

BIG SPRING HERALD

Reflecting A Proud Community

TUESDAY
October 28, 1997

50 cents

Interest, entries in 11th Herald Community Christmas Parade growing

By JOHN H. WALKER
Managing Editor

The 11th annual Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade promises to be bigger than ever, with 13 floats already entered.

"We're really pleased with the excitement in the community over the parade," said Herald publisher Chuck Williams. "We always have one or two people ask us about the parade earlier than anyone else, but there has been a regular level of interest in it since last spring."

The parade, scheduled for 5

p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 6, will start in the vicinity of the intersection of South Gregg and FM 700 and head north on Gregg until it reaches 6th Street. At that point, it will turn east to Main, then north again through downtown.

Last year's parade was the largest ever, with 77 floats. Included in that total were 35 lighted floats.

"The lighted category has really taken off," Williams said. "We were excited that we had 17 lighted floats officially enter that category, but when we saw all of the entries with lights, we were really excited."

HOW TO ENTER

- Entry forms are available at the Herald offices:
-Come by 710 Scurry St. to pick up in person
-Call 263-7331 to have an entry form faxed to you
- Prizes will be awarded in four categories:
-Civic, school/church, manufacturing/commercial & lighted
- Entry deadline is noon on Friday, Nov. 21
- Entrants will be notified of order of entry prior to parade

In addition to floats and antique vehicles, the parade will include the Big Spring Police Department Honor Guard. Also, bands from Big Spring High School, Runnels Junior High, Coahoma High School, Forsan High School, Garden City High School, Stanton High School and Borden County High School have been invited to participate.

Invitations have also been extended to bands from area universities, although the Goin' Band from Texas Tech turned down the invitation because students will be in the midst of preparing for final exams.

The first official entry to be received was from Frank Edwards. Edwards will be driving his 1929 Model A Ford in the parade.

Other entrants (in order of receipt) include the Harley Owners Group, Taco Bell, Suez Shrine Fire Brigade, Medical Care Plaza, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Western Container, Scenic Mountain

Medical Center, Norwest Bank, Al's & Son Bar-B-Q, Lakeview Head Start, Howard College and the Big Spring Veterans Administration Medical Center.

Deadline for entry is noon on Friday, Nov. 21. After the parade line-up is diagrammed on paper, entrants will be notified of their position in the parade and where they need to go to line up in order for the start.

Entry forms are available at the front desk of the Herald, 710 Scurry, or may also be obtained by fax by calling the newspaper at 263-7331. For more information, call Elizabeth Flores at 263-7331, ext. 227.

Agent: Cold snap helps \$182 million harvest

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

The recent cold spell did area cotton farmers more good than harm, Howard County's extension agent said.

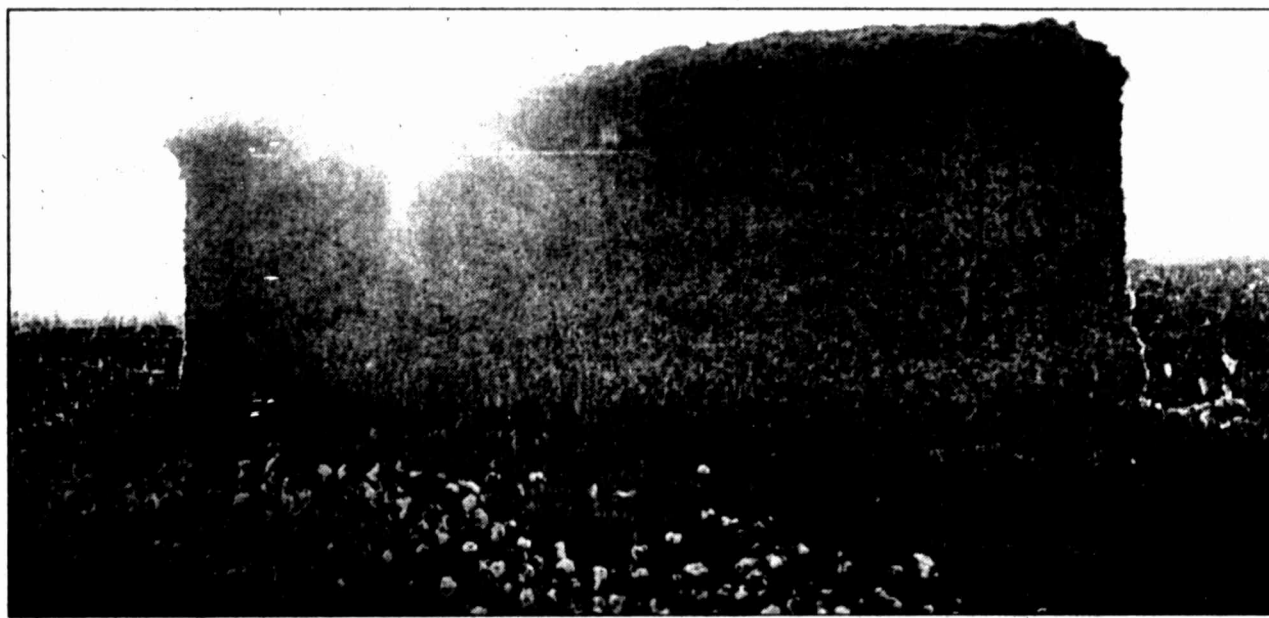
Farmers were helped by last week's cold spell that brought freezing temperatures into Howard County, David Kight said. In essence, the cold weather killed plants still in the field, saving farmers the trouble.

"There was a lot more positive than negative," Kight said. "Most of the cotton has matured by now. There's just a very, very, very limited amount of cotton that was immature. (Farmers) were basically ready to kill the crop anyway, so in most instances, (the cold weather) saved them some money."

Kight estimated that only 3 percent of the county crop was too immature to weather the freeze successfully. An unusually warm September hastened the growing process, helping even late-planted cotton reach maturity.

The extension agent is sticking by his estimate of a 85,000-bale harvest for Howard County this year, although a few things could still go wrong. A harvest of that size would carry a financial impact of \$182 million on the county.

With a majority of the crop



HERALD photo/Jonathan Garrett

The sun sets behind a module of cotton located south of Big Spring off Texas 33. Howard County Agricultural Extension Agent David Kight says the recent cold snap helped the crop, which he still estimates at 85,000 bales.

still in the field awaiting picking, it is still at the mercy of the elements. High wind or rain could prove to be a major economic detriment at this time, Kight said.

He explained that a cotton boll is at its highest quality right after it opens, and the race is on to get the plant to the gin as soon as possible afterward. The longer an opened boll stands in the field, the more its quality degrades.

Rain impedes the picking process, which would result in quality — and economic — loss

for the farmer. High winds also could be an adverse factor, knocking plants and bolls to the ground.

At this point, about 45 percent of the county crop has been harvested, and the process is about to hit overdrive. Kight estimated that about 75 percent of the crop will be on its way to the gin by the end of the week, if the weather holds.

"About the only thing standing in the way of getting the cotton to the gins is the weather," Kight said. "If the weather

stays clear ... we'll have 90 percent of the crop processed in the next few weeks."

By mid-December, he said, the harvest should be complete and farmers can then concentrate on getting their fields ready for another year.

Sub-soil moisture, which was so vital to making this year's harvest a successful crop, is at a "fair" level, Kight said.

"It's not bad, but it's sure not good, either," Kight said. "We're going to have to have some fall and winter rains if we're going to have a good crop next year."

Valley farmers keep boll weevil eradication plan

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Unlike the results from the Aug. 1 referendum that would have established a suppression program in the 19-county Southern High Plains-Caprock Boll Weevil Eradication Zone, producers in the South Texas-Winter Garden Boll Weevil Eradication Zone have voted to maintain their present program by a 2-to-1 margin.

Producers in this zone



KIGHT

originally approved their eradication program in 1995 and a maximum assessment of \$23.14 per acre to fund it.

Producers in the Howard County area are hoping recent efforts to form a new zone — the Permian Basin Eradication Zone, which would include the West Texas counties of Dawson (southern part), Martin, Howard and Midland, will lead to some kind of eradication program for this area in 1998.

Local agriculture officials and cotton producers met earlier this month in the Sands High School cafeteria in Ackerly to establish a committee (made up of the gin representatives) that will represent the proposed Permian Basin Eradication Zone.

Producers within the proposed zone have been asked for their input through petitions and surveys at cotton gins located throughout the zone, according to Howard County Extension Agent David Kight.

Surveys and petitions have been gathered and summarized, and will be discussed at a producers meeting scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Oct. 4 at Pall's Cafe in Ackerly.

Each gin within the proposed zone has elected two representatives to help with the actual design of a boll weevil control program within the zone.

After next Tuesday's meeting, the survey

See VALLEY, Page 2

If local zone vote passes, IPM could enter picture

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

If plans to form the Permian Basin Eradication Zone are successful for producers in Howard, Martin, Midland and Dawson (southern part) counties, future eradication efforts could also include an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) agent for Howard and

Borden counties. County Extension Agent David Kight addressed Howard County Commissioners Monday about the possibility of Howard County being able to get an IPM agent.

The agent would be hired through the Texas Agricultural Extension Service program at Texas A&M University and would be state funded and par-

tially funded at the federal level, meaning the only obligation the county would have would be to provide an office in the courthouse.

"An IPM agent would be a part of our proposed eradication zone and would also be able to provide some good reliable information and programs," Kight said. "State Sen. Robert Duncan is looking into

appropriations for this program.

Commissioners were asked for the approval of the program so that the local extension service office could forward the information to the appropriate officials at Texas A&M.

"If we're successful in getting an IPM agent, it would be a per-

See IPM, Page 2

WEATHER

Tonight:



Wed:



Thur:



Fri:



Tonight, partly cloudy. Lows 40-45. Wednesday, partly cloudy. Highs around 70. Wednesday night, partly cloudy. Lows 40-45. Extended forecast, Thursday through Saturday, fair. Lows in the 40s. Highs upper 60s to mid 70s.

INDEX

Abby/Horoscope / 9
Classified / 8-9
Comics / 10
Horoscope / 7

Vol. 93, No. 321

Obituaries / 2
Opinion / 4
Sports / 6-7
Texas / 5

To reach all departments, please call 263-7331

Red Ribbon Week under way on local, area school campuses

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Too often in the past, schools have been an unfortunate site for drug use. This week, however, they're the centerpoint for a massive anti-drug campaign.

Red Ribbon Week, which runs through Friday, is the major anti-drug effort of the school year, and is being observed at all area schools.

Esthela Aguirre, who is coordinating activities at Big Spring

ISD, said the campaign, which is about five years old, is funded through Title IV, federal funds specifically aimed at anti-drug education. The funds are disbursed to the states, then to the regional education service centers before being allocated to individual school districts.

Red Ribbon Week is officially observed between Oct. 23-31, but most Texas schools delay events until this week to avoid con-

See RIBBON, Page 2

Changing faces

Choate adds name to list of officials not seeking re-election

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

When Howard County voters go to the polls in Nov. 1998, two names that will not appear on the ballot will be those of Howard County Clerk Margaret Ray and Precinct 4 Commissioner Sonny Choate.

Choate ran in 1994 as a conservative, saying the commissioners' court needed a more conservative voice in fiscal matters.

Getting elected to the court in 1994 made Choate the first Republican to be elected to the court in 22 years.

"The best way to thank the people who supported me is to do the best job I can as a commissioner," Choate said following his victory in 1994.

Today, Choate says he never intended to stay in office for a very long time.

"I didn't hit all of the things I wanted to hit on and part of that is due to the fact that a commissioner is only one voice out of five," Choate said.

"Things definitely look better than they did when I came on

the court, but that's not due to anything I did — it has to do with the price of oil," Choate added. "We finally stopped seeing the downward spiral of our tax base."

Whatever has happened during his tenure on the court has not come as a complete surprise to Choate.

Before deciding to run in 1994, Choate said he fully understood the job requirements and it constraints and opportunities.

Choate says he didn't hit the court with a personal agenda, but was adamant in his efforts to do something about the conditions of county roads, federal mandates, county spending and a more coordinated effort between city and county governments.

Choate acknowledged, as he campaigned, that he didn't have any quick solutions to the county's problems, but he was willing to listen to the people who elected him.

One area Choate was successful in was opposing additional pay increases for commissioners.

This summer Choate turned down a 5 percent pay increase saying he thought he was paid adequately for what he does as a commissioner.

See FACES, Page 2



HERALD photo/Jonathan Garrett

Bobby Willis of Southwest Masonry checks the level on a wall being erected on a new dormitory being built at Southwest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf.

OCT 28 1997

Churches offer shocking scenes at 'alternative' haunted houses

VACAVILLE, Calif. (AP) — The images of death and despair inside the "Hell House" are shocking — simulations of a funeral for a gay AIDS victim, an abortion operation, a teen's suicide.

"Everything they see here in Hell House is the work of Lucifer's hand," Pastor Scott Brooks said as he put the final touches on the Harvest Church's version of a haunted house, set to open tonight.

Four years ago, there was just a lone Hell House in Roswell, N.M. As of this Halloween, 231 churches across the country have ordered the Hell House kit from Arvada, Colo.-based Abundant Life Christian Center.

For \$150, churches receive a 270-page manual on how to scare visitors straight to heaven by frightening them with images of sin. There are construction plans and even an audio cassette of ghoulish noise.

Keenan Roberts, the associate pastor of Abundant Life, opened the first Hell House in Roswell. He stands by the material and the message.

"Nobody said that the church is supposed to be tolerant," Roberts said in a telephone interview. "Homosexuality is perverse. It is wrong."

Despite threatened protests by gay rights and abortion-rights activists, Brooks defends the approach as a way to spread his church's belief that the Bible is the final judge of character.

"It specifically lists homosexuality as a sin that will keep (gays) from entering into eternal life," Brooks said. "We're not gay bashing. We don't hate homosexuals. God doesn't hate homosexuals. God hates sin."

Jim Mitulski is a gay pastor at the 450-member Metropolitan Community Church in San Francisco, 46 miles west of Vacaville. Mitulski, who has

AIDS, said the fear-based message is repugnant.

"I think it's a gross misuse of the spirit of Christianity," Mitulski said. "He's using religion to justify prejudice. It's ignorance at best, prejudice at worst."

Brooks said Hell House is not

recommended for children under the age of 13 and parental discretion is strongly advised.

Visitors walk through a dark hallway and into a room where a casket sits on a stage surrounded by cardboard flames, red lights and eerie wisps from a smoke machine. It is a mock

funeral for a gay man dead from AIDS.

The group is then led to the "abortion room," where a young woman lies screaming on a hospital bed, surrounded by red towels and medical instruments. A small TV shows videotaped footage of a real fetus

inside a womb, until the last moment when doll parts are discarded into a metal bowl and the screen goes black.

"If showing a simulated abortion keeps one young lady out of the back seat of a Camaro with her boyfriend, we've done our job," Brooks said.

Clinton attorney asks for bar on Jones questioning

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — President Clinton's attorney has asked a judge to halt questioning by lawyers for Paula Jones in her sexual harassment lawsuit against the president.

Clinton lawyer Bob Bennett asked a judge to delay and possibly stop questioning of three of Clinton's former bodyguards and others by lawyers for Mrs. Jones.

"This discovery clearly is not intended to obtain admissible evidence, nor is it likely to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence, but rather is designed to harass and embarrass the president," Bennett said in court papers filed Monday.

Mrs. Jones claims Clinton exposed himself and asked her to perform oral sex in a hotel encounter May 8, 1991, when he was governor and she was a state employee. Clinton denies the allegation.

There was no immediate word from U.S. District Judge Susan Webber Wright.

Mrs. Jones' spokeswoman, Susan Carpenter McMillan, said Bennett's request was hypocritical because of what she described as sometimes "grueling and horrible" questioning of others that Mrs. Jones sat through during recent depositions.

Three troopers scheduled to give depositions next week have contended they helped

set up sexual trysts for Clinton when he was governor.

According to court papers, Mrs. Jones' lawyers have asked troopers L.D. Brown, Larry Patterson and Roger Perry for documents relating to "any woman other than Hillary Rodham Clinton with whom defendant Clinton had sexual relations when he was attorney general or governor of the state of Arkansas."

A fourth deposition next week is scheduled with Marvin Samuel Jones, a partner at the Wright Jennings Lindsey law firm where Clinton worked in 1981 and 1982, when he was out of state government.

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OCT 28 1997

EDITORIAL

Quote of the Day

"The future comes one day at a time."

-Dean Acheson

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

Charles C. Williams
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Managing Editor

Steve Reagan
Copy/Layout Editor

Debbie Jensen
Features Editor

Floyd Green family can teach us all about family values

Last Thursday night, the Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas recognized families of the year from Big Spring, Midland and Odessa.

We're especially proud because Big Spring's family of the year — Rev. and Mrs. Floyd Green and their children — are part of our family.

Sandra Green is the senior employee at the *Herald*, having served this newspaper and community faithfully for more than a quarter-century.

You've seen Floyd at Security State Bank, where he is employed, while he also pastors Baker's Chapel AME Church.

Both always seem to have a smile on their faces and a kind word for whomever it is they come in contact with.

At the *Herald*, we've had the pleasure of watching Kathy, Stephanie and Frankie Green grow up and go off to college. We smile a knowing smile when we see that Sandra put another clipping on the wall that included something about one of the kids.

Like Frances Wheat said at the awards ceremony, we're prejudiced because we know Floyd and Sandra and their children. But because we know them, we know that a better choice couldn't have been found in our community.

If a family is strong because of love, then there is no greater strength than that found in the Green household.

If a family is strong because of a commitment to God, then there can be nothing that could tear Floyd and Sandra's family apart.

If a family is strong because of a commitment to one another, then there is nothing that can break the tie that binds this family.

If a family is strong because of an ethic of hard work and a belief that education can open any door you find before you, then this family will stand for many, many years.

To Floyd and Sandra Green, thank you for what you and your children have given to this community ... for sharing your love with us and for allowing us to be your friends.

There couldn't have been a better selection.

OTHER TEXAS VIEWS

Stempel. That word is bringing embarrassment to the Amarillo Economic Development Corp. and — in the words of City Commissioner Kevin Knapp — "outrage" to local officials and taxpayers.

The AEDC recruited Stempel Manufacturing to move its operation from Coleman, where it was the town's biggest employer, to Amarillo in February. The AEDC gave Stempel \$4.35 million in incentives to make the move.

Despite the help, Stempel filed for bankruptcy Sept. 19, citing moving costs as one major problem.

The company's president, Jerry McGuire, was demoted and his salary was cut by more than half at a deal in bankruptcy court Oct. 10. His wife, Virginia, a vice president with Stempel, also saw her salary cut 60 percent.

Even that wasn't the end of the embarrassment. In the next round of revelations, taxpayers learned that a \$1.5 million grant to Stempel had no strings attached. It was broadly meant for relocation expenses. Some of that money was grossly misused as a result. For example, \$65,000 went to Hugh Stempel, the company's majority owner, which he used to purchase a house in Longview — a city in Deep East Texas, more than 500 miles from Amarillo! The McGuires also received \$85,000 as a "cost differential" in housing between Coleman and Amarillo.

The rest went to reduce the company's debt. Even more disturbing is that the AEDC own board didn't know. Even AEDC Executive Director Michael Bourn didn't know exactly how all the money was being spent.

There can be no excuse for that.

AEDC has done great good for Amarillo's economy since a 1989 vote that created it and authorized its funding source. Hopefully, it will do so again.

Before that can happen, however, AEDC and city officials need to appropriately answer the shocking wake-up call they've received.

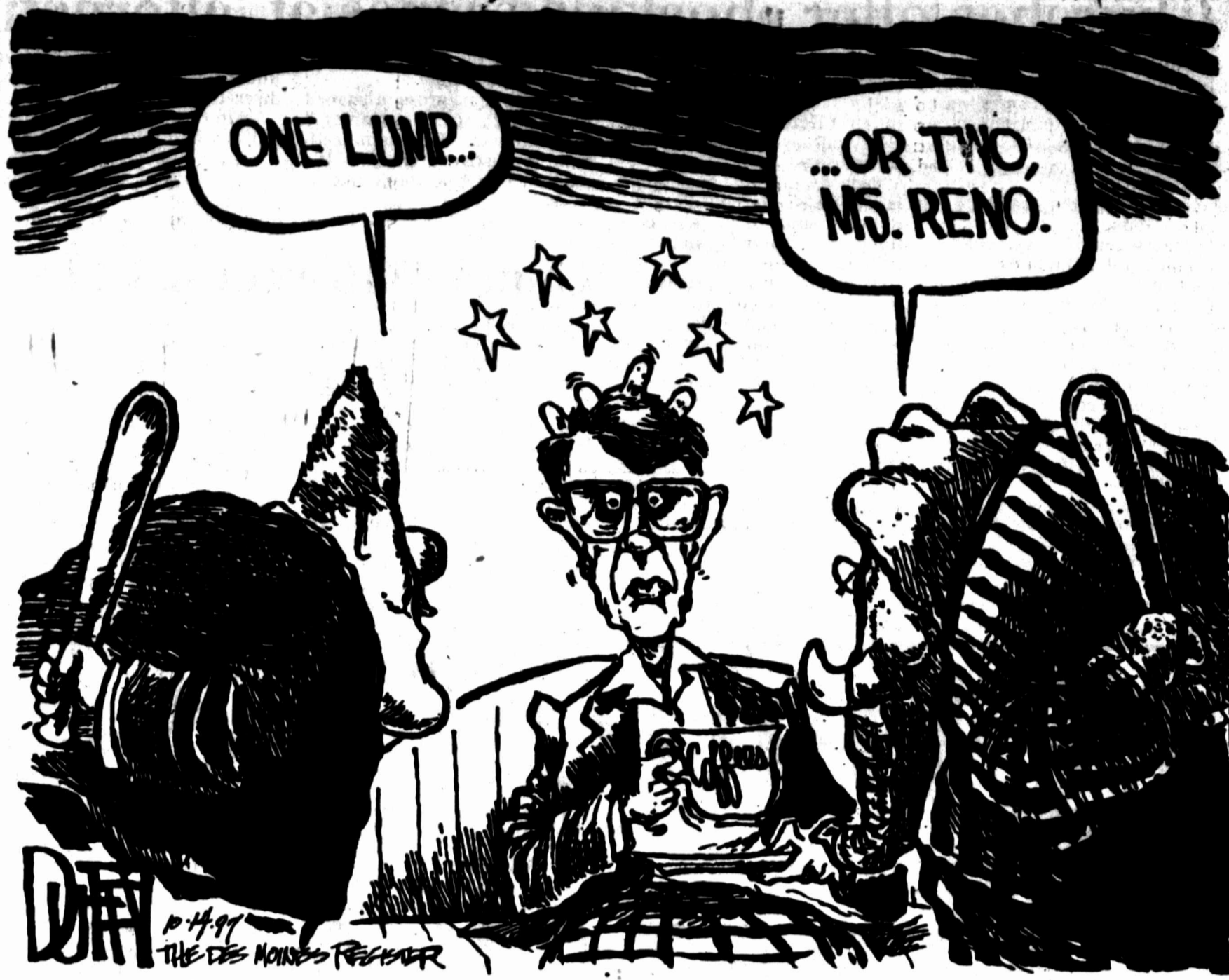
AEDC's policies need a serious review and reworking. That won't be easy. By its nature, AEDC has to keep its offers quiet until they're accepted. Otherwise, other cities could try to outbid it. Yet, more openness in the process would be helpful in preventing such debacles as Stempel from recurring.

The AEDC board of directors had been scheduled to meet Friday — in secret — before canceling the meeting and announcing it would meet this week. The board has wisely changed its collective mind and will open the meeting to press and the public. That penchant for secrecy, indeed, has contributed to much of the problem that AEDC has suffered of late.

Further, attach some strings to incentives. Granted, each company's needs and requirements are different, so some flexibility is mandatory. Still, the AEDC must not hand out money with few, or too broad, stipulations, as to its use. And it must look far more closely at the viability of prospective companies before making any formal offers. It's now clear that Stempel had financial problems — such as a delinquent tax lien — before the company relocated to Amarillo.

If the AEDC can learn — and apply — the painful lessons it must from this experience, it once again can create jobs, and thus economic prosperity, for our city.

AMARILLO GLOBE-NEWS



Museum for a wrestler, mortician and lawman

ADAMSVILLE, Tenn. — Hostess Jimmie Sue Powers wears a tomato-red dress and earrings that dangle. On a glum fall weekday in October, business is steady at the Buford Russer Home and Museum at 342 Pusser Street.



Rheta Johnson
Syndicated Columnist

Which is fine with Jimmie Sue, an unabashed Pusser fan who loves to talk.

"They gave me this job when the museum opened nearly 10 years ago, and they told me to read everything I could about Buford," she says. "I reckon I've read everything there is to read by now..." That included perusing the correspondence of the late, famous lawman and his mother, Helen, which made Jimmie Sue feel "funny."

There is no such thing as a quick tour of the brick ranch in a modest subdivision a few

blocks off of little Adamsville's main drag. Jimmie Sue wants each visitor to get his \$2 worth, and the petite woman scurries from one room to another, telling and retelling bloody tales about the gritty sheriff born in Finger, Tenn.

"Welcome to Buford's home," she greets two guests from Kentucky. Already another is watching a video while seated on the chartreuse velvet sofa that wraps around the living room like a conga line. On an end table is a candy dish filled with peppermints labeled as "Buford's favorite."

There is no sense of elapsed time in Jimmie Sue's enthusiastic presentation. Her sentences sound like today's headlines, though Buford was killed in a 1974 car crash.

"Mourners signed nine guests books at Buford's funeral," Jimmie Sue says, pointing to the nine silver volumes under glass. "At the most you usually just have one or two."

Even Elvis came to the house, sat in one of the bedrooms and grieved the loss of his friend. Jimmie Sue says Buford's teenage daughter, Dwana, sneaked peeks at The King.

There is a basement apartment that Buford used after his wife, Pauline, was shot to death in 1967 by thugs aiming for the sheriff. His polyester clothes are laid out on the bed as if at any moment Buford might be called to check out a disturbance at the state line. Jimmie Sue swaps the clothes on the bed with each season.

"You'll surely want to take a picture of this," Jimmie Sue says to the man from Kansas. She points to the door from the old sheriff's department that now hangs on a mock office in the basement.

The walls and display cases are full of oddball tidbits that speak to the tragedies that defined Buford's 36-year life.

There are autographs from Ronald Reagan and Lester Maddox. One of the hundred-dollar bills a generous Buford used to strew like confetti after he became rich and famous. A pair of size 13 1/2 sneakers like Buford was wearing when he died. And the Bible that survived a house fire that destroyed everything else.

"Not a single word of it was burned," Jimmie Sue marvels. According to Jimmie Sue and

museum literature, Buford was shot eight times, knifed seven times and killed two people, one of them a woman, in self-defense. He destroyed 87 whiskey stills in 1965 alone.

In one incident that Hollywood hopped on for "Walking Tall," Buford fought off six men at once, sending three to jail and three to the hospital.

The fence post Buford used in the fight against that half-dozen crooks is shelved on a gun rack on the wall. It was that post, Jimmie Sue says, that inspired Hollywood to put a big stick in Buford's big paws. It was a movie exaggeration that Buford allowed.

The night Buford died he had attended a Memphis press conference to announce he would portray himself in a movie called "Buford." The former wrestler, mortician and lawman might have added movie star to his resume had he survived the wreck, which some call "mysterious."

Jimmie Sue Powers is certain Buford would have been terrific.

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Surface not touched in disgusting Jones case

The court case evolving from Paula Jones' charges that Bill Clinton propositioned her in 1991 and hounded her sexually thereafter is likely to become a more lurid, disgusting spectacle than was the recent sex-bite trial of sportscaster Marv Albert.



Carl Rowan
Syndicated Columnist

Months before the Clinton-Jones trial is scheduled to begin, we are seeing dirty tactics and sensational leaks and rumors that suggest Clinton, Jones, our court system and the U.S. as a nation will all be losers if this trial runs its course.

Robert S. Bennett, the president's lead lawyer, says Jones and her lawyers want "a circus of a trial" that will humiliate

Mr. Clinton. The likelihood is that you and I may feel foolish and soiled before this litigation ends.

Jones' lawyers have sent the president a list of 72 questions that add up to a demand that Clinton admit beforehand that while governor of Arkansas he was an unscrupulous adulterer who tossed favors to women who submitted to him sexually. Among the questions are:

"Please admit or deny the following: While he was governor of the state of Arkansas, defendant Clinton had sexual relations with women (other than Hillary Rodham Clinton) who later became employees of the state of Arkansas (or an agency thereof)."

"Please admit or deny ... defendant Clinton had sexual relations with a woman who he, as governor, appointed to a position as a judge in the state of Arkansas."

Clinton's lawyers say the questionnaire is an unlawful "fishing expedition" and an attempt "to embarrass the pres-

ident by using rumors and hearsay and fictions." They argue that the questions — and answers — are not relevant to Paula Jones' charges. A spokeswoman for Jones says the answers are needed to show "a pattern of conduct" by Clinton.

Judge Susan Webber Wright will probably have to decide whether Clinton must respond to the questionnaire. Even if the judge were to denounce the questionnaire, the rumors and charges suggesting that Clinton was sexually promiscuous will already have been pressed upon potential jurors.

Meanwhile, Jones' sex life prior to the alleged 1991 encounter with Clinton — who says he doesn't even remember meeting her — is being probed by investigators hired by Danny Ferguson, a Clinton co-defendant and the Arkansas state trooper Jones claims was ordered by Clinton to lure her to a hotel room in Little Rock. Anything found that is damaging to Jones will surely be leaked, even if Judge Wright

rules it inadmissible in court.

Speaking of leaks, someone has told The Washington Times that in her sworn affidavit Paula Jones claimed that when Clinton showed her his penis she saw that it had a very distinctive bend when erect — a penile condition that may be caused by "Peyronnie's disease." This leak apparently was made to counteract Bennett's statement on CBS last Sunday that doctors at the National Naval Medical Center found no distinguishing characteristics regarding the president's genitals.

"In terms of size, shape, direction, whatever the devious minds want to concoct, the president is a normal man," Bennett said.

All this raises the specter of a jury asking the president to strip and induce an erection so they can see if his penis bends abnormally.

Has the achievement of justice come to this?

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MHM

AUSTIN (AP) Mental Health handing out amount mand same time oth off notices, ac

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AL FUR Best Price 202 Scurry Big!

MHMR hands out raises, pink slips at same time

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation is handing out pay raises far above the amount mandated by the Legislature at the same time other employees are getting lay-off notices, according to a published report.

The Austin American-Statesman reported today that 30 employees are getting raises far above the \$100-a-month raises approved by the Legislature for most state workers at the same time another 30 employees are being notified that they are losing their jobs.

The raises are ranging between \$229 and \$858 a month, the newspaper reported.

The 30 employees who will be notified that they are losing their jobs are being let go because the 600-employee Austin headquarters is downsizing.

"Morale is terrible. We can't comprehend that some people are getting high raises and some people will have no jobs," said one worker who requested anonymity because of fear of being chosen for the layoff list. "If we're short on money, we're short on money, and everybody ought to take an equal hit."

Many state agencies are squeezing their

payrolls to comply with a Sept. 1 cap on the number of state workers. The mental health department and a few other agencies are using layoffs to meet the legislative mandate.

The newspaper also reported that the mental health department is the only state department that is handing out large pay raises in the face of layoffs.

In addition to the 30 headquarters workers expected to be laid off, the agency is laying off 165 workers at state institutions for people with mental retardation.

Announcements about the job cuts were made after the institutions' superintendents and their top assistants got large pay raises. The superintendents got \$439 monthly pay raises, boosting their annual salaries to \$79,896.

The Texas Department of Human Services plans to lay off as many as 266 employees, but is making do with the \$100-a-month raise approved by the Legislature, according to spokeswoman Sherron Heinemann.

At the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, 23 workers this summer were told their jobs would be eliminated, but 22 found jobs within the agency,

commission spokesman Terry Hadley said. Then, after Sept. 1, the commission granted 80 promotions and merit raises of up to 6.8 percent.

The agency's decision to hand out raises and pink slips almost simultaneously was defended by Karen Hale, assistant mental health commissioner.

She said the agency will try to find jobs for laid-off workers, but the supervisors need to be better compensated for their growing responsibilities in a shrinking agency.

"We need to make sure we're paying people what they're worth," she said.

The agency's budget was increased by \$54 million this year, but most of the additional money is for building renovations and community homes for people with mental retardation.

Hale and Commissioner Don Gilbert also got substantial raises for this budget year, which began Sept. 1.

Gilbert received a \$40,000-a-year raise, the largest pay raise among state employees. He now makes \$135,000 annually, but is set to lose his free housing. Hale's pay was increased to \$85,000 from \$78,606.

Regulators might intervene to fix Union Pacific woes

WASHINGTON (AP) — Railroad troubles that began in Texas and rippled throughout Union Pacific's 36,000-mile network, harming shippers from the Gulf of Mexico to the West Coast, are on the mend, railroad executives told federal regulators Monday.

"We are absolutely confident that our service will be back to normal levels by year's end and perhaps several weeks before then," Dick Davidson, chairman of the railroad's parent company, Dallas-based Union Pacific Corp., told the Surface Transportation Board.

But the chairwoman of the board examining UP's month-old service failures warned that the government might step in if the solutions aren't far-reaching — and fast.

"It may be that we can no longer wait for the private sector to resolve this matter," chairwoman Linda Morgan said during a daylong hearing on UP's troubles.

The problems at the nation's largest railroad have caused economic upheaval in Texas and elsewhere.

Texas Railroad Commission Chairman Charles Matthews said rail disruptions have cost Texas companies \$300 million to \$400 million in extra freight charges, lost production and sales. Texas losses will mount by \$100 million or more each month until the rail congestion, equipment and manpower shortages are resolved, according to a TRCC study.

That study pegs national losses at \$1 billion or more since July.

"This is the worst rail crisis in the history of the United States," Matthews said before his appearance.

While unwilling to go that far, Surface Transportation Board member Gus Owen said Union Pacific "has put the nation at economic risk."

For months, shippers have complained about UP shortcomings that forced some plants along the Gulf Coast's petrochemical corridor to halt production and in some cases idle their workers.

"We cannot ship with confidence now on the Union Pacific Railroad," said David Parkin of Huntsman Corp., which is having difficulty shipping chemicals by rail.

Lumber and steel producers in the Northwest also have been hurt by long service delays, as have Midwest grain producers unable to ship bumper harvests.

"In my opinion, the rail crisis in Texas, as well as the rest of the country, almost rises to the level of an economic state of emergency," said Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, chairwoman of the Senate surface transportation subcommittee.

While federal intervention typically should be a last-ditch effort, Mrs. Hutchison said it "must be on the table." Absent action by the Surface Transportation Board, Mrs. Hutchison promised hearings by her subcommittee.

Republic of Texas leaders go on trial defiantly

ALPINE (AP) — The trial of two Republic of Texas separatists has proved to be every bit as unorthodox as their political philosophies.

Republic leader Richard McLaren and Robert Otto, his top lieutenant, spent the opening day of the trial Monday shuttling in and out of the courtroom as they were each ordered removed eight times.

The men are on trial for their part in a weeklong armed standoff with authorities in the Davis Mountains last spring.

Remaining as defiant as they were during the siege, the two refused to follow legal procedures and interrupted proceedings with rambling political statements. Both emphasized their belief that the state courts have no jurisdiction over them because they are foreign nationals.

"I'm not proceeding forward. We will proceed forward in Washington, D.C., the U.S.

Congress and the United Nations," said McLaren, the self-styled ambassador for the Republic.

Members of the movement believe Texas was illegally annexed by the United States and remains an independent nation.

Prosecutor Albert Valadez and state District Judge Kenneth DeHart tried to work around the interruptions. DeHart kept bringing the defendants back into the courtroom because, he said, he wants them to participate in the case.

Valadez, who frequently had to talk over McLaren's objections, said he knew all along the case would be unorthodox.

"I expected him to be disruptive," Valadez said outside court.

Both McLaren, 44, and Otto, 46, have court-appointed attorneys who were in court, but they have decided to represent themselves. The case is expected to wrap up Thursday.

The pair is charged with engaging in organized criminal activity for allegedly plotting to kidnap two neighbors in the Davis Mountains Resort, a rural subdivision 175 miles southeast of El Paso.

The April 27 abduction, carried out by McLaren's Republic followers, sparked the standoff with nearly 300 state troopers and Texas Rangers. The siege ended May 3 when the group agreed to lay down its weapons.

Once a jury of seven men and five women was seated, Valadez said in his opening statement that McLaren and Otto were at the core of the kidnapping conspiracy.

The defendants refused to offer rebuttal statements.

Joe Rowe, one of the two hostages allegedly taken by Republic members, later testified that he had seen the group conducting paramilitary operations outside his home the day

before the siege started.

Rowe said he and his wife, Margaret Ann, were not surprised when three armed people clad in camouflage showed up at their door.

"Both of us said, 'They're here.' We both knew what we meant," Rowe testified. "It meant the Republic of Texas finally came to do what they said they were going to do."

In the months before the standoff, Rowe said, McLaren had circulated a map identifying the Rowe house as a military target. Rowe has said the group coveted the house's strategic position and accused the Rowes of being government informants.

Rowe was to continue testifying today.

Two other group members will go on trial in December on the same charges. All could face five to 99 years or life in prison and a \$10,000 fine if convicted.

Some property owners' response to endangered species is lethal action

AUSTIN (AP) — Some landowners are so concerned about being subjected to Endangered Species Act restrictions that their response to finding an endangered animal is "shoot, shovel and shut up," property rights advocates said.

"When a landowner finds an endangered species on his or her property, that landowner can expect to lose most of the property rights in that land," said Becky Norton Dunlop, Virginia secretary of natural resources, at a conference of the legal foundation Defenders of Property Rights.

"You often find that people will work to eliminate habitat ... I have heard it said that out here in the West there's a little saying that goes along with endangered species. It's called ... shoot, shovel and shut up," she said.

She suggested that changes are needed in the law to encourage "good stewardship."

Texas state Rep. Bob Turner, D-Voss, said, "It's not just a speaker's joke. It's reality."

Because discovering an endangered species can limit the use of land, he said, "Nobody wants to have one of those things."

"If you have it, you damn sure don't want to admit it. You don't want anybody to know it. It's a little like getting drunk at the Baptist convention. You might do it, but you don't want everybody to know it," said Turner, a rancher.

Rather than killing an animal, Turner said, it is more common for landowners to do away with habitat that would attract an endangered species, such as cedar that's home to endangered birds.

Giving landowners incentives, such as tax breaks, to preserve the threatened species would be a help, he said.

Meg Durham of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which oversees the Endangered Species Act, said the agency works with landowners.

"There have been policies

adopted to try to deal with that type of landowners' concern," she said.

"We want to try to work with people for conservation. A lot of landowners want to work with us and are pleased to find ways they can do something good for the environment."

Susan Combs, a rancher, former Texas legislator and GOP agriculture commissioner candidate, said she doesn't think "shoot and shovel" is happening in Texas.

"I don't think people are destroying habitat or destroying species. They don't want to do that. They want to turn over a piece of property to their succeeding generations in a good, positive way, and they just want some help," she said.

Nancie Marzulla, president and chief legal counsel for the Washington-based Defenders of Property Rights, said talk of destroying habitat or animals is a "horrible result" of a law that she says takes the wrong approach.

She said it would be better for the government to pay for land put aside for the public or to give tax breaks.

Durham said buying property might be a possibility. As Congress reviews the Endangered Species Act, there also is talk of tax relief for people who are "responsible stewards" of the land, she said.

School trustees rescind policy that banned books with profanity

BURLESON (AP) — A policy that had banned books that contained profanity from being used as required reading for younger grades has been rescinded by school trustees.

The trustees voted unanimously Monday night to reverse the policy.

In its place, they passed a policy that will require teachers to send parents detailed lists of reading materials at the start of each semester.

Two of the seven trustees were not present for the meeting.

School Superintendent Fred Rauschuber called the unanimous vote a compromise that he believes will please conservative Christian parents who supported the ban, and teachers and parents who criticized it.

"The process worked," Rauschuber said. "We had two passionate sides, and we were able to get them together and work out a happy medium that satisfied both of them."

The old policy did not define profanity, but school officials said after it passed that childhood classics such as Mark Twain's "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" and Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning "To Kill a Mockingbird" would have been

critical of the ban. Most trustees said earlier this month that they supported a move to rescind the ban.

The old policy required high school teachers to alert parents about books containing any profanity within the first two weeks of each semester.

The superintendent originally asked the board to rescind that part of the policy. But trustees Ann Rose and Charles Kirk asked him to retain the two-week time limit for parental notification and the requirement that teachers indicate which required books contain profanity.

The proposal approved Monday night retains the two-week limit and says simply that "parents may wish to examine all reading materials for appropriateness of content."

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Wednesday, 10-29-97 - Regis
Thursday, 10-30-97 - Santa Fe
Friday, 10-31-97 - Suggs Hallmark
Saturday, 11-1-97 - On Cue

If your key opens the Treasure Chest, you could win a prize donated by the Big Spring Mail Merchants.

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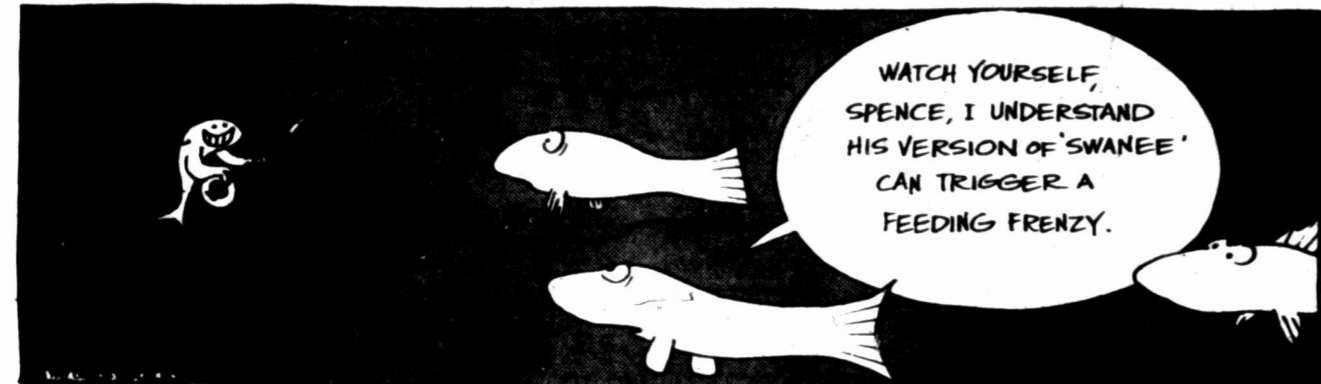
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TUESDAY		OCT. 28																				
	KMID (2)	KPEJ (3)	KERA (5)	FAM (6)	KOSA (7)	WFAA (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	UNI (13)	DIEN (14)	NASH (15)	TMC (16)	SHOW (18)	HBO (22)	KMLM (23)	AAE (25)	DISC (26)	TNT (28)	FSN (29)	ESPN (30)	AMC (31)	BET (32)
	Midland	Odessa	Dallas	Walters	Odessa	Dallas	Midland	Atlanta	Spanish	Premiere	Nashville	Premiere	Premiere	Premiere	Odessa	New York	Discovery	Atlanta	Sports	Sports	Classics	Black Ent.
6:30	News (CC) Wn. Fortune	Simpsons Home Imp.	Science Guy Creatures	Walters	News Grace Under	News (CC) Wn. Fortune	News Seinfeld (CC)	Coach Coach	Mi Quercia Isabel	Disney Halloween	Dukes of Hazzard	(10) Movie: Chances Are	..	Breast Cancer	Light of the Southwest	Law & Order (CC)	Gimme Shelter	Lots & Clerk-Superman	FOX Sports NHL Hockey	Strongest Man	Movie: The Spirit of St. Louis	Planet Groove
7:30	Soul Man Over the Top	Movie: Wolf (CC)	Nova (CC)	Rescue 911 (CC)	JAG (CC)	Soul Man Over the Top	Mad Abo. You Newsradio	(05) Movie: Taking Care of Business	El Alma No Tiene Color	(CC) Movie: Hocus	Life of Richard Peely	..	Movie: The Fan (CC)	Movie: Michael	Lil' Hen Up	Biography	Wild Discovery	Movie: Assault on	Dallas Stars at New York	NHL Hockey: Buffalo	..	..
8:30	Home Imp. Hiller-Diller	..	Sipho Hawking	Diagnosis Murder (CC)	Michael Hayes (CC)	Home Imp. Hiller-Diller	Fraser (CC) Just Shoot Me	(05) Movie: Smokey and	Alguna Vez	Pocus (CC)	Prime Time Country (CC)	Movie: Bill & Ted	..	Collins (CC)	Cornerstone	Movie: Debt on Time	New Detectives	David's Island (CC)	Rangers	Sabres at Buffalo	..	..
9:30	NYPD Blue (CC)	Pensacola-Wing	Frontline (CC)	Hawaii Five-0 (CC)	Delaventura (CC)	NYPD Blue (CC)	Dateline (CC)	(05) Movie: Smokey and	the Bardit	P. Impacto Noticiero Uni.	Voyage to the	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10:30	News (CC) Cheers	Home Imp. Mad Abo. You	News-Lehrer	700 Club	News (35) Late	News (CC) Nightline	News Tonight Show	(05) Movie: Walking Tall	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11:30	Nightline (36) Keenen	Vibe	Pennsylvania Road Show	Three Stooges	Show (CC) Married... With	Ent. Tonight Politically Inc.	(CC) Late	(05) Movie: Al Rimo de la Noche	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12:30	Ivory Wayans Politically Inc.	Martin (CC) In the Heat of	Divided Highways: The In-	Paid Program	Late Late Show	News Ent. Tonight	Night (CC) Gayle King

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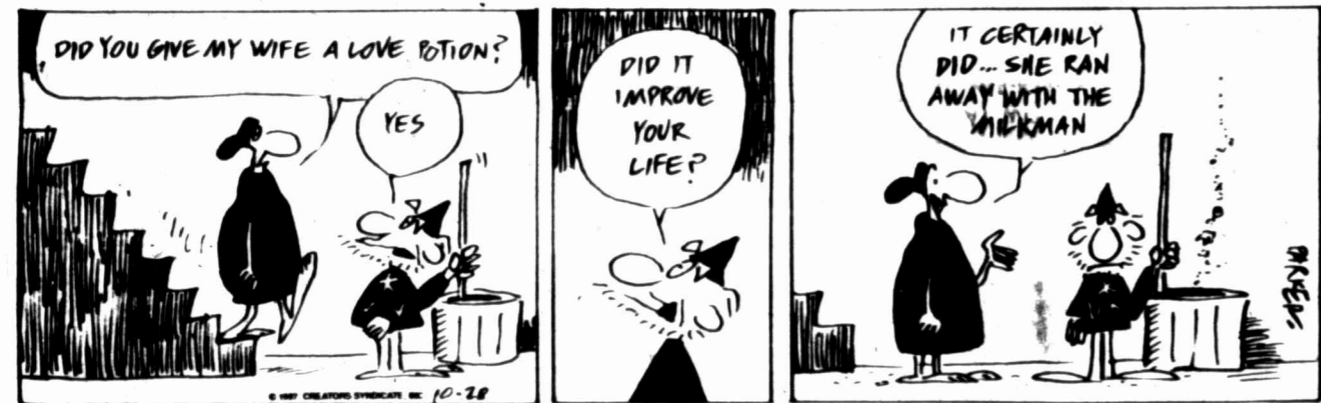
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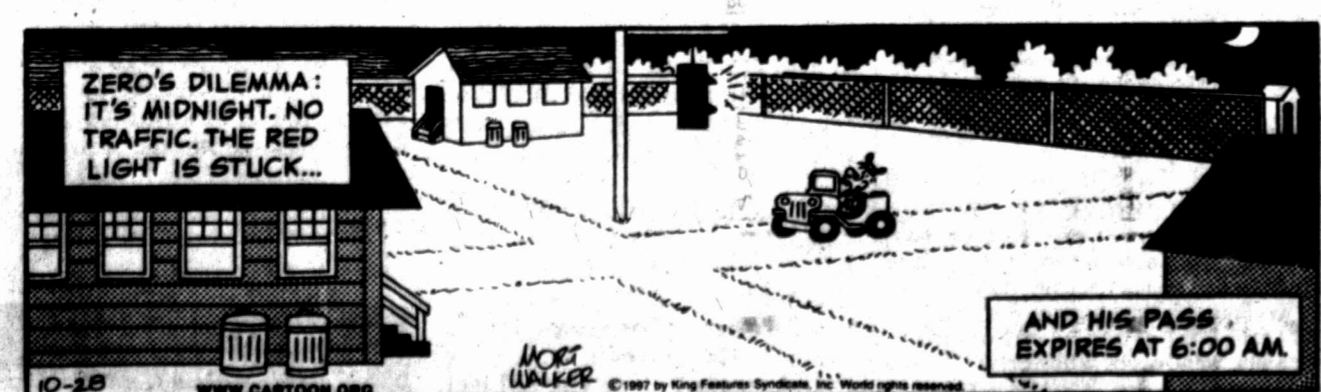
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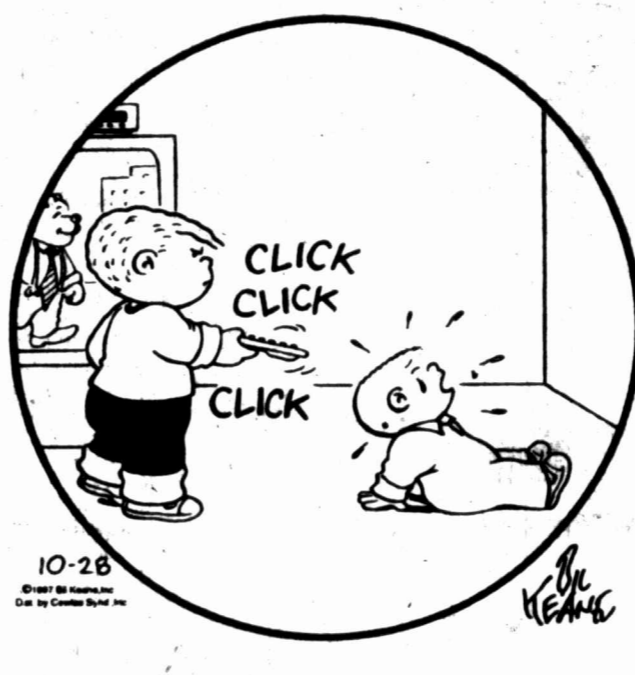


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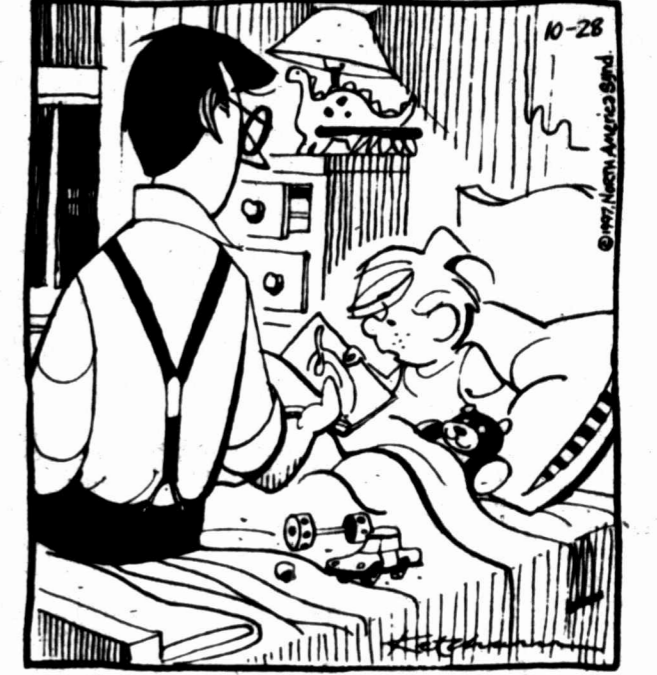


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10-26



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

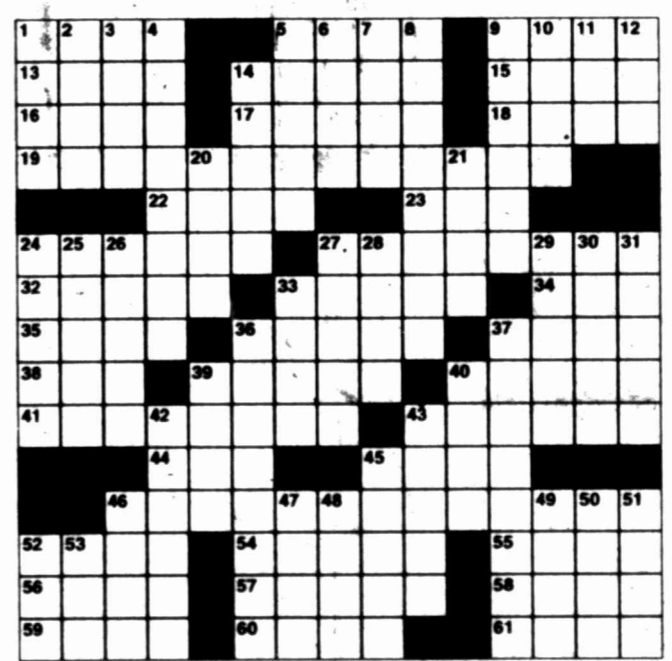
The ASSOCIATED PRESS
Today is Tuesday, Oct. 28, the 301st day of 1997. There are 64

days left in the year.
Today's Highlight in History:
On Oct. 28, 1886, the Statue of Liberty, a gift from the people of France, was dedicated in New York Harbor by President Cleveland.
On this date:
In 1636, Harvard College was

founded in Massachusetts.
In 1793, Eli Whitney applied for a patent for his cotton gin (the patent was granted the following March).
In 1919, Congress enacted the Volstead Act, which provided for enforcement of Prohibition, over President Wilson's veto.
In 1922, fascism came to Italy as Benito Mussolini took control of the government.
In 1936, President Roosevelt rededicated the Statue of Liberty on its 50th anniversary.
In 1940, Italy invaded Greece during World War II.
In 1958, the Roman Catholic patriarch of Venice, Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli, was elected Pope, taking the name John XXIII.
In 1962, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev informed the United States that he had ordered the dismantling of Soviet missile bases in Cuba.
In 1976, former Nixon aide John D. Ehrlichman entered a federal prison camp in Safford, Ariz., to begin serving his sentence for Watergate-related convictions.
Ten years ago: During a debate in Houston that included the six Republican presidential contenders, Vice President George Bush argued that as President Reagan's "co-pilot," he knew how to "land the plane in a storm."
Five years ago: Less than a week before Election Day, President Bush continued to emphasize that voters could not trust Bill Clinton in the White House; for his part, Clinton accused Bush of abusing the powers of the presidency.
One year ago: Richard Jewell, cleared of committing the Olympic park bombing, held a news conference in Atlanta in which he thanked his mother for standing by him and lashed out at reporters and investigators who had depicted him as the bomber. Comedian Morey Amsterdam died in Los Angeles at age 81.

THE Daily Crossword

- ACROSS
- Author Milne
 - Trade
 - Instance
 - Prong
 - Soul
 - Seed
 - appendage
 - Little ones
 - Giver
 - Shallow notch
 - Start of Kentucky State motto
 - Flower
 - GI address
 - Relating to some birds
 - U.S. president
 - French river
 - Start of a toast
 - Previous to
 - Shake
 - Fountain treats
 - Miracle site
 - Biblical book: abbr.
 - Which city
 - Concentrated light beam
 - Islands in the West Indies
 - Embrace
 - Feline
 - Excellent
 - Rest of Kentucky motto
 - Stylish
 - Bete —
 - Perman of TV
 - Knitting stitch
 - Sinned
 - Orient
 - To — (exactly)
 - Appear
 - Abstract being



by Florence C. Adler

10/28/97

Monday's Puzzle solved:



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- DOWN
- Aleutian island
 - Celebrity
 - Against
 - Young bird
 - egret
 - Pinot
 - Hebrew prophet
 - Shares
 - Large weapon
 - Like the Gobi
 - Time periods
 - Predicament
 - Certain crackers
 - Untroubled
 - European
 - Path
 - Aloof person
 - Intimidated
 - Relevant
 - Terrible
 - French artist
 - Ireland
 - Exclamations
 - Not so much
 - Recent
 - Ledger expert
 - Shack

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Today's Birthdays: Former baseball commissioner Bowie Kuhn is 71. Actress Joan Plowright is 68. Actress Dody Goodman is 68. Actress Suzy Parker is 64. Musician-songwriter Charlie Daniels is 61. Actress Jane Alexander is 58. Singer Curtis Lee is 56. Actor Dennis Franz is 53. Pop singer Wayne Fontana is 52. Actress Telma Hopkins is 49. Olympic track and field gold medalist Bruce Jenner is 48. Actress Annie Potts is 45. Microsoft chairman Bill Gates is 42. Rock musician Stephen Morris (New Order) is 40. Country singer-musician Ron Hemby (The Buffalo Club) is 39. Rock singer-musician William Reid (Jesus & Mary Chain) is 39. Actress Daphne Zuniga is 35. Actress Lauren Holly is 34.