

BIG SPRING HERALD

Reflecting A Proud Community

FRIDAY
June 20, 1997

50 cents

Chamber dropping some fees, working to be more hospitable to visitors

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Less than a month after taking the reins as executive vice president of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Terri Newton is already riding high in the saddle and looking for ways to make the chamber more visible.



Newton began Wednesday's chamber board of directors meeting by thanking board members and the chamber staff for the warm welcome she received at a reception in her honor last week and added, "now it's time to go to work." Reporting for absent Membership Development Vice President Katie Grimes, Newton said the chamber's current membership is at 468 members, with 33 of those being new. In order to become more acclimated to the job, Newton said she has made calls on several

new members as well as some of the chamber's established membership. One item Newton is looking at changing right away is eliminating the \$7 charge to non-chamber members for a copy of the chamber's membership directory. Newton said the chamber would no longer charge for city maps either. "I feel that's what we're there for," Newton said. The chamber staff has also made a few in-house improvements to enhance the atmos-

phere as people come in and will begin serving coffee to visitors in the chamber's foyer. The chamber's newsletter, "Focus," will also be done in a shortened format and will include a column to keep members informed about chamber activities. The chamber is also making an effort to be very visible at the 64th Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo. "It is my goal to welcome the people from out of town to Big Spring," Newton said. Chamber Vice President of

Governmental Affairs Chuck Williams gave board members a wrap-up of events during the 75th Texas Legislature. "The issues of property taxes and water had some action, but not as much as legislators would have liked," he said. Williams also told board members that Big Spring's plan for securing one of four Veterans Homes must be submitted to the Texas Veterans Land Board by July 15. "It appears that the decision will come from the Veterans Land Board," Williams said.

Chamber directors were also informed that May was an extremely good month for the Dora Roberts Community Center (DRCC). According to DRCC Property Manager Kathy Lusk, income and usage was up from April. DRCC had a total of 25 events in May and rental payments received of \$2,182.95. Of those 25 events, eight were catered feeding 644 people. To date, DRCC has had 3,616 persons attend events this year — 1,527 in May compared to 1,621 in May 1996.

Action in arena is not only thing going on at rodeo

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
Sports Editor

With announcer Racer Botkin stressing the family entertainment afforded by the 64th annual Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo, it's not surprising to find a collection of people with family ties working behind the scenes.

They have jobs that few see during the course of a rodeo, and even those with tasks that make them more visible have jobs that few spectators understand or appreciate. According to Terri Gay, the wife of Don Gay, an eight-time world champion bull rider and producer of this year's rodeo, the team that coordinates the action is relatively small with each individual responsible for a number of duties. "It's a family operation in that you have family members working together, plus you've got a collection of about 13 people that spend a lot of time together during the year," she said, noting that she and Mildred Farris not only handle



Mildred Farris (left) records the time for one cowboy while Terri Gay operates the clock during another's performance during the 64th Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo. While Mildred and Terri are busy, rodeo announcer Racer Botkin keeps the crowd informed. Related story, Page 1B.

See SCENES, Page 2A

Parade for 64th Cowboy Rodeo appears headed for record books

By JOHN H. WALKER
Managing Editor

With more than 20 new entries, the 64th Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo Parade seems destined for the record books. "I think it'd be real heard for anybody to

say this one won't be the biggest (parade) ever," Johnny Middleton, rodeo board member and parade coordinator, said this morning. In an effort to increase participation in the parade, Middleton enlisted the Herald, annual sponsors of the Community Christmas Parade, and KBST as co-spon-

sors for the rodeo parade. "We were thinking that if we got 10 entries out of this we'd be happy," Middleton said. While a total number of entries filed through the radio station was not available. See PARADE, Page 2A

Local woman escapes major injuries after double assault

Police arrest duo after resident assaulted in two different incidents

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

A local woman suffered minor injuries after being assaulted on two occasions Wednesday night, but her alleged assailants ended the night behind bars.

Demetrius Pruitt, 30, of Big Spring, and a 14-year-old male who came to her assistance did not require major medical attention after Wednesday night's altercations, police records show. Big Spring Police Department units, responding to an assault call on the 1400 block of Princeton Wednesday night, determined that Joe Johnson, 26, of 210 Lockhart, had chased Pruitt with a knife, stabbing her and causing a superficial wound to her cheek, the records state.

A 14-year-old male juvenile witnessed the assault and attempted to aid Pruitt. In turn, he was assaulted, BSPD Sgt. Victor Brake said. After a foot chase, Johnson was arrested and charged with assault, but that wasn't the end of the episode. Further BSPD investigation showed that, prior to the assault by Johnson, there had been an altercation between Pruitt and a female later identified as Sherrie Farmer, 31, no address given. During that altercation, Farmer allegedly

attacked Pruitt with a metal pipe. Brake said Pruitt knew both of her assailants. Farmer was arrested and charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. She was taken to Big Spring State Hospital for observation and was held Wednesday night. Johnson was charged with aggravated assault and evading arrest. He is currently in custody at the Howard County Sheriff's Office in lieu of bonds totaling \$12,500.

Four Glasscock County Democrats switch to GOP

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Four Glasscock County (Garden City) officials were among 18 elected Democratic leaders officially welcomed to the Republican Party at a recent news conference in Austin at which time Gov. George W. Bush and Republican leaders welcomed the Democratically elected officials to their party.

The Glasscock County contingent was represented by County Judge Wilburn E. Bedner, who has been in office for more than 10 years. Also switching parties, but unable to make the trip to Austin, were Justice of the Peace Marilee Jost, who has served as Glasscock County Justice of the Peace for more than 10 years; District Clerk Betty Pate, elected in November 1982; and Sheriff Royce Pruitt,

elected to office in 1962. "Texas leads the nation when it comes to party switchers — that is Democrats joining the Republican Party. With this most recent Democratic defection means that of the 277 Democrats elected November 1994 and have since switched parties, 73 are Texans. In welcoming his party's newest members, Gov. Bush said, "The Republican Party rep-

resents the philosophy of Texas." "We believe government should do a few things and do them well," Bush added. "We believe in local control of our schools and cities and communities. We believe in strong families and individual responsibility. I welcome these local officials, county commissioners, sheriffs and judges to the party of Texas' future, the Republican Party."

Water levels

Few folks smiling as much as those at CRMWD as lakes rise

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Heavy rains this month have put smiles on almost everyone's faces, but few people are grinning more than the folks down at the local water district. Rainfall since June 5 has poured more than 50,000 acre-feet of water in the three main reservoirs maintained by the Colorado River Municipal Water District.

An acre-foot of water — the amount needed to cover an acre of land to the depth of one foot — equals about 326,000 gallons of water. That means almost 5 billion gallons of water have been added to CRMWD lakes since the first of the month.

That is very welcome news, especially at Lake Thomas, which was as low as 4.5 percent of capacity late last summer. But more than 12,000 acre-feet of water has poured into the lake since June 5, raising it 6.5 feet in elevation and bringing it to 12.75 percent of capacity.

While that figure is still considered very low by any standard, it does represent a welcome upswing in the lake's fortunes.

"It's a great blessing," said CRMWD assistant general manager Chris Wingert. "And (forecasters) are calling for more rain this weekend, so maybe we'll catch some more water." The increase at Thomas — which services only Snyder at this time — has water district officials looking into the possibility of releasing water to CRMWD client cities toward the west. Wingert said, however, that such a decision will not be made until July at the earliest.

The news is good at the district's other two reservoirs —

Fast Facts

Since June 5, CRMWD's three lakes have captured more than 50,000 acre-feet of water — or nearly 5 billion gallons. Lake J.B. Thomas has received the most benefit, inflowing more than 12,000 acre-feet as the lake rose nearly 7 feet in elevation. Lake E.V. Spence gained 17,280 acre-feet and the remainder flowed into O.H. Ivie Reservoir.

lakes Spence and Ivie. Spence, near Robert Lee, has gained 17,280 acre-feet of water since June 5 and is now at 28.96 percent full. Ivie, near Ballinger, is the crown jewel of the district's reservoirs. It has captured almost 25,000 acre-feet of water in the past two weeks, and is within 1 1/2 feet of being at full capacity.

The only bad news for water district officials is that, in effect, the good news may be over. Wingert said long-range forecasts don't call for much rain this summer, meaning that what water levels have most likely peaked for the year. "We're coming toward the end of rainy season," Wingert said. "I really don't look for a whole lot more (water capture) between now and Sept. 1."

Even that bit of bad news is not enough to offset the good that has occurred for the district. "We're in much better shape than we were a couple of weeks ago," Wingert said. "And we're certainly much better off than we were last year."

4th quarter tax receipts down as reporting outlets decline

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

The State Comptroller's Office recently released its 1996 fourth quarter State Sales and Use Tax Analysis Report and Howard County had 875 business outlets in all industries report total gross sales of \$143,770,734.

That figure represents a 3.7 percent decrease from fourth quarter sales in 1995 when 1,054 outlets reported total gross sales of \$149,264,404.

Use tax purchases for Howard County in the fourth quarter of 1996 totaled \$376,014 and the total amount of fourth quarter sales subject to the State Sales

and Use Tax was \$41,804,765. Surrounding counties reporting fourth quarter sales include Andrews with 486 outlets reporting sales of \$47,496,525; Borden with 12 outlets reporting sales of \$312,744; Dawson with 441 outlets reporting sales of \$64,595,583; Ector with 4,091 outlets reporting sales of \$821,111,705; Glasscock with 33 outlets reporting sales of \$3,156,100; Martin with 133 outlets reporting sales of \$24,097,912; Midland with 4,239 outlets reporting sales of \$1,063,201,318; Mitchell with 281 outlets reporting sales of \$29,475,926; and Scurry with 544 outlets and sales of \$74,648,092.

WEATHER

Today: Sat: Sun: Mon:

Tonight, slight chance of evening thunderstorms, otherwise partly cloudy. Lows 65-75. Saturday, partly cloudy. Highs 93-100. Saturday night, clear. Lows around 70. Extended forecast, Sunday through Tuesday, partly cloudy. Lows 65-70. Highs in the 90s.

INDEX

Abby/Horoscope / 4B
Classified / 3-4B
Comics / 6B
Life / 5-6A
Obituaries / 2A
Opinion / 4A
Sports / 1-2, 5B
General News / 3A

To reach all departments, please call 263-7331

Vol. 93, No. 213

Final two nights of 64th Cowboy Rodeo top slate

HERALD Staff Report

Looking for something to do this weekend? Here's your ticket to weekend activities in and around Big Spring.

This feature is published each Friday and will include a variety of activities. It is limited to activities of a general nature, community fund-raisers, community functions, free performances, etc.

It is not available to commercial ventures. To submit your activity, send it to "Weekend Ticket," Big

WEEKEND TICKET

Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

If you wish, you may fax your listing to 264-7205 or bring it by the Herald offices at 710 Scurry. No information will be taken over the phone.

• Spring City Senior Center dance, tonight, 7:30-10:30 p.m., Spring City Senior Center. Music will be provided by CW & Co. All senior citizens in the

area are invited.

• Trench Art, Heritage Museum, today from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., 510 Scurry.

This exhibit, which runs through July, includes artwork made from battlefield memorabilia, including old shells, etc.

For additional information, contact the museum at 267-8255. • Model Railroad Museum,

today and Saturday until 5 p.m., corner of 2nd and Main n downtown Big Spring.

Take a look at railroading in the HO scale, including a look at Texas & Pacific paint schemes, Missouri Pacific and other well-known roads.

• Potton House, today and Saturday, 1-5 p.m.

Located at 200 Gregg, the former home of the First Earl of Aylesford offers a glimpse into the community and region's past.

See TICKET, Page 2

JUN 20 1997

State judge rules in favor of Republicans in Val Verde voting suit

DEL RIO (AP) — Two Republican candidates in Val Verde County have prevailed against a state court challenge of their elections.

State District Judge Stephen Ables ruled Thursday that there was no proof that ineligible military mail-in ballots unfairly influenced the voting, as Democratic candidates claimed.

The ruling upholds the results of the controversial November election won by Republican sheriff candidate D'Wayne Jernigan and Republican county commission candidate Murry Kachel.

The decision brings Jernigan

closer to becoming the first Republican sheriff in Val Verde County's 112-year history.

Kachel, who since the election has admitted he once was a Ku Klux Klansman, has declined the commissioner's post.

The long-running election dispute divided the Del Rio community and focused national attention on Val Verde County, as politicians from Austin to Washington jumped into the fray.

"The time has come to forgive each other," Jernigan said after the judge's ruling. "We need to join together to make this the

best county in the U.S. ... Thank God for an answer to prayer."

Sheriff Oscar Gonzalez Jr., one of the two Democrats who filed the lawsuit, said he wasn't surprised at the judge's decision since a crucial ruling on evidence Monday essentially prevented him from presenting a case.

"We knew what to expect from the three-day kangaroo session that we had in his court," Gonzalez said. "We're going to let the federal system resolve this issue."

A federal injunction barring the two Republican candidates

from taking office remains in effect.

Gonzalez and commissioner candidate Frank Coronado challenged the election in state court, claiming some 800 mail-in ballots from non-residents affected the election outcome.

Most of the ballots in question were cast by military members and their dependents using the Federal Postcard Application process. Most of the voters were whites who once were stationed at Laughlin Air Force Base but who no longer lived in Val Verde County, which is 70 percent Hispanic.

But Ables, a visiting Republican judge from Kerrville, ruled the Democrats failed to prove illegal votes were cast and also failed to prove that, if any illegal votes were cast, they affected the election results.

The federal lawsuit, filed by Val Verde County voter Jovita Casarez, was put on hold until the state case was decided.

Republicans portrayed the election challenge as an attempt to prevent military members from exercising their right to vote.

Democrats claimed the argument wasn't about whether mili-

tary members should vote, but where they should vote. They claimed out-of-town "phantom" voters prevented local residents from choosing their own elected officials.

Ables said "there seemed an implication by (the Democratic candidates) that votes cast by members of the Armed Forces are inherently suspect."

The judge also quoted from a Supreme Court ruling in another case:

"The uniform of our country ... (must not) be the badge of disenfranchisement for the man or woman who wears it."

Judge denies new trial for youths convicted in sign theft manslaughter

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — A judge today denied a new trial for three young people convicted of manslaughter for yanking out a stop sign at an intersection where three bowling buddies died the following day.

The three, convicted of manslaughter, asked for a new trial after a key witness accused a prosecutor of forcing him to lie and the mother of one of the dead joined their fight, saying investigators manipulated evidence.

Circuit Judge Bob Mitchum rejected the new-trial request and immediately went into a lengthy sentencing hearing.

"I'm going to do what I would want a judge to do for me. ... I'm going to sleep on it tonight," the judge had said late Thursday, after hearing testimony late into the night.

"We have the lives of three young people at stake. We have the deaths of three young people."

Kevin Farr, Brian Hernandez and Randall White, all 18, were killed on Feb. 7, 1996, when their auto breezed through the intersection and into the path of an 8-ton truck. The three were out after bowling.

A stop sign was found lying

on the roadside near the accident.

Christopher Cole, 20, said he, Nissa Baillie, 21, and 20-year-old Thomas Miller stole as many as 19 signs along the rural roads of Hillsborough County, some 20 miles east of Tampa, the night before the accident. Cole told jurors during last month's trial that he and his friends didn't touch the stop sign at the intersection where the three friends lost their lives.

Cole, Baillie and Miller also said they panicked when they heard about the accident and ditched the signs in a river.

As the sentencing hearing got under way, Cole was up first, standing in an orange jail jumpsuit and crying as his attorney and family members pleaded for leniency.

"I believe he is innocent to this charge. To sentence him to a long term would be to pile tragedy upon tragedy," said Rodney Cole, father of Christopher Cole.

"A lengthy prison sentence would be taking away my fishing partner, my hunting buddy and best friend," said Cole's older brother, Robert.

Farr's father, Les, argued

against leniency.

"They received the maximum penalty — death — which was caused by these people here," he said.

"It is obvious that the reason that the accident happened is because the stop sign was missing."

"I ask that you give the maximum penalty that is allowable," he said.

Jurors took less than four hours to render their verdict and the trio each faces 27 to 46 years in prison.

Mitchum had said he was considering whether he erred by not separating theft charges from the manslaughter charges. And he was mulling over the testimony of prosecution witness Larry Jarrard.

Jarrard now says prosecutor Leland Baldwin forced him to testify that Cole told him they had stolen road signs in the area the night before.

"I told her, 'Now look, I can't really be sure,'" Jarrard said at the sentencing hearing. "She said something along the lines of 'Now you told me you were relatively certain. You'd better tell me what you told me that day because if you don't, I'm going to burn your a-...'"

Palestinians throw firebombs at Israeli soldiers as tensions grow on West Bank

HEBRON, West Bank (AP) — Palestinians threw firebombs at Israeli soldiers today, shouting "God is great!" whenever a gas-filled bottle burst into flames near its target. Israeli troops responded with rubber bullets in the heaviest clashes in a week of rioting.

Twenty-four Palestinians were hurt by the bullets, including one with a critical head injury. An Israeli soldier was injured by a stone.

It was the first time Palestinians made heavy use of firebombs, also known as Molotov cocktails.

"Now we are starting the war of the Molotovs," said one 18-year-old rioter who only gave his last name, Dandis.

"The peace we gave a chance to, the peace we thought would get the Jewish settlers out of here, is not going to work. It's all on paper," he said as he waited in line to have his empty orange juice bottle filled with gasoline and

turned into a firebomb.

The gasoline was dispensed from a brown jerry can by a Palestinian kneeling in a side alley. Each protester brought his own bottle and a rag to stuff into it after it was filled.

Israel says that Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority instigated the riots, hoping the violence will spur Israel into concessions at the negotiating table.

The Palestinians say the demonstrations reflect growing frustration over stalled peace talks and deny that Arafat is behind the violence.

Today's clashes began mid-morning when about 100 young Palestinians gathered on a main street in Hebron and began throwing stones at Beit Hadassah, a Jewish settler enclave.

After noon prayers, the crowd swelled to 300, some shouting "Allahu Akbar!" or "God is great!" Taunting the soldiers charged with protecting the settlers, rioters held

up two Israeli flags and set them on fire.

At one point, rioters began throwing dozens of firebombs, forcing Israeli soldiers to draw back. The crowd cheered and clapped every time a bottle exploded near a soldier. None took a direct hit.

Palestinians also threw hundreds of rocks, which were strewn over the ground.

Many stone throwers covered their faces with Arab headresses, Palestinian flags and ski masks, apparently to avoid future arrests by Israel. Israeli troops reportedly have begun filming the riots.

"We don't want to be arrested. We want to continue the struggle," one masked Palestinian said after he set fire to an Israeli flag.

The Israeli army said today it is asking the treasury for \$90 million to set up more watch towers and guard positions in Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

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EDITORIAL

Quote of the Day

"The scholar seeks, the artist finds."
-Andre Gide

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

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Sports Editor

Debbie Jensen
Features Editor

OUR VIEWS

We salute:

Each Friday, the *Herald* salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play.

This week we salute:

• **THE STATE NATIONAL BANK of BIG SPRING**, on having been named one of the nation's top 10 banks for its Internet banking by the Money Page. Our locally owned bank was the only bank from Texas to earn a spot in the top 10 listing.

• **BRENDA GAINEY, BILL TARLETON AND ROYCE COX** — all educators within the Big Spring Independent School District. GAINEY was named principal of Goliad Middle School, TARLETON was named principal of Runnels Junior High and COX, who has served the local district for 30 years, will head Washington Elementary School.

• **BEN GARCIA, JR.** of Big Spring and **ADOLPH GARZA** of Stanton on winning the Best of the Rest Golf Tournament.

• **The AMERICAN LEAGUE COLTS**, on taking the Big Spring City Little League Championship with a 6-3 win over the National League Cardinals.

Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

OTHER VIEWS

Like one of the hungry dinosaurs in "The Lost World: Jurassic Park," the nation's Amtrak passenger rail system keeps chewing up taxpayers — and their tax dollars.

In the 25 years since it was created as a government-run train system, Amtrak has devoured \$13 billion in subsidies — but still can't turn a profit.

Now, Amtrak officials have said they expect to run out of money within a year. Bailout proposals include that of Republican Rep. Bud Shuster of Pennsylvania, who suggests a half-cent national gas tax to raise about \$500 million a year for the beleaguered system.

What would serve Amtrak best is privatization. A private Amtrak could cut costs in a variety of ways. It could restructure staffing and eliminate unprofitable routes. A better-managed Amtrak could make a winning case to Wall Street and refinance its debt at lower interest rates (now as high as 17 percent).

CLOVIS (N.M.) NEWS JOURNAL

There are certain expectations that come with watching public television. Shows are supposed to be high quality. Viewers are likely to be exposed to different cultures and ideas. And programs shouldn't be interrupted by advertisers hawking \$99 mattresses.

At least we thought so. But now PBS stations in Chicago, Detroit, St. Louis and Miami have announced their intentions to ask the FCC for permission to air commercials two nights a week. The reason: money, or specifically, the difficulty of getting it from traditional sources like government and public donations.

So far, public television stations in the Puget Sound region have been mute on the subject. They shouldn't join the campaign.

Broadcasting commercials on public television is in direct opposition to its very charter.

THE SEATTLE TIMES

In his insatiable enthusiasm to curry favor with China through trade, President Clinton has rationalized its

human rights abuses, weapons proliferation and questionable adherence to protecting intellectual property rights, but the sale of supercomputers to Beijing should give Clinton pause about U.S. national security.

The administration has argued in the last two years that the high-powered systems were being sold for civilian use. Such assurances ignore the pervasive influence of the Chinese military throughout critical sectors of China's economy. For instance, one laboratory devoted to peaceful research also works for the army to develop long-range missiles.

The record of Beijing's non-compliance with accepted international behavior in several areas should raise general skepticism in Washington, but Clinton's unqualified embrace of free trade to allow U.S. technology to be turned toward long-term Chinese military advantage represents alarming official negligence.

FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

Pardon our hometown pride, but President Clinton made the only logical choice when he picked historian John Hope Franklin to lead a seven-member advisory panel on race issues.

A former professor at N.C. Central University and now James B. Duke professor of history emeritus at Duke, Franklin is one of the nation's most honored scholars. In 1995, he received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, from Clinton.

Franklin, 82 and still going strong, has plenty of work ahead of him as chairman of the race-relations panel. In the early years of this century, black leader W.E.B. DuBois said the problem of the color line is the problem of our time, and so it has been for the United States.

President Clinton could not have chosen a better person than John Hope Franklin to help bring the nation's multitude of ethnic groups — more than 100 and growing — closer together.

THE HERALD-SUN, Durham, N.C.



"LEIF! STOP AND THINK HOW THAT MIGHT AFFECT YOUR MILITARY CAREER!"

Whitewater probe is worse than alleged crime

I haven't the faintest idea

who stole what, or who committed which crimes during White-water real-estate dealings when Bill Clinton was governor of Arkansas.



Carl Rowan
Syndicated Columnist

I do know that in terms of its impact on America, the Kenneth Starr probe has become worse than Whitewater itself. This investigation has become a tiresome irritant to most Americans, with few people other than a handful of political fanatics giving a tinker's damn about the bickering.

Some diehards persist in thinking that after a few more years and the expenditure of another \$40 million or so, Starr is going to lift the right rock and find the dirt that will justify

an indictment of First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, or the impeachment of the president himself. In fact, the probe has indeed deteriorated to the point where everybody will call it a failure unless Starr can kill off as his trophy either the president or Mrs. Clinton.

Prosecutors have their ways of manipulating grand juries, but in this case even a secretly-bludgeoned grand jury is not likely to indict on the basis of what Starr has, which is mostly the anti-Clinton testimony of some convicted liars and crooks, plus some deep suspicions and surmises about what the Clintons did with James B. McDougal and his then-wife Susan, and with Webster Hubbell and others.

But in America we aren't supposed to indict or incarcerate people on the basis of suspicions and surmises. So Starr needs proof of criminal behavior on the part of the Clintons — desperately. That's why he is sounding off publicly, trying to pressure Susan McDougal into becoming a songbird who will accuse the Clintons of

being crooks and perjurers.

Suppose Starr managed to squeeze out an indictment of Mrs. Clinton. Can anyone imagine a jury in Washington, D.C., or Arkansas convicting her on the basis of what Starr has come up with so far? And on the basis of her interviews, Susan McDougal has convinced me that she will never say anything, in any forum, that will enable Starr to prove that the Clintons are criminals.

Susan McDougal has been locked up for eight months and stands to be in some hoosegow for at least six more months because she refuses to answer Starr's questions. She says, with some justification, that Starr is staging a witch hunt in which he wants her to lie to incriminate the Clintons. Thus, she says, as a matter of principle she will not cooperate with him in any way. But she says she will testify under oath before a congressional committee.

I sure wish Sen. Dan Burton, R-Ind., and his Government Reform Committee would take her up on that offer. Starr will

say that the Congress must not interfere with his investigation, but he must be told that what we deserve to know is what Susan McDougal swears is the truth, not whatever twist he can put on it. Her testimony before Congress would give us reason to say whether Starr's probe is worth continuing, or whether out of mercy for the nation it ought to be brought to an end.

We saw over the past week-end the absurdities to which this probe has been taken when the president was abroad conferring with foreign leaders. He had to pause to answer a public charge by Starr that he is, in effect, guilty of obstruction of justice because he won't hand over voluntarily every document that Starr wants. In this circumstance, demeaning the president means demeaning the United States in the eyes of the world.

So, again, enough of this nonsense! Let Burton bring on Susan McDougal.

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US, UN must let Zaire build its own future

The U.S. government continues to display hypocrisy of truly global dimensions.

Spare us, please, the blather of U.N. Ambassador Bill Richardson about concern for Zaire, the former Belgian Congo, which is about to completely oust — and already may have by the time you read this — the odious regime of Joseph Mobutu, who now calls himself Mobutu Sese Seko.



Charley Reese
Syndicated Columnist

Mobutu was the CIA's boy in Zaire, installed in 1965, and assisted since — presumably to make sure the right corporations had access to Zaire's fabulous mineral wealth, principally copper and cobalt.

The trouble is, Mobutu is one of the worst tyrants in the post-colonial era. Mass murder, massacres of political opponents, torture, looting — you

name it, and Mobutu and his cronies have done it. So outrageous, consistent and persistent has been the massive theft of the nation's resources that Mobutu's regime was dubbed a "kleptocracy," from the word kleptomaniac.

What ought to be a wealthy country, given its resources, has, in the words of rebel leader Laurent Kabila, been "crushed to a pulp."

And while all this crushing, all this murder, all this torture, all this impoverishment and all this dictatorship was going on, what did the U.S. government have to say about its concern for the welfare of the people of Zaire? Nothing, of course. Mobutu was our Cold War asset. As for the people, our government didn't care what happened to them (just, I should add, as it does not care about the people of Tibet, China, Iraq, etc.).

Now, after 32 years of U.S.-supported Mobutu repression and rapine, Richardson has the arrogance to try to tell the Zairian rebels what kind of government they ought to have. If I were Kabila, I'd tell the Richardson to get out of the

country and stay out. I'd tell the United Nations to get out and stay out.

If ever there was a country wronged by the industrial powers and the United Nations, it is Zaire. If ever there was a country entitled to real independence and control of its own destiny, it is Zaire.

Zaire's sad story began in June 1960, when Belgium gave up its claim to the Belgian Congo. But Belgian business interests weren't willing to give up their economic domination. The nationalist prime minister, Patrice Lumumba, soon found himself faced with secession of the Katanga province (the big mining area) and a mutiny in the army. Mercenaries played a big role in all this. He was ousted and murdered, I believe, with the help of the CIA.

Lumumba's big sin was that he asked for help from the United Nations, which turned him down, and then in desperation appealed to the Soviet Union. That, during the Cold War, marked him as an enemy.

Ironically, as soon as the nationalists were out of the way, the United Nations did intervene and crushed the

secession. (The United Nations had told poor Lumumba that they couldn't interfere in an internal affair of another nation. What liars.) Mobutu seized power in a CIA-assisted coup in November 1965. And the fortunes of the people went downhill from there.

Now, after 32 years of U.S.-sponsored misery, Kabila and his Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo-Zaire are about to liberate their own country from Mobutu. Hopefully, they will also free it of U.S. and European imperialists.

You should be wary of any stories about atrocities, cannibalism, leftism or Marxism. Any nationalist patriot who dares to defy the internationalists is likely to get the full propaganda treatment if he refuses to give away his nation's assets at fire sale prices. I've seen the process several times in the last 40 years.

However the new government turns out, we have no moral standing to criticize it. It can't possibly be worse than the one we forced on the people of Zaire.

Reese's e-mail address is OSOREese@aol.com



Mallard Fillmore
by
BRUCE TINSLEY

The world's fastest insect is the common cockroach.

Harmattan is a cool, extremely dry wind that forms over the Sahara and blows westward or eastward to the African coast.

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

Serving statewide Lewis chosen to represent DAV auxiliary as commander

By DEBBIE L. JENSEN Features Editor

For more than 20 years with the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary, Clara Lewis never expected to go right to the top.

But Lewis, a volunteer at the Big Spring VA Medical Center, was recently named commander over the entire state organization.

"I had no ambition to go higher," said Lewis, who had served in various offices with the local organization and in the district before trying for a statewide role.

She was urged on by many people, including Fred Cox, community relations coordinator at the VA.

Lewis had been recruited literally out of the medical center's lobby 16 years ago to work as a liaison between the DAV auxiliary and hospital volunteers.

"I was waiting with my husband when they asked me to take that position," Lewis recalled. She continues in that role, working many hours at various duties.

"She's extremely dedicated,"

There's so much personal pleasure I get out of serving others.

-Clara Lewis



Clara Lewis, recently chosen commander for the state of Texas of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary, assists veteran Al Carlucci at the Big Spring VA Medical Center, where Lewis is a volunteer. Lewis, a 20-year member of the local DAV auxiliary, will have duties with the organization at the state level.

with all of her volunteering and her auxiliary work.

While serving as statewide commander, Lewis will be invited to visit other auxiliary units throughout the state. She will also be part of a team that resolves problems or special needs for auxiliaries. She said keeping up with the latest information is often just a matter of opening her mail.

"I get copies of everything that is happening," she said.

Four principals of auxiliary service are loyalty, service, comradeship and devotion. Lewis said for her, the benefits of her work are worth the effort.

"There's so much personal pleasure that I get out of serving others," she said.

Lewis joined the DAV auxiliary shortly after her husband was discharged from the military in 1977.

"I wanted to be involved in something for the veterans," she said. Now, as she serves the organization statewide, Lewis said she has realized how much the auxiliary means to her.

"You just can't help but want to help the veterans," she said.

CLUB NEWS

Bearden earns top Lion award

Elvin L. Bearden, Big Spring, has been named a Melvin Jones Fellow by Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF), in recognition of his commitment to serving the world community.

Named for the founder of Lions Clubs International, Melvin Jones, the fellowship is the foundation's highest honor. It is a recognition of a commitment to humanitarian service.

Elvin Bearden is a member of the Big Spring Evening Lions Club. He recently received a crafted plaque and lapel pin acknowledging his dedication to the foundation's humanitarian goals.

As a Melvin Jones Fellow, Elvin Bearden becomes a part of a growing network of individuals who are committed to improving the quality of life for people locally and in communities around the world.



BEARDEN

Big Spring Evening Lions Club

The Big Spring Evening Lions Club held the annual meeting and installation of officers on June 9, at the Lions Club, 1607 East Third St.

President Jan Noyes presented a 40-year service award to charter member Vergil Perkins, and



Kernone.

President Jan Noyes presented 100 percent attendance awards to Elvin Bearden, Bill Birrell, Janis Dean, Donna Groenke, Alan Kernodle, Bill Noyes, Jan Noyes, Hal Porter and Squeaky Thompson.

Noyes presented Distinguished Service Award to Squeaky Thompson for many years of community service. The Sight Conservation Chairman, life membership to the Texas Lions Camp for Janis and Theresa Hodnett for exceptional service working on club projects, life membership to the District 2-A Lions Eye Bank to Tom Mills for service in the adult used eye glass program, Lion of the Year award to Bill Noyes, for service, as selected by the members, and service award to Donna Groenke as treasurer.

Other awards for chairman service projects included Brenda Sowell, Christmas in April and American Cancer Society Relay for Life chairman; Al Valdes for youth programs including the Peace Poster Contest, Queens Program and Drug Awareness Programs; and Alan Kernodle for Lions Mint project and holiday food baskets distribution.

PDG Bob Noyes presented the Lion's "Citizen of the Year Award" to Lion Bill Birrell for his community service as president of the Mobile Medical Program and providing transportation for cancer patients.

Please see CLUB, page A6.

CHURCH NEWS

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

There will be a garage sale Saturday, June 28, at Sacred Heart Church parking lot from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Booths are available for rent at the following prices: Small booths, \$15; large ones, \$20. No food booths will be allowed. Contact Margie at 263-1191 or the church office at 263-7884 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Rental fees only will go to the church.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew will have a meeting and breakfast on Saturday at 8 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Fr. Ligett will present a program on the Episcopal General Convention. Everyone is invited to attend.

Vacation Bible School is June 23-27, from 9 a.m. to noon at the First Presbyterian Church. Registration forms for ages four through fifth grade may be picked up at the First Presbyterian Church or at St. Mary's Church.

Consecration of the new Bishop for the Diocese of Northwest Texas will be Saturday, June 28, at 10 a.m. in the Lubbock Civic Center.

First United Methodist Church

"A Fresh Way to Look at Working" (Joshua 24:15) is Dr. Ed Williamson's message this Sunday at the First United Methodist Church, 400 Scurry.

The message is about understanding and acceptance of our vocations. Services are 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m.

Many of our youth are at Methodist camp this week and we will keep them in our prayers.

Please see CHURCH, page A6.

Never alone

In Christianity, everyone must pull together to get work done

How many times haven't we heard someone say, "Well, we are all in this together." Usually this means that we are all in trouble together.

In Philippians 1:3-4, the Apostle Paul says, "I thank you God every time I remember you because of your partnership in the gospel."

The Christian faith and life is a partnership. It is something that all Christians "are in together." A person who decides to "go it alone" is usually at a disadvantage in any endeavor, but this is especially true of one who tries to "go it alone" when it comes to being a Christian. Christianity pulls people together, not separates them into "loners."

Paul at the time of the writing of Philippians was in a Roman prison awaiting trial. He was suffering great loneliness, but when he thought about his partners in Christ back in the little church in Philippi, he knew he was no longer alone. Just thinking

about them made his imprisonment easier, even though they were separated by many miles. They were "in it together" when it came to Christian life, love and service.

A new church, when it came time to break ground for their church building, decided that they did not want to use the typical golden shovel to turn the first ground.

Instead, they hooked up an old walking plow with a long rope and when it came time to break ground, they all caught hold of the rope and pulled. Children, parents, grandchildren, all strained together in the same direction and thereby

symbolized not only the breaking of ground for the new building, but the cooperation needed in doing the work of the church.

Every church needs that same cooperation and unity of direction. One person may be guiding the plow, but it takes everyone else pulling together to get the work done.

Behind every Christian who may appear to be out front (e.g. a pastor, a church officer) there must be scores of others pulling, praying and working together behind him or her to get the work done.

And for those who feel they can no longer do all of the pulling on the rope, there is the constant need for prayer. The prayers of the Children of God accomplish great things!

From time to time I visit with someone who feels there is nothing left in life for them to do and that they have used up their usefulness. "What can I do?" they ask.

Carroll Kohl Guest Columnist



Carroll Kohl Guest Columnist

Man's collection is religious history lesson

MALLEN (AP) — Local attorney Kurt Stephen appears a blessed man.

His guard of saints and religious images from a hundred years past line his home and office walls.

Large, kind eyes and flowing robes detail San Juan de Nepomuceno's almost floating presence in Stephen's office. Smooth eyelashes and fingernails are studied carefully with single brush strokes. The colors, now matte and a bit faded, demonstrate the saints' well-deserved patina of age.

Stephen's collection of retablos, religious altar-piece paintings from Mexico's earlier days, not only decorates his

surroundings, but is a constant source of study for this art connoisseur.

Visiting his grandfather's ranch in Tamaulipas as a boy, Stephen became fascinated with the origins of names, particularly why people, ranches and cities were given certain titles like San Antonio, San Francisco and even San Juan de Nepomuceno.

"I was always curious who these people were and who they were named after," Stephen said.

Later while in college, he discovered the art of retablo paintings from border flea markets. He realized the intricate Mexican art of "retablos san-

tos" often painted on sheets of tin held the key to the history of these places and people.

"I was intrigued by the obvious sincerity of the painter, the charm, the attractiveness of the piece," he said.

In the 20 years since, he has sought the history behind retablos and the stories that were told at the time they were painted at their height from 1860-1900 in Central Mexico. The art came from as far south as Puebla and as far north as San Luis Potosi.

Early retablos, dating to 1830, or religious altarpiece paintings of saints were done on tin. Even earlier pieces dating back as far as the 1700s and possibly

1600s were done on 10- to 14-inch pieces of copper and canvas. Depicting more than 250 different saints including the Virgin of Guadalupe, Mexico's patron saint, the pictures were commonly used as subjects to pray to on a home altar as an alternative to attending church services.

"Ex-votos," or paintings done on pieces of tin, canvas or board, were done in praise to an answered prayer. They featured the subject kneeling in prayer and the daunting situation painted in the background.

The images themselves were sometimes painted and sold outside of churches by peddlers.

CALLING ALL READERS FOR YOUR INFORMATION THE LAST WORD Do you know a computer nut? Do you know someone who just can't stop surfing the 'net, playing games or just fiddling around on the computer? Let us know about them for an upcoming feature. Is it a member of your family? Is it a friend? Send a note to the life! section, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Or call 263-7331, ext. 235. Do you love your old jalopy? Do you or does someone you know have an old car they just can't part with? Let us know about them for an upcoming feature. Is it a junk heap that they insist on calling a classic? Send a note to the life! section, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Or call 263-7331, ext. 235. Nominate a family Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas is seeking nominations for Family of the Year from Big Spring. The center wants to recognize a family that represents good values, healthy response to problems and community involvement. Send detailed information about a family you admire to the center at P.O. Box 60312, Midland, TX 79711-0312. The deadline is Aug. 15. Nominations are strongest with supporting letters from several people who know the family. List such things as volunteer work, church involvement and children's activities. Men are always sincere. They change sincerities, that's all. Tristan Bernard Things are always at their best in their beginning. Blaise Pascal The next best thing to knowing something is knowing where to find it. Samuel Johnson

Faith, family help nursing home residents cope, thrive

WACO (AP) — For Ruby H. Smith, it hasn't been easy adjusting to life in a nursing home, "where you're told what to do."

But she, like many nursing home residents, have found that faith and family have made it easier to deal with health problems and the resulting nursing home stay.

"If it wasn't for the Lord, I couldn't make it," said Ms. Smith, a resident of Quality Care nursing home. "Every morning, I place my hand in the Master's hand and ask Him to lead me and guide me."

Nursing home residents can use the two F's — family and faith — to help them overcome depression over their situation, said The Rev. Jane Lovett, a United Methodist minister who works for Central Texas Senior Ministry.

If patients see God as one who carries you through whatever comes your way, said Lovett, their faith will help bolster them through trying times.

"Sometimes I get very depressed, especially if I'm feeling bad," admits Ms. Smith, a native of Rosebud who has lived in Bryan and Marlin. "But I ask myself why be so depressed when you have such a wonderful Master?"

Ms. Lovett said that patients, upon entering a nursing home, may become depressed thinking, "Life is over; I might as well die," even though their stay is supposed to be temporary.

"It's not true that they're going to die," Ms. Lovett said, "but when they take that attitude, it's very hard to get them to where they'll get better."

People do go home from the nursing home, Ms. Lovett said. In fact, just before the interview, she'd gotten word that one of her patients was to be released to go home.

Ms. Lovett said patients' attitudes can still be positive, instead of depressed, even though the reality may be that

they are in poor physical condition.

Kenneth Seydel and his wife, Dorothy Orsak, met in a Houston nursing home. "We've been married six years," Seydel said. "And they said it'd never last."

Now living in Quality Care, the couple say they rely on their religious faith — as well as their love for each other — to get them through their days.

"When I first had a stroke and they put me in there, I said 'God, I leave it up to you,'" Seydel said. "He helped me. He helps me all the time."

Now 66, Seydel has been in a nursing home since he suffered a severe stroke at age 49.

"My faith has never let me down one time," he said, smiling at his wife.

The couple have learned to live their lives in an institutionalized setting. Ms. Orsak said they make the most of each day.

"We're happy in a nursing home," her husband agreed. "There may have been seven days we weren't happy, but everybody has those kind of days."

Ms. Lovett said it is possible for patients to be well-adjusted and happy in long-term care institutions. Much depends on the level of spiritual development and growth, she explained.

"They can grow spiritually, they can really grow, even in their far advanced years in a nursing home setting," the chaplain added. Religious counseling often helps seniors deal with their feelings.

"A lot of depression comes from unresolved life issues — and they weigh heavily," Ms. Lovett said. "Sometimes you can't even put into words things that can bother you from years past."

Families can often help ease the burden of depression. Ms. Smith's son and great-grandson attended Christmas

Communion with her. Ms. Lovett said Ms. Smith's relatives often come with Ms. Smith to religious services held in the nursing home.

That family's actions help support the nursing home patient both spiritually and emotionally.

Other families are not able to give much spiritual or emotional support. They still need to find faithful support and help, Ms. Lovett said.

The chaplain tells of a terminally ill woman who had accepted her fate. The patient's granddaughter hadn't come to terms with her grandmother's situation. The younger relative ran from the room crying, leaving the chaplain with the grandmother.

"It depends on what the relationship was like as to whether families can help," Ms. Lovett explained. "If adults have a problem with aging, changing and dying — and they do many times — it leaves their mother, father or grandparent no place to share their feelings."

When families understand and come to terms with the fact that illness and death are part of life cycle, it is helpful, she said. "But I also encounter adult children in late 40s or 50s who have never dealt with death," Ms. Lovett added.

CLUB

Continued from page A5.

Midland for treatment, including the service provided through the club programs.

District Governor Elect, Joan Caldwell a charter member of the San Angelo Concho Pearl Lions Club, a director of the District Lions Eye Bank and past district Lioness chairman installed officers for the 1997-98 year.

President Al Valdez; first president Janis Dean, second vice president Theresa Hodnett, secretary Bob Noyes, treasurer Jan Noyes, tail-twister Brenda Sowell, directors Elvin Bearden, Bill Birrell, Donna Groenke, Alan Kernodde, Tom Mills and Squeaky Thompson, membership chairman Sam Myers.

Secretary Bob Noyes presented past president Jan Noyes with a President's Service Award for her second year as president of the club.

The Rosebud Garden Club

The Rosebud Garden Club members took a whirlwind trip to the Land of Oz for the final meeting of the year. Dorothy, the cowardly Lion, Tin Man, and the Witch of the West escorted the guests down the yellow brick road to meet the Wizard of Oz and enjoy a buffet lunch which was served on tables decorated with magical red shoes filled with spring flowers.

CHURCH

Continued from page A5.

First Assembly of God "Celebrants," an internationally-known Christian singing group, will present a community-wide service of contemporary music today at 7 p.m. at First Assembly of God, Fourth and Lancaster.

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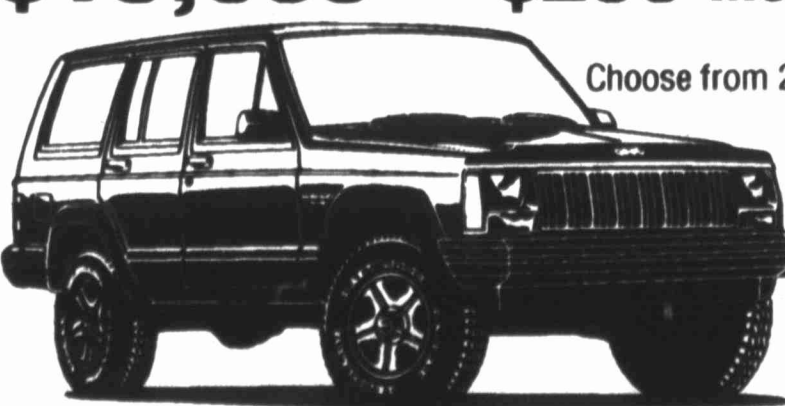
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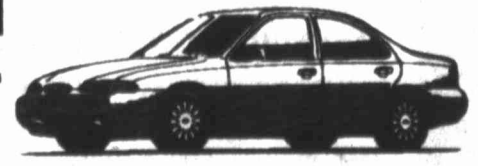
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CLEAN ATTRACTIVE, large 1 bedroom apt. With carpet. Ref/air. \$275. No Bills Paid. 1104 E. 11th. Call 267-7628.

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Furn. 1 bd. Apts. \$225/mo. & (1) Unf. 2 bd. \$285/mo. \$100./deposit. Call before 6:00pm M-F 263-7648.

Apartments, houses, mobile home. References required. 263-6944, 263-2341.

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Large 2 bd., 1 bath. New carpet/vinyl, ref. window unit, garage, fenced. 2001 Johnson. \$315/mo., \$175/dep. Ref. req. 263-3689.

2 bd., 1 bath house. Couple or single adults. After 5:00pm call 263-7162.

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Furnished or Unfurnished 1 bd. house. All bills paid. 264-6095.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SATURDAY, JUNE 21: This year, you discover you are more tuned into a partners' needs and choice of directions. You will enjoy greater closeness and care than in previous years. A financial investment becomes likely by 1998. Consider going back to school or doing some traveling then as well. This will be an eye-opening experience for you. If you are single, because of strong desires you are likely to create a deep, important relationship. If attached, the bonding between you and your significant other becomes a lot deeper. You might plan a special trip. CAPRICORN 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 tense, and note a change in the atmosphere. Emphasize domestic matters for the next month, though now you might be obsessing about work. No one can be more demanding of you than you are. Ease up, and enjoy your life. Tonight: Free up your time.***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Make an effort to reach out for those who are uncommunicative. You don't have to, but sometimes that kind of graciousness can make all the difference. Plan a day trip for a loved one. A different setting helps both of you relax. Tonight: Don't feel like you have to stay up.****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Money matters take a major priority for the next month. You have been careless with spending. It looks like bills have piled up! Plan a firmer budget, and ask for an associate's assistance; then you will be on a roll. Let another treat. Tonight: A friend lets you down.***

CANCER (June 21-July 22) The spotlight is on you. Others have a clear expectation of what they want from you. Consider limitations you place on yourself. Let go of them! Popularity is high, and you enjoy the demand for your presence. Tonight: Get on the party circuit.****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You need to think more before you act. The month before your birthday was a period of reflection. Dig into a project, and relax as you complete extra work. By concentrating on something specific, you rest and recharge simultaneously. Tonight: Easy does it.***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Emphasize relationships, both close and friendly. Add more simple joys to your life. Let your inner child out more often. Others appreciate the kid in you. Choose to do things that are only fun, and ask a loved one to join in. Tonight: Be your mischievous self.****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Tension is high. Over the next few weeks, you will feel a stronger need to excel in what you do. However, today you can spend time with family members, who appreciate your time. Don't push another away; be open to his vulnerability. Tonight: Order in!****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Consider going back to school or traveling. Today is a great day to start discussing these desires. Conversations are animated as you catch up on news. Make plans to stroll through a favorite area. Tonight: Share a little gossip!*****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Handle funds now. You question yourself about what you offer and what you need. This is a time of giving and sharing on multiple levels. Be careful about going overboard. A loved

one could get jealous! Tonight: Indulge another.****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Popularity is high: Decide which way to go with a loved one or key relationship. Think through a decision with care. Get into the moment, and enjoy being in the limelight. Make a point of visiting with friends. Tonight: Just ask.****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Taking a back seat feels right and allows you to open up to another. You also will want to reconsider a work-related decision. You don't have to push as hard to make a point. Sometimes by saying less, you say more. Be a listener, not a talker. Tonight: A little mystery works wonders.***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Going for what you want

involves groups of friends. Find a better direction. How you feel about another comes out. Don't limit possibilities. This is a time of openings and greater creativity. Have fun wherever you are. Tonight: Crash a summer shindig!****

BORN TODAY Actor Robert Pastorelli (1954), actress Jane Russell (1921), Prince William of Wales (1982)

For America's best extended horoscope, recorded by Jacqueline Bigar, call (900) 000-0000, 99 cents per minute. Also featured are The Spoken Tarot and The Runes, which answer your yes-or-no questions. Callers must be 18 or older. A service of InterMedia Inc., Jenkintown, Pa. ©1997 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Separate checks make diners happy and waiters very sad

DEAR ABBY: I need your opinion about something that is puzzling my husband and me. When several couples go out for dinner together, is it rude to ask for separate checks? We have been made to feel very cheap when we ask for separate checks, but there are times when we have paid half the bill when our portion should have been much less. Please tell me how to handle this without causing embarrassment to anyone.

There is also the matter of leaving a tip. Shouldn't each diner pay part of the tip? We get a lot of dirty looks from servers when we ask for separate checks. Why? — LONGTIME READER IN MAINE

DEAR READER: There is nothing wrong with asking for separate checks, particularly if there is a great disparity in the drinking habits of the couples. That way, each diner can pay the proper portion of the tip. You may be getting dirty looks from servers because it is more trouble for them to write separate checks than to make out just one.

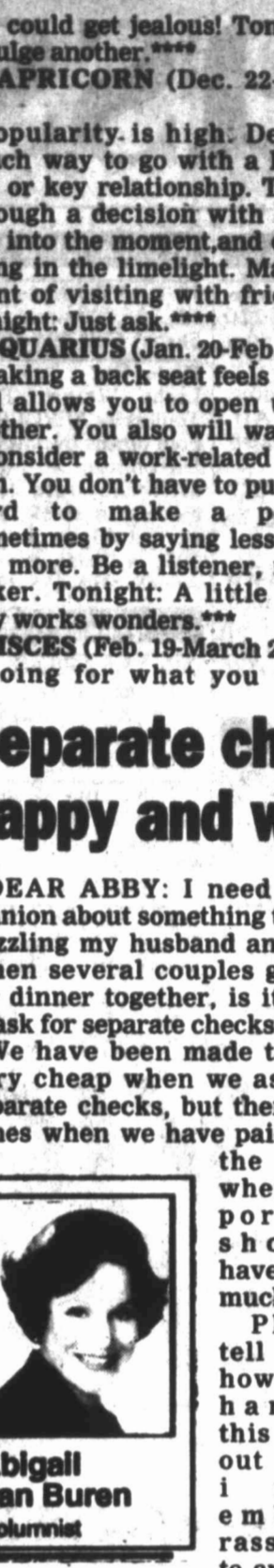
DEAR ABBY: I have recently met an accomplished lady with considerable class. We're very compatible except for the fact that her conversation is greatly overloaded with name-dropping and references to the places she has been throughout the world. This is a big turnoff for me. Is there any way to handle this problem in a non-embarrassing way? — IRKED IN ANAHEIM, CALIF.

DEAR IRKED: If this woman has been all over the world and is acquainted with important people, don't fault her for mentioning it. Count yourself fortunate that she enjoys your company.

DEAR ABBY: I would like to share the following story that both saddened and inspired me. My mother died in October of 1995, and it had always been her wish to be cremated so that she could help the soil grow wildflowers. We spread her ashes in the family cemetery. The following winter and spring were extremely dry in Texas. Spring rain was practically nonexistent and we had none of the usual wildflowers that typically paint our fields and highways. Lakes were very low and many crops were ruined.

My parents had been happily married for 49 years and her death was devastating to my father. He visited the cemetery often.

In March, when Dad drove to the cemetery for a visit, he couldn't believe his eyes. The area where we had laid mother's ashes was covered with small blue wildflowers! He wept while gathering some of them.



Abigail Van Buren
Columnist

Smart Sellers choose Herald SUPER CLASSIFIEDS!

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- Effective. People turn to the classified ads every day to find all kinds of items. The next ad they see could be yours.
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Serta Queen Mattress Only - Amber Series.....99⁰⁰

Serta Queen Twin Mattress - Amber Series.....69⁰⁰

Solid Oak Dining Chairs - 3 styles to choose from.....39⁰⁰ up

Assorted Lamp Tables - Prices Start.....39⁰⁰

Entertainment Centers - For 46-50" TV's. Black or Oak, Reg. 499.00.....NOW 379

Floor Lamps - 3 styles to choose from - Starting at.....30⁰⁰

Crosley Refrigerator - 15 Ft. Almond - Frost Free - 10 yr. Warranty.....499⁰⁰

Smith Furniture Sofa - Love Seat - Beige-Gold-Green Real Pretty - Reg. 899.00-799.00

Entertainment Center Oak Finish for 27" TV Glass Curio w/light Was 399.00 Now 299⁰⁰

Slight Damage

Bean Bags - 2 Sizes - King-Queen - Black-Blue-Green.....30⁰⁰-39⁰⁰

Bunkie Boards with 4" Foam Mattress - 3 Left.....20⁰⁰ ea.

Assorted Cocktail Tables - 4 Styles To Choose From - Starting at.....40⁰⁰

Crosley Self Cleaning Gas Range - Crosley's Best. 10 Yr. Warranty White/Black.....599⁰⁰

G.E. Freezer - 9 ft. Upright - Brand New - Cute As A Bug - Only 21 1/2" Wide.....NOW 359⁰⁰

Crosley Refrigerator - 20 Ft. Side by Side Wire Shelf - White or Almond 10 Yr. Warranty.....799⁰⁰

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All Items Subject To Prior Sale

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115 East 2nd Street Big Spring, Texas

Add Brett and Rose to fans: Interleague play is a big hit!

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Add George Brett's name to the list of people who love the look of interleague play.

The future Hall of Famer is so enthused that he's even planning to make a comeback — sort of — when the Kansas City Royals visit the Chicago Cubs in two weeks.

"I never got a chance to play in Wrigley Field," the Royals vice president, now 44, said Thursday at a charity event in Philadelphia. "I'm suiting up, throwing batting practice and hitting fungoes before the game. I'm looking forward to that."

He's got company, too.

Created to attract more interest in baseball, the first week of interleague play was a big hit at the gate. Attendance was up 35 percent for the AL-NL matchups, with the 84 games drawing an average of 34,922 fans.

No surprise, crowds at the Subway Series in New York and the Windy City rivalry in Chicago set attendance records. Pittsburgh, Milwaukee and San Francisco were among other teams with strong showings.

Of the 28 major league clubs, only San Diego and Minnesota did not report increases.

"Interleague play has been phenomenal for baseball," Mets owner Fred Wilpon said.

Clearly, the first round was bolstered by attractive matchups. When interleague play resumes from June 30-July 3, the highlights will be a World Series rematch between the Yankees and Atlanta, an all-Canada meeting of the Montreal Expos and Toronto Blue Jays and Brett's appearance at Wrigley Field.

While fans seemed to be the big winner, the AL teams also fared well. AL clubs went 48-36 against NL competition, with the Boston Red Sox doing the best at 5-1.

"Maybe this means we're ready," said Red Sox pitcher Vaughn Eshelman, who bunted for a hit against the Mets.

Not many other AL pitchers reached base, though. Forced to hit at opposing parks, AL pitchers batted .108, while their NL counterparts hit .169.

San Francisco and Montreal also went 5-1, with the Expos becoming the first team of any kind to win a series at Baltimore this year. Not all of the Giants were so happy with this new concept, however.

"I'm glad to see the American League get out of here," San Francisco infielder Jeff Kent said. "I don't like

the pace or the way they do things. That's why I wanted to come back to the National League."

Orioles pitcher Mike Mussina saved the bat and helmet from his hit against Atlanta's John Smoltz, but still isn't a big believer in baseball's new idea.

"I wish it would go back to the way it was," he said.

Many players in both leagues noticed a difference in style, with the NL games seeming a lot quicker.

"Their guys go up there looking to swing the bat. They're not up there to waste time," Texas' Mark McLemore said.

In addition, youngsters of other ages wanting to take part should contact Arista to obtain special permission prior to the start of camp.

The registration fee will be \$40, and each youngster participating in the camp will need to bring the following: a T-shirt and shorts (not denim shorts), a good pair of running shoes, a swimsuit and a towel.

Softball tournament scheduled

The Cobras Softball Tournament has been scheduled for Friday through Sunday at Walker Field in Stanton.

Tournament games are slated to begin at 8 p.m. Friday.

Entry fees are \$100 per team. Team trophies will be awarded to the first- through fourth-place teams, while individual trophies will be presented to first- through third-place finishers.

In addition Most Valuable Player and Golden Glove awards will also be presented.

For additional information, contact Ray DeLeon at 264-0680 or Chopper Oliva at 264-0014.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

American League

ANAHEIM ANGELS—Placed DH Eddie Murray on the 15-day disabled list. Recalled RHP Kevin Gross from Vancouver of the Pacific Coast League.

TEXAS RANGERS—Placed SS Billy Ripken on the 15-day disabled list. Recalled INF Hanley Frias from Oklahoma City of the American Association.

National League

CHICAGO CUBS—Signed LHP Steve Worrall and assigned him to Orlando of the Southern League. Placed SS Shawn Dunston on the 15-day disabled list.

FLORIDA MARLINS—Optioned RHP Antonio Alfonseca to Charlotte of the International League.

NEW YORK METS—Signed LHP J.D. Artega and assigned him to Pittsfield of the New York-Penn League; LHP Randy Hamilton and assigned him to Kingsport of the Appalachian League and RHP Shawn Mikolka and assigned him to the Mets of the Gulf Coast League.

SAN DIEGO PADRES—Recalled INF Jorge Velazquez from Las Vegas of the Pacific Coast League. Sent LHP Terry Burrows outright to Las Vegas of the PCL.

SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS—Activated RHP Osvaldo Fernandez from the 15-day disabled list. Optioned RHP Dan Carlson to Phoenix of the Pacific Coast League.

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Signed SS Adam Kennedy and assigned him to New Jersey of the New York-Penn League.

MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

American League East Division		Central Division		West Division	
W	L	W	L	W	L
Baltimore	46	21	.686	—	—
New York	39	30	.565	—	—
Toronto	32	34	.485	131/2	—
Boston	31	38	.449	16	—
Detroit	30	37	.448	16	—
National League East Division		Central Division		West Division	
W	L	W	L	W	L
Cleveland	35	31	.530	—	—
Kansas City	33	34	.493	21/2	—
Milwaukee	33	34	.493	21/2	—
Chicago	32	36	.471	4	—
Minnesota	32	37	.464	41/2	—
West Division		National League West Division			
W	L	W	L		
Seattle	39	31	.557	—	
Texas	36	32	.529	2	
Anaheim	35	34	.507	31/2	
Oakland	30	42	.417	10	

SPORTS BRIEFS

From staff and wire reports

CGA planning benefit golf tournament

The Big Spring Chicano Golf Association will hold a tournament benefiting Christina Saucedo with tee times from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Sunday, June 29, at the Comanche Trail Golf Course.

All players must register before 10 that morning.

The four-man scramble (made up of teams with A,B,C and D players) requires an entry fee of \$15 per person.

Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place. In addition, barbecue plates will be sold for \$5 each following the tournament.

All proceeds from the event will go to helping Saucedo and her family pay for medical expenses.

For additional information, call 264-2366 or 263-7741.

4-H Shooting Sports Club event set

The Howard County 4-H Shooting Sports Club will stage its annual invitational shoot Friday and Saturday at the R.C. Thomas Shooting Range in Knott.

Entry fees are set at \$5 per round.

Competitors will compete in skeet starting at 9 a.m. Friday and will also practice sporting clays. Saturday's schedule class for trap competition to begin at 9 a.m., followed by sporting clays competition.

Big Spring Football Camp scheduled

The first Big Spring Football Camp has been scheduled for July 8-10 at Big Spring High School.

The three-day camp, according to BSHS coach Dan Arista, will be structured to provide basic football skills and fundamentals to youngsters between the ages of 11 and 13.

Camp sessions will begin at 8 a.m. each day and conclude at 5 p.m. Participants may either bring a lunch with them or a meal will be provided at a reasonable cost, Arista added.

Youngsters are being asked to pre-register by contacting Arista at 267-6884 or in person at the new athletic facility on the BSHS campus. Athletic offices at the high school will be open today and Thursday, as well as Monday through Thursday of next week.

WEST TEXAS MEDICAL ASSOCIATES EAR, NOSE, THROAT & ALLERGY CLINIC

has returned to
Malone-Hogan Clinic

Allen Anderson, MD
Paul Fry, MD
Keith D. Walvoord, MD

For Appointments Call
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Dr. Walvoord, will be in on Mondays.
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Staff Available Monday-Friday

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Howard P. Hurd, II, M.D., R.A.C.C.,
Mounir Y. Borno, M.D. & Gerry L. Maddoux, M.D.
are pleased to announce that

Robert J. Wey, M.D.

is becoming a partner in our practice as of June 9, 1997.

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RODEO LEADERS

ALL-AROUND COWBOY

1. Cody Orl, Orchard, Texas, \$55,660. 2. Chad Hagan, Leesville, La., \$35,658. 3. Rope Myers, Van, Texas, \$34,475. 4.

BARREL RACING

1. Sherry Cervi, Midland, Texas, \$59,311. 2. Fallon Taylor, Ponder, Texas, \$37,044. 3. Kay Blanford, Sutherland Springs, Texas, \$34,464. 4. Kristie Peterson, Ewart, Colo., \$30,449. 5. Terri Tackett, Painesville, Calif., \$24,676.

6. Angie Meadors, Wetumka, Okla., \$23,480. 7. Cheyenne Wilber, Stephenville, Texas, \$21,924. 8. Charmayne James, Stephenville, Texas, \$20,431. 9. Jenna Beaver, Huntsville, Texas, \$19,173. 10. Sandi Emond, Malta, Mont., \$18,977. 11. Peyton Roney, Boyd, Texas, \$18,926. 12. Nina Binder, Eagle Point, Ore., \$18,702. 13. Kim West, Oklahoma City, Okla., \$17,547. 14. Molly Swanson, Vernon, Texas, \$14,817. 15. Tammy Childers, Washington, Utah, \$14,643.

STEEPLECHASING

1. Frank Davis, Blackwell, Texas, \$44,628. 2. Rope Myers, Van, Texas, \$30,619. 3. Kirby Kaul, Canyon, Texas, \$28,859. 4. Teddy Johnson, Checotah, Okla., \$28,032. 5. Tom Duvall, Henryetta, Okla., \$26,938. 6. Marty Melvin, Keller, Texas, \$25,346. 7. Chad Hagan, Leesville, La., \$24,144. 8. Bill Pace, Sonora, Texas, \$22,257. 9. Victor Deck, Summerdale, Ala., \$20,935. 10. Marvin Salway, Hudson, Ark., \$20,557. 11. Byron Colorado, 38. 12. Brad Gleason, Ennis, Mont., \$20,200. 13. Ivan Teigen, Camp Crook, S.D., \$19,100. 14. Birch Negaard, Buffalo, S.D., \$18,445. 15. Marvin DuBose, Lampasas, Texas, \$18,254.

STEER WRESTLING

1. Guy Allen, Lovington, N.M., \$20,265. 2. Todd Casebolt, Henrietta, Texas, \$13,552. 3. Dan Fisher, Andrews, Texas, \$12,218. 4. Steve Wooten, Hobbs, N.M., \$11,886. 5. J.B. Whitley, Gardendale, Texas, \$11,762. 6. Jim Davis, Abilene, Texas, \$9,346. 7. Rocky Garnett, McInister, Okla., \$9,015. 8. Lynn Jones, Hobbs, N.M., \$7,348. 9. Arnold Felts, Sonora, Texas, \$7,257. 10. Jason Evans, Huntsville, Texas, \$7,135. 11. Marty Jones, Hobbs, N.M., \$6,980. 12. Vance Vest, Hobbs, N.M., \$6,783. 13. Mike Thompson, Hobbs, N.M., \$6,609. 14. J.D. Yates, Pueblo, Colo., \$6,530. 15. Buster Record Jr., Buffalo, Okla., \$5,839.

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FRIDAY	KMID (2)	KPEJ (3)	KERA (5)	FAM (6)	KOSA (7)	WFAX (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	UNI (13)	DISN (14)	NASH (15)	TMC (16)	SHOW (20)	HBO (22)	KMLM (24)	A&E (25)	DISC (26)	TNT (28)	FSN (29)	ESPN (30)	AMC (31)	BET (33)
6:30	News Wh. Fortune	Simpsons Home Imp	Science Guy Creatures	Ultimate Adventures	News (8049) Ent. Tonight	News Wh. Fortune	News (8827) Seinfeld	Home Videos Major League	Luz Clarita (31730)	Heavyweights (CC)	Dukes of Hazzard (CC) (87200952)	Dolores Claiborne (CC)	One Red Rose (412223)	Long Shots: The ABA	Light of the Southwest (257961)	Law & Order	Wings (321372)	Kung Fu: Legend Cont.	FOX Sports News	(440372) X-Games	(117391) Movie: Poss	Hi Lit (895488)
7:30	Step by Step Boy-World	Sliders (CC) (24827)	Wash. Week Wall St. Week	Rescue 911	Dave's World Life	Step by Step Boy-World	Unsolved Mysteries	Baseball: Atlanta	Te Sigo Amanda (2982730) Summertime	Demolition Derby	Movie: Judge Dredd (CC) (870885)	Movie: Judge Dredd (CC) (412223)	The Great White Hype	Biography (805759)	Biography (805759)	Movie: Airport 1975	News World-World	Pennant NBA Action	Preview Boxing: World	From Hell (944372)	Planet Groove Top Twenty	
8:30	Sabrina-Witch Hercules	Millennium (CC) (33575)	Firing Line Special	Hawai Five-0 (151575)	JAG (CC) (33933)	Sabrina-Witch Hercules	DateLine (CC) (79759)	Braves at Philadelphia	Tu y Yo (24865)	Switch	Showdown (870885)	Movie: Judge Dredd (CC) (412223)	Bloodmoon (CC)	Frederick K. Price (803391)	Movie: Shipwreck	News World-World	Fangel (894643)	Movie: Airport	Boxing: Fight Time (80469)	Champion-ship (CC)	Movie: Sierra (249295)	
9:30	20/20 (CC) (9117)	Star Trek: Voyager	Debate (64469)	700 Club (171339)	Nash Bridges (CC) (20469)	20/20 (CC) (9117)	Philly Movie: (82223)	Streets of Fire	P. Impacto Noticiero Uni. (7028372) (45) Movie: Vol-ver, Vol-ver.	Harbie Goes Bananas	Demolition Derby	Movie: Bat 21 (CC) (64896372)	Movie: Bat 21 (CC) (6351594)	Dream Center Update News	News World-World	Wild Discov-ery (897730)	77 (68602643)	FOX Sports News	Baseball Speedweek	The Wild and the Infocent	Rap City (734198)	
10:30	News Cheers	Mad Abo. You in the Heat of	News-Lehrer	Three Stooges	News Show	News Cheers	News Nightline	News (82310) Tonight Show	Into the Night (51676339)	Volver (845020)	(40) Movie: (64896372)	(6351594)	Dream Center Update News	News World-World	Wild Discov-ery (897730)	77 (68602643)	FOX Sports News	Baseball Speedweek	The Wild and the Infocent	Rap City (734198)		
11:30	Nightline Politically Inc.	The Night Martin	Red Green Red Green	Carson Carson	Married... With	News Nightline	News (82310) Tonight Show	Into the Night (51676339)	Volver (845020)	(40) Movie: (64896372)	(6351594)	Dream Center Update News	News World-World	Wild Discov-ery (897730)	77 (68602643)	FOX Sports News	Baseball Speedweek	The Wild and the Infocent	Rap City (734198)			
12:30	Roseanne Bible Lesson	Universe H. Patrol	Black Adder Murder-Horrid	Paid Program	Late Late Show	News Ent. Tonight	News Ent. Tonight	Cops														

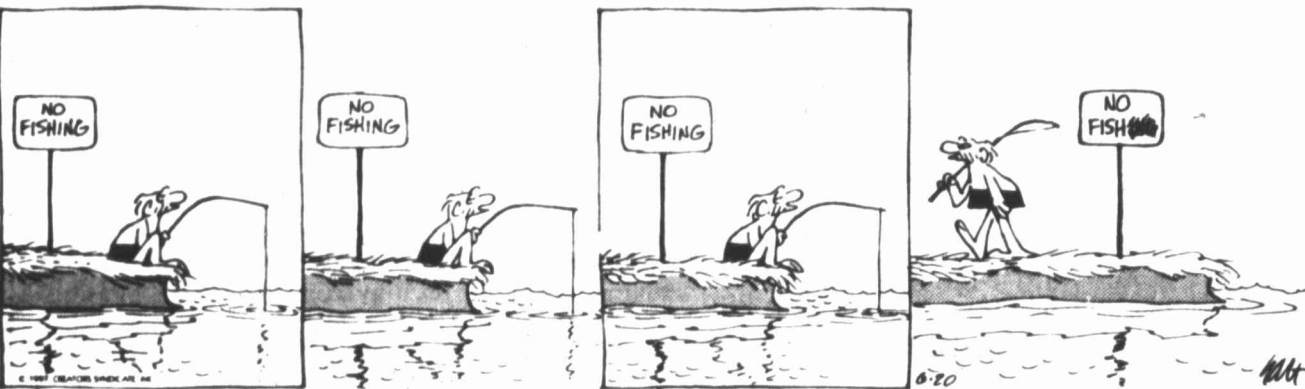
HAGAR



BLONDIE



B.C.



FAMILY CIRCUS



"Bundt cake? No thanks. I'd rather have a piece of home-run cake."

DENNIS THE MENACE



"MY DAD RUNS IN A RAT RACE BUT MY GRANDPA RODE THE GRAVY TRAIN."

GEECH



WIZARD OF ID



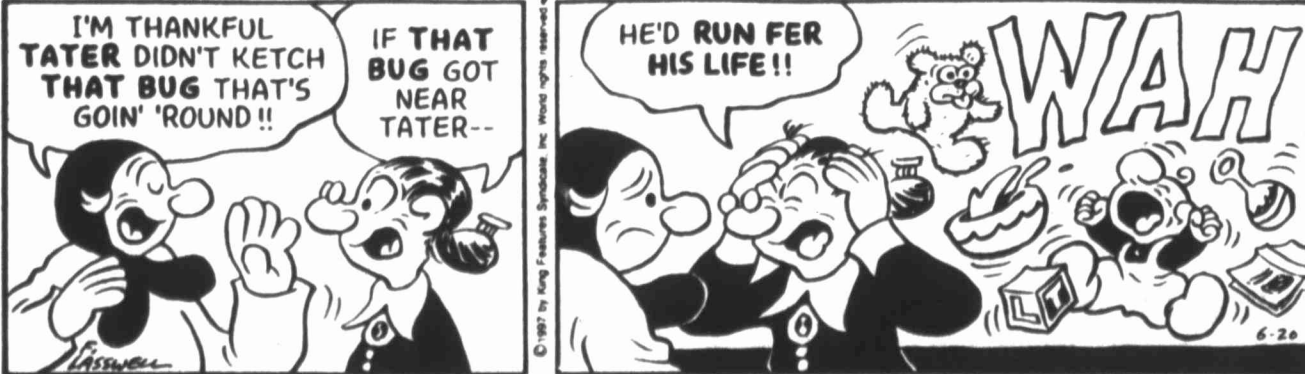
HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

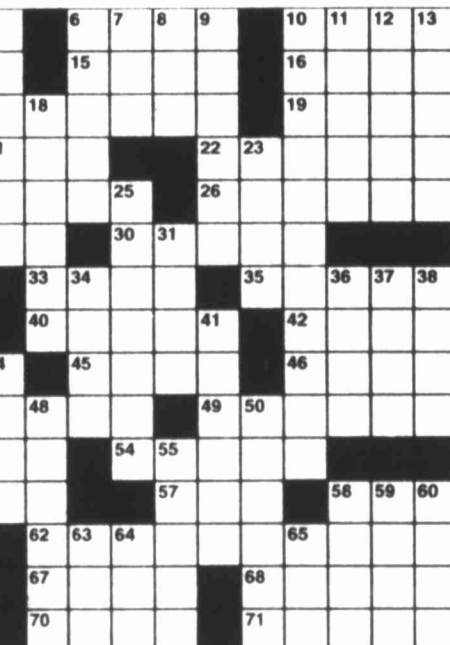
The ASSOCIATED PRESS Today is Friday, June 20, the 171st day of 1997. There are 194 days left in the year.

On June 20, 1947, Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel was shot dead at the Beverly Hills, Calif., mansion of his girlfriend, Virginia Hill, at the order of mob associates angered over the soaring costs of Siegel's pet project, the Flamingo resort in Las Vegas, Nev.

On this date: In 1756, in India, a group of British soldiers was imprisoned in a suffocating cell that gained notoriety as the "Black Hole of Calcutta." Most of them died. In 1782, Congress approved the Great Seal of the United States.

THE Daily Crossword

- ACROSS
- Gem of the ocean
 - Brawls
 - Scandinavian saint
 - "Gesundheit" prompt
 - Cookie
 - "— Marlene"
 - 25D character
 - "Picnic" playwright
 - Litigate
 - Collection of anecdotes
 - Disclose
 - Window covering
 - Tied
 - Xylem partner
 - Sluggard
 - Physiologist Jacques
 - With the bow, in music
 - Data, briefly
 - A Waugh
 - Basketball player
 - Telegraph
 - firma
 - "Sommersby" star
 - Branchind
 - Woody
 - Evaluates
 - Body design
 - Prospect
 - Royal proclamations
 - Mekong River resident
 - Eastern Nigerian
 - Pahlavi title
 - 25D character
 - Doughnut shapes
 - Chessman
 - Showed excessive fondness
 - Be off with you!
 - Capt. Hook's aide
 - Ages



- DOWN
- Dawber and Shriver
 - Light color
 - Oh, dear!
 - Dauphin's dad
 - Venue
 - Mountain ash
 - Globe
 - Tiny
 - Hardy herb
 - 10 25D character
 - Napery
 - Green growth
 - Ballpark
 - Beast
 - 23 Holiday times
 - 24 25D character
 - 19th century novelist
 - Piece of land
 - Predicament
 - 29 Villain's look
 - Mover or shaker
 - Fashion or passion
 - Verdi heroine
 - Canasta card
 - Vast expenses
 - "The Grayer" portrayer
 - Much
 - Failures
 - Jerry-built
 - Finals
 - Improvvised
 - Coronet
 - "— Ike"
 - Title
 - 59 South African settler
 - 60 Saratoga stats
 - 63 — DeLuise
 - 64 Heartaches
 - 65 Wade adversary

Thursday's Puzzle solved:

H	A	S	T	A	T	R	O	T	A	W	O	L
X	E	T	O	L	H	O	P	E	R	A	I	M
A	L	I	T	T	L	E	G	U	N	I	N	I
P	E	L	T	O	B	E	S	E	S	T	S	
L	E	S	S	E	R							
I	S	R	A	E	L	T	E	L	A	M	O	N
A	D	M	E	N	L	O	R	N	A	E	N	E
L	E	A	D	U	B	O	A	T	E	W	E	S
M	A	L	A	M	O	O	N	O	V	E	N	S
A	L	L	E	N	B	Y	S	O	L	E	D	
V	E	E	R									
A	C	O	R	E	L	I	S	E	A	H	A	B
C	L	I	I	L	I	T	T	L	E	T	I	N
R	A	C	E	L	E	T	O	M	O	N	T	E
E	W	E	R	A	S	O	R	U	R	G	E	S

RITZ
401 S. Main
263-7488

"BATMAN & ROBIN (PG-13) DTS DIGITAL SOUND DAILY: 1:00-4:00-7:00-9:00

BREAKDOWN (R) DAILY: 1:50-4:10-5:50-8:10

ANACONDA (PG-13) DAILY: 2:00-4:20-7:10-9:40

CINEMA 1
BIG SPRING, TX

1001 E. FM TO BIG SPRING HALL

\$2.75 ALL SHOWS BEFORE 6 PM
\$2.75 SENIORS & CHILDREN - \$4.75 ADULTS
STEREO SURROUND SOUND IN ALL THEATERS

THE LOST WORLD (PG-13)
DAILY: 1:10-4:00-7:00-9:35

CON AIR (R)
DAILY: 1:30-4:10-7:10-9:45

*SPEED 2-CRUISE CONTROL (PG-13)
DAILY: 1:20-4:20-7:20-10:00

*MY BEST FRIEND'S WEDDING (PG-13)
DAILY: 1:40-4:30-7:30-9:55

BIG SPRING HERALD
Reflecting A Proud Texas Community

915-263-7331 (Fax) 915-264-7205

Chuck Williams Publisher...Ext. 250
John H. Walker Managing Editor...Ext. 230
Jim White Advertising Sales Manager...Ext. 225
Carlos Gonzalez Circulation Manager...Ext. 240
Tony Hernandez Production Manager...Ext. 256
Dianne Marquez Business Office Manager...Ext. 252

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Park & Putt
Miniature Golf Park
7 days a week
Mon.-Fri.
6 pm-10 pm
Saturday 1
2 pm-10 pm
Sunday
2 pm-10 pm