17 for the T-birds, who finish the year at 20-12.

Bobcats claw Snyder, 13-1

SAN ANGELO — The Snyder Tigers banged out two hits to open the game against San Angelo Central in non-district baseball action Monday, but could get no more as the Bobcats notched a 13-1 win here.

The SHS problems were two-fold.

First a lack of hitting kept the Tigers from mounting a serious threat after the first inning.

Secondly, Snyder pitchers gave up 14 walks and hit a batter.

The Tigers slide to 2-9 on the season and coach Albert Lewis is worried.

"The most important thing to us right now, is to win a ballgame.

"We have got to come up with a win. It's too easy to get in the habit of losing."

Snyder's Richard Morris led off the top of the first with a base hit followed by a single from Raymond Ware and an error that allowed Bobby Clinkinbeard on base.

A fielders' choice from John Wright scored Morris and gave the Tigers a short-lived 1-0 lead.

SHS starter Brian Crawford issued six walks, one on a hit batter, and a pair of singles that led to a 6-run Bobcat first that effectively ended the game.

Central added three more in the fourth and four in the fifth to wind up the scoring.

"It wasn't all bad," said Lewis.

"Terry Stephens was throwing hard in relief. He had three good innings.

"We had some good plays. We've just got to come around and win a game to get us on the right track."

The Tigers will have a chance to earn that win Lewis wants when they face San Angelo Lake View at 3:30 p.m. Thursday at Moffett Field in the opening round of the annual Snyder Baseball Tournament.

Hard-throwing Daniel Espinosa is scheduled to draw the start for the Black and Gold.

Snyder 100 000 0 1 2 1
Central 600 034 x 13 7 2
Crawford, Snyder, Stephens, Fox and Williams, Mowens and Cedillo, WP, Mowens LP, Crawford, 2B, Central — King, Record: Snyder 2-9

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Ryan turning heads in camp

PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. (AP) — There are few milestones left for Texas Rangers pitcher Nolan Ryan to overturn. But he still raises eyebrows.

At age 44, he's already talking about pitching in 1992 and he proved he's still a flame-thrower in his first spring outing with five innings on one-hit pitching Sunday.

Monday he was back in the weight room for the regular two-hour workout that leaves younger players envious.

"I tried to keep up with him for a day when I was a rookie and I

wasn't the same for a week," fellow pitcher Charlie Kerfeld said. "The man is something else."

He wasn't trying to prove anything by going five innings and throwing 68 pitches, Ryan said.

"There wasn't anything special about pitching five innings," Ryan said Monday. "We had a number of pitches to throw, and that's what we went by. I might have thrown 30 pitches in two innings and been gone in four."

Ryan's every move was scrutinized Monday as he went

through his paces.

A Japanese television crew and two photographers followed Ryan through every nuance of his two-hour weight lifting routine Monday. Ryan then went outside for an interview and was besieged by about 50 fans as he tried to return to the clubhouse.

There, he was encircled by reporters wanting more of his time.

"Yeah, I can talk while I'm getting dressed, I've got some friends waiting," Ryan says, stuffing a sandwich in his mouth.

His days are hectic but Ryan allows nothing to interfere with the training routine that has made him an ageless marvel.

"I'm never surprised by anything that he does," Rangers pitching coach Tom House said. "He never does less, he always does more. His skills haven't diminished, but the bounce-back time is a little longer than when he was a youngster."

Ryan had a 7-4 record last season when he pitched with an extra day of rest and the Rangers hope to give him ample time between starts this season.

Although he's talking about pitching in 1992, Ryan does contend he won't be able to pitch when he's 50. Then again ...

SJHS girls compete at Big Spring meet

BIG SPRING — Coach Mike Meeks' Snyder Junior High girls participated in Saturday's track meet here and gathered a pair of trophies for the trip home.

Snyder's seventh grade girls finished as team champion with 117 points while the eighth graders snatched third place honors with a combined 94.75 score.

"We made a very good showing for our first meet," said Meeks.

"I was very proud of the girls in their performance and their conduct.

"This group of girls works hard and never gives up."

Vena Clay was a part of four of the top finishes with her 12-8 first in the long jump, a 20.41 time in the 100 meter hurdles, and as part of the sprint relay team and the 1600 meter relay team.

Snyder's 400 meter squad scooted to a 57.57 clocking while the mile relay team hammered out a 4:59.28.

Clay, Lindsey Griffin, Brooke Cozart and Kelly Clay make up the 400 meter crew while the Vena Clay and Kelly Clay team up with Griffin and Monica Harbin in the mile relay.

Ira thinclads place at meet

LOOP — Ira placed a pair of field specialists in the finals of last weekend's 6-Man Relays here and placed eighth as a team.

Dave Holmes, ranked second in the state among Class A pole-vaulters, notched a 12-0 effort to set a new meet record and take first place Saturday.

High jumper James Sturdivant wound up in fourth position with a 5-8 leap.

Lazbuddie's boys team copped first place, overall, with 81 points while Wellman accumulated 89 points and top honors among the girls.

Ira's boys team finished with 14 points.

The Bulldogs' next outing will be Saturday in Jayton at the Rolling Plains Relays.

The SJHS 8th-grade crew copped four first-place awards at the meet including a 4-4 high jump effort, a 12-11½ long jump, and a 30.40 clocking in the 200 meter dash, all by Keisha Jackson.

Bianca Rocha also nabbed a top prize with her 69-3½ in the discus throw.

Rocha took second in the shot-put, as well, with a heave of 29-3¼.

In addition, Becky Rodriguez was the 1600 meter runner-up with a time of 7:06.57.

Third place points were earned by Snyder's Kara Griffith in the 400 meter dash. She ran the circuit in 1:11.39.

Griffith also took fifth in the high jump with a 4-0 leap.

Fourth place ribbons were awarded the relay team of Frances Grear, Sam Boyd, C'Ella Clayton and Paige Gayle for their 56.87 time in the sprint relay.

Grear, Clayton, Gayle and Jenny Valdez also finished fourth in the 800 meter relay.

Paula Laster's 1:03.18 was good enough for fourth here Saturday, too.

The 7th graders from Snyder gathered six first places in the meet.

Kelly Clay also finished first in the triple jump, 31-6, first in the 100 meter dash, 13.51, and fourth in the long jump, 12-1.

Griffin and Cozart forged identical 3-10 high jump bests for third and fourth places, respectively, and Cozart added a fourth in the 400 meter dash with a 1:16.32 time.

Sharon Gulseth took third in the mile run and fourth in the 800 meters.

She streaked the mile in a time of 7:07.91 and went the half-mile in 3:03.44.

The junior high girls' next meet will be the Snyder Junior High Meet March 22.

Big Spring Meet
Snyder finishes
Eighth grade

Team score: 94.75, 3rd place. High jump: 1. Jackson 4-4; 5. Griffin 4-0. Long jump: 1. Jackson 12-11½. Triple jump: 5. Griffin 27-11. Discus: 1. Rocha 69-3½. Shot put: 2. Rocha 29-3¼. 400 meter relay: 4. Snyder 56.87. 800 meter relay: 4. Snyder 2:05.06. 1600 meter relay: 5. Snyder 5:15.52. 100 meter dash: 4. Gayle 13.52. 200 meter dash: 1. Jackson 30.40. 400 meter dash: 3. Griffin 1:11.39; 6. Jacquez 1:15.95. 1600 meter run: 2. Rodriguez 7:06.57.

Seventh grade

Team score: 117, 1st place. Long jump: 1. Vena Clay 12-8; 4. Kelly Clay 12-1. High jump: 3. Griffin 3-10; 4. Cozart 3-10. Triple jump: 1. Kelly Clay 31-6; 2. Vena Clay 27-3½. 400 meter relay: 1. Snyder 57.57. 800 meter relay: 5. Snyder 2:12.70. 1600 meter relay: 1. Snyder 4:59.28. 100 meter dash: 1. Kelly Clay 13.51. 400 meter dash: 4. Cozart 1:16.32. 800 meter run: 4. Gulseth 3:03.44. 1600 meter run: 3. Gulseth 7:07.91. 100 meter hurdles: 1. Vena Clay 20.41.

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American keeps her identity secret in occupied Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY (AP) — Flying for the first time to a longed-for reunion with her children, Maria Lynn Ali made it to Kuwait hours before the Iraqi invasion. She spent the next seven months trying to hide her American identity.

The 23-year-old from Portland, Ore., stayed with five other families in her in-law's home and survived close brushes with the occupiers, always living with the fear that she and her two daughters would be shot.

"I wanted to leave so bad during the war because they were looking for Americans," said the former restaurant cashier. "Every day, I worried that something was going to happen."

"It was very hard," she said, explaining how she remained silent and wore a traditional black abaya, a head-to-toe black veil, whenever near Iraqis.

Difficult, as well, was the fact that her Kuwaiti relatives helped stand in the way of an escape. They kept her passport until the war ended.

Married at 17 to a Kuwaiti stu-

dent, Mrs. Ali left her husband in May while in Portland and took their children, Sarah, 3, and Shaima'a, 2.

In June, she said, he called and begged her to take their daughters to the Portland Rose Festival parade. The next thing she knew, her husband had whisked the two girls to his home in Kuwait.

After frantic phone calls and a telephone reconciliation, Mrs. Ali decided to fly to Kuwait to be with her family, although she said she knew there was a possibility of war.

"I'd never flown before ... And I flew by myself, scared to death."

She arrived on Aug. 1 and was taken to her husband's large family home in the Rumaihiya district, where she lived with both fear of Iraqis and severe culture shock.

In one incident, Iraqis searched the house two days after a surprise visit from one of her husband's cousins, who is married to an Iraqi officer. Later, her husband's elder brother was ar-

rested by the Iraqis. He is still missing.

When the U.S. Embassy started evacuating Americans in November, Mrs. Ali said she wanted to leave with the children. But her in-laws wouldn't allow it.

"At one point, my in-laws brought me to the airport and said, 'Go — but don't take the children,'" she said.

Later, they said she could go to the United Arab Emirates, but there were misunderstandings and she never made the flight.

In fact, coping with the Iraqis was sometimes easier than adjusting to her relatives, the new culture and the hardship of living in an occupied land.

The night before Kuwait City's liberation, as allied troops reached the city and the family was eating dinner, several Iraqis came to the door, saying one of their officers had been shot nearby, Mrs. Ali said.

The Iraqis demanded to see all the men inside, but they had already fled to the roof. At that point, gunfire distracted the troops and they left.

"If they didn't go, they might have shot us and ate our dinner," Mrs. Ali said. "The Iraqi soldiers were shooting people and taking their cars and getting out of here."

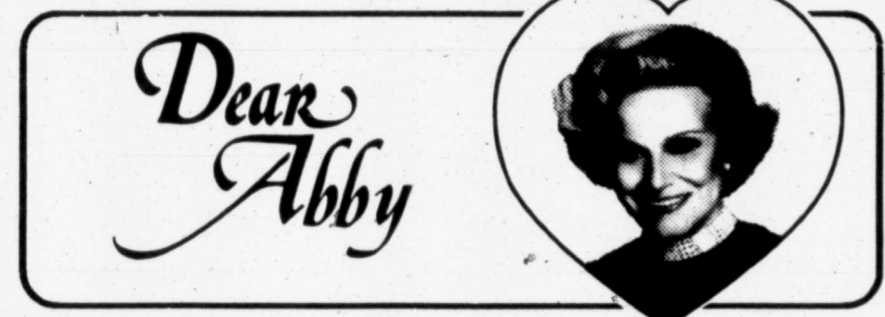
She said that she hoped now that her husband will return to the Portland State University to finish his bachelor's degree in computer science.

Most of all, she said, she wants to try to keep her family together.



OUTSTANDING STUDENTS — These Northeast students were honored last week by Scurry County Lodge No. 706. Masons who presented the awards included Don Wittie, Homer Godair, Felix Orosco and Johnny Covey. Recipients, are, from left,

Ramsey Castillo, academic award, son of Lee and Judy Castillo; Michelle Barboza, citizenship award, daughter of Jose and Virginia Barboza; and Tino Vasquez, citizenship award, son of Tomasa and Terry Valasquez. (SDN Staff Photo)



If You Speak Up for Others, Others Can Speak Up for You

By Abigail Van Buren

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DEAR ABBY: The Nazis killed my aunt not long before I was inducted into the service in 1945. My father's last days at age 94 (some 45 years later) were consumed by that terrible occurrence.

Just today I watched a television talk show where a vocal minority made some very convincing comments against our involvement in the war against Iraq. Although I would not wish to silence that group's warnings, because I, too, felt uneasy about our entering yet another war, I'm enclosing a gem of a piece that appeared in your column. Please print it again. It is timeless.

ERIC SCHOENHAAR, GREELEY, COLO.

DEAR ERIC: That "gem of a piece" has appeared in my column several times, and I agree, it is indeed timeless. And it's also timely.

It was written by the Rev. Martin Niemoeller, a German Lutheran pastor who was arrested by the Gestapo in 1938. He was sent to Dachau concentration camp where he remained until he was freed by the Allied forces in 1945. It was titled "I Didn't Speak Up" — and here it is:

"In Germany, the Nazis first came for the communists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me, and by that time there was no one left to speak for me."

DEAR ABBY: The man I love is 73. I am 47. "Irving" and I have known each other for many years and there is no doubt about our love for each other. We get along very well, have a great deal in common and our sex life is great! The problem: I would like to get married, but Irving doesn't want to marry me. He says he's afraid that one day he'll be a sick old man and I will have to take care of him.

His wife died two years ago after a very long illness through which he nursed her devotedly, and he doesn't want me to have to go through the same thing with him. I try to tell him that growing old does not necessarily mean getting sick and becoming a burden.

I want to marry this man and enjoy whatever time we have left together. What words of wisdom do you have to help me convince this wonderful man that we must live in the present, take our chances and hope for the best?

IN LOVE WITH IRVING

DEAR IN LOVE: Your own words of wisdom sound pretty good to me. None of us has a contract with God, and it's just as well that we don't know what the future holds for any of us. Think positive, take good care of yourselves — and each other — and hope for the best.

"How to Be Popular" is for everyone who feels left out and wants an improved social life. It's an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person. To order, send a long, business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054. (Postage is included.)

Epic firefighting battle may begin soon

HOUSTON (AP) — The epic battle to extinguish Kuwaiti oil well fires ignited by retreating Iraqi soldiers could begin within 10 days, officials of three oil-well firefighting companies say.

Representatives of the companies who returned from a tour of the 540 oil wells' burning in Kuwait said Monday that a shortage of water in war-ravaged Kuwait has forced them to change their strategy.

The catastrophe is costing the tiny Persian Gulf country \$2.7 billion a month in lost revenues at a time when Kuwait desperately needs the cash to clean up after the war, experts say.

James Tuppen, an oil firefighter at Houston-based Boots & Coots, said the destruction of Kuwait's water lines by Iraqi troops has made traditional oil-well firefighting impossible. Firefighters usually use

massive amounts of water to fireproof their clothing and to cool the burning wells.

The fires then are extinguished with water or with explosives placed above the infernos. The blasts from the explosions starve the fires of oxygen, snuffing them out.

The new strategy will involve the use of nitrogen to extinguish many of the blazes, Tuppen said.

The expert said hollow pipes, called Venturi tubes, will be placed over the burning wellheads to channel the fires. The companies then will pump liquid nitrogen into the tubes through a small hose connected to a refrigerated truck.

The nitrogen is intended to suffocate the flames by forcing out the oxygen that feeds the blaze, experts say.

Officials in Kuwait say it could take as long as six months to rebuild the damaged water lines.

"There are some of these fires

that we need to put out fast," said T.B. O'Brien, president of a Midland consulting company

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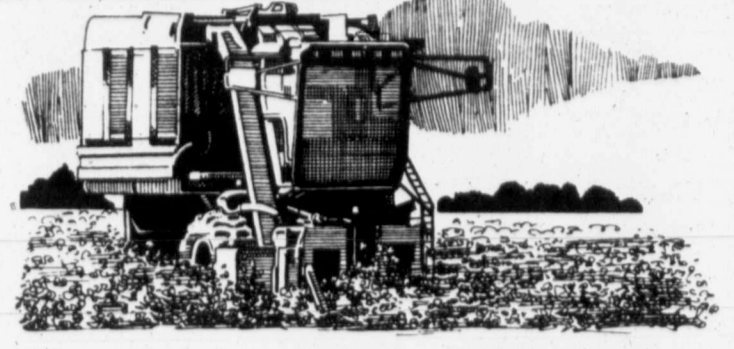
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Scurry County Country



Good feed, healthy lifestyle likely to boost calving crop

COLLEGE STATION — Today's career-minded woman isn't the only one postponing motherhood. Lots of Texas beef cows aren't birthing every year either.

"The goal in beef cattle is for every cow to have a calf every 365 days," said Dr. Ron Randel, cattle reproduction researcher at the Texas A&M Research and Extension Center in Overton. "But in the real world of practical production, the better managers achieve about 75 percent of that. Poor managers do well to get 60 percent of their cows to calve at all."

Solitude on freewheeling ranges versus the confines of motherhood isn't the issue with cows, however. More likely, good food and a healthier lifestyle would make calving easier for the state's beefy babes, animal scientists at Texas A&M believe.

Randel is part of an animal science team studying virtually every facet of a cow's life to find answers for the low birth rates in Texas.

"The best operations in Texas compare favorably with any other area as far as reproductive efficiency goes," the animal scientist said. "But the average in Texas, and in the entire southern part of the United States, is lower than that of the north."

Lots of beef cows — about 16 percent of the nation's total —

WTC to host area judging

Western Texas College will host teams from area high schools for the annual livestock and land judging contests on Tuesday, March 19.

The Upper Colorado Soil and Conservation District cooperates in staging the land judging events each year.

Registration will open at 4 p.m. and continue through 5 p.m. at Scurry County Coliseum. Contests are to be completed by 7 p.m., when the students will meet in the college cafeteria for dinner and the presentation of awards.

Some 200 students from 40 high schools are expected to participate. Bob Doty and Jim Judah, WTC ag instructors, will be directing the contests.

live in Texas. Those 5.4 million Texas beef cows produced about 13 percent of the calves born in the United States last year, according to the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service.

But that's nothing compared to what the cows could be doing given a little effort from managers.

"Some ranchers claim they have a 90-95 percent calf crop," said Dr. Ernie Davis, Texas Agricultural Extension Service livestock economist. "But what they do is cull out any cows that don't have a calf, and those cows aren't counted. I would say the average may be 80 percent."

"Reproductive efficiency is a big issue for the Texas cattle industry, because a rancher carries the expense of a cow all year and it is costly if she doesn't calve," Davis said.

Part of the problem may be environmental effects on the animals.

"It's hotter and more humid in the summer, and some of the breeds are not well adapted to that," Randel said.

But he added that such factors are relatively minor concerns.

"Nutrition is the biggest reason across the board for inefficient reproduction. The second is poor management from the health viewpoint, things such as proper worming and vaccinations," Randel said.

That being so, the team has toyed with everything from cottonseed meal to aspirin figuring on the effect on reproduction. So far, said Randel, it all boils down to food.

"Most problems are due to the lack of adequate forage and the failure to supplement. Ranchers leave cattle out on the range to eat what they can get. You can't blame them. If you own 40,000 acres and the cattle are scattered over a large area, it's hard to do otherwise."

When supplemental feed is provided, Randel said, it sometimes contains elements that adversely affect reproduction. Cottonseed meal, a by-product of the state's second major agriculture component, can impact beef cattle reproduction, for example, Randel said.

Until recently, the common belief was that cattle could detoxify gossypol, a toxic pigment that occurs naturally in cottonseed. "That's true only up to a point,"

Randel said.

Two changes in the cottonseed industry have impacted feed: the widely adopted cottonseed processing method, solvent extraction, leaves more gossypol in the meal than the previous heat-pressure technique; and, new cotton varieties are being bred for higher gossypol because it repels insects, thus reducing a farmer's dependence on chemicals.

Randel's research found that as little as two pounds of solvent-extracted cottonseed meal can affect the reproductive ability of both bulls and cows.

He recommends not feeding that type of cottonseed meal to bulls and to females only if a winter supplement is needed.

"A rancher can stop feeding solvent-extracted cottonseed meal after the winter, and not see a negative effect on the operation," Randel said.

He said such cottonseed meal fed over longer periods can cause fragility of the red blood cells in females as well as degenerative embryos.

"Attention to nutrition in the beef herd is the key to increasing productivity," Randel said. "Timely supplementation can affect the bottom line dramatically."



Town & Country Topics

By Kathryn Roberts
Extension Agent

The most common method of removing water hardness is with a cation exchange water softener.

During the softening process, water flows through a tank with synthetic resin beads which have been saturated with salt (sodium chloride). The resin has a stronger affinity for calcium and magnesium in the water than for sodium. When water flows through the resin bed, the calcium and magnesium become attached to the resin and the sodium combines with carbonate or other anions and stays in the water. The water still contains dissolved solids, but the solids will not react with soaps and detergents to form insoluble compounds. The solids in water will still leave spots when the softened water dries on surfaces, but

the spots will be "soft." They can be brushed away or will redissolve in water.

Iron, in amounts more than about 0.3 parts per million (ppm) can cause a staining problem. An ion exchange water softener will remove small amounts of soluble iron — up to 0.5 ppm for every grain per gallon (gpg) hardness or up 3 ppm if the softener is heavy duty.

It is necessary to check with your softener dealer for the capability of various softeners to remove iron. However, insoluble iron in water (the water appears red or brown), excess soluble iron or the presence of iron bacteria can foul the resin bed and make the softener ineffective. Correction will require in-plant cleaning of the resin board.

Area calendar

March
12 Farm Bill meeting, TU Electric, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.
15 CRP sign-up ends
19 WTC hosts livestock, land judging contests.

April
24 Ranch Breakfast
26 Farm Program sign-up ends



SCS Notes

By Michael Squires,
Range Conservationist

By MARK McDANIEL HAZARDS OF WIND EROSION

Sand storms are wind erosion at its worst! Besides losing valuable topsoil, it can literally burn a young cotton-plant to the ground. Running a sand fighter over a field is an excellent way to prevent this from happening, but there is an alternative. A wide range of programs have slowly but surely been taking effect in regions where there is an abundance of cropland.

The Food Security Act of 1985 (FSA) requires windstrips every so many feet depending on the type of dominant soil or a crop rotation system involving a rotating high-residue crop with cotton each year depending once again on the type of dominant soil

on highly erodible land (HEL).

This would help by keeping a farmer from having to make so many trips across a field fighting sand, thus saving time and money. The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) has helped by taking highly erodible land out of crop production and establishing it back to permanent grass under a 10-year contract. The Great Plains Conservation Program helps to provide assistance for terraces and other conservation practices.

In the long run, these conservation programs will be a great asset to farmers and ranchers. If you have any questions about any of these programs or if you still need a conservation plan on highly erodible land, please call the Soil Conservation Service at 573-1268.

NOTE: Programs and services of the SCS, ASCS, and extension offices are offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard for race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status or handicap.

CATTLE

Colorado City

COLORADO CITY — All classes of cattle were \$1-\$2 higher on a run of 606 head at a sale at the Colorado City Livestock Auction on Saturday, March 9.

Heifers: 2-400, 105-135; 4-600, 88-105; 6-800, 82-88.
Steers: 2-400, 120-145; 4-600, 100-120; 6-800, 90-100.
Good springer cows: 750-850; older bred cows: 575-650; Good pairs: 800-1,000; older pairs: 650-750; good packer cows: 57-61; fat packer cows: 48-52; shelly packer cows: 35-45; packer bulls: 63-70.

Sweetwater

The market was steady and active on a good run of cattle for the Wednesday, March 6, sale. Good pairs and springers higher and in demand. Stockers and feeder cattle steady. Packer cows and bulls steady to \$2 higher.

- Good to choice, L/W stocker steers, \$1.20 to \$1.35 per pound.
- Good to choice, M/W stocker steers, \$1.05 to \$1.20 per pound.
- Good to choice, feeder steers, \$.85 to \$1.00 per pound.
- Short and plainer kind, 5 to 6 (than goods) lower per pound.
- Good to choice, L/W stocker heifers, \$1.00 to \$1.20 per pound.
- Good to choice, M/W stocker heifers, \$.90 to \$1.00 per pound.
- Good to choice, feeder heifers, \$.80 to \$.90 per pound.
- Short and plainer kind, 5 to 6 (than goods) lower per pound.
- Good cow and calf pairs, \$.800 to \$1,050 per pair.
- Older and plainer kind, \$550 to \$750 per pair.
- Good bred cows, \$650 to \$850 per head.
- Older, plainer light bred cows, \$450 to \$600 per head.
- Better kind packer cows, \$.54 to \$.61 per pound.
- Lower yielding packer cows, \$.45 to \$.54 per pound.
- Few old hully cows, \$.40 to \$.45 per pound.
- Better kind packer bulls, \$.67 to \$.7250 per pound.
- Lower yielding packer bulls, \$.63 to \$.67 per pound.

Soviet pattern uncertain

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Soviet Union has bought impressive amounts of U.S. livestock products in recent years, but Agriculture Department trade analysts say the pattern is still uncertain and subject to many pressures.

But there has been significant growth, says a report by the department's Foreign Agricultural Service.

In 1985, for example, the value of all U.S. dairy, livestock and poultry exports to the Soviet Union was \$38.8 million, almost all of it consisting of inedible tallow.

Through November of last year, the value of those products were about \$183 million, with the largest increases in butter and

frozen chicken parts.

"In relation to most of the 1980s, 1991 prospects for U.S. exports to the Soviet Union are bright," the report said. "However, a repeat of last year's performance is not at all expected."

As to the future, it said, there are a number of factors, including the availability of credit from Moscow's trading partners and other economic conditions within the Soviet Union.

"The economic problems, however, are currently being overshadowed by the political instability in the Baltic states," the report said. "Finally, the success of the United States in the Soviet market depends on the aggressiveness of the other competitors in this market."

Soviet weaknesses exposed during gulf war

Experts say they will not be easy for Soviet Union to fix

WASHINGTON (AP) — The one-sided Gulf War exposed weaknesses in Soviet weaponry that will be difficult to correct and may well cost the Soviets security at home and precious cash from arms sales abroad.

When the brief conflict ended, the battlefield was littered with burning tanks, artillery and evidence everywhere that the Iraqis' Soviet-built weapons were no match for Western technology. Kremlin Defense Minister Dimitri Yazov hastily announced a review of the Soviets' entire air defense system.

But experts in military technology and Soviet economics agree there is little the Kremlin can do, certainly not for a long time, to overcome the failures put on display for the world to see in the six-week war.

Equally as alarming to Moscow, the war undoubtedly wounded the international market for Soviet hardware, a critical source of foreign currency. Arms sales rank second only to oil as a source of convertible currency for the Soviets.

"Typically, their hard currency earnings were about \$30 billion to \$32 billion a year, of which oil was about half, or a little more, and weapons sales were about a quarter," said Charles Wolf Jr., a

Rand Corp. economist. From the first minutes of the war, U.S. stealth aircraft slipped undetected past Iraqi radar to knock out the "eyes" of their enemy and render much of the dangerous Soviet-made hardware useless.

In the end, the Iraqis lost 1,100 tanks for every one lost by the Americans. More than 2,200 Iraqi artillery pieces were destroyed. Of the 23 U.S. planes shot down, all were downed by relatively primitive anti-aircraft; Iraq's sophisticated planes and surface-to-air missiles were out of commission.

The experts said Soviet military officers likely would argue that if they had been doing the fighting rather than Iraqis, they would have had substantially more weapons and their better trained troops would have used them more effectively.

But the Gulf War essentially showed a technological gap between the superpowers that the Kremlin no longer has the resources to close.

Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov, chief of the Soviet general staff in the late 1970s and early 1980s, warned that the West was surging ahead in weapons technology while the Soviets concentrated on fielding massive ground forces.

"Marshal Ogarkov has pro-

bably been looking at the Persian Gulf as the realization of a nightmare," said Abraham Becker, director of the Rand-UCLA Center for Soviet Studies.

The Soviets gained their superpower status by financing a huge military, largely at the expense of the civilian population, which was compelled to forego modern health care, adequate housing and consumer goods. The Kremlin spends 16 percent to 20 percent of the country's gross national product on defense, compared with 6 percent to 7 percent in the United States.

With the centrally controlled economy now in free fall, there is little the Kremlin can do to finance an expensive course correction for the military.

"For a Soviet military leader to look around and say the gulf proves we need all these wonderful gadgets and let's go out and get them would be to ignore the vital connection between the military technology that produces those gadgets and the economic infrastructure and industrial capability that is necessary to produce the military technology," Becker said.

"They really have a fundamen-

tal obstacle, which they have not been able to deal with and which constitutes the bedrock problem they're facing," he explained.

"To be able to do as the allies did in the gulf, they really would have to revolutionize their economy," and despite the

reforms initiated by President Mikhail S. Gorbachev, "they haven't really done anything about the fundamental issues."



MASON AWARDS — Snyder Masons presented citizenship and academic achievement medals recognizing outstanding sixth grade students during Texas Public Schools Week. Receiving awards from Stanfield Elementary were Jason Sealy,

citizenship, Rachelle Wemken, citizenship, and Meeghan York, academic. Masons pictured include Ricky Daniell, Felix Orosco, Johnny Covey, Don Wittie and Homer Godair. (SDN Staff Photo)