

BIG SPRING HERALD

Reflecting A Proud Community

TUESDAY
February 24, 1998

50 cents



HERALD photo/Linda Choate

District 28 State Sen. Robert Duncan, center, helps Frances Wheat cut the ribbon celebrating the grand opening of Duncan's district office in Big Spring Monday.

Duncan opens district office in Big Spring

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Big Spring and Howard County residents now have their own direct line to District 28 State Sen. Robert Duncan, who was in Big Spring Monday for the grand opening of his district office.

Duncan's district office is in the west end of Citizens Federal Credit Union and is being headed by Big Spring businesswoman and community leader Frances Wheat, who assumes the title of district director.

"When you have an office in the area, there's someone on the ground working on issues

involving Big Spring and Howard County," Duncan said. "I'm also excited to be working with Frances Wheat. She's by far the top of the line and having her working in the office here will help us prepare for the next legislative session."

Duncan's commitment to Big Spring was a campaign promise he made as he campaigned in December 1996 during his runoff battle for the District 28 State Senate seat.

The district stretches across 26 West Texas counties and the Big Spring district office will serve some 25,000 constituents in Howard County and the surrounding counties.

The 28th Senatorial District includes the counties of Howard, Borden, Crane, Crosby, part of Culberson, Dawson, part of Ector, part of El Paso, Garza, Glasscock, Hale, Hockley, Hudspeth, Irion, Lamb, Loving, Lubbock, Lynn, Martin, Reagan, part of Reeves, Sterling, Terry, part of Tom Green, Upton and Ward.

Currently, Duncan has a district office in Lubbock and is planning on offices in Odessa and El Paso at a later date.

"The key thing is that the office in Big Spring will be primarily for Big Spring and Howard County," Duncan said. "The most important thing from

that is we have someone on the ground on a daily basis."

Information on issues such as what's going on with Howard College and economic development in the area are items for which Wheat will act as a buffer between Austin and Big Spring, according to Duncan.

"Frances has a wealth of knowledge about Big Spring," Duncan added. "Her experience and insight into the issues here will be a huge asset to me and this office."

The Big Spring office will act as a bridge, bringing the vast, rural West Texas district closer

See DUNCAN, page 2

Construction delays BSISD officials say junior high school may not be ready until next January

By KATHY GILBERT
Staff Writer

Opening of the new junior high may be delayed until as late as Jan. 20, Big Spring Independent School District Superintendent Bill McQueary said today.

"We're not surprised," McQueary said. "We anticipated it was going to be after the August deadline and it could be further than that."

Monterey Construction Company submitted the long-awaited completion schedule to the district late Friday.

Due to the difficulty in locating masons, the completion date will be Oct. 20, the company said.

"It's just going to keep us from moving in there at the start of

the year," McQueary said. "There will be no other changes, no movement — just the status quo."

McQueary said that it was still uncertain whether Monterey could meet the new Oct. 20 date. "That's their date, but it could be as far as Nov. 20, or Dec. 20, or even Jan. 20 until the school is ready to occupy."

The district will not bear any additional costs because of the delay, Assistant Business Manager Ron Logback and McQueary said.

"They can't find enough brick masons," Logback said. "The whole job hinges on masonry work being done prior to finishing."

Monterey is making an "honest effort to get the job manned," Logback said. "They're not hav-

ing a whole lot of luck right now."

"It's a setback, but I guess everybody right now in the state of Texas is trying to find masons at \$22 an hour," Logback said.

"Certainly we're disappointed," McQueary said, "but we have no control over that. We have to wait until the building is completed and then we can move into it."

Construction on the junior high building has experienced delays since September, when stress tests conducted by BSISD found 5 percent of the building's mortar failed to meet city standards and architectural specifications.

Patches of mortar are believed to have dried too quickly, causing them to be brittle.

CRMWD pumps water out of Spence

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

In an effort to maintain and improve water quality in the E.V. Spence Reservoir, the Colorado River Municipal Water District (CRMWD) has once again begun transferring water from Lake Spence to the O.H. Ivie Reservoir, southeast of Ballinger.

According to CRMWD General Manager John Grant, officials began the release of approximately 17,000 acre-feet of water from Spence Monday. The process will take about two

weeks, dropping the level of the Spence by about 4 1/2 feet.

"What we're trying to do is keep Spence as low as we can without impacting our municipal water supply," Grant said. We still have a lot of water in the Ivie Reservoir and we're trying to maximize what we have."

"It goes back to the old adage that if you have 10 glasses of good water and one glass of bad water and you mix them, you have 11 glasses of water that you can drink," Grant added.

This release is similar to the Spring 1996 release of some 50,000 acre-feet from Spence, which resulted in a 16 percent

improvement in the chloride concentration in Spence and no change in the chloride concentration in Ivie.

CRMWD also mixed water from Spence with water from Ivie as part of their efforts to help battle the drought that swept the area in 1996.

Water in all three lakes, Spence, Ivie and Lake Thomas were at lower than normal levels because of the lack of moisture and because there was no runoff from spring rains.

What little water remained in Lake Thomas was there to sup-

See SPENCE, page 2

Choate says wrongful termination suit against county 'frivolous,' without merit

By CARLTON JOHNSON
Staff Writer

According to at least one Howard County Commissioner, wrongful termination complaints filed against the county by seven former employees of the Howard County Sheriff's Office are without merit.

During Monday's meeting of the Howard County Commissioners' Court, commissioners discussed a letter from Austin attorney Robert T. Bass of Allison, Bass & Associates, to the Texas Commission on Human Rights concerning the complaints which allege wrongful termination.

Since last spring, seven for-

mer employees of the sheriff's office, including Javier Arrendono, Alfonso Baca Jr., John Castro, Gregoria Gonzales, Guillermo Rangel Jr., Tiburcio Trevino Jr., and Sgt. Barney Edens Jr., who current sheriff Bill Jennings defeated in the general election in 1996 for the sheriff's post, have filed complaints against the county alleging race and age discrimination.

In the letter dated Feb. 17 and addressed to William Hale, executive director of the commission, Bass informed Hale that Howard County is not interested in offering any settlement concerning the age discrimination claims filed by

Edens, Trevino and Castro.

"That lawsuit is still pending and it may drag on for the rest of the year," Commissioner Sonny Choate said. "It's a frivolous lawsuit and it's costing us to have to hire a lawyer to defend us. We've spend a little over \$1,100 so far this year and we spent quite a lot last year."

County Auditor Jackie Olson told commissioners that the county has already spent \$1,169 so far on fees to Allison, Bass & Associates.

All of the complaints were filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) against Howard County alleging wrongful termination when Jennings

took office in January 1997.

"In dealing with the EEOC, our attorney has told us that most everything has already been dismissed except for three cases alleging age discrimination," Commissioner Jerry Kilgore said. "Our attorney thinks the complaints have no basis and believe the whole thing will be dismissed."

When Jennings defeated Edens in November 1996, he announced all employees in the department would have to re-apply for positions with the sheriff's office and 10 of 11 employees did reapply. Edens was the only employee who did not seek employment in Jennings' administration.

According to Kilgore, the county has precedent on its side in this matter, referring to a 1995 case involving Reeves County (Pecos) and 17 former employees who sued that county when they were not retained.

U.S. District Judge Lucius Bunton dismissed the 1995 suit, which set a precedent and established the right of a newly elected sheriff to staff his or her office with members of his or her choice even if that includes not rehiring employees.

Commissioners are also aware that regardless of what the EEOC says, the complainants could still file a lawsuit against the county.

The EEOC's involvement is to

see if there is any basis for the complaints.

In reference to the age question, the letter to Hale states, "Mr. Edens never made an application with the newly elected sheriff, Mr. Castro and Mr. Trevino were not retained for good and valid reasons having nothing to do with their age."

"Better than 70 percent of the Jennings administration in May 1997 was older than 40 years of age," Bass added. "The average age of the Jennings administration, as of May 1997, was 51.79 years. The average age of Edens, Castro, and Trevino was 48 when the complaints were first filed last May."

Howard College to get aggressive on recruiting

By KATHY GILBERT
Staff Writer

"Next year is going to be a great year to attend Howard College," College President Cheri Sparks said at the board of trustees meeting Monday.

The board outlined aggressive recruitment and retention plans to boost enrollment in the coming years.

Credit enrollment at Howard College has dropped by 35 percent since its record-breaking peak in 1993-1994. Vice President for Institutional

Advancement Linda Conway reported.

Continuing education programs, however, increased by 160 percent in the same time period, she added. Official state reports do not include continuing education/workforce training, which are called non-credit programs.

Howard's enrollment has dropped dramatically for several reasons, Conway said. Nursing program closures and the on-paper decline of enrollment in the lifetime fitness course accounted for the loss of

282 students.

An older service area population, the decline in public school enrollments and a low unemployment rate have affected the pool of available students.

Traditional student demographics are changing, as the relative number of Hispanics in the service area population increases. Meanwhile, more and more students are seeking non-traditional forms of training — taking non-credit courses to increase job skills or for personal growth.

Howard College plans to continue the popular financial aid assistance workshops, and continue to reach out to area public schools through events like "Next Generation Day" recently held at Runnels Junior High.

In addition, the administration is investigating opening a child-care center, providing limited bus service, and is seeking to become a "broker of higher education through distance learning," Conway said.

"Our goal is to increase the

See COLLEGE, page 2



HERALD photo/Linda Choate

Off-duty Big Spring police officer Billy Sumpter takes time for a quick game of football with Michael Gomez at Comanche Trail Park Monday.

WEATHER

Tonight:



Wed:



Thurs:



Fri:



Tonight, becoming mostly cloudy. A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows 45-55. Wednesday, partly cloudy, windy and cooler. Highs in the 60s. Wednesday night, partly cloudy. Lows in the 30s. Extended forecast, Thursday, mostly sunny. Highs in the mid to upper 60s. Friday, partly cloudy. Lows 30-35. Highs in the upper 50s to mid 60s.

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FBI looking into charges against Serna

EL PASO (AP) — The FBI is looking into allegations of public corruption raised against state Rep. Gilbert Serna in an El Paso Times story last week.

Agency spokesman Al Cruz on Monday refused to elaborate on the FBI investigation but referred to the newspaper report, which cited an unnamed former employee of Serna who says the lawmaker required some staffers to pay kickbacks after they were given raises.

"We have received information that these particular situations have come up, and we are reviewing the allegations," Cruz said. "We have interviewed a minimal number of people. We are attempting to substantiate some of the alleged violations."

Serna, who has dismissed the allegations as politically motivated, said Monday that he welcomed the FBI probe.

"Prior to the publication of Sunday's story, I have long held that the best course of action for anyone who felt they had been wronged was to report the incident to the proper authorities so that there could be an investigation into the matter by an impartial party," Serna said in a statement prepared by his spokesman, Marc Schwartz.

"I welcome this type of scrutiny and, if contacted, I will cooperate fully with their probe."

During an 18-month investigation by the newspaper, some former Serna employees said they had heard of alleged kickbacks.

Annan to seek Security Council OK of pact

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Fresh from his biggest diplomatic coup, U.N. chief Kofi Annan turned his attention today to persuading the Security Council to back his weapons inspections agreement with Iraq and avert a U.S.-led military strike.

Annan left Baghdad after signing the accord, stopping in Paris en route to New York, where he was to brief the council this morning.

The council must approve the agreement, but President Clinton said Monday he is willing to give it a chance. In an interview Monday evening with France 2 television, Annan called Washington's favorable comments "a very good sign."

Mindful of past broken promises by Saddam Hussein, the Clinton administration said today it wants the agreement to be tested. U.S. Ambassador Bill Richardson said the question "is going to be how we enforce

this agreement."

Richardson, appearing this morning on American television networks, said that after Security Council approval of Annan's agreement, "we have to test it, then we have to enforce it and then we have to find ways to make sure there is full compliance." He said the test should be "quick."

Despite suspicions about Saddam's willingness to abide by the agreement, a sense of relief pervaded Washington as Clinton tentatively accepted Baghdad's written promise to allow full U.N. weapons inspections.

Wary of Saddam's intentions, Clinton ordered the U.S. military force in the Persian Gulf to remain in case Iraq reneges again. Ground and air forces continued to arrive today even as the threat of conflict eased.

"This is not about trusting," Clinton said. "What really matters ... is not what Iraq says but

what it does."

Under the accord signed Monday, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press, Iraq would give the U.N. Special Commission that oversees inspections and the International Atomic Energy Agency "immediate, unconditional and unrestricted access" to suspected weapons sites as required by past U.N. resolutions.

However, the two-page memo stipulated that senior diplomats appointed by Annan carry out inspections at eight presidential palaces.

It said that the "special group" would operate under procedures established by UNSCOM and the IAEA, as well as "specific, detailed procedures which will be developed given the special nature of the presidential sites."

The accord also reiterated the commitment of U.N. member states to "respect the sovereign

ty and territorial integrity of Iraq." And it addressed an issue of particular importance to Iraq — the lifting of economic sanctions imposed after Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990, sparking the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

While it set no time line, it noted that the lifting of sanctions is "obviously of paramount importance."

Iraq lauded the accord beneath bright red headlines and front-page pictures of Saddam. State-run newspapers reported today the pact will pave the way for a quick lifting of U.N. economic sanctions.

Saddam also ordered that Feb. 23 be celebrated nationwide as the "Day of the Flag," marking the day on which Iraqis triumphed over the United States.

An endorsement by the Security Council would save Iraq from a U.S. air attack, and save Washington from strong international opposition to such a strike.

Rescuers look for missing in wake of tornadoes

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — Rescuers searched the ruins early today hoping to find at least six people still missing a full day after a band of monster tornadoes killed at least 38, leaving a deadlier swath of destruction than Hurricane Andrew.

"I am an optimist but right now, we're asking the dogs to look for those who are deceased," fire Capt. David Costello said as his search dogs sniffed through a trailer twisted

around a tree at Ponderosa Park Campground.

Entire neighborhoods in central Florida were turned into heaps of wood, twisted metal and broken glass by winds of up to 260 mph. More than 250 people were injured, dusk-to-dawn curfews were in place, and federal aid was on its way.

The storm's fury struck hard for those who retired to Florida or snowbirds who come south for the winter, living in mobile homes or recreational vehicles.

Josephine Wolfe and her husband escaped unharmed but her mobile home did not. She rummaged through the scraps Monday before finally finding her medicine and her wallet containing \$4 in bingo winnings.

"It's all gone," cried Mrs. Wolfe, who moved from Dayton, Ohio, in 1983. "This was our whole life. I'm 73 years old and you can't start over at 73. What good is it? You work so hard and now there's nothing. I wish

it would've killed me."

Rescuers said tracking down survivors is difficult because so many people live here only part-time, and some records were scattered by the storm.

"We had to identify the bodies of close friends," said Maria Quadros, manager of the Ponderosa park, where at least 10 people died.

"Many people in this park are neighbors up north. They've been coming to this park for 25 years."

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Tuesday, Feb. 24th.....Dr. Bueno/Pediatrician

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HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR WEDNESDAY, FEB. 25:
Much is going on behind the scenes. Others value your perspective, though you might be better off saying less and resorting to innuendo instead. Those who want to get your message will. Make an effort to consolidate and build more structure in your finances. Occasional timeouts will refresh your mind and emotions. If you are single, you are likely to meet someone special this year. Be open to the sharing that is possible. AQUARIUS reads you cold.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
You are serious and need to aim high to get what you want done. Others seek you out for advice. Make time for a group presentation. This could be an excellent opportunity to network and establish yourself as even bigger player in your field. Tonight: Be with friends.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
You are in the limelight. Others come to you for answers, direction and ideas. It seems natural to assume responsibility. Realize the other side of the coin: Resentment builds more easily when you are a leader. Set a pace, and stick to it. Tonight: Push papers.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
You are determined to get exactly what you want. A friend waves a red flag. Remember, this is your call. Make calls, and reach out for others. Consult with experts to help you make a decision. News from a distance is worth relaxing over. Tonight: Rent a movie.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
Work pressure forces your hand. On some level, you wonder how much you can handle. Establish limits, and be direct. An associate who is tied to you financially has lots of ideas. Don't get stuck; brainstorm together. Tonight: Talk over dinner.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
A decision comes after enormous forethought. You aren't likely to go along with a partner who has been flaky lately. Carefully evaluate discussions about a trip. You might not be in the mood to deal with this person. Tonight: Make dinner plans.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Others demand financial clarity, though you cannot seem to get the information you seek. Somehow, someone's perspective doesn't work for you. Explain to a co-worker how you are stymied. Concentrate on improving your effectiveness. Tonight: Initiate a conversation.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

You need to let go of a difficult partner. It is time to realize that you can't change him. A loved one opens up to you. Creativity and happiness mix as you take a step into a brand-new world. It's time to start taking care of yourself. Take time for a favorite hobby. Tonight: Fun and games.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Deal with family. Day-to-day matters are difficult, and somewhat strained. Listen carefully to another, and open up to new possibilities. Your energy could be a bit low. Try not to take on more than you can handle. Eliminate the superfluous. Tonight: Put your feet up.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
A loved one has something serious on his mind. Listen carefully to what he says; he means it. Communications flow, when you open up and have a much-needed conversation. Clear your desk, and catch up on news. Tonight: At a favorite spot.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Handle a difficult security-related issue. Others aren't as comfortable as you are dealing with funds. Check out an investment. In some way, you are a bit of a stick in the mud. Examine your response. You might be responding to "shoulds." Tonight: Treat yourself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
You move through a tense discussion; someone doesn't want to reveal what is on his mind. Your charm can help with a difficult situation. Keep smiling, knowing clearly where you are heading. Another cares more than you know. Tonight: Your wish is another's pleasure.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Detach yourself when it comes to money. Right now, a situation has you down; actually, you can turn it around. Seek out more information, but give yourself time to make a decision. Talk to a friend who really cares. Tonight: Take a night off.

BORN TODAY

Writer-producer Larry Gelbart (1928), musician George Harrison (1943), singer Faron Young (1932)

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PUNCH #77
PRIMARY
March 10, 1998
EARLY VOTING
Feb. 23, 1998
★ GENERAL ELECTION ★
NOV. 3, 1998
DEMOCRATIC POLLING SITES:
Precinct 203 - Goliad
Precinct 202 - Washington
Precinct 205 - Kentwood
Precinct 207 - Coahoma
Precinct 208 - Forsan
Pd. Pol. Adv. by R. Shaw, Rt. 1, Box 674, Big Spring, TX 79720

VOTE FOR
Roosevelt SHAW
Democrat
For
County Commissioner
★ Precinct 2 ★
Pd. Pol. Adv. by R. Shaw, Rt. 1, Box 674, Big Spring, TX 79720

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Table with 2 columns: LOCAL, LOCAL. Contains high school playoff results for Odessa Permian vs Lubbock High and Sands Lady Mustangs vs Iron County.

Got a story idea or a sports news tip? Call Sports, 263-7332, Ext. 233 or leave voice mail

Steers get a little payback, rattling bats for 15-5 win over Permian

HERALD Staff Report

A 15-5 season-opening baseball win over Odessa Permian doesn't in itself atone for the Big Spring Steers' frustrating 7-15 campaign of a year ago...

everyone owes us, because virtually everybody beat us. But we haven't played that well in a couple of years. As it turned out, the Steers scored all the runs they'd need in the first two innings and owned a comfortable 9-0 lead before Permian finally got on the scoreboard...

who went 4 2/3 innings before being relieved by James Darling, was keeping the Panthers at bay. "Jeff threw extremely well," Doe said following the game. "he stayed around the plate... got a bunch of ground balls and we made the plays behind them."

drew another walk and Hansen capped the two-run rally with an RBI single. When Permian managed to score two runs in the bottom of the fourth, the Steers responded with their biggest inning of the game in the top of the sixth.

the Panthers in the bottom of the inning. While the win was virtually everything Doe could have hoped for, he stressed there's still room for the Steers to improve. "I couldn't be more pleased with the way we played today, but the key is going to be whether we continue to improve," Doe explained.

Howard closes home slate topping Clarendon

Lady Hawks' coliseum run rolls to 27-0

By JOHN H. WALKER
Managing Editor

Howard College's Lady Hawks sophomores closed out their home careers with a perfect 27-0 mark here Thursday night with an 86-41 drilling of Clarendon's Lady Bulldogs.



HERALD photo/Jim Fierro

Howard College's Kamilah Ward (12) breaks down in a defensive posture in preparation for a move by Clarendon guard Veronica Hopkins (13) during the Lady Hawks' final home game of the season.

Howard denied Clarendon a field goal for 29:01 of Thursday night's game. Corkery was pleased with his team's effort — citing the play of sophomore reserve Kamilah Ward.

Johnson led the Lady Hawks with 20, followed by Washington and Jeanine Horton with 12 each. Jovanae St. Cyr joined Ward with 8 points, while Ricka McKee, Latasha Moore, Jennifer Vinum and Latraica Spencer had 6 each. Donelle Jones added 2.

Howard held Clarendon's Andrea Watson to 14 points and Kirl Neptune to 11 — well below their respective averages. Howard held a 37-22 rebounding advantage and forced 36 turnovers while committing 23.

Going away party for Cook, Clover is 80-77 Hawks' comeback victory

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

"Fats" and Nathan had a heck of a going-away party Monday night. Clifton "Fats" Cook and Nathan Clover played their final home games as members of the Howard College Hawks, and made sure their final contest was a lulu, leading the Hawks back from a late deficit to take an 80-77 victory over Clarendon College Monday night in Dorothy Garrett.

The game was never comfortably in Howard's pocket — at least not until after the final buzzer — but the momentum changed Howard's way for good with about seven minutes left. To make up for Brown's absence, the Hawks switched out of their normal man-to-man defense and went to a 2-3 zone for most of the game.

Bulldogettes open softball campaign, hitting road to face Lubbock High

By JOHN A. MOSELEY
Sports Editor

Nobody is more surprised Coahoma's Bulldogettes will open their 1998 softball season this afternoon in Lubbock than coach Robbie Dickenson. "To be honest, I really thought we'd be cancelling a few games," Dickenson said, noting that he, like many others, thought the Bulldogettes' season would get a late start, expecting a number of his key players to be playing basketball this week.

says his team is already in good form. "About half our varsity players have only had a couple of workouts, but everyone's looking pretty sharp," Dickenson said as he prepared for his second season at the Bulldogettes helm. "We're really excited about this season," he added. "We're looking forward to having a very big year."

base, while West continues to handle catching duties. "She'll give us more of an offensive threat. She'll join Sterling, Baker and Tindol as our best hitters." The remainder of the Bulldogettes starting lineup includes Rende Herring at first, Cassie Rich at second, and Kenna Cathey in right field.

Although the Bulldogettes figure to have their hands full with the Lady Westerners, a Class 5A playoff team a year ago, Dickenson says Coahoma needs to face that kind of competition early in the season if they expect to far well in a newly realigned district this spring.

went to Austin last year. "But don't expect Dickenson to complain about the new alignment. He believes the Lady Bearcats' presence in the district can only make the Bulldogettes a more formidable team when the playoffs arrive. "We needed a tough district to fight out of," Dickenson said, making it clear he believes the Bulldogettes and Hawley must be considered the district's favorites. "I think it will help us in the long run."

TUESDAY

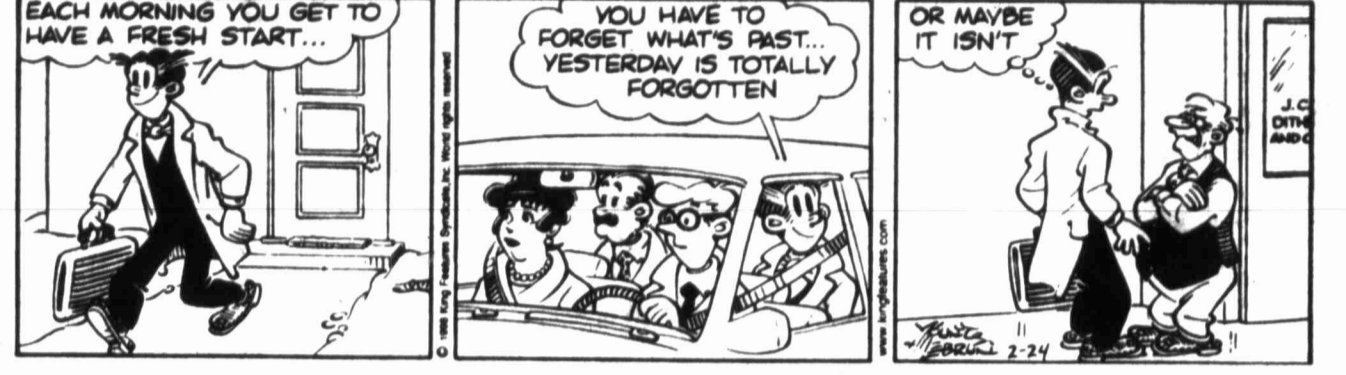
FEB. 24

TV SCHEDULE TABLE with columns for station (KMBD, KPBJ, KERA, etc.), time, and program name.

HAGAR



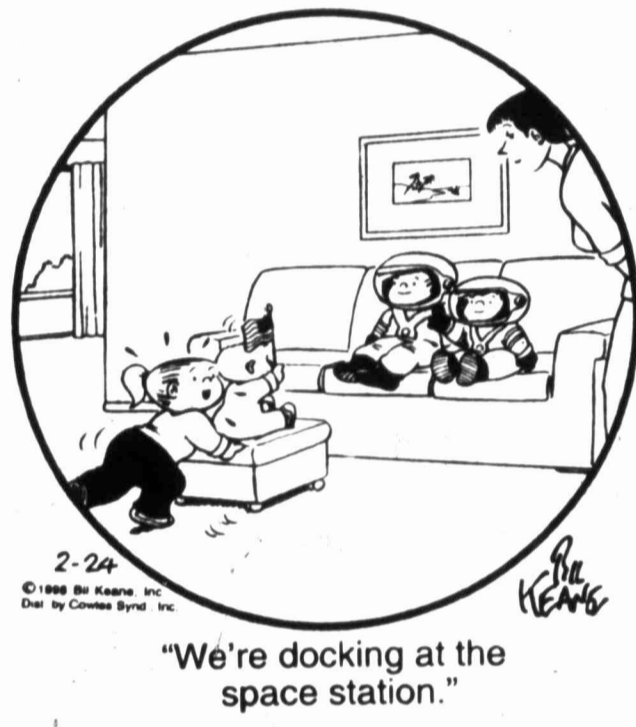
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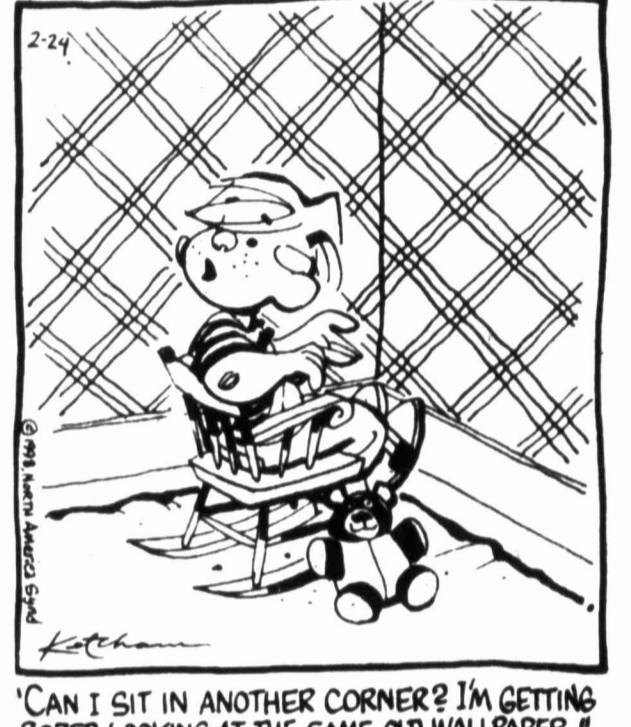
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FAMILY CIRCUS



DENNIS THE MENACE



GEECH



WIZARD OF ID



HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEEBLE BAILY



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

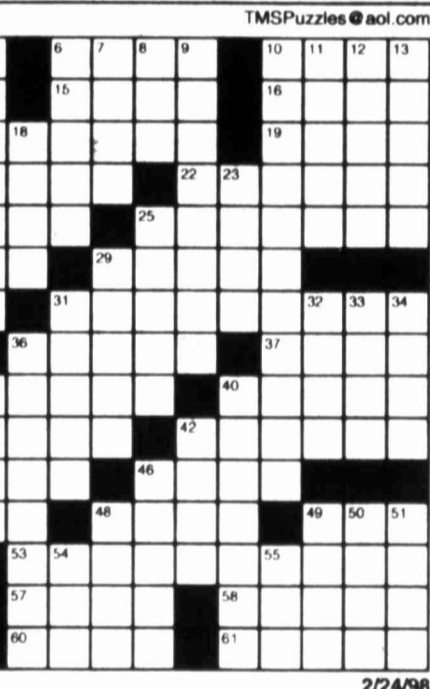
Today is Tuesday, Feb. 24, the 55th day of 1998. There are 310 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Feb. 24, 1868, the House of Representatives impeached President Andrew Johnson following his attempt to dismiss Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton; the Senate later acquit-

ted Johnson. On this date: In 1803, the Supreme Court ruled itself the final interpreter of constitutional issues. In 1821, Mexico declared its independence from Spain. In 1863, Arizona was organized as a territory. In 1903, the United States signed an agreement acquiring a naval station at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba. In 1942, the Voice of America went on the air for the first time. In 1945, American soldiers liberated the Philippine capital of Manila from Japanese control during World War II. In 1980, the U.S. hockey team defeated Finland, 4-2, to clinch the gold medal at the Winter Olympic Games in Lake Placid, N.Y. In 1981, Buckingham Palace announced the engagement of Britain's Prince Charles to Lady Diana Spencer. In 1983, a congressional commission released a report condemning the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II as a "grave injustice." In 1996, Cuba downed two small American planes that it claimed had violated Cuban airspace. Ten years ago: In a ruling that expanded legal protections for parody and satire, the Supreme Court overturned a \$200,000 award that the Rev. Jerry Falwell had won against "Hustler" magazine and publisher Larry Flynt. Five years ago: Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney announced he was stepping down. At the Grammy Awards in Los Angeles, Eric Clapton won six trophies, including album of the year for "Unplugged" and record and song of the year for "Tears in Heaven." One year ago: Secretary of State Madeleine Albright met in Beijing with Chinese officials, telling them to improve their country's record on human rights or face condemnation by the United States and its allies. The Food and Drug Administration named six brands of birth control as safe and effective "morning-after" pills for preventing pregnancy. Today's Birthdays: Actor Abe Vigoda is 77. Actor Steven Hill ("Law and Order") is 76. Movie composer Michel Legrand is 66. Actor John Vernon is 66. Georgia Gov. Zell Miller is 66. Opera singer Renata Scotto is 63. Actor James Farentino is 60. Actor Barry Bostwick is 53. Actor Edward James Olmos is 51. Singer-writer-producer Rupert Holmes is 51. CBS News correspondent Paula Zahn is 42.

THE Daily Crossword

ACROSS 1 Book-jacket text 6 Org. of oil producers 10 Minnesota 14 French actress Anouk 15 Boyfriend 16 Hot chamber 17 Mel Gibson Oscar winner 19 Lasso 20 Of course! 21 Missing 22 More cautious 24 Increase staff 25 Allowed to drop 26 Stonecutters 29 Rough edges of metal 30 Pita fiber 31 Tony-winning choreographer 35 Tight closure 36 French fathers 37 Merriment 38 "North by Northwest" star 40 Of the moon 41 Non-Polynesian in Hawaii 42 Chevy model 43 Tempestuous uprisings 46 Zodiac connection 47 Even sillier 48 Opera song 49 Brouhaha 52 Cut and spice 53 Clint Eastwood Oscar winner 56 Cryptic character 57 Tie 58 Nary a soul 59 Clairvoyant 60 Work for 61 Mom's sisters



DOWN 1 Small child 2 Currency of Italy 3 Thurman and others 4 Gun it in neutral 5 Direct route 6 Fatter than fat 7 Bog substance 8 Van Gogh's gift? 9 Plant pests 10 Tom Hanks Oscar winner 11 To have in Le Havre 12 Plains shelter 13 Bergen's Mortimer 18 d'oeuvres 23 Out of whack 24 Oscar winner for "The Piano" 25 "Prince of the City" director 26 File-drawer abbr. 27 Sailing 28 Night light 29 Carried, as by the wind 31 Blue ducks 32 Arm bone 33 Close 34 Younger Saarinen 36 Stick out 39 Storm, the star 40 Italian entree 42 French leather 43 Auditorium levels 44 Excessive 45 Augusta's state 46 Sovereign's headgear 48 At a distance 49 Shakespeare's river 50 Concavity 51 Fifths of a five 54 FDR's Blue Eagle 55 Gambler's marker



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