

# BIG SPRING HERALD

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

**TUESDAY**  
May 18, 1999



**Positively ...**  
**Big Spring**

## Prayer service set Wednesday at Elbow school

There will be a community prayer service around the flagpole at Elbow Elementary 7 a.m. Wednesday. The service is expected to last about 15 minutes, including prayer and song.

Organizers said participants will pray for students, staff and administrators of Forsan Schools as well as the entire community. Call Robert Rachuiq, 264-6333, for more information.

## WHAT'S UP...

### TODAY

□ Democratic Club of Howard County will meet on the second floor of the courthouse, 6 p.m. All interested persons are welcome to attend.

□ Big Spring Art Association, 7 p.m., library annex, 500 Main, community room.

□ Big Spring Chapter No. 67, Order of the Eastern Star, 7 p.m., Masonic Lodge, 219 Main.

### WEDNESDAY

□ Optimist Club, 7 a.m., Howard College Cactus Room

□ Big Spring Downtown Lions Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.

□ Line dancing, 1 p.m., Senior Citizens Center, Industrial Park.

□ Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie, 7 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 W. Third.

### THURSDAY

□ Gideons International Big Spring Camp No. 4206, 7 a.m., Hermans.

□ Big Spring Senior Citizens Center art classes, 9:30 a.m. for 55 and older.

□ Kiwanis Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.

□ Rackley-Swords Chapter 379 Vietnam Veterans of America, 7 p.m., 124 Jonesboro Road.

□ American Legion Post 506, 7 p.m.

□ Masonic Lodge No. 1340, 7:30 p.m., 2101 Lancaster.

## WEATHER

### Tonight:



**PARTLY CLOUDY**

**TONIGHT** 56°-59°  
**TUESDAY** 86°-89°

## INSIDE TODAY...

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## Vol. 96, No. 176

To reach us, please call 263-7331. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call 263-7335 before 7 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. on Sunday.

## Howard County residents have opportunities to donate blood

HERALD Staff Report

In hopes of "stocking the shelves" before the long Memorial Day weekend, United Blood Services plans four blood drives in the Crossroads area during the next two weeks.

"Holidays can be especially draining on the supply," said Ann Phillips, UBS Community Relations Representative. "Historically, more auto accidents happen on the highways during long weekends. We will be sending additional units of blood to all of the hospitals we supply before Memorial Day."

That's why the service is seeking

donors at a series of drives that begin Saturday and continue through Thursday, May 27. Donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh more than 110 pounds. They should bring a form of identification and know the names of any medications they are taking.

Saturday, Big Spring Mall's blood drive is scheduled from 1-4 p.m. Call 267-3853 to schedule an appointment to participate.

On Wednesday, May 26, Scenic Mountain Medical Center will host a drive from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Call 268-4960 to schedule an appointment.

The following day, Texaco in Vincent

will host UBS from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Would-be donors can call 399-4579 to schedule an appointment to give blood.

The same day, Fiberflex Inc. will have a drive going from 2:30-5 p.m. For an appointment, call 267-1661.

United Blood Services, a non-profit agency, supplies blood and blood products to many West Texas hospitals, including those in Big Spring.

Appointments are not required at these local blood drives, but they are recommended.

For more information about any of the drives, or blood donation in general, call 1-800-756-0024.

## BLOOD DRIVES

### Saturday, May 22

•Big Spring Mall 1-4 p.m.

### Wednesday, May 26

•Scenic Mountain Medical Center 9-12:30 p.m.

### Thursday, May 27

•Texaco Vincent 9:30-11:30 a.m.  
•Fiberflex Products 3:30-5 p.m.

## MDA lockup is Wednesday at Big Spring Mall

HERALD Staff Report

A whole lot of Big Spring residents will be going to jail Wednesday to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

According to the MDA office in Midland, 159 people have committed to participate in the Big Spring "lockup."

All funds raised will go to help patients in the Permian Basin with neuromuscular diseases.

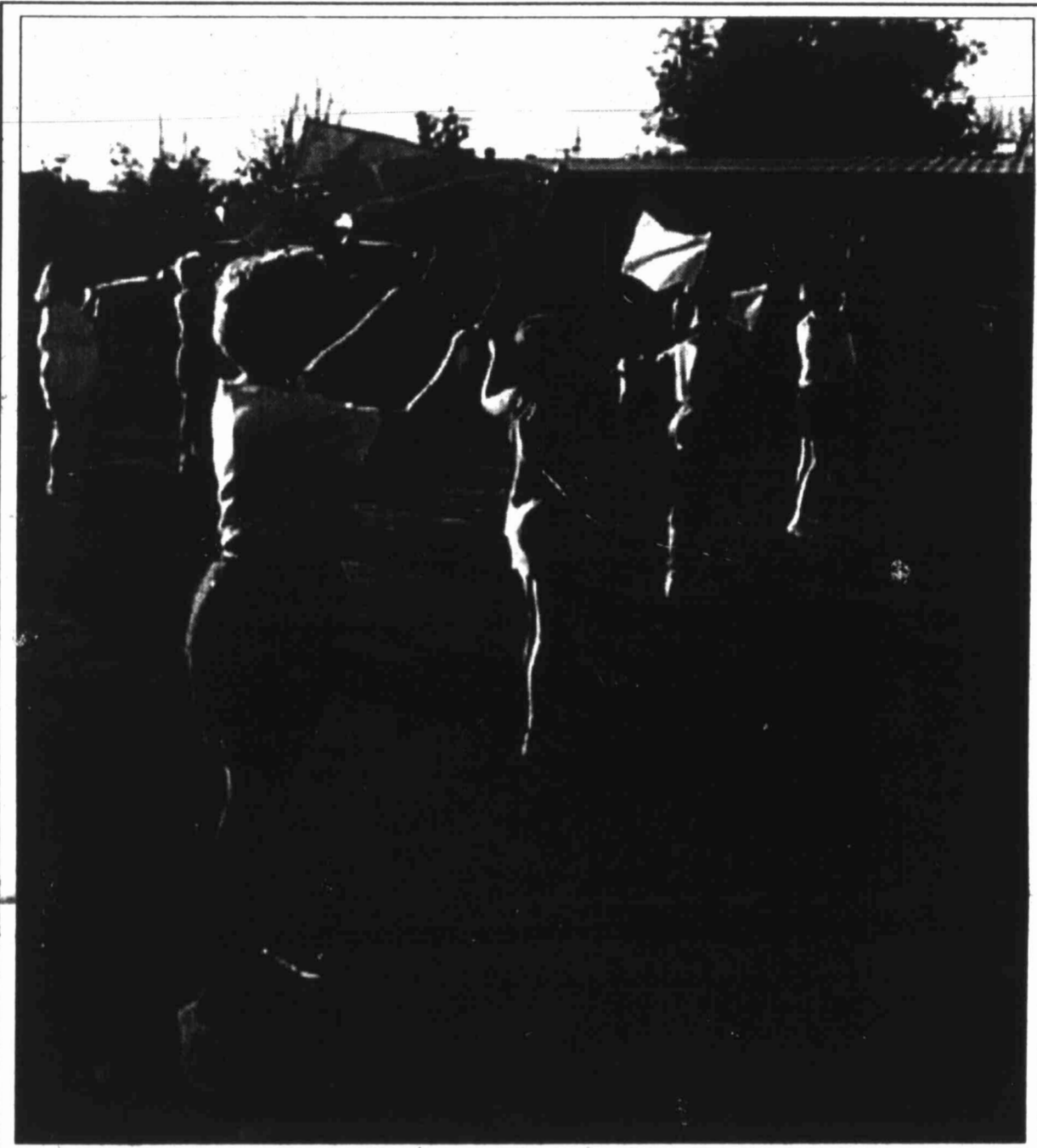
Those participating will be "locked up" at the Big Spring Mall until they make bail — their goal for the fund-raiser. The benefit begins at 10 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m.

"Stop by the Big Spring Mall on May 19 to see the jailbirds behind bars for good," said Trudy Espinosa, MDA district director. "The public is urged to contribute to their release or make a contribution to help keep their favorite jailbird in jail."

Muscular Dystrophy is a degenerative disease of the muscles for which there is no known cure.

Bail for most participants is \$750. Many volunteers have been working over the past several weeks to help raise the funds, and may not have to be locked up, Espinosa said.

Participants who have not raised their bail by the time of their arrests will be allowed to make phone calls from the jail to ask, plead, borrow or barter the amount of their bail.



About 20 women and children joined together to rehearse their flag routine for Saturday's March For Jesus. Pictured are Penny Binion, Elizabeth Stutz, Shana Sprowl and Kristina Woodruff. Along with the flag troupe, tambourine players, dancers, mime performers and a special children's group will also march.

## While oil values fall, real estate values expect to hold

By MARSHA STURDIVANT  
Staff Writer

Howard County real estate values are expected to remain relatively the same, according to the county appraiser.



TOOMIRE

"Our local values are just about the same, although I have seen a little

increase with new buildings," said Howard County tax appraiser Keith Toomire.

The good news, Toomire said, was that while mineral values have declined by about 50 percent, property values are not declining.

"We have a couple of houses that sold a couple of years ago, and when recently they were resold, the increase was negligible. Based on them, we're not seeing an increase," he said.

Overall, property values are comparable to last year, and

there has not been an increase or decrease in sales, he said.

"I'd say in sales we're stagnant, but overall we're looking pretty good," he said.

Mineral values have substantially declined, he said.

"They're down 50 percent, or right around that," Toomire said.

However, not all the data is in for determining market property value. Some multiple home owners in Howard County rent homes, he said.

"I haven't talked with all the

rental property owners, so I don't know how rental property is holding up," he said.

More data will also be available in September, when school appraisals are completed, he said.

And the appraisal review board is set in June, and following that, pinpoint accuracy for property values will be possible, he said.

The appraisal review board is set for June 7. Mineral and industrial value reviews are set for June 11, he said.

## Fire Academy class gains insight into emergency responses

By MARSHA STURDIVANT  
Staff Writer

Citizens Fire Academy students learned the importance of Emergency Medical Service during their fourth class.

"We are pre-hospital, emergency care. We stabilize the patient and get them to the hospital. That is our job and our number one priority," said Brian Jensen, director of Big Spring's EMS.

An EMS paramedic's job begins the moment a 911 call is received, Jensen said. One of the first points a worker needs to be aware of are the outside weather conditions, and which way the wind is blowing, he said.

"People are always asking me why a fire truck follows an ambulance, and I always answer, because we need the personnel," Jensen said.

For every 911 call received at the police department, first response is an ambulance and a fire truck. Many of the Big Spring firemen are paramedics,

and because of the position of the fire stations and ambulance, often those men will reach the scene first.

Also, lifting patients may require more than two people to place the patient on a gurney and then into an ambulance, he said.

"We have a good functioning system, and we have good response," Jensen said.

Each paramedic is trained in field diagnosis, determining the mechanics of an injury, and what emergency measures may be needed to stabilize a patient for transport.

"You might think of us as detectives, because our first job is to gather evidence to make an accurate field diagnosis of the person," Jensen said.

A person in a car wreck who is cold and clammy, with thready pulse and rapid breathing, along side a bent steering wheel, might be an indication of internal bleeding, he said.

And a broken windshield, combined with a unconscious



Citizens Fire Academy member Robert Regan, left, learns how to intubate a life-size mannequin during a recent class, with the assistance of EMS director Brian Jensen.

## Suit

### Martin County commissioners in flap over hospital board appointments

By MARSHA STURDIVANT  
Staff Writer

The Texas Open Meetings Act will be the focus of a lawsuit filed by representatives of the Martin County Hospital against Martin County's judge and commissioners.

"We're trying to do what is best for our hospital," said Robert "Walt" Haislip, co-administrator for the hospital and a plaintiff in the suit.

Haislip, along with plaintiffs Alison Barnhill, fellow co-administrator of the hospital, and Dr. Pablo C. Teveni, claim Martin County Commissioners Court violated the Open Meetings Act by listing agenda items in an unspecified manner.

Specifically, an item on the April 26 agenda read "Consider Hospital Board appointments," and three new board members were appointed through action.

"This appointment was done without discussion or opposition," the petition filed in 118th District Court says.

The petition goes on to declare that the appointments were made "without specifically stating that new board members would be appointed that day, thus denying full appraisal and notice to the Plaintiffs and to the general public."

Haislip said "there is no doubt" that former administrator Rick Jacobus resigned his position with the hospital due to disagreements with commissioners court. Haislip and Barnhill became co-administrators April 2, following Jacobus' April 1 departure.

Defendants listed in the suit are county judge Charles "Corky" Blocker, and commissioners Doyle Hale, Homer Henson, Eldon Welch and Wade Turner.

"I have no comment to make.

See SUIT, Page 2

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# Republicans plan domestic spending bills with billions in cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans are planning bills that would cut spending for the environment, education and other traditional Democratic priorities by billions of dollars next year, setting up months of conflict with President Clinton and among lawmakers.

The House Appropriations Committee, living within spending limits imposed by the 1997 balanced-budget pact, meets Wednesday to divide \$538 billion among 13 bills covering all government agencies. That figure is nearly a third of the entire federal budget, including

everything but automatic payments like Medicare benefits and interest to bond holders.

The committee's plans, obtained by The Associated Press, map bills with domestic cuts so deep that even many Republicans wonder how they will ever be approved by the GOP-controlled Congress, let alone get signed by Clinton without a headline-grabbing veto fight.

"The early reports about the Republican plan suggest their 2000 budget is simply not tenable," said Sylvia Mathews, the White House deputy budget

director. "The level of cuts it would require would do enormous harm to critical areas that Americans care deeply about."

"It's not going to be easy," said House Appropriations Committee Chairman Bill Young, R-Fla.

"We think of this as a placeholder, and hopefully we'll get more money later," said Rep. John Edward Porter, R-Ill., whose Appropriations subcommittee oversees labor, education and health programs that would be among those getting the deepest cuts.

Under GOP plans, Porter's bill

would get \$78.1 billion, \$10.7 billion less than this year. That measure is home to schools, job training and other programs that produce annual battles between Democrats and Republicans, and the proposed cut assures a nasty partisan fight.

Of the other three, always controversial domestic spending bills, the committee would spend \$30.5 billion for the Commerce, Justice and State departments, \$2.8 billion less than this year; \$11.3 billion for the Interior Department, or \$2.7 billion less; and \$66.2 billion for

the Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development departments, the Environmental Protection Agency and other agencies, \$5.8 billion below this year's level.

These committee figures do not include additional billions in so-called emergency spending enacted this year — money that does not count against spending limits. Even with that extra money, however, the fiscal 2000 bills come up short compared with this year, and even shorter compared with the amounts Clinton would like to spend.

Most of the other, smaller domestic spending bills have just minor differences between GOP plans for 2000 and actual totals from the current year. Several of them could become law with relatively little controversy.

But in one indicator of the pressure on Republicans to exceed spending limits, a bill approved Friday by the Appropriations panel's Treasury-Postal Service subcommittee totaled \$13.7 billion — more than \$140 million above the amount leaders plan for that subcommittee to spend.

## Texas House endorses religious freedom bill

AUSTIN (AP) — State and local governments would need a compelling interest — such as protection of public health or safety — before they could limit the practice of religion under a bill given preliminary House approval Monday.

The legislation says that the state would have to prove a compelling interest to enforce laws that would, for example, bar a Jewish man from wearing a yarmulke in a courtroom. It has already passed the Senate and needs final approval in the House.

The Texas Religious Freedom Restoration Act has been a priority of Republican Gov. George W. Bush.

"He feels it's important legislation because it restores the bedrock principal of religious freedom in Texas," said spokeswoman Linda Edwards.

In 1997, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the 1993 federal Religious Freedom Restoration Act, which had been invoked by a Catholic church in Boerne that wanted to triple the size of its sanctuary.

City leaders didn't want the church's stone walls torn down and refused to issue a permit, noting the sanctuary was in a local historic district. The church wanted to expand to accommodate a growing congregation.

The Supreme Court ruling left room for states to draft their own legislation to require local governments to have a compelling reason before limiting expressions of religion, said bill sponsor Rep. Scott Hochberg, D-Houston.

"The real basic question is, is the constitution enough? ... It was until 10 years ago," he said.

Examples of cases that could be affected by such a law include children who are not allowed to make up work when they miss school for religious holidays and a case in Oregon where state officials were taping confessions of Catholic prison inmates to priests, according to bill supporters.

The bill has been supported by some religious organizations that said current law allows the government to dramatically infringe upon religious liberty as long as it does so unintentionally.

"Our religious freedoms are given to us by God. We should not have to ask the government for permission to exercise them," said Kelly Shackelford, chief counsel of the Liberty Legal Institute.

With the bill, "the government will again be required to justify its infringements on religious freedom," Shackelford said.

## Poll finds less support for Kosovo conflict now

WASHINGTON (AP) — A majority of Americans say they support the efforts by the United States and its European allies in the Kosovo conflict, but a poll indicates they're growing weary of the lengthy bombing campaign.

More than half favor negotiations to settle the conflict, says an ABC-Washington Post poll released Monday.

A majority, 59 percent, supports the air war, and just over half, 52 percent, would support ground troops as a way to end the conflict, according to the poll.

But support for the air war has slipped 9 percentage points since early April and support for ground troops to end the conflict dropped 5 percentage points in that time.

A majority, 56 percent, opposes sending in ground troops if there is a good chance that some U.S. soldiers would be killed in the fighting.

"This is not a sea change in public opinion," ABC News poll director Gary Langer commented. "Most people still support the allied effort, but we do see signs of fatigue with the conflict."

Approval of President Clinton's handling of the

Kosovo conflict, 60 percent in early April, is at 53 percent in the latest poll.

Two-thirds said civilian casualties in the NATO airstrikes against Serbia are unavoidable accidents of war. But three weeks ago, more than three-fourths agreed with that statement.

Last week, Clinton explained in detail to military personnel why he thinks the Kosovo policy is justified, and the White House has hired a veteran campaign adviser to help publicize the NATO campaign and the plight of refugees during the coming month.

Ivo Daalder, an expert on the Balkans at the Brookings Institution, said the slippage is an indication that other news, from the tornadoes in the Midwest to the school shootings in Colorado, are capturing the public's attention.

"It's not surprising that you have not just fatigue, but a shifting of attention, from human interest stories in the Balkans to human interest stories at home," he said.

"I don't think there is any reason yet for the president to worry that his current policy won't have substantial support," said Daalder.

## New \$15 fee hits travelers to Mexico in July

PHOENIX (AP) — Travelers to Mexico will need to open their wallets a little wider starting midsummer.

The Mexican government will begin implementing a \$15 per-person fee for travelers heading into Mexico's interior starting July 1. It will not directly affect border towns.

Still, critics say the fee could discourage travel to northern Mexico and to towns that are not traditional tourist meccas.

"This is another obstacle to commerce and tourism that is really not producing any additional service to the cus-

tomers," said Sam Vale, chairman of the Border Trade Alliance, a nonprofit organization that promotes international trade and commerce.

While a tourist taking a once-in-a-lifetime vacation to a resort town like Cancun or Puerto Vallarta is unlikely to be bothered by the new fee, Vale said, it could hit hard travelers driving from the U.S. border into northern Mexican towns.

"It seems like a small amount, but it adds up. It's a lot of money being taken out of the economy," he said Monday.

The fee will not affect people

going no farther than the border, because it will not be charged until car and bus travelers reach interior checkpoints, usually about 15 miles inside the border. The fee will be included in ticket prices for air travelers.

In announcing the fee in February, Mexico Tourism Minister Oscar Espinosa Villarreal said it would be used to increase Mexico's budget to promote and advertise tourism. Some of the money will go to fund consulate and tourism

offices and to modernize Mexico's immigration services and other services assisting tourists.

However, Vale said the fee probably will be used to supplant lost oil revenues, on which the Mexican government is heavily dependent. He said it also could be the Mexican government's way of answering a new \$45 fee the United States plans to charge Mexicans who travel along the border.

"It appears to be more of a tit-for-tat," Vale said.

## States can't pay less welfare to new residents, Supreme Court determines

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — A U.S. Supreme Court ruling that thwarts state plans to provide lower welfare payments to new residents is a welcome message to the needy, advocates for the poor say.

"California and other states now can take down their 'Poor People Keep Out' signs," said Mark Rosenbaum of the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California.

The court's 7-2 decision Monday dashed the plans of California and 14 other states, and was a defeat for Congress and the Clinton administration.

Ruling in a case involving three newly arrived California residents, the court said the state's desire to limit their welfare payments would violate their constitutional right to travel. Although the word "travel" is not in the Constitution, the freedom to move from one state to another has long been considered a bedrock right.

"The state's legitimate interest in saving money provides no justification for its decision to discriminate among equally eligible citizens," Justice John Paul Stevens wrote for the court.

"Citizens of the United States, whether rich or poor, have the right to choose to be citizens of the state wherein they reside," he said.

California's policy, enacted in 1992 but never enforced because of lower court rulings, would have given people who lived in the state for less than a year only the amount of welfare they would have received in their previous home state.

For example, a mother and

one child are eligible for \$456 a month in California but only \$275 in neighboring Arizona. The policy would have limited the California monthly benefits to \$275 for such a family's first year in the state.

The ruling was unlikely to have a major effect on state budgets, state officials said.

In California, the law was aimed at trimming roughly \$11 million from the state's \$2.9 billion annual welfare budget. Gov. Gray Davis, who supported the law, nonetheless had budgeted the money for this year in case the high court ruled the way it did.

"I'm not wild about the ruling, but I don't think it's going to create a problem," Davis said.

In New York, Jack Madden, a spokesman for the state Office of Temporary Disability Assistance, said a similar law has been on the books for several years but was never implemented because of questions about its legality.

The ruling is unlikely to mean an increase for many Georgia recipients because the state's benefits are among the nation's lowest, said Joyce Goldberg of the Georgia Department of Human Resources. Georgia provides up to \$280 per month for a family of three.

In the California case, three women had moved to the state to escape abusive family situations in Louisiana, Oklahoma and Colorado.

The lawsuit said the limits on their benefits, coupled with California's high cost of living, could deprive them of the basic necessities of life.

THE ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF TRAIL  
ACADEMY OF GOLF

# Graduate with Honors

The new Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail Academy of Golf is a CompuSport Teaching Center, offering golf instruction that is unique to Alabama and found few other places in the world.

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EDITORIAL

*"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."*

-FIRST AMENDMENT

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

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OUR VIEWS

Take advantage of summer events planned at the Y

The YMCA is making itself more accessible to the community through new programs and better facilities. The wealth of programs ensure they will reach many people who have not had the opportunity to participate in YMCA programs before.

Two new programs are baseball for kids age five through 12 and a mini-gymnastics camp.

For those needing swimming lessons, the YMCA offers even the smallest children an opportunity with its parent/tot classes. There are classes, of course, for older children as well, extending to intermediate and advanced levels.

The YMCA pool is open to the general public from 2 until 5 p.m. and 7 until 9 at night. That ensures that almost anyone who wants to take advantage can do so.

Later this month, on May 24 in fact, YMCA Day Camp will begin.

This unique program keeps kids busy all day long with swimming, field trips and other activities. Parents can drop their children off at 7 a.m. and pick them up at 6 p.m. Lunch is provided. That's a comfort for families who have two working parents.

The new fitness center is featured in the summer programs with a wealth of aerobic fitness classes, as well as other activities.

Don't forget, either, that the child care center has been enlarged. Parents who want to participate in the activities don't have to be concerned about contacting a baby sitter. The child care center will take care of that while mom and dad enjoy some recreation.

We applaud the efforts of Pete Thiry, executive director, and all of the YMCA workers who have put together a solid program.

Now, it is up to us to respond and take advantage of it. Take time to check out the 'Y' this summer.

OTHER VIEWS

If you're keeping score, independent counsel Ken Starr is 0 for 2 in recent criminal prosecutions.

The latest: a deadlocked jury in the trial of Julie Hutt Steele on four charges of obstruction of justice and making false statements to federal investigators. Last month the prosecution of Whitewater figure Susan McDougal on obstruction charges foundered when a federal jury in Little Rock deadlocked on two counts and acquitted on a third.

It's possible to get the idea that Starr, who was appointed to look into Whitewater and later Clinton's sex life, decided to focus his prosecutorial firepower only on those minor figures who refused for whatever reason to testify as he wanted them to.

Was this the intent of the special-prosecutor statute? While certainly not candidates for citizen of the year, these women hardly deserved the full force of teams of prosecutors from Office of the Independent Counsel.

Just when it appears Starr should be about to close the books, he hauls another bit-part player before a federal jury. His prosecutors left the Steele trial last week muttering they were weighing the possibility of a retrial.

When will it end?  
THE DES MOINES (IOWA) REGISTER

The cost of negligence can

run to the millions — in the case of television's "The Jenny Jones Show," \$25 million to be exact. That's what a Michigan jury awarded the family of Scott Amedure, a gay man who was later killed by Jonatahn Schmitz, another guest on the show.

Schmitz, who reportedly suffers from manic depression, hadn't been told by anyone on the show about Amedure's attraction for him. Amedure's sexual fantasy was replayed for Schmitz, who is heterosexual, and who reacted by burying his face in his hands.

The failure to tell guests in advance of issues that will be publicly discussed goes to the heart of tawdry, confrontational shows like "Jenny Jones," where a guest's surprise is supposed to lead to anger, and these are the emotional staples counted on to drive ratings upward.

The show and others like it, are television at its lowest.

Viewers who tune in feel good, because guests are made to feel so bad. But this sort of "ambush" approach by television producers also goes to the heart of the rule of negligence where risky and, in the case of Schmitz, destabilizing actions have consequences that are, or should have been predictable. That's what the verdict means.

THE NEWS TRIBUNE, TACOMA, WASH.

Providing some very special music lessons

Sixth-grade disc jockey Richard Ward bends his dark head over the microphone and uses his smoothest, most important voice:

"Today is May 5, Mexican Independence Day, called Cinco de Mayo, and here is some Mexican music for your enjoyment. Hi-ho, Mexico!"



RHETA GRIMSLEY JOHNSON

Done. Richard looks up, visibly proud.

At Chestnut Log Middle School, social studies and language arts teacher Judy Young is overseeing a weekly recording session for the Music in the Morning program. While Richard records, Mark Bailey has his fingers poised over a keyboard to play a little Bach when his turn comes around. Jimmy Peden is out of breath from running; he didn't want to miss anything. Steven Rowe is begging to provide the commentary for music on the last day of school.

"Everyone's in a good mood that day."

Each morning before Chestnut Log classes start, soothing music floats over the school's intercom system, and one of Judy's 12 student DJs explains the selection. (Some schools "broadcast" live; others, like this one, prerecord.) Often, but not always, the music is classical. Sometimes it may be Big Band, jazz, country or pop.

Music in the Morning is an offshoot of FAME, which stands for Friends of Arts and Music Education. Concerned parents and teachers in Douglas County, Ga., started FAME five years ago when the school district failed to fund an art education program. FAME believes the survival of a fine arts education is not only important but essential, and that volunteers can take up the slack when tax money disappears.

Music in the Morning is just one example of what the group has accomplished. For the calming morning music, FAME sought help from record companies and other businesses, securing CD players and classical music collections for the district's 21 schools and 15,000 students.

"We started out with about a dozen interested folks, and FAME has proven that it really

doesn't take a lot of people to be effective in your community," FAME founder Lynn Bailey says. A Douglasville parent, Lynn says art education helps test scores and cultural understanding — and reduces dropout rates.

And, it turns out, young people love classical music, especially when it's introduced by their peers. At Chestnut Log they may have trouble pronouncing "Tchaikovsky," but they know his birthday is May 7. They may not know Rossini from zucchini, but they absolutely love the canons of "William Tell." During Black History Month, they learned to recognize the work of ragtime composer Scott Joplin.

"I wouldn't know how to teach without music," Judy Young says. A Texas native and veteran teacher, Judy herself has sung second alto in the Atlanta Symphony's chorus for 30 years. She sang at director Robert Shaw's first performance and at his last. Her Maureen O'Hara looks and enthusiasm keep the kids enthralled. They quote poetry aloud for her, laugh at her jokes — and there's a waiting list to be a morning disc jockey.

Judy, in turn, keeps blank cassettes in her desk for chil-

dren who want copies of the songs they've heard. She gets requests. She smuggles her husband's classical tapes from home to expand the class library.

A FAME manual makes daily music suggestions. One day's sample: "Toccata and Fugue in D Minor"; "Phantom of the Opera"; "Woolly Bully." The manual also helps with commentary. Students routinely check to see what happened on a given day in history.

"Got any baseball music?" Richard Ward asks. There's a Babe Ruth footnote on his assigned DJ day.

Sixth-grader Shirlee Cotton was nervous the first time she took a turn, but not any more. Kira Bishop says her friends never recognize her sophisticated intercom voice. Eighth-grader Paul Bailey has taken piano lessons for years, but his cohorts Karen Sowell, Jessica Menard, Carla Adams, Kristina Wallace and Patrick Boring have had no musical training. But, like the rest of the school, they've all learned to listen.

The popular (and often politically expedient) perception that fine arts in public schools are mere frills is just wrong.

Music may not hold all the answers, but it sure makes looking for them easier.



THIS BUTTON IS TO FIRE ANOTHER PRIME MINISTER, THIS ONE IS TO CALL THE NURSE, AND THIS ONE IS TO LAUNCH A NUCLEAR STRIKE... OR IS IT THE OTHER WAY AROUND...

Lone Ranger joke points out problems

Remember what Tonto said. I'm referring to the old joke about the day



CHARLEY REESE

the Lone Ranger and Tonto crested a hill and discovered about 5,000 hostile Indians charging toward them. "We're in real trouble, Tonto," the Lone Ranger said. "What do you mean, white man?" Tonto replied.

Lot of wisdom packed into that hokey joke. The Lone Ranger's use of the word "we" was based on the assumptions that the approaching Indians would view Tonto the same as it did him, and that Tonto would fight on his side. Trust me, "we" is a word fraught with danger.

Its prevalent use by Americans is a clear sign of faulty thinking.

Our world is a particular planet in a particular place in the universe. On its surface are particular people and particular places. It is not one foggy gob of collectivist goo. When two particular people shoot other particular people at a particular place at a particular time, "we" do not have a problem. Most of us, in fact, do

not even have any direct knowledge of the people — only secondhand information transmitted by gadgets.

What is happening — and it's important for mental health to understand the process — is that particular events are being transformed into abstractions and then broadcast far and wide. People can now be made aware in real time of a local event in a far-away place. This process, however, is used in a selective manner and generally only when some tragic, violent or unusual event has occurred. The cumulative effect, however, is to give folks a bad case of angst. Moreover, make no mistake, the power to select which events get publicized is the power to propagandize. Crime rates continue to go down in the United States, but you'd never know it from watching television.

More to the point, the habit of transforming a local event into a national problem simply further empowers the central government. Tom Fleming, the editor of Chronicles magazine, has said it so well: Each and every time the government is asked to solve a problem, it expands its power over the people.

That's why Americans should break the habit of saying, after every tragedy (man-made or nature-produced), "We must do something to see that this never happens again." No, we mustn't, because an entirely safe society is impossible. Human progress is largely an

illusion, except in the area of technology — and that's not all good. A cave man with a club was a whole lot less dangerous than a modern man with a hydrogen bomb. The enlightened political leaders of the 20th century have made the mass murderers of the past look like angelic kindergartners.

To be grounded in reality — the definition of sanity — is to realize that a human being's influence is pretty much limited to the sound of his voice and the reach of his hands. You can help a child you can see and touch, but you can't do anything for the abstraction "children." Children don't exist as a collective abstraction. They exist as particular individuals in particular places at particular times.

Each moment a person focuses his or her mind on an abstraction, on memories, on imagined things, that person has cut loose from reality. A frequent cause of automobile collisions is the habit of a body driving the car while the mind is somewhere else.

I believe the sum total of positive accomplishments increases when more people are reality-bound and decreases when more people spend their waking hours wandering in the wilderness of abstractions. Let us do the work before us and trust that others in other places will do theirs.

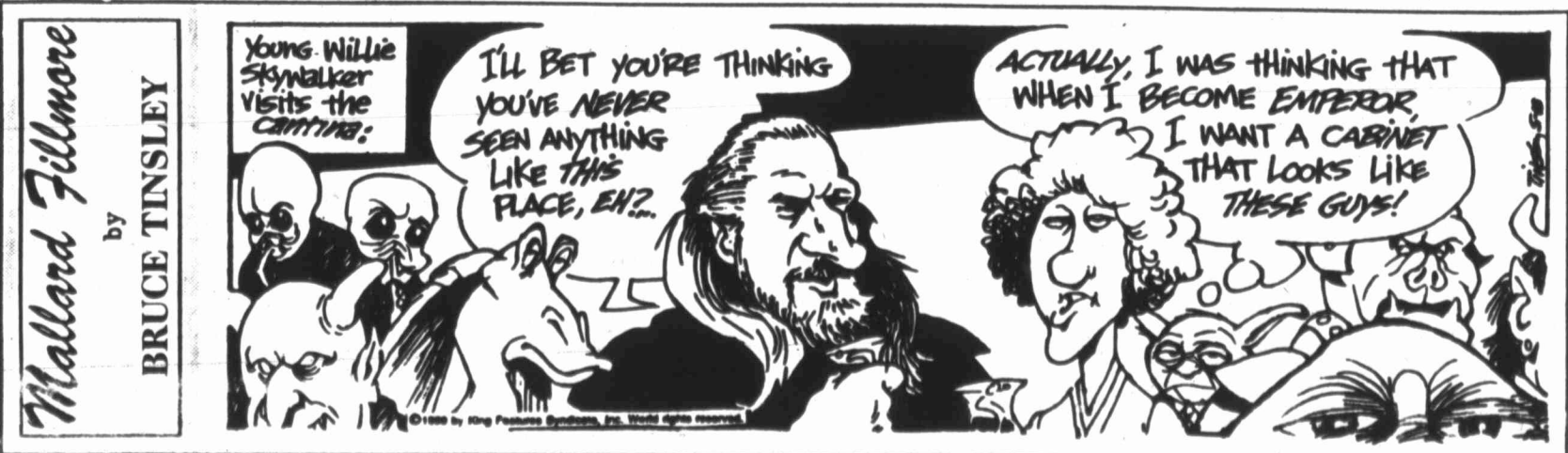
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  - **BILL CROOKER** — Home: 263-2566.
  - **GARY SIMMER** — Home: 263-0269;  
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4441.

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- **TIM BLACKSHEAR**, mayor — Home:  
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Rentals): 263-4095.
  - **GREG BIDDISON** — Home: 267-  
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267-7121.
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Work (Howard College) 264-5000.
  - **JOANN SMOOT** — Home: 267-6965;  
Work (BSISD) 264-3600.



Mallard Fillmore  
by  
BRUCE TINSLEY

**IN I**

**Back Talk**  
**Wild Things**  
Back Talk over Wild T Division I (10 pitch softball) night.  
Lauren Sag batters in at Back Talk Rodriguez has

**HC Hawks**  
**Little League**  
Coach Brian Howard College ball team with League skills p.m. Sunday Field.  
Players shog glove, bat, cap with them.  
There is a fee and partici to arrive no la registration.  
The camp is sters of all age

**Camp of Ch**  
**camp starts**  
The West T Champs weigh begin June 2 Training Cent High School.  
The camp is pants in grade For more in Coach Ricky L or 263-0519.

**KBST 1490**  
**Bulldogs, Bu**  
KBST 1490-A cast both t Bulldogettes at Tournament a Coahoma Bulld game Friday ni Air time for Como-Pickton 12:45 p.m. Frid Bulldogs-New I be on the air at

**All UIL softba**  
**Pleasant Valle**  
All games in Softball Tourna played at the P Sportsplex. The changed after t of Texas receive a regional tourn Coahoma's Bu face the unbeate Como-Pickton 1 p.m. Friday in 2A state softball In the second p.m. Friday, N (36-2) will face S The Class 2A game will be Saturday.

**Bulldogs m**  
**Friday at 7 in**  
A lost coin Coahoma Bulld of playing site a week's Class regional quarter The Bulldogs over Wild, will at 7 p.m. Frid Moffatt Field.

**Big Spring U**  
**holiday ragba**  
A co-ed M Ragball Tourna held May 28-3 Anderson Comp For more inf Jo Ellen Canale 267-1884, or Dea 268-9756.

**ON THE**

**Television**  
**MAJOR LEAGUE**  
6:35 p.m. — Ph at Atlanta Braves.  
7:30 p.m. — Te Rays at Texas Ra Southwest.

**NBA PLAYOFFS**  
7 p.m. — New Atlanta Hawks, TN  
9:30 p.m. — Po Blazers at Utah Ja

**NHL PLAYOFFS**  
6:30 p.m. — Co Avalanche at Detr ESPN.  
6:30 p.m. — B Buffalo Sabres, E







TUESDAY

MAY 18

Table with 33 columns representing different TV channels (KMGD, KPEJ, KERA, etc.) and rows listing various programs and their broadcast times.

HAGAR



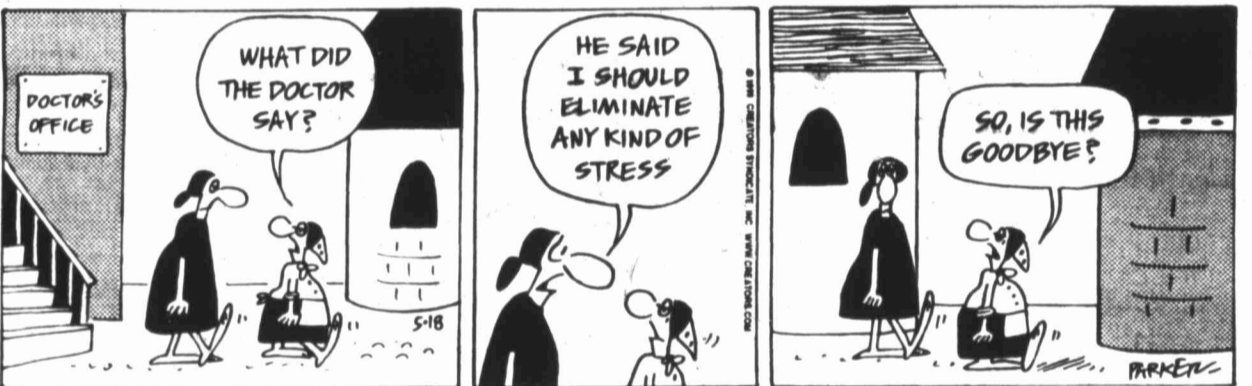
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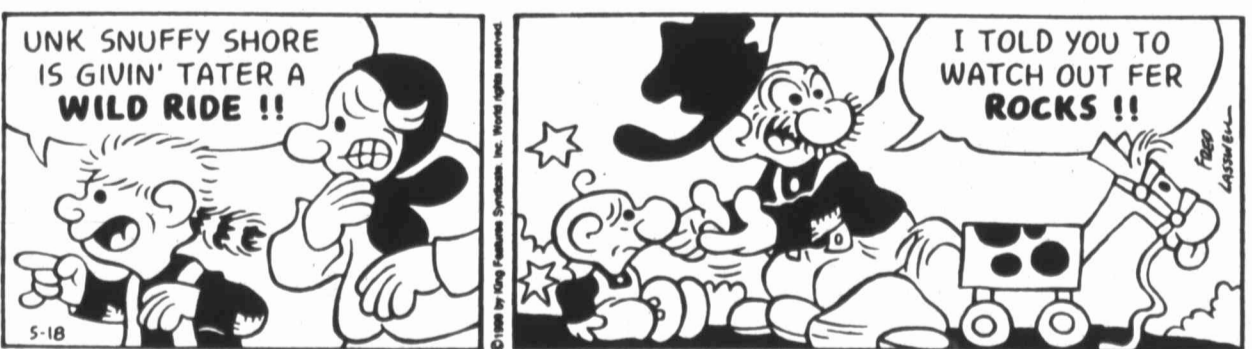
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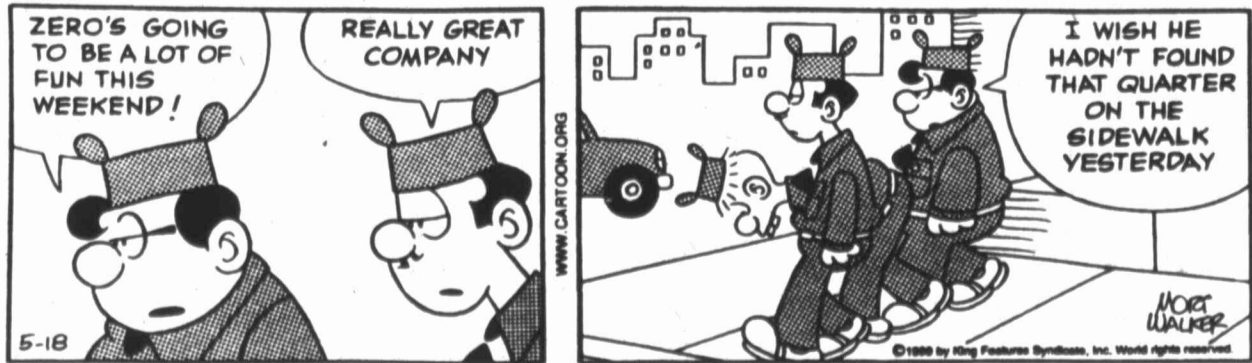
GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILY



BLONDIE



FAMILY CIRCUS



"Mommy and I are outnumbered here, Grandma, so it's nice to have another girl in the house."

DENNIS THE MENACE



"Dennis Mitchell, I'm not leaving till we have closure!"

THIS DATE IN HISTORY

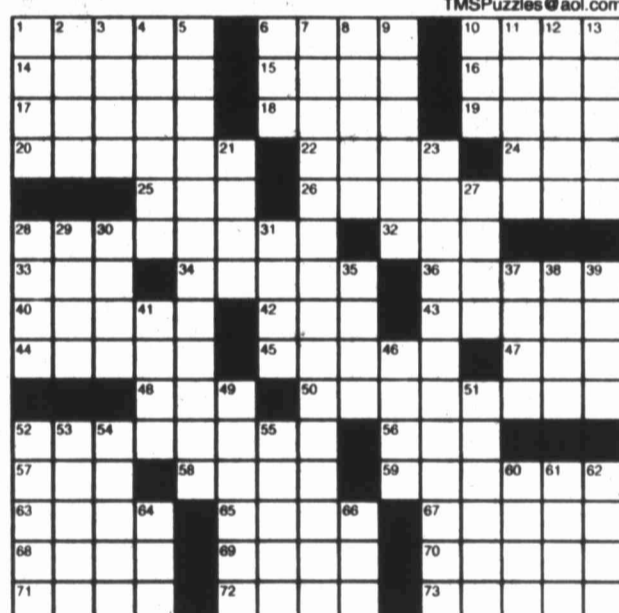
The ASSOCIATED PRESS Today is Tuesday, May 18, the 138th day of 1999. There are 227 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On May 18, 1896, the Supreme Court endorsed the concept of "separate but equal" racial segregation with its "Plessy v. Ferguson" decision, a ruling that was overturned 58 years later in the case of "Brown v. Board of Education."

On this date: In 1642, the Canadian city of Montreal was founded. In 1804, the French Senate proclaimed Napoleon Bonaparte emperor. In 1897, a public reading of Bram Stoker's new novel, "Dracula, or, The Un-dead," was staged in London. In 1899, the First Hague Peace Conference opened in the Netherlands. In 1926, evangelist Aimee Semple McPherson vanished while visiting a beach in Venice, Calif.; she reappeared a month later, claiming to have been kidnapped. In 1933, the Tennessee Valley Authority was created. In 1951, the United Nations moved out of its temporary headquarters in Lake Success, N.Y., for its permanent home in Manhattan. In 1953, Jacqueline Cochran became the first woman to break the sound barrier as she piloted a North American F-86 Canadair over Rogers Dry Lake, Calif. In 1969, astronauts Eugene A. Cernan, Thomas P. Stafford and John W. Young blasted off aboard Apollo X. In 1980, the Mount St. Helens volcano in Washington state exploded, leaving 57 people dead or missing. Ten years ago: Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev concluded his historic visit to China, which officially marked the end of a 30-year Sino-Soviet rift. Five years ago: Israel's three decades of occupation in the Gaza Strip ended as Israeli troops completed their withdrawal and Palestinian authorities took over. One year ago: The government filed an antitrust case against Microsoft Corp. The Supreme Court, in a sweeping endorsement of broadcasters' free-speech rights and journalistic discretion, ruled that even public stations owned and run by states need not invite marginal candidates to political debates they sponsor.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS 1 Incandescent 6 Author Kingsley 10 Marine leader? 14 Maliciously sarcastic 15 Entree 16 Rein in 17 Bearlike mammal 18 Baltic feeder 19 Fast-food option 20 Candies 22 Thrash with a stick 24 Tycoon Turner 25 Na Na 26 Beirut populace 28 False front 32 Part of B.S. 33 Ventilate 34 Bad-debt collections, for short 36 Specific talent 40 Underlings 42 Rear of a ship 43 Caribbean peak 44 Spud 45 Use a poker 47 Tarzan Ron 48 Heavyhearted 50 Telephone parts 52 Reference citation 56 Swallow 57 Sitter's creation 58 de France 59 Pass by 63 Martial 65 Ice on the move 67 Wrathful 68 Bow-stern connection 69 Verve 70 Himalayan kingdom 71 Water whirl 72 Cincinnati nine 73 Clutches



By Alan P. Otschwang Huntington Beach, CA

Monday's Puzzle Solved



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- DOWN 1 Egyptian cobras 2 Sink one's teeth into 3 Classic game show, "What's My ?" 4 Most peculiar interface between air masses 6 Without any further 7 Politically moderate 8 Grenoble's river 9 Bushes 10 Play part 11 Excerpt 12 Impels 13 Dwelling 21 Rational 23 Reversing a stand 27 September's number 28 Gone by 29 Tushingham or Moreno 30 Part of Q.E.D. 31 Hot tubs 35 Greek portico 37 Toward shelter 38 Welshman, e.g. 39 Florida islands 41 Intuted 46 Leg joint 49 Bass 51 Loudspeaker 51 Rubbernecker 52 Snow unit 53 Equipped with paddles 54 Chose 55 Veil material 60 Daddy 61 Wild guess 62 Cave-dwelling fish 64 Stallone, to friends 66 Nav. rank

Advertisement for Big Spring Herald, including contact information, office hours, and a list of staff members.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Perry Como is 87. Pope John Paul II is 79. Actor Bill Macy is 77. Sportscaster Jack Whitaker is 75. Actor Pernell Roberts is 69. Actor Robert Morse is 68. Actor and television executive Dwayne Hickman is 65. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Brooks Robinson is 62. Bluegrass singer-musician Rodney Dillard (The Dillard's) is 57. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Reggie Jackson is 53. Country singer Joe Bonsall (The Oak Ridge Boys) is 51. Actress Candice Azzara ("Caroline in the City") is 50.