

BIG SPRING HERALD

Reflecting A Proud Community

WEDNESDAY
May 21, 1997

50 cents

Dumping of dead animals at city pound incenses community's long time animal-rights activist

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Margaret Lloyd wants to talk to the person that dumped four dead animals at the city's shelter Tuesday — but that person may not want to talk to Margaret.

Lloyd is seething over the dumping of the animals — two dogs and two cats — at the city pound early Tuesday afternoon.

What really riled her is the fashion in which the animals were left at the pound. They were apparently shot in the head, then placed in plastic trash bags and dumped next to the pound's dumpster.

One of the dogs was found alive when it was discovered, although it was put to sleep later in the day.

"Some bum just dumped those animals off at the pound," Lloyd said. "That's no

way to dispose of an animal."

City animal control officers said the dumping, while rare, is not unheard of at the pound.

"This isn't the first time it's happened," animal control officer Joe Whitaker said. "But it's definitely not common."

While Whitaker said the incident was not illegal, he said there were better ways to go about disposing of unwelcome pets.

For starters, both he and

Lloyd said the animals would be more than welcome at the Humane Society, although that service is almost bursting at the seams now.

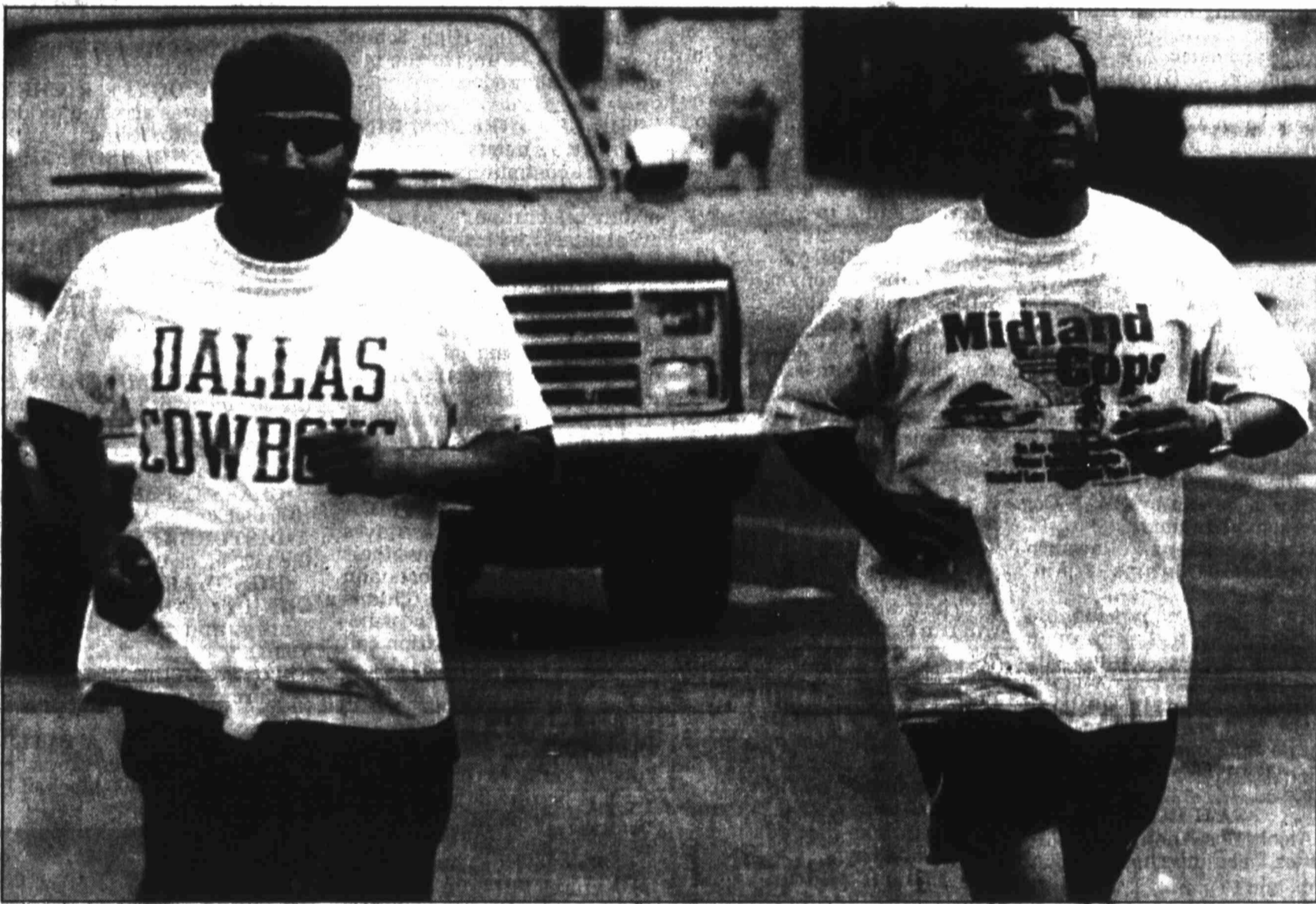
Or, if owners prefer, they can bring their animals to the city shelter and release their animal to city control. Whitaker said officers would try to find a home for the animal. However, if they are unsuccessful, the animal will be put to sleep.

COURTHOUSE WORK



County employee Curtis White removes topsoil on the Courthouse lawn in preparation for re-sodding.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS TORCH RUN



Midland Police Department dispatcher Joey Reyes (left) joins Big Spring Police Department Cpl. Javier Becerra during Tuesday's Police Torch Run for Special Olympics. Other Big Spring officers joining Becerra in the run were John Stowers and Lupe Leidecke.

Vets' homes:

Big Spring effort continues to become leading contender after governor signs bill

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

Local officials say they hope to have Big Spring's package for a proposed long-term care home for veterans prepared no later than mid June, following Gov. George W. Bush's signing of a bill authorizing construction of four homes in Texas.

The bill allowing the Texas Veterans Land Board to establish the homes was signed during a ceremony honoring Texas veterans in Austin.

"The first big hurdle has been cleared," Danette Toone, executive director of Moore Development for Big Spring, said this morning. "We've been working for some time with the various entities here to put our package together. We want to be the first site selected."

The homes will be privately operated and built through a federal matching agreement between the Veterans Land Board and the U.S. Veterans Administration, Toone said.

She noted that Bush's signature means the state has committed itself to the 35 percent of the cost for building the homes.

"It's a federal project that needs state funding and we've been working very closely with Rep. (David) Counts and Sen. (Robert) Duncan and other state officials," Toone continued. "At the same time, we're working with our federal officials."

A local site for the proposed home has been selected, Toone noted, and a number of different governmental and business entities have been involved in

the process of putting together Big Spring's proposal.

The Big Spring Independent School District, Howard College, city of Big Spring, Howard County, Big Spring State Hospital, as well as a number of local nursing home operators, have been involved with Moore Development in setting up the local plan.

Because costs will be paid by federal veteran reimbursements rather than Medicaid, their use will result in significant savings to the state, a factor that eased approval in Austin.

It is expected that two homes can be funded in the next two-year budget cycle, Toone noted, and Big Spring wants to be among the two sites first selected.

When the homes are constructed, Texas will become the 44th state with veterans homes.

"This is an important piece of legislation — not just for veterans and their families but for all those who are proud of our armed services and our country. The last time we set aside special facilities for veterans in Texas were the old Soldiers Homes used after the War Between the States," Sen. Jerry Patterson, R-Pasadena, a Vietnam veteran and a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves who sponsored the bill, said during Tuesday's ceremonies in Austin.

"It's been over 60 years since we've had these facilities in operation, so it's time we again supported those veterans who gave so much for our country," Patterson added.

Robert Duncan teams with Rob Junell on bill to recreate Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Program

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
News Editor

A bill that would recreate the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Program has received unanimous approval by the Texas Senate.

The bill, authored by Sen. Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock, now goes to the House for consideration. It is being sponsored in the House by Rep. Rob Junell, D-San Angelo.

"Our top priority, with this legislation, is to develop a statewide program that will eliminate the boll weevil," said Duncan, who called the boll weevil "the number one menace to the cotton industry."

"Texas needs to have policy in place to fight this major threat to our economy," he added.

The bill, SB 1814, became necessary after the Texas Supreme Court declared the current eradication program unconstitutional — a factor that Duncan kept in mind while drafting the recreation.



DUNCAN JUNELL

"We went through the bill and made the changes that were necessary to address the concerns of the court."

Robert Duncan
State Senator
28th District

"We went through the bill and made the changes that were necessary to address the concerns of the court," Duncan explained. "We also resolved the issues that have been ongoing

in these eradication zones to gain the confidence of the growers in the Boll Weevil Eradication Program."

Among the bill's key provisions are:

- Place control of the program under the Texas Department of Agriculture.

- Eliminate the power to destroy the cotton crop of farmers who fail to pay fees, instead allowing for a lien to be placed against the crop.

- Specify that farmers who are delinquent on payments could not be sued for past-due collections, and that farmers will not be refunded for past assessment payments.

- Establishes an advisory committee in each regional eradication zone.

Two class action lawsuits, one filed by a group of 10 Hale County farmers, and the other by 120 Rio Grande Valley farmers, contended the Abilene-based Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation's method of assessing fees for the

pesticide-spraying program was unconstitutional.

In both cases, state district judges invalidated the assessments and stopped their collection.

The state's high court, considering an appeal from the foundation, upheld the lower court rulings.

In the majority opinion, Supreme Court Chief Justice Tom Phillips said the Legislature violated the state constitution by delegating broad governmental authority to the private foundation.

The boll weevil eradication act "as a whole represents an overly broad delegation of legislative authority to a private entity. ... Therefore, the act cannot stand," Phillips wrote.

The foundation's operations in all zone offices have been shutdown and employees have been furloughed.

In past years, Howard County has not been infested as severely by the boll weevil as other regions of the state.

21 car burglaries cleared with arrest of adult, 3 juveniles

HERALD Staff Report

Investigation into a recent string of car burglaries on Big Spring's southwest side between May 8-19 have resulted in the arrests of one adult and three juveniles.

According to Big Spring Police Department Det. Tony Hill, 17-year-old Amanda Brown and three male juveniles, ages 12 to 14, were arrested in connection with 21 car burglaries. Hill said the arrests came as a

result of an investigation into one of the burglaries, at which time Brown and the other juveniles confessed.

"Some of the burglaries were not reported to the police department because nothing was taken," Hill said. "As a result, the four suspects are only being charged in six of the cases."

The offenses are a Class A misdemeanor and carry a possible sentence of up to one year in county jail for Brown.

WEATHER

Today: **Thur:** **Fri:** **Weekend:**

Mostly cloudy tonight with a chance of showers. Lows 55-65. Chance of thunderstorms Thursday, high around 80 with lows 55-65. Friday, partly cloudy with chance of showers. Highs in upper 80s. Saturday and Sunday, highs in the 90s. Lows around 60.

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TEXAS BRIEFS

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former car dealer arrested in murder-for-hire plot

HOUSTON — A former car dealer from suburban Tomball has been arrested on a charge he tried to hire a hit man to kill the son of a business associate who forced him out of his dealership. The "hit man" was actually an undercover officer, officials said, and Mark Stephen McCollum, 36, was arrested Monday. Charges were filed Tuesday against McCollum, who was once one of a group of car dealers known through a series of television commercials as "the Tomball Bunch." He was being held without bail Tuesday in the Harris County Jail. McCollum's Dodge City Dodge in Tomball combined with three other dealerships to do television commercials. In 1992, they gained notoriety for airing television ads depicting the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and urging viewers to buy U.S.-made cars.

Only one black student enrolled for fall UT law class

DALLAS — Only one black student has enrolled at the University of Texas Law School for its freshman class next fall, and educators say a federal court decision banning race-based admissions is to blame. UT Law School dean Michael Sharlot told The Dallas Morning News in Wednesday editions that one black is part of the class and only 12 Hispanic students have paid tuition deposits to secure their places in the class.

"It's tragic," Sharlot said. "If more (minority students) agree to enroll, it would only be a handful... And not everyone who has sent in their admission deposit ends up coming." About 30 to 40 blacks and 50 to 65 Hispanics have traditionally been among approximately 500 new students who enroll each fall at the Austin law school. Educators have predicted that the anti-affirmative action ruling, triggered by admissions policies at the UT school, would cut minority enrollment.

House sends driver's license fees bill to governor

AUSTIN — Texans would pay a one-time fee for their driver's license until they turn 60 and would renew their license every six years instead of every four under a bill sent to Gov. George W. Bush. Under the measure, by Rep. Henry Cuellar, D-Laredo, a graduated scale would go into effect, and younger drivers would pay a higher one-time fee for a license than older drivers. The House approved Senate amendments to the bill on a vote of 91-47 on Tuesday. Bush's office said the governor hadn't yet decided if he would sign the bill. The measure would require drivers who are 18 to 24 years old to pay a one-time fee of \$85; drivers 25 to 34 would pay \$75; those 35 to 44 would pay \$60; drivers 45 to 49 would pay \$40; drivers 50 to 54 would pay \$20; and drivers 55 to 59 would pay \$16. Once drivers reach the age of 60, they would fall back under the current law, which requires license renewal every four years with a fee of \$16.

Man who raped, murdered Lubbock woman put to death

HUNTSVILLE — After almost 20 years fighting to elude a death sentence for a murder that stunned Lubbock, Clarence Lackey quietly was put to death, a dog-eared Bible resting on his chest. Lackey, 43, Tuesday evening became the second of four condemned killers scheduled to receive lethal injection this week in Texas. Another execution was set for this evening and a fourth was set for Thursday. Lackey, a ninth-grade dropout born in El Paso, was convicted of abducting, raping and fatally slashing Toni Diane Kumpf, a 23-year-old Dallas woman who had recently found work in Lubbock.

Preliminary OK given zero-tolerance bill

AUSTIN (AP) — Underage drinkers who drive with any detectable trace of alcohol on their breath would face criminal penalties and the automatic suspension of their license under a bill given preliminary approval by the Texas House. The bill, by Rep. Allen Place, D-Gatesville, would remove a provision of state law that allows people under the legal drinking age of 21 to drive with a blood-alcohol content of 0.07 and replace it with a zero-tolerance standard. The measure, which faces a final House vote before going to the Senate, would create a new offense making it illegal for underage drinkers to drive with any detectable amount of alcohol. The bill was approved on a voice vote Tuesday. The crime would be a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a maximum fine of \$500 and an automatic driver's license suspension for 60 days.

If the person refused a blood or breath test, his or her driver's license would be suspended for at least 90 days. The bill also increases the penalties, including driver's license suspension, for selling alcohol to someone who is under age and for purchasing alcohol for someone under 21. "We have tried to make a bill that is primarily aimed at driver's license suspension," Place said. "If you realize that you are going to be parted from that driver's license, that is more than any fine mommy or daddy is going to pay." A provision of the bill that would allow law enforcement officers to use their discretion in determining if someone under 21 has been drinking and driving was attacked by Rep. Ron Clark, R-Sherman.

"It seems ripe for abuse if an officer could say, 'I don't think I can make a case, but I think you're drunk and I'm writing a citation,'" Clark said. "There is an opportunity for incredible punishment with nothing more than the officer's word." Place said, "An officer can charge anyone with public intoxication under current law. I don't see this as any different." Place had offered an amendment that would have allowed someone under age to agree to take a blood or breath test without the consent of an attorney. But that amendment was withdrawn after opposition by Rep. Ron Wilson, D-Houston.

"I have a problem with us treating 14- and 15-year-olds like they are 25," Wilson said. "I think it's too serious for us to allow a child in that situation to be confronted with that kind of pressure without informed consent." Rep. Jerry Madden, R-Richardson, said he questioned law enforcement's ability to accurately measure a zero blood-alcohol content. "I have never seen any equipment in my engineering days that could measure 0.0," Madden said. Madden also said he was concerned the bill would make criminals of minors who sip wine as part of communion at church.

Rep. Alec Rhodes, D-Dripping Springs, attempted to amend the bill to provide a defense for minors who consume alcohol as part of a religious ceremony. "I'm not trying to make communion against the law," Place said. "If a minor takes part in communion that doesn't serve grape juice, then their parents should drive them."

Stalemate on property tax bill continues

AUSTIN (AP) — A compromise between two legislative proposals meant to cut local school property taxes must be reached before next week or it won't get done, the head of a committee assigned to find that common ground said. "If you don't have something by the weekend, you can forget it," Rep. Paul Sadler, D-Henderson, said Tuesday after a brief and hostile meeting between the five House members and five senators on the conference committee.

The meeting lasted less than an hour before several members declared it a waste of time. Sen. Chris Harris, R-Arlington, said House members have to show some willingness to compromise or the committee might as well stop meeting. He walked out of Tuesday's session. Harris said Senate members on the joint committee have proposed several areas in which they might consider compromise, including an increase to homestead property tax exemptions and a change in the way property taxes are assessed. Sadler, chairman of the committee, said he's willing to talk about those things. But he added that Senate members have been unwilling to suggest any dollar amounts or figures to consider as part of those alternatives.

"It's a little late in the game to talk general concepts. We need to talk numbers," he said. Sen. Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo, said Senate members won't bother putting figures in the alternative if the House won't commit to at least considering them. Sadler said they can't commit to consideration without seeing some figures. "It's just amazing when you watch conference committees how predictable they become," Sadler said.

Meanwhile, Gov. George W. Bush said he's confident the committee will find common ground. "I'm not surprised there was a standoff," Bush said of a meeting Monday at which no progress was made. "There are some strong-willed, very capable members who are expressing themselves. But I do believe so much work has gone into this it would be an opportunity missed." The House plan would lower local school property taxes by about \$5 billion every two years. The Senate plan would lower local school taxes by about \$2.5 billion every two years. It proposes \$1.1 billion in expanded state taxes to pay for the cuts.

Senate gives approval to alternate welfare bill

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas officials, stymied in a broad effort to let private companies run welfare programs, would design an alternate plan with legislative and public oversight under a bill approved by the Senate. The increased oversight provisions, added Tuesday by senators, "give us both as members of the public and legislators the ability to watch this process over the next two years," said Marcia Kinsey of the Center for Public Policy Priorities, which focuses on issues of concern to low-income Texans. Lawmakers end their current session June 2 and next convene in regular session in 1999. "That's been one of the big concerns about the project, how secretive it's been... Now you're going to have some understanding of the thinking that's going on behind the plan," Ms. Kinsey said Tuesday. The measure comes after a far-reaching privatization proposal developed by the state Health and Human Services Commission and the Council on Competitive Government failed to gain the federal government's full approval.

Under that proposal, private businesses could have been hired to get information from welfare applicants and determine whether they were eligible for assistance. Opposed by labor groups and others, it would have put the future of many state jobs into question. The plan was intended to provide one-stop shopping for assistance ranging from welfare and food stamps to Medicaid. The bill by Sen. Bill Ratliff would authorize the Health and Human Services Commission to develop a plan to allow private companies to carry out welfare-related tasks. The LBB includes Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock, House Speaker Pete Laney and other lawmakers. A special oversight panel of lawmakers would receive information and conduct public hearings around the state as the plan was developed and implemented. In addition, the commission would have a public hearing within 10 days after the release of a request for bids relating to the plan.

Deregulation of electricity dead for now

AUSTIN (AP) — Three weeks after Gov. George W. Bush attempted to revive a plan that would deregulate the state's electric utility market, key lawmakers have declared the issue "dead for this legislative session." Rep. Mark Stiles, D-Beaumont, who authored one version of an electric deregulation bill, issued a statement Tuesday saying that with two weeks left in the session there was no longer time to pass a bill. "As late as last week, we were still optimistic and were working earnestly toward closure on the issue," Stiles said. "After a year and thousands of hours of negotiations, however, at this time there is no longer time to resolve all the differences. I will take no further action on this bill."

The bill had been hung up in the House State Affairs Committee. "Time caught us and there was nothing else that really got in our way," said Rep. Steve Wolens, D-Dallas. "If the Constitution said we had 160 days instead of 140 days, we could have gotten it done, probably." Bush threw his weight behind a plan written by the Public Utility Commission that he said would address the concerns of both utilities and customers. The governor entered the picture after an attempt by Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock to get consensus on a deregulation bill fizzled early in the session. "I am disappointed because I believe we ought to have competition sooner rather than later, but I understand that this is a very complex issue and time is short," Bush said.

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EDITORIAL

Quote of the Day

"Happiness? That's nothing more than health and a poor memory."

-Albert Schweitzer

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OUR VIEWS

Water bill's changes good for West Texas

One of the most important bills in regards to its potential effect on West Texas and her people is winding its way — despite being overloaded with amendments — through the state's legislative process.

Senate Bill 1, the state's water bill introduced by Sen. J.E. "Buster" Brown, R-Lake Jackson, is a far cry from what it once was — and that's good news for West Texas.

Our legislators don't need to send anything to the governor that doesn't protect the rights of those communities and organizations who have already worked to ensure a long-term water supply.

Our concern, of course, relates to the 50 years of planning and implementation by the Big Spring-based Colorado River Municipal Water District and the security of our water supply for our region.

Yes, we just as jingoistic as the next person when it comes to home town or home region issues, but there's a difference when it comes to SB 1.

You see, the people behind Brown's bill are the folks in Corpus Christi and San Antonio and the Houston-area — where there has been no long-range planning ... no long-range concern ... and no conservation of natural resources until the entire state is mired in a drought.

Because of the efforts of the men and women of the CRMWD over the past 50 years, the 450,000 people in the area served by that organization have a reliable water supply well into the 21st Century.

Those efforts and that supply should not be jeopardized just to address the new-found worries of communities that have been unable to accomplish any sort of long-range water plan over the same period of time.

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The Big Spring Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

- Please:
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- Provide a daytime telephone number, and a street address for verification purposes.
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- We reserve the right to edit letters for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit

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NEWS ITEM: FAR RIGHT OPPOSES FELLOW REPUBLICAN BILL WELD'S NOMINATION AS AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO....

Spring's lovely, lusty month of May

You can divide the world into two groups: those who prefer Julie Andrews as Guinevere, and those who like Vanessa Redgrave.

I vote Vanessa, queen in the movie version of "Camelot." Julie, of course, had the original stage role. A whole soprano, Julie simply was not the type to play an adulteress. A nun, a nanny, but certainly not a wayward wife. I'm sorry, but those who find Julie Andrews the most convincing Guinevere would put plastic flowers on a grave.

On the other hand, Vanessa, the sultry second soprano, surely would risk a roll in the hay with her husband's favorite knight. She might be tortured about it, but she could do it.



Rheta Johnson
Syndicated Columnist

We won't cloud the issue here by deciding the best King Arthur, Burton or Harris, though there is a time and a place for that debate. At this time of year, there's only one song you must put a voice to every time you look out the window. And it has to come from the throat of either Julie or Vanessa.

"Fa la! It's May! The lusty month of May. That lovely month when everyone goes blissfully astray. Tra la! It's here! That shocking time of year. When tons of little wicked thoughts suddenly appear." Now that's just not a Mary Poppins kind of song. That's a song that puts you more in mind of Freaknik, the three-day bacchanalia that clogs Atlanta's arteries.

Even those of us past the trala of life, those of us who prefer fall and its subdued qualities, even we have to admit that lusty May has its points. Despite paunches and pollen allergies, we can appreciate the kind of spring we've been having — cool, drawn out, slow to

ripen. There are all the obvious reasons for loving spring, of course. Baseball and spring planting and laurel blooming on the creekbanks. Seedlings pushing their green noses through the black earth, tender, perfect specimens not yet bitten by bugs or parched by drought. Colts that seem to be walking on stepladders, and baby calves with eyes the size of fish platters. The raw white legs of children that end in new red sandals.

And then there are the love stories, unfolding like roses all around. I heard one last week and was touched.

I went to a friend's book-signing. She is a novelist who lives on a 200-acre farm down in South Georgia. Presently she is enduring a grueling, 30-stop tour, which can be the toughest part of writing a good book.

Her husband was right there with her, just outside of the spotlight, waiting to do her driving and suitcase-toting and all those things the writer would be too tired to do. He walked

around in WalMart while his wife smiled and signed books, but he was back by the time the show was over.

At dinner the couple told me how the day before they had driven all the way from Atlanta home, to Echols County, to plant a field of corn. The one-way trip took five hours. Making that cornfield was more than a farming chore. It was something they do together every year, a cherished spring ritual. They take along folding chairs and libations and celebrate row by row.

I could see them in that turned field, the wet dirt smelling like a million bucks. I bet it took them until almost dark, so they sat a while to listen to frogs and watch the lightning bugs, this sweet married couple with grown children. Tra la!

You don't have to be a college student or a naughty queen to have fun in the springtime.

c 1997 by Rheta Grimsley Johnson
Distributed by King Features Syndicate

Finding fear of 'Educational Genocide'

WASHINGTON — "Educational Genocide" is too inflammatory a term to describe what has happened so far, but the outlook is somber and frightening.

I'm talking about the impact on the education of minorities that is being reported in states where wars on affirmative action are in full swing. There will soon be serious shortages of doctors and lawyers and other professionals, and of college graduates in general in black America and Hispanic neighborhoods if the current trend continues — primarily because college doors are being slammed in the faces of minorities on grounds that whites are more deserving of admission.

A majority of the public, and of our judges, is swallowing the argument that educational opportunities must be given out solely on the basis of standardized tests, or academic grades, and that college admissions officers may not factor in judgments about human potential, previous disadvantages, character, or the benefits of racially and culturally diverse student bodies. The early results are appalling.



Carl Rowan
Syndicated Columnist

In California and Texas, where the anti-affirmative-action passions have run highest, in some law and medical schools there has been a decline of up to 81 percent in black enrollment and of more than 50 percent in Hispanic admissions. This is being applauded by some who argue that blacks and Hispanics have been getting admissions slots that properly belonged to Caucasians or Chinese.

But social tragedy lurks behind this assumption that educational opportunities belong first to those who have been privileged historically, or who post the highest test scores. The health care of millions of Americans, already at a shameful state, will deteriorate if such drastic numbers of minorities are denied the

chance to become doctors. The quality of justice in America, already under worrisome criticism, will become more indefensible if the numbers of black and Hispanic lawyers are greatly reduced.

The doors are being slammed out of some mistaken notion that minorities are seizing educational opportunities that ought to go to whites. The facts are that for 18- to 24-year-olds, 82 percent of whites have the equivalent of a high school diploma, compared with 77 percent of blacks and less than 60 percent of Hispanics.

Forty-three percent of white high school graduates go on to college, compared with 35 percent of both blacks and Hispanics. As for college attainment, according to the American Council on Education, 26 percent of whites have finished at least four years of college, compared with 15 percent of blacks and 9 percent of Hispanics.

These discrepancies make it clear that white America is not under siege because of "reverse discrimination."

But these discrepancies will continue, or worsen, if the current mood of America prevails.

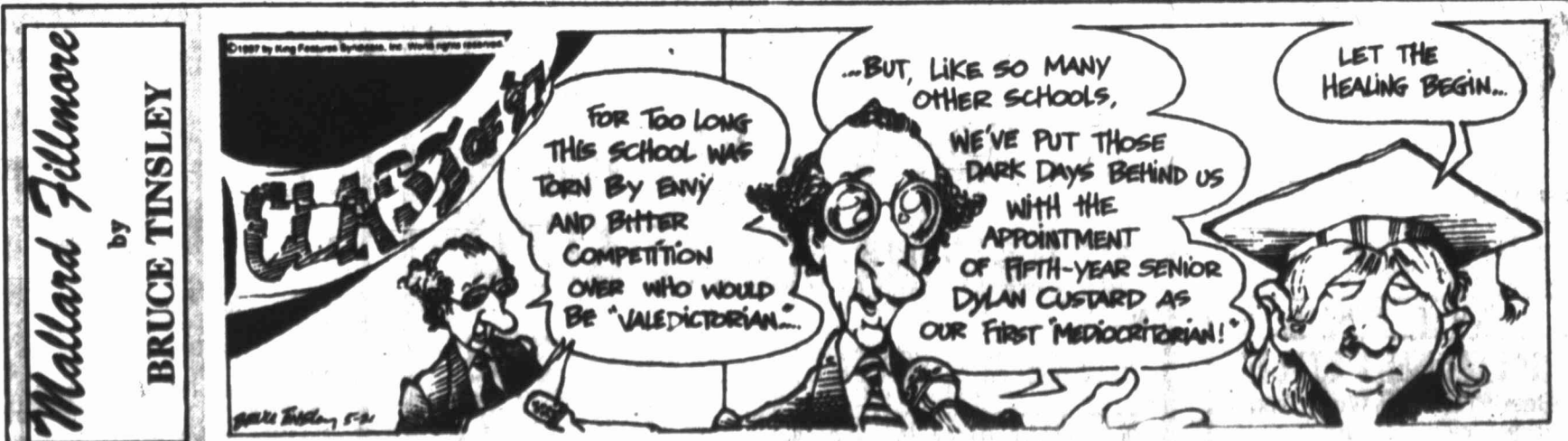
There is no sign whatsoever of any positive change among those who believe that affirmative action means "cheating whites," or requires one set of admissions standards for whites and an easier set for minorities.

So the reductions in minority admissions are likely to deepen, and the consequences could be tragic.

The future is darkened by the fact that universities in California and Texas, and in a few other states, are suddenly circumscribed by voter referendums and court decisions that deprive college presidents and admissions officers of any right to make any judgments about race and gender in deciding who gets admitted, who gets scholarships, or who can be put on faculties. This renders just plain blind and dumb officials who can never be color-blind.

"The effect is going to be devastating," says Michael Sharlot, dean of the University of Texas law school. I seem to hear a majority in the state legislatures and on the U.S. Supreme Court saying: "So what?"

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Attack on FBI crime lab cut short; McVeigh prosecution nears end

DENVER (AP) — Oklahoma City bombing prosecutors prepared to wrap up their case against Timothy McVeigh after the judge thwarted a defense plan to fully attack the FBI crime lab — a weak link for the government.

Through Tuesday, the prosecution had called 134 witnesses in 18 days, using McVeigh's former friends and even his sister to try to tie him to the bombing, the worst act of domestic terrorism in U.S. history.

Prosecutors expected to rest their case today by calling at least one more bombing survivor and presenting stacks of death certificates from the 168 people killed in the blast.

"They've obviously worked hard and diligently," defense attorney

Stephen Jones said outside court. "We will soon have our turn at bat."

A source close to the case told The Associated Press the defense will call 30 to 40 witnesses over the next two weeks to challenge "every facet" of the government's allegations.

Sources said among the first defense witnesses likely will be people expected to contradict testimony from prosecution witnesses.

The sources, who spoke on the condition that they not be identified, said the defense also hopes to discredit the FBI using a report by the agency that criticizes its own handling of the bombing investigation.

McVeigh, 29, faces the death penalty if convicted of murder and conspiracy in the April 19, 1995 explosion.

Attempts by McVeigh's attorneys on Tuesday to launch a full-scale attack on the FBI crime lab were cut short when U.S. District Judge Richard Matsch barred questions about federal criticism of the lab.

The Justice Department found last month that FBI scientists, including some who worked on the bombing case, produced flawed work or slanted their findings in favor of the prosecution.

McVeigh attorney Christopher Tritico tried unsuccessfully to question FBI chemist Steven Burmeister about findings in the Justice Department report. Tritico also was barred from questioning Burmeister about new laboratory procedures put in place since the bombing.

Matsch only allowed Burmeister to answer specific questions about some possible shortcomings of the physical evidence.

Burmeister testified that explosives residue, which was found on McVeigh's clothing and earplugs, wasn't detected in McVeigh's alleged getaway car or in the Kansas storage bin where McVeigh and co-defendant Terry Nichols allegedly stashed bomb ingredients. Nichols will be tried later.

Burmeister also said McVeigh's clothing — which tested positive for explosives residue — showed up at the crime lab in a rolled-up grocery bag and not in the sealed plastic envelopes usually used.

"I would say that there are better

methods of transportation," Burmeister said.

The cross-examinations of Burmeister and bomb expert Linda Jofes marked the defense's last shot at discrediting the FBI evidence during the prosecution's case.

Matsch is expected to prohibit suspended FBI scientist Dr. Frederic Whitehurst, who criticized the lab's handling of bombing evidence, from testifying for the defense because he had little direct involvement in the investigation.

Explosives expert Jones, who works with the British Ministry of Defense, said the deadly fertilizer-and-fuel oil bomb was relatively easy to build.

"One person could do it on their own," she said.

Pilot's court martial on hold indefinitely

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. (AP) — The nation's first female B-52 bomber pilot spent the night with family, waiting to see if she'll be honorably discharged or court-martialed on charges of adultery and lying.

"I don't like being in limbo like this," said her lawyer, Frank Spinner. "But ... we're prepared to go to trial whenever."

First Lt. Kelly Flinn was scheduled for a court-martial Tuesday morning. But the Pentagon ordered an indefinite delay, until Air Force Secretary Sheila Widnall makes up her mind on Flinn's request for an honorable discharge.

The 26-year-old pilot submitted the request for a "resignation in lieu of court-martial" Monday. By late Tuesday, it had sailed through several military channels and was one stop from the secretary's desk.

Spinner said a process that normally takes 40 days may be speeding along because of the case's high profile and pressure from congressional members, including Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, who said he believes Flinn is being unfairly "singled out" and "abused."

"I think tomorrow or the next day a decision could be made," Spinner said.

A senior Pentagon official has said Widnall does not plan to allow an honorable discharge, but Spinner remained "optimistic."

Spinner said his client is

determined to face trial if an honorable discharge is denied, even in the event that a general or less-than-honorable discharge is offered.

Early Tuesday, Flinn donned full blue military attire as she quietly entered the base courthouse, minutes before her parents, brother and sister arrived. She spent much of the day there waiting for a trial, then went home, saluting other Air Force personnel as she left.

"My sense is that she's in pretty good spirits," Spinner said.

Flinn, who is single, stands accused of having an affair with a civilian soccer coach who was married to an Air Force enlisted woman. She also is charged with having a brief relationship with an enlisted man. Both affairs took place in the past year.

In addition, Flinn has admitted she disobeyed an order to end the affair with the married man, Marc Zigo, and lied to investigators, offenses the Air Force considers more serious than adultery.

Zigo, who was in Minot on Tuesday, said he would volunteer to testify against his former lover. In a call to CNN's "Talkback Live," Zigo said he has been wrongly painted as a bad guy and Flinn a victim. He said Flinn knew the affair was against Air Force rules.

"She did know I was married. She had dinner with myself, my wife and friends," he said.

Flinn's former AFA classmate also involved in sex case

BOSSIER CITY, La. (AP) — An attorney says he will call the Air Force's highest-ranking officer to testify at a hearing for a female lieutenant facing charges stemming from a childbearing affair with a married officer.

Charges against 1st Lt. Crista Davis range from failure to fill out weekly reports to conduct unbecoming an officer for allegedly writing her lover's wife profanity-filled letters boasting about sex. Davis is a former Air Force Academy classmate of 1st Lt. Kelly Flinn, whose adultery case has attracted national attention.

Davis, a special projects officer at Barksdale Air Force Base, has not been charged with adultery for her relation-

ship with a married Air Force Academy instructor.

"This is a clear-cut case of command retaliation against a whistle-blower for exposing sexism and racism in the Air Force and also for being a single mother of a child born out of wedlock," Davis' attorney, Louis P. Font, said Tuesday night. Davis is black.

Font said he intended to subpoena Gen. Ronald Fogleman, the Air Force chief of staff, for a hearing on June 9 at Barksdale.

"He'll be questioned closely by concerning why it is the Air Force is going after women selectively and vindictively," Font said.

The Air Force denied that the charges were motivated by bias.

Returning astronaut whooping it up on Mir

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — Echoing the feelings Shannon Lucid expressed when she left the Mir, Jerry Linenger celebrated today after finishing the last of his two-hour workouts on the Russian space station's treadmills.

"I had my final run today," Linenger said this morning. "It wasn't a runner's high from running, but I had a runner's high from knowing it was my final run. So I was whooping it up pretty good here."

Linenger, a triathlete and marathon runner, had been running 10 kilometers a day and doing squats on the Mir for four months. After six months of a similar regimen in 1996,

Lucid vowed she'd never set foot on a treadmill again.

The space shuttle Atlantis arrived Friday night to pick up Linenger and drop off his replacement, Michael Foale, for a 4-month stint. If the shuttle lands on Saturday as scheduled, Linenger will have spent 132 days in orbit.

During a video tour of the station that was beamed down live for ground controllers, Linenger floated over to one of Mir's two treadmills and talked about his workouts.

Mir residents exercise to prevent excessive bone and muscle loss, a typical result of months in weightlessness.

Linenger, a 42-year-old doctor

who left Earth on Jan. 12 aboard Atlantis, spent his last few days on Earth running and swimming in the Atlantic.

He had to cut back on his orbital workouts for about a week, though, when Mir's primary carbon dioxide-removal system overheated in April. The backup method for getting rid of carbon dioxide didn't work well because of high humidity, and by exercising less, Linenger and his two Russian crewmates would produce less carbon dioxide.

If the malfunction of that system didn't stop them from working out, their congestion may have. The three men had to breathe antifreeze fumes

because of leaks in the cooling system.

Those weren't the only problems during Linenger's stay — a fire in February filled the station with dense smoke, oxygen generators failed and temperatures soared into the 90s because of the leaky coolant pipes.

The seven-member shuttle crew delivered some urgently needed repair equipment to the aging Mir, including a swiftly manufactured oxygen generator, detectors for leaking fumes, a valve for a spare carbon dioxide-removal unit and plugs, clamps and hoses for cooling-system leaks.

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Asthma-related gene ID'd on remote Atlantic island

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Researchers say they have for the first time identified a mutated gene that makes people susceptible to asthma, and the scientists discovered it lurking on one of the world's most isolated islands.

Sequana Therapeutics analyzed DNA, or genetic material, from about 300 people on Tristan da Cunha, a South Atlantic island about 1,500 miles from South Africa. About 30 percent of the island's residents have asthma, apparently passed on from an original settler.

The pinpointing of the mutated genes eventually could help identify people at risk of getting sick, and also could suggest new drugs for treatment.

"We found a difference — a change in that DNA that is different in people who have asthma than those that don't have the disease," said Bob Giargiari, director of investor relations for San Diego-based Sequana.

Researchers also confirmed today that the mutated gene affects other people with high asthma rates in the United States, Canada and Australia, Giargiari said. An estimated 15 million Americans have asthma.

Scientists already knew that several genes make people susceptible to asthma but had not previously identified the genes.

Outside scientists have not reviewed the discovery, because Sequana has not released the gene's chemical sequence and chromosome location.

Sequana's partner, the German company Boehringer Ingelheim, funded the research and is applying for patents, Giargiari said.

70 years later, Texas pilot retraces Lindbergh's feat

LE BOURGET, France (AP) — Seventy years after Charles Lindbergh made the first solo nonstop trans-Atlantic flight, a Texas businessman duplicated the historic journey today by safely arriving in his Cessna airplane.

Pilot Bill Signs touched down at Le Bourget airport outside Paris at 11:25 a.m. in a misty rain. He was greeted by 200 people — including children and elderly French aviation buffs. Many waved American and French flags.

Signs said he felt "pretty tired but pretty good" after the nearly 22-hour flight from an airfield in a New York suburb.

"I flew down close to the water, like Lindbergh did, to get the ice off the wings," Signs said. "There were bad headwinds at the time, so I was a little concerned about fuel at one point. But the winds switched around and I got in with no problems."

The pilot said he circled around Paris once before landing, but heavy clouds blocked out much of the city — except for the Eiffel Tower.

Like Lindbergh, Signs left on a foggy, drizzly morning after heavy rains the night before and brought five ham sandwiches on the 3,610-mile trip.

But the 44-year-old Dallas auto repair shop owner also had

state-of-the-art electronics gear, a wet suit and life raft — concessions to survival that were lacking in Lindbergh's spartan "Spirit of St. Louis."

And Signs' 23-year-old Cessna 210 cruises at 172 mph, compared to 107 mph for Lindbergh's Ryan monoplane.

While other fliers have duplicated the trans-Atlantic flight, Signs was the first to retrace Lindbergh's journey from San Diego, where the Ryan aircraft was built, to St. Louis, the city that provided financial backing for the plane, before arriving outside New York on Monday.

"Probably the most dangerous part of the flight was taking off," Signs said. "Like with Lindbergh, the plane was heavily loaded, flying slow after leaving New York."

Loaded with 350 gallons of fuel in eight tanks, Signs' Cessna left East Farmingdale, N.Y., at 7:52 a.m. Tuesday — the same moment Lindbergh took off from the old Roosevelt Field airstrip, eight miles away, on May 20, 1927.

Signs followed Lindbergh's route over Nova Scotia and past Greenland to a landfall at Dingle Bay, on the west coast of Ireland, then headed to Le Bourget airport.

The Texan earned his private license at 17 and later flew as a crop-duster and corporate jet pilot.

Sinn Fein and British to restart peace talks

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — Britain approved moving two high-profile IRA convicts from prisons in England to Northern Ireland, a gesture to IRA supporters who met with British officials today for the first time in 15 months.

The IRA-allied Sinn Fein party and British officials have not held talks since the IRA resumed its violent campaign against British rule. Today's talks coincided with local elections in Northern Ireland.

Britain's new prime minister, Tony Blair, authorized the talks in expectation that a new cease-fire might be proposed. But Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams emphasized that would happen only if the British promised that his party, certain to win a substantial chunk of Roman Catholic votes today, would be admitted immediately to negotiations on Northern Ireland's future.

If that happened, leaders of the province's pro-British Protestant majority would be certain to walk out.

In a gesture to Sinn Fein hours before the meeting began, the Blair administration authorized moving the two IRA inmates from prisons in England back to their native Northern Ireland. Sinn Fein long has demanded that all Irish Republic Army members convicted in England serve their sentences near their relatives.

There is now a strong desire to break the impasse in the talks, Sinn Fein's chief negotiator, Martin McGuinness, said after the delegation arrived outside Stormont, the center of British administration in east Belfast.

"We are dealing now with a new British government," he said. "They have difficulties. We have difficulties, and I hope this meeting will provide an opportunity for us all because I believe we have a shared responsibility to overcome the difficulties."

Talks among nine other parties and the British and Irish governments resume June 3.

They began last year under the direction of former U.S. Sen. George Mitchell but have made little progress, largely because of Protestant politicians' fear that Sinn Fein might be admitted midway without a "permanent" IRA cease-fire.

Each of the parties is running for seats in Northern Ireland's 26 local councils, which have little power but are important as forums for Protestants and Catholics to work together — or, more often than not, against each other. Final results could take two days.

Voting got off to a slow start this morning under overcast skies. The early turnout was quite low but voters often stop at their polling stations on the way home from work or after picking children up from school.

Blair's invitation to Sinn Fein on Friday — on his first visit to Belfast — represented a break from longstanding British policy not to meet Sinn Fein unless the outlawed IRA renewed its cease-fire.

Sinn Fein delegates had been meeting with British officials since three months after the September 1994 cease-fire. The previous Conservative government of John Major broke off all contact when the IRA ended the truce with a February 1996 bombing that killed two men in London.

During their talks, the British insisted that the IRA start disarming as a demonstration that the truce was to be permanent — otherwise, they argued, Protestant politicians would never sit down with Sinn Fein. But Sinn Fein argued the IRA cease-fire would last only as long as progress in talks encouraged it, so the Protestants had to be prodded into accepting an early date for talks.

The British and Irish governments appointed Mitchell to recommend a compromise. He ruled that IRA disarmament would have to begin during the negotiations. That, too, proved unacceptable to Sinn Fein and the IRA.

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Do you have a good story idea for the life! section? Call 263-7331, Ext. 235.

Big Spring Herald

Wednesday, May 21, 1997



Old refrigerators are about the only large item city crews won't pick up during a special program in June. Other large items will be picked up on weekends in June by arrangement at no charge to residents.

Clean it up

City crews will help during June

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN
Features Editor

Attention Big Spring property owners: You have no more excuses!

If you have weedy lots, junk cars, excessive trash or other code-breaking problems, the city is going to give you a break. All during the month of June, city employees will help you get your property cleaned up.

"We're going to give the whole town a month," said Kristie West, code enforcement officer. "We'll help them out however we can to get this place cleaned up. Then, they'll be on their own."

For pick-up of large items on any June weekend, call the code enforcement office at 264-2505. Give your name, address and phone number. City workers will pick up the large items - except refrigerators - from the curb for free.

Junk cars - a big problem in the city, according to West - will be towed away for free.

Call the same number to arrange that service.

West said many people may not even realize their old car is in violation of city codes.

"If you have a vehicle that is inoperable or not registered, you will be in violation," she said.

State law prohibits grass over 12 inches high, as well as "unnecessary or unsanitary accumulation of garbage," West added.

"With the rains we've had, this may be a real problem right now, and it needs to be taken care of."

Throughout the month, local houses will be recognized for their appearance. There will be prizes for the most improved sites in each district.

West said targets are weeds, trash, junk cars and "anything not up to the city codes."

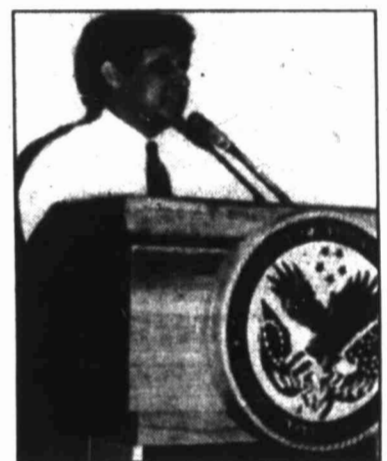
But, West warns, be sure to call and arrange pick-up of any junk items.

"Don't just leave things out by the curb," she said. "We need to know where you are."

CELEBRATING DIVERSITY



VA Medical Center employees celebrated Asian Pacific American month Monday with a reception for all staff and guests. Guest speaker was Dr. Imran Yazdani, staff physician. He told the group immigrants often bring values from their own country to enrich the U.S. Dr. Gaddum Reddy, chief of surgery, also spoke. In the photo above, from left to right are: Francis Mathie, Becky Nash, Dr. Celsa Tui, April Sulatan, Lotty Pichitino and Roxanne Grissom. At right is Yazdani addressing the group. Staff and wives of staff members dressed in the costumes of their native countries, and visitors were treated to a buffet of foods from the Asian Pacific region. Coordinator Evelyn Dawson said the event was a success.



Local 4-H members aim for state contest

Members of 4-H from the 23 counties of the Far West Texas Extension District have participated in various contests over the past two months.

They are vying for the right to represent the district at State 4-H Roundup, June 2-6 at Texas A&M in College Station.

Winners in more than 40 events for the senior division, age 14-19, will advance to state.

Recently 4-H members competed at the



Dana Tarter
Extension Agent

District 4-H Roundup in Fort Stockton and received awards at the assembly which concluded the morning competition.

Those advancing to the state contest include: Katie Gaskins - illustrated talk, food and nutrition; Lindsay Moates - fashion design, accessory; Tonya Tabor - fashion design, apparel; Jerod Johnson and Taylor Bristow - soil judging; Katie Gaskins, Melissa Snell, Clay Hart and Virgil Kays - meats judging.

Adults who will accompany 4-H members include Teresa Gaskins, Chris Gaskins and Chandra Scott.

By participating in 4-H projects, youth are able to gain skills in activities that interest them, and gain valuable life skills including: public speaking, critical thinking, and decision making.

The Roundup provides these young people with the opportunity to demonstrate the skills they have learned, compare the skills they have gained with other 4-H members and their own previous performances.

They also learn citizenship and leadership skills.

Along with the 4-H Roundup competition, other youth activities that will be conducted during the week include interviewing and recognition of scholarship recipients and recognition of outstanding adult 4-H leaders from across the state.

All 12 extension districts will be represented by 4-H members, parents, adult volunteers and county extension agents with approximately 2,000 to invade the Texas A&M campus for the week.

4-H is the youth development program of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. It is open to all youth in the third grade through age 19.

For more information, call the Texas Agricultural Extension Service at 264-2236 or stop by the office at the Howard County Courthouse.

Ask Betty

Dear Betty,
My best friend is getting married next month, and as maid of honor I want to make or find a gift that she'll use often and remember forever. Any ideas?
Portland, OR



Dear Betty,
For convenience, I've been buying a lot of those bagged, ready-to-eat salads that you find in the produce section. Can you suggest ways to use them as main-course salads?
Reston, VA

Here's an idea I just love, and I know the bride will, too. Ask everyone in the wedding party, along with members of both families, close friends and co-workers, to choose their favorite recipes. Then bind them into a personal cookbook. Organize them however you like - by type of dish, by season, or even by contributor. Cover a standard three-ring binder with pretty fabric folded over and glued to the inside cover, using a face piece to mask the edges. Dress it up with ribboned book marks. Or buy a ready-made photo album and insert recipe cards into the plastic pockets or on the adhesive pages. Begin each recipe with a short introductory message describing what makes it special. The cookbook is guaranteed to become a treasured memento of the big day, and a valuable life long resource for the new home your friend and her husband-to-be will create.

Write Betty at "Ask Betty Crocker," One General Mills Blvd., Minneapolis, MN 55426, or call toll free 1-888-ASK BETTY

Next Week: SALSAS!

Betty Crocker

Area schools name top grads

by HERALD Staff Report

Laurie Adams has been named valedictorian of Stanton High School. She is the daughter of Larry and Carolyn Adams.



ADAMS

She plans on attending Southern Methodist University to major in Business.

After graduating, she hopes to go on to law school.

Matt Moore was named salutatorian of Stanton High School.



MOORE

He will be attending McMurry University in Abilene on a football scholarship. From there, he hopes to attend medical school and become an orthopedic surgeon.

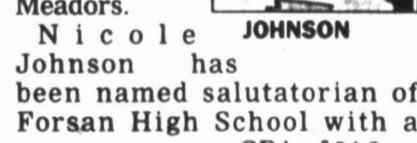


MEADORS

Kathleen Meadors has been

named valedictorian of Forsan High School with a GPA of 95.4.

She is the daughter of Larry and Amy Meadors.



JOHNSON

Nicole Johnson has been named salutatorian of Forsan High School with a GPA of 94.3.

She is the daughter of Allan and Margie Johnson.

She plans to attend a four-year university and major in pre-med.

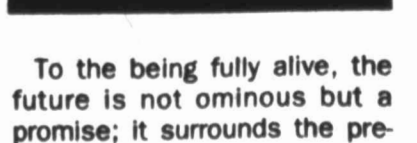
Reagan Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Monte Smith, has been named valedictorian of Borden County High School.



SMITH

Reagan has maintained a grade point average of 4.00 for the four year period in high school.

Maggie Flanigan, daughter of Nancy Flanigan, was



FLANIGAN

Please see GRADS, page A8

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CALLING ALL READERS,

Sold on sales

If your idea of a perfect Saturday is spent haunting the local garage sales, we want your story for an upcoming feature. Do you know someone who rises at the crack of dawn to "get the good stuff" at local garage sales?

Call Debbie Jensen at 263-7331, ext. 235, or send a note to the *Herald life!* section at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring. Please include a number to call for more information.

What's a kid to do?

If your group, agency or business is offering special programs for kids this summer, let the *life!* section know about it for an upcoming feature. Send the information (including dates, places and times) to Debbie Jensen at the *Herald*, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring. Please include a phone number.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Mountain Voices

Tumbleweed Smith has a new show, "Mountain Voices," running at the Fort Davis Chamber of Commerce Saturday nights from May 31-Aug. 30. Call the Fort Davis Chamber, 426-3015, for more information.

Youth garage sale

Youth from East Side Baptist Church will have a fundraising garage sale Thursday and Friday from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. and Saturday from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

See the renovations

Open house is scheduled from 3 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, June 1 at the Big Spring Humane Society, located on the north service road of Interstate 20 across from McMahon/Wrinkle Airpark.

THE LAST WORD

To the being fully alive, the future is not ominous but a promise; it surrounds the present like a halo.

John Dewey

The difference between liberty and liberties is as wide as that between God and gods.

Ludwig Borne

The way out of trouble is never as simple as the way in.

E.W. Howe

SUPPORT

continued from page A7

Diseases, 6:30 p.m. second Tuesday of each month, Canterbury South. Public invited. Call Leslie, 267-1069.

•Al-Anon, 8 p.m., 615 Settles.
•Seniors' diabetic support group, 2 p.m., Canterbury South. Call 263-1265.

•Compassionate Friends support group for parents who have experienced death of a child, 7:30 p.m. first Tuesday in February, April, June, August, October and December in the Family Life Center Building.

First Baptist Church, 705 West Marcy. Enter by southeast door. Call 267-2769.

•Cancer support group, first Tuesday of each month, 7-8 p.m., VA Medical Center room 213. Call Beverly Rice, 268-5077.

•"Most Excellent Way," a chemical dependency support group, Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Living Water Church, 1008 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-1424 after 5 p.m. or 263-3168 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting and 8 p.m. closed meeting.

•Family Education and Support, sponsored by Howard County Mental Health Center, meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Corral, 611 E. Third, followed at 7 p.m. by the monthly meeting of the Big Spring Alliance for the Mentally Ill.

•Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas will have Dr. Ronald Meyer, D.Min., LCDC, LMFT, specializing in individual and marriage counseling, Attention Deficit Disorder and chemical dependency, available for clients at the First Christian Church. Appointments for counseling services are made by calling 1-800-329-4144.

•Narcotics Anonymous, 6:30 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

WEDNESDAY

•Gamblers Anonymous, 7 p.m., St. Stephen's Catholic Church, room 1, 4601 Neeley, Midland. Call 263-8920.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting and 8 p.m. 12 and 12 study.

•Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas will have Sharon Beam, who is a licensed professional counselor interim specializing in play therapy for children, adolescent counseling and women's issues, available for clients at the First Presbyterian Church, Runnels and Eighth St. Appointments for counseling services are made by calling 1-800-329-4144.

THURSDAY

•Salvation Army drug education program, sponsored by Permian Basin Regional Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, 7 p.m., Salvation Army building, 308 Aylford.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting.

•A.D.D.A.P.T. non-profit support and learning organization about attention deficit disorder, learning disorders and dyslexia. Meets second Thursday of September, October, November, January, February, March, April and May, Cerebral Palsy building, 802 Ventura, Midland.

•Grief Support related to the death of a loved one. Call Nurses Unlimited, Inc., at 264-6523.

•Alzheimer's Association Support Group, fourth Thursday of the month, Comanche Trail Nursing Center, 3200 Parkway, 7 p.m.

•Support Group for Depression meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehab Center, Third and Lancaster.

FRIDAY

•Turning Point A.A., 8-9:30 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 10th and Goliad. Open to all substance abusers.

•Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon open meeting and 8 p.m. Big Book Study.

SATURDAY

•Alzheimer's Association Support Group, second Saturday of the month, Carriage Inn Retirement Center, 501 W. 17th, 10 a.m.

•Family support group for current and former patients and their families, 1 p.m. weekly, Reflections Unit of Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Call Beverly Grant, 263-0074.

Mexican dishes heating up dinner tables all over the country

By JOY AULT
Valley Morning Star

HARLINGEN, Texas — Salsas and picante sauces aren't just for tortilla chips anymore.

Adding them to recipes is a hot way to enjoy spice up any Mexican cuisine, which is not only a Rio Grande Valley favorite but is fast becoming an American favorite.

And only in America would people celebrate a foreign holiday with more enthusiasm than in its country of origin. Cinco de Mayo, adopted from Mexico, is growing in popularity across North America with mariachis, margaritas, parades, festivals and, of course, food.

Gail Etheridge Ropham of Weslaco often creates her own Mexican recipes. One of them made her a first-prize winner recently in the Cook-of-the-Month recipe contest sponsored by Better Homes and Gardens magazine.

"Oh, I had this wonderful seafood recipe with shrimp, and had the idea in my head that everyone who tasted it loved it," she said. "So I thought, 'Send it in. Why not?'" Her winning recipe,

"Mexican Shrimp Cocktail," will be published in the magazine's July issue.

Salsas and picante are alternatives to fat- and calorie-laden ingredients like mayonnaise, butter and salad dressings. The sauces can be used on almost everything.

But if you can't come up with anything on your own, then try one of these suggestions from Pace Foods:

— Salsas can often replace heavy sauces and gravies to cut calories, fat and sodium.

— Salsas make a flavorful, low-calorie topping for fish and chicken dishes.

— A solution for a good low-fat base for pizza, spaghetti sauce and meatloaf is to use salsa.

— Replace high-calorie condiments with salsa.

— For dieters who don't want their potato dry, medium or hot salsa adds flavor without guilt.

— Salsa is an alternative to sugar-filled barbecue sauce.

— Salads, the dieter's staple, may have hidden calories in dressings. Top that salad with zing from salsa's jalapeno peppers and chilies.

For this year's Cinco de Mayo celebration Popham offers her recipe for "Caldo de Marisco," seafood soup.

A graduate of Harlingen High School, she later spent 10 years in New England, where she enjoyed the seafood.

Now she develops seafood recipes for the winter take-out kitchen of B&B Seafood Market in Donna, which she and her husband own.

"I've had rave reviews from friends, family and customers for my seafood dishes," she said.

Caldo de Marisco

- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 green pepper, chopped
- 2 tomatoes, chopped
- 1 to 2 teaspoons cumin (optional)
- 2 tablespoons tomato sauce
- Handful snipped cilantro leaves
- 6 cups water
- 1 pound small shrimp, peeled
- 1/2 pint shucked oysters
- 1/2 to 1 pound scallops
- 1 pound fish fillets, such as cod, cut into bite-size pieces
- 4 tablespoons butter
- 1 tablespoon flour
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder

Salt and pepper to taste

Over medium to high heat in a 4-quart pan, cook onion and pepper in butter until tender. Sprinkle in flour, and stir to thicken. Slowly add 3 cups water while stirring. Bring to a boil.

Add the oysters and cook over medium heat until edges of oysters curl, about 4 to 5 minutes.

Add 3 more cups water, tomatoes, tomato sauce, scallops and fish. Cook on high heat for 7 to 8 minutes.

Reduce the heat to medium and add shrimp, cilantro, cumin and garlic powder. Cook until shrimp is opaque.

Salt and pepper to taste. Serve with favorite crackers.

Note: If you don't like oysters, just omit that step. You can improvise with the seafood and use crabmeat or catfish, according to individual preferences.

— From Gail Popham.

Shrimp Veracruz

- 2 cups yellow rice
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 large green bell pepper, cut into thin strips
- 1 large yellow bell pepper, cut into thin strips

- 1 medium onion, diced
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 pound large shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 1 14-1/2-ounce can stewed tomatoes
- 1/4 cup sliced pimento-stuffed olives
- 2 tablespoons Patron Silver Tequila
- 1 tablespoon capers
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon Tabasco pepper sauce
- Parsley or cilantro springs for garnish

Prepare rice as label directs. Meanwhile, in 12-inch skillet over medium heat, in hot oil, cook green and yellow peppers and onion until tender-crisp, about 5 minutes, add garlic. Cook 2 minutes.

Add shrimp; cook 3 minutes until pink. Add stewed tomatoes with their liquid, olives, capers, tequila, salt and Tabasco. Over high heat, heat to boiling; reduce heat to low. Cover and simmer 5 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Serve shrimp over yellow rice. Garnish with parsley or cilantro. Makes 4 servings.

— From Patron Silver Tequila.

HALF PRICE

Summer Sale

**Buy 1 Summer Item at Regular Price
Get 2nd Summer Item at 1/2 Price**

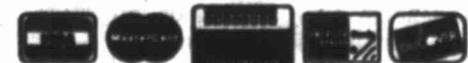
Second item must be of equal or less value.



ANTHONY'S
Family Apparel & Shoes

IN THE BIG SPRING MALL

Sale Prices Effective thru May 24th.



GRADS

Continued from page A7

named salutatorian of Borden County High School. She has maintained a grade point average of 3.85 for the four years reporting period.

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SPORTS

The Sports Herald
WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1997

SCOREBOARD

Baseball — Class 2A playoffs, Coahoma vs. Albany, 5 p.m. Thursday, Snyder High School.

NBA Playoffs
Houston at Utah, 7:30 p.m., ch. 28.
Baseball
Oakland at Texas, 7:30 p.m., ch. 29.

Got a story idea or a sports news tip?

Call Sports,
263-7331
Ext. 236

or
leave voice mail

B

Bulls show they can still seal the deal with rally past Miami

CHICAGO (AP) — They had had a long layoff, time to rest their aging legs between playoff series. But that's not why the Chicago Bulls were able to take control in the final minutes and beat the Miami Heat.

Jordan said after Chicago's 94-77 victory to open the Eastern Conference finals Tuesday night. "But we were able to come back and win. We've been in that situation a couple of times already. We've had some experience dealing with it. We were able to keep our poise."

Against the Heat, Chicago played a team coming off a grueling seven-game series against New York. The Bulls, on the other hand, were playing for the first time in a week. They struggled in the first half, again fell behind by 16, trailed by 11 at the half and were down five with just over six minutes left.

Hardaway, who had scored 38 points in a Game 7 victory over the Knicks, managed just 13 Tuesday night, missing 10 of 14 shots. The Bulls, especially Ron Harper, were able to stop Hardaway and contain the Heat's pick-and-roll play in the second half, forcing the Heat into bad passes. Miami had four turnovers in one crucial three-minute stretch of the final quarter.

Hardaway said, "We weren't real aggressive, real forceful or real strong with the ball. They were slapping the ball out of our hands. We were jumping up in the air and throwing the ball away," Hardaway said.

And the Heat, especially Alonzo Mourning, who finished with 21 points and six blocks, were awful at the free throw line. Mourning missed 5-of-6 free throws in the final 2:20 and

SPORTS BRIEFS

Little League results

The Braves improved to 6-2 for the season by defeating the Cardinals 9-4 in recent American Little League action. Jacoby Jones led the Braves' attack with a pair of doubles. Josh Wilson picked up the win on the mound.

Girls' hoops league starting

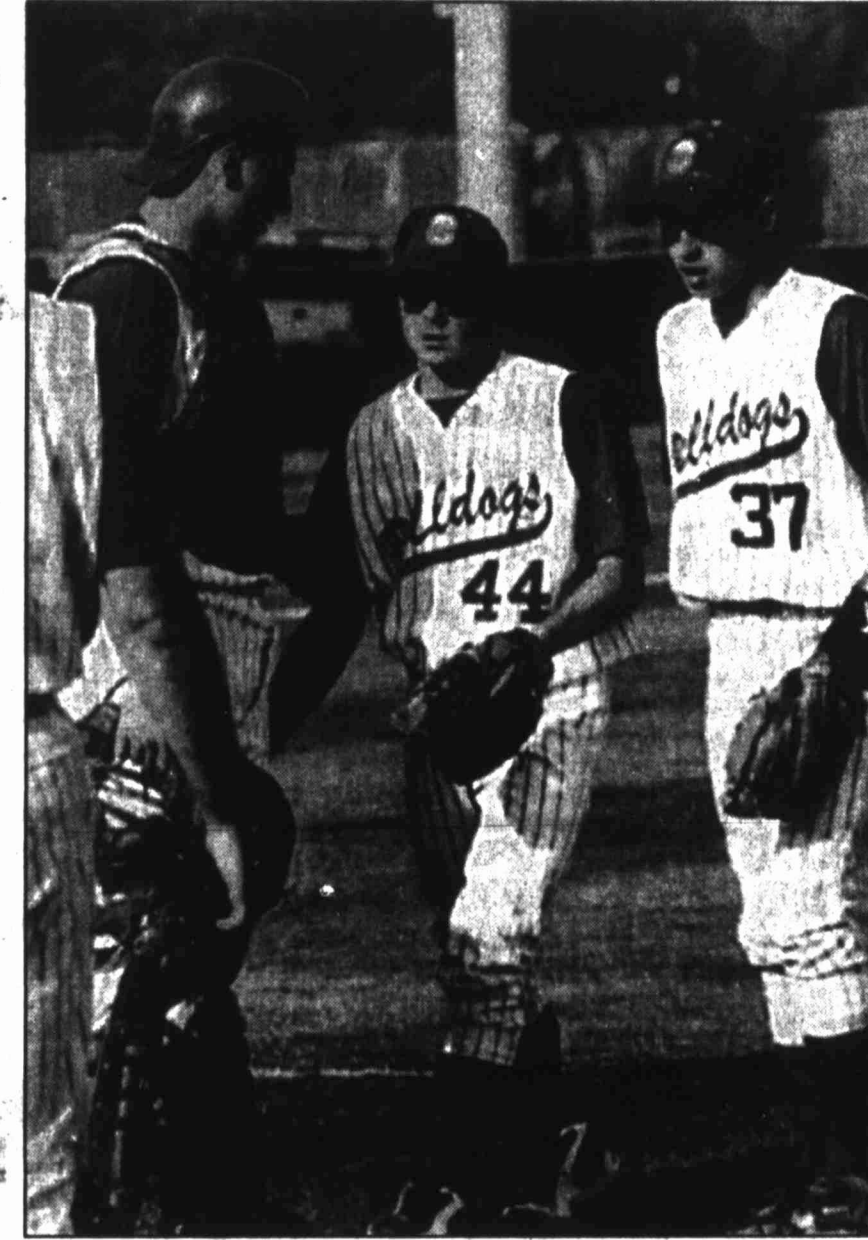
The Crossroads Girl's Basketball Summer League will hold its 1997 season from June 2-July 31. There will be two leagues — varsity and sub-varsity — and all games will be played at Garrett Coliseum.

Hawks plan hoops camp

Registration is being accepted for the annual Howard College Boys Basketball Camp, which begins June 2 at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. The camp, hosted by Howard College basketball coach and athletic director Tommy Collins, will be held in two sessions — a day camp open to all ages June 2-5; and an overnight camp for players in grades 10-12 only June 16-19.

CTLGA tourney Monday

The annual Memorial Couples golf tournament, open to Comanche Trail Ladies Golf Association members, will be held at 8 a.m. May 26 at Comanche Trail Golf Course.



Coahoma pitcher Mike McMillan (44) is congratulated by teammates Rodney Grossett (37) and Shawn Rye, left, between innings of the Bulldogs' 7-1 victory against Albany Friday.

'Relaxed' 'Dogs prep for Tahoka

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

COAHOMA — The stakes are getting gradually higher and higher with each game, but Trey Morgan expects his team to stay loose for at least its next game. The Coahoma Bulldogs take their second step in the 1997 baseball playoffs when they face Tahoka in a Class 2A area game at 5 p.m. Thursday in Moffatt Field in Snyder.

They're a real solid ball club," Morgan said. "they've got a real good starting pitcher who throws real hard, they're defense is real solid, and they're disciplined at the plate." Except for the part about the hard-throwing pitcher, Morgan could be describing his team.

Witt, 7-0, sets mark for fastest start by a Rangers' hurler with win

ARLINGTON (AP) — Bobby Witt had one of his worst outings of the season Tuesday night, but right now the Texas Rangers righthander can do little wrong.

Witt gave up all three runs and six hits in seven innings, walked a season-high five and struck out four. "This was by far his least effective performance of the year," Rangers manager Johnny Oates said. "His pitch count was much higher than normal."

Witt equaled the team record for best start set by Jim Kern in 1979 and repeated by Jeff Russell in 1988. Warren Newson tied a career high with four hits, including a pair of doubles and a triple as Texas won for the eighth time in 11 games.

Witt struggled through most of his seven innings, but Rusty Greer and Lee Stevens each hit two-run homers in the fifth to give Witt a five-run lead and the Rangers went on to beat the Oakland Athletics 8-3. "I was really fortunate the way the team played," said Witt, who ran his record to 7-0

Canseco, making his eighth start in left field, lost a Juan Gonzalez fly ball in the first that fell for a triple, and then couldn't catch an Ivan Rodriguez fly in the sixth that went for a double. After playing center field in the top of the first, Greer told the Rangers hitters to anticipate misplayed fly balls because of the poor conditions.

because you couldn't see the ball," Oates said. Ariel Prieto (3-3) allowed seven runs and nine hits in 4 1-3 innings for Oakland, which has lost four straight and 11 of 13. "He had trouble getting the ball down," A's manager Art Howe said. "I don't know if it was the mound or what but both starting pitchers struggled."

NBC's Albert denies assault charges

ARLINGTON, Va. (AP) — Marv Albert, the versatile sportscaster and voice of the NBA on NBC, was charged with biting a woman in a hotel room as many as 15 times and forcing her to perform oral sex. In an indictment handed up Monday, Albert was accused of attacking a 41-year-old Vienna, Va., woman he had known for 10 years. If convicted of forcible sodomy and assault, he could get up to life in prison.

New York Knicks played the Washington Bullets in nearby Landover, Md. "She says he threw her on the bed and that he bit her severely, viciously, on the back. She had bite marks, 10 or 15 of them, and then ... he forced her to commit sodomy," Bell said. In some places, the flesh on her back was "ripped," he said.

Commonwealth's Attorney Richard Trodden has spoken to Albert. There was no immediate answer at the home of the woman who brought the charges. The forcible sodomy charge carries a sentence of five years to life in prison. The assault charge is a misdemeanor, punishable by up to a year in prison and a \$2,500 fine, Trodden said.

Thirteen drivers to start first 500

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Italian Vincenzo Sospiri didn't expect to be in Sunday's Indianapolis 500, let alone starting on the front row. That all changed in March when the 30-year-old read in a newspaper that the Lola Formula One team he was driving for had decided to terminate its program.

1981 and has mainly driven in the international Formula 3000 series since 1991. He plans to continue with the IRL this year, although a return to Formula One is still on his mind. "I still have to prove myself in Formula One," he said. "I haven't had the chance to prove what I could do in Formula One. Now I'm concentrating on the IRL series 100 percent, and to get the best out of it. ... Once I've done that, we can talk about something else."

because you couldn't see the ball," Oates said. Ariel Prieto (3-3) allowed seven runs and nine hits in 4 1-3 innings for Oakland, which has lost four straight and 11 of 13. "He had trouble getting the ball down," A's manager Art Howe said. "I don't know if it was the mound or what but both starting pitchers struggled."

OU Sooners to play in '97 football opener

DALLAS (AP) — Once again, the Big 12 Conference will be featured in the national college football season-opener.

A tentative ABC-TV schedule has Oklahoma meeting Northwestern on Aug. 23 in the Piskin Classic at Soldier Field in Chicago.

Last year, Texas A&M helped launch the season when it played Brigham Young in Provo, Utah.

The Big 12 Conference released a tentative 1997 television schedule Tuesday after receiving a report from ABC that its games last season drew better than any other conference.

"Big 12 games on ABC performed better than any other conference on any other network," said Joe Castiglione of Missouri, chairman of the athletic directors committee, at the league's annual spring meetings.

"Those ratings are a remarkable statistic because of the proliferation of football on TV."

Other marquee games include Miami at Baylor on Aug. 30, Colorado at Michigan and UCLA at Texas on Sept. 13, Iowa at Iowa State; Nebraska at Washington on Sept. 20 and Ohio State at Missouri on Sept. 27.

October games on ABC will be picked by the network six to

BIG 12

12 days before the game. On Nov. 28, the network will show Texas at Texas A&M and Nebraska at Colorado.

Fox Sports is also televising several games. Five have already been announced, beginning with Oklahoma State at Iowa State on Aug. 30.

The league's athletic directors and coaches met again Tuesday while chief executive officers met with commissioner Steve Hatchell.

On the agenda for Wednesday will be a possible vote on other schools helping out Nebraska, Texas and Colorado for revenue they lost making bowl trips after the 1996 season.

"Whether we will get this resolved, I don't know," Castiglione said. "I hope we can get the issue to a vote and get on down the road."

Nebraska was obligated to buy 15,000 tickets for being the bowl alliance selection in the Orange Bowl. Assistant athletic director Gary Fouraker said the Cornhuskers sold only about 3,500 tickets, leaving a deficit of some \$900,000.

Texas, the Big 12 champion by virtue of its 37-27 upset of Nebraska, played in the Fiesta Bowl, but needs help with a

\$350,000 shortage because the Longhorns sold only about 7,000 tickets of the required 13,250.

Colorado also would like help from a Holiday Bowl trip short-fall.

Each Big 12 school received a check for \$500,000 as its share of the profit from the Big 12 championship game at the TWA Dome in St. Louis last December.

Nebraska wrote a \$1.2 million check to the Orange Bowl to pay for the leftover tickets, which cost from \$60 to \$125 each.

"We were very surprised at the price of the Orange Bowl tickets," Nebraska athletic director Bill Byrne said.

He said he learned something else.

"Don't lose to Texas in the championship game," Byrne said.

Some 10,000 Cornhusker fans had purchased tickets to the Sugar Bowl in anticipation of a victory over Texas and a showdown for the national title in New Orleans. Many fans had non-refundable reservations on airlines and in hotels.

"It doesn't seem right when the team that's earning a large amount of money for the conference has a financial deficit for going to a bowl game," Castiglione said.

BULLS

Continued from page 1B
made only 7-of-15 for the game. As a team, the Heat were 15-of-30.

"The most disappointing thing is knowing you outplayed a team for pretty much the whole game, knowing that you outplayed them and worked hard to establish yourself and establish the tempo of the game, and then in four minutes let it slip away," Mourning said.

"It wasn't just the free throws. Everybody is going to look at that — we got to make our free throws, we're professional athletes. They're free throws, that's why they're called free. We got to take care of the basketball."

Chicago's Scottie Pippen said

the Bulls were able to do what they've always done — disrupt with defense.

"With Michael, Ron and I at guard, we take up a lot of space," Pippen said.

"We feel we have the ability to force them in and knock the ball loose or force them into a position where they don't feel comfortable handling the ball."

Jordan scored 37 to lead the Bulls, who shot only 36 percent as a team. Pippen scored 24. Dennis Rodman had 19 rebounds before fouling out.

Rodman picked up his 12th technical foul of the playoffs — no surprise there. But Pippen and Jordan, who are always trying to keep Rodman out of trouble, got technical fouls of their own.

"I'm not at liberty to discuss the refereeing, but it certainly wasn't great tonight," Jordan said.

"There were a lot of questionable calls. You just have to play through it. We got three technicals. We lost our cool to some degree. But it never really hurt us because they missed all their free throws."

Game 2 is Thursday night at the United Center, where the Heat were one of two teams to beat Chicago during the regular season.

"We've got to get out quick and not give this team confidence in our building," Jordan said.

"I think we might have caught them napping a little bit," Riley said.

TEXAS

Continued from page 1B
homer of the season made it 3-3 in the fourth. In the bottom half, Ripken hit his first homer since June 5, 1996, the 18th of his career in 2,513 at-bats.

Greer's fourth homer of the season came in the fifth following Prieto's second error of the game. Stevens' homer, a drive off Don Wengert, was his seventh of the season.

Canseco hit his 10th homer in the first, a 415-foot shot to left off a window in a stadium restaurant just below the second deck.

Astros

HOUSTON — All Curtis Goodwin has to do to perform his best is to think the worst.

"The secret is me making myself think I'm hitting about

.100 or .150," said Goodwin, who tied a career-high with four hits as the Cincinnati Reds beat the Houston Astros 7-4 on Tuesday night.

"I just keep that in mind and that way I never get too relaxed or think I'm doing too good."

John Smiley (4-6) kept his unbeaten string against Houston intact by scattering eight hits in seven innings. Smiley has not lost to Houston since May 8, 1993, and is 8-0 in 10 games against the Astros since then.

Goodwin has gone on a tear since coming up from Indianapolis in late April. He has hit safely in 10 of the last 15 games, going 18-for-43 (.419) in that span. His bunt single in the first inning helped the Reds build a 2-0 lead.

"I feel if I make myself think I'm hitting .100, I'll stay focused on the ball and have a lot better at bats."

"It's quite an easy game if you make it that way."

Goodwin was 4-for-5 with two runs scored.

"He just continues to do well," said interim manager Dennis Menke, filling in for the suspended Ray Knight. "The last 10 days it seems like he's been this hot every game. He just tries to keep the ball out of the air and uses his speed to get on. I think he is just starting to realize the type of player he can be."

Deion Sanders led off the first with a single to left before Goodwin surprised the Astros with his bunt.

SWT's goal simple: Make it to Omaha

AUSTIN (AP) — Winning the Southland Conference baseball championship and earning an NCAA Regional bid weren't Southwest Texas State's goals for this season.

The Bobcats say the accomplishments were only milestones on the team's route to the College World Series.

"We don't just want to show up," Bobcats coach Howard Bushong said of the NCAA playoffs. "I want to do something both for our program and our conference. We're not just happy to be there."

"Our kids believe in themselves. They think they can go to Omaha."

Southwest Texas (35-24) is the No. 6 seed at the NCAA Central Regional in Lubbock. The Bobcats face top-seeded Texas Tech (46-12) at 7 p.m. Thursday.

Southwest Texas isn't necessarily the underdog despite its seeding. This season, the team has beaten NCAA qualifiers Texas A&M, Rice and Central Florida. The Bobcats are 4-5 against NCAA-qualifying teams.

"It's a big help to the kids," Bushong said. "That's what they keep saying. We've played these people, we know what it takes to get it done."

Southwest Texas secured the school's first Southland Conference title with a two-game sweep of Texas-San Antonio Sunday in the conference tournament. Bobcats pitchers posted a 2.72 ERA in the tournament while hitters set nine tournament records, including a .374 team batting average over six games.

The Bobcats started the season with pitching depth and have come around at the end of the season with strong offense, scoring 47 runs in the last four games of the conference tournament.

Part of the depth comes from Southland Conference tournament MVP Jeremy Fikac. The third baseman proved himself at the plate with a .391 batting average, but also has been a surprise on the mound.

Fikac pitched a 5-3 loss to Texas-Pan American in February before coming back in April with victories over Texas and Texas A&M.

He pitched again in the last conference series with a shutout and a season-high 11 strikeouts before picking up a win and a save in last weekend's conference tournament.

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*Based on a study by an independent laboratory using consumer panel comparisons of all major U.S. refrigerator manufacturers.

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Tractor requires some assembly.

159⁹⁹
Sears low price
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Each of these advertised items is readily available for sale as advertised. Most larger items inventoried in warehouses. Allow reasonable time for delivery. Some motor appliances and electronics available by special order only in smaller stores. Appliances prices are for white. Colors, connectors and refrigerating icemaker hookup extra. Gas model dryers priced higher. TV screen sizes measured diagonally, reception simulated. *Total capacity.

HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, MAY 21:

You feel many currents within you this year. Likewise, your exterior life presents many choices and directions. Relationships vie with desires as you struggle for wholeness. The unexpected prevails. You gain new insights into your personality, understanding why you make certain choices and set certain goals. Travel is a strong possibility. If you are single, you find yourself in an unpredictable relationship or involved in several at once. If attached, you grow and learn together. As long as you share ideas, your relationship will continue to shine. SAGITTARIUS plays devil's advocate.

The Stars Show the Kind of

Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You feel pulled in two different directions. Discussions involve a change in plans, perhaps a renegotiation of terms. A friend surprises you. Be flexible so you can be prepared for the unexpected. Laughter plays a significant role. Tonight: Go to the movies.*****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Hold on to your wallet. Figure out another way to handle costs. Stave off a partner who has designs on your funds. A boss throws you off with an unexpected decision. Approach problems differently. Make time for an intimate chat. Tonight: Be gentle.*****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Popularity is high, but it has a cost. A friend could become demanding. There are many ways to deal with this. A reversal throws a situation into chaos. Consider the big picture. Nothing is stable, but you work well in this atmosphere. Tonight: Accept an invitation.*****

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You are cranky with another. You need time off. Allow yourself to do something good for yourself. A partner might not agree. Reorganization is inevitable at work; be one of its advocates, not an adversary. Tonight: Ask for a backrub.***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You get into an emotional tug of war. The outside world pulls at you. Everyone wants you to make a choice. The unexpected occurs with a relationship. Someone you meet today could bring a vibrant tone to your life. Tonight: It could get wild!*****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Step back, as the pressure is intense. You might not know which way to go with a key decision; this isn't the time to make it. More information is on its way. Stay easygoing, and maintain perspective. This, too, will pass. Tonight: Disappear.**

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Maintain a sense of humor, as wildness prevails. You won't be able to gain control right now, so let go and be amused. Everything is subject to change. A loved one surprises you with his actions. Go with the flow, and keep smiling. Tonight: Be spontaneous.*****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Maintaining stability in this atmosphere would be a major accomplishment. Your sense of humor is high with a loved one who is needy and wants something from you. Hold on to your wallet, at least for today. Others seem to have designs on it. Tonight: Order in.***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) The moon highlights you. Be happy about what is offered. Recognize how unpredictable another is. Change your modus operandi, and be ready to deal with an unexpected hand of your own. Adding chaos may help you get what you want. Tonight: Laugh and enjoy.*****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) There are times to take a back seat, and this is one of them. The less said, the better off you are. Keep your own counsel, make decisions for yourself and be direct about money. How you view a problem could change in the next few days. Tonight: Be unreachable.**

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You might trigger more than you realize by your own unpredictability. Friends and loved ones vie for your attention. Be direct about your expectations; others will respond. Your good cheer helps ease the tension of

the full moon. Tonight: Be where the gang is.*****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You are pulled between two options, and there are many solutions. Maintain balance, and try not to lose your sense of humor. You gain insight because of what is happening. You will be making strong decisions about work soon. Tonight: It's a late work night.***

BORN TODAY Actor Richard Benjamin (1938), critic Judith Crist (1922), actress Susan Strasberg (1936)

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Prom night is now occasion for discrimination and danger

DEAR ABBY: Because prejudice and discrimination are so hurtful, I think we should do away with them in our public schools.
Abby, what is more discriminatory than the senior prom? The poor, the frugal, the shy, the unpopular, the plain and the dateless are excluded. Many parents cannot afford all that is involved in this rite of passage: formal wear, corsages, limousines. The kid who is saving his cash for college, the student who has no "significant other," is a reject on the eve of what should be a joyous camaraderie including all members of the senior class.
Instead, this occasion has too often turned into a boisterous

bash with overnight parties, drugs, drunk driving and death.
The above combination has made a farce of what was once a sensible, meaningful event. One father hired a horse-drawn carriage to transport his daughter to the prom!
I'm ready for a lot of flak in response to this letter, but I feel that there are many parents (and students) out there who agree with me, but are afraid to express it. —D.B. IN OLYMPIA, WASH.
DEAR D.B.: Every year the newspapers carry pictures of handsome young men and beautiful girl graduates who have died in fiery automobile crashes on prom night. Rather than completely doing away with this rite of passage, it should be rethought. Some schools have already done this by transporting the young people to and from the dance or party in buses, and keeping the celebration alcohol-free. Others have turned it into a special night out (to a play, a theme park, etc.) that doesn't require a date.
I would be interested to hear what other schools and parents are doing to safeguard their young people on graduation night.
DEAR ABBY: Who says what's "right" when a woman wants to have a formal second wedding? My sister has been married once before. Her wedding was very large and very formal. She is now engaged again to a young man who has never been married.
Her wedding party started out to be six, including the bride and groom. It has now been reduced to four. We will all be dressed in gowns and tuxedos.
This is the late '90s, and we're heading into a new century. My sister feels there is nothing wrong with a second formal wedding as long as it's the first for the groom, and I agree.
If it's the bride's first wedding and the groom's second, no one would comment. But when it's the bride's second

and the groom's first, why must it be small and informal? Shouldn't it be up to the bride and groom, rather than anyone else?
My sister's wedding will be small, with a few friends and the immediate family, but some of the traditions will be included, such as throwing the bridal bouquet, first dance, dollar dance, photographs, father-daughter dance, etc.
What are your thoughts on this? — FORMAL OR NOT, BOWDOIN, MAINE
DEAR FORMAL OR NOT: I agree with your sister. Since it is the groom's first wedding, I see no reason why he should be penalized because his bride has been previously married.
The old rules about what is appropriate have relaxed in recent years. It is perfectly acceptable for the couple to have a formal wedding with all the trimmings.
My congratulations and best wishes to the happy couple.
DEAR ABBY: In response to "Disgusted in Florida": My husband and I met and married in Florida 16 years ago. He, being single and in the Navy, had visited many nude beaches overseas throughout the years, so of course he tried to persuade me to go to a nudist club with him. My response was always, "No way!"
Two years ago, we were sent to Virginia, where he promptly found a nudist club. For some reason, I finally agreed to go with him. I was just like "Disgusted" — I had assumed that people went to nudist clubs only to gawk at all the naked people. However, I figured I might as well go just once, so I could justify my feelings and prove to him that I was right.
Well, I was WRONG! I was surprised at the "non-reaction" the people there had. I was also sure that I would either catch him looking around or that I would be intimidated, but neither happened.
Persuading me to go took a lot of perseverance on my husband's part, and although I had determined that I was not the type to frequent such places, I am very happy that I went once. It became a valuable learning experience.
I guess this is a long way of saying, don't be so quick to judge before you try something. You may be pleasantly surprised! — HAPPILY SURPRISED IN MINNESOTA
DEAR HAPPILY SURPRISED: Call me hung-up, narrow-minded, square or behind the times,

but I would never be comfortable in a nudist colony. However, I wholeheartedly support the right of anyone with an opposing view to do as he or she wishes. (P.S. Hand me a towel, please.)
DEAR ABBY: A lousy lover is not interested in what he can do for me, only what I can do for him. A lousy lover doesn't listen to what he is told that could enhance my pleasure, or take gentle or subtle suggestions. A lousy lover says, "I really wanted you to have an orgasm," just before he rolls over to go to sleep, leaving me lying frustrated beside him. A lousy lover is selfish and self-centered and brags about his conquests and sexual skills (which usually means he has none). It has nothing to do with "size." — TULSA, OKLA.
DEAR ABBY: A lousy lover is someone who walks into a room and says, "Do you want some?" He considers a few squeezes and pinches to be sufficient foreplay. Within 15 minutes it's all over, as far as he's concerned, whether his partner is satisfied or not. You know the old saying, "Wham-bam-thank you, ma'am."
It seems to me that if someone has to ask, you already know which class he falls into. — PATRICIA W., VIRGINIA BEACH, VA.
For Abby's favorite family recipes, send a long, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet No. 1, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)
What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS, and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Women's Care Update
By Michael S. Phillips, M.D.
Diplomate, American Board Obstetrics & Gynecology
CALCIUM FOR MOTHER-TO-BE
Add yet another reason for women to get sufficient amounts of calcium in their diets. A major new study indicates that consuming 1,500 to 2,000 milligrams (mg) of calcium daily during pregnancy decreases a woman's risk of developing preeclampsia by more than 60 percent. Preeclampsia, a condition which currently affects about one in 14 pregnancies, can increase a pregnant woman's blood pressure to dangerously high level, as well as lead to convulsions and premature birth. Because prenatal supplements contain only 300 to 300 mg. of the mineral, pregnant women are urged to eat calcium-rich foods. One ounce of skim milk contained 302 mg. of calcium, while four ounces of tofu has 145 mg. and an orange has 69 mg. If eating these foods poses a difficulty, ask the doctor about supplementation.
A word of warning: everyone has now heard of over-the-counter remedies (previously touted for acid indigestion) that TV ads suggest are useful as calcium supplements. If you are pregnant, be sure to discuss calcium supplementation with your obstetrician before buying these products—some of these acid relievers have recently been shown to contain lead, something your baby does not need. Your prenatal nutrition, the use of all prescription drugs, and over-the-counter pharmaceuticals are important subjects to discuss with your obstetrician. To schedule a visit call our office at (915) 622-2222 for an appointment. We're located at the Medical Care Plaza, 1300 Gregg Street, every Tuesday, here in Big Spring.

WEDNESDAY

MAY 21

Table with 24 columns representing different TV channels (KIMD, KPEJ, KERA, etc.) and rows for time slots from 6:00 AM to 12:00 AM, listing various programs and their durations.

HAGAR



BLONDIE



B.C.



FAMILY CIRCUS



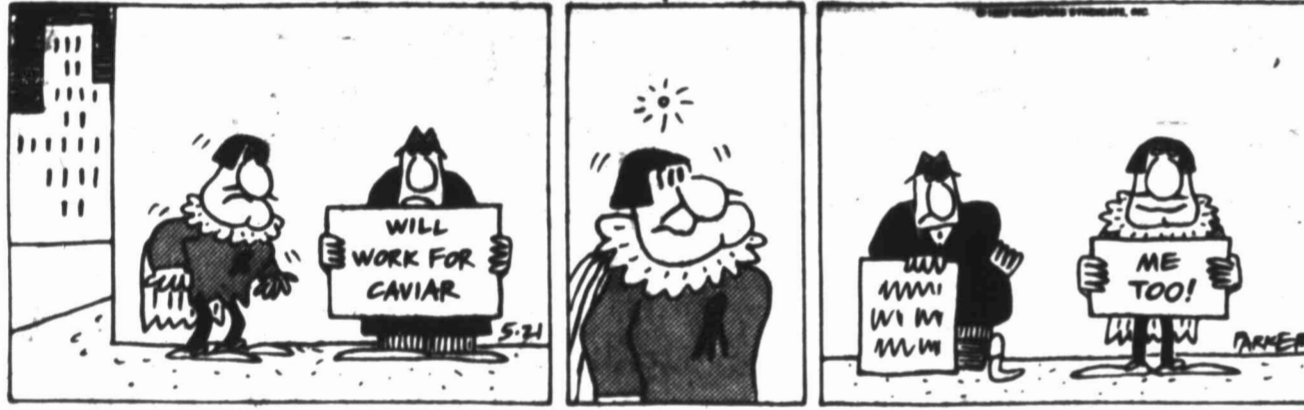
DENNIS THE MENACE



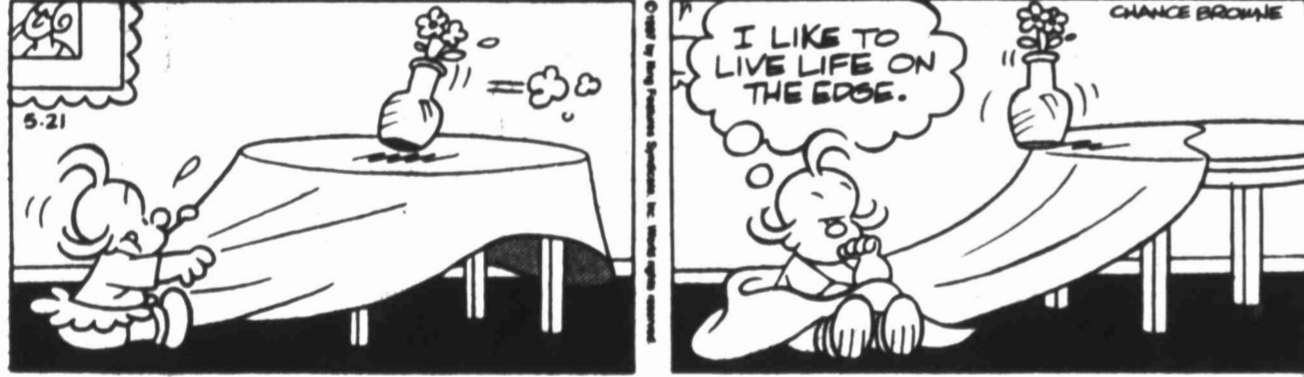
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THIS DATE IN HISTORY

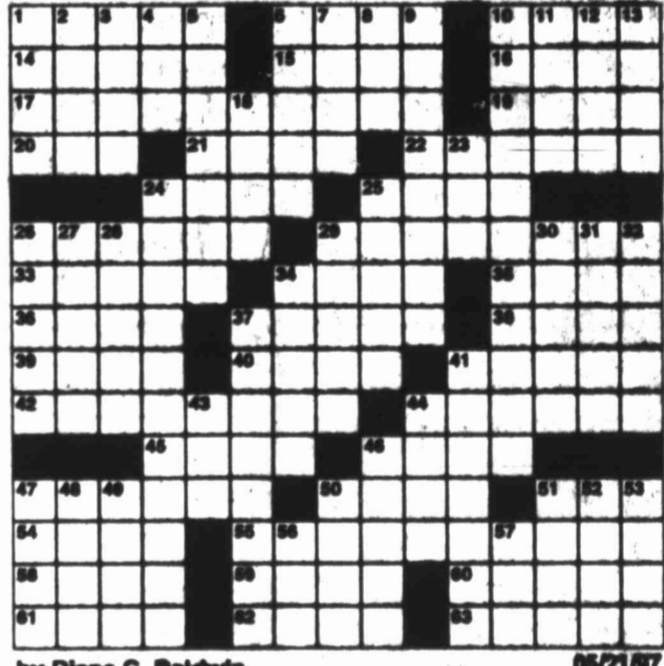
The ASSOCIATED PRESS Today is Wednesday, May 21.

the 141st day of 1997. There are 224 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On May 21, 1927, Charles A. Lindbergh landed his Spirit of St. Louis near Paris, completing the first solo airplane flight across the Atlantic Ocean.

On this date: In 1542, Spanish explorer Hernando De Soto died while searching for gold along the Mississippi River. In 1892, the first Democratic National Convention got under way in Baltimore. In 1940, New Zealand was declared a British colony. In 1981, Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross. In 1892, the opera "I Pagliacci" by Ruggero Leoncavallo, was first performed in Milan, Italy. In 1924, 14-year-old Bobby Franks was murdered in a "thrill killing" committed by Nathan Leopold Jr. and Richard Loeb, two students at the University of Chicago. In 1956, the United States exploded the first airborne hydrogen bomb over Bikini Atoll in the Pacific. In 1959, the musical "Gypsy," inspired by the life of stripper Gypsy Rose Lee, opened on Broadway. In 1968, the nuclear-powered U.S. submarine Scorpion, with 99 men aboard, was last heard from. (The remains of the sub were later found on the ocean floor 400 miles southwest of the Azores.) In 1979, former San Francisco City Supervisor Dan White was convicted of voluntary manslaughter in the deaths of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk. Ten years ago: In the wake of the Iraqi attack on the U.S. frigate Stark that claimed 37 lives, the Senate approved a proposal requiring President Reagan to send Congress a report detailing the threat to U.S. ships in the Persian Gulf. Five years ago: The Coast Guard announced that high-seas interdiction of Haitian refugees was being drastically scaled back because refugee camps at the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo, Cuba, were filled. One year ago: At least 615 people, many of them teen-agers, drowned when an overloaded Tanzanian ferry capsized in Lake Victoria. Today's Birthdays: Novelist Harold Robbins is 81. Actress-TV personality Peggy Cass is 73. Actor Rick Jason is 71. Actor David Groh is 58. Rhythm-and-blues singer Ron Isley (The Isley Brothers) is 56. Singer Leo Sayer is 49. Thought for Today: "Our present addiction to pollsters and forecasters is a symptom of our chronic uncertainty about the future... We watch our experts read the entrails of statistical tables and graphs the way the ancients watched their soothsayers read the entrails of a chicken." — Eric Hoffer, American philosopher (1902-1983).

THE Daily Crossword

- ACROSS 1 African river 6 Actor Baldwin 10 Chews the fat 14 Paris farewell 15 VIP transport 16 Beige shade 17 Succeeded, in some sports 19 Slim or reedy 20 Storm center 21 Hyde or Central 22 Ticked responses 24 Theater role 25 Light ring 26 Take off pounds 29 Systematic plans 33 Fill with joy 34 Stage Auntie 35 Buffalo's lake 36 First name in jeans 37 Makes macaroons 38 Mr. Rogers 39 Monogram part: abbr. 40 Arabian gulf 41 "Time in a Bottle" singer 42 Reddish wine grapes 44 Kitchen tool 45 Playmate 46 Type of china 47 Mule's cousin 50 Method: abbr. 51 Heel's opposite 54 Butter substitute 55 Succeeded as an archer 58 A few individuals 59 Low-down joint 60 Promotion plus, perhaps 61 Good buddies 62 Hill builders 63 Individual endeavors



- DOWN 1 Showed up 2 Jazz singer 3 Greek victory goddess 4 Golly 5 Run faster than 6 Wide-awake 7 Beat up 8 New Zealand bird 9 Vacation homes 10 Succeeded in a board game 11 Twinge or pang 12 Soft cheese 13 Tries for a tan 18 Long-eared mammal 23 Yale man 24 Succeeded in communicating something 25 Macho fellows 26 Old memento 27 Actress 28 Ship's crane 29 Leaf gatherer 30 Swashbuckler 31 Female relative 32 Passover meal 34 Woman's title 37 Head scarf 41 Work hubs 43 Query word 44 Elegant 46 Computer units 47 Comic book 48 Arm bone 49 Fly rod attachment 50 Profiling term 51 Follow closely 52 About 53 — out (barely manages) 56 Wayfarer's step 57 Name in China

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