



BIG SPRING Herald



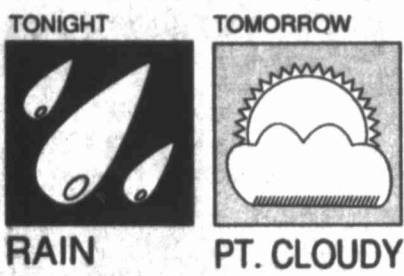
14 Pages 2 Sections

Vol. 63 No. 128

October 30, 1991

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Weather



TONIGHT: RAIN TOMORROW: PT. CLOUDY

Tonight, rain likely. Low in the lower 30s. Northeast wind 10-20 mph. Rain chance is 70 percent.

Thursday, a chance of rain in the morning, becoming partly cloudy in the afternoon.



Records

Tuesday's high temp.	53
Tuesday's low temp.	32
Average high	74
Average low	46
Record high	92 in 1943
Record low	22 in 1917
Rainfall Tuesday	0.00
Month to date	2.92
Month's normal	1.87
Year to date	25.63
Normal for year	16.91

On the side

Ray: Early voting light

Howard County Clerk Margaret Ray said early voting for the Nov. 5 election is running way behind previous turnouts.

"We've had 525 voters through 5 p.m. yesterday. And we've mailed out 45 and today was the last day for us to mail out ballots," Ray said.

Howard County has nearly 17,000 registered voters. Early voting ballots may be cast through Friday at 5 p.m. in Ray's office in the Howard County Courthouse.

Big Spring VA hosts carnival

The Big Spring VA Medical Center will have a Halloween Carnival from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Thursday at the hospital. Proceeds will benefit the United Way campaign.

Pat Atkins, patient representative at the medical center, said the event is open to the public. There will be games of chance and merchandise and food for sale. Employees will operate the booths and some will be dressed in costume.

The carnival will be in the recreation hall on the second floor of the hospital. Tickets cost 25 cents.

Frantic for food



An elderly woman loses her glasses in the rush of people scrambling for food in Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia Tuesday. For more information, see page 3-A.

Index

Comics	6B
Lifestyle	5A
Opinion	4A
State	2A
Nation	3A
Sports	1B
Want ads	3B
World	3A

To contact the Herald: Phone 263-7331



Hannan Ashrawi, a Palestinian activist and spokeswoman for the Palestinian delegation, center, holds an impromptu news conference amid a crush of reporters in Madrid Tuesday.

Peace talks convene

MADRID, Spain (AP) — Israelis and Arabs opened historic talks today aimed at overcoming four decades of hostility and war in the Middle East. President Bush implored them to strike a deal centered on territorial compromise and permanent treaties.

"Peace in the Middle East need not be a dream," Bush said at the dramatic opening of the first peace talks in a generation.

Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev forcefully seconded the call for compromise. "It would be unforgivable to miss this opportunity," he said.

But in a chilling reminder of the Middle East's bloody politics, a powerful Iranian hard-liner influential with Lebanese terrorist groups said today that all peace conference participants should be killed.

In Madrid, Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa, the first Arab delegate to speak, said the conference heralded "a new era in the Middle East."

But Egypt, the only Arab country to have made peace with Israel, took a hard line. Moussa demanded recognition of the rights of Palestinians, denounced Jewish settlements in occupied lands and insisted Israel should not "exercise a monopoly" over Jerusalem, which is holy to Jews and Muslims alike.

As the talks opened, the splendor of Spain's Royal Palace and its rich tapestries could not mask the underlying tensions. One Israeli delegate said she tried to shake the hand of a Lebanese negotiator, but was snubbed. Other than that, handshakes were simply avoided.

By their presence, Bush and Gorbachev lent their influence and

prestige to the talks, the first since a 1973 parley in Geneva collapsed in a day.

Ahead lay months or years of delicate talks designed to move ancient foes away from the brink of war. "Peace will only come as a result of direct negotiations. Compromise. Give and take," said Bush.

He laid out a timetable for an Israeli-Palestinian settlement, urging a completion of terms for limited self-rule on the West Bank and in Gaza in a year's time.

Trying to coax the two sides to take chances, Bush assured them that subsequent negotiation on a permanent settlement would be "determined on their own merits." The apparent U.S. message was that an interim arrangement could be experimental — and not binding on the final situation.

Wife testifies at trial

By PATRICK DRISCOLL Staff Writer

COLORADO CITY — The wife of a man accused of murder admitted her love for the man shot to death May 19 during testimony in district court here Tuesday.

In testimony Monday, law officers said Eddie Martinez, 40, of Colorado City, told them he shot three times at Florentino Sanchez Jr., 31, of Loraine, with a .22-caliber rifle after Sanchez attempted to fire an unloaded .22-caliber pistol first, three times, and then locked himself in a bathroom.

Officers said Martinez told them he went to Sanchez's home with the rifle to question Sanchez about an alleged affair with his wife. Martinez this morning began testifying in his own defense in the trial in 32nd Judicial District Court.

Martinez's wife of 15 years, Yolanda Martinez of Rio Grande City, testified that she loved Sanchez but had a plutonic relationship with him that began after she moved to Rio Grande City in April. She said she and her husband were friends with Sanchez for seven years.

"He was my friend. He was always there when I needed a friend," said Yolanda, the last of seven witnesses called by the prosecution. "When I left my husband, then we started getting closer, but after I left Eddie."

Questions regarding any trouble in the Martinez's marriage were not allowed by District Judge Weldon Kirk.

The trial, which began Monday, is expected to end tonight or Thursday morning following testimony from five to six witnesses to be called by the defense. Martinez, dressed in a full suit and tie, appeared composed and showed little outward emotion through the trial so far.

Under questioning by defense attorney Wayne Basden, Yolanda Martinez denied that her relationship with Sanchez involved sex.

Basden read from four letters and two cards addressed to Sanchez that contained her signature and which said she loved Sanchez and asked him to come to her. One letter asked for financial help, which, she said from the stand, she received.

"Sometimes you show appreciation to someone . . . how you really feel," said Yolanda Martinez, who several times appeared on the verge of tears.

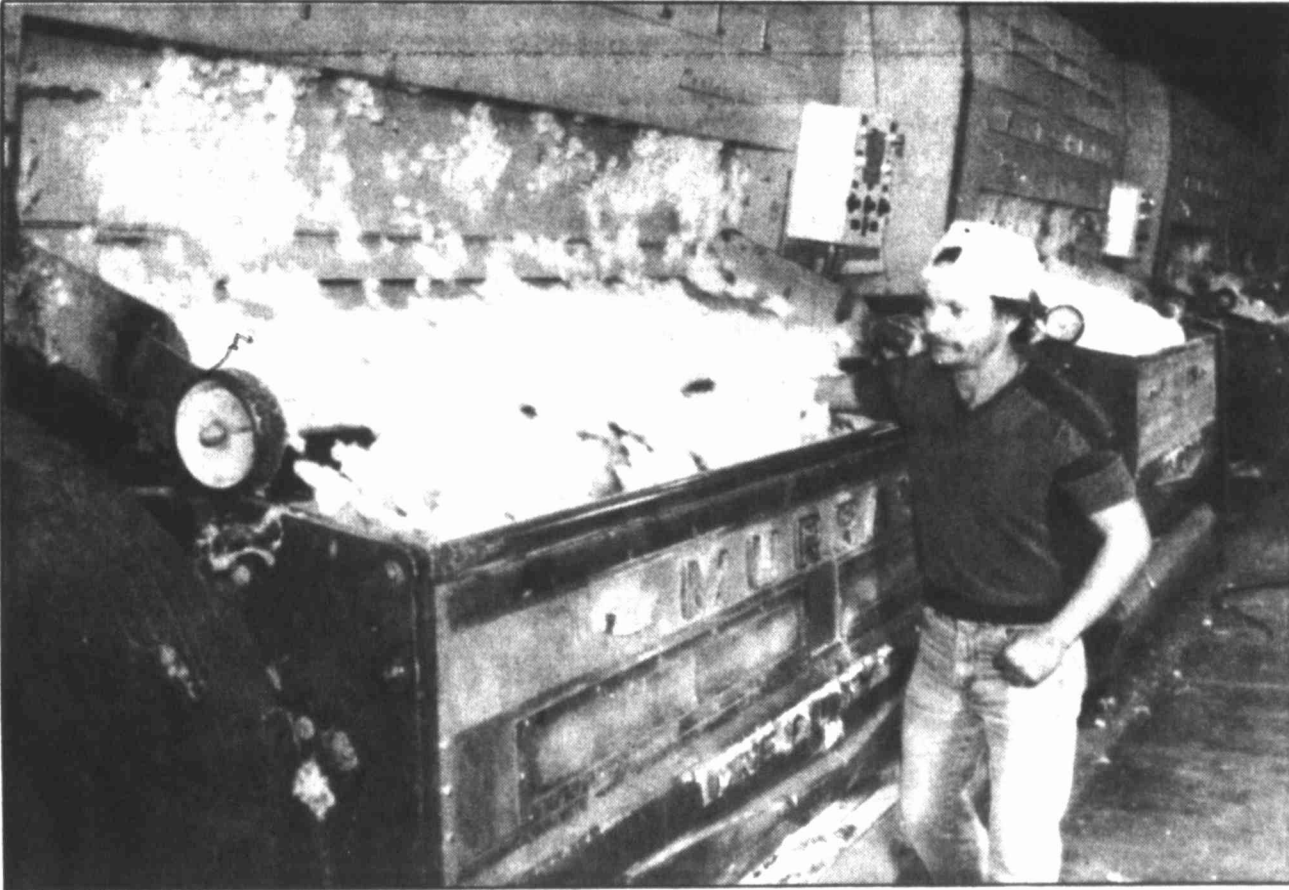
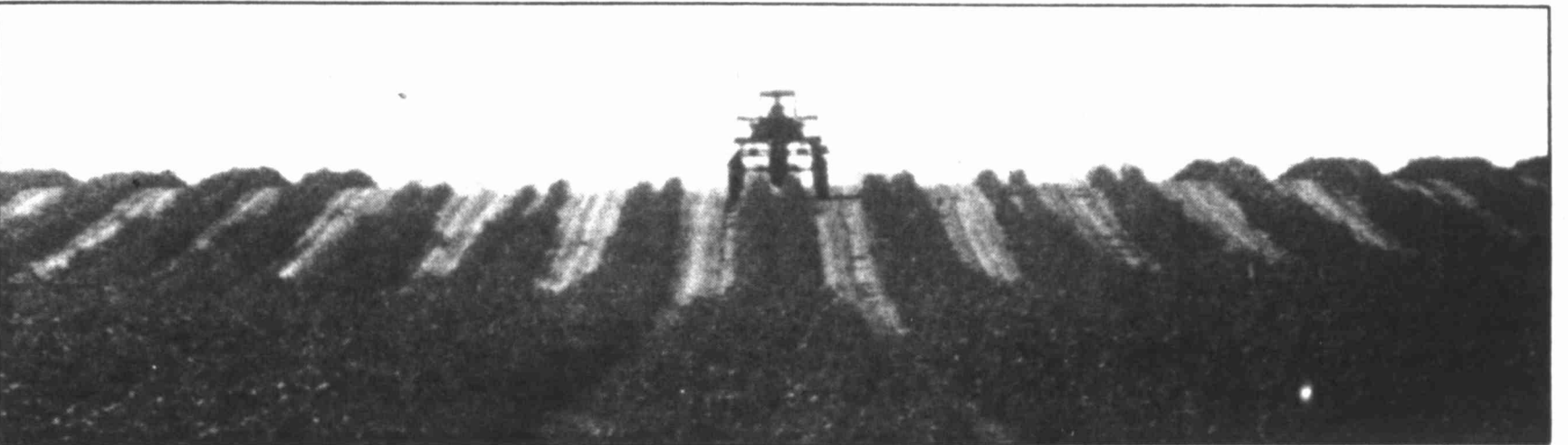
Asked about allegations that she had marks on her chest and that her blouse was turned inside when she returned from Rio Grande City to Colorado City on May 16 to see one of her four children compete in a track meet, Yolanda denied both.

"Didn't Eddie and the children say something about the hickies on your chest and that your blouse was inside out?" Basden asked.

"I didn't have any marks at all," she said. "My blouse was the way it was supposed to be."

Yolanda Martinez also denied that her daughter chased Sanchez away from their home at least once

About cotton-picking time



Cotton harvesting season is just around the corner for area farmers, who have begun defoliating the cotton plants and stripping the cotton recently, as shown at top. Gilbert Nerwon, an employee at the Coop Gin of Big Spring, bottom photo, runs his hand through a delinter Tuesday afternoon. The gin, which opened for the ginning season last Thursday, is one of a handful of gins open already.

Herald photos by Tim Appel

Bankers defend minority lending practices

By MARTHA E. FLORES Staff Writer

Though a recent study called the mortgage lending practices of United States banks into question, few of the problems detailed in the study seem to exist in Big Spring.

The Federal Reserve Bank's study of more than 9,300 financial institutions found that minorities are rejected for home mortgages two to four times more often than whites.

The study found that, overall, 14.4 percent of white applicants were rejected for home mortgages in 1990, compared with 21.4 percent for Hispanics and 33.9 percent for blacks.

But in interviews with the Herald, officials from First National Bank, Security State Bank and State National Bank indicated that they carefully monitor their banks' presence in the minority community.

Due to the regulations set by the Federal governments, the banks are not allowed to keep records on the ethnic origins of its applicants.

"We do not keep any minority records, with the exception of applications related to the Housing Act," said Jim Purcell, president of the State National Bank. "Furthermore, Regulation B prohibits banks to determine lending practices on any discriminatory basis. We do not consider the applicants' race, creed or religion when mak-

'Strong effort made locally'

By MARTHA E. FLORES Staff Writer

Banks are making an effort to entice minority customers in an effort to comply with the Community Reinvestment Act. However, there is still a significant gap between the number of minority borrowers and white borrowers.

Lily F. Tecero, associate director of the University of Texas at the Permian Basin's Small Business Development Center said "The multitude of factors that come into play complicates the issue. I do not consider it discriminatory. But banks have to make a profit and many minority applicants do not have an existing credit history or the

equity needed to take out a loan. The question is how do you bring these two together."

Tecero sees a trend in which individuals who do not have the initial large capital injection will go in business in the service sector.

"Manufacturing and even retail initially demand a large amount of capital, therefore you see many minorities going into the food service industry or other such service oriented business that do not have such demands," she said.

Bank efforts to lessen the gap range from offering free government check cashing to edu-

EFFORT page 8-A

ing those decisions. We look at credit worthiness and use prudent business practices that will not eliminate any sector of the community."

Banks are complying with the Community Reinvestment Act, which states that financial institutions have to meet the needs of the community, including its low and moderate income sectors. The act does not focus specifically on minority groups.

Banks are evaluated on an annual basis by the Federal Deposit Insurance Company or the Office of the Controller of Currency on their compliance. The findings are available to the public.

The five performance categories range from excellent to substantial noncompliance.

The three local banks received the second to the highest rating: satisfactory.

A random sampling is done by

the individual banks to determine if they are penetrating all sectors of the city.

"From the depiction of the random sampling graph, we are serving the needs of the community," said Lonnie Smith, vice-president and compliance officer at Security State Bank. "And yes, I do believe we meet the needs of the minority community without focusing on specific ethnic groups."

The First National Bank is taking it a step further than offering free government check cashing services; the bank has set up the Community Resource Development Committee to find ways to better serve the minority sectors. The committee allows bank officials to meet with minority community leaders to discuss how to improve services to those sectors of the community.

"We do advertising in Spanish and distribute literature in Spanish on the services we provide," said Bruce Griffith, senior vice president. "We are also planning an educational seminar for the beginning of the year on checking accounts, how to apply for loans and explaining other services and benefits that we offer."

The local banks' relations with the minority community aren't as bleak as the Federal Reserve study suggests. Each bank does what the officers determine necessary to meet the needs of the community.

Sidelines

Jury declines to indict man

DALLAS (AP) — A Dallas County prosecutor says he hopes that a grand jury's action in refusing to indict an elderly man for murder in the suffocation death of his wife will not encourage other people to do the same thing.

First Assistant District Attorney Norman Kinne made the remark Tuesday after a grand jury did not indict Robert Trent, 86, who was accused of suffocating his wife, Sarah, 88, with a pillow on Sept. 28. Trent then tried to kill himself with a drug overdose, authorities said.

The couple, who had been married 54 years, were discovered in their apartment at the Presbyterian Village North retirement community. Mrs. Trent had Alzheimer's disease and was unable to care for herself, police said.

Trent could not be reached Tuesday, and his attorney declined to comment, the Dallas Morning News reported.

Group wants name change

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Residents of a neighborhood with a large black population have asked for help from civic groups in changing the name of Jefferson Davis Middle School to Thurgood Marshall Middle School.

The name of Jefferson Davis, the Confederate president, represents the "vile and corrupt" government that condoned slavery, community leaders say.

The San Antonio school board is expected to take up the name controversy at a meeting next month, district officials said Tuesday.

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SUNSET TAVERN HALLOWEEN PARTY. Thursday, October 31. Prizes for the best costume. Free food. 50 cent draft beer. 7-10 p.m. Ya'll come!

THE DRIFTER LOUNGE. 1310 West 4th. Halloween Dance Thursday night. Prizes! Live band, "Sangria Tejano."

There will be a Country Western special by the "MELODY MAIDS", Thursday, October 31, 7-8 p.m. at the Kentwood Adult Center. Public welcome.

Be sure to check out the Professional Services Directory located in the Classified section for new and established services/businesses in the local area!

HELP! VOLUNTEERS needed to help with cats at the Humane Society adoption center. Two hours per week can make a difference. Call 267-7832.

Call Amy or Darci about the **BIG 3 RATE** today, at the Big Spring Herald, 263-7331.

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Official forecasts light election turnout

AUSTIN (AP) — Early voting for Tuesday's constitutional amendment election has been light, and the secretary of state's projection indicates turnout in the lottery balloting may be below the vote to legalize race track gambling.

Secretary of State John Hannah has forecast a turnout of more than 20 percent, which would compare with a 30.6 percent turnout for the pari-mutuel referendum in 1987.

Through Monday night, 71,206 people — just 1.72 percent of the registered voters — had cast early ballots in the 10 largest counties,

Through Monday night, 71,206 people — just 1.72 percent of the registered voters — had cast early ballots in the 10 largest counties, said Tom Harrison, who heads the secretary of state's elections division.

said Tom Harrison, who heads the secretary of state's elections division.

A heavier turnout has been expected in Dallas and Harris counties, where hotly contested mayoral races are being held.

But Harris County had recorded only a 0.58 percent turnout by Monday night, and Dallas County was 2.12 percent. Bexar County led the state with 18,826 ballots cast, or 3.57 percent.

Harrison said Tuesday that the

early numbers may not reflect a trend for the election.

"It's kind of early to tell. Historically, the last three days are when people turn out the heaviest," he said.

In addition, he noted that

Houston's municipal elections have been clouded by a U.S. Justice Department ruling that the city redistricting plan violated the federal Voting Rights Act.

Thirteen proposed constitutional amendments are on the statewide ballot this year.

In addition to lottery, voters will be asked to OK \$1.1 billion in bonds for new prisons and mental health facilities, approve \$300 million in bonds to provide college loans, and to spend more bond proceeds on water and sewer improvements in colonies.

Bentsen speaks out for pact

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Lloyd Bentsen says U.S. negotiators must deliver a balanced free trade agreement or he will use his clout to derail the pact designed to create one vast North American market.

The powerful chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, which has jurisdiction on trade matters, noted that he had played an instrumental role in getting the free trade talks underway earlier this year.

"If we get an agreement that shortchanges American jobs, I'll fight just as hard and just as effectively to kill that agreement," Bentsen, D-Texas, told business and civic leaders at a conference of the Border Trade Alliance on Tuesday.

Bentsen told the alliance, a grassroots umbrella of border business and government organizations, that he does not expect a free trade pact will be signed before the end of 1992.

Rep. Kika de la Garza also addressed the conference, saying the United States must act as a "good neighbor" to Mexico.

As a sign of goodwill, the United States should forgive a portion of Mexico's estimated \$400 million debt to the Commodity Credit Corp., the government corporation that buys and distributes farm commodities, the Mission Democrat said.

Clean up with cotton



AUSTIN — Texas Land Commissioner Gary Mauro, right, tests the absorbency of cotton in a tub of oil as Pat Mitchell and Wanda Mitchell of Instasorb Products look on. Later that day, Mauro addressed a conference on ways to clean up oil spills.

Gulf states converge for oil spill meeting

AUSTIN (AP) — Oil spills are inevitable, says Texas Land Commissioner Garry Mauro. "It's not if. It's when — and we're going to be ready when it happens," he says.

Mauro orchestrated a meeting Tuesday in which officials from five states on the Gulf of Mexico began work on a unified effort to combat potentially disastrous oil spills in Gulf waters.

In addition to Texas, states represented at a news conference were Alabama, Florida, Mississippi and Louisiana.

Mauro said 70 percent of the hydrocarbons imported into or exported from the United States pass through the Gulf of Mexico, and there are more than 300,000 tanker movements each year in Gulf waters.

"The potential for accidents and spills is enormous. The potential for environmental and economic disaster for each of the five Gulf states boggles the mind," Mauro said.

Bruce Hammatt of the Louisiana Oil Spill Commission said, "We can certainly look for a worst case scenario here in the Gulf of Mexico. We've got the oil here, we've got the transportation, we've got the production."

Mauro said, "Oil spills do not recognize state boundaries — that means all of us are in this together. Since we are all in this together, it's only common sense that we work together to find a common

solution."

He said the goal of the Gulf state officials, meeting at a Clean Gulf '91 symposium, was to draw up a joint memorandum on how state and federal agencies should deal with problems in the Gulf.

Asked how binding such a memorandum would be, Mauro responded, "Only as binding as the good faith between our states. But the great news is we were even on the same side during the Civil War, so we can work together — we've been working together for a long time."

He said the states hope to develop compatible technology, command structures, training, equipment, laws and regulations.

Bob Rogers of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality said technology "is in its infancy. ... We can improve that technology, that is the most important thing. There is no magic wand in this business — I wish there were."

PUC Chairman Meek walks out of meeting

AUSTIN (AP) — Public Utility Commission Chairman Paul Meek, a former Big Spring resident, walked out of a meeting on El Paso Electric Co.'s rate case after his rate-increase proposal received no support and an alternative idea was being outlined, said a PUC spokesman.

"The chairman stood up and said he was going to take a vacation and not return to the commission until there was a new commissioner," commission spokesman Guillermo Garcia said Tuesday.

"He picked up his notebooks and papers and walked out the door," Garcia said. Meek did not immediately return a telephone call from The Associated Press.

Parties in the case were to discuss the alternative proposal by Commissioner Marta Greytok and report back Wednesday to the commission, said Greytok's executive assistant, Tipton Ross.

The three-member commission also includes Jo Campbell. Her term has expired and her replacement, Robert Gee of Houston, has been named by Gov. Ann Richards but has not yet taken office.

Hearing examiners in the case have recommended that the commission grant El Paso Electric Co.

an estimated \$83.9 million, phased-in rate increase.

The financially troubled company had requested a \$131.3 million increase, but the city of El Paso has advocated limiting the increase to \$32 million.

Meek's proposal would have added \$6 million to the hearing examiners' recommendation for El Paso Electric, Garcia said.

Mrs. Greytok's proposal would total about \$44 million to \$45 million, Ross said.

El Paso Electric has been depending on a \$150 million line of credit from New York banks and has

suspended quarterly dividend payments on its preferred stock.

Most of increase that was recommended in this rate case is due to Unit 3 of the Palo Verde nuclear power plant in Arizona, according to lawyers. El Paso Electric owns 15.8 percent of the plant. This rate increase would be the first to include Unit 3, and the fourth on Units 1 and 2.

The plan by Mrs. Greytok would drastically cut the amount of Unit 3 costs passed on to ratepayers in this case, with the total being one-third of that recommended by the hearing examiners, Ross said.

Rain runoff swells river

DALLAS (AP) — The Trinity River is pouring over its banks in Dallas as emergency officials sandbag the levee and prepare to evacuate residents threatened by flooding.

Torrential rainfall that has claimed at least five lives pushed the river nine feet above flood stage. The storms responsible for Tuesday's deluge moved eastward and weakened, but forecasters said additional rainfall was possible across North Texas for the next few days.

Tuesday was the fourth straight day of heavy rains, but forecasters said the downpours were not as bad as May 1990, when 13 people died from flooding statewide.

Five weather-related deaths have been reported in the state since the turbulence began Friday.

In addition, a Greenville couple was injured when lightning struck their home.

A flood warning was issued Tuesday afternoon for the Sabine River in East Texas, the Sulphur River in Northeast Texas, the Trinity River in North Texas, and the Sabinal River, Frio River and upper Guadalupe River in Southwest Texas.

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Committee will probe allegations

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate Foreign Relations Committee has voted, by the narrowest of margins, to proceed with an investigation of allegations that the 1980 Reagan-Bush presidential campaign conspired with Iran to delay the release of U.S. hostages until after Ronald Reagan was elected president.

The 9-8 vote Tuesday was for a resolution providing \$600,000 to carry out the inquiry.

The ranking Republican on the investigating subcommittee, Sen. Jim Jeffords, R-Vt., voted "present" rather than voting against the measure with the rest of his GOP colleagues. One Democrat, Sen. Christopher Dodd of Connecticut, also voted against it.

Sen. Terry Sanford, D-N.C., chairman of the investigating

panel, said he hoped to conduct a fair and non-partisan probe. "If the Republicans, as a party choose to keep this from being investigated, I think that speaks for itself," he said, suggesting that the GOP is afraid of what an investigation might find.

Sen. Richard Lugar, R-Ind., threatened to filibuster the measure when it comes before the full Senate.

"It isn't a question of covering up something. This is a case of manufacturing something to investigate," Lugar said.

Allegations have persisted since Reagan defeated President Carter in the 1980 election that the GOP campaign had struck a deal with Iranians to delay release of the 52 Americans until after Election Day.

Youth under curfew on Devil's Night

DETROIT (AP) — Youngsters will be under a dusk-to-dawn curfew tonight as Detroit braces for Devil's Night, the city's annual pre-Halloween arson spree.

Authorities said youths under 18 will be arrested if they linger outdoors from 6 p.m. today until 6 a.m. Thursday.

Beginning tonight, volunteers will watch vacant buildings and patrol streets with flashlights, fire extinguishers and radios, officials said.

More than 35,000 volunteers are expected to take part, said Georgella Muirhead, the city's coordinator of the campaign

against Devil's Night.

For the first time in seven years of organized efforts to fight Devil's Night, the city bought TV and radio spots. The "A Fool and His Match" ad features Detroit Pistons basketball player John Salley.

Devil's Night is actually the night before Halloween, but Detroit annually is besieged by arsonists from Oct. 29 to Oct. 31. It's been that way since the early 1980s, when pranksters began torching houses instead of tossing eggs.

In 1990, Detroit officials reported 281 blazes for Halloween and the two days preceding it. They made 22 arrests.

Man sentenced for spreading AIDS

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — A 27-year-old man received six months under house arrest on criminal charges of recklessly spreading the AIDS virus.

Alberto Gonzalez of Portland pleaded no contest Monday to three counts and was ordered to have "no dates or sexual contact with others" for five years while on probation.

Gonzalez received a one-year prison term, but he will spend no time behind bars, said Dave Peters, a Multnomah County prosecutor. Under sentencing guidelines, Gonzalez will serve six

months under house arrest with electronic surveillance, Peters said.



ALBERTO GONZALEZ months under house arrest with electronic surveillance, Peters said.

Food stamp enrollment at record level

WASHINGTON (AP) — Enrollment in the federal food stamp program has set record levels since March and now nearly one in 10 Americans rely on the government to help put food on the table, according to Agriculture Department records.

The increase has added more than 3 million Americans to the program in a year, according to USDA statistics reviewed by The Associated Press. A USDA spokesman said the reason for the increase probably involves the economic recession and a greater accessibility to the food stamp program.

Consumer activists said the record numbers that indicate the economic downturn has widened its grip in middle-income households.

The Agriculture Department said a record 23.57 million Americans received food stamps in August. A year ago, 20.49 million people were enrolled.

Phil Shanholzer, spokesman for

"These numbers are alarming in the sense that they are indicative of the deep need around the country." "It underscores the depth of the need and the depth of the recession."

Robert Fersh
Food Research and Action Center

USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, said the increase in participation could be due to both changes that make the program more accessible, including among recent immigrants, and the recession, but "no one really knows."

"The assumptions are that it has to do with the local economy and with changes in the program," he said.

Food stamp participation started setting records in March, when 22.9 million people received help, topping the previous record of 22.6 million set in 1983.

"These numbers are alarming in the sense that they are in-

dicative of the deep need around the country," said Robert Fersh, executive director of the private Food Research and Action Center.

"It underscores the depth of the need and the depth of the recession."

To qualify for food stamps, net family income cannot exceed 100 percent of federal poverty guidelines — or \$1,117 per month for a family of four. The average payment though July has been \$63.82 per month. The program cost \$1.6 billion in August.

"This is proof of what most Americans already know, and the administration wants to ignore —

the administration's current economic policies have failed and are forcing hard-working Americans from their jobs and on to the welfare lines," said Senate Agriculture Chairman Patrick Leahy, D-Vt.

"The new (August) numbers show the recession, rather than ending, appears to be taking hold even harder," agreed Rod Leonard, executive director of the Community Nutrition Institute, an advocacy group on food policy.

Food stamp participation typically falls in the summer and picks up again in the cooler months, officials said.

But this summer, the numbers instead inched upward, and Leonard said food stamp participation could soon hit 25 million — one-tenth of the nation's population of nearly 249 million.

And because food stamps generally reach only 60 percent of those who are eligible, Leonard said, millions more Americans could be hungry and battered by recession.

Frantic for food



DUBROVNIK, Yugoslavia — An elderly woman loses her glasses in the crush of people scrambling for food from a Red Cross relief truck in Dubrovnik Tuesday. A local cease-fire is holding in Dubrovnik, but the ancient walled city, a tourist haven on Croatia's Adriatic coast, was heavily damaged by fighting in recent weeks.

Haitians hoard food, face long lines

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Fearing the consequences of a cutoff of trade from the United States, their country's main trading partner, Haitians are hoarding food and facing long lines for gasoline.

President Bush on Tuesday ordered the embargo — which will take effect Nov. 5 — to pressure Haiti's new leaders to reinstate exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. He was ousted by the military on Sept. 30.

Aristide, Haiti's first democratically elected leader, ap-

plauded the U.S. measure as he toured Europe seeking other sanctions.

"President Bush has affirmed that he is for a return to the constitutional process in Haiti," he said in Paris. Earlier, he called on the European Community to impose a trade embargo

in this impoverished Caribbean country, meanwhile, people were stocking up on supplies.

After the coup, the United States suspended \$85 million in aid and froze Haitian assets in the United States.

No money yet for compensation

GENEVA (AP) — There is no money available yet to compensate the hundreds of thousands of people who are expected to claim damages from Iraq for its occupation of Kuwait, a U.N. official says.

Philippe Berg, the head of a U.N. panel set up to determine the damages Iraq should pay, said Tuesday that up to 2 million people are expected to file for compensation from Baghdad.

However, while the U.N. Security

Council has authorized Iraq to sell \$1.6 billion of oil to buy essential supplies on the condition that 30 percent of this should be used to compensate Kuwait, Baghdad has so far not agreed to these terms.

Despite the impasse, the 15-member compensation panel met for a second formal session from Oct. 14-18 in Geneva to discuss claims for damages inflicted after Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990.

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Opinion

Other opinion

We should ban PAC donations

Recent disclosures of check-kiting and unpaid restaurant tabs on Capitol Hill are pocket change when compared with the special-interest money machine that finances congressional campaigns. Not surprisingly, incumbent officeholders are by far the prime beneficiaries of the current system, which relies heavily on contributions from political action committees organized by countless interest groups.

The vast majority of PAC dollars go to incumbents, providing them another enormous advantage over their challengers. During the last election, 97 percent of senators and 96 percent of House members who sought re-election won, in large part because the incumbents had such large campaign war chests.

In fact, PACs gave nearly \$8 to incumbents for every \$1 given to challengers. This is because, in most cases, interest groups already have succeeded in developing a relationship with incumbents and therefore have a stake in their re-election. In addition, the inordinately high re-election rate perpetuates the influence of PACs on Capitol Hill.

As a result, lawmakers have become increasingly beholden to entrenched special interests. The only real solution to this dilemma is to ban PAC contributions.

President Bush has challenged Congress to outlaw PACs. Earlier this year, the Senate approved a measure to do so. But if the past is any guide, the proposed PAC ban will be eviscerated in the House, where members must face the voters every two years and therefore are more dependent on campaign contributions.

House incumbents even are redistributing among their colleagues the considerable wealth from their unused campaign funds. At the close of 1990, that surplus cash amounted to nearly \$100 million. Looking to hold onto power in the House, the Democrats have set up an elaborate system to funnel the excess funds of some incumbents to others who need it more.

The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, directed by Rep. Vic Fazio of Sacramento, Calif., hopes to accelerate the redistribution process. Just eight months into the 1992 election cycle, the committee already had raised in excess of \$735,000 from incumbents. Those funds are channeled to Democratic candidates who need them most. Fazio also has hinted to House members that favored committee assignments and leadership support are likely to accrue to those lawmakers who are generous in contributing surplus PAC funds to the Democratic campaign committee.

Meanwhile, the PAC money keeps rolling in. During the first six months of this year, 32 House members raised more than \$100,000 each.

The nonstop grubbing for PAC money is corrupting the electoral process in two major respects. First, it prompts many lawmakers to sell their votes to special interests. Second, it is drying up competition, which is the lifeblood of democracy.

Congress has an opportunity this year to start cleaning up this tainted campaign finance system. If lawmakers continue to duck the issue, they are likely to spur the populist drive for term limits as the only way to break the grip of incumbency.

San Diego Union

Mailbag

Thanks for helping with fundraiser

To the editor:
A note of thanks to all the people who baked or donated money, gifts and their time to help with the Neighbor Helping Neighbor Joe's Cancer Bake & Garage Sales. Also the Coahoma State Bank where the cancer fund is deposited and the radio stations. Joe and his mother, who is staying with him, is still in Houston, taking treatments. We are continuing with our prayers and fundraising to help this young man

and his mother. (Just our friend and neighbor down the road). The holiday cake drawing from Gale's Cake and Cookie Shop was won by Joyce Davis. Margaret Garcia won the free gas donated by Lakeway Grocery and Station. Thanks again for all your support and prayers.

NELLIE KERBY AND THE JOYFUL SERVANT CLASS OF MIDWAY BAPTIST CHURCH
Big Spring

Raising doubts that hell is a literal place

To the editor:
I am one of those people who has had a lot of fun with Halloween. . . . It has provided hours of entertainment for us as parents to help our children dress up for Halloween. However, I have lost some of my enthusiasm for Halloween. . . . It is the ghoulish side, which is devoid of humor and seeks to bring terror, that causes me to find less pleasure during this season. Specifically, I read somewhere that some church has created a "Hell House." No doubt the intentions of the creators is good. The idea of scaring people into a right relationship with life has long been a part of human consciousness. The idea that a Loving Creator has a literal place where people who have made mistakes in this lifetime are tortured forever has become repulsive to me. If there is a "Hell House" (and I have experienced situations which were hellish), we create it by our choices. World Book Encyclopedia gives two differing ideas about hell. It states that some believe it is a literal place. Others believe it is condition of the soul. The latter

viewpoint comes closer to the conclusion I have reached after years of Bible study and prayerful concern about the terrible things that have been said about God. What human parent would create a place of torment for a child who disobeys? In the story of the Loving Father, which we also call the story of the Prodigal Son, the star of the story, which I understand to be the father, waited longingly until the son "came to himself." Can it be that the prayer of the Son as he hung on the cross, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do," should open our eyes that it is our own unforgiving attitude that has created hell? Dare I give my opinion that hell is a state of consciousness in which we find ourselves until we come into a harmonious relationship with the Creator and Sustainer of the Universe? Yes, I do dare for I am tired of the brand of theology that scrunches God up into a mean little package. The God who has revealed Himself to me through Jesus Christ and Sacred Scripture will not be thus contained.

NANCY L. PATRICK
Big Spring

"I may not agree with what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." — Voltaire



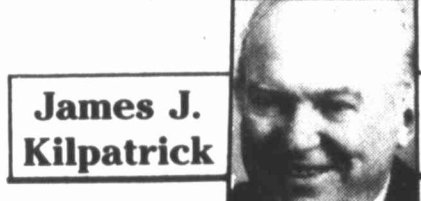
Writing crime bill worth passing

WASHINGTON — The Senate passed its omnibus crime bill on July 11. On Oct. 22 the House passed its own version. Now a conference committee will undertake to meld the two quite different bills into a compromise acceptable to the White House. Don't hold your breath till this happens.

The House bill is a monstrosity. It runs to 300 pages, embracing 24 separate titles. It deals with everything under the sun, including, if you please, a section authorizing grants for the support of midnight basketball leagues. Another section, for reasons that should have been clear to the sponsors, defines "livestock" as "domestic animals raised for home use, consumption or profit, such as horses, pigs, goats, fowls, sheep and cattle, or the carcasses thereof."

I state it as an article of faith that no bill running to 300 pages can possibly be a good bill. This is not a good bill, but it is not a wholly bad bill. It is not as "outrageous" as *The Washington Post* believes. In one of its major fits, the *Post* recently termed the House bill mindless, mischievous, rotten, ugly and disgraceful, and that was before the *Post* got down to serious complaint.

In my own view, the two bills contain some provisions that are clearly useful, some that are doubtful, some that are dead wrong, and many that amount to pure posturing. In this last category are provisions making no fewer than 50 crimes subject to the death penalty. In these sections the two houses behaved like a pair of beach boys in a body-building match. They were strutting across the public stage, flex-



James J. Kilpatrick

ing their pectorals and biceps, the better to tell the world how tough they are on crime. This viewer is not impressed.

The clearly useful provisions, in one bill or the other, relate to drug testing, to the testing of suspects for AIDS, and to the general improvement of state and local law enforcement agencies. Some of the doubtful provisions have to do with reform of habeas corpus procedures and with gun control. In the category of "dead wrong" are provisions that would permit federal prosecutors to take over murder cases that ought to be handled in state tribunals.

Let me single out one provision of the Senate bill that ought to be adopted in conference. This is a section that would direct federal courts to receive evidence gathered by police officers in "reasonable reliance" upon warrants presumed to be valid.

Justice Byron White advocated this sensible procedure 25 years ago. He has been pushing for it ever since. Eight years ago the Senate debated exactly such a proposal, but nothing came of it. Now the two houses, in conference, have an opportunity to write it into law.

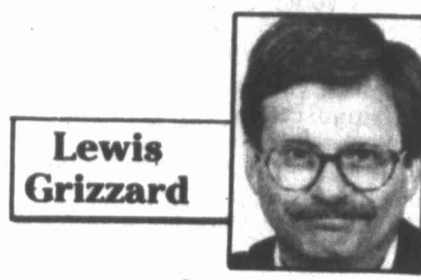
If so, it will be a step toward sanity in our criminal jurisprudence. In no area, with one or two possible exceptions, has the Supreme Court made a greater mess of constitutional law than in its frequently stupid opi-

nions on the exclusionary rule. Sensibly applied, the rule of course is sound: The cops cannot be permitted to ride roughshod over the Fourth Amendment rights of the people to be secure from unwarranted and unreasonable searches and seizures. Everyone agrees on that.

But consider the Gates case of 1983. Here the Illinois police caught the defendant red-handed with 350 pounds of marijuana. They were acting under a warrant that certainly seemed valid to them. The conviction got knocked out on a technicality.

Or consider the Sheppard case of 1984. Here the suspect was charged with murdering a 29-year-old woman by first binding her wrists with wire and then setting her on fire. Acting on reliable information, the police of Roxbury, Mass., obtained a warrant. They searched the premises and found wire, weapons, a face mask — all that was required for conviction. But the issuing magistrate, in his haste, had neglected to staple together two parts of a makeshift warrant. The evidence was excluded.

You might also consider the Hicks case of 1987, in which Justice Antonin Scalia, ordinarily a sound fellow, temporarily lost his mind. In this case the cop lawfully entered the suspect's squalid apartment, where he saw a brand-new stereo. It obviously was stolen. The officer picked up the stereo in order to read its serial number off the bottom. Scalia held the cop had a right to look at the stereo but no right to touch it. If an omnibus crime bill can correct such patent nonsense, it will be worth passing after all.



Ending battle of the sexes

NEW YORK — She took a cab down to SoHo to shop. She's young and pretty. She dresses stylishly.

"How did it go?" I asked her when she returned. "My cab driver hit on me," she said. "He told me I was sexy and asked if I would go to an Indian restaurant for lunch with him."

"What did you do?" I asked next. "I told him to stop and let me out and I caught another cab."

"Did you find anything you liked?"

"Not much," she said. "And there were all these guys saying things to me."

"Like what?"

"Like, 'I'd like to . . .'"

"They said that to you on the street?"

"Yeah, that and 'Mmmmmmm, baby.'"

"How much does that sort of thing bother you?"

"It's unnerving as hell coming from strangers, especially in a place like New York."

"Does this sort of thing happen to you often in public?"

"Sometimes. But don't get me wrong here. I like a compliment like any woman would. I've had strange guys say things like, 'Your husband or boyfriend is a lucky man,' and then let it go at that."

"But it's the way some men say things and how long they keep saying them. There's a man in my building at home who keeps on making suggestive remarks to me."

"The other day, he sees me walking to my car and he says, 'I sure would like to take you to bed and make you my love slave.'"

"I said to him, 'How can you say that to me? We've never even had lunch together and you tell me you want to make me your love slave.' Guys like that make me sick."

"You go out with your other single friends to bars. What about men in a situation like that?"

"Same thing. If a man walks up to me, introduces himself and doesn't get personal, it's fine. But you get those who put their arm around your shoulders before you even know their name and say something about your body, and, 'Mmmmm, baby, I've been looking for something like you all night.' Those kinds of men are arrogant creeps, and I tell them that."

"Have you ever been a victim of sexual harassment in the work place?" seemed a natural thing to ask at that point.

"My first job out of college," she explained, "I was working at a radio station. My boss took me to a hotel restaurant for lunch and then he said he had reserved the penthouse for us, and if I valued my job, I'd go up there with him."

"What did you do?"

"Got up from the table, went back to the office, cleaned out my desk and left there for good," she said.

It's OK to compliment a woman with whom you are not close, I surmised from my conversation, if you say simply, "That's an attractive outfit."

But keep your ideas about her anatomy to yourself and lose, "Mmmmmmm, baby."

And if he tries to swap job security for sex, run. Blow the whistle on him. Slap his face. Kneel him in the belly. Do something.

The battle of the sexes will end, I firmly believe, some day. But it will take some work.



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The Groom is doomed

Dear Abby



DEAR ABBY: Recently I attended the wedding of a good friend. Because I am a photo-journalist by trade, she asked me if I would videotape her wedding, and I gladly agreed.

The wedding was beautiful and the reception went smoothly until the bride's father stopped the band to make an announcement. He said he had "lost" his wallet, which contained \$1,500 with which he had intended to pay the band. He said if anyone found the money, it could be returned simply by leaving it in the men's lavatory, and no questions would be asked. No money was turned in.

The following day, I looked over the footage I had taken at the reception and was astonished to see that while filming a couple's conversation in the background was the GROOM removing a wallet from the evening coat of the bride's father!

Now I don't know what to do. The couple is away for two weeks on their honeymoon. Should I tell my friend? Should I tell her father? Or should I just keep it to myself?

For the bride's sake, please do not use my name or address. — NO NAME, NO ADDRESS

DEAR NO NAME: Call the bride's father and invite him to view the lovely video you took of his daughter's wedding—and you won't have to tell anybody anything.

DEAR ABBY: I have a problem I don't know how to solve. Many years ago, my husband and I became good friends with another couple. We have both had families since then, and have exchanged birthday and Christmas gifts.

In recent years we have grown apart, both in friendship and in miles. I would like to stop the exchange of gifts, as our friendship has definitely gone by the wayside, but I don't know how to approach the couple with this suggestion without offending them.

Any help you can give me would be greatly appreciated. — NOT CHEAP, JUST PRACTICAL

DEAR PRACTICAL: Be absolutely up front with this couple. Come Thanksgiving, write a note to say that you are thankful for friends with whom you can be completely honest, then suggest: "From now on, let us exchange only Christmas cards — no gifts." I assure you they will not be offended. Trust me.

Hot off the press — Abby's new booklet, "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a long, business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054. (Postage is included.)



Above, Albert Smithwick, head chef for 26 years, is at the grill preparing for the dinner hour at the K. C. Steakhouse. In the photo below, assistant chef Ruben Dominguez, prepares one of the choice cuts of meat that are cooked to order at the popular Big Spring restaurant.

K. C. Steakhouse; a tradition of quality in Big Spring

By MARTHA E. FLORES Staff Writer

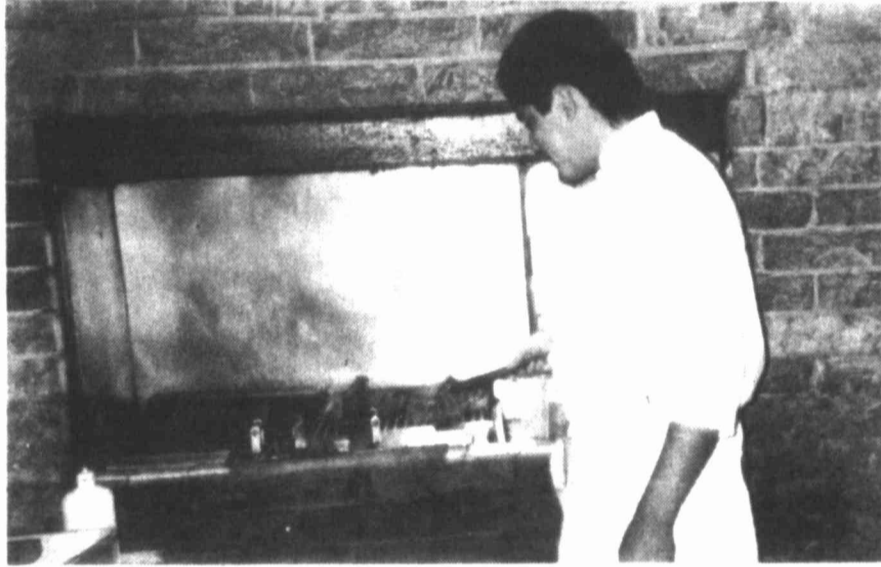
The K.C. Steakhouse, located on the north service road of Interstate 20, has been serving Big Spring with quality choice cut steaks and seafood for more than 26 years.

"My father and mother, Lamar and Joyce Green, opened up the restaurant in 1976, and I leased from them in 1981," said Fred Green, owner and manager. "We have had the same chef, Albert Smithwick, since my father opened the place."

Green and his wife, Tammy, oversee the daily operations of the restaurant and firmly believe in good service as much as good food.

The success of K.C. may be attributed to the commitment to serving the best food accompanied by great service, said Green.

The restaurant's menu includes



a variety of choice cut steaks, seafood, and appetizers that can be complemented with a glass of beer

or wine. "We serve Heineken beer and variety of wines to accompany the meal," he said. "Our appetizer menu includes crab rolls, stuffed jalapenos and shrimp cocktails."

"Lobster tails, Alaskan king crab legs, blackened catfish and stuff flounder some of the big seafood sellers," said Green. "The flounder is stuffed with broccoli, mozzarella cheese and lobster. The blackened catfish is grilled in a white hot skillet with a special cajun spice, which is extra hot."

The K.C. Steakhouse is a favorite dining experience for Big Springers during the holiday season and again on Valentine's day.

Green and the staff decorate the restaurant with festive red and green streamers and holiday decorations for Christmas. On Valentine's day the romantic atmosphere with the dim lights and intimate seating lends itself to the mood.

K.C. can cater to the couple wanting an intimate quiet evening alone or to the family eating out.

Seating capacity for the restaurant is 100 for the down stairs dining room and 60 for the upstairs private party room.

Prices are moderate and major credit cards are accepted.

Hours are 5-10:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

When children move home

By NAOMI HUNT COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT-HOME ECONOMICS

If an adult child is out on his own, what his actions are no longer under parents' jurisdiction. It's one thing to give adult children advice or express opinions when they live away, but when the over-twenty "child" moves back home to live (or hasn't moved out yet), clear ground rules have to be established to avoid conflict.

Some suggested rules are: Everyone pays his or her own way. If an adult child is out of work, parents may want to help out by providing room and board temporarily, but not forever. Charging a reasonable rent and share of household expenses is in order. Everybody shares housework. Make a list of all household chores and agree on who does what.

Everybody should say when he or she is coming home. This is not keeping tabs. It keeps the family from worrying and makes meal and activity planning easier. Everyone sees to their personal needs. It's no longer the parents' responsibility to make doctor's appointments, take clothes to the cleaners, provide clean socks or make sure the car has gasoline.

Everyone cleans up after themselves. Dirty snack dishes left on the floor beside the couch will

Focus on family



almost always increase Mother's blood pressure. Everyone should show consideration for others in the household. This is a major task since it encompasses everything from checking before inviting guests over to avoiding loud music to opening mail belonging to others.

It is difficult to be an adult living in the shadows of older parents. Respect, tolerance, patience, maturity, kindness and appreciation are all important values to use when circumstances force an adult child to move home again.

Educational programs conducted by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic levels, race, color, sex, religion, handicap or national origin.

Green egg prevention

Q. I made a large batch of scrambled eggs for a brunch. They turned green while they were warming in a crockpot. What can I do to prevent this next time? Mrs. J.P., Gardena, CA.

A. This color change isn't appealing to the eye but is harmless to eat. Eggs may change color when the combination of sulfur in the eggs and iron in the cookware interacts when heated too long. The crockpot may not have caused the color change. Instead, it may have been the pan you used to cook the eggs. Discoloration is more likely in a cast iron pan. Next time make eggs in stainless steel pans and warm them up in a stainless steel pan of hot water between the eggs and the heat source.

Q. What is chayote squash and how is it best prepared? P.C., Nantucket, MN

A. This pear-shaped, green squash has one large seed and has an interior similar to that of honeydew melon. Chayote can be pared and substituted for sum-



Dear Betty Crocker

mer or winter squash in recipes. Add it to salads, soups and main dishes or it can be panfried or stuffed and baked.

Q. My homemade bread always has a coarse texture. What do I need to do differently? N.D., Spokane, WA.

A. You may not be adding enough flour. Kneading is also important to a fine-grained bread. Knead for about 10 minutes until the dough is smooth and springy. Bread may also be coarse if shaped loaves rise too long or there's too much salt in the recipe or if the bread is baked in an oven that is too cool.

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Battle to rename Mount McKinley

WASHINGTON (AP) — Alaska's effort to rename Mount McKinley has been done in by a loophole so obscure that most people probably couldn't find the office where it's kept.

Rep. Ralph Regula, R-Ohio, did the deed. Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, is determined to undo it.

Regula calls the fatal loophole a new strategy for guarding the honor of Ohio's famous son, William McKinley, "a decorated president of the United States." Stevens calls it "absurd" and a "one-person veto."

"The mountain is 3,000 feet high," says Regula, who represents the area that sent McKinley to Washington in 1877. "We're trying our goal, which is to get the mountain from being renamed."

Protecting the McKinley name has been something of a crusade for Regula. For at least a decade, he has managed to insert language in Interior Department appropriations bills blocking any name change for North America's tallest mountain. This year he thinks he's found a better way.

The U.S. Board on Geographical Names, which must OK any name change, steers clear of anything pending before Congress. Regula merely had to introduce a bill to make the name of the 20,320-foot peak officially untouchable.

So, this month he did just that. A compromise had preserved McKinley when the national park all around it was renamed Denali, or "the great one," in the language of native Dena'ina Indians.

Alaska has recognized the mountain only as Denali for the past 16 years, and a formal request from the state legislature put the name-change request before the Board on Geographic Names in 1975.

Denali advocates could revive the request with a fresh petition if the issue were not before Congress, said Roger L. Payne, executive secretary to the board's domestic names committee.

"As long as it's before Congress, the board, by its own policy, which is reviewed every two years, will refrain from any action," Payne said from his office in a Virginia suburb.

The policy has been in place for decades — formally since 1949, and as an unwritten procedure for more than 40 years before that, he said. "The board has never seen fit to alter that policy."

It could, of course, and will have an opportunity to do so in February.

Stevens thinks the board is hiding behind the policy. "It's not a loophole, it's just an ostrich-type decision to stick their head in the sand every time a congressman breathes," the senator said. "It means they really don't want to do their job."

He said he just wants a decision to be made. "I can assure you, this is going to be acted on in my lifetime," Stevens fumed.

"I would prefer to see our Denali name back, but I could understand if the board reached the opposite decision," he said.

Regula wants no action on the mountain's name. "It's had half a dozen Indian names in addition to Bulshaha Gora (its name while Russian territory.) But the point is, it belongs to all the people," Regula said. "They're paying the taxes to maintain the park and the mountain."

McKinley was president from 1897 until his assassination in 1901. The mountain was given his name in 1896, when he was president-elect.

New Japanese investment



NEW YORK — Pedestrians walk past the Time-Warner building in midtown New York Tuesday. Toshiba Corp. and Japan's biggest trading company, C. Itoh & Co. Ltd., announced they will invest \$1 billion in Time-Warner's film and cable television divisions for a 12.5 percent stake in a new company, Time Warner Entertainment, created by spinning off three of Time Warner's five divisions.

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Opposing holiday celebration

By RICK HOPE For the Herald

When one thinks of Halloween, images of ghosts, goblins, and werewolves may come to mind. And it is for that reason, among others, that some area ministers are opposing the celebration of the holiday.

"Many of us celebrated Halloween as kids in a very safe, wholesome atmosphere. We never heard about occultic activities and Satanic worship," said David Roberts, youth minister at Midway Baptist Church and Baptist Student Union Director at Howard College.

"Today, however, the church has become more aware of the demonic dimensions of October 31. As Christians, we must be careful not to celebrate the highest holy day of Satanism. At the same time, we must recognize the importance of allowing kids the chance to dress up, fantasize, and have fun. Churches can do this in the fall in a variety of creative ways."

Roberts says his youth group will go to an event at First Baptist Church, Sweetwater, to a special event being given in place of Halloween.

Claude Craven, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, said their young people will also be attending the event in Sweetwater, but as a complete church, they will not observe Halloween.

"I do not believe in Halloween," said Craven. "It's very dangerous. We, as a church, are not going to celebrate it."

Keith Gibbons, pastor of College Heights Christian Church, said his main reason for not observing Halloween is due to the violent and

negative connotations that come out of it.

"Halloween is almost always associated with violence and negativism. There is too much of that in the world as it is and I don't see a reason to add to it," said Gibbons.

Gibbons said his church will be hosting a costume party at their church on Halloween night in order to provide the children a safe place to go that evening.

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Halloween increases business for 'haunted' hotel

CIMARRON, N.M. (AP) — Birds drop dead, things vanish, the deadbolt snaps shut on the front door, glassware floats, and Pat Loree says she was knocked to her knees by the "presence" in Room 18.

It doesn't take a seer to see why Halloween's a busy time at the St. James Hotel.

Twenty-six people died violently there in the late 1880s — including five people in one day, according to local legend. Bullet holes pock the dining room ceiling. Records show that gunfights claimed the most victims, although there were a few stabbings, too.

The hallway upstairs is lined with the pictures and names of famous Wild West figures who stayed at the St. James, including Billy the Kid, Pat Garrett, Bat Masterson, Tom "Black Jack" Ketchum, Doc Holliday and Buffalo Bill Cody.

Loree, a former co-owner, no longer works here. But one night in 1986, she says, she showed Room 18 to Dr. Kenneth Wright of Fresno, Calif., and encountered a not-so-friendly ghost.

"Swirling — that's too gentle. He

was raging," Wright, a gynecologist, said by telephone from Fresno.

"It came down at me and passed me on my right and I felt like I was being struck at," Loree says. "I indeed fell to my knees. . . I got back up and at that point it came back at me and knocked me back to my knees and went up to the corner (of the room) and continued spinning."

Room 18, closed to the public, is hardly bigger than a walk-in-closet. It holds a dusty oak bed frame without a mattress. Dozens of dead flies are scattered on a window sill.

Sitzberger keeps talking birds in the lobby of the 120-year-old hotel and 15 smaller birds in a coffee shop aviary. He says two birds dropped dead after he showed Room 18 to five people in 1987.

Chefs and bartenders report that food and crockery disappear from under their noses and glassware floats and shatters.

The most recent incident occurred last month, as three people came to the front door. The first two got in, then the deadbolt snapped shut in front of the third.



Ed Sitzberger, owner of the St. James Hotel, is reflected in a mirror recently in Room 18, said to be the home of a particularly troubled ghost. The

hotel in Cimarron, N.M., is 120 years old and is said to have been the scene of 26 violent deaths in the late 1880s.

Despite its lurid history, the St. James remains an elegant territorial-style adobe landmark in this rustic northern New Mexico village. "We have a Halloween party every year," says Sitzberger, who has owned the place since 1985. "We have a costume contest . . . and we scare the kids to death" in the hotel's "haunted hallway."

The Lodge in Cloudcroft, 200 miles south of Albuquerque, also sees its occupancy surge around Halloween, thanks to a friendly apparition named Rebecca. In the early 1930s, Rebecca, a chambermaid, was reportedly murdered there by a jealous boyfriend.

"We get a lot of unexplainable incidents — telephones that ring . . . water turning on at various times of the day and night," Lodge manager Catherine Cullers says.

And to those skeptics who say ringing telephones and dripping faucets are not exactly inexplicable, Cullers responds: "We have a lot of people who reportedly have woken up in the middle of the night and seen Rebecca."



MARLOU FREEMAN

Magnets: A different kind of art

LAUREL, Md. (AP) — How could Marlou Freeman have guessed, when she started sticking those cute little magnets on her refrigerator door, that someday she'd become the toast of New York's jaded oracles of artistic chic?

Her collection of 2,300 fridge magnets — that's right, 2,300 — went on display at a funky SoHo art gallery in lower Manhattan in July, and it's still drawing admiring crowds.

"She has put together a masterpiece of American popular culture in miniature," gushed gallery owner Alesh Loren.

Convinced that Freeman has elevated kitchen kitsch to the status of high art, Loren is negotiating to take his "Marlou's Magnets" exhibition on a world tour next year. He's offering to sell her entire collection on her behalf for a cool \$2 million.

All this fuss comes as a breathtaking surprise to Freeman, a 47-year-old divorcee who works as a bartender and waitress at O'Toole's Roadhouse near the racetrack in this Washington, D.C., suburb.

"It's unbelievable," she said, "and I'm loving every minute of it."

Freeman loves to collect stuff. She began in the early 1970s with Avon cosmetic collectibles, then switched to miniature liquor bottles. Smitten by quarterback Roger Staubach, she turned to Dallas Cowboy souvenirs.

Then, at a Laurel street fair about a decade ago, she bought a handful of refrigerator magnets decorated with crocheted animals "because they were cute."

Before long, her refrigerator was completely covered by magnets, about 800 of them. They spilled over onto her dishwasher and other kitchen appliances. She bought nearly two dozen panels of sheet metal, which, she painted and bolted to every wall of her apartment. They quickly filled with magnets.

"My girlfriend Terri came over one day and said, 'Marlou, you're totally out of control,'" Freeman said. She was unchastened.

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12 AM	Studio 55	Hawaii Five-	(18) Movie:	Nosferatu	Paid	Personals	Street Blues	man	Funhouse	World Vision	Movie: Sign	Crook, Chase	(38) Movie:	Self-	Patty Duke	Dragonard	WWF Prime	Time Wres-	Wild. Monitor	(18) Movie:	Lonely Man	Horses USA	Volleyball

Names in the news

Hold your tongue

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Lionel Richie had to delay his testimony at a copyright infringement trial because of damage to a vocal cord, his doctor says.

Dr. Edward A. Kantor said in court papers released Tuesday that the singer is suffering from a hemorrhage of his left vocal cord. Kantor, who has performed two vocal cord operations on Richie in

the last three years, said he has ordered the singer not to use his voice for five days. Richie was scheduled to defend himself this week in a lawsuit brought by songwriters Tracey Singleton and Gene Thompson, who contend Richie infringed the copyright on two of their songs when he composed "Stuck on You," "Deep River Woman" and "Sela."

Rock group inspired by vampire books

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Gothic metal band L.A. Guns showed up at the mansion of vampire chronicler Anne Rice to thank her for her dark inspirations.

The Los Angeles-based band on Monday presented the novelist with a three gold-record set, including their latest album, "Hollywood Vampires," which refers indirectly to Rice's best-selling vampire tales. "Her books are so intense, you just become part of them," said guitarist Tracii Guns. Guns said he approaches music with the same darkness and creepiness he finds in Rice's works. Guns founded the band in 1987, after leaving his other band, Guns N' Roses.

So would Rice pop on an L.A. Guns compact disc? "Oh, they're wonderful," said Rice. "Their music is real stylish with a sinister note."

Jeanne Dixon's Horoscope

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1991

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! IN THE NEXT YEAR OF YOUR LIFE: Pressing domestic issues will demand your attention in November. The vibrations for personal relationships, love and marriage are pleasing at Christmas. An authority figure will be impressed by your business acumen in February of 1992. Count on your creative talents to give you the edge over a competitor next April. A raise or promotion is possible in June.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DATE: comedian John Candy, journalist Jane Pauley, actresses Dale Evans and Deirdre Hall. **ARIES** (March 21-April 19): A new source of financial or career opportunities opens up. This could involve people at a distance. Keep a watchful eye on the stock market. A missed opportunity will not return.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Visiting a faraway locale always seems to have a refreshing effect on

you. Fortunate circumstances prevail in business and romance. You may be able to mix the two if you take the initiative.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Domestic tensions will increase if you are not entirely open about a business or career matter. Share your innermost thoughts with loved one. Recognize what is really important for your happiness.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Patience is vital now. Control your irritation at delays and look for a short-term solution. Your financial assets will increase in the near future. Tell the whole truth to your loved ones.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Handle paperwork promptly and you will be prepared for an emergency. Your intuition is accurate in most areas, but not where romance is concerned. Take things nice and easy in a new relationship.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Use your storehouse of knowledge today but be careful who you share it with. Memories surround you. Do not let the past stand in the way of progress. Forge ahead with confidence!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Weigh a financial choice very carefully. Differences of opinion need not spoil a promising relationship. A child or

chatty neighbor could interfere with your concentration. Be kind but firm.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You endure yourself to a loved one by offering to make home repairs. Pay more attention to bills and investments. There may be a way to get a better return on your money.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): The pursuit of love and pleasure dominates today. You have a talent for being in the right place at the right time. Follow up an introduction with a letter.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A wonderful business or romantic alliance is forged. Your partner may have good news to share. Avoid buying too many luxury items. Computer technology could illuminate your path to financial success.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Difficulties in a personal relationship may be resolving themselves. You feel both surprised and relieved. Off-again, on-again business talks resume. Be true to your values.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): The outlook is excellent for signing on the dotted line. Bank loans, contracts, major purchases or investments — all enjoy favorable influences. Get together with family and friends this coming weekend.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I'M HOME EARLY BECAUSE I'VE ALREADY BEEN KICKED OUT OF EVERYWHERE ELSE."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"That doesn't look very comfortable. If I were a witch, I'd trade my broom for a magic carpet."

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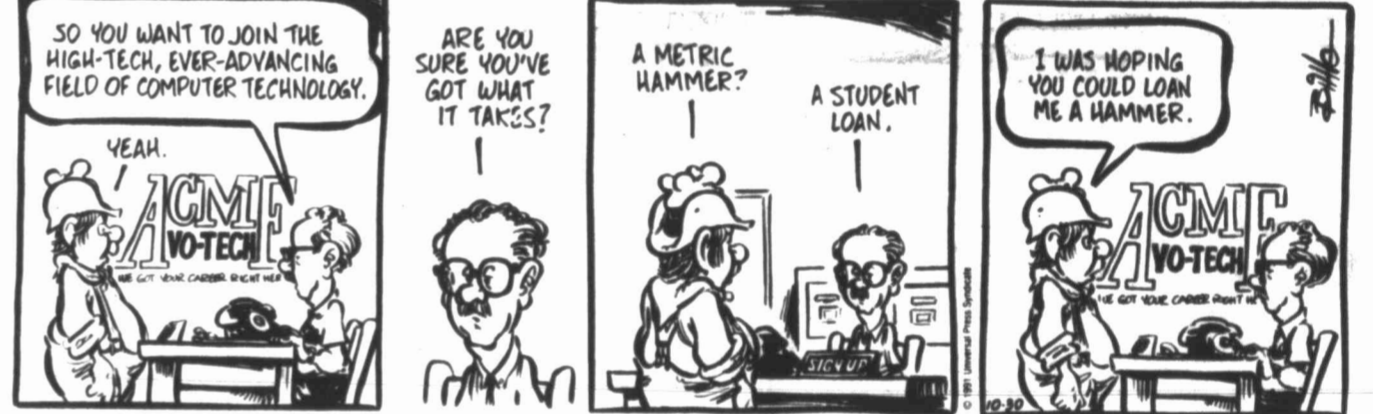
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CALVIN AND HOBBS



GEECH



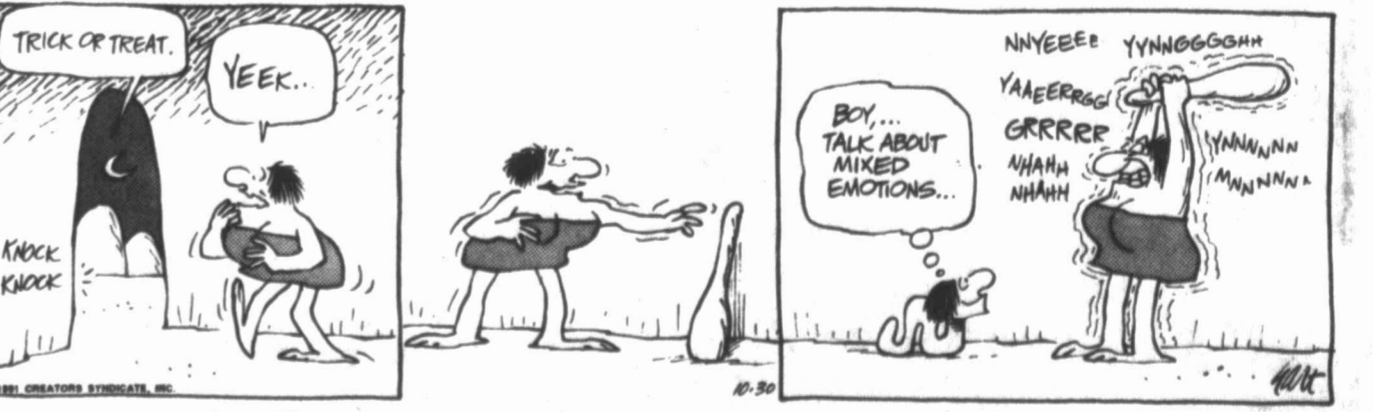
HI & LOIS



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



B.C.



GASOLINE ALLEY

