

# BIG SPRING HERALD

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TUESDAY  
June 8, 1999

## Positively ... Big Spring CVB board sets meeting for Wednesday

The Convention and Visitors Bureau of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce will meet at 4 p.m. Wednesday in the chamber board room, Third and Gregg.

Among the items to be discussed will be the tourist radio station, Big Spring billboards, payment of hotel/motel occupancy tax and upcoming events and activities.

The CVB is an appointed committee of the chamber, which contracts with the city for the promotion of tourism. All CVB activities are funded by the city's hotel/motel occupancy tax.

### WHAT'S UP...

- 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.
  - Eagles Lodge Ladies Auxiliary, 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.
  - Christmas in April, noon, Lion's Club Den, 1607 E. Third.
  - Friends of the Library, noon, Howard County Library.
  - American Legion Auxiliary, 7 p.m.
  - Masonic Lodge No. 598, 7:30 p.m., 219 Main.
  - Big Spring Newcomers Club contact Pal Mireles at 267-8741 for time and location.

- FRIDAY**
- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Bring a lunch.

### WEATHER

Tonight:



PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT 66°-68° WEDNESDAY 90°-95°

### INSIDE TODAY...

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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 unemployment rate drops for fourth straight month

By JOHN H. WALKER  
Managing Editor

Howard County's work force continues to grow and the unemployment rate drop according to the latest data released by the Texas Workforce Commission.



BELEW

At 5.6 percent, Howard County has the lowest unemployment rate for the second month in a row for Permian Basin counties with at least 1,000 persons working. "This is really exciting," said Virginia Belew, area manager of the Texas Workforce Center. "What it means is that our market is growing. "The diversification we've had over the years has helped us keep from being hurt badly when there is a problem in oil or agriculture." The number of persons employed in local businesses

increased by 136 from March to April while the numbers of unemployed persons dropped by 20. Belew said that meant the local labor force continues to grow. Last month there were 14,617 persons in the work force compared to 14,733 this month — and those numbers are up almost 600 persons from the same period a year ago. The April figures represented the fourth month in a row that the unemployment numbers had dropped — from 6.5 percent in January to 6.1 percent in

February and 5.7 percent in March. She said she felt it was still too early for students or teachers entering the work force for the summer to have an impact on the data. Belew said we still won't see the effect of a number of new jobs until next month's report comes out and shows new hires at both Signal Homes and Cornell Corrections as well as the positions added with the opening of the Big Spring District office of the Texas Boll, Weevil Eradication Foundation

### JOBLESS RATE

Month	%
April	5.6
March	5.7
February	6.1
January	6.5

(TBWEF).  
Cornell's expansion project is  
See **JOBS**, Page 2

## Fire academy class learning the ropes, literally

By MARSHA STURDIVANT  
Staff Writer

Citizen's Fire Academy students rappelled off a three-story building after tying square knots in their own repelling harnesses in the seventh class of the program.

"People always ask me, first, why teach high-angle rescue. I tell them we need to know this, because we might have a call for it some day," said Lt. Robert Muller, who taught the rappelling class at Fire Station No. 1.

Students learned the difference between a granny knot and a square knot, as well as how to tie a Bowline knot during the three-hour class.

And Muller also taught the five students how important rope is to a firefighter involved in high-angle rescue operations.

"We use a static Kermantel rope, which is the finest on the market. I've never seen a rope break. This is our lifeline, the only thing that keeps us from hitting the ground," Muller said.

A rope will stretch two feet for every 100 feet of expanse, he said. And to tie a knot in a rope reduces the strength of that rope by 50 percent, he said.

"Kermantel is a German word that means jacket with an inner core. The inner core keeps the rope from bouncing up and down," he said.

A rope like the one-half inch, static Kermantel has a working strength of about 10,000 pounds, which reduces to 750 pounds tensile strength once the rope is tied to allow a firefighter to rappel, he said.

One end of a rope is called the standing end, while the other is named the running end when making knots in rope.



Citizen's Fire Academy student Lucy Clinton learns some of the finer techniques of rope manipulation from instructor Lt. Robert Muller as they rappel down a training tower near Fire Station No. 1.

"The Bowline is called the king of knots, because no matter what you do, it will not slip, but it is easy to undo," Muller said.

Other rappelling tools he familiarized the students with were the Carabiner, shortened to "beaner," the Rescue 8, a rack, and tubular webbing.

Tubular webbing is nylon cord that is wrapped around the legs of a rappeller and then fastened with a square knot.

The carabiner is a square-shaped locking ring that secures the tubular webbing to a Rescue 8. All front strands of the webbing wrap are secured

over and letting go of the rail," said fire academy student Robert Ragan. Lucy Clinton successfully scaled down the wall, and then made a second attempt at rappelling. Muller taught Clinton and her fellow student Brad Smith some finer methods of securing and releasing a rope during the descent. Muller's assistant, Mitch Gill, complimented Clinton on her ability to descend in a proper stance, which is to bend the legs and torso at a right angle to the wall. "The hardest part is climbing

See **ACADEMY**, Page 2

## Howard College to assist Permian Building project

By MARSHA STURDIVANT  
Staff Writer

Howard College will assume a leadership roll in securing inmate labor from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to remove asbestos from the Permian Building.

"I found out that TDCJ has an asbestos crew who works out of Huntsville. Right now they're in San Angelo, and I have talked with their coordinator and there is a very open possibility of the work crew coming to Big Spring," said Dr. Cheryl Sparks, Howard College president.

Sparks said she learned of the crew in a recent meeting and called the crew coordinator last

Friday. She sought information about asbestos removal for the Permian Building, as well as an old dormitory that the college wants to tear down.

The dormitory, Mehan Hall, is located on the SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf campus, and is targeted for demolition, she said.

Howard College trustee Harold Davis supports the idea of assisting the city with the demolition of the Permian Building.

"As you know we have had some legal considerations to our contributing financially to this project, but with this it can be

See **PERMIAN**, Page 2

## Trustees OK request to seek provost for San Angelo campus

By MARSHA STURDIVANT  
Staff Writer

Howard College trustees Monday agreed to seek a provost for the San Angelo campus and appointed Linda Conway temporary vice president for instruction.



CONWAY

"We're going to post the posi-

tion and begin the recruitment process immediately. There are a lot of exciting things happening in San Angelo now, with the new workforce training center, and we need to move quickly," said Dr. Cheryl Sparks, president of Howard College.

Angelo State University has received \$1.8 million to help fund the workforce training center. Howard College will work closely with the university, as well as the workforce commission, to bring this pro-

See **TRUSTEES**, Page 2

## Morton takes reins at Cornell while Brown is in Pennsylvania

By ALLISON THOMAS  
Staff Writer

Dale Brown, the regional director of Cornell Corrections, will be in Pennsylvania for 10 months to activate three new facilities for the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

In his place is Calvin Morton, acting regional manager.

"We have a brand new contract in Phillisburg, Pa.," said Morton.



MORTON

"We'll have a female facility, the first all-female facility we've had. We'll also have a juvenile facility and a male work camp." Brown was transferred to the Pennsylvania position because of his experience in activating new prison systems. "Dale has opened three new facilities with the federal bureau of prisons," said Morton. "This is due to his experience activating new facilities." The new facilities in Pennsylvania are due to open in December, and with that, Brown will move back to Big Spring, returning to his posi-

See **CORNELL**, Page 2

## Funding increase

Howard, SWCID to receive boost, Dr. Sparks says

By MARSHA STURDIVANT  
Staff Writer

Howard College will receive a 17.2 percent increase in appropriations for the next biennium, which rounds to more than \$2 million in increased funds.

"We are very pleased and happy for Howard College," said Dr. Cheryl Sparks, president of Howard College.

SPARKS

"Last year we did some strategic planning to increase our contact hours and while that planning created a deficit budget, you have to spend money to make money, and we increased our contact hours," Sparks said at the regular board meeting Monday.

Howard College will receive \$1,953,740 total, while the SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf will receive \$551,216, or a 14 percent increase.

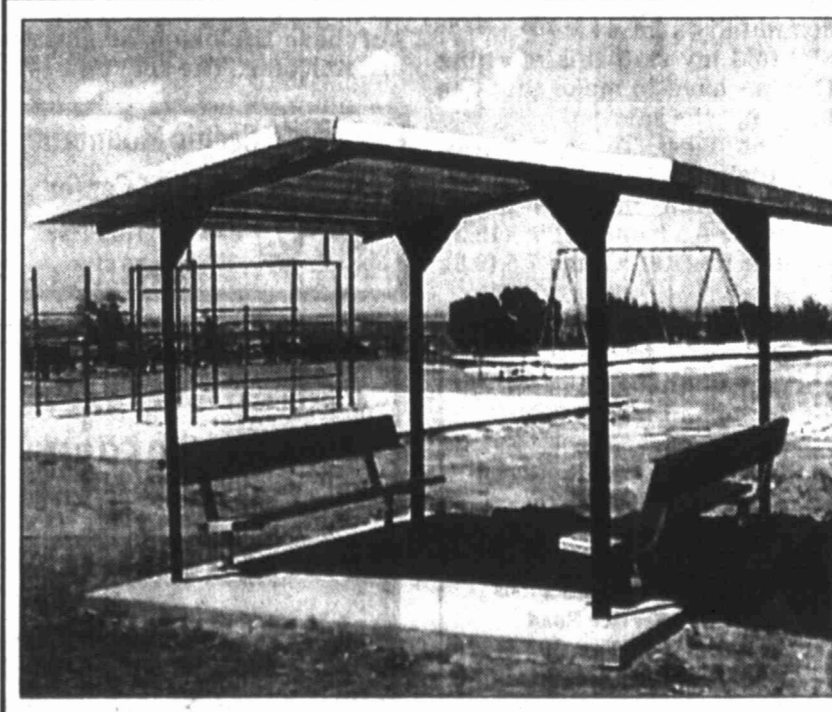
"This was part of our LAR, or Legislative Appropriations Request. Everything we asked for, for SWCID, we got," Sparks said.

New funding items for SWCID will be an additional wing on the Burke-Mehan Residential Hall, a new student union building, demolition of the old Mehan Hall, a physical plant upgrade and a diagnostic/assessment center.

Total new monies for the 1999-2001 biennium for the college, including Lamesa, San Angelo, Big Spring and SWCID campuses, are \$2,504,956. In fiscal year 2000, Howard College will receive \$10,397,842, and another \$9,146,887 in fiscal year 2001, she said.

Howard College increased its appropriations by increasing contact hours. A student who enrolls and completes a three-credit course in college is actually in the classroom 11 hours. Those 48 hours are contact hours, and that figure multiplies per student for each class, said Linda Conway, vice president for institutional advancement.

See **FUNDING**, Page 2



This new structure is part of the additions made to the pavilion and playground area on top of Big Spring State Park. In addition to providing a covered seating area, a number of new pieces of playground equipment are also in place. Funding for the project was raised by Friends of the Park with help from the Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Permian Basin Foundation.

HERALD photo, John H. Walker

JUN 8 1999



## Oregon first, Hawaii last in economic growth

WASHINGTON (AP) — Oregon ranked No. 1 in terms of economic growth among all states in 1997 while Hawaii, buffeted by the Asian economic crisis, was last, suffering an actual drop in output, the Commerce Department reports.

The department on Monday released its latest snapshot of how each state is doing in relation to the rest of the country in terms of its gross state product, the total output of goods and services within the state's borders.

The U.S. economy, measured by the gross domestic product for the country as a whole,

grew by 4.3 percent in 1997, after adjusting for inflation. But that national figure covered a wide disparity among different states.

The best economic growth was enjoyed by residents of Oregon, with an increase of 7.6 percent, followed closely by New Hampshire, where output of goods and services rose by 7.5 percent in 1997.

Other states with fast growing economies were Texas, up 6.8 percent; Arizona, up 6.7 percent and Colorado, with a 6.5 percent increase in output.

By contrast, Hawaii actually saw its economic output shrink

in 1997 by 0.2 percent as the state suffered with the fallout from the Asian currency crisis, which slashed tourism and cut foreign investment in real estate.

Other states with meager economic growth in 1997 were Alaska, with a state GDP which rose by only 0.4 percent; North Dakota, up 0.6 percent; West Virginia, up 0.9 percent; and South Dakota, with a 1.7 percent increase.

The new government figures showed the state with the biggest economy remained California, where total output measured \$1.03 trillion in 1997,

in actual dollars before adjusting for inflation, or 12.7 percent of the national total of \$8.1 trillion in the output of goods and services measured in current dollars. After adjusting the figures for inflation, the national total output was \$6.97 trillion, while the California output, after inflation adjustment, was \$883.60 billion.

Four other states with large shares of the national gross domestic product were New York, 8 percent of the national total; Texas, 7.4 percent; Illinois, 4.9 percent, and Florida, which accounts for 4.7 percent of total GDP.

## Expulsion recommended for student with nail clippers

PENSACOLA, Fla. (AP) — A 15-year-old girl's apparent desire to keep her nails trimmed could keep her out of school for a year because administrators believe her clippers are a weapon.

Tawana Dawson told administrators she thought the two-inch metal blade attached to her nail clipper was to clean nails. Administrators said it violates a weapons policy and are recommending she be expelled.

Fingernail clippers are among the banned weapons pictured in a student handbook at Pensacola High. A teacher saw Tawana's clipper on the desk of another student who had borrowed it to trim her fingernails.

On Monday, a panel made up of a principal and two assistant principals from other schools sided with Principal Norm Ross, who wants Tawana expelled under a zero-tolerance

policy on weapons. Tawana's parents plan to seek a hearing before the case is sent to the Escambia County School Board for a decision. If expelled, she could attend a school for students with disciplinary problems.

"You are going to need to take the pencils out of the school, the scissors out of the school," Tawana's father, Darryl Beaton, told Ross.

In defense of the zero-tolerance policy, Ross recalled the stabbing deaths of two students at schools where he was an administrator, and he also cited the massacre in Littleton, Colo.

Although Tawana had a good disciplinary record and a 2.8 grade point average — just below a B — those factors were not taken into consideration. Ross said the schools cannot have double standards for kids doing well academically.

## Scanner could be effective in finding cancers

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A medical scanner once rarely used because of its high cost and difficulty can detect cancerous tumors missed by other imaging devices, researchers say.

Studies show that positron emission tomography, or PET scans, can lead to fewer surgeries and biopsies for cancer patients. The technology also could help doctors more accurately diagnose heart disease and brain disorders.

The findings were presented Monday at the Society of Nuclear Medicine conference, where about 40 percent of the studies were related to PET.

"The message is that PET has arrived," said Edward Coleman, professor of radiology at Duke University. "PET is now having

a major impact in the way we are taking care of patients."

Traditional techniques, such as computed tomography scanning, or CT, measure internal body forms — whether a tumor is present, for example. CT scanners use computers to combine X-rays of the body.

But patients who undergo PET scans are injected with sugar that is labeled with signal-emitting tracers. The scanner records the radioactive tracers as they travel through the body and collect in various organs. A computer then reassembles the images, which show organ function — and failure.

"Tumors really like sugar, or glucose, better than the surrounding tissue," said Alan Waxman, director of nuclear

medicine and co-director of imaging at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. "You can actually see the concentration in a tumor at a far greater level than the surrounding tissue."

Studies show the course of treatment — including a reduction in surgeries and biopsies — is often changed for cancer patients after a PET scan.

Ongoing research at the University of California, Los Angeles has found that major surgery was avoided in about 25 percent of the dozen patients studied so far. It shows that PET scanning can be cost-effective, Coleman said.

In cases of malignant lymphoma, or cancer of the lymph nodes, PET scanning was 96 percent accurate in detecting tumors compared with 64 per-

cent with CT scans, said Inga Buchmann, researcher at University Hospital in Ulm, Germany.

Both CT and PET scans have been around since the 1970s.

## Trucker pleads no contest in boy's abduction

PITTSBURGH (AP) — A trucker who pleaded no contest to kidnapping, molesting and attempting to murder an 8-year-old Pittsburgh boy has admitted to sexually assaulting children in Texas, the lead detective in the case said.

Carlitos Bell's plea in Allegheny County Court means he agrees he has no defense against eight counts brought against him in the boy's February abduction. He faces up to 142 years in prison at a June 29 sentencing.

Bell, 30, of Converse, Texas, was charged with involuntary deviate sexual intercourse, aggravated indecent assault, aggravated assault, kidnapping, unlawful restraint, reckless endangerment, corruption of a minor and attempted homicide.

Pittsburgh police Detective Dennis Logan said Monday that

while in custody, Bell admitted to assaulting the boy and confessed to sexually assaulting six other children, including three relatives, near his home in Converse, Texas.

He also had several fliers for missing California children in his truck when he was captured, but denied any role in their disappearances.

"When you've got a predator like him, you wonder," Logan said. "Was that a trophy? What the hell was it?"

District Attorney Stephen A. Zappala Jr. said Bell's attorney has suggested that her client may be willing to be chemically castrated in return for a reduced sentence.

"If the defendant wants to do it freely, I don't see why we couldn't entertain it," Zappala told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. "As a father of a 7-year-old, that

was my initial reaction — castration."

Pittsburgh police shared Bell's confession with San Antonio police, who are investigating, San Antonio police Detective Romana Lopez said.

Bell was convicted in 1994 of assault in Texas, tried but acquitted in 1997 on a charge of sexually assaulting a nursing home patient in San Antonio, and arrested in 1988 for sexually assaulting a child, court records show. The 1988 charge was dismissed before Bell went to trial.

Police said Bell told them he picked up the Pittsburgh boy after he saw him hitting a baseball by himself at a park near a cold-storage facility where he was delivering turkeys. Bell offered to pitch to the boy, then invited him to see the inside of his truck.

## Bush signs abortion parental notification bill

DALLAS (AP) — Gov. George W. Bush on Monday signed a bill requiring that parents be notified whenever their unmarried, minor daughters seek abortions.

"This law both respects families and protects life," Bush said, during a public signing ceremony at a Dallas hotel. He was surrounded by a handful of lawmakers, including the bill's author Sen. Florence Shapiro, R-Plano, and Rep. Dianne White Delisi, R-Temple.

"Thank you all for your principle and for your persistence. Thank you for showing how a debate on abortion should be conducted."

The law is effective Sept. 1. The bill passed the Senate

early in the session, then was amended in the House after prolonged negotiations, heated debate and attempts by opponents to derail it. Senators finally agreed to the House amendments in the final days of the session.

That OK came only after several senators voiced concern about what would happen to girls who fear having their parents told. The requirement does allow abortion providers to skip the notification requirement if a judge decides the girl is mature enough to make the decision herself.

Information about the court bypass process will be made available at the abortion provider's office.

Ms. Shapiro said the new law is important for girls in crisis. She said parents can rest easy now for being included in the abortion decision with their own daughters.

"This is one of the most significant things that we can do to bring parents back into the loop and to have parents involved in their minor child's decision," she said.

Thirty-seven other states have parental notification, Ms. Shapiro said.

Anti-abortion activists praised the signing as a move in the right direction.

## N.H. signs King holiday bill

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — Martin Luther King III was 10 when his father was assassinated. He was 21 when New Hampshire lawmakers killed the state's first attempt to honor his father with a holiday.

Now 41, he stood next to Gov. Jeanne Shaheen as she ended New Hampshire's distinction as the only state without a permanent holiday commemorating the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Martin Luther King Jr. Civil Rights Day will be officially observed for the first time in New Hampshire on Jan. 17, 2000.

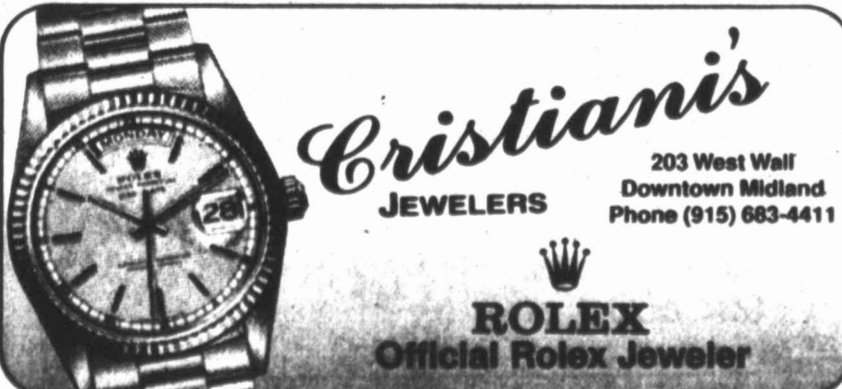
The change, approved by the state House and Senate last

month, ends two decades of attempts to add his name to Civil Rights Day.

The ceremony outside the Statehouse on Monday included a recording from a speech by the slain civil rights leader: "Let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire!"

"As a result of the hard work of all the men, women and young people of this state, all 50 states will be unanimously observing the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr.," said his son.

"It's certainly appropriate as we go into the new millennium."



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# ONE DAY SALE

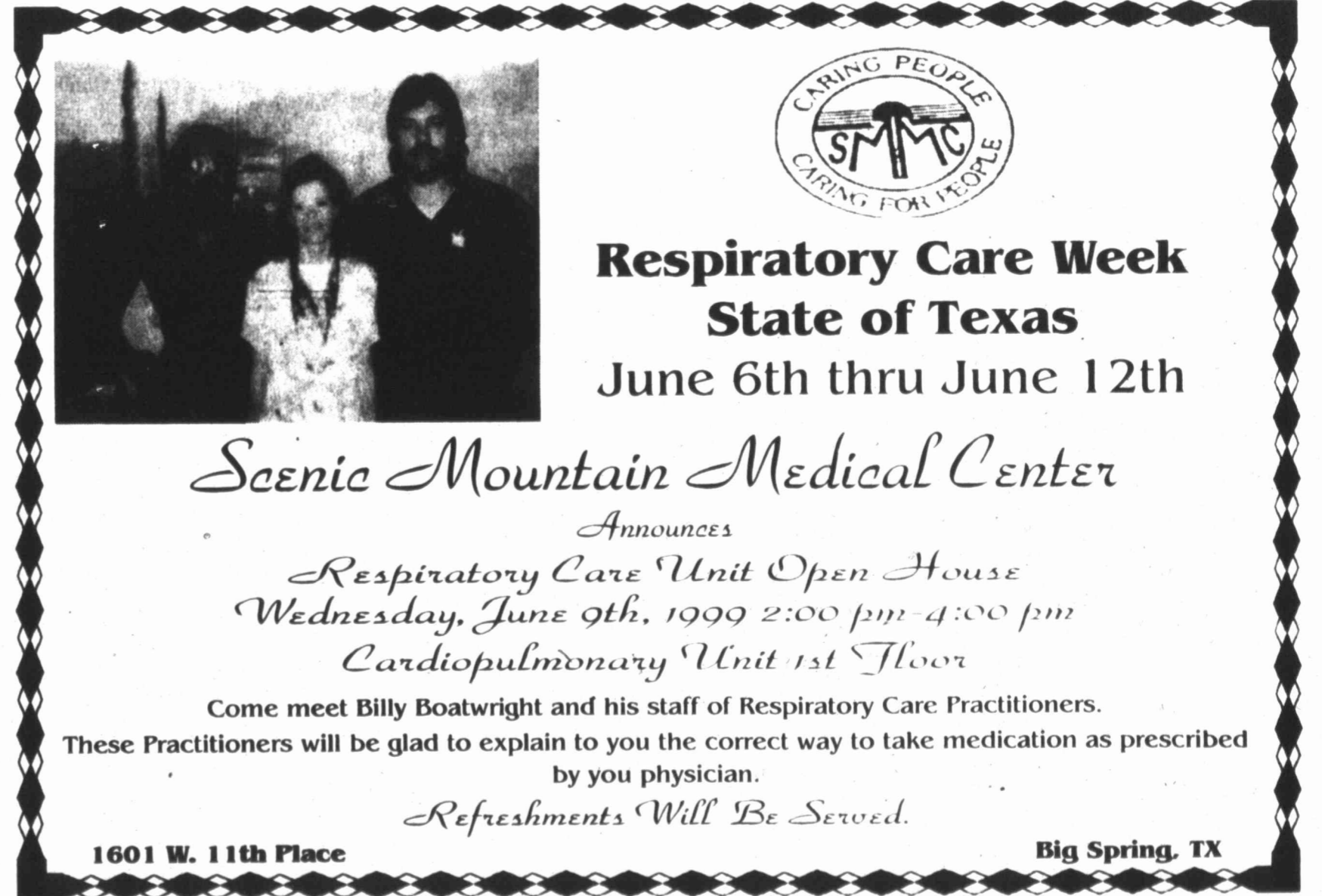
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## Respiratory Care Week State of Texas

June 6th thru June 12th

*Scenic Mountain Medical Center*  
Announces  
*Respiratory Care Unit Open House*  
Wednesday, June 9th, 1999 2:00 pm-4:00 pm  
*Cardiopulmonary Unit 1st Floor*

Come meet Billy Boatwright and his staff of Respiratory Care Practitioners.  
These Practitioners will be glad to explain to you the correct way to take medication as prescribed by you physician.  
*Refreshments Will Be Served.*

1601 W. 11th Place  
Big Spring, TX

# 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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<b>John A. Moseley</b> Sports Editor	<b>Bill McClellan</b> News Editor	

## OUR VIEWS

# Get in the rodeo spirit and join in the big parade

As the 66th annual Big Spring Cowboy Reunion and Rodeo approaches, organizers are enlisting entries for the rodeo's parade scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Saturday, June 19.

While not everyone has the ability to be a professional rodeo competitor and many more are unable to take part in each performance's grand entry, virtually anyone can take part in the parade.

Sponsored by the *Big Spring Herald* and KBST Radio, the parade is open to groups interested in building floats, owners of classic and custom cars, riding clubs, and individuals wanting to decorate bicycles.

The parade is scheduled to form at the intersection of 10th and Main. It will proceed north around the Howard County Courthouse square, turn south on Scurry Street and disband at the intersection of 10th and Scurry.

Judges will determine the winners of awards in each of the parade's categories. Engraved plaques will be presented to the first-, second- and third-place entries in each of the four categories and Fiesta Dodge will provide a \$100 prize for the winner of the bicycle decorating contest.

In addition, winners in each category will participate in Saturday night's grand entry at the rodeo.

Since this year's parade will be the final rodeo parade of the 20th Century, every effort is being made to make it the biggest and best in the rodeo's 66-year history.

As co-sponsors of the parade, we here at the *Herald* encourage the entire community to get involved and make sure you're a part of the best rodeo parade we've ever had.

Entry forms are being included today's edition of the *Herald* and are also available at the newspaper's offices at 710 Scurry and at KBST Radio's offices at 608 Johnson.

There is no fee for taking part in the parade, just complete an entry form, get your vehicle, float or riding club ready and be there in time to line up for the procession.

We look forward to seeing you there.

## OTHER VIEWS

Secretary of Defense William Cohen, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the secretaries of the Air Force, Navy and Army pleaded with Congress... to allow two more rounds of base closings in 2001 and 2005.

Military officials have called the closings "absolutely necessary." ... Unfortunately, the Senate rejected, on a 60-40 vote, a measure that would have authorized a new round of base closings in 2001 as part of a \$288.8 billion defense spending bill for the next fiscal year.

Closings favored by the Pentagon would save an estimated \$20 billion and generate \$3.6 billion annu-

ally by eliminating the overhead costs of running the bases. ...

Members of Congress know the devastating effect a base closing can have on a community. Still, evidence exists that many communities have recovered and even flourished when nearby bases were converted to non-military use. ...

The military leaders charged with the responsibility of defending the country are united in their support for an objective process of base closings.

It makes you wonder what exactly most senators are trying to defend.

ST. PETERSBURG (FLA.) TIMES

# Like it or not, she's running for office

We've been holding our collective breath for a very long time, 'til the red and white had practically drained from our national colors. But now finally, we can breathe a deep sigh of relief. Hillary has made up her mind: She wants to be New York's next senator.



LINDA CHAVEZ

Not since Dolley Madison fled the White House with the British in pursuit has a first lady prepared to make such a spectacular exit from Washington. And we're not quite sure what to make of it. New York will gain a senatorial candidate, but the country will lose a first lady.

It's been a long time since the country lacked a first lady, not since the presidency of James Buchanan just before the Civil War. As Hillary herself describes the role on the official White House website (www.whitehouse.gov), "The American people have made

the role of the first lady one of the most important jobs in the country."

But despite her words, it's never been clear Hillary really believed being first lady was worthy of her talents. In the 1992 presidential campaign, both Bill and Hillary Clinton talked about the co-presidency they would establish if Bill was elected. When voters responded coolly, the Clintons dropped their rhetoric of delivering "two for the price of one," but explored other options.

At one point during the campaign, Hillary suggested the president might appoint her to his Cabinet. After she learned that a federal anti-nepotism law barred her from a Cabinet post, Hillary briefly floated the idea she might become White House chief of staff, instead. Only when the president's other advisors explained to her that the president needed to be able to fire his chief of staff if the need ever arose — and no one could imagine the president firing the first lady — did she back down.

But not for long. Within months of assuming the role of first lady, Hillary was on to more important things, like trying to take over the country's health-care industry. Of

course, her role in drafting health-care legislation became very controversial and may ultimately have helped doom the ill-conceived measure.

Despite her preferences for a policy position over the more traditional role of first lady, over time Hillary more or less accepted her responsibilities to run White House social functions, in her own inimitable style. According to a new biography by historian Joyce Miller, "The First Partner: Hillary Rodham Clinton," Hillary often waited until the last minute to prepare for traditional holidays and White House celebrations. "I've never been anyone who planned for Christmas much before mid-December," the first lady admitted to a reporter — with sometimes embarrassing results.

Milton recounts a story first told by former FBI agent Gary Aldrich about preparations for decorating the 22 White House Christmas trees in 1994, with their 27,000 lights and 7,500 ornaments. The first lady's staff asked local art students to supply decorations for the tree with a 12-days-of-Christmas theme, but they waited so long to organize the tree-trimming that there was no chance to

screen the ornaments before volunteers arrived to place them on the trees in the formal White House rooms.

Nervous giggles broke out as volunteers retrieved some rather unorthodox ornaments, among them five greasy onion rings glued to a Styrofoam plate and a gingerbread man decked with five rings, including a nipple ring and one attached to his groin area. (Pictures of the latter ornament hanging from a tree in the White House Blue Room appear in the second edition of Aldrich's book, "Unlimited Access.")

Hillary Rodham Clinton may believe the role of first lady was beneath her, but she learned some important campaign skills on the job nonetheless. No first lady in history has raised more political campaign contributions using the White House for social functions than Hillary Clinton has. From selling the Lincoln Bedroom to offering cups of White House coffee for \$100,000 apiece, Hillary certainly picked up some valuable fund-raising gimmicks while official hostess at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.

That's one role the country certainly won't miss when it loses its first lady.



# Prejudice and hate are not the same thing

Hypersensitivity and political correctness are signs of a society in which too many people have nothing serious to do. It makes a bland and sour society, full of rancor but devoid of spirit.

In healthier days, people were not afraid to voice their feelings without fear. They dished it out and they took it. To offset the blandness of today's



CHARLEY REESE

American non-speech, I offer you a few examples from the pages of H.L. Mencken's book of quotations.

The United Kingdom is distinguished by being a small country made up of Englishmen, Scots, Welsh and Irish, who all used to despise each other. My favorite diatribe against the Irish is one by Tom Penhaligon, who wrote of the Irish:

"A fighting race who never won a battle, a race of politicians who cannot govern themselves, a race of writers without a great one of native strain, an island race who have yet to man a fleet for war, for commerce or for the fishing banks and to learn how to build ships, a pious race excelling in blasphemy ... whose earlier history is myth and murder, whose later, murder, whose tongue is silver and whose heart is black, a race skilled in idleness, talented in hate, inventive only in slander, whose land is a breeding-ground of modern reaction and the cradle of Western crime."

As you can see, the black-guard didn't think much of me Irish ancestors. But a Welshman, Giraldus Cambrensis, said, "Who dare compare the English, the most degraded of all the races under Heaven, with the Welsh?"

Sidney Smith, who was not fond of anybody in particular, said, "The English are the most disagreeable of all the nations of Europe — more surly and morose, with less disposition to please, to exert themselves for the good of society, to make small sacrifices,

and to put themselves out of their way."

The great Samuel Johnson, alas, did not care for us Americans. "They are a race of convicts and ought to be thankful for anything we allow them short of hanging ... I am willing to love all mankind, except an American."

Johnson was even more famous for his disdain of the Scots. "The noblest prospect which a Scotchman ever sees is the high road that leads him to England," he said. He did observe that you can make something of a "Scotchman" provided you caught him young.

Another Englishman said he was not surprised that a Scotsman sold out his country but very much surprised that he could find a buyer.

Prejudices, which are generalizations, are part of human nature. The human brain is constructed to absorb data and then generalize. I think we are a less-rich and less-free society for banning, in effect, any speech which some neurotic leftist considers offensive.

The trick played by the neototalitarians is to equate prejudice with hate. The two

are not the same at all. A prejudice is just a preconceived opinion and can be either for or against some group or someone or something. I am prejudiced against beets. Ever since a third-grade teacher failed in trying to force me to eat the beets on my plate in the lunchroom, I have taken great pride in never allowing one of the beastly little pseudo-turnips to cross my lips. But I don't hate them.

And people who may think blacks have a better sense of rhythm than whites or that Chinese are genetically inclined to be physicists are not demonstrating any hate, either. Hate is a pathological condition and a dangerous one, but preconceived opinions are just part of the natural thought process, a sort of poor man's hypothesis.

We need more good manners but less hypersensitivity. We should forbid only actions that harm another but leave people free to express their thoughts. Left free, reason and truth don't fear prejudice.

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## How To Contact Us

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail at either bsherald@xroadstx.com or jwalker@xroadstx.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721
- Our normal hours of operation are from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Our offices are closed on weekends and holidays.

Mallard Fillmore by BRUCE TINSLEY

I KNOW; HE'S WHAT FLORENCE KING CALLS THE 1930S "DROOK" MODEL... MUGGERS HAVEN'T LOOKED LIKE THAT FOR 60 YEARS!

PERFECT... IF THEY'RE NOT AROUND ANYMORE, THEY CAN'T TAKE OFFENSE!

MAYBE WE SHOULD LOSE THE CIGARETTE...

**IN**  
America resched  
The Am has resched board m Monday League pa The me been sch afternoon All inte encourage

**Softball, schedul**  
The Spr Ragball T scheduled Roy Baseball/8 Slated : the compl is being s Spring / Commerce Entry f softball t \$100 per / for the 12- ment will The dea a team is / For mo Chris Col Rios at 26

**Howard girls' ba**  
Howard its annual Basketball Garrett C June 14 through J The day set for 9 a. through V final sessi p.m. on TI A fee of be charge register at For mo Matt Corl 264-5043.

**YMCA b slated to**  
The Big conduct s for young ages of 5 June 26. The pro and 6-year while thot of 7 and 9 baseball. ages of 10 with youn Games Saturday r Registra will be \$32 the YMCA For mo the YMCA

**National set to sp**  
Big Spr League wil camp Jun Anderson raising en struct a ba The cam by Americ with a sta mer major players. A fee of is open to: the ages of For addi call Paul C

**Country toumney**  
The Big Club has r tournament with play p.m. shotg Original 6, the even players pl low ball, si shot and si play each Fees for t be \$65 per / For mo 267-5354.

**ON T**  
Televisio MAJOR LEA 6:35 p.m. Rays at Atla 11. 9 p.m. — Angeles Doc NHL PLAYO 7 p.m. — Game 1, Bu Stars, FOX,







TUESDAY JUNE 8

Table with 28 columns representing TV channels (KMBD, KPEJ, KERA, FAM, KOSA, WFAA, KWES, WTBS, UNI, DISN, NASH, TMC, SHOW, HBO, KMLM, A&E, DISC, TNT, FSN, ESPN, AMC, BET) and rows for various programs and movies.

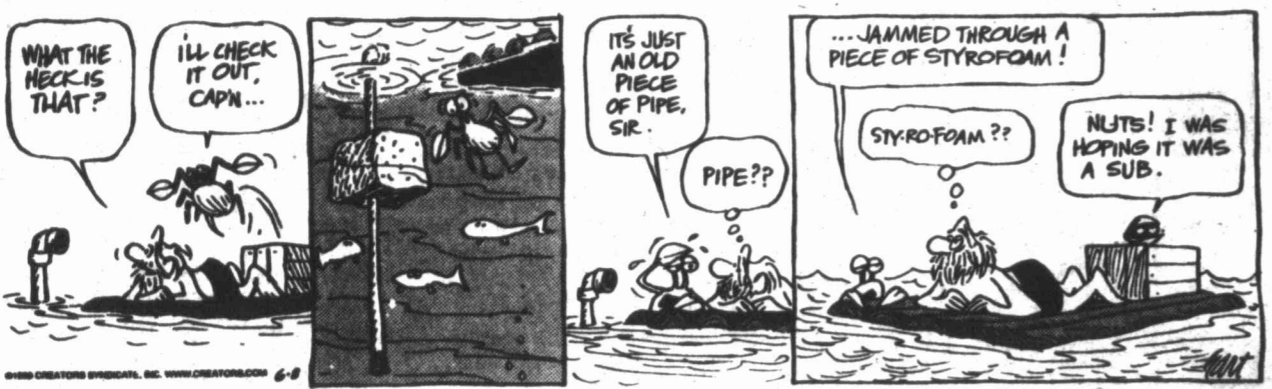
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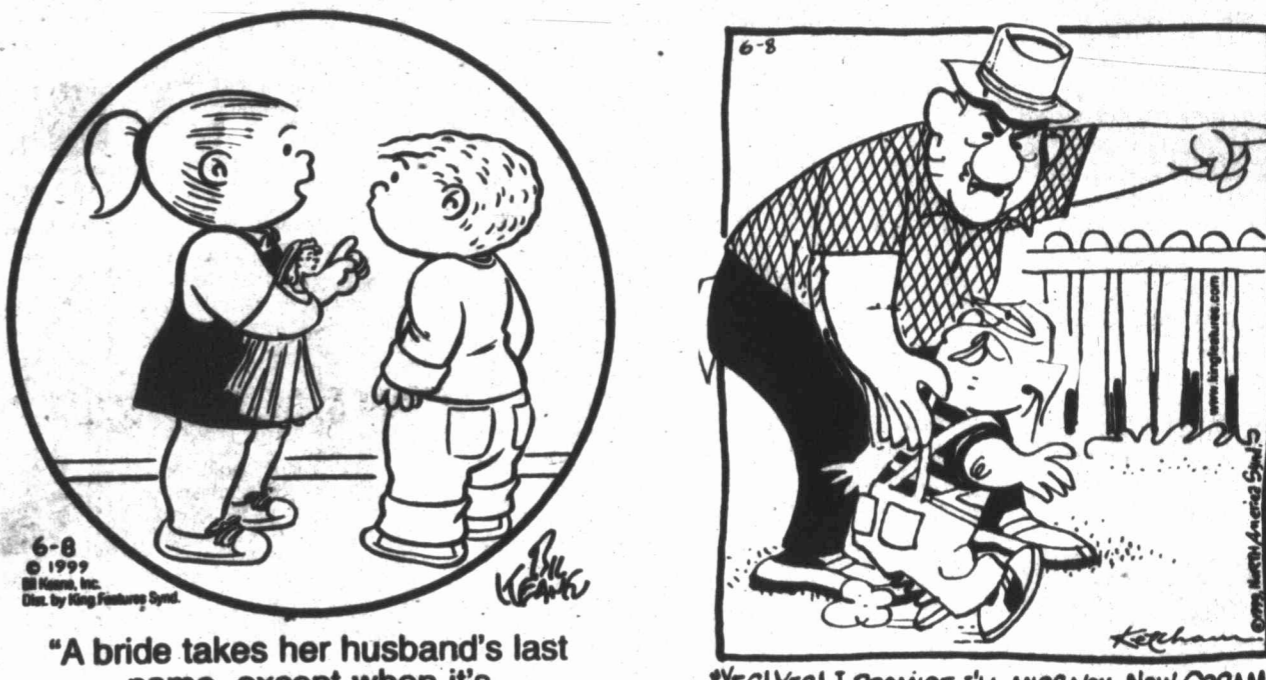


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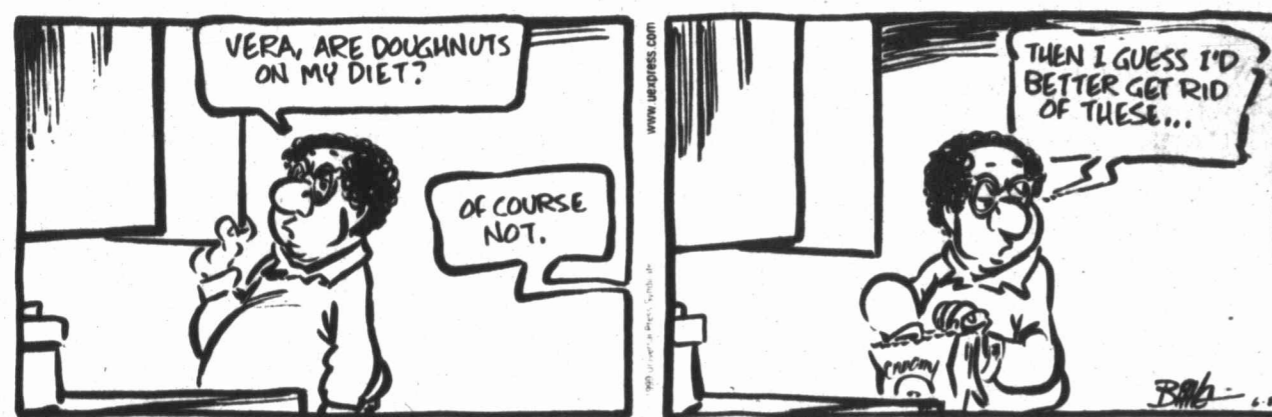


FAMILY CIRCUS

DENNIS THE MENACE



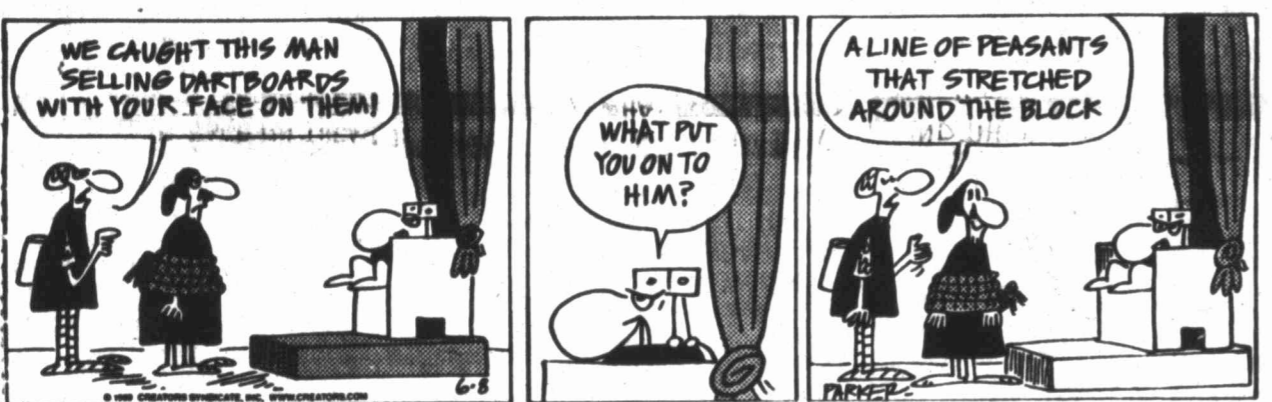
GEECH



"A bride takes her husband's last name, except when it's harder to spell."

"Yes! Yes! I promise I'll miss you. Now SCREAM!"

WIZARD OF ID



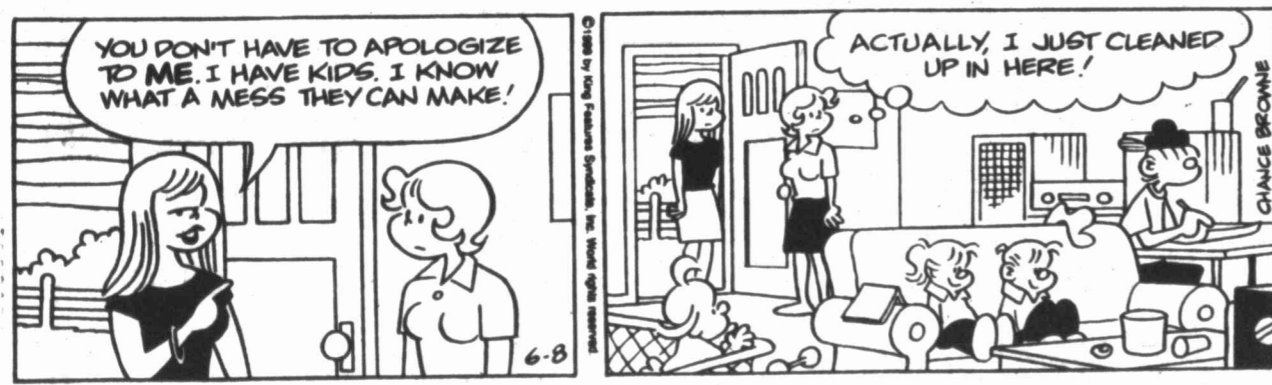
THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS Today is Tuesday, June 8, the 159th day of 1999. There are 206

days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On June 8, 1967, 34 U.S. servicemen were killed when Israeli warplanes attacked the Liberty, a Navy ship stationed in the Mediterranean. (Israel called the attack a tragic mistake.)

On this date: In A.D. 632, the prophet Mohammed died. In 1845, Andrew Jackson, seventh president of the United States, died in Nashville, Tenn. In 1861, Tennessee seceded from the Union. In 1915, Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan resigned in a disagreement over U.S. handling of the sinking of the Lusitania. In 1948, the "Texaco Star Theater" made its debut on NBC TV with Milton Berle guest-hosting the first program. (Berle was later named the show's permanent host.) In 1953, the Supreme Court ruled that restaurants in the District of Columbia could not refuse to serve blacks. In 1968, authorities announced the capture in London of James Earl Ray, the suspected assassin of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. In 1978, a jury in Clark County, Nev., ruled the so-called "Norman will," purportedly written by the late billionaire Howard Hughes, was a forgery. In 1982, President Reagan became the first American chief executive to address a joint session of the British Parliament. Ten years ago: Chinese Premier Li Peng appeared on TV, praising a group of army soldiers, apparently for their role in crushing the student-led pro-democracy movement. Five years ago: Bosnia's warring factions agreed to a one-month cease-fire. President Clinton returned to Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes scholar, to receive an honorary doctorate. One year ago: The National Rifle Association elected Charlton Heston its president. The shuttle Discovery pulled away from Mir, ending America's three-year space partnership with Russia. Nigerian dictator Sani Abacha died at age 54.

HI AND LOIS



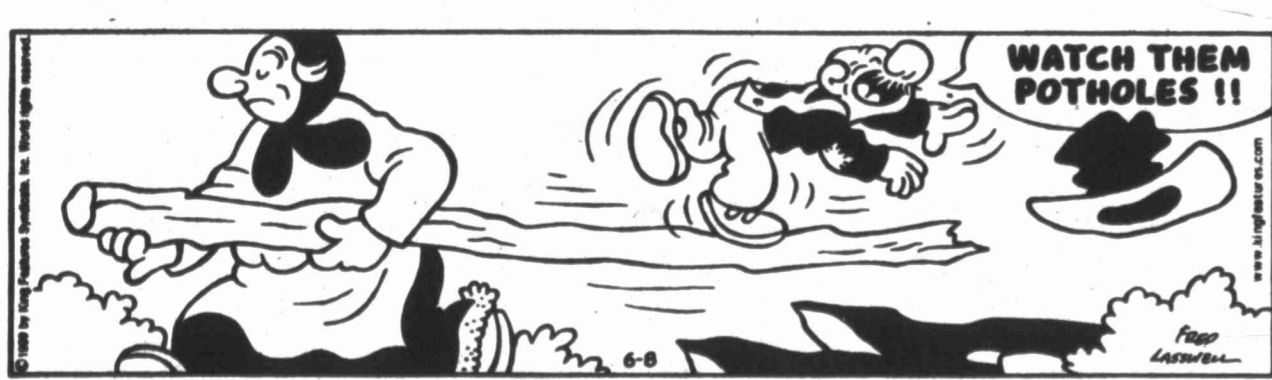
THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

Crossword puzzle grid and word lists (ACROSS, DOWN, Monday's Puzzle Solved).

GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILY



Big Spring Herald advertisement with contact information and circulation data.