

WEDNESDAY
August 4, 1999

**Positively ...
Big Spring.**

**Moore board
to convene
at 3 p.m. Friday**

Moore Development for Big Spring, Inc. board will convene at 3 p.m. Friday to consider the 1999-2000 budget. The meeting was originally scheduled last Wednesday, but a quorum was not present. Other items on the agenda are June financials and investment reports, and approval of previous minutes.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY
□ 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 to 11:30 a.m.
□ Kiwanis Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.
□ Genealogical Society of Big Spring, 7:15 p.m., Howard County Library.
□ Masonic Lodge No. 1340, 7:30 p.m., 2101 Lancaster.

FRIDAY
□ AMBUCS, noon, Brandin' Iron Restaurant.
□ Spring City Senior Citizens country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY
□ Dance 8:30 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 W. Third. Members and guests welcome.
□ The Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
□ The Potton House, 200 Gregg, a restored historic home, is open from 1 to 5 p.m.
□ Big Spring Squares call 267-7043 or 263-6305 for more information.

MONDAY
□ Meet the Teacher for Coahoma Elementary School, 1-3 p.m.
□ Big Spring Evening Lions Club, 6:30 p.m., 1607 E. Third.

WEATHER

Tonight:



PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT 65°-69°
THURSDAY 87°-89°

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.

City council approves seeking grant for downtown Pioneer Plaza

By **BILL McCLELLAN**
News Editor

Meeting in special session Tuesday, Big Spring City Council approved a resolution to seek a Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program grant to construct a downtown tourist plaza. Council members also approved three other items on second reading and addressed several items.



FUQUA
new business

The special meeting was called in order to make a decision on whether to pursue the enhancement grant, which has an Aug. 9 application deadline. Council members had passed the resolution on first reading a week ago.

"How are we doing on getting commitments from other organizations to help fund this?" Councilman Chuck Cawthon asked Tuesday.

"We're still working on that. We have been asked to be placed on the agenda of boards of agencies that might consider helping us," said City Manager Gary Fuqua.

Funding of the project has been the hold up — assuming, of course, that the

grant is approved. That won't be known until later this year.

A week ago, the council approved a \$516,000 project, of which 20 percent, or \$103,202.64, would have to be funded by local dollars. The council's go-ahead came only after downsizing of the project, which had begun at \$1.4 million. It was trimmed to \$936,000 before council members asked that it be cut a second time, down to the near half-million dollar project approved Tuesday.

Council members pledged \$25,000 toward the project, matching an amount verbally cited by the Industrial Foundation. Other groups have been asked to contribute, and the council has

instructed officials that written agreements for the total amount must be in hand before any bidding on the project can occur.

If constructed, the plaza — already named Pioneer Plaza by a project committee — would sit on land currently occupied by the Permian Building, and the lot north of the county courthouse. It has been envisioned as a tourist information and rest area, with pedestrian walkways leading to historic downtown areas.

Also on second reading Tuesday, the council approved agreements with the

See **PLAZA**, Page 2A

School zones light up Thursday

By **MARSHA STURDIVANT**
Staff Writer

In an effort to reacquaint motorists with school zones, the city of Big Spring will begin Thursday operating the lights near all campuses, indicating reduced speed.

"We're trying to get everybody used to the new school zones, and to remind everyone that school zones have speed reduced to 20 miles per hour," said Emma Bogard, assistant city manager.

This year, motorists will have a new area of school zones while a once familiar reduced speed area has vanished.

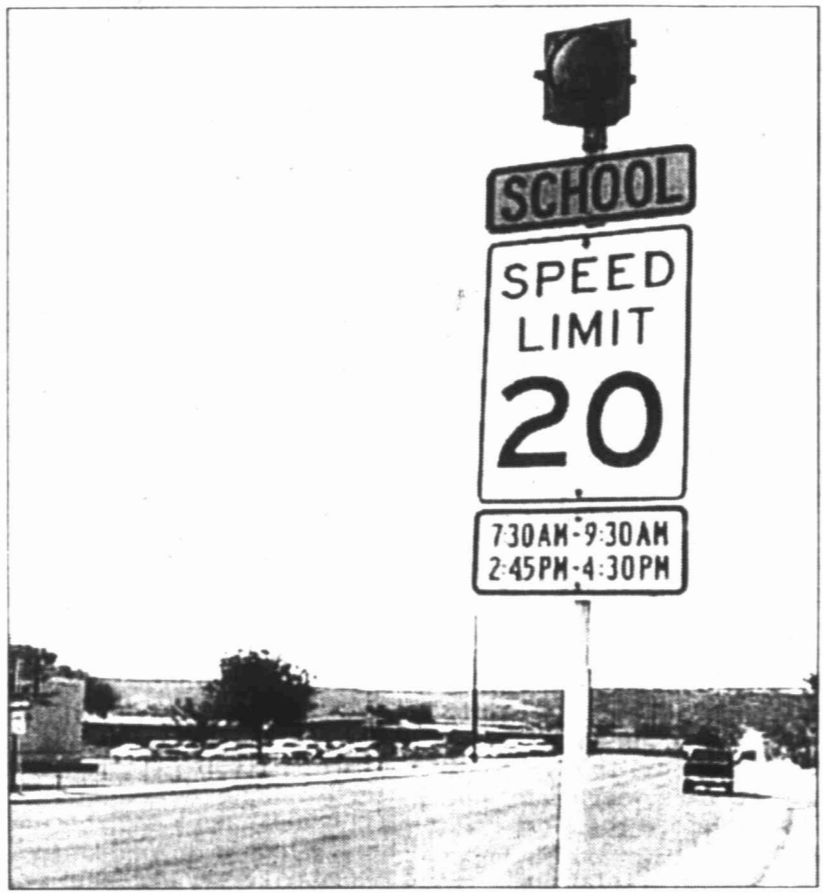
Solar-powered school zone lights have been installed near the new junior high. These solar-powered lights should save on electricity, and will work during inclement weather, Bogard said.

"I think it is fitting that we have state-of-the-art lights for our new state-of-the-art school. These lights look much nicer, and we should see an energy savings," she said.

Runnels Junior High School will not have a school zone, as students have moved to the new Big Spring Junior High School, Bogard said.

"There is no school zone around Runnels now," she said. And the school zone for the new BSJHS covers a multi-block area.

Motorists should be aware that the school zone for the new junior high school includes Owens from Fifth to 10th streets. Benton Street has a school zone from Fifth to Sixth streets.



School zone lights will be turned on Thursday, to help acclimate motorists to reduced speeds around schools. All classes begin Monday for Big Spring students. In addition to a new school zone around the Big Spring Junior High School, a four-way stop sign has been installed at Sixth and Owens streets.

Sixth Street has a school zone from Goliad to Young streets. Eighth Street has a school zone in place from Goliad to Caylor, and Seventh Street has a school zone from Goliad to Eighth streets, she said.

Reduced speeds are in force from 7:30-9:30 a.m. and from 2:45-4:30 p.m. Motorists who violate the school zone speed limit face a hefty fine of \$150

for their haste.

Sgt. Roger Sweatt of the Big Spring Police Department said special patrols are assigned to school zones when school is in session through the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program, or STEP.

Officers will watch for speed violators in the school zones when school is in session, he said.

Sesquicentennial Planning Committee forms subcommittees for Oct. 2-3 event

By **RICK McLAUGHLIN**
Staff Writer

How time flies. It's only been 150 years since Capt. Randolph Marcy first quenching his thirst in the big spring that would become Big Spring.

Now days, the Big Spring Sesquicentennial Planning Committee is planning festivities Oct. 2-3 to commemorate the Oct. 3 1849 discovery, officially known as the Capt. Marcy Sesquicentennial Celebration.

Festivities will include exhibits, a vintage fashion show at Comanche Trails Park, an old fashioned melodrama, a commemorative cookbook and more.

The Sesquicentennial Planning Committee, chaired by Wade Choate, appointed three subcommittees Tuesday at the Heritage Museum in a race against time for the Oct. 2-3 commemoration, now only two months away, it was noted.

The subcommittees are for the fashion show, a melodrama, and a program advertising/history trivia contest.

The committee also discussed commemorative souvenirs, including coffee cups, keychains, and wooden nickels, among other things.

The group agreed to meet again Aug. 18.

Anyone with suggestions or wanting more information may call Angie Way at the Heritage Museum at 267-8255.

New fee

Council approves adding \$4 fee to misdemeanor fines for technology fund

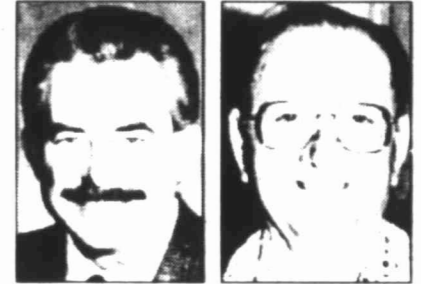
By **BILL McCLELLAN**
News Editor

Traffic tickets and other Class C misdemeanors handled through Municipal Court will carry an additional \$4 fee after Sept. 1, Big Spring City Council decided in a 5-2 vote Tuesday.

New legislation passed by the State Legislature allows cities to create a Municipal Court Technology Fund and permits municipal courts to tack on up to \$4 per ticket for speeding, failure to use seat belts, disorderly conduct and other misdemeanors. The funds can be used only for technology — software, computers and the like.

For most of the council, which recently had to pull \$30,000 out of the capital revolving fund for software upgrades the municipal court system needed, the fee sounded plausible. Others, however, saw it as just another tax.

"I've got a problem with municipal court as a place to seek revenue. It is supposed to be a place to seek justice," said Councilman Chuck Cawthon.



TUNE **CAWTHON**

"As I understand it, this isn't for profit, but to defray the cost," countered Councilman Tommy Tune.

"I think it is worthwhile," said Municipal Court Judge Gary Tabor. "You are not digging into the general fund or asking taxpayers to fund it."

"You are asking taxpayers to fund it," said Councilman Stephanie Horton. "You are asking taxpayers to pay \$95 for a seat belt violation and then add another \$4 on to that."

Asked how much the extra fee would generate, Tabor told the

See **FEES**, Page 2A

Leak prompts city officials to close pool a week early

By **ALLISON THOMAS**
Staff Writer

Big Spring city pool was closed for the season Tuesday, almost a week ahead of schedule. The closing date was moved up from this Sunday because of a leak in the deep end, and several other maintenance problems.

"By the time the leak is stopped and we get the chlorine out completely, it will be past Sunday anyway," said Becky Crane, with the city Parks and Recreation Department.

The pool has had a leak in the expansion joint in the deep end for several years. Only this year has it grown into a significant problem.

"We've tried to quick-fix it before, but it got to where we were adding two feet of water a day," said Crane.

A company has been hired to permanently fix the leak, said Crane. Prior attempts to remedy the problem were not successful because a normal patch will not expand with an expansion joint.

"We need a special kind of patch, so it can move with that much water," said Crane. "It needs to be able to expand."

Other repairs and updates have been made over the course of the year to remedy some of the problems plaguing

See **POOL**, Page 2A

Sacred Heart plans annual weekend festival full of fun, food

By **ALLISON THOMAS**
Staff Writer

This weekend, Sacred Heart Catholic Church will hold its annual fundraiser, a street festival including game booths, contests, and many varieties of food.

The festival, having taken place every summer for more than 50 years, is a tradition for the church. The street next to Sacred Heart, Delaney Street, will be blocked off so people can easily walk to the patio behind the church where the festival will be.

The festival will unofficially begin on Thursday afternoon, when tamales will be sold on the patio.

On Friday evening, the festival will officially open at 6:30 with a Mexican Dinner, a prize giveaway, and game booths.

"There are a lot of games, mostly for the kids," said Theresa Rocha, who works in the church office.

"This year we have been able to afford more prizes for the games," said Angie Arenivaz, a committee member. "The prizes are bigger, and there are more stuffed animals for the kids."

The festival will have from 20-24 booths, containing games like darts, a ball throw, and a dunking booth. The young at heart will have a chance to participate in Bingo, and a train made from 50 gallon barrels will give the younger children rides around the patio area.

"We have a big turnout every year," said Mike Flores, a committee member.

Much of the funding raised from the festival comes from the food and drink booths. Along with the tamale sales, fajitas, soft drinks, beer and water will be available for sale to anyone who attends.

"Anyone is welcome to come," said Rocha.

See **FESTIVAL**, Page 2A



From left, Father Cornelius Scanlan, Mike Flores, Angie Arenivaz, and Theresa Rocha display some of the toys that will be given as prizes at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church Festival. The festival will take place on Friday and Saturday nights at 6:30 p.m., on the patio behind the church.

Dow Chemical, Union Carbide to merge in \$11.6 billion deal

DETROIT (AP) — The Dow Chemical Co. is buying Union Carbide Corp. for \$9.3 billion, creating the world's second-largest chemical company.

The merged company, which will operate under the Dow Chemical name, will have \$24 billion in annual revenues.

About 2,000 jobs will be cut as a result, leaving about 49,000 employees. The two companies expect the combination to save \$500 million a year.

"This transaction is a giant

step in our strategy to transform Dow into the world's most productive, best 'value-growth' company in the chemical industry," said William S. Stavropoulos, president and chief executive officer of Dow Chemical.

Union Carbide shareholders will own about 25 percent of Dow Chemical after the deal is complete, and Union Carbide Chairman and Chief Executive Officer William Joyce will become vice chairman of the Dow Chemical board.

Union Carbide shareholders will receive 0.537 shares of Dow Chemical for each of their Union Carbide shares — or \$66.96 based on Tuesday's closing price of Dow Chemical's stock. The deal also includes \$2.3 billion in assumed debt.

The deal depends on the approval of Union Carbide shareholders and regulatory authorities. The companies expect it to be completed by the first quarter of 2000.

Dow Chemical, based in

Midland, is the second-largest U.S. chemical company behind world leader DuPont. It is a leading maker of plastics, chemicals, hydrocarbons, and herbicides and pesticides. It earned \$1.3 billion on revenues of \$18.4 billion in 1998.

Union Carbide, based in Danbury, Conn., produces basic and specialty chemicals. It had profits of \$403 million in 1998 on sales of \$5.7 billion.

"This is the right move at a good time," Joyce said in a

statement. "In a consolidating chemical industry where fewer, more powerful companies will exist, the combination of Dow and Union Carbide now sets the gold standard for the industry."

The deal will be completed under the "pooling-of-interests" accounting method, popular in U.S. mergers, allowing the companies to avoid a large tax bill that would have been generated if the deal was an outright purchase of one company by the other.

DOE considers imposing fine against Amarillo nuclear plant

AMARILLO (AP) — Federal regulators may fine the operators of a nuclear plant more than \$80,000 for safety violations.

The U.S. Department of Energy proposed Tuesday to fine Mason & Hanger \$82,500 in reaction to a Dec. 29 incident at the Pantex Plant in Amarillo. A fire broke out in a building cell where workers assemble and disassemble warheads. Mason & Hanger is the contractor that runs the plant.

A statement from Mason & Hanger showed the fire occurred as a worker was cleaning a metal case on a work table, according to today's editions of the Amarillo Globe-News. The fire lasted about 30 seconds before it was put out by an employee using a hand-held fire extinguisher.

The company's investigation team found that isopropyl alcohol vapors could have been ignited by static electricity or friction.

The Department of Energy acknowledged the fire did not cause any serious injury or great danger to the public. The assembly cells are designed to contain a conventional explosion by forcing the blast upward.

But the agency's notice said the potential for a conventional explosion was enough to warrant a penalty.

"Propagation of the fire in the cell could have resulted in detonation of the high explosive material present and serious work injury," the notice said.

David Michaels, the DOE's assistant secretary for environment, safety and health released a statement on the matter.

"Any fire in close proximity to explosive material has the potential to ignite that material," Michaels said. "While this would not result in a nuclear detonation, an explosion of any kind is unacceptable."

In its preliminary notice of violation, the DOE said Mason & Hanger failed to establish controls to decrease the threat of a fire and did not follow existing safety procedures.

Study: Number of child-abuse deaths vastly underreported

CHICAGO (AP) — The number of young children killed by their parents or caregivers is underreported by nearly 60 percent, researchers reported today in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

The study was based on an analysis of North Carolina records, but researchers said the results reflect the situation nationwide because all states use the same system to classify deaths.

Caregivers commit 85 percent of the homicides of children 10 and under, and strangers are the killers only 3 percent of the

time, said Dr. Marcia Herman-Giddens, lead author of the study.

"So far, we as a society have not cared enough to do what we need to do to get accurate data on child abuse homicides," she said.

"If you don't have good data about the problem, good numbers, you can't possibly begin to do anything about it."

Herman-Giddens, who teaches maternal and child health at the University of North Carolina, said the problem is that all states use the International Classification of Diseases to

record deaths, and the system's specifications are flawed.

For example, three children who are stabbed to death would not be listed as abuse victims because the classification system says abuse deaths result from a string of events, not an isolated episode, she said.

Her study counted child abuse deaths if they resulted from a single episode such as a shooting or from a string of events, and came at the hands of caregivers — including babysitters and boyfriends of mothers.

With that system in mind, the researchers analyzed records

from medical examiners, police and other sources on the 259 homicides of children 10 and younger in North Carolina from 1985 through 1996.

Of those, the state's system underreported the number of deaths from battering or abuse by 58.7 percent, the researchers said. Biological parents committed 64 percent of the killings.

Translated to a national scale, the study suggests that 6,500 more children than national statistics reflect were victims of homicide due to abuse from 1985 through 1996.

The researchers estimated

that in 1996, 835 children died at the hands of caregivers nationwide.

Sidney Johnson, president of Prevent Child Abuse America, which was not involved in the study, said it gives credibility to what some experts have been saying for years — that twice as many children are abused as reports indicate.

Herman-Giddens said death certificates need to be redesigned to accommodate information related to abuse, and medical examiners and coroners need better training to recognize such deaths.

Officer kills assault rifle-wielding gunman at Tomball hospital

TOMBALL (AP) — Police today were still trying to determine why a 25-year-old Montgomery County man made the fatal mistake of brandishing a loaded assault rifle near the entrance of a hospital emergency room.

John Richard Mooney died 10 hours after he was shot early Tuesday morning in the head, arm and hand by an off-duty policeman working security at Tomball Regional Hospital.

Cpl. Danny Arriago reported

that he approached Mooney after the man drove his car under the hospital's covered ambulance bay. Police Capt. George Olin said Arriago, in uniform, asked Mooney if he could help him.

"He told him, 'No.' Then Cpl. Arriago saw him pick up a rifle from the passenger seat, open the door and act like he was getting out," Olin said. "He was holding the rifle in his hands ... and he appeared to be trying to pull back the lever to put a

round in it."

Mooney's semi-automatic AR-15 Colt rifle was loaded with a 20-round clip; there were two more magazines containing 30 rounds on the passenger seat. When Mooney pointed the rifle at Arriago, the officer fired eight shots with his service revolver, Olin said.

"We don't know what (Mooney) intended to do, really," Olin said, but he noted that Mooney's neighbors in nearby Magnolia were worried about

his behavior.

"I think he kind of had them concerned," Olin said, declining to be more specific.

Hospital spokeswoman Karen Frye called Arriago "heroic."

"Thank God he was there, because I hate to think what might have happened," she said.

Shaken doctors and nurses at Tomball Regional provided first aid for Mooney, who was later flown by helicopter to Hermann Hospital in neighboring

Houston.

Ms. Frye said Mooney was treated in January for a minor cut in the emergency room, but he had no other known connection to the hospital. Mooney's only known prior brush with the law was a 1991 arrest for disorderly conduct.

Arriago, a Tomball police for five years, never had been involved in a shooting before, Olin said. The officer is on a routine temporary leave while an investigation is conducted.

Russian documents: Mrs. Kennedy wrote Khrushchev after assassination

WASHINGTON (AP) — Just days after her husband's assassination, Jacqueline Kennedy made private pleas to Soviet leaders to maintain peaceful U.S. relations while then-Secretary of State Dean Rusk conducted his own diplomatic efforts, long-secret Russian documents show.

Mrs. Kennedy's overtures included a handwritten letter to Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev that pleaded for "continuation of self-control and restraint" in Cold War relations strained during her husband's presidency by the Cuban missile crisis and Bay of Pigs episodes, the documents state.

The contents of the KGB and Soviet diplomatic documents, which Russian President Boris Yeltsin provided to President Clinton a few months ago, were described to The Associated Press by a senior Clinton administration official familiar with them.

They were expected to become public later this week at the National Archives.

The U.S. experts who translated and reviewed the documents have informed Clinton they shed little light on the November 1963 assassination of John F. Kennedy, but provide new details about the reactions of the Soviets and his widow, the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Experts said the revelation of Mrs. Kennedy's efforts was significant since high-level U.S. officials, including Kennedy's successor in the White House, Lyndon B. Johnson, and FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, were concerned in the immediate days after the assassination that killer Lee Harvey Oswald may have been connected to the Soviets.

Those concerns included CIA information about a meeting Oswald had with a top KGB official in Mexico City just weeks before the killing.

The administration official said it was unclear how much of the KGB files was actually turned over.

"I find it interesting that Jacqueline Kennedy is trying to smooth the waters," said John Newman, a former military intelligence officer and University of Maryland history professor who has written books on Kennedy and Oswald.

"It makes me wonder if she wasn't aware of these concerns and was using her good auspices to try to allay these concerns," Newman said.

The administration official said the documents detail the Soviets' fascination with the intense U.S. media coverage of the assassination and express

chagrin at news reports linking Oswald to "leftist" elements and Soviet agencies.

The KGB denounced American media reports suggesting Soviet complicity in Kennedy's death as "slander" and suggested they only served to hide "who is really behind the assassination," the official quoted the documents as say-

ing.

The documents portray Oswald's efforts prior to the assassination to gain Soviet citizenship as adamant and denote clearly that the KGB opposed his request for asylum, the official said.

Diplomatic memos and notes also show that the Soviets — media reports aside — were

pleased by high-level U.S. contacts immediately after the assassination that left them confident the shooting in Dallas wouldn't harm U.S. relations, the official said.

The documents indicate that Rusk quickly engaged in conversations with Soviet diplomats, talking about a wide range of issues that included

nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, possible arms deals and a proposed U.S.-Moscow air route, the official said.

The Soviets described the contacts as a sign that it would be "business as usual" with the United States, the official said.

Though less official, Mrs. Kennedy's overtures were also duly noted.

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AUGUST 4 1999

BRUMLEY

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 first sales tax holiday this week

Local shoppers are presented with a unique opportunity this weekend. Friday, Saturday and Sunday are the state's first-ever sales tax holiday. Many items of clothing will be sold without the addition of state or local sales taxes.

For Big Spring shoppers, that's a savings of 8.25 percent — no small potatoes when you're getting a student ready to go back to school, outfitting a young child for kindergarten or buying yourself a new fall wardrobe.

Local retailers are ready for this golden opportunity. Many we interviewed this week said they planned sales, extended hours and other promotions to coincide with the weekend.

That makes this weekend a "golden opportunity" in more ways than one. Retailers are smiling because they expect a flood of shoppers. Buyers are happy to avoid "the tax man" just this once.

This should all stack up to create a huge weekend of shopping, to say the least.

It will be an even bigger bonanza for our community, however, if you plan to spend your shopping dollars at home. Our stores are working hard with sales and convenient hours to earn your business — give them a chance to benefit from the sales tax holiday as much as you will.

Afraid you can't find what you need here? It's worth a few phone calls before starting out. You may be surprised by the selection of sizes and styles we have available.

And when you shop at home, your money stays in Big Spring, supporting our community and helping it grow.

So if you have shopping to do, save it for this weekend — you're guaranteed to save money. Then plan to do it at home and we will all profit.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

I had a experience that I feel should be shared with your readers as this could happen to almost anyone who is working for another person or company.

I recently left a position that I had held for some 28 years. Upon leaving I begin to try to collect the last pay I believed that was owed me in the form of a bonus due at the end of the year.

I inquired with the Texas Workforce Commission in a letter and filled out their form on my uncollected year-end bonus. Shortly I was contacted by phone by one of their representatives that my claim was denied. Therefore the reason for this letter. Things you need to know about your pay plan with your employer.

If you don't have a written pay contract with your employer you have very few rights. If you have a bonus due it is uncollectible unless you have a

contract that states, upon your leaving employment that a prorated payment will be made to you for the time you worked that year.

Any form of incentives due you can be withheld by your employer at his discretion unless stated in a written contract that upon leaving employment you will receive any portion of the incentive.

There are many reasons for you to have your pay plan in writing, the above are just a few of them. If your employer will not give you one, let that be a warning that when it comes time to try and collect you will know why no contract was given to you.

By the way, a verbal contract is binding; however if it comes to your word and your employer, you had better have a witness who is willing to go to court with you.

DON M. BRODIE
BIG SPRING

Election rationale promotes division of race

The Clinton administration, which has long favored dispensing jobs, college admissions and government contracts on the basis of race, has now decided that voting can be restricted by race as well.

Last week, the Clinton Justice Department filed an amicus brief arguing that the state of Hawaii has the right to prohibit whites, blacks, Asians and others from voting in certain state elections. At issue is a 20-year-old state law that governs elections for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA), a state board that dispenses millions of dollars of public funds.

In 1996, Harold Rice tried to vote in a state election to choose trustees for the OHA, but was turned away at the polls. Why? Because although he is a state resident and a native of Hawaii whose lineage in the state goes back several generations, Rice fails to meet the state's definition of "native Hawaiian." And only Hawaiian

natives can vote in the election of state trustees for the OHA. Hawaii counts as "natives" only those persons who are "descendants of the aboriginal people inhabiting the Hawaiian Islands ... in 1778, ..." or "any descendant of not less than one-half part of the races inhabiting the Hawaiian Islands previous to 1778." Since Rice is white, he can't vote — nor can any black, Asian, American Indian or Hispanic living in Hawaii for that matter.

This kind of voting restriction was supposed to have been outlawed by the 15th Amendment to the Constitution, which says that "the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude." Of course, the 15th Amendment wasn't fully obeyed by Southern states for almost 100 years after it was adopted, so Congress passed the Voting Rights Act of 1965, giving the U.S. Justice Department the power to monitor and intervene when any state interfered with the right of citizens to vote because of race or color.

Now, Clinton Justice

Department lawyers have turned their duty to uphold the Constitution and faithfully execute the laws on its head. Instead of defending the right of Harold Rice to vote in a state election regardless of his skin color, the Justice Department is defending Hawaii's right to make race a bona fide voting qualification.

The Justice Department claims that Hawaii isn't discriminating against anyone but merely enacting legislation "on behalf of indigenous people with whom it has established a trust responsibility." But the facts suggest otherwise.

The first-known contact between the Polynesian people of Hawaii and Europeans came in 1778, when Capt. James Cook first landed on the islands. Hawaii became a U.S. possession in 1898, following the overthrow of the hereditary monarchy that ruled the islands. The 1.8 million acres of land previously owned by the crown were ceded to the U.S. government at that time, and set aside in trust to "be used solely for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Hawaiian Islands for educational and other purposes."

When Hawaii became a state in 1959, the U.S. ceded back the lands to the new state to be

used for any of five general purposes, including the betterment of the conditions of indigenous Hawaiians. For almost 20 years, the funds generated by the public land trust were administered to benefit all Hawaiians, regardless of race, with most money used to support public education.

But in 1978, the Hawaii state constitution was amended to provide assistance from these funds to only two groups of people defined solely by their racial ancestry. The Justice Department rationalizes that since only certain Hawaiians can benefit from these funds, those same people should be the only ones to choose trustees to administer the funds.

Imagine if this rationale were applied to other election contexts. Should voting in school board elections be restricted to persons with children enrolled in public schools? Should renters be prohibited from voting to decide property-tax issues, or English speakers denied a say on bilingual education policy?

It's time the Clinton administration stopped trying to divide people by race. Let's hope that's the message the Supreme Court will deliver when it takes up this case this fall.



LINDA CHAVEZ



LISTENING TOUR

A visit to Myrt's Store in Dialville

People who live in Dialville, between Rusk and Jacksonville, don't pronounce the "l" in the name of their town. They say "Die-ville."

Lisa Odom grew up in Dialville. She now runs Myrt's Store there. She remembers going to the store as a child, playing with the cash register and watching men play dominoes in the back part of the store, the part that didn't have any flooring. The table legs rested on dirt.

"When you think that your grandmother used to walk these streets and she could tell you how they used to swap chickens for groceries or put their things on ticket until they brought produce in here, I think that's really neat," says Lisa.

She bought the store in 1991 "because my children were small and I knew they could be

here with me. The locals were great with them. I put a sofa in back so they could take naps or watch TV. It's just a family oriented thing, you know."

She sold the store in 1998, but missed it and came back to run it. Myrt's is not a high-pressure type situation. When you walk in, you're liable to see Lisa sitting down with a customer playing dominoes or Skip-Bo or putting a puzzle together. She fixes sandwiches for customers who want them. She sells mostly gas, cigarettes, chips and sandwiches. The store has central air, but is heated in the winter by a wood burning stove.

One day Lisa was visiting with a friend when cars started pulling into the parking lot. The number of vehicles increased until the parking lot was overflowing and they were having to park along the road in front of the store. People got out of their cars with cats and dogs and other pets. It was the annual visit to Dialville by the veterinarian to give the animals shots and check for fleas and ticks.

"It was a big surprise to me," says Lisa. "I didn't know they had started doing that."

Even more exciting than that was when Lisa found a nest of wood ducks in a tree in front of the store. "There's never a dull moment around here," she says.

One customer, Casey Moore, who lived just a block from the store, used to drive his car to the store, get out and get a Dr. Pepper and maybe a candy bar. "We'd sit here and play dominoes, then he'd go get in his car. You might think he would leave, but he would just take a nap, then come back in the store. He did that all day long until close to closing, then he'd go back home."

Another customer, Mr. McKnight, used to walk to the store every day. "I'd heat his milk up in the microwave and fix him a sausage and biscuit and we'd sit around the fire and visit. He'd go home for lunch, then he'd come back."

Lisa likes running the store in Dialville. "Everybody is living their busy lives and here, everything is slowed down and I like it that way. Makes me sleep better at night." Myrt's store is the only retail business in Dialville.



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• 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 8 p.m.
Our offices are closed on weekends and holidays.

Mallard Fillmore by BRUCE TINSLEY
A LONG TIME AGO, ALL MOVIES HAD SUBTITLES...
...OF COURSE THIS CUSTOM WAS ONLY PRACTICAL...
...BACK WHEN PEOPLE WHO'D FINISHED THE FIRST GRADE...
...KNEW HOW TO READ...
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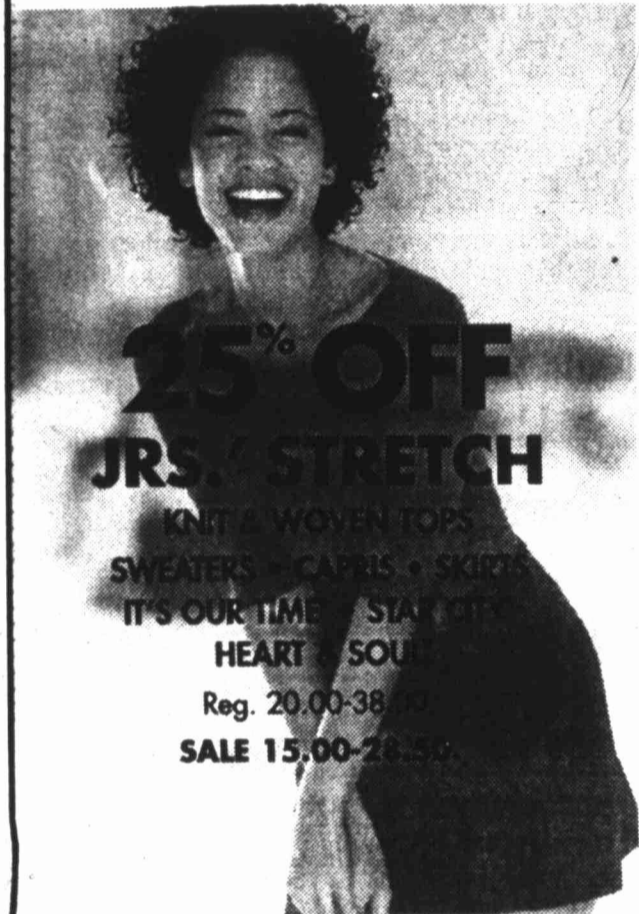
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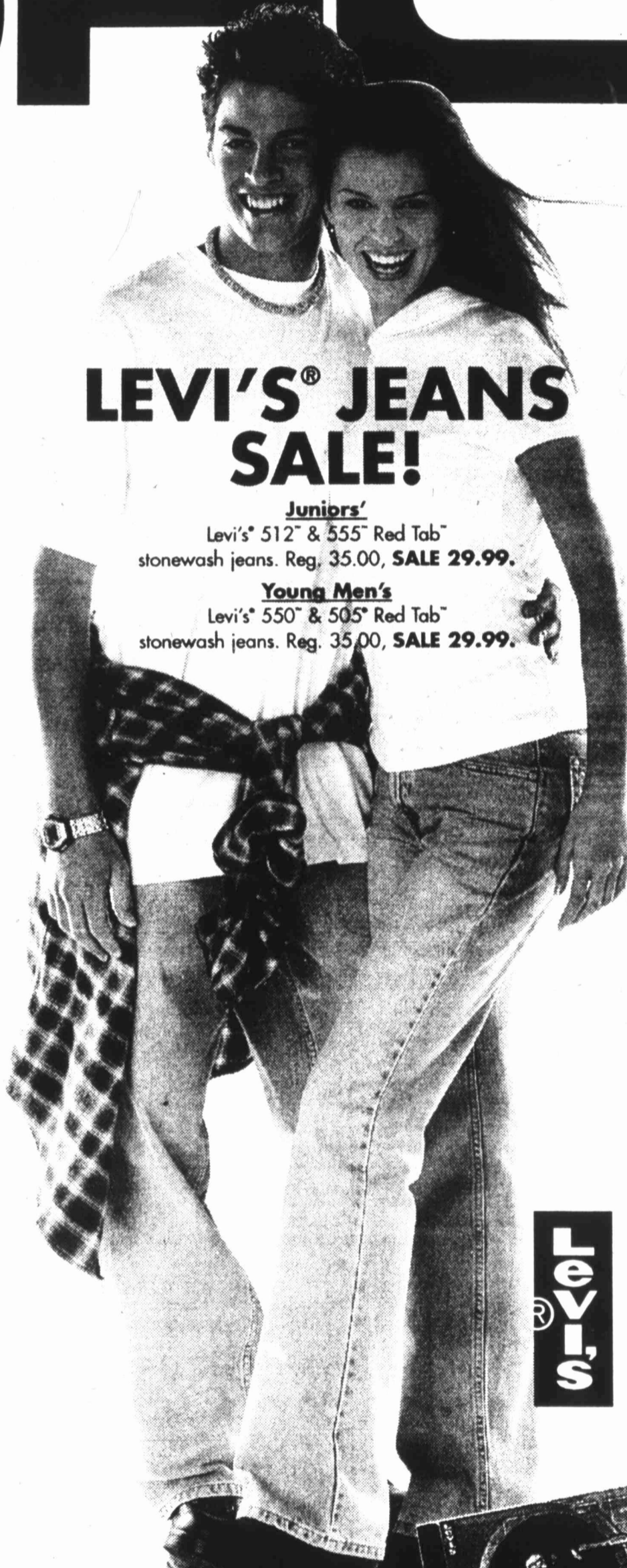
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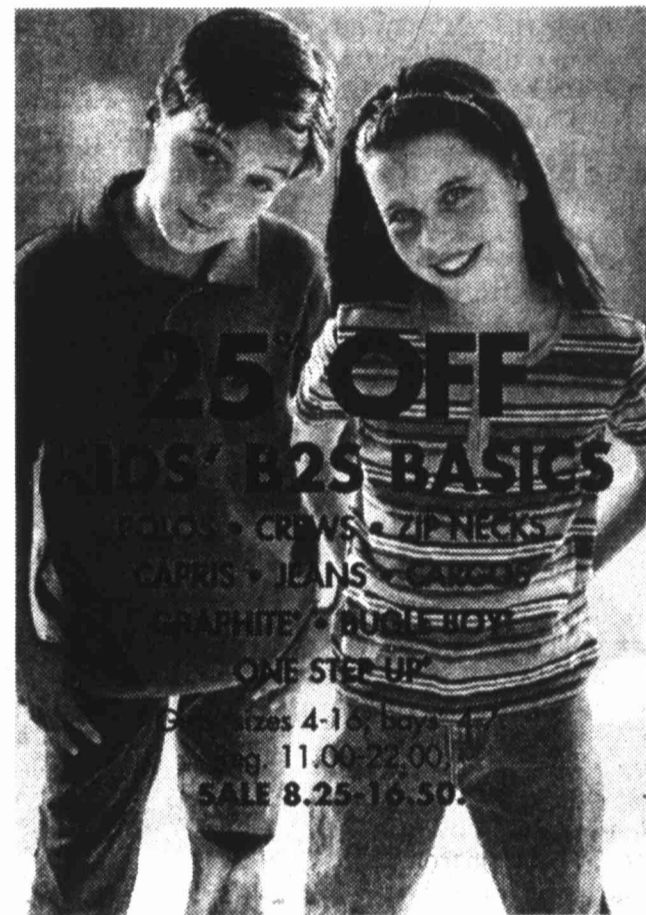


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IN BR

Pool, Middleton at High Plains F

Chance Pool at Middleton of B turned in impress mances last wee High Plains Jun Association Finals. Both prepped for with wins at th County 4-H Junior Pool won the U riding season ch by finishing first go-round and third ond.

Those finishes le ond in the Final going into the shor which he promptly Middleton, who c four Girls' 16-1 events, chalked u tying champion: fourth in both the ing and breakaw events and finish ribbon roping.

Miranda expect at Missouri Valk

Kurt Miranda, Spring High Scho and two-way star 1998 Steers footba expected to contin iron career thi Missouri Valley Marshall, Mo.

Vikings head Stanley announced that he expects l play this season.

Big Spring Steer on sale to seas

Season ticket ho the first option on Steers 1999 footb that are now on BSISD Business O The four-game t age is priced at \$1 Season ticket h have until Friday, purchase tickets.

After that, ticket sale to the general Monday, Aug. 16 u Sept. 3.

Tickets will be 8:30 a.m. until 4 office will be close until 1 p.m.

Hunter educatio offering student

A hunter educa has been schedule 7, in Big Spring.

The course is r the Texas Parks a Department for : born on or after Se Boyce Hale w course instructor. \$10 per student is The course is offered in a home mat. Those cho option w ll study materials used in After completi course's exercises Hale or the TP&W ule a one-day cla field exercise sessi For more inforr Hale at 267-6957.

Area coaches r to return questi

Area football c asked to return t football questi soon as possible.

Through today, Forsan and Bord coaches have been Information prov used to pro Crossroads Footb section, to be Thursday, Aug. 26

Schools included Spring, Coahom Garden City, Bor Grady, Sands and

ON THE

Radio
MAJOR LEAGUE BA
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Television
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6:30 p.m. — Atlan Pittsburgh Pirates or Rockies at Cincinnati ESPN, Ch. 30.

7:30 p.m. — Minn at Texas Rangers, F 9:30 p.m. — San Giants at Arizona Dia or Tampa Bay Devil I Seattle Mariners, ES

HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR THURSDAY, AUG. 5:

Build on present assets this year. Don't try to shake up the status quo any more than might happen naturally. Your sixth sense comes through for you over and over as you seek to make your mark on your community and immediate circle. Get plenty of exercise and avoid worrying. Spontaneity works for you. Follow a special daydream. If you are single, a friendship could develop into a lot more, if you are open. However, don't count on this relationship to last forever until it has considerable history. If attached, your partner becomes especially romantic. You'll love it! GEMINI remains a pal.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ***You are intellectually in tune with family member; his request finally makes sense! Trying to hold or anchor another down isn't possible. Let others talk, even if you think that much of what is said is superficial. Sometimes, heavy statements are conveyed in this manner. Be as clear as possible. Tonight: Out and about.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ****Seize the moment to handle problems and have that talk. Think about a proposition; return calls; keep up with news. You understand way more about another's suggestion than he realizes. Clarify what you are hearing now, as communication could get crazy later. Tonight: Pay bills.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ***You might not always be as clear as you would like about finances. Right now, get into the budget yourself; rip it apart. Information gained while doing research has long-run implications. Take action, once you are sure of the facts. Be confident. Others want to hear from you. Tonight: Whatever makes you smile.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ****Others listen to your words. Say what you think, especially with friends and in meetings. Don't hold back now. What appears to be a major personal goal might waver because of events and discussions in the next few weeks. Be flexible, but don't act impulsively. Tonight: Take a night off.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ****Accept the limelight; take responsibility. Dealing with others remains your strong suit. Intuition helps as well. Someone whispers important information in your ear; listen! Make a must meeting; network. Others make it clear that they need your feedback. Tonight: Express your gregarious nature.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ****Make calls; sign up for that seminar. Reaching out for others at a distance helps you see facts more realistically. Do not push as hard to make a point with a friend; he gets it. Network; seek out new ideas. Take leadership roles at work and within the family. Others trust you. Tonight: In the limelight!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ****Work with others on an individual level. Handle a present monetary and professional situation, even if you aren't comfortable with all the details. Today is a power day; get as much done as you can. Seek experts; enlist outside support. Mercury goes direct, revealing solutions to problems. Tonight: Escape and relax.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ****Take an overview when another offers up a suggestion. You don't always have to agree, but you can understand where another comes from. Question your facts as well. Could you be excluding a solution through rigid thinking? Brainstorming with another proves to be an eye-opener. Tonight: Intense conversation.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

***Get into work and get as much done as possible. An associate proves his worth with suggestion after suggestion. He sees what you don't; together, you make quite a team. Appreciate your differences. Revamp short-term goals. Events will point the way with new information. Tonight: Make mental plans for a new project.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ****Creativity flows from your very essence and is further enhanced by others and conversations. Right now, your mind is a ticker tape as you come up with solutions and great ideas. Another isn't challenging you - he is chiming in. Schedule a checkup with the dentist soon. Tonight: Efficiently clearing out errands.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ****Finish work, even if you opt to take some home. Ideas go back and forth; the exchange stimulates creativity. Take a look at your health and dietary patterns. It might just be time for a resolution. You have everything going for you! Make the most of your assets. Tonight: Start the weekend early.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ****Clear your desk; get errands done. Brainstorming with a co-worker might lead to something else. Do you want this? You have high energy and desirability. Don't avoid a domestic issue - deal with it. Stop deferring decisions. Take control of your life. Tonight: Mellow works!

BORN TODAY
Actress Erika Szlezak (1946), actor Jonathan Silverman (1966), actress Josie Bissett (1970)

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Ventura leads Mets into first place

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Robin Ventura and the New York Mets have the Atlanta Braves in unfamiliar territory - second place.

The Mets, 15-4 since the All-Star break, are a game in front of the Braves, who lost to Pittsburgh 7-1 after the Mets defeated Milwaukee 10-3 Tuesday night. It's the first time since 1994 that the Braves have been out of first place in August.

Ventura went 4-for-4 with a homer and three RBIs for the Mets and has six homers and 12 RBIs in his last seven games. He had RBI singles in the first and third innings and hit his 24th homer for a 6-2 lead in the fifth. He walked in the seventh and added a single in the eighth.

"Over the course of my career, I've been streaky in that way," Ventura said. "For a long period of time I won't hit a lot of home runs, and then I'll go for a while where I hit them, usually more in the second half than the first half, and I don't know why."

In other National League games, it was Cincinnati 2, Colorado 1; Philadelphia 6, Florida 5; St. Louis 6, San Diego 0; Montreal 9, the Cubs 4; Houston 7, Los Angeles 2; and San Francisco 3, Arizona 1.

In American League games, it was Cleveland 5, Boston 4; Toronto 3, New York 1; Seattle 5, Tampa Bay 2; Texas 9, Minnesota 5; Oakland 12, Baltimore 2; Kansas City 7, Anaheim 0; and Chicago 9, Detroit 6.

Orel Hershiser (11-8) allowed three runs in 7 1/3 innings and Mike Piazza hit a three-run homer and drove in four runs for visiting New York.

Piazza had an RBI groundout in the first and his 23rd home

run in the eighth. Hershiser allowed six hits, struck out four and walked two. Masato Yoshii, demoted to the bullpen, retired the side on four pitches in the ninth.

It was Yoshii's first relief appearance after 49 starts for the Mets. Bill Pulsipher (3-2) allowed six runs - four earned - and nine hits in five innings in his first start against his former team.

Pirates 7, Braves 1
Kris Benson pitched four-hit ball for eight innings, and all four Pirates hits off Atlanta starter Kevin Millwood were solo homers.

The Pirates didn't have a hit until Kevin Young hit his 16th homer to start the fifth, then proceeded to hit three more homers off Millwood (12-6) - by Al Martin, Brian Giles and Warren Morris - in the next two innings.

Benson (9-8) has allowed two runs on 10 hits in 17 innings in his last two starts.

Reds 2, Rockies 1
Aaron Boone hit a tiebreaking single with the bases loaded in the bottom of ninth for Cincinnati.

The Reds won for the eighth time in 10 games and beat a wild Mike DeJean (2-4). DeJean came on with one out in the ninth and walked Greg Vaughn, gave up a single to Barry Larkin and walked Eddie Taubensee to load the bases. Boone then lined his first pitch to left for the win.

Phillies 6, Marlins 5
Rico Brogna and Mike Lieberthal hit back-to-back home runs in the eighth inning to lift Philadelphia.

Chad Ogea, an emergency starter for the Phillies, held Florida hitless the first five innings. He left after giving up

three runs and three hits in the sixth inning.

Curt Schilling was scheduled to start for the Phillies, but he returned to Philadelphia about two hours before game time upon learning that his pregnant wife was hospitalized.

Brogna led off the eighth with his 14th homer. Lieberthal followed with his 22nd off Brian Edmondson (4-6).

Amaury Telemaco (3-0) pitched the seventh for the win. Wayne Gomes allowed two runs in the ninth before getting his 16th save.

Cardinals 6, Padres 0
Darren Oliver pitched a four-hit shutout and Mark McGwire's drive for 500 homers stalled.

Oliver (7-7) had a career-high 11 strikeouts and walked two to win his third straight start and pitch his third career shutout. The four hits allowed were a career low.

The Padres' Tony Gwynn went 0-for-4 to remain at career 2,995 hits.

McGwire, who singled and scored twice, has 498 career homers.

Craig Paquette went 2-for-4 with a homer, double and three RBIs in his Cardinals debut.

Expos 9, Cubs 4
Vladimir Guerrero, Shane Andrews and Chris Widger hit solo home runs as Montreal won at Chicago, the Expos' fourth straight win.

Brad Fullmer, Orlando Cabrera and pitcher Javier Vazquez each drove in two runs for the Expos.

The Cubs lost for the ninth time in 11 games, spoiling the first career start for Micah Bowie (0-2).

Sammy Sosa went 1-for-4 with three strikeouts to remain tied with McGwire for the major

league home run lead at 41.

Vazquez (5-5) gave up three runs and seven hits in five innings.

Astros 7, Dodgers 2
Mike Hampton allowed three hits in seven innings to win his sixth straight decision and become the second 15-game winner in the NL.

Hampton (15-3) won for the 10th time in his last 11 starts and matched Kent Bottenfield of St. Louis with his 15th victory.

The Astros won for the ninth time in 11 games. The visiting Dodgers have lost 11 of 14 games.

The Astros scored five runs after two outs in the third inning off Darren Dreifort (8-11).

Giants 3, Diamondbacks 1
Charlie Hayes hit a two-out, three-run homer in the eighth inning, and Livan Hernandez won his first game in San Francisco's victory at Arizona.

The second-place Giants cut Arizona's NL West lead to 2 1/2 games.

Hernandez (6-10), in his second start since being acquired by the Giants, allowed two hits in seven innings.

Blue Jays 3, Yankees 1
Joey Hamilton pitched six strong innings and Tony Batista hit a tiebreaking single in the seventh as Toronto beat New York for the first time in eight tries this season.

Hamilton (4-6) cruised through the first five innings, scattering three hits and facing just two over the minimum before Joe Girardi led off the sixth with his first homer since July 9, 1998, tying it 1-1.

The Blue Jays recaptured the lead an inning later when Homer Bush doubled and scored on Batista's single.

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29.99 512" & 550" Red Tab™ slim & relaxed fit stonewash jeans. Reg. 35.00.	KIDS'
YOUNG MEN'S	18.99 Boys' 4-7 & Girls' 4-6X: 550" Red Tab™ stonewash jeans. Reg. 22.00.
29.99 505" & 550" Red Tab™ classic & relaxed fit stonewash jeans. Reg. 35.00. Juniors', Misses' Sportswear, Men's Sportswear, Children's.	19.99 Girls' 7-16: 550" Red Tab™ stonewash jeans. Reg. 25.00.
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WEDNESDAY

AUG. 4

Table with 23 columns representing different TV channels (KMD, KPEJ, KERA, etc.) and rows listing various programs and their scheduled times.

HAGAR



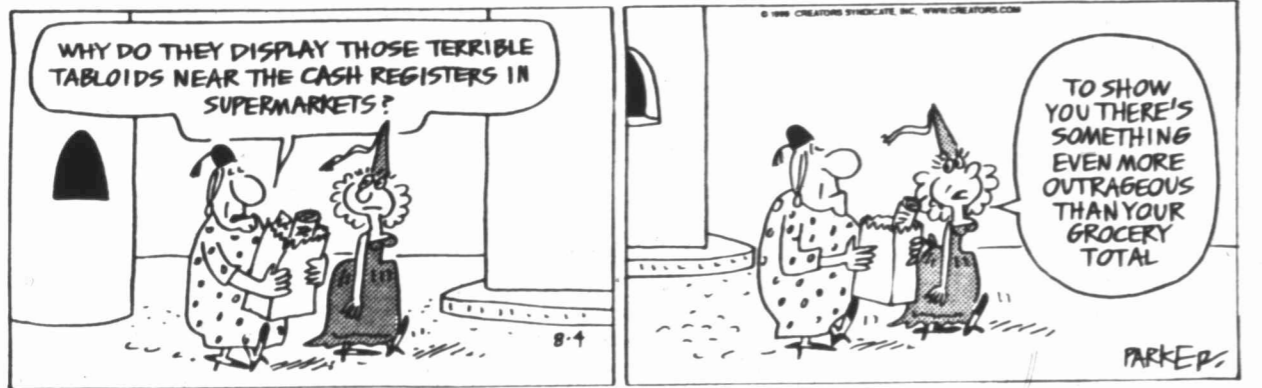
B.C.



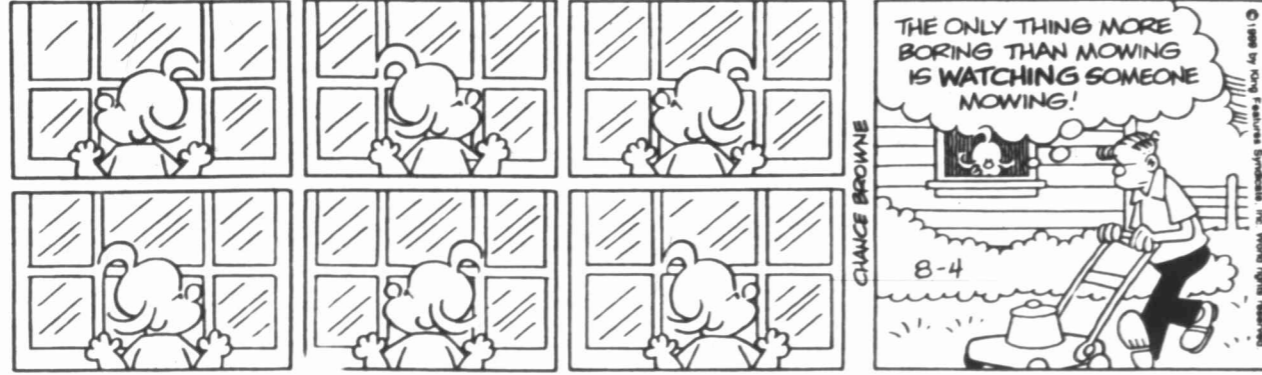
GEECH



WIZARD OF ID



HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILY



BLONDIE



FAMILY CIRCUS



"He pulled the shell over his head and tucked his feet into his pockets."

DENNIS THE MENACE



"WE SHOULD BE STOCKIN' UP ON COOKIES FOR Y2K."

THIS DATE
IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS
Today is Wednesday, Aug. 4, the 216th day of 1999. There are 149 days left in the year.

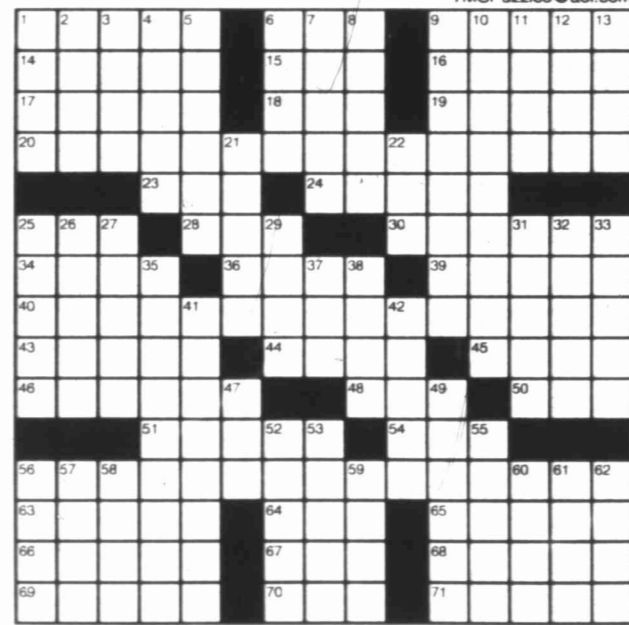
Today's Highlight in History:
On Aug. 4, 1892, Andrew and Abby Borden were axed to death in their home in Fall River, Mass. Lizzie Borden, Andrew Borden's daughter from a previous marriage, was

accused and acquitted.
On this date:
In 1735, a jury acquitted John Peter Zenger of the "New York Weekly Journal" of seditious libel.
In 1790, the Coast Guard had its beginnings as the Revenue Cutter Service.
In 1830, plans for the city of Chicago were laid out.
In 1914, Britain declared war on Germany while the United States proclaimed its neutrality.
In 1916, the United States purchased the Danish Virgin Islands for \$25 million.
In 1944, Nazi police raided the secret annex of a building in Amsterdam and arrested eight people — including 15-year-old Anne Frank, whose diary became a famous document of the Holocaust. (Anne died at Bergen-Belsen.)
In 1964, the bodies of missing civil rights workers Michael H. Schwerner, Andrew Goodman and James E. Chaney were found buried in an earthen dam in Mississippi.
In 1977, President Carter signed a measure establishing the Department of Energy.
In 1987, the Federal Communications Commission voted 4-0 to rescind the Fairness Doctrine, which required radio and television stations to present balanced coverage of controversial issues.
In 1991, the Greek luxury liner "Oceanos" sank in heavy seas off South Africa's southeast coast; all 402 passengers and 179 crew survived.
Ten years ago: Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani offered to help end the hostage crisis in Lebanon, prompting President Bush to say he was "encouraged."
Five years ago: Serb-dominated Yugoslavia withdrew its support for Bosnian Serbs, sealing the 300-mile border between Yugoslavia and Serb-held Bosnia.
One year ago: Turning aside an urgent White House appeal, Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist cleared the way for prosecutors to question White House lawyers about their advice to President Clinton in the Monica Lewinsky case. The Dow Jones industrial average plunged 299.43 points, the third-biggest point drop to that time (since then, the fifth-biggest to date), finishing at 8,487.31.

THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS
1 "The Bell Jar" author
6 Bloom-to-be
9 Hoax
14 Scoundrel
15 Buckeyes' sch.
16 Social class
17 City south of Gainesville
18 Put in the fix
19 That bullet got me!
20 Yuri Gagarin
23 Eureka!
24 Grind (teeth)
25 Naughty
28 Sitcom actor
30 El Greco painting, "View of..."
34 God of war
36 Selves
39 Change charts
40 Thrift shop
43 Italian novelist
44 Calvin
45 Ending for young or old
46 Famous folk, for short
48 Butter serving
50 Victorian or Edwardian, e.g.
51 Still places in streams
54 French possessive pronoun
56 Charmed marriage?
63 Wheel spokes
64 Hatterlike
65 More rational
66 Pale blue
68 Over the hill
69 Lake Geneva spa
69 Bombarbs
70 Crafty
71 Like nostalgic fashions



By Lyell Rodieck
Washington, DC

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved



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Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including 'AUTOS FOR SALE' and various car listings.

