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THURSDAY

Snyder Daily News

Ask Us

Q—Will Tony Mauldin be taking any players from Western Texas College with him to Abilene Christian University?

A—Mauldin said consideration at this time of taking WTC players to ACU is "premature," indicating he would have to evaluate current ACU players and assess recruiting needs.

In Brief

Fatal shooting

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Three police officers shot a robbery suspect to death in a motel room early today after they reportedly saw that the man had a gun, authorities said.

The shooting occurred about 4 a.m. at the Ruby Inn Motel on Interstate 35 in northeast San Antonio following a robbery at a nearby convenience store, police spokesman Sgt. Paul Buske said.

Nuclear dump

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — Gov. Ann Richards has told a state agency that wants to dump nuclear waste near Fort Hancock to find a place further east of El Paso to store it, the El Paso Times reported today.

Low-level nuclear waste should go to a place "that is not so close to population, that is not so close to water supplies," Richards told the newspaper Wednesday.

The state Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Authority is looking for a site some 40 miles east of the proposed site. The Fort Hancock site is 50 miles east of downtown El Paso.

Local

Producers

Scurry County Cotton Producers board will meet at 7 p.m. today at the chamber of commerce.

Election of officers will be held.

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.

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.

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.

Weather

Snyder Temperatures: High Wednesday, 63 degrees; low, 36 degrees; reading at 7 a.m. Thursday, 36 degrees; no precipitation; total precipitation for 1991 to date, 1.64 inches.

Snyder Area Forecast: Tonight, mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Rain chance less than 20 percent. Low in the mid 30s. Southeast wind 10-15 mph. Friday, mostly cloudy with a high near 60. Southeast wind 10 to 20 mph.

Almanac: Sunset today, 6:51 p.m. Sunrise Friday, 6:54 a.m. Of 72 days in 1991, the sun has shone 67 days in Snyder.

'Fabricated, baseless...'

Government denies clashes are continuing in Baghdad

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iraq on Thursday denied reports of continuing clashes between loyalist troops and rebels in Baghdad, but opposition spokesmen reported intense fighting in both northern and southern Iraq.

"Fabricated, baseless and completely unfounded" was how the official Iraqi News Agency termed reports of heavy fighting in the capital Wednesday.

Iran's official Tehran radio, monitored in Nicosia, had reported clashes between government forces and demonstrators that left many dead in Baghdad.

It also quoted a report from an opposition radio station that the brother of Iraq's information minister, Latif Nussayef Jassim, had been killed during an uprising in the Baghdad suburb of al-Sora. Iraqi opposition groups broadcast from Iran, Syria and Saudi Arabia.

In other Persian Gulf developments today:

—The emir of Kuwait, Sheik Jaber al-Ahmed al-Sabah, returned to his ravaged homeland from exile in Saudi Arabia.

—The U.S. military said its forensic experts had tentatively

identified the remains of 13 allied dead turned over by Iraq as five American and eight British soldiers.

—Freed American prisoners of

war appeared on a televised news conference in the United States to describe their ordeal in Iraqi captivity.

—Iraq announced that President Saddam Hussein had pardoned some prisoners in Iraqi jails, two weeks after declaring a general amnesty for deserters in the Gulf War.

The Iraqi News Agency today quoted an unidentified "responsible source" as saying reports of continued fighting in Baghdad were part of "the aggressive campaign being waged by hostile quarters against Iraq and its steadfast people."

But the agency had no comment on reports of fighting elsewhere in the country, where rebels claimed they were holding out or gaining against heavy government attacks.

Parade plans being made this evening

Local civic groups and other organizations are encouraged to attend an Operation Storm Support Group meeting this evening to organize a parade for Scurry County servicemen and women.

The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Girl Scout Hut at 2501 35th St.

The support group is seeking the input of local VA groups, school and church groups, college groups, women's clubs, scouts, civic groups and anyone else interested in helping to plan or participate in the parade.

For more information, please call Kay Abrahams at 573-9659 or Cindy Cannon at 573-6469.

Hermleigh ISD sees contested race now

Incumbents Tony Lambaren and Andres Rodriguez have filed for two of three positions on the Hermleigh school board, insuring the county's first contested races for the May 4 elections.

The incumbents bring the number of candidates at Hermleigh vying for the three seats to five. The other three candidates are Jesse Rios, Julius Roemisch and Jimmy Hudgins.

Carole Haynes, the third at-large incumbent, has not filed.

Also due election on the board is an unexpired term, currently held by Jimmy Frank "Chip" Roemisch. He also filed for that unexpired term this week.

Only incumbents have filed in the Snyder and Ira ISD and Snyder City Council elections. They include Snyder ISD trustees Mike Jordan and Terry Martin, representing Place 2 and Place 3; Ira ISD trustees Bob Barbee and

Sidney Wall, representing Place 4 and Place 5; at-large city councilman Mike Thornton, Place 2 councilman Jack Denman, and Mayor Troy Williamson.

Yet to file for re-election on the Snyder City Council is at-large councilman Paul Zeck.

No places on the Western Texas College board of trustees are up for election this May.

The filing period runs through March 20.

Anyone choosing to run must reside within the particular city and/or school district in which they are seeking office. They must also reside in the particular precinct up for election, unless the position is an at-large one. Those filing for a place on the ballot should do so at the business office of the particular entity in which they are seeking election: Snyder, Hermleigh or Ira ISD, or Snyder City Hall.

Car show, swap meet planned here

Unique, antique and customized vehicles from around the state will cruise into Snyder this weekend for the Early Bird Swap Meet and Car Show at Scurry County Coliseum, sponsored by Snyder Wheels Car Club.

An estimated 2,000 people are expected to attend the three-day event which runs Friday through Sunday and will be highlighted

by the car show Saturday. The swap meet will be open from 8 a.m. and 10 p.m. each day while the car show is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday.

Some 120 vendors from Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and as far away as Ohio will sport their automotive-related wares during the swap meet in the annex building.

The swap meet, in its third year, promises to have something for everybody from the car enthusiast to the antique buff, according to Joe Dan Jones, Snyder Wheels president.

Jones said automotive parts from as early as 1910 and as late as 1980 will be available at the meet as well as automotive memorabilia including antique

gas station pumps and signs, coke boxes and owner manuals and sales brochures for antique and classic cars.

Visitors to the meet will even drive away in a car purchased during event. Jones notes that among others a 1972 Cadillac and a 1969 Camaro will be for sale.

Highlighting this year's swap meet will be the club's first car

show.

"During last year's swap meet, we had a lot of public interest expressed in a car show," explained Jones.

Event organizers expect some 60 vehicles for the show in which 23 trophies in six categories will be awarded.

Categories include antique, classic, motorcycle, mild custom, wild custom and an open class for vehicles that are not street licensed such as race cars and boats.

Members of Snyder Wheels will judge the entries. Trophies, donated by local merchants, and door prizes for car show participants and vendors will be awarded at 7 p.m.

In addition to car show entries, a "car club corral," showcasing local club members' autos, is planned.

Also featured will be Steve Cox, a nationally known free-hand pinstriper from Abilene.

Admission to the car show is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children under 12. There is no admission charge for the swap meet. Concessions will be available throughout the event's three day run.

Other officers of Snyder Wheel include Kerry Bredemeyer, vice president; Betty Bredemeyer, secretary/treasurer; and Bettie Greene, historian.



CAR CLUB CORRAL — These cars are just four of the dozen or more cars expected to be showcased in Snyder Wheels Car Club's Corral during Saturday's car show at Scurry County Coliseum. Pictured

are Snyder Wheels members Tracy Dennis, Joe Dan Jones and Bill Wilson along with a 1932 Ford Coupe, 1931 Model A pickup, 1939 Ford Deluxe and a 1957 Chevrolet. (SDN Staff Photo)



SLIDING THROUGH SPRING BREAK — Five-year-old Misty Dawn Upton enjoys some afternoon fun at the Kiddie Park during Snyder ISD's spring break vacation this week. (SDN Staff Photo)

Cogdell not likely to suffer if area prison hospital built

A proposed new prison hospital for West Texas is not expected to impact Cogdell Memorial Hospital's relationship with the Price Daniel Unit, Tim Lancaster, Cogdell CEO, said today.

The hospital would be a medical-surgical hospital, treating long-term care needs for inmates in state prisons at Snyder, Amarillo, Pampa, Lamesa and Childress.

Currently, Cogdell Memorial

provides a wing for TDCJ inmates requiring medical care, but not long-term care such as cancer treatment.

"I haven't talked to anyone at TDCJ but it is my understanding, that inmates requiring certain procedures who we currently send to Galveston will be sent to this (proposed) hospital. I think we would still continue to handle other inmate patients here," said

Lancaster.

"From talking to TDCJ, I think they'd like to keep as many things local as possible."

Amarillo and Lubbock appear to be the leading sites for a prison hospital, although Selden Hale, chairman of the Texas Board of Criminal Justice, noted that Amarillo could lose an opportunity to have the proposed hospital because of the attitudes of doctors there.

(see HOSPITAL, page 8)

The SDN Column

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "If you've recently tried on your old army uniform, you now have proof that old soldiers do not just fade away."

The coffee crowd down at Stinson Drug recently was talking about some of Snyder's most thrifty citizens. The list is long, and even some of those in the conversation can be pretty tight with the pocketbook.

However, Harold Denson told us about a man, now deceased, who may have been at the top of the Scurry County tightwad list.

Denson said the man was visiting his place of business when Denson noticed a dime on the driveway.

"Somebody dropped a dime," Denson said. The visitor simply reached in his pocket, did a

quick inventory and then replied, "No, it's not mine."

Speaking of thrifty, did you every notice that most women want to save the wrapping paper when you open a gift.

A guy says his wife insists that the paper be used to line drawers.

Don't you just hate that crackling sound when you walk?

Jack Denman was playing his guitar at one of the nursing homes recently, and he got a suggestion from one of the residents.

He recommended that Denman switch from the guitar to the clarinet. Denman wanted to know, "Why?"

"With the clarinet, you can't sing."

House tentatively oks oil spill cleanup plan

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas would be "second to none" in oil spill cleanup and protection under a bill tentatively approved by the Texas House, said the sponsor of the legislation.

The bill was prompted by two spills off the Texas coast last year, said Rep. Hugo Berlanga, D-Corpus Christi. It already has passed the Senate, and was given preliminary House approval Wednesday.

An oil spill response and cleanup fund of up to \$50 million would be created under the measure.

The fund would be financed by a 2 cents per barrel fee on oil

moving through Texas waters. The fee could be temporarily increased to 4 cents in case of a catastrophic spill.

Under a House amendment, up to \$5 million in interest from the fund could be used to address hazardous waste spills, and another \$5 million could be used for a program to plug abandoned wells.

The bill would make the General Land Office the lead agency in responding to and coordinating oil spills in coastal waters.

The Texas Water Commission would keep jurisdiction over hazardous waste spills and upland oil spills. The Texas Railroad Commission would have authority over spills from inland pipelines.

The bill would allow the General Land Office to buy and maintain \$4 million in spill con-

tainment and cleanup equipment to be deployed along the Texas coast.

There were calls for such equipment to be at the ready in the wake of oil spills last year, when the tanker Mega Borg and an oil barge spilled a combined total of 4.4 million gallons of oil near Galveston.

The land commissioner could assess civil and administrative penalties and levy fines for certain offenses, such as intentional

Chairman says...

Settlement will have little effect on Exxon's earnings

IRVING, Texas (AP) — The \$1 billion Exxon Corp. agreed to pay to settle damages remaining from the 1989 Alaskan oil spill will have little effect on the company's bottom line, chairman Lawrence Rawl said.

Exxon in 1989 made an after-tax provision of \$1.68 billion for future spill cleanup costs and liabilities.

But Rawl said the company won't have much, if any, surplus from the funds that were set aside. "I think it's going to work out reasonably close," he said.

The company agreed Wednesday to pay a record \$100 million criminal fine for violations of federal pollution laws. And Exxon will create a \$900 million fund in installments during the next 10 years to reimburse state and federal cleanup efforts.

Exxon will achieve some savings by taking tax deductions, Rawl said.

"It's my understanding that the fine to the federal government is not tax deductible, but all those other expenditures in the agreement are tax deductible," he said.

Exxon remains liable, under the agreement, for another \$100 million in environmental damages yet unseen from the March 24, 1989 spill of 11 million gallons of oil from the Exxon Valdez in Prince William Sound, Alaska.

The agreement does not preclude future claims against Exxon, but Rawl said he thinks any new lawsuits will be small.

spills. Failure to report a spill could result in a corporation being fined up to \$500,000.

Vessels carrying 10,000 or more gallons of fuel or cargo, and oil terminal facilities around coastal waters, would have to file detailed spill prevention and response plans with the General Land Office.

The House voted down an amendment offered by Rep. Jerry Yost, R-Longview, to limit liability for damages to natural

resources to \$15 million for vessels of 8,000 tons or less, and to \$2,000 per ton for vessels over 8,000 tons.

Yost argued that unlimited liability would make it difficult for barges to get insurance.

But Rep. Mike Martin, D-Galveston, pointed to the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill off the coast of Alaska. Martin said the proposal would limit the company's liability, if the same spill occur-

red in Texas waters, to about \$190 million.

Exxon Corp. on Wednesday agreed to pay \$900 million to complete cleanup of the Alaska spill. The payment, along with a record \$100 million fine, is part of a settlement of state and federal claims from the 11-million-gallon oil spill in Prince William Sound.

Berlanga said limiting liability could cause some companies to make decisions about safety measures based on their economic liability if a spill occurs.

"By having unlimited liability, you ensure that people are going to operate responsibly," he said.

Yost's amendment was killed on a 115-27 vote.

The bill would return to the Senate for consideration of amendments after another House vote.

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THE TOWN & COUNTRY DIFFERENCE

Astrograph
By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

March 15, 1991

"The people who really have supportable claims showed up early," he said.

The settlement, which must be approved by a federal judge in Alaska, allows Exxon to "apply our employees' time to more productive things," Rawl told reporters at the company's suburban Dallas headquarters.

"It's been a burden to us," he said. "The burden has been more of one of diverting my time, the management committee's time, and all the executives and employees that are working on this."

The company was prepared to contest the Valdez-related charges but has been responsive to settlement overtures, Rawl said.

"Looking forward to years and

Giving up smoking means modest weight gain for some persons

BOSTON (AP) — People reluctant to give up smoking for fear they will get fat can take comfort from a report today showing they will probably put on less than 10 extra pounds.

"From a health point of view, the weight gain is pretty moderate," said Dr. David F. Williamson, who directed the study. "Lots of people put that much on between Thanksgiving and New Year's."

Gaining weight is a well-known — and much dreaded — consequence of kicking the habit. Smokers typically weigh less than non-smokers, probably because nicotine makes their bodies burn calories faster.

The research, based on a nationwide survey, found that the average smoker who gives up cigarettes puts on an extra six to eight pounds over the next five years. About one in 10 gains 30 pounds or more.

But scientists emphasized that even this much weight gain is far healthier than continuing to smoke.

"The last thing we want is to have people conclude from this article that this is a reason to continue to smoke," commented Dr. Robert Klesges of Memphis State University, who has done research on smoking and weight gain.

Smoking substantially increases the risk of lung cancer, heart attacks and emphysema. It is the single biggest preventable cause of death in the United States, killing 400,000 people annually.

Today's study, published in the New England Journal of Medicine, shows that the after-smoking weight gain is even steeper than some earlier studies estimated.

Quitters gained weight faster

years and maybe decades of litigation ... wasn't in anyone's interest," he said.

Rawl received a sign from Alaska Gov. Walter Hickel during a Jan. 15 meeting in Anchorage that an end to the Valdez ordeal was near.

"He felt at the time, if we put our minds to it, with the federal government, Exxon and the state all involved, we'd probably settle this in 60 days. Frankly I wasn't too optimistic about the time," Rawl said. "In fact, it took 57 or 58 days. It was a lot of hard work by a lot of people."

He said the company has learned a lot from the spill, particularly about cleanup methods. Exxon is one of several U.S. companies contributing equipment and personnel to the cleanup of the Persian Gulf spill.

than smokers for at least seven years after they quit. By the end of the study, those who kicked the habit had returned to the weight of people who never smoked, but did not weigh more than they did.

"If you quit smoking, you won't look like the fattest person on the block," said Williamson. "You will look like somebody who has never smoked and is healthier."

Williamson, an epidemiologist at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, based his conclusions on two surveys of 9,004 people conducted in the early 1970s and 1980s.

Former school book depository said restored

DALLAS (AP) — A movie crew is turning back the clock to a time Dallas would like to forget.

Movie director Oliver Stone is making the former Texas School Book Depository look the way it did on Nov. 22, 1963 — the day President John F. Kennedy was assassinated.

"It's going to affect people," said Bob Hays, who runs The Sixth Floor exhibit, which profiles Kennedy's assassination.

"They're definitely going for historical verisimilitude," said Hays.

The Warren Commission said Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone, fired the fatal shots from the sixth floor of the depository.

A face lift erased, or at least dimmed, unpleasant memories of the building's past. The prominent Hertz Rent A Car sign on the roof was removed, the window frames were painted a darker color, the white pierced brick that distinguished the first floor was replaced by wide-paned windows.

Before filming begins April 15 on a movie about the assassination, much of that modernization will be undone. Foam facades of white pierced brick will be placed outside the first floor and window frames on three sides of the building will be painted light gray, said Jeff Flach, the film's location manager.

"It was just a dirty old warehouse," said County Commissioner Nancy Judy.

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FRIENDSHIP PROGRAM — The Zeta Lambda Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International met at the Martha Ann Woman's Club for their February meeting. A program on friendship was given by, from right, Carolyn Limmer, Kay Hensley, Durrelle Gorman and Gayle Wittie. They presented different characteristics of friendship through poetry, songs and group participation. Helen Mock, president, updated the progress of

the group's educational project. The organization donates books to parents of newborns at Cogdell Memorial Hospital. The books are given to encourage parents to read to their children. Hostesses were Monette O'Day, Phil Kelley, Joyce Fuqua and Judy Barkowsky. The DKG's next meeting will be at 7 p.m. Monday at MAWC. (SDN Staff Photo)

Rollins presides at sorority meet

Members of Xi Alpha Alpha Theta met at the Snyder Country Club for their regular meeting Feb. 19 with Lisa Rollins presiding.

During committee reports, Wanda Early, ways and means co-chairman, reported that the band "Blue Highway" was signed for next year's valentine dance. Service chairman Jackie Buckland reported that flowers and a meal had been taken to a sorority member, and flowers had been sent to the wife of the country club manager during her hospital stay.

Following committee reports, Martha Knowles presented a program on the State Department of Human Resources. She stressed the point that citizens needed to be aware of what programs were available to them, and to ask questions. In the Department of Human Resources, health care is approximately 70 percent of the total budget. She said the department provided services to families and children, handled the licensing of child care facilities and provided services to aged and disabled.



KITCHEN SHOWER — A come and go kitchen shower for Joy Feist, bride-elect of Ty Rucker was held March 6 in the home of Jackie Buckland. Pictured are, from left, Sam Barnes held by his mother, Sharon Barnes, the honoree's sister-in-law; Joyce Barnes, her mother; the honoree; in front are Jacob Barnes, another nephew, and Rachael Feist, the honoree's daughter. The couple plans a March 16 wedding in Fort Worth. (SDN Staff Photo)

Early immigrant

ATLANTA (AP) — Merchant and public official James Habersham, born in England in 1712, came to Georgia in 1738.

Habersham set up a business exporting furs, rice, lumber and naval supplies to England and the West Indies. He also helped found one of America's first orphanages with the British evangelist George Whitefield.

Habersham held many public offices and was acting governor of Georgia from 1771 to 1773. He died in 1775.

Shop in Snyder for Unique Gifts of Quality

The Just 'till Christmas Gang brings you **Creative Friends**

March 16 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Towle Park Barn

Bridge by James Jacoby

NORTH 3-14-91
 ♦ A 8 7
 ♥ 5 2
 ♦ 8 7 4 2
 ♠ A 10 9 4

WEST
 ♦ A 6 5
 ♥ Q J 10 9 7
 ♦ J 6
 ♠ 8 7 2

EAST
 ♠ 9 3 2
 ♥ 8 4 3
 ♦ Q 10 9 3
 ♠ K 6 5

SOUTH
 ♦ K Q 10 4
 ♥ A K 6
 ♦ A K 5
 ♠ Q J 3

Vulnerable: East-West
 Dealer: South

South 2 NT West Pass North 3 NT East All pass

Opening lead: ♥ Q

In a team match in Dallas, one declarer ducked the heart queen lead, won the second heart trick and immediately took the club finesse. Disaster! It lost to East's king and another heart came back. With a sinking feeling, South won and led a spade, but West put up the ace and cashed two heart tricks. One down.

He didn't care whether it won or lost. If it lost and East had a heart left, the suit must have been 4-4 and he couldn't be defeated. As it was, East had no heart remaining in his hand, and South made an overtrick. His team gained 10 IMPs.

The key was to attack the potential entry of the danger hand, West, first.

At the other table, declarer took the first trick and then led a low spade toward dummy's jack. When the jack held the trick, South called for another spade. West ducked again but had to win the third round. With nothing better to do, West led another heart. Declarer ducked, won the third heart, and only then took the club finesse.

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The right suit first

By James Jacoby

Sometimes you have to choose which of two suits to attack to generate the extra tricks you need. At other times, as in today's deal, you must play on both of your good suits and decide which to lead first.

In a no-trump contract, always start by counting your top tricks. Here there are five: two hearts, two diamonds and one club. Four more tricks must be found. Three can come from spades, and the club suit will generate two or three more. Neither black suit is sufficient in itself; both must be established and cashed.

Willow Park site for club meeting

The Twentieth Century Club met at Willow Park Inn for its March meeting with all members attending. President Henrietta Dupree presided over the meeting with the decision made to give a monetary gift to Cogdell Memorial Hospital in memory of Marjorie Tyer, a longtime member and past president of the club.

The club's program was a showing of new beaded jewelry from the Navaho Indian Reservation. Several sand paintings were also exhibited.

Lois Bartels will be the hostess for the April meeting.

Esme Olvera **Sandi Pavlik** **Deborah Garcia**

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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Snyder girls travel to Hereford event

Snyder's Lady Tiger golf team, coming off a fourth-place finish at the Big Country Invitational in Abilene a week ago, will compete in the Friday and Saturday Hereford Invitational.

Amarillo High, expected to field a team at the Hereford event, won in Abilene last week with a team score of 338.

Snyder's fourth-best tally was 361. Amy Armstrong paced the SHS girls with her 85 followed by Kim Duncan's 89 and a 91 by Wendy Miller.

The Lady Tigers, coached by Milton Ham, will begin loop play next Friday when District 2-4A teams from Lamesa, Levelland and Friendship stop for a league tournament at Snyder Country Club.

Gerald Myers...

Tech coach asked to resign

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — In the end, Gerald Myers' 20 years and more than 300 victories as basketball coach at Texas Tech could not overcome the battle for dollars and cents.

Tech athletic director T. Jones asked Myers Wednesday to step down and the 54-year-old coach agreed, less than a week after the Red Raiders posted their worst record ever.

A steady dropoff in home atten-

dance during four consecutive losing seasons caused the basketball program to operate at a hefty deficit and ultimately caused Myers' ouster.

"We had some great years, and some not-so-great years," Myers said during an emotional press conference. "If I could shuffle them around, I would like to have some good ones here at the end. But no one will pull for Tech basketball harder than I will."

Jones said a search would begin immediately to replace Myers, adding that there was no timetable to find a new coach. Myers said he would accept an administrative role in the school's athletic department offered by Jones.

Jones played down bringing in a big-name coach and hinted more towards landing an experienced assistant.

"I have never known a head coach that wasn't an assistant first," Jones said.

"I know there are some in the South Plains that think Tech can go out and get anyone they want," Jones said. "I disagree with that. I don't say that from a negative side. I say that from a

reality side."

Myers took the Red Raiders to two Southwest Conference championships and three post-season classic titles and he was named SWC coach of the year five times. But his teams had losing records the last four years, including a school record 23 losses against only eight victories this season.

Myers, who had been the Raiders' head coach since 1971, became the dean of SWC basketball coaches when Texas A&M fired Shelby Metcalf last year.

He was the winningest coach in Texas Tech history with a 326-261 record in 20½ seasons. Only two other SWC coaches ever won more games.

Myers, the president of the National Association of Basketball Coaches, had four years remaining on a contract that was extended a year ago.

"I've been here a long time," Myers told reporters shortly after Jones' announcement. "I am grateful to the university, to have served as basketball coach for as long as I have. But there comes a time when changes need to be made. We worked as hard as we could, but we just couldn't

win enough."

Jones said Myers' removal boiled down to dollars and cents.

"It got into more of the overall program rather than just basketball," Jones said. "Decreasing revenue hurt us. I can't tell you exactly what the figures are, but they are pretty substantial."

Tech drew fewer than 1,600 fans for a home game on seven occasions last season, including an official low of 1,111 for a Feb. 2 game against Southern Methodist.

In recent years, Myers was accused by some of having lost touch with the game. While many college teams chose to go to an up-tempo game, Myers stuck with a patient half-court game that stressed defense.

Baseball Tournament begins

Frenship and Andrews counted among favored squads

The annual Snyder Baseball Tournament began this morning as Levelland and Abilene Wylie squared off at 10:30 a.m. at the Snyder High School Field and Lamesa took on Sweetwater at 11 a.m. at Moffett Field in Towle

SHS baseball tourney

Thursday's games
SHS Field
Game 1 — Lamesa vs. Sweetwater at 11 a.m.
Game 3 — Brownfield vs. Frenship at 1 p.m.
Game 7 — Andrews vs. Canyon at 3 p.m.
Merkel — bye

Moffett Field
Game 2 — Levelland vs. Wylie at 10:30 a.m.
Game 6 — Big Spring vs. Borger at 1 p.m.
Game 4 — Snyder vs. Lake View at 3:30 p.m.
Game 5 — Pecos vs. Brownwood at 6 p.m.

Friday's games
SHS Field
Game 8 — Loser of Game 1 vs. Loser of Game 2 at 11 a.m.
Game 9 — Loser of Game 3 vs. Loser of Game 4 at 1 p.m.
Game 10 — Loser of Game 5 vs. Loser of Game 6 at 3 p.m.

Moffett Field
Game 11 — Winner of Game 1 vs. Winner of Game 2 at 10 a.m.
Game 12 — Winner of Game 3 vs. Winner of Game 4 at noon.
Game 13 — Winner of Game 5 vs. Winner of Game 6 at 2 p.m.

Moffett Field
Game 14 — Winner of Game 11 vs. Winner of Game 12 at 4 p.m.
Game 15 — Merkel vs. Winner of Game 7 at 6 p.m.

Saturday's games
SHS Field
Game 17 — Loser of Game 7 vs. Loser of Game 15 at 9 a.m.
Game 18 — Loser of Game 10 vs. Loser of Game 13 at 11 a.m.
Game 19 — Loser of Game 11 vs. Loser of Game 12 at 1 p.m.
Game 20 — Loser of Game 8 vs. Loser of Game 9 at 3 p.m.

Moffett Field
Game 16 — Winner of Game 5 vs. Winner of Game 6 at 9 a.m.
Game 21 — Winner of Game 8 vs. Winner of Game 9 at 11 a.m.
Game 22 — Winner of Game 10 vs. Winner of Game 17 at 1 p.m.

Moffett Field
Game 23 — Loser of Game 14 vs. Loser of Game 16 at 3 p.m.
Game 24 — Championship — Winner of Game 14 vs. Winner of Game 16 at 5 p.m.

Park. Snyder's opening contest, against San Angelo Lake View, is slated for 3:30 p.m. at Moffett.

Tiger coach Albert Lewis feels like the team to beat might be a District 2-4A member.

"I think Frenship has a lot of momentum right now. They've beaten Lubbock Monterey once this year. They've beaten Andrews. They are playing good, error-free baseball."

The Frenship Tigers currently boast an 11-3 mark.

Other teams that have to be considered among the tourney's elite are Andrews, Big Spring, Pecos and Sweetwater.

Andrews, as usual, has a tough pitching staff including Staven Day who served up a no-hitter and struck out 19 in an early-season 7-1 win over 5A power Odessa Permian.

Big Spring currently holds a 7-2 mark on the year with the championship of its own tournament under its belt and Wylie, a state semifinalist a year ago in Class 3A, is 5-2-1.

Pecos, ranked in the AP Top 10 to start the season, returns senior pitcher Cruz Abila from last season's playoff squad while Sweetwater standout catcher Willie Norman leads the Mustangs' charge.

Today's other first round contests include Brownfield versus Frenship at 1 p.m. followed by Andrews against Canyon at 3 p.m. at Snyder High School.

Big Spring tangles with Wylie at 1 p.m. and Pecos takes on

Brownwood at 6 p.m. in other games at Moffett Field.

Merkel drew a first-round bye and will be idle until Friday at 4 p.m. when they battle the Andrews-Canyon winner.

Snyder, now 2-9 on the campaign, will start Daniel Espinosa on the mound against Lake View, according to Lewis.

The Tigers are the defending tournament champions.

Admission to the event is free and concessions will be available.



DISTRICT CHAMPS — Hermleigh's Junior High Lady Cardinals won the 1990-91 District 25-A basketball title. The team includes, back row from left, coach Larry Williams, Connie Payne, Brandy Atkinson, Lori Anderson, Stephanie Buchanan, Beatrice Garza and manager Jennifer Mireles.

Middle row from left, Donn McHaney, Christi Gladden, Bridget Moore, Kassie Elder and Tammy Holder. Front row from left, Jennifer Luna, Brandi Bates, Michelle Roemisch, Leisa Gladden and April Cook. (Contributed Photo)

Hawks upset by Alvin

WACO — Unranked Alvin Junior College notched a 95-91 upset win over top-rated Howard College Wednesday night in the finals of the Texas-New Mexico Junior College Basketball Championship here.

It was the second straight time that Howard was upset to lose a berth in the national tournament while ranked No. 1 in the country.

The Hawks jumped out to a 46-40 halftime lead that grew to 66-50 in the middle of the second half before Dolphin guard Peter McKelvey went on a scoring spree, putting in 14 consecutive points.

Alvin's Houston Worthing added a pair of 3-pointers to put Alvin in front.

The Dolphin lead stretched to as many as nine points before a

Fishing club plans meeting

The March meeting for Snyder Bass Club is scheduled for today at 7:30 p.m. at Snyder National Bank.

A bass fishing video will be presented to those in attendance and the March tournament will be discussed.

The club's March event is set for Lake Sweetwater, March 16-17.

April's tournament is to be held in conjunction with the 6th Annual Open Tournament at Lake Spence April 13 and 14.

late Hawks' rally, featuring a steal and a bucket by Western Junior College Athletic Conference MVP Johnnie McDowell and a three from Antonio Valiengo, drew the score to 91-88.

Afis Olajuwon blocked a McDowell shot, McKelvey grabbed a rebound and made a pair of free-throws to wind up the game.

Alvin, 22-11 on the season, will advance to the nationals in Hutchinson, Kan.

Howard's season ends at 32-2.

NIT glance

All Times EST
First Round
Wednesday, March 13
Providence 98, James Madison 93, 20T
Cincinnati 82, Ball State 55
Wisconsin 87, Bowling Green 79, OT
Colorado 71, Michigan 64
Southern Illinois 75, Boise State 74
Stanford 93, Houston 86

Thursday, March 14
Fairleigh Dickinson (22-8) at Siena (23-9), 7:30 p.m.
Fordham (24-7) at South Florida (19-10), 7:30 p.m.

Coppin State (19-10) at Southwest Missouri State (21-11), 8:30 p.m.
Alabama-Birmingham (18-12) at Memphis State (16-14), 8:30 p.m.

Rice (16-13) at Arkansas State (21-8), 8:30 p.m.
Tulsa (18-11) at Oklahoma (16-14), 8:30 p.m.

Friday, March 15
Furman (20-8) at West Virginia (16-13), 7:30 p.m.
La Salle (19-9) at Massachusetts (17-11), 7:30 p.m.

George Washington (19-11) at South Carolina (19-12), 8 p.m.

Butler (18-10) at Wyoming (19-11), 9:30 p.m.

Fishing report

SPENCE: Water clear, 58 degrees, 38 feet low; black bass are slow; striper are fair to 18 pounds on live bait; crappie are slow; white bass are slow; catfish are slow.

STAMFORD: Water muddy, black bass are slow; striper are slow; crappie are slow; catfish are slow; winds have been high all week.

HUBBARD CREEK: Water clear, 58 degrees, 18 inches low; black bass are good to 8½ pounds on cranks; striper are slow; crappie are fairly good on minnows mostly at night; white bass are slow; catfish are improving on stinkbait and cut shad or live perch.

FORT PHANTOM HILL: Water murky, 58 degrees, normal level; black bass are slow; striper are fair to 4 pounds on ghost minnows and mirror lures; crappie are improving to 13 inches on crappie minnows; white bass are slow; catfish are fairly good to 12 pounds on Ruby's Stinkbait and shad minnows; walleye are slow.

Westerner golfers claim 7th at recent Galveston tourney

GALVESTON — Midland College ran away from the rest of the field, including the Western Texas College Westerners, carding a 288-295-583 total in the Second Annual Gulf Coast Invitational Golf Tournament at Galveston Country Club recently.

The Chaparrals, besides not-

ching a 10-stroke win over second place Lon Morris College, placed two players on the all-tournament team.

Medalist Andrew Coltar fired a first-round 76 and followed with a 66 for a 142 total.

Teammate Grant Thomas finished as third medalist in the

event with his 66-77-143.

The Westerners came in seventh in the 14-team field.

"We didn't play too badly," said WTC coach Dave Foster.

"We had the second lowest last round, we were just a couple of shots off.

The Westerners' 604 combined score came off rounds of 309 and 295.

Pampa freshman Mark Wood paced the WTC squad with his 76-72-148, which was the 10th-best individual score in the tourney.

Sweetwater's Tony Lara, the only sophomore making the trip for WTC, forged a 79-71-150, followed by Clint Winn and Ryan Teague, who notched identical 75-79-154s, and John Gatlin with an 81-77-158.

Gulf Coast Invitational Galveston Country Club

Team scores: Midland 288-295-583; Lon Morris 293-300-593; Grayson 314-281-595; McLennan 297-301-598; Navarro 301-302-603; Odessa 301-302-603; WTC 309-295-604; NMMI 304-302-606; San Jacinto 309-297-606; Paris 307-302-609.

Individual scores: Andrew Coltar, Midland, 76-66-142; Chad Norris, Lon Morris, 70-73-143; Grant Thomas, Midland, 66-77-143; Collin Gates, Lon Morris, 69-75-144; Gary Clark, McLennan, 71-74-145.

WTC scores: Mark Wood 76-72-148; Tony Lara 79-71-150; Clint Winn 75-79-154; Ryan Teague 75-79-154; John Gatlin 81-77-158.

Lady Tigers slated to run at LHS meet

Spring Break will take a back seat to competition for members of Snyder's girls track team Friday when they run in the Levelland Track Meet.

Coach Patty Grimmitt's Lady Tigers earned a fourth place finish in last Saturday's Canyon Reef Relays at Tiger Stadium.

"The competition here was rough," she said. "We had several of our girls post personal bests and finish in fourth place or lower."

Among those hammering out personal bests were field event specialists Vinnie Clay and Katina Brandon.

The pair took first and second, respectively, in the discus throw with tosses of 118-0 and 115-1.

Each also heaved a personal best in the shot put, Brandon going 38-1 and Clay finishing just an inch behind at 38-0.

Among the other high placers on the SHS team were Schanekka Thompson and Trina Thompson.

Schanekka scooted to a personal record of 17.86 in the 100 meter hurdles in Saturday's meet for third place while Trina streaked the 100 meter dash in 12.61 seconds for runner-up in that event.

The Lady Tigers will accompany the Snyder boys to the Sand Hill Relays in Monahans next week.

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Reactions said mixed to oil spill agreement

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) — Some environmentalists and elected officials welcomed an agreement by Exxon Corp. to pay a record criminal fine and pump more money into cleaning up the nation's worst oil spill. Others said the \$1 billion settlement lets the company off easy.

Gov. Walter J. Hickel, who with U.S. Attorney General Dick Thornburgh announced the deal Wednesday, planned to explain it to the Legislature tonight. Lawmakers must ratify the pact. Exxon agreed to plead guilty to four misdemeanors and pay a \$100 million fine. It would also pay an additional \$900 million for cleaning Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska.

The company already has spent \$2.5 billion to mop up 11 million gallons of crude spilled by the Exxon Valdez in March 1989. Exxon would pay the new cleanup money over 11 years; \$135 million of it would cover past expenses. The settlement also caps further damages at \$100 million. Alaska native villages and private groups still may pursue their own lawsuits.

"It's good to get this behind us," Hickel, a former U.S. interior secretary, said at a news conference in Washington. The governor said the deal benefits the state and federal governments, Exxon and the environment.

Other officials were relieved that more cleanup money would start flowing soon — without long, expensive litigation.

"None of us want to be involved in seven to 10 years and still be waiting for a settlement," Kodiak Mayor Bob Brodie said. He said other affected towns and villages generally support the agreement but want to examine it more closely.

But a spokeswoman for a coalition of Alaska fishing and environmental groups said the public "got sold short."

"Does this really make the oil industry sit back and say, 'Whoa, we're going to have to pay for the damage we caused?' No. In terms of real dollars this doesn't cost Exxon that much," said Riki Ott of the Oil Reform Alliance.

Among factors that would reduce the cost of the civil settlement: Exxon doesn't have to pay it all up front and can deduct it from its federal taxes. The fine isn't deductible.

Civil settlement money would go to a federal-state cleanup trust. Half the \$100 million fine would go to the federal treasury, half to the state.

Ott said the criminal case should have gone to court. Exxon and its shipping subsidiary faced trial April 10.

"What we're doing here is setting a precedent that you can buy your way out of criminal penalties," Ott said.

But another environmentalist said the important thing is that Exxon is pleading guilty to criminal charges.

"That sends a strong message to polluters that if you commit a major pollution act, you're a criminal," said Eric Jorgensen, an attorney with the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund in Juneau.

Democratic state Sen. Pat Pourchot of Anchorage said the guilty pleas will "send a good psychological signal to the people of Alaska. Pleading guilty is just as important as the money."

Jorgensen said that some of his worries about the settlement were that environmental and economic studies of spill damage might remain secret and that setting a cap on future damages was risky.

"Until we get all the information that the governments have kept secret to date, we can't make a final judgment on the settlement," he said.

Sarah Chasis, an attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council, was disappointed \$135 million of the cleanup money would cover past expenses.

"You're really diminishing the pot for long-term research and restoration," she said. "We want to make sure the environment is made whole. We have serious questions as to whether this agreement would accomplish that goal."

House Speaker Ben Grussen-dorf, a Democrat, questioned letting Exxon take 11 years to pay the cleanup costs. Inflation will reduce the settlement's actual value, while Exxon can invest the money it still owes, he said.

Liberated Kuwait grapples for basic needs

Emir returns today, ending seven months of exile

KUWAIT CITY (AP) — Kuwait's ruler ended seven months of exile today, returning to his once-prosperous nation to face a mammoth rebuilding job and an increasingly restless and dissatisfied population.

Sheik Jaber al-Ahmed al-Sabah landed at Kuwait International Airport late this afternoon on a flight from Saudi Arabia. What might have been a wild celebration of freedom was instead a low-key official reception by government officials and diplomats.

The dignitaries greeting the emir applauded as he disembarked from his plane. Security was tight at the airport, and soldiers carrying automatic rifles encircled the sheik.

The 64-year-old emir had been in exile in the Saudi resort town of Taif. He fled Kuwait unceremoniously last Aug. 2 just ahead of invading Iraqi troops.

Today, his country hardly looks the same. Iraqis devastated the nation, and virtually all citizens, both rich and poor, are spending long hours in lines waiting for fresh food, gasoline, water and cooking gas.

Sheik Jaber is widely respected among Kuwaitis of all social classes, but many are upset with the failure of his government to restore electricity and other services since the Iraqis were driven out Feb. 26.

The emir also has been criticized by some for his continued absence after the country's liberation by the U.S.-led allies. Kuwaiti officials cited a lack of adequate security as the reason.

His palace was ruined by the Iraqi invaders. Safa'a Jafar, 30, a bank employee who worked in the anti-Iraqi resistance, said the government shouldn't have promised it would have water and electricity

in two or three days, and then kept delaying the date. It should have told the people the truth, she said. "It seems like a mess."

One indication of the extent of discontent is the number of Kuwaitis trying to leave the country: More than 10,000 have applied since the Interior Ministry first began taking applications over the weekend.

Many, who mobbed a soccer stadium to submit applications, said they wanted to leave to buy essentials such as water, electrical generators, fruit and vegetables.

On Wednesday, for the third day in a row, Saudi border officials turned back a 75-vehicle convoy from the U.S. electrical contracting company, Blunt. It was carrying test equipment, parts and wire to try to restore power knocked out by fleeing Iraqis, the diplomat said.

Even the Kuwaiti contractor Khorafe, who is trying to fix roads, got caught in bureaucratic delays at the Saudi border, he said.

"I think in this case, you can't fault the Kuwaitis," he said. "It's the Saudis."

Border crossings in the region can be lengthy and bureaucratically complicated, especially when they involve merchandise shipments.

During the first days of liberation, the Kuwaiti government transported 17,000 incompatible cooking gas cylinders into the country, and bought 750 electrical generators with the wrong voltage.

In addition, tons of food rotted when the Kuwaiti government failed to get forklifts to unload container trucks bringing food from Saudi Arabia.

Nonetheless, there is widespread support for the emir. "He's our emir and we need him to come back, and we ask God to bring him in good health," said Bader Mohammad Al-Ramzi, 30, who works for the Interior Ministry.

Officials say lines may be forming at jobless offices

WASHINGTON (AP) — Budget cuts and a surge in unemployment applications driven by the recession are stretching thin the resources at Texas Employment Commission offices around the state, officials say.

As a result, jobless workers in Texas may face long lines to file their unemployment claims unless the federal government antes up more money to run the program, officials said Wednesday.

In some states, jobless workers are having to wait four to five weeks for their first unemployment checks, after queuing up to eight hours in line. In Texas, the state Employment Commission has had to cut 1,000 workers over the past five years.

Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, said employment offices around the country are suffering, due to budget cuts and an increase in the jobless rate due to the recession.

Jim Kaster, chairman of the Texas Employment Commission, said the agency may be forced to close six employment offices at the end of the year if there is no increase in funding and unemployment claims continue to rise.

He said Houston, Dallas and San Antonio would each lose two employment offices, and their operations would be consolidated with other offices in those cities, resulting in lines for jobless workers.

Bentsen said Wednesday that he was seeking Senate approval for up to \$200 million in additional federal funds for state employment commissions. The House voted recently in favor of a \$200 million increase.

While the Bush administration is seeking \$100 million, Bentsen said it's not enough to meet state needs for additional funding, especially if unemployment rates rise even higher.

Wednesday quiet for local police

Snyder police made a morning arrest Wednesday, the only arrest of the day.

At 7:45 a.m., a 62-year-old male was arrested for public intoxication at Westside 66. The subject was taken to Scurry County Jail.

Police were called to the Clairmont Hwy. at 2:37 p.m. where witnesses were throwing rocks at heavy machinery. Contact was made with three juveniles and their parents were made aware of the complaint.

At 10:20 p.m., a caller advised that a juvenile on a skateboard was creating a noise disturbance in the 3000 block of 41st St. The juvenile's father was made aware of the complaint.

At 1:07 a.m., an officer noticed a broken window at Northeast Elementary. The damage appeared to have been with a B-B or pellet gun. No report was taken, pending notification of school personnel.

Super Collider...

Controversial component workable

DALLAS (AP) — Tests on prototypes of giant, high-power magnets, the most important and controversial component of the Superconducting Super Collider project, show they are workable, officials said.

The recent tests relieve doubts about the magnets, said Roy Schwitters, director of the Super Collider Laboratory in DeSoto, a southern Dallas suburb.

"I think we really are out of the woods in terms of the magnets," Schwitters said in Atlanta, where a 3-day international Super Collider symposium began Wednesday.

"If there has been an area that critics of the SSC have been able to use to raise questions against it, it's the magnets," Schwitters said.

Although he didn't rule out future glitches, recent tests of prototype magnets indicate that they would work in the collider, he said.

"That's the important thing," he added, although he said he is not ready to predict an "all rosy" outlook for the magnets.

The technology for building superconducting magnets is not new, but never have magnets been built as advanced as those for the collider. The hefty tubelike contraptions are the longest and strongest magnets ever conceived.

Congressional critics have expressed concern, saying magnets could not be built of sufficient strength or that it would be too costly to do so. Collider architects retrenched last year and changed magnet plans to try to better meet project specifications.

The adjustments helped boost the overall project cost from about \$6 billion to the current estimated \$8.25 billion.

The collider magnets are expected to generate a magnetic field of unprecedented strength — about 263,000 times the power of the earth's magnetic field.

The magnets will be used to steer streams of protons around a 54-mile underground tunnel in Ellis County near Waxahachie, about 35 miles south of Dallas, and guide them into collisions that produce particles scientists hope will help explain the fundamental nature of energy and matter.

The next phase will be determining how to mass-produce the 10,000 magnets needed for the collider, Schwitters said.

General Dynamics and Westinghouse Electric Corp. were hired in December to construct the collider.

Hospital Notes

ADMISSIONS: Crystal Jones, 2905 Ave. W; Walter Littlefield, 2900 Ave. E; Mamie Burditt, 3408 Ave. E; Mendi Hunter, 1007 29th; Christina Chavez, Walnut Springs.

Census: 43 (Med.-8, Long-Term Care-27, CCU-2, OB-3, Nursery-3)

Births

Mitchel and Crystal Jones of 2905 Ave. W announce the birth of their baby girl born at 11:37 a.m. March 13 at Cogdell Memorial Hospital. She weighed seven pounds and two ounces.

Enrique and Christina Chavez of Walnut Springs announce the birth of their baby boy born at 10:05 a.m. March 13 at Cogdell Memorial Hospital. He weighed six pounds and nine ounces.

Marine Corps Lt. Col. Clifford M. Acree said that statements made by the POWs on videos for broadcast by the Iraqis were made under duress, but he declined to go into details.

Zaun, describing the making of the videos, said, "They took me to a TV studio and sat me next to the big guy and then told me what questions they were going to ask and they told me what my answers were going to be."

He said he tried to "screw up" his answers but he didn't think it made any difference because they were translated into Arabic anyway.

In the Iraqi TV broadcast, Zaun spoke in a slow monotone and said: "I think our leaders and our people have wrongly attacked the peaceful people of Iraq."

At today's news conference, Zaun said he was apprehensive that Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein might use the videos to convince his people that they were winning the war, but he did not worry about the reaction of Americans.

"I had enough faith in Americans to know that anybody who saw this was going to say, 'This is ridiculous,'" he said.

Zaun, whose badly bruised face was widely pictured in the United States after the video, said about 90 percent of his facial injuries occurred during his ejection from his airplane and "maybe a little bit of it was getting slapped around."

He said he also "banged my nose" in the hope that he could disfigure himself so that he would not be shown on television.

Capt. Russell Sanborn of the Marines described captivity as a "terrifying experience" in which the prisoners were kept in solitary confinement.

"There was some mistreatment and the food was less than adequate," Sanborn said. He described the medical treatment as "minimal."

Marine Corps Capt. Michael C. Berryman of Yuma, Ariz., said, "It was very difficult coping with the interrogation." He said he was helped by his religious faith.

Maj. Joseph J. Small III said he came down in an Iraqi infantry position after his aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft artillery on Feb. 25 and "when they didn't shoot at me right away I figured I had a fighting chance."

Slade said his most frightening experience was an allied attack any errors on the IRS address label to keep your record in order.

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• Have you checked your deductions to make sure you have claimed all to which you are entitled? Review the following section as a last-minute memory jogger for any deductions you may have overlooked.

Medical. The 7.5 percent level for medical expenses is a difficult hurdle to clear for many taxpayers. Check your figures carefully. Remember to include your transportation expenses (9 cents per mile) when you have a significant list of doctor and dentist bills. Unless you live next door to their offices, you must have incurred some form of transportation expense.

Interest. Don't forget to include all

Contributions. For contributions of items other than cash, be sure to attach an explanation to your return. An appraisal made when the merchandise was donated is the best verification for this deduction. You are required to file with your return Form 8283, Non-cash Charitable Contributions, if the amount of your deduction for all non-cash gifts is more than \$500.

Casualty or theft losses. You may deduct losses to the extent their total exceeds 10 percent of your adjusted gross income. You may include any loss for which you were not reimbursed by an insurance company. Make sure you first deducted \$100 for each loss. Attach Form 4684, Casualties and Thefts, to your return.

Miscellaneous Deductions. There are so many valuable opportunities in this section that you should carefully review your miscellaneous deductions. Generally, most miscellaneous itemized deductions are deductible only to the extent they are income or business-related. Unfortunately, the total of these deductions is limited to the excess of 2 percent of your adjusted gross income.

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George W. Smith is the managing partner of a certified public accounting firm in Michigan and a syndicated columnist for Newspaper Enterprise Association.
Excerpted from "Cut Your Own Taxes and Save 1991" (World Almanac, 1990).

WASHINGTON (AP) — Seven former prisoners of war told stories of fear, loneliness and mistreatment today in their first meeting with reporters since returning from captivity in Iraq. Two of the former POWs said the statements they made on Iraqi television were given against their will.

"About 90 percent of the time you felt you were in danger of losing your life," Navy Lt. Jeffrey N. Zaun of Cherry Hill, N.J., said at a suburban Washington hospital.

Zaun, Navy Lt. Lawrence R. Slade and five Marines appeared on an auditorium stage at the Bethesda Naval Medical Center, where they are undergoing treatment.

Marine Corps Lt. Col. Clifford M. Acree said that statements made by the POWs on videos for broadcast by the Iraqis were made under duress, but he declined to go into details.

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Interest. Don't forget to include all

WASHINGTON (AP) — Seven former prisoners of war told stories of fear, loneliness and mistreatment today in their first meeting with reporters since returning from captivity in Iraq. Two of the former POWs said the statements they made on Iraqi television were given against their will.

"About 90 percent of the time you felt you were in danger of losing your life," Navy Lt. Jeffrey N. Zaun of Cherry Hill, N.J., said at a suburban Washington hospital.

Zaun, Navy Lt. Lawrence R. Slade and five Marines appeared on an auditorium stage at the Bethesda Naval Medical Center, where they are undergoing treatment.

Marine Corps Lt. Col. Clifford M. Acree said that statements made by the POWs on videos for broadcast by the Iraqis were made under duress, but he declined to go into details.

Zaun, describing the making of the videos, said, "They took me to a TV studio and sat me next to the big guy and then told me what questions they were going to ask and they told me what my answers were going to be."

He said he tried to "screw up" his answers but he didn't think it made any difference because they were translated into Arabic anyway.

In the Iraqi TV broadcast, Zaun spoke in a slow monotone and said: "I think our leaders and our people have wrongly attacked the peaceful people of Iraq."

At today's news conference, Zaun said he was apprehensive that Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein might use the videos to convince his people that they were winning the war, but he did not worry about the reaction of Americans.

"I had enough faith in Americans to know that anybody who saw this was going to say, 'This is ridiculous,'" he said.

Zaun, whose badly bruised face was widely pictured in the United States after the video, said about 90 percent of his facial injuries occurred during his ejection from his airplane and "maybe a little bit of it was getting slapped around."

He said he also "banged my nose" in the hope that he could disfigure himself so that he would not be shown on television.

Capt. Russell Sanborn of the Marines described captivity as a "terrifying experience" in which the prisoners were kept in solitary confinement.

"There was some mistreatment and the food was less than adequate," Sanborn said. He described the medical treatment as "minimal."

Marine Corps Capt. Michael C. Berryman of Yuma, Ariz., said, "It was very difficult coping with the interrogation." He said he was helped by his religious faith.

Maj. Joseph J. Small III said he came down in an Iraqi infantry position after his aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft artillery on Feb. 25 and "when they didn't shoot at me right away I figured I had a fighting chance."

Slade said his most frightening experience was an allied attack

any errors on the IRS address label to keep your record in order.

• Is your Social Security number entered correctly?
• Are your dependents listed correctly?
• Did you check the correct filing status box?
• Did you fill in the right numbers in the boxes for exemptions?

Did you sign your return?
• Did you take a \$2,050 deduction for each exemption?
• Double-check that you looked up the right tax in the tax table.
• Did you check your math?
• Did you attach all the necessary schedules to your return?
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Contributions. For contributions of items other than cash, be sure to attach an explanation to your return. An appraisal made when the merchandise was donated is the best verification for this deduction. You are required to file with your return Form 8283, Non-cash Charitable Contributions, if the amount of your deduction for all non-cash gifts is more than \$500.

Casualty or theft losses. You may deduct losses to the extent their total exceeds 10 percent of your adjusted gross income. You may include any loss for which you were not reimbursed by an insurance company. Make sure you first deducted \$100 for each loss. Attach Form 4684, Casualties and Thefts, to your return.

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Miscellaneous Deductions. There are so many valuable opportunities in this section that you should carefully review your miscellaneous deductions. Generally, most miscellaneous itemized deductions are deductible only to the extent they are income or business-related. Unfortunately, the total of these deductions is limited to the excess of 2 percent of your adjusted gross income.

Injunction request denied by judge

AUSTIN (AP) — What engineers of a high-speed rail system for Texas called delay tactics by Southwest Airlines have been knocked off track by a state district judge.

Judge Joe Dibrell on Wednesday refused to grant an injunction stopping the Texas High Speed Rail Authority from granting a state franchise for the "bullet" train rail line.

Two international groups, Texas FasTrac Inc. and Texas TGV, are competing for the right to build a \$6 billion, 200 mph rail line that initially would link Houston and Dallas, then expand to San Antonio, Austin and other cities. Southwest, which serves 10 Texas cities, has opposed the project.

Dibrell said he didn't find that Southwest Airlines would be irreparably harmed by the Texas High Speed Rail Authority's proceedings.

Robert Heath, an attorney for Southwest, said the airline ob-

jected to the awarding of a contract for several reasons, including fears that the project would require public funds and give the trains an unfair competitive advantage. The agency also was acting too fast and blocking outside scrutiny, he argued.

However, Heath's main argument was that the appointments to the rail authority were unconstitutional because they were not timed to turn over in staggered six-year terms.

Mike Mullen, an attorney with TGV, accused Southwest of shedding "crocodile tears" over the constitutional issue, while really having only "a selfish interest in avoiding competition."

"The only injury that Southwest Airlines is worried about is competition from the high-speed rail," Mullen said. "They have done an admirable job of nit-picking through the statutes to find reasons to delay this procedure. But none of them holds water."



HANDMADE BOOKS — These Ira sixth graders in Jane Bray's class recently made their own elementary library books which will be placed in the school library and be available for check out. Front row, from left are, Jeremy Helm, Ivonne Rodriguez, Kyle Lomax, Nikki Hudson; middle

row: Machea Chaney, Joey Roland, Jessica Williams, Stacey Taylor; back row: Kevin McMahan, Patrick Cumbie, Adam Davis, Kasey Calley, Cory Rosas, Rebecca Johnston. (SDN Staff Photo)

IRS said beginning to target 40,000 high income non-filers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Somewhere out there are 40,000 Americans with an average age of 46, median income of \$134,000 a year and a habit of not filing tax returns.

Oddly, congressional auditors said, these high-income people have less chance of getting caught by the Internal Revenue Service than do non-filers with far less income.

However, IRS Commissioner Fred T. Goldberg Jr. said Wednesday that his agency already has begun making changes, thanks to recommendations by the General Accounting Office, the investigative arm of Congress.

"There is no reason we shouldn't work every one of these high-income non-filers and we are going to," Goldberg told the House Government Operations subcommittee on consumer affairs.

The GAO reported to the panel on how non-filers and those who file but understate their incomes worsen the tax gap — the difference between what is owed and what is paid voluntarily.

The gap has been estimated at \$85 billion for 1987, rising to \$114 billion by next year. The estimated 6 million who file no returns at all accounted for \$7 billion of the 1987 gap, while under-reporters cost \$48 billion.

Ironically, Goldberg said, nearly 40 percent of non-filers are entitled to refunds. "It is unfair that so many low-income people are so scared of government" that they deny themselves tax credits and refunds, he said.

The GAO report said the IRS could reduce the gap by making better use of the 1 billion information returns — such as W-2 wage statements and Form 1099 statements of no-wage income — it receives each year.

One of the agency's most successful enforcement programs involves computer matching of those documents against individual tax returns to make sure all income is reported.

Boot camps have vacancies

AUSTIN (AP) — The state prison system is overcrowded, but the much-touted boot camp prisons have been running a high vacancy rate, officials said.

"We built the boot camp because the court ordered the agency to do so, but the courts have not proceeded since that time to fill up those beds," said Rep. Allen Hightower, D-Huntsville, said Wednesday. He is chairman of the House Corrections Committee.

"We got two facilities sitting out there that we're not using?" asked Rep. Sam Johnson, R-Plano. "I can't believe that."

The state prison system has for the past year operated two boot camps with a combined capacity of about 400 inmates.

But Andy Collins, a director in

the Texas Department of Criminal Justice institutional division, said judges have not been sentencing people to the camps.

About two months ago, there were 250 vacancies in the boot camps, Collins said. He said that decreased to 127 vacancies after prison officials sent letters to judges informing them of the unused space.

He also said prison officials make a special effort at judicial conferences to tell judges about the program.

"Historically, they have not been used. We just haven't seen a clamoring for it," Collins said.

Meanwhile, the overcrowded state prison system has about 46,600 inmates with more than 7,000 inmates backlogged in county jails awaiting transfer.

Dr. Gott

Peter Gott, M.D.

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I've been diagnosed with a sliding hiatal hernia. I elevate the head of my bed, stay up two hours after eating and take Zantac twice daily. Is there something else I can do for my problem?

DEAR READER: A hiatal hernia is a weakness in the diaphragmatic muscle of breathing at the point where the esophagus (in the chest) joins the stomach (in the abdominal cavity). If this weakness or defect is large enough, a portion of the upper stomach may slide up into the chest, causing heartburn, gas and bloating. Treatment consists of preventing the stomach from moving out of position, and reducing the amount of gastric acid, which is the irritant causing symptoms. Thus, the methods you describe are completely appropriate.

In addition, you might try using antacids, such as Gelusil or Maalox, to neutralize excess acid. Further, you should avoid goods that aggravate your symptoms. Such substances include (but are not necessarily limited to) alcohol, caffeine and spicy foods.

If these suggestions are ineffective, you may have to consider having the hernia repaired. During this operation, the surgeon repairs the defect and returns the upper intestinal tract to normal.

To give you more information, I am sending you a free copy of my Health Report "Hiatal Hernia." 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.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I've been diagnosed with a pericardial cyst. A cardiologist tells me nothing can be done about it, and I should forget it. Please tell me what to expect.

DEAR READER: The heart is surrounded by a thin but tough envelope of tissue called the pericardium. On occasion, for unknown reasons, collections of fluid (cysts) may form in the pericardial sac. These are harmless and rarely, if ever, cause symptoms; nor do they lead to heart disease. These cysts are usually discovered by accident during chest X-ray examinations.

Your cardiologist is correct: Ignore your pericardial cyst; you can expect no health consequences from it.

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'Good Samaritan' arrested by Austin police

AUSTIN (AP) — A man who told police he attempted to save the life of a stabbed taxi driver has been charged with murder in the death, the third of an Austin cab driver in the past three months.

Jimmy Davidson, 32, was charged with murder Wednesday in the stabbing death of Jesse E. Williams, 39, according to Austin Police Sgt. Mike Lummus.

Davidson was ordered jailed in lieu of \$50,000 bond.

Williams died Monday night after being stabbed 30 times, Travis County Medical Examiner Dr. Robert Bayardo said.

Davidson had told officers he tried rescue Williams from his assailant.

"We feel like we have enough evidence," Lummus said. "We still have a lot of investigative work to do on this."

District Judge Bob Jones ordered the charges sealed from public view at the request of Assistant District Attorney Buddy Meyers, who made the request to protect witnesses.

Davidson, who was treated at Brackenridge Hospital for cuts to the palms of his hands, told police on Monday that he saw the cab driver being stabbed and went to help.

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(Ford cars & trucks will be on display outside the Coliseum)

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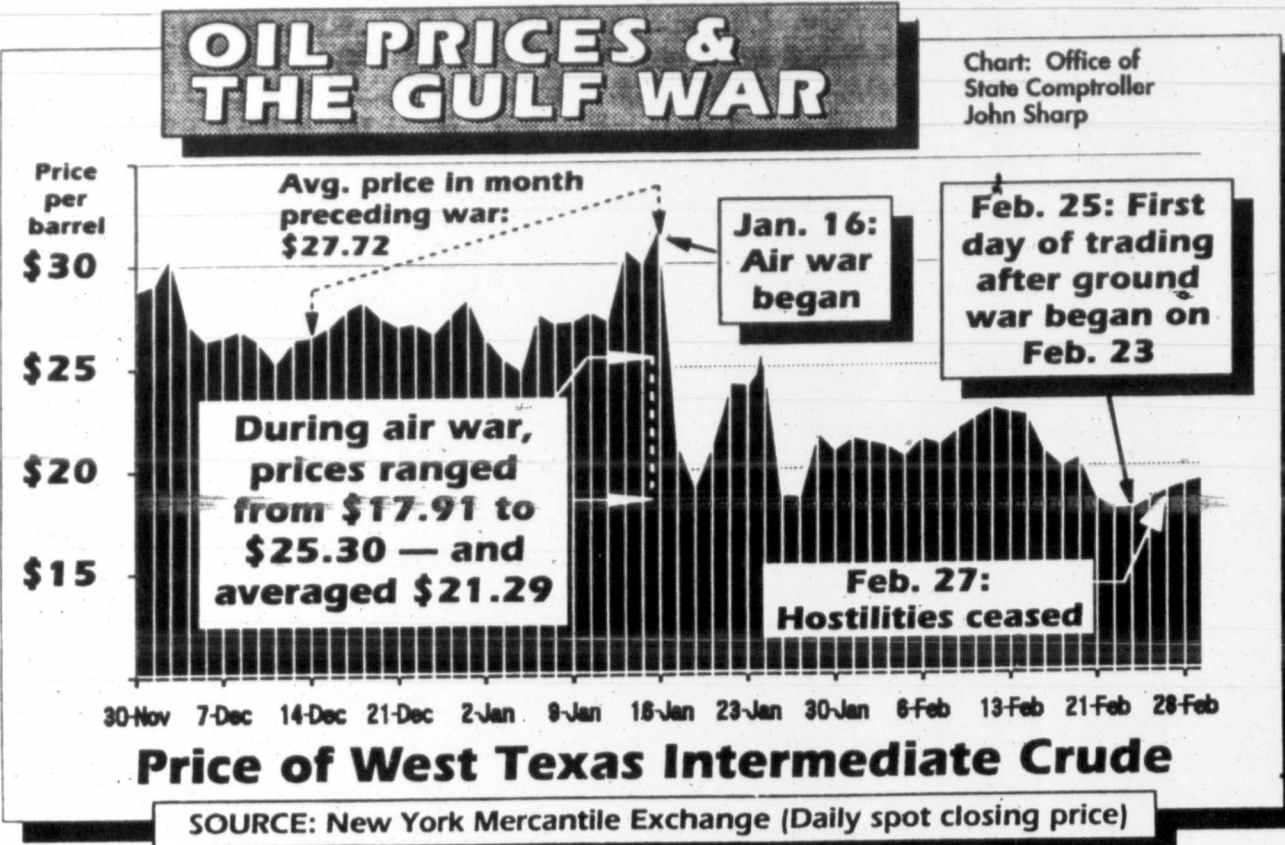


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Nationwide...

Airlines expand air fare wars

DALLAS (AP) — Air fare wars that started in several cities after the end of the Gulf War are spreading nationwide.

Airlines scrambled Wednesday to match a 20 percent discount on full-coach fares by Delta Air Lines and special fares by American Airlines that are good through April 8.

"What is concerning carriers is whether they can counter the ef-

fects of the economic downturn and the war," said Jim Carey, senior vice president of Airline Economics Inc. in Washington.

High jet fuel costs also soured airline performance in January, February and March, traditionally the slowest travel period.

The discounting expanded nationally the promotions that Northwest, Continental, Midwest and others have had in specific markets during the two weeks after the cease-fire in the Gulf War.

Mike Gunn, American's senior vice president for marketing, said the company believes its discounts will be "the jump start that all of us have been scratching our heads for in the last several months."

The American-led fares are for nonrefundable tickets purchased at least seven days prior to departure or within 24 hours of reservation, whichever comes first, by April 8. There are two tiers of rates — one for spring travel before May 19 and another for summer travel between May 20 and Sept. 30.

The mileage-based fares range from \$138 to \$358 round-trip in spring and \$178 to \$438 round-trip in summer.

For example, a New York-San

Francisco round trip taken by May 19 would cost as low as \$318. One taken between May 20 and Sept. 30 would be as low as \$398.

Flights from Dallas-Fort Worth to New York, San Francisco or Los Angeles would be as low as \$238.

Delta offered 20 percent off all full-coach tickets that are bought three days before travel. The Delta promotion is aimed at business travelers but applies to all.

United, Northwest and Continental airlines matched both promotions. Delta and American matched each other. Trans World Airlines matched American while saying it was still studying Delta's discount.

Northwest and Continental earlier this month offered printed coupons for passengers in more than 40 markets that trim \$50 from a \$200 round trip fare. The coupons, good for flights booked by April 4 on Northwest and March 20 on Continental, can be applied to the discounts announced Wednesday, the airlines said.

The new discounts had an immediate effect in the number of sales calls to the big airlines. American's booking volume was 43 percent higher Wednesday than typical days.

Plans set to fight oil fires

HOUSTON (AP) — The first step in a two-year project to extinguish oil well fires "like a big, bad hog with a barbed-wire tail" begins today with the arrival in Kuwait of the first load of firefighting equipment.

A C-5A Galaxy military transport plane, described by Air Force officials as the second largest plane in the world at nearly 250 feet long, touched down Wednesday afternoon at Ellington Air Field to begin loading 80,000 tons of equipment.

Workers from Boots & Coots and two other Houston-based oil-well firefighting companies — Wild Well Control Inc. and Red Adair-Oil Well Fires & Blowouts — will follow the equipment to Kuwait in about a week to douse the 538 wells set ablaze by the Iraqis during the Persian Gulf War.

Thompson said eight teams of seven men will spend a week putting out each fire. Teams will work on a 28-day rotation, with a month off in the United States. The job will take "a year or two, maybe more," Thompson said.

The firefighters said they were confident the military had cleared out Iraqi land mines in the area of the fires, but Thompson added, "common sense tells you not to go traipsing around here and there."

Ellington officials said it would take about six hours to load the equipment through the yawning nose cavity of the plane. The equipment included ladders, water pumps, hoses and a "tushhog," which puts out fires "like a big, bad hog with a barbed wire tail," said Boots & Coots firefighter James Tuppen.

At least four more Galaxy transport planes will be needed to carry the equipment to Kuwait. Perry Johnson of Red Adair's firm said there would be "a plane a day" leaving Ellington until all of the equipment had made the roughly 23-hour journey.

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Dear Abby



Motorists Who Toss Trash Leave Their Lasting Mark

By Abigail Van Buren

1991 Universal Press Syndicate

DEAR ABBY: I live on a well-traveled road, and you would be amazed at how much garbage people throw out of their car windows. I wonder what they think happens to all that stuff?

We pick up the trash from our yard, and the amount of plastic, glass, metal and paper we collect is unbelievable.

Please ask your readers to keep some kind of sturdy bag or container in their vehicles for their trash, and empty it in an appropriate receptacle when they reach their destination. It takes so little effort to keep our countryside clean.

GEORGE MILLICHAMP, ONTARIO, CANADA

DEAR MR. MILLICHAMP: Thanks for a timely reminder. Two years ago I published an item that received high marks from schoolteachers in the USA and Canada. It was suggested that I publish it at least once a year. And here it is:

DEAR ABBY: I saw this interesting bit of information in an office of one of our national parks last summer. I think it should have been handed to everyone who entered the park. Perhaps if people knew how long it takes for some of the "litter" to decompose, they would think twice before tossing any kind of litter out of their car windows.

THE TIME IT TAKES LITTER TO DECOMPOSE:

- Paper 2 to 5 months
- Orange peels 6 months
- Milk cartons 5 years
- Filter-tip cigarette butts 10 to 12 years
- Plastic bags 10 to 20 years
- Leather shoes 25 to 40 years
- Nylon cloth 30 to 40 years
- Plastic containers 50 to 80 years
- Aluminum 90 to 100 years
- Plastic foam NEVER

Litter cleanup in our national parks alone costs taxpayers \$15 million per year!

Abby, I hope you think this is worth space in your widely read column.

ELAINE D. BAUM, HOUSTON

DEAR MS. BAUM: It is. And thank you for a worthwhile addition to this space.

DEAR ABBY: My son recently announced his engagement. When I told my next-door neighbor (we have lived next door for 25 years and have been friends, taking care of each other's property during vacations etc.), she said she hoped there wasn't a baby on the way! (There isn't.)

This really made me quite angry, but I was so taken aback by such a cruel and insensitive remark I replied, "I certainly hope not!"

The more I thought about this, the angrier I became. Now that plans are being made, I don't feel like including her name on the guest list. What would you do?

A SAN CARLOS, CALIF., READER

DEAR READER: After a friendship of 25 years, I would forgive the neighbor for her tasteless remark and invite her to the wedding.

People are eating them up! For Abby's favorite recipes, send a long, business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054. (Postage is included.)

Decision exempts Texans from planting any cover crops

WASHINGTON (AP) — Texas farmers will be exempt from potentially expensive cover crop regulations that officials say could have driven some out of business, as wheat prices plummet and operating costs escalate.

"Many Texas farmers would have been severely handicapped or even put out of business had they been forced to change long-established farming practices at the last minute, as the original proposal would have done," said Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas.

Wednesday's decision exempts Texas farmers from a controversial regulation requiring cover crops on half of a farm's idled acres, in order to qualify for government farm benefits, according to Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas.

The cover crop regulations are intended to conserve soil and water resources from erosion.

But Texans say that since much of the state is so arid, it would not be feasible to plant a cover crop, and that the government's planting schedule for the cover crops may not coincide with their operations.

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Rick Perry called the decision a "smart move — makes sense. The government is supposed to be there to help."

Rep. Kika de la Garza, D-Mission, chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, said the decision should help Texas farmers cut costs during continued dry weather conditions in the state.

"With the cuts in farm programs which we were forced to make during the 1990 farm bill, any action which helps farmers to minimize farm operating costs will be important, particularly this year," de la Garza said.

Under the law, arid lands are exempt from the cover crop requirements of the 1990 farm bill. The decision by Keith Bjerke, administrator of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, classifies the entire state as arid, Gramm said.

Berry's World

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Theme: Education
Speaker: St. Sen. John Montford
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SECTION B, THURS., MARCH 14, 1991

Winter is good time to prune trees, shrubs

By The Associated Press
Winter, when many plants are dormant and leafless, is a good time to prune and shape a number of trees and shrubs.

Spring-flowering shrubs should be pruned only after they have flowered to avoid cutting off the flower buds.

In pruning, cut only dead wood — gray and dry with no new growth. Look for old wood low and inside on the plant; living wood will have a greenish, moist tan or yellowish cast. Its buds will be flat and pointed and will open into new growth, or fat and rounded, later bursting into bloom.

Deep watering is essential once or twice a week when rain is inadequate.

Drip irrigation devices are more efficient than sprinklers for this watering, since it feeds

directly into the soil, is precise, uniform and avoids water loss through evaporation. Sprinkling can take two or more hours to effectively water a 25-foot-square plot.

That crusty white residue on the soil of your house plant is probably a harmful buildup of fertilizer salts. Leach them out by watering the plant heavily and allowing excess water and residues to drain off.

Here are prime times to pick harvest vegetables for best flavor, texture, color and nutritional value:

Lettuce: Early in the day when a loose-leaf variety plant has at least five or six mature leaves or when the center of a head types begins to feel firm.

Sweet corn: About 18 days after silk appears, when it is dried and brown, and the ear

feels full and tilts slightly away from the stalk. Kernels should be plump.

Tomatoes: When color is developed but fruit is still firm. Or hold partially ripened fruit at room temperature to complete ripening.

Zucchini squash: Before it

measures 7 inches, leaving some stem to discourage dehydration.

Green beans: In the morning, when pods are about 4 or 5 inches long and developed but before seeds swell. Pods should snap when broken.

Petunias are ideal for containers, such as hanging baskets.

Select a variety suitable for vining, such as Cascade or Avalanche. Pinch petunias in mid-summer for better growth and improved fall flowering.

The rutabaga is a cool season crop, grown similarly to turnips. Plant seeds in midsummer in rows 24 to 30 inches apart and

space seedlings 6 to 8 inches apart. Roots will reach maturity in September and October. Store them in low temperature and high humidity.

Do not cut back tops of tulips or any other spring-flowering bulbs until after foliage has turned brown. Removing the foliage right after bloom will result in a poor bloom the following season.

Ms. Fix-it puts the walls to work

Are things forcing you out of your home? Things like CD collections, bowling trophies, sports magazines and the latest delivery of catalogs, or your priceless collection of porcelain figurines?

Ms. Fix-it, a do-it-yourself expert who appears on television and in home improvement magazines, says, "We've become a generation of collectors — everything from baseball cards to Barbie dolls to crystal. The frustrating problem for most of us is finding a way to display, or organize, or hide our collections."

Ms. Fix-It recommends looking for "upper space" to solve storage needs. "There's no reason that shelves have to start at floor level. Most rooms need every inch of floor space. Products such as Knap & Vogt's Variations adjustable wall-mounted shelving put walls to work while opening floor space for chairs and people," advises Ms. Fix-It.

KV's revolutionary new Variations line, designed for today's lifestyles and varied decorating preferences, are attractive, well-crafted wall modules that work in the den, the kitchen, the bedroom or the home office. The reinforced shelves come in contemporary finishes such as a granite-look, high-tech matte black and clear tempered glass. Support brackets serve as bookends and can be angled to create a tilted display shelf for magazines or books. Wall standards come with covers to conceal slots and form an architectural column. These decorative covers can be painted to blend into the wall or to complement a room's decor.

"Storage is now a matter of style," notes Ms. Fix-It. "KV's unique engineering also allows for side-by-side placement with minimal support. Variations flexibility lets us create custom shelving at an affordable price," she adds.

Additional Variations wall components have been introduced for even greater options to extend the custom system. A wall-mounted bookcase, available in classic walnut, frosted oak or moonlight white, has an overhead door that quickly makes storage an



FOR ORGANIZATION AND STORAGE WITH STYLE, Ms. Fix-it advises do-it-yourselfers to put the walls to work. Attractive shelving products, such as Knap & Vogt's new Variations shelving, bring storage out of the closet and into the living areas of today's homes.

open and shut case. The home entertainment center offers specially-sized shelves to handle VCRs and electronic equipment which traditionally has been stacked on the floor.

And, the installation process for wall-mounted shelving has never been easier, according to Ms. Fix-It, who promises that even the novice do-it-yourselfer can complete the installation with confidence.

"There is no longer a need to tap the walls in search of a stud," advises Ms. Fix-it. "Specially designed winged wall fasteners provide the versatility to mount shelving units anywhere on a wall. The Variations paper wall template, similar to a sewing pattern, is also available to assist with pre-installation placement without having to mark up the wall."

"I can't think of a home I've visited that wouldn't benefit from added storage space," observes Ms. Fix-It. "Variations new wall components allow homeowners to take full advan-

tage of their existing space by transforming an ordinary wall into a deluxe home office, a high-tech entertainment center or a gallery for collectibles."

Variations shelving is available at most leading home centers.

Before starting any do-it-yourself project, Ms. Fix-it suggests the following:

- 1) Read directions carefully before you start.
- 2) Assemble all tools and hardware required for the job.
- 3) Use the appropriate tool or product to do the job right. Forget the butter knife and get out the screwdriver.
- 4) Be patient and allow ample time to complete a project. Don't start a project an hour before company is due — unless you expect them to help you.

For a list of Ms. Fix-It's "Ten Tips for Fix-it-Yourselfers," write to Ms. Fix-it, Knap & Vogt, P.O. Box 11759, Chicago, IL 60611. SH916303

Plan your garden carefully

You want to rearrange your garden. Perhaps you want a garden that's smaller or easier to tend. Or you want to install a pond.

"The best place to plan a garden is sitting in it," says Wim Oudshoorn (pronounced Oot-shoorn), a Dutch gardening expert. He suggests:

— Make a scale plan of your garden on paper, including a view of your current and proposed garden. Leave some space in the margins for notes, including plant names.

— Note how the light shifts in your garden. Light requirements of individual plants differ considerably. Plot the sun's path if you are unfamiliar with the garden you are renovating. Consider whether you want your sitting area in a shady or sunny spot.

— Make sensible planting choices. Not everything in the garden must be moved or removed. Build your new plan around the nice points of the existing garden. For example, a beautiful shrub and nice paved path can form the basis for a new plan.

— Consult family members. The garden is a place for the whole family to enjoy.

— Sketches and overlays can be helpful. Include in your sketches large trees or walls as a background. Sketch the elements you plan to add on tracing paper, then lay the sketches over your base drawings to visualize how the elements will work together.

— Make sure plants selected will do well in your climate. Nurseries and responsible mail order nurseries can recommend proper plants for your climate zone. If in doubt, call your county agricultural extension agent.

— Use trees, shrubs and fences as the framework for your garden. Against that backdrop, lay out your major plantings. Allow bulbs and tubers to dominate in spring, but showcase perennials in summer. Use summer-flowering bulbs to accent, highlight and support the perennials. Annuals are the logical follow up in spring display areas.

— Don't forget the vertical landscape. Tall plants, ivy and flowering vines along walls and fences take up little space and offer big rewards.

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Rugged house plants can survive in home

By The Associated Press
Some houseplants are more rugged than others, and they'll survive in modern home environments that are nothing like their native climates. Some have a wide range of adaptability and will flourish where others will

Cucumbers like warm temperatures, lots of sun

By The Associated Press
Why are your cucumbers bitter? It could be cool weather, drought conditions or inadequate irrigation during fruit enlargement, low soil fertility, insect damage or disease.

Wild cucumbers contain compounds, called cucurbitacins, that make them very bitter. These occur in leaves, stems and roots and are likely to be concentrated at the stem rather than the blossom end of the fruit. Bitterness usually is found in the skin or directly beneath the skin but not deep in the fleshy portion around the seeds.

Horticulturists say the amount of bitterness in a particular variety of cucumber may vary from year to year, even if grown in the same area. Some varieties seem to have a greater tendency toward bitterness than others. If bitterness has been a problem, try some of the newer

not.
Hardy types include:
— Cast iron plant (aspidistra). Aptly named, it is tolerant of poor light, high temperature, low humidity and irregular watering. Its dark green leathery leaves reach up to 2½ feet long. You can

cucumbers, like the "burpless," or change the planting location. Cucumbers like warm temperatures and lots of sun — no less than 6 hours of full sunlight daily.

They need plenty of moisture or the misshapen fruit, called nubbins, will be bitter.

Uniform moisture is essential for good production, form and taste. During dry periods, water thoroughly every two or three days. A side dressing of garden fertilizer — around hills after cucumbers begin to flower and set fruit helps keep plants growing and producing actively. Also be sure to control cucumber beetles, which spread bacterial wilt disease.

To check for bitterness, taste some from the stem end. If it's bitter, cut a larger portion off the stem end and peel more deeply than usual when preparing for the table.

Use mulch to control weeds and conserve moisture

By The Associated Press
Work smarter, not harder, in your garden this spring and summer, using mulch to control weeds and conserve moisture.

Mulch, which may range from grass clippings to black plastic to old newspapers, will inhibit weed growth, slow evaporation of water from the soil, keep crops cleaner by preventing muddy splatters, prevent soil erosion and crusting.

Organic mulches — hay, leaves, compost, straw and ground corn cobs — are advantageous because they are biodegradable, meaning that they can be plowed under in the fall to improve soil and add nutrients. Inorganic black plastic should be taken up in the fall.

Black plastic laid down in early spring helps keep plants warm so they can get an early start. Organic mulches serve best after soil has warmed, especially in areas with short growing seasons. If applied too early, organic mulches will keep the soil cold and slow plant growth.

Mulches applied in summer slow evaporation of water from soil, so plants are less likely to be stressed by dry weather and require watering less often. They also smother weed seedlings and prevent light from reaching weed seeds near the soil surface.

Mulching is most successful against small annual weeds. Perennial grasses such as

quackgrass and large annuals may work up through organic mulches.

However, moisture under mulch can be a disadvantage if your soil is heavy and poorly drained. On heavy clay soil, black plastic may cause plants to suffer from too much water and insufficient air around roots. Organic mulches that keep soil cool and moist may encourage slugs by providing them with ideal daytime shelters.

get new plants by dividing every two to three years.

— Chinese evergreen (Aglaonema). This waxy-leaved plant does well in shady areas. Pot in house plant soil mix or in equal amounts of peat, perlite and sterilized garden soil. It also will grow in water. It may become leggy and lose lower leaves. Keep soil moist, not soggy. Propagate by stem tip cuttings, seeds, or by dividing.

— Snake plant (Sansevieria, mother-in-law tongue). This plant has long, narrow, erect leaves, sometimes mottled or variegated. It does best in good light but endures poor light, low humidity and erratic watering. Don't overwater this native of Africa, which likes a planting mix of equal parts of vermiculite or perlite, good garden soil, and humus or peat moss. Let plant dry between waterings.

— Philodendron. It tolerates moisture fluctuations but should be kept fairly moist. Available with leaves of many sizes and shapes. In its native South America it is a tree climber, though not all varieties climb. Some plants have split leaves. It survives conditions in homes, including low humidity and high temperatures. Spray leaves weekly. Feed monthly with complete plant food. Pinching ends will force branching.

— Devil's ivy (Scindapsis, Pothos). Resembling heart-shaped philodendron, it has vine tendencies. Leaves are dark green, usually with yellow or cream-colored variegations. It also tolerates poor light and erratic watering. Pothos needs rich humus or organic soil and good drainage.

— Dracaena (corn plant). Has long, narrow, sword-shaped leaves with a stalk not quite as thick as corn. The foliage is rich green and arching, with bands of light green and yellow. Give it a place above the kitchen sink where it will get moisture. It thrives in full light but is suitable for a northern window. Don't overwater, but keep soil moist.

Keep the plant in a saucer of gravel with a little water. This native of tropical Africa enjoys a warm temperature — 80 to 85 degrees by day and 62 to 65 degrees at night.

— Spider plant (Chlorophyllum, airplane

plant). Characterized by long drooping white-striped leaves, it produces small plants on stems after flowering. Some varieties have yellow or ivory stripes. Other names for this tropical herb of the lily family are ribbon and plane. It likes lots of light but

not direct sunshine. You can divide the roots, but it is easier to propagate by removing the plantlets from the parent.

— Ponytail palm (Beaucarnea, elephant foot). It stores water in the base of its swollen stem. Needs bright light to develop well.

— Wandering jew (Tradescantia, inch plant). Vining plant with small leaves often used in hanging containers. It is durable, but vines become stringy and occasionally must be renewed by starting new plants from easily-rooted cuttings.

— Fern. There are about 10,000 varieties of this graceful plant. It usually likes a temperature of about 75 degrees. It can be potted and easily moved to a porch or outdoor area in summer. Many ferns like filtered light.

Security should be a part of home improvement projects

It's spring again — time to get started on those home improvement projects, like cleaning out the garage or putting a new coat of paint on the house. As consumers head to their nearest hardware or home center stores, it might be a good idea to add a few locks to the shopping list.

When the weather turns warmer, people — including thieves — become more active. The lawn mowers, rototillers, bikes and boats that are left outside can be vulnerable to theft. While garages or sheds keep things out of sight, they also need to be securely locked.

The wide variety of padlocks and other specialty locks on the market should make it easy for homeowners to find locks that suit their needs.

Padlocks securing garage or shed doors often provide the first line of defense against thieves. Look for the words "laminated" and "pin-tumbler" when purchasing padlocks to obtain maximum protection. Brass padlocks are ideal for outdoor use, since they resist the corrosion caused by April showers.

Some manufacturers, like the Master Lock Company, offer convenient "keyed-alike" padlocks (one key opens all the padlocks in the package). With keyed-alike padlocks, homeowners need to carry only one key to open all the padlocks securing their gates.

garages and sheds. Keyed-alike padlocks can be purchased in sets of two ("twin-packs") or four ("four-packs").

Specialty locks can secure tough-to-protect items such as boat motors, campers, trailers, bikes and other outdoor equipment.

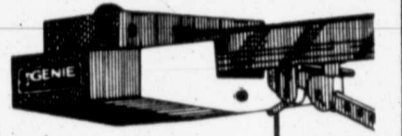
• Outboard motor locks are designed to protect boat motors while they are attached to the boat. To secure the motor against removal, simply slip the vinyl-covered motor-lock tube over the clamp screw handles and fasten the padlock in place.

• Unhitched trailers can be vulnerable to tow-away theft — thieves can simply hitch your camper or boat to their vehicle and drive away. Trailer locks protect off-hitch trailers by fully enclosing and blocking the trailer couplers. They feature locking mechanisms similar to those in heavy-duty padlocks.

• The exclusive Master Armorlock™ provides heavy-duty protection against bolt cutters for campers, bikes, boats and other equipment. This padlock features a rugged shackle guard and revolving shackle to resist cutting.

Master Lock recommends that homeowners buy the highest quality locks they can afford. Locks that provide years of trouble-free service are always a wise investment. SH916024

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Variety of books on garden tips can be found

By The Associated Press
 "To paraphrase the song, if you can garden in New York City, you can garden anywhere," writes Elvin McDonald in his new book, "Northeast Gardening" (Macmillan).

The author, director of special projects at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, assays gardening culture and conditions peculiar to the area stretching from Pennsylvania to Montreal, including gardening in the city, seaside, and suburbs and dealing with colder climates and shorter growing

seasons. One of his more unusual suggestions is to do away with "the chemically dependent monoculture lawn," replacing it with a carpet of moss. His book includes chapters on rotting and dooryard gardens, kitchen gardens, outdoor and indoor gardening, and guidance for propagation, pruning, and growing woody plants.

The book is illustrated with photographs by the author, also a veteran photographer and editor.

How to make gardens in a bot-

tle, train indoor bonsai, and select and maintain houseplants that will thrive in your home environment are some of subjects covered in "The RD Home Handbook of Houseplants" from Reader's Digest.

An gazetteer of popular houseplants, information about maintenance, propagation, potting, and common plant problems also are included. Illustrations will give indoor gardeners ideas about how to decorate with plants.

Also from Reader's Digest is

an updated version of its "Illustrated Guide to Gardening," an comprehensive guide for the home gardener, including step-by-step instructions on growing nearly any plant and controlling pests, diseases and weeds. The book carries a number of charts to help choose, grow, and propagate plants and to learn about new varieties.

Because they're smart and ferocious fighters, pigs that have escaped from domestic life to return to the wild are a potential menace to hikers and campers in wilderness areas. A California man scans the classified ads for lost cats and dogs to predict earthquakes.

Nuggets of information like these, along with planting schedules, weather forecasts, astronomical information, puzzles, amusements and homey advice are included in "The Old Farmer's 1991 Almanac."

The oldest continuously published periodical in the country, this venerable help to the farmer and gardener is chugging toward its bicentennial next year. "In most cases, we've simply outlived the competition. No American

almanac begun in the 18th century has survived, except this one," say Judson Hale, editor, and John Pierce, publisher.

Oh yes, some predictions, to help you cope this year: Smoking, beer drinking, cocaine use, dog bite fatalities and child abuse will be on the wane. But increasing will be use of snuff, heroin, speed, marijuana, "designer drugs," killer bees and illegal dumping of toxic materials.

"The Simple Act of Planting a Tree: Healing Your

Neighborhood, Your City, and Your World" (Jeremy P. Tarcher, Inc.) by Andy and Katie Lipkis is an activists' guide to improving community life and the environment through tree-planting. A project of Tree People, a Beverly Hills, Calif., activist group, the book includes information about organizing the community and getting attention through events and publicity as well as the practical side of planting trees.

New garden tools keep elderly gardening longer

By The Associated Press
 Senior citizens are gardening longer with the aid of new tools.

Many elderly or handicapped gardeners with creaky joints or physical disabilities can use lightweight and special tools, including stools that balance on wheels so they can ride along garden rows. There are rubber knee pads that ease the strain of kneeling on the ground.

The Burpee Company has developed a line of garden tools especially for senior citizens and people with back problems.

Horticulturist Steve Frowine of

Burpee said the line was prompted by numerous letters saying things like "You won't be getting an order from me this year. My arthritis got so bad I can't do any more gardening." Or, "Sorry my order's so small this year. After gardening all my life I had to give it up (except for a few pots) 'cause I can't stoop down any more."

Some of the tools have heads that work at a special angle, anchoring in the soil without the need to lift with each stroke. Instead of hacking and chopping, wearing out your arms and back,

Frowine says, "you just push the tool along the ground, or pull it as you walk, or use an easy push-pull motion."

The handle snaps onto more than a dozen interchangeable tool heads, meaning less weight to carry and less bulk to store. Handles are longer than usual, so most of the gardening is done standing upright, not bending over.

There also are power cultivators — automatic seeders that also make the later task of thinning seedlings easier.

A rake attachment helps cover seeds with fine soil. Other work savers are an edge trimmer and a tree trimmer.

Mulching and use of drip irrigation simplify garden tasks. Some other ideas for easier gardening: Choose plants that are easy to grow, including marigolds, cornflowers, zucchini squash and chard. Grow tomatoes in wire cages rather than on stakes. Grow pole beans instead of bush beans. Grow small root crops and leafy greens in bands or wide rows, rather than single rows, to get greater yields per square foot.

Frowine also suggests doing garden chores early in the morning or early evening, when the sun's heat won't leave you so weary. Grow some of your flowers in planter boxes and containers on the patio, where they're handy to fuss over and to enjoy.

More advice: Garden with a young friend or a grandchild. "Their presence will increase your pleasure and perhaps spare you some of the harder chores."

Landscaping tips with patios and decks

According to the new book, *Better Homes and Gardens Step-by-Step Landscaping*, an outdoor "room" such as a patio or deck is the perfect spring home improvement project. They cost much less to build than an indoor room and barely disrupt the household during construction.

Better Homes and Gardens Books editors devote a major section of the 336-page *Step-by-Step Landscaping* to patios, decks and enhancements and alternatives to these landscaping projects such as sun rooms, gazebos and pools.

Here is how the editors suggest you compare the options in deciding between one of these projects:

- Outdoor rooms need to be about the same size as the largest indoor rooms. Measure your patio furniture and add enough room for pulling out chairs and walking around.

- Decks have a soft look and are more in accordance with a wooden house or a rustic setting. They do not reflect unwanted heat and light.

- Patios have a more permanent look and feel. And their reflected heat feels great in the spring. Because of the wide variety of paving materials available, patios can complement any style of

house and landscape. They do require level ground, though.

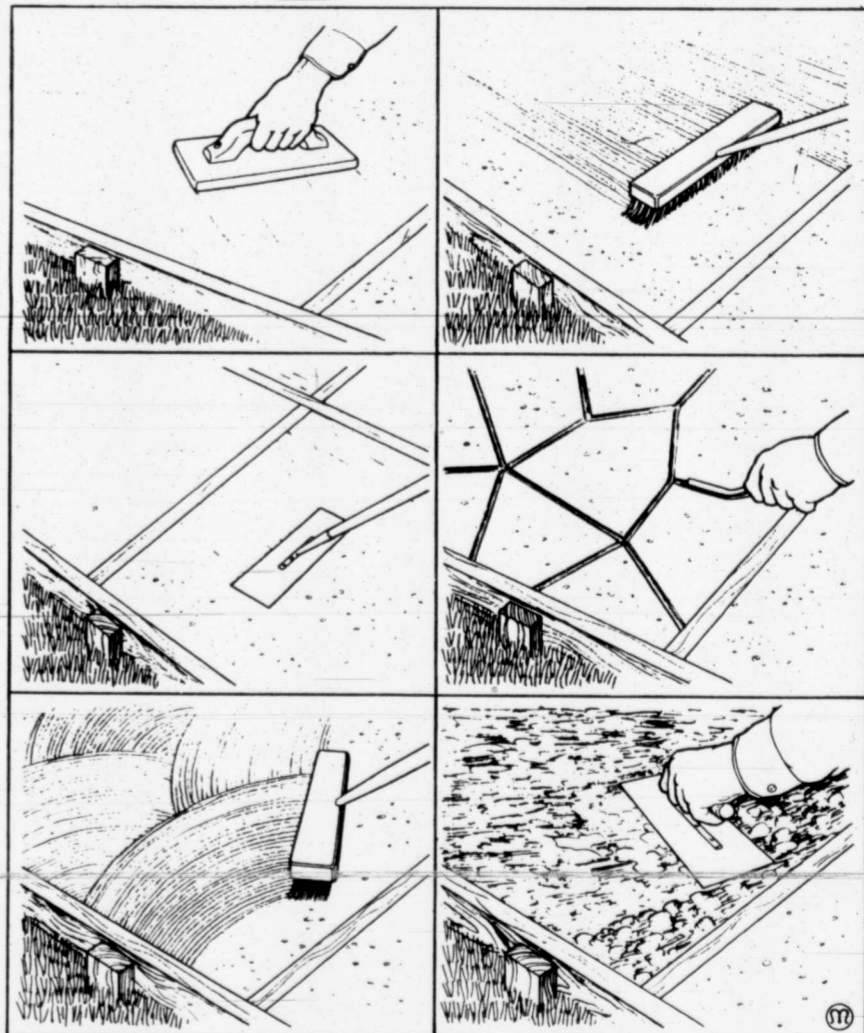
- The greatest advantage of decks is that, because they do not require level land, they can make a terrible terrain lovely and useful. Decks also can be built over old, cracked concrete without the expense or work of tearing it out. A good combination is a deck at the floor level of the house, with steps leading down to a patio in the garden.

- Either project will be enjoyed for weeks longer on both sides of summer if you build around a fire pit. Some fire pits can double as low tables in hot weather.

- Renters or those who want an instant outdoor room while forming

their landscaping plans should consider building a portable deck. These units can be built in a day, moved from sun to shade with the season, and stored away for the winter. Later, they can be placed permanently.

- The wood of decks blends well with hot tubs, while the solid surface of a patio works better around most swimming pools, though there can be exceptions. Because of its formality, a patio best fits most ornamental pools or fountains. Decks easily expand to include sandboxes and play structures.



CONCRETE SURFACE TREATMENTS — The new *Better Homes and Gardens* book, *Step-by-Step Landscaping*, provides tips for different surfaces, including swirl textures with a trowel, straight broom textures, a checkerboard pattern, geometric shapes that resemble flagstones, a wavy broom finish and a keystone finish with a mortar of white cement and sand trowelled onto a coarse concrete surface.

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WEED and FEED SPECIAL

Vast history of roses goes back millennia

NEW YORK (AP) - Where do you begin exploring the vast world of roses — a world whose history goes back millennia?

Roses were found in the ancient tombs of Egypt and in fossils in Oregon and Colorado. The rose appears in illustrations of 430 B.C. in China. The Roman naturalist Pliny lists 32 remedies made of rose petals and leaves.

The white rose was the emblem of the England's House of York and the red rose represented the House of Lancaster. Thus, when the two fought, their battles became known as the Wars of the Roses.

The oldest known rose is the gallic rose, also known as the apothecary rose for its medicinal uses.

Roses seem to be everywhere, but experts remind us that they are native only to the northern hemisphere.

The rose known today is the result of an East-West meeting: A blend of the old sweet-smelling European rose that bloomed once a year and the Chinese tea rose that bloomed again and again. The first hybrid tea rose combining these dates back to 1867.

The hybrid tea is what one sees in the florist shops and in many gardens. But that's just one branch — the biggest — of an immense family. Bev Dobson of Irvington, N.Y., lists more than 7,000 roses in her annual "Combined Rose List" this year and doesn't pretend that's all there are.

Roses come in colors ranging

from purple to white to bright red. They climb, ramble and stand tall, have very or barely thorny stems. They can be bushes standing 5 to 7 feet high and just as wide or plants with just a few stems crowned with flowers. There are miniature roses which do not grow more than about 12 inches high and have flowers an inch or less across.

Rose experts agree that roses will grow in any of the 50 states, inside or outdoors. Public rose gardens can be found from Anchorage, Alaska, to Walt Disney World in Florida. Tyler, Texas; Wasco, Calif.; and Portland, Ore., are just a few of the cities with annual rose festivals.

Roses usually need five to six hours of sun a day — or plant lights if they're grown indoors, experts say. They need well-drained soil and about one inch of water a week. The soil should have a "PH" (acid) reading of 5.5 to 6.5.

Charles Nardozi, horticulturist for the National Gardening Association in Burlington, Vt., says Felicite Parmentier and Great Maiden's Blush, Blanc Double de Coubert, Madame Hardy and Henry Martin are all doing beautifully in his garden.

Stephen Scanniello, co-author with Tania Bayard of "Roses of America: The Brooklyn Botanic Garden's Guide to Our National Flower," has Safrano, a tea rose of a type imported from China in

the 1860s, and a miniature rose growing outside in summer and indoors in winter in New York City.

Roses have all sorts of names. Some honor a well-known individual. Barbara Bush, a pink hybrid tea rose, is making her debut this year, courtesy of the Jackson & Perkins nursery in Medford, Ore.

Others mark events: Brandenburg Gate appeared last year to honor the fall of the Berlin Wall. Awakening, Scanniello tells us, was found in a garden in Czechoslovakia as that country was doing away with communism. Awakening is also distinctive because it's a sport of

a sport. A sport is a plant that deviates from the normal behavior of its group. Awakening is a sport of the climber New Dawn because Awakening is solid pink instead of having just a blush of pink. New Dawn, the first rose ever patented, is a sport of Dr. Van Fleet because new dawn is a repeat bloomer instead of blooming just once a season.

Some roses are touted as All-America selections. This means they have passed a two-year test growing in trial gardens across the country. They're judged for hardiness, disease resistance, flowers, and ability to grow in a variety of climates. Only a small

fraction of the plants submitted by amateur and professional growers worldwide pass the test and go on to be displayed in public gardens nationwide before they appear on the market.

Public gardens, rose fanciers agree, are one of the best ways for the average gardener to find out what grows well in a given area. Nursery catalogs and the abundant, lavishly illustrated literature on roses give other clues. So do numerous rose fanciers' organizations.

Experiments are seeking better was to preserve seeds

By The Associated Press— Seeds are being put to sleep with laughing gas, or nitrous oxide, in experiments seeking newer and better ways to preserve them.

Dr. Sharon Sowa of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Research Service describes her work at the National Seed Storage Laboratory in Fort Collins, Colo., as "insurance against seed extinction and keeping them available to breed agricultural plants for drought tolerance, disease resistance and other traits."

Sowa, a chemist, slowed respiration of cell components in snap beans by 35 percent, by anesthetizing them with blown

Lovers of basic, old-fashioned roses could also follow the advice of Thomas Christopher, author of "In Search of Lost Roses," and visit old graveyards and home sites in their communities. The south is a treasure trove in this respect, he says. Chances are the searcher will find roses that have survived with little or no care for generations. A cutting from such a bush can become a bush in one's own garden. Just put it in a rooting mixture until it starts to grow.

air that was 80 percent nitrous oxide. Thirty minutes later, she reports they germinated normally.

Her goal is to find a way to safely keep hard-to-store seeds. That way may be "to treat seeds someday much like doctors treat their patients in surgery," by slowing life processes within the seeds.

She says most seeds can be stored safely either in temperature-controlled rooms or frozen in liquid nitrogen, but not those from tropical and subtropical plants, such as passion fruit and macadamia nuts.

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Preserving is old as the ages

By The Associated Press Preserving your own summer produce for winter use is as old as the ages, but new techniques make it a smart, modern practice.

"New varieties of crops and lesser-known vegetables and fruits that are gaining popularity with home gardeners offer a multitude of creative preserving possibilities," says nutritionist Gail L. Becker. Some tips for home canners:

— Don't change or substitute ingredients in canning recipes. Fruits and vegetables differ in their acidity, and reducing acid content can cause spoilage. Sugar and salt, called for in many recipes, are traditional preservatives.

— Use only jars, lids and bands intended for home canning. Make sure they are free of chips, cracks or other defects.

— Don't use recipes or procedures from old cookbooks, since safe canning techniques may have been updated since their publication. A good source of current information is your local cooperative extension agent.

— Don't deviate from processing times specified in recipes. And when processing is completed, remove the jars immediately and let them cool on a rack or dish towel away from drafts.

— When jars are completely cool — in about 12 hours — check the seals. Jars with flat metal lids are sealed if the lid has popped down in the center, does not move when pressed down and gives a clear ring sound when tapped with a spoon. If the jar isn't properly sealed, refrigerate or freeze the contents.

Becker, who serves as a consultant to Sweet 'N Low, says that the diet sweetener is heat stable and can be used to preserve your own low-calorie, sugar-reduced preserves, spreads and relishes. Recipes and canning, preserving and freezing tips for these are included in "Preserving the Bounty, Conserving the Calories," published by the company and tested by the Pennsylvania State University College of Agriculture. For a booklet, send \$1.50 to Cumberland Packing Corp., Dept. PTB, 60 Flushing Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11205.

Ratatouille vegetables

By The Associated Press

The tastiest ratatouille comes from ingredients grown in a kitchen garden near your door.

Most recipes will use these vegetables:

— Zucchini. The summer squash grows green, yellow, gray and black. Pick them as they ripen so the vine can concentrate on new fruit. Many plants use lots of space; trim long runners after the fruit has set.

— Eggplant. Most familiar in purple, this vegetable also comes in sweeter white-fleshed varieties, in white and purple streaks, and even green or red. They can be as small as an egg or as big as a football. Plant them 10 days after the last frost. Harvest them with clippers while young, tender, and shiny.

— Tomato. They're red, of course, but they're orange, yellow and green, too, in many sizes and shapes. Plant them after the last frost, when evening temperatures hit 55 degrees. Set tall varieties at the side of the garden so they won't shadow other plants. They should be planted deep into the ground so leaves are just above soil level.

— Peppers. Finger-shaped or bells; green, red, yellow or orange; sweet or hot, grow these to your tastes. Don't set out transplants until night temperatures are consistently above 55 degrees. Harvest them with pruning shears or a knife.

— Onions. They grow beneath the soil as the weather warms, with leafy tops to show their location. Once the tops begin to yellow and fall over, the onions are ready to harvest by pulling up. Dry them in the sun for three or four days, then store in mesh bags in a cool, ventilated place.

— Garlic. A relative of the onion, garlic should be planted in the fall. Harvest clove clusters much the same way as onions.

Vegetables should be planted in a spot which receives at least six hours of sunlight each day. The site should be well drained and close to the house for easy maintenance and harvest. Canadian Spaghnum Peat Moss recommends soil that is at least one-third organic matter and says its peat moss will hold 20 times its weight in water, releasing it slowly to nourish the plants. It binds sand, thereby reducing leaching of fertilizers, and aerates clay, giving roots room to grow. Dig the garden bed to a depth of 8 to 12 inches. Mix in a ratio of one part peat moss and

two parts soil.

Vegetable gardens should get at least an inch of water each week. If insufficient rainfall leaves ground dry to the touch, give the garden a deep, penetrating soaking. Organic fertilizers should be added before tilling, so the nutrients will be well mixed in with the soil.

Cracks in your home may burn a hole in your pocket

The costs of keeping up a home seem to rise every year and homeowners find themselves putting off vacations in order to meet expenses. But there is a money-saving measure all homeowners can take that makes those sacrifices unnecessary: insulation.

How can you tell if your home is leaking energy dollars? With summer just around the corner, now is the perfect time to assess your home's insula-

tion, and make sure that the money you're spending on cooling (and, in winter, on heating) literally isn't going out the window.

Air infiltration, the process through which costly energy leaks occur, can happen in numerous places in the average home: between eaves, under thresholds, between baseboards, under exhaust ducts, around chimneys, under and on top of loose sid-

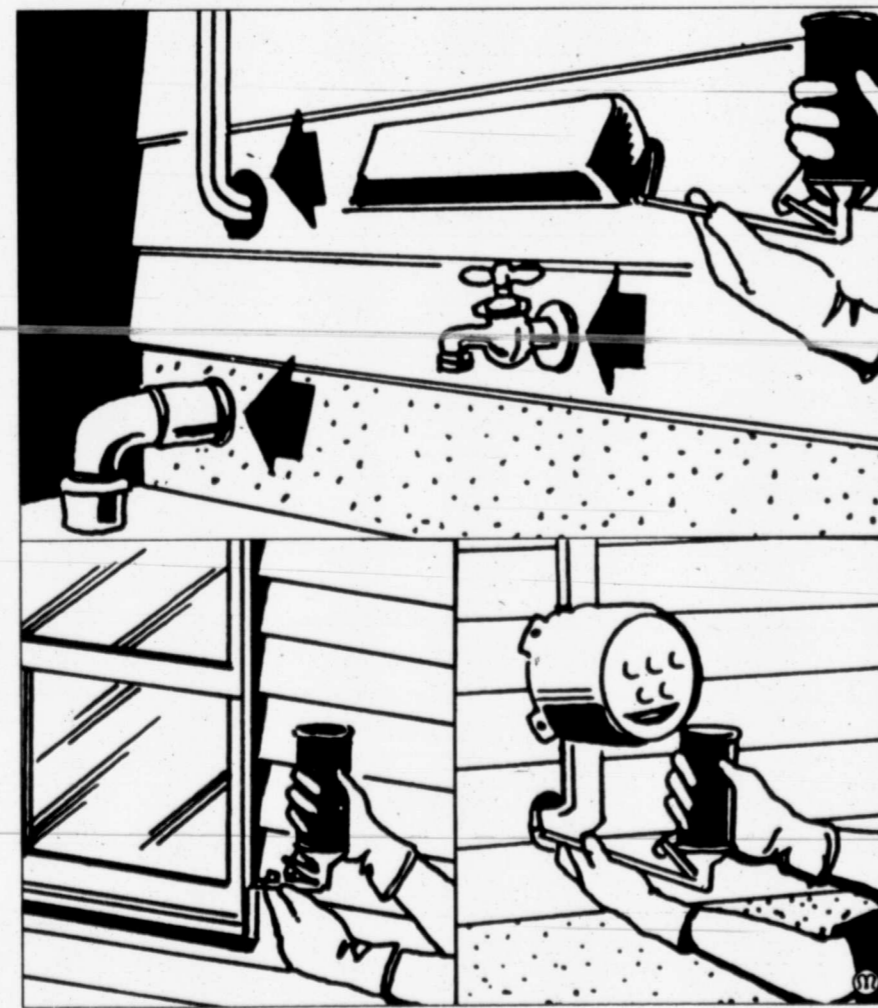
ing, and between corner joints and flashings, to name just a few.

So, it is especially important to check carefully for those places where wasteful energy leakage may be occurring and make sure they are sealed effectively.

Even if the walls and attic of your house are adequately insulated, you still may be losing energy through random cracks and through spaces around doors and windows. In fact, these often-overlooked areas can account for at least 38 percent of the energy loss from the typically insulated home.

According to the Home Energy Saver's Workbook, published by the United States Federal Energy Administration in 1977, "In a well-insulated house, the largest source of energy loss can be the air leaks around windows and doors and through other cracks."

Amazing as that may seem, even more amazing is the fact that, of all areas in the home, these are among the simplest and the least costly to insulate effectively — yet, too often, they simply are neglected.



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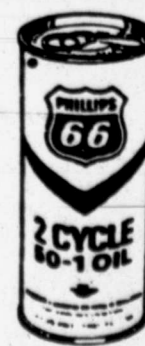
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Victory gardens were born in war times

By The Associated Press
Victory Gardens, born in war times, teach fundamentals about getting your own food from nature. And about sharing.

Fifty years after World War II, Americans may find growing their own fruits and vegetables profitable as well as healthful, as their grandparents did then. With war in the Persian Gulf possibly increasing oil and transportation costs and an uncertain economy at home and abroad, having your own food resource could be smart, as well as pleasurable.

World War II Victory Gardens flourished in vacant lots, bits of parks and housing developments, city rooftops, and even old parking lots. Governments and garden clubs encouraged people to try growing fresh, healthful vegetables to supplement rationing and offset wartime food shortages, caused by hoarding or lend-lease to allies. (Some lend-lease purchases were frantic and haphazard. Among purchases were 100,000 pounds of cucumber seed for the Russians.)

School cooking or home economics classes were pressed into service for canning or preserving surplus harvests. You could buy cans. Instructors showed you how to process and pack vegetables and fruits grown on what once had been rock-strewn, debris-filled land cleared and doctored for planting.

Often Victory Gardens were the basis for social gatherings. Friendships developed. Seeds and seedlings were exchanged by gardeners. Harvests often were shared; surpluses were given to churches, clubs, and fraternal

organizations. I learned about sharing during my own Victory Garden days.

In Maine, Arthur Hawkins, late farm reporter for the Portland Press-Herald, a good friend and neighbor, shared chores. Together we visited famed author Kenneth Roberts at Kennebunkport, where we watched him douse for water with forked twigs and left him vegetable seedlings in exchange for tiny, orange-colored Dutch potatoes.

I learned about another kind of sharing through my reporting work. A tip from the owner of a Maine boys' camp led me to widely published story about some of his campers who had volunteered to pick snap beans — for free — for a farmer who couldn't find harvesters for his ripening crop because of the wartime labor shortage.

During that period, I had a half acre under cultivation, mostly with vegetables. At harvest, we would load our car with produce to deliver to friends too busy, lazy or without gasoline to come and get them. Those who declined our prolific summer squash got no corn. (Did you ever taste hot, buttered sweet corn cooked minutes after picking?)

Before I had my own big yard in Maine, a friendly dairy farmer allowed me to plant a Victory Garden on one of his empty pastures, with free manure. In return, I assisted with his haying and once helped free a pregnant cow from a muddy ditch and deliver twin calves. Both calves were female; one was named Earlene in my honor.

Though there is no rationing emergency today, the war and the economy could make a Victory Garden a sensible project.

The biggest impact on food prices may come from swings in oil prices. Dr. Dick Edwards of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service says foods hardest hit by increased transportation costs will include certain fresh produce, frozen seafoods and many imported fruits and vegetables.

He estimates the cost of fuels and electric components at about 5 percent of retail food prices.

"Higher oil prices eventually will raise the many costs of the food chain, from agricultural chemicals to plastic pop bottles," Edwards says. "This also would include wrapping materials on many packaged items. Rising costs eventually will put upward pressure on labor costs, and the overall rise in food costs could easily hit 10 percent."

Vegetable gardening is an enjoyable, environmentally safe hobby that could give you fresh produce worth 10 to 15 times your investment in seeds and tools.

A vegetable garden can yield \$200 to \$500 worth of produce while the cost of seeds, chemicals and miscellaneous supplies for such a garden is about \$20 to \$35, says Les Taylor, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service home garden specialist.

Community gardens can be used by people who do not have their own land, though the drawbacks are being bound by a schedule, improving a lot one year that you might not use the next, and vandalism. If you can arrange it, you're better off using part of a neighbor's plot.

"Vegetable Gardens don't have to be located in the back yard, nor do they have to be laid out like cemeteries," says Taylor. "Vegetables can be grown beside flowers or in containers."

To ensure a steady supply of fresh vegetables, plant cool-weather crops such as peas, onions, beets, radishes and kohlrabi, which are not damaged by minor frost, and warm-season crops such as sweet corn and snap beans. Many vegetables may be started indoors and then transplanted outdoors when the ground warms.

Tomato loses flavor quickly

By The Associated Press

A vine-ripened tomato begins to lose its aroma about three minutes after you slice it, so don't cut into it unless you plan to eat it right away.

"That's why the tomato you put in your sandwich when you're packing your lunch in the morning has little fresh tomato flavor by noon," says Dr. Ronald G. Buttery of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Research Service. He is studying the secrets of fresh tomato aroma.

Dr. Buttery confirms the advice not to store tomatoes in the refrigerator. He says tomatoes kept refrigerated for seven days in laboratory experiments had less of the aroma-imparting chemical than did tomatoes kept at room temperature.

"Even some tomatoes that were originally picked and shipped long before they were ripe, but were later allowed to ripen naturally at room temperature, had about the same amount of key aroma chemicals as freshly picked, vine-ripened tomatoes," he says.

Buttery's research at the USDA's Albany, Calif., Center could result in new varieties that have the rich, sweet taste of a vine-ripened harvest, yet are hardy enough to withstand shipment from grower to market. Commercially grown tomatoes typically are picked before they are ripe because that's when they are firm enough to survive shipment.

If you store seeds, keep them in a cool, dry place, such as a tightly closed jar in a refrigerator.

Concentrate on nutrition and volume in vegetable production. Give increased space to root

crops; keep your garden's fertility built up because fertilizers become scarce in a major war.

One seedman has suggested that Victory Gardens, sometimes called Economy or War Gardens,

might not be of the same value as in the past should there be atomic warfare. Above-ground plantings of lettuce, tomatoes and corn may not fare as well as root crops like potatoes, carrots and beets.

Not every insect is an enemy

Don't go around swatting every insect you see. It may be a friend.

Among all the animals in the world, about seven out of 10 are insects, says Dr. Horace Burke, a longtime insect researcher at the Texas Agricultural Station. Most people, he says, go on a killing rampage when they see insects.

"I don't kill them," Burke says. "Well, maybe if it's a flea, I would. Even for an entomologist, there are certain insects we would rather not be associated with."

Except for the flea, Burke looks for the good in bugs and finds a lot of it. He would argue that except for the flea, humans could not exist without insects pollinating food crops, eating pesky bugs, feeding larger animals, or devouring carrion. Humankind needs insects, he says.

"When you take one group of organisms out, it changes another. Either we couldn't live without them or if we did, it would be a different world." He estimates there were some 750,000 known species of insects in the world and thinks perhaps another 10 million are yet to be identified.

"Regardless of whether they bite, transmit diseases, look pretty or suck the blood of your dog," there is great diversity, says Burke, a taxonomist for Texas A&M University's one million-specimen insect collection. "We always hear about the bad insects; the boll weevils, screwworms and mosquitos. We never hear the other side."

Insects, he points out, pollinate billions of dollars worth of crops every year in the United States. "Bees and other insects are valued at \$19 billion a year for their pollinating activities. I don't think anyone doubts the value of them."

Many non-crop plants also depend heavily on pollinating insects, he adds. The yucca, for example depends entirely on the yucca moth to reproduce.

No dollar value has been determined for the predator and parasite insects, Burke adds, but such insects act as a natural con-

trol for more damaging insects. Many species of flies and wasps grow up feeding on caterpillar bodies, for example. Control of the citrus blackfly and the sugarcane borer has been accomplished by parasitic insects.

Researchers are seeking an effective parasite for wheat aphids and the boll weevil. Ladybugs are welcome in gardens.

"For some larger animals, Burke says, 'insects are a very large percentage of their food.'"

"Toads are valuable in home gardens for the number of insects they eat," adds Dr. Jim Dixon, wildlife researcher.

Insects also serve as scavengers, according to Burke.

"They are disposal units. They reduce carrion and garbage. They break down wood, too, and are decomposers of animal bodies. In this way they serve humans." Several types of beetles crave animal or vegetable matter. Dung beetles bury cattle manure, and that reduces fly problems, he adds.

Some insects are simply pretty. Burke notes a trend in for certain plants to attract butterflies. There are butterfly houses (zoos) in several areas.

"Insects are wonderfully complex regardless of what they do," Burke says. "A little gnat or fly has such a complex life."

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