

BIG SPRING HERALD

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

TUESDAY
October 19, 1999

WEATHER

Tonight:



PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT 33°-35°
WEDNESDAY 67°-69°

Senior Circle to host health fair Thursday

Scenic Mountain Medical Center's Senior Circle chapter will host a health fair Thursday for all adults age 50 and over.

The event is planned from 10 a.m.-noon in the first floor classroom at the hospital. It will include a free mammogram giveaway, information on breast cancer, neck massages and a discount on membership to Senior Circle.

All participants are invited to bring their prescription medication to talk with a pharmacist about drug interactions and side effects. Information on File of Life, a program to keep track of medications taken in case of emergency, will also be available.

There is no charge to participate in the health fair. Call Pam Stephens at 268-4721 for more information.

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY

□ Quarterback Club, 7 p.m., Big Spring High School Athletic Training Center.

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

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

WEDNESDAY

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

□ Senior Circle Big Spring Mall Walkers meet 9:15 a.m. in front of movie theater box office.

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

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

□ 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. for 55 and older.

□ Kiwanis Club, noon, Howard College Cactus Room.

□ Raclely-Swords Chapter 379 Vitenam Veterans of America, 7 p.m., 124

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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.

'Tower of Terror' participants planning for large turnout next week

By **BILL McCLELLAN**
News Editor

Groups participating in the Settles Haunted House and Fall Festival met Monday afternoon to finalize plans for the "Tower of Terror."



PRATHER

The Big Spring haunted house will be held Tuesday, Oct. 26,

and Thursday-Saturday, Oct. 28-30 to raise funds to help fund the restoration of the West Texas landmark.

Mel Prather, co-chairman of the event, said the initial meeting was productive.

"What we wanted to do was meet with various groups and individuals to discuss plans for the spook house and allow them to begin signing up for food booths in the fall festival and rooms in the spook house."

Prather pointed out that the fall festival will be held in the former cafe in the Settles and will allow service clubs, church

groups and other organizations to raise money for their own projects.

"The cost for these booths are \$25 for the four days, which includes electricity. By being inside the building," he said, "they'll be able to leave items inside overnight."

Set-up times in both the haunted house and fall festival will begin at 1 p.m. Monday.

"Since the spook house will be opening its doors at 6 p.m. Tuesday, it's important that we get as much finalized as possible on Monday," Prather said. "But for those who would rather

set up Tuesday, we'll be open at 3 p.m."

Co-chairman John Walker said there are still rooms available in the haunted house as well as booth space in the fall festival.

"Because we are having this in the Settles, we expect a large turnout," he said. "We've opened it up to allow civic groups, businesses or individuals to take rooms in the haunted house because of manpower concerns."

"There are still two or three rooms that we need manned ... and we can always use individ-

TO PARTICIPATE

To reserve a room in the haunted house, booth space in the fall festival or just to volunteer to help out, call: Mel Prather, 263-7331, or John H. Walker, 263-7331.

uals to help with the haunted house."

Walker said during last year's

See **SPOOKS**, Page 2

Teen Court provides less harsh 'wake-up' call

HERALD Staff Report

Graffiti, assault without injury, fighting in school, theft, vandalism, possession of drug paraphernalia, disorderly conduct, criminal trespass of a habitation, disorderly conduct, violation of curfew and other violations of public order by young people are potentially much more serious than mere "youthful indiscretions."

Teens who have received a citation for a traffic violation or a Class C misdemeanor offense are too often on the road to trouble. Many teens who find themselves in the criminal court system and city and county jails started off with similar traffic violations and Class C criminal offenses, according to Gail Earls, director of the Teen Court of Big Spring.

"The Teen Court is an alternative to the adult criminal justice system," said Earls. "The Teen Court offers teen offenders an opportunity to make restitution for their offenses through community services or other appropriate punishment, thus avoiding fines and sentences handed down by an adult criminal justice system."

Irene Bustamante, Teen Court board president, said a youthful violator learns nothing from paying a simple fine. "Too often, parents are the ones paying the fines and the youth may or may not have been exposed to the consequences of his offense."

Teen Court sponsors hope that young offenders will better understand the consequences of breaking the law and that cleaning up graffiti after an embarrassing hearing in front of a panel of teen peers might be the answer for many of them.

Teen Court then is not just an alternative to the criminal justice system, noted Earls, but is a "hands-on educational opportunity to learn how our system of justice works. We want them to learn," said Earls.



BUSTAMANTE



HERALD photo

Cleaning out a supply room at Big Spring Fire Department's Fire Station No. 1 was part of the sentence handed down by Teen Court for this girl.

Except for Earls, Teen Court is an all-volunteer, non-profit agency authorized by the 1989 state legislature to allow juveniles to have certain misdemeanor charges dismissed upon the completion of a teen court program.

Persons under 18 who are enrolled full time in an accredited secondary school for a high school diploma may request Teen Court for most Class C misdemeanors and

See **TEEN COURT**, Page 2

Lack of financial income plagues alternative system

HERALD Staff Report

Teen Court of Big Spring has lots of possibilities, but what it doesn't have is a lot of assets and resources. The alternative program of community service for



EARLS

young violators of traffic laws and other misdemeanors runs on what some would call a shoestring budget.

In fact, there is no budget. "We've never had enough money to have a budget," said Teen Court director Gail Earls, who admits it is tough getting donations when there are so many worthy causes.

Big Spring Independent School District donates \$1,000 to Teen Court while the city gives \$1,200. Beyond that, the

only steady income is the \$10 administrative fee each youth pays upon registration. Small donations are occasionally received, said Earls.

Teen Court's board is looking for grant money from a variety of sources and there is an effort to get the court listed as a United Way member agency.

"I would think that parents would see this as a good program," said Irene Bustamante, president of the court's board of directors. "and it teaches

responsibility. We're all in this together."

"If we had money," said Earls, "I could have classes in anger control and parent-child relationships and more. We have a lot of good ideas, we just don't have a lot of money."

Earls is the only paid staff member, but hasn't been drawing that lately.

"I'm supposed to get \$323.22 a week, net, but I haven't gotten

See **BUDGET**, Page 2

For students' sake, SWCID building bridges to Gallaudet

By **MARSHA STURDIVANT**
Staff Writer

An opportunity to transfer to a university was uppermost in the minds of three SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf students when they attended open house at Gallaudet University in Washington D.C. "Since I started working here at SWCID I've wanted to help my students have strong organizations. Gallaudet has strong organizations, and I took these students to see a big university with strong organizations," said Beverly Buchanan, SWCID dean of students through American Sign Language interpreter Tabitha Haynes.

SWCID students Levi Anderson, Eric Castro and Gabriela Lazarre attended the open house, stayed in campus dormitory housing and attended a football game. They also saw volleyball and soccer tournaments at Gallaudet, she said. "They were on their own Friday and Saturday, and we

worked together Sunday and Monday before we left to come back to Big Spring, she said.

Buchanan said she made a video which she will edit and show to all SWCID students, in an effort to encourage them to continue their education.

"Everyone signs at Gallaudet, so there are no communication barriers. This university is the mecca for the deaf, as it is the only deaf university in the world," she said.

Buchanan is hoping that this visit, as well as future visits

See **SWCID**, Page 2



Asian Deaf Congress to draw local college students

By **MARSHA STURDIVANT**
Staff Writer

SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf plans to stand up and be counted at the third annual National Asian Deaf Congress 2000 Conference in Washington D.C. March 28-April 2, 2000.

Miss Asian Deaf SWCID, Pethai Leela-Apiradee, as well as five other SWCID stu-

dents are planning to attend.

"This is the first time SWCID has been represented at the congress, and we are very excited that Pethai will be going to stand for SWCID at this important event," said Beverly Buchanan, SWCID dean of students through American Sign Language interpreter Tabitha Haynes.

The congress is an occasion for all Asian deaf regardless of age or culture, to gather

and share their opportunities, challenges and achievements, according to conference chairman Fred Mangrubang.

The conference will feature keynote speakers workshops, panels, children and youth activities, tours, parent programs, cultural entertainment, arts and crafts booths and dance.

See **STUDENTS**, Page 2

Helping others

Difference Day organizers say event promises to be bigger

By **MARSHA STURDIVANT**
Staff Writer

Calling all volunteers and just nice people! Organizers for the third annual Make A Difference Day Saturday are anticipating great local support taking part in a national observance.

"We've got up to 28 booths signed already, and we had 22 last year, so we're above where we were last year," said Danelle Castillo, Salvation Army social services director.

"And we've received a grant from Wal-Mart for \$1,000 to go toward our efforts to Make A Difference Day a great success," said Castillo, an organizer for Make A Difference Day.

The grant will be used to buy supplies and materials for Make A Difference Day, as well as provide lunch for all the volunteers.

Castillo said the Health Fair, scheduled Saturday from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Salvation Army, 811 West Fifth, will offer something for everyone.

"This is an excellent opportunity to get those health screenings we all need, but can sometimes not afford, or we're not able to find the time," she said.

And Make A Difference Day coordinator Nancy Jones said the Health Fair is for the working poor, those individuals who have jobs but perhaps not any insurance.

The Howard County Health Department may be providing free flu shots for indigent com-

See **DIFFERENCE**, Page 2

Pethai Leela-Apiradee, center, was recently named Miss Deaf Asian SWCID, and will attend the National Asian Deaf Congress 2000 Conference in Washington D.C. in the spring, along with five other SWCID students. Beverly Buchanan, dean of students, and Ron Brasel, provost for SWCID, stopped to pose with Pethai.

Courtesy photo

OCT 19 1999

President Clinton, GOP ready to meet at White House to settle budget differences

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton and top congressional Republicans are holding budget talks at the White House even as their heightened distrust and rancor complicates prospects for a quick agreement.

The two sides planned to meet today, 19 days into a new fiscal year in which only five of the 13 annual spending bills become law. Five others have either been vetoed or face veto threats over issues including hiring teachers and police officers and blocking tougher environmental requirements for some oil and mining companies.

But with neither party ready to go to the brink, Congress planned as early as today to approve an eight-day extension of the temporary measure that has kept federal agencies open since fiscal 2000 started on Oct. 1. The first stopgap bill expires Thursday night.

"I'm just going to reach out a hand of friendship and hope that we can work together," Clinton said of the White House session Monday night in

Newark, N.J., where he attended a Democratic fund-raising event.

That hand is being extended as relations between the White House and Congress, already soured by Clinton's impeachment trial, have worsened. Last week's Senate rejection of the nuclear test ban treaty, a top administration foreign policy goal, has sparked bitter accusations of partisanship from both sides.

"I understand about public discourse in this town. Sometimes it gets colorful," acknowledged House Majority Leader Dick Arney, R-Texas.

Nonetheless, Arney and other GOP leaders saw the White House meeting as an opportunity to insist that they won't raise taxes or use Social Security surpluses to pay for the extra spending that Clinton wants.

Citing projections by the non-partisan Congressional Budget office, the White House says even without meeting all of Clinton's budget demands, GOP spending plans would spend billions in Social

Security surpluses.

"The president's budget wouldn't spend the Social Security surplus," said White House budget director Jack Lew. "Congress has said they want to do the same thing. We don't believe they have. We need to work out our differences in a fiscally responsible way."

Clinton proposed paying for additional spending by raising tobacco taxes, levies charged industry to cover toxic waste cleanups and other revenues — proposals Republicans have turned down.

Of the five bills in the center of this year's spending fight, Clinton wants less than \$10 billion over what Republicans have offered, a tiny portion of the nearly \$600 billion that the annual spending bills control.

And in recent weeks, Republicans have added billions of dollars to move closer to Clinton's proposals. Those bills cover the departments of Interior, Commerce, Justice, State, Labor, Education, Health and Human Services, and foreign aid.

Senate sets vote on campaign finance

WASHINGTON (AP) — Campaign finance legislation is tottering toward a pair of Senate test votes after a symbolic show of opposition to unlimited soft-money contributions to political parties.

"This is a defining vote," Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., said shortly before the Senate went on record 92-1 Monday for a soft-money ban that is at the heart of his legislation to curtail the role of big money in campaigns.

But Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., the principal Senate foe of the legislation, said the vote was nothing of the sort. In advance, he pronounced the roll call meaningless and successfully urged opponents of the campaign finance bill to join with supporters.

Only Sen. Ernest Hollings, D-S.C., dissented.

That set the stage for today's two scheduled votes, in which supporters will need a majority of 60 to advance beyond a filibuster led by McConnell and other Republicans.

The legislation would ban soft money and allow nonunion members to restrict the ability of unions to spend mandatory

dues on political activities. McCain and Sen. Russell Feingold, D-Wis., stripped the measure of other restrictions on campaign money in an attempt to avoid the fate of earlier measures, all of which have died at the hands of filibusters.

Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle also decided to seek a vote on the broader bill that McCain and Feingold have supported in past years.

Soft money is distinct from so-called hard money, in which the

size of a donor's contribution is limited.

Monday's vote capped a day of often lively debate in which opponents of the legislation renewed their attack on McCain's assertion that large soft-money donations are corrupting.

"Those who are corrupt will be corrupt regardless of the system. And those who are not corrupt will not be corrupt regardless of the system," said Sen. Robert F. Bennett, R-Utah.

At least 5 killed in fireworks blast at border town

NUEVO LAREDO, Mexico (AP) — An explosion in a candy store illegally selling fireworks killed at least five people Monday in the border city of Nuevo Laredo — the country's second fatal fireworks accident in a month.

The explosion occurred in the late afternoon in the residential neighborhood of Colonial Mirador in the western part of the city, across the border from Laredo. It could be heard miles away.

Huge chunks of concrete flew in the air, destroying two homes and damaging several others. Small explosions of fireworks and gunpowder continued after the blast. An undetermined number of people were injured.

"We were in the house when we heard a strong explosion, and we felt as if we had been pushed to the floor," said Patricia Diaz, who lives on the same street.

The blast follows a Sept. 26 explosion at a candy store that also sold fireworks illegally in Celaya, 120 miles northeast of Mexico City. It killed 63 people and injured hundreds.

After the explosion, federal officials said they would crack down on shops illegally storing and selling fireworks, which are a traditional part of Mexican celebrations.

The precise number of deaths in Monday's explosion was difficult to determine because the victims' bodies were ripped apart by the blast, some propelled as far as 165 feet.

"We don't know how much gunpowder exploded, but I'm sure it was more than 400 pounds," said a local security official, Guillermo Ramos.

It was not known what set off the explosion.

The owner of the shop, Fermin Huerta, who was near the store at the time of the explosion, suffered an arm injury and was arrested pending the investigation, said Ramiro Tellez, director of civil protection.

Neighbors said he had sold fireworks from the store for 22 years.

Firefighters and paramedics from Laredo, Texas, assisted in putting out the fire and treating the injured.

Last month's explosion was believed to have been caused by four tons of fireworks and gunpowder stored illegally in a shop in the town market. The shop owner died.

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WEEK 7
Games of Oct. 23 - 25

16	
15	
14	
13	
12	
11	
10	
9	
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HOW TO PLAY
Select a winner from each of the week's games, listed below. Select in descending order of your CONFIDENCE in your choices. Win points at left for each correct selection toward possible total of 136 points. See complete rules below. You must be at least 8 (eight) years old to enter. To enter, clip along dotted line, then place game entry in POWER POINTS container at co-sponsor's retail outlet(s). Entrants must list name, address and phone number below.

LIMIT: You may enter only once weekly.

DEADLINE: 2 P.M. FRIDAY

TIEBREAKER 1 Total points scored (both teams) in COWBOYS game.

TIEBREAKER 2 Total offensive yards (both teams) in this game.

THIS WEEK'S GAMES

Buffalo at Seattle	NY Jets at Oakland
Chicago at Tampa Bay	Philadelphia at Miami
Cincinnati at Indianapolis	San Francisco at Minnesota
Cleveland at St. Louis	Washington at Dallas
Denver at New England	Atlanta at Pittsburgh
Detroit at Carolina	Texas Tech at Baylor
Green Bay at San Diego	Texas A&M at Oklahoma
New Orleans at NY Giants	Nebraska at Texas

136 TOTAL POINTS

Name _____
Address _____
City, State(zip) _____
Day Phone() _____
Night Phone() _____

POWER POINTS OFFICIAL RULES

- Object of the game is to amass as many of the 136 possible points as you can. Simply review the week's schedule of games, listed on entry form, and decide which game you are SUREST of picking a winner in. Write the name of your projected winner on the 16-point line. If that team wins its game that week, you win 16 points. Write the name of your second-best winner on the 15-point line, and so on down to the 1-point line, which game you figure to be a toss-up. Next, fill in Tiebreaker 1, the total points scored by both teams in the week's designated game. If this step fails to produce a winner, the judges will apply Tiebreaker 2, total offensive yardage from scrimmage in this game. If a winner still doesn't emerge, a drawing will be held among those contestants still tied. Decisions of the judges are final. The weekly statewide winner of the contest will receive \$1,000.
- Any entry form that does not contain a legible name, address, etc., will be disqualified.
- Entries that fail to forecast a winner from each and every game will be disqualified, as will entries that fail to distinguish between the Jets and Giants of New York and other similar teams.
- No points are awarded on tie games or in case any game is not played for any reason during its scheduled week.
- Entering POWER POINTS constitutes permission by contestant for his or her name and photograph to be used for news and reasonable promotional purposes at no charge.
- Employees of this newspaper and their immediate families are ineligible to participate.
- Any inquiry about or protest of weekly results must be made by noon on the Friday following the announcement of winners.
- No purchase necessary. Facsimile game entry forms will be accepted. Enter contest by dropping entry form into POWER POINTS container at participating co-sponsors.
- Weekly deadline for entry will be 2 p.m. Fridays except when noted otherwise on weekly entry form.
- Neither this newspaper nor any co-sponsor will be responsible for illegible entry forms or those lost, stolen or damaged in any way.
- Limit one entry per person per week. Each entry must represent the original work of one entrant; "group" entries, "systems" or other attempts to enter multiple entries will be disqualified. Filing out extra forms and pulling your friends' and relatives' names on them violates this rule. Any such entries are destroyed prior to grading.
- Contestants must have reached the age of eight (8) years by the Sunday of any weekly play.

OCT 19 1999

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

Why not volunteer Saturday and help make a difference

On Saturday, dozens of volunteers from all walks of life will spend the day serving others. They call this national campaign Make A Difference Day.

Locally, the Salvation Army will head up the effort for the third year. Thus far, more than 20 organizations have declared their participation in tasks that will include doing chores for neighbors, or taking part in a health fair at Salvation Army headquarters, 811 West Fifth.

This community event will offer something for everyone — health screenings, information and referrals. Organizers said the fair is aimed at — but not limited to — the "working poor," those individuals who have jobs but perhaps not any insurance.

Among its offerings will be free and low-cost flu shots, mammograms, cholesterol checks, depression screenings, glucose tests, blood pressure and even massages.

In addition, two local physicians will provide health screenings and answer questions. Much information concerning a variety of health concerns will be available.

Employees of the Big Spring Herald, joining forces with members of the Literacy Council, will read stories to children and give information to promote reading and literacy.

Several other civic groups, businesses and clubs will participate in this one-day focus on serving others. Some will have been "making a difference" in various ways for a week or even a month ahead of time.

We hope you will take time Saturday to make a difference in someone else's life. It need not be a large undertaking — sometimes the small things make the biggest difference.

It's your effort on behalf of those less fortunate in our community that counts.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to share a few thoughts with the readers. Hopefully, many readers have already, or should have already thought of this themselves.

There is no question that all of the recent shootings, not only in schools, but also in the streets and workplaces are a real national tragedy. But in my opinion, the real tragedies lie ahead. First of all, I don't think that all of the shootings are random. I believe some of them at least are orchestrated and welcomed by some segments of society to implement a far greater plan.

Think about it. Following these incidents there are always more laws, rules and regulations created. More and more "safety" features put into place, and most importantly, at least to "them," more and more personal restrictions implemented. I'm sure that the readers have a good idea who "them" are.

Schools, businesses, streets, airports, parks, etc. are full of video cameras watching your every move. Schools and businesses regularly search people and their private property. Laws are created making it complicated for the honest citizen to freely purchase guns, ammo, and even fertilizer.

Drug sniffing dogs, metal detectors, and X-ray machines are commonplace

at schools and airports. Everyone is required to have a government issued Social Security number, and honest, law-abiding citizens are required in many cases to have a fingerprint on their drivers licenses and gun purchase applications. All of this, and so much more, is becoming routine.

But all of the things that I have mentioned are not the real tragedy. The real tragedy is that "they" are indoctrinating today's younger people into the society of the future. In their 20s and 30s, all of what I have mentioned will be considered normal.

Think of it. Cameras watching you all the time. I.D. required no matter where you go, what you do, or what you buy. Satellites tracking you. Computers monitoring your phone calls and bank accounts. Police stopping you and searching you and your personal belongings at random. Curfews telling when to get off of your own streets at night. It used to be that the police had to have probable cause to stop you. Not any more. Probable cause no is not wearing a seat belt or wearing a trenchcoat.

Some of you may think I am paranoid...I am, with good reason. I am mainly paranoid at those people that are not paranoid.

TIMOTHY E. HATCHER
BIG SPRING

Naturalization rates weight heavy on Hispanics

A new report from the U.S. Census Bureau is enough to give even strong, pro-immigration advocates like myself pause: Recent immigrants are failing to become citizens at the same rate as their predecessors. Only 35 percent of the 25.8 million foreign-born persons living in the United States today have naturalized, the lowest rate in this century.

And among Mexican immigrants, who make up almost one-third of the foreign-born population, the rate is even lower — a shocking 15 percent. Even a few decades ago, the proportion of immigrants who became citizens was much higher. In 1970, more than two-thirds of the foreign born were U.S. citizens. What's going on here?

Many immigration advocates blame the Immigration and Naturalization Service for the

low rate at which immigrants are becoming citizens. They point to the cumbersome naturalization process and the tremendous backlog in applications that the INS has yet to process. The number of applicants awaiting naturalization reached a peak of 1.8 million persons this year. But even if the INS could solve its bureaucratic problems and instantly process all these applications, the rate of citizenship would increase only slightly, to about 41 percent. No, the INS isn't the only problem here.

Nor are all immigrants alike in their reluctance to become citizens. Although naturalization rates are down for all immigrant groups, Europeans and Asians become citizens at much higher rates than most Latin immigrants. More than half of European immigrants are citizens — 53 percent — compared with 44 percent of Asians; but only 31.5 percent of South Americans, 24 percent of Central Americans, and barely 15 percent of Mexicans are naturalized.

In order to apply for citizenship, an immigrant must have lived as a legal, permanent resident in the United States for at least five years, but many immigrants from Latin

America are recent arrivals. As a practical matter, most immigrants who become citizens have lived here a decade or more, and the process itself can take several years. Perhaps more importantly, many Latino immigrants are ineligible to become citizens at all because they are here illegally. Mexicans make up the single largest group of the 5 million illegal aliens living in the United States. They can only become citizens under current law if they return to their country of origin and apply to immigrate here legally.

Is it possible, however, that many recent, legal Mexican immigrants simply don't want to become Americans? A recent poll of Hispanics — done for the Spanish-language television network Univision — suggests, to the contrary, that Hispanics believe strongly in U.S. citizenship. Some 94 percent said they believe that citizenship is important, including almost three-quarters who said it was very important. Nonetheless, there is a huge gap between Hispanic opinion and Mexican immigrant behavior. Whatever they may think about U.S. citizenship, Mexican immigrants simply aren't becoming citizens quickly or in large numbers.

Hispanics leaders ought to view this phenomenon with some alarm. After all, the growing Hispanic political clout these leaders have been promising for years depends on a population capable of voting. If they're serious about helping immigrants, they ought to be devoting all the resources at their disposal to teaching newcomers English and American history and encouraging them to become U.S. citizens. And they ought not to use as an excuse for not doing so the lame rationalization that there isn't government money available to fund special citizenship programs.

An army of Hispanic volunteers with a desire to help their co-ethnics become U.S. citizens is all it would take to turn around the abysmal naturalization rates of Latino immigrants. This ought to be a point of civic pride in the Hispanic community, not to mention self-interest. If Mexicans are slower to assimilate — and the evidence suggests so — Mexican Americans and other U.S.-born Hispanics will suffer as well. Hispanic leaders and civic organizations ought to make this issue their top priority in the coming decade.



LINDA CHAVEZ



Rejecting test ban treaty was the right thing

Be glad the Senate killed the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. A treaty is a piece of paper. No piece of paper has ever in the history of the world deterred any head of state from doing what he or she wanted to do.

Despite all the talk about nonproliferation, nuclear weapons are proliferating. Israel, India and Pakistan have them; Iraq and North Korea were working on them. The Russians are now deploying a new mobile intercontinental missile. Iran is most likely working on nuclear weapons.

To assume that the United States could maintain its nuclear deterrent without testing was a false assumption to begin with. Nukes are not like sticks of dynamite that you can stuff on a shelf and more or

less ignore. They are complex, and the more complexity, the more things can go wrong.

A nuclear-free world is a nice dream. Lord knows I'd like to see it, but I won't, and neither will you. Knowledge cannot be undone, and there are few industrial countries in the world that don't already have the capability of making nukes if they really want to. Germany and Japan, for example, could go nuclear practically overnight if they so desired. And since no one can foresee the future, they may do it one day.

Don't forget, both countries were once our enemies. It is a mistake to believe that the status quo can be maintained forever, that alliances can never shift. George Washington said it best — no country can be trusted beyond its own self-interests, and both governments are perceived change over time.

Furthermore, the Clinton administration simply doesn't inspire confidence in the military arena. Clinton and his top advisors' military experience doesn't equal a week combined,

They are, as their policies have demonstrated, essentially anti-military, little socialist-left effetes who think they are smarter than everybody else in the world.

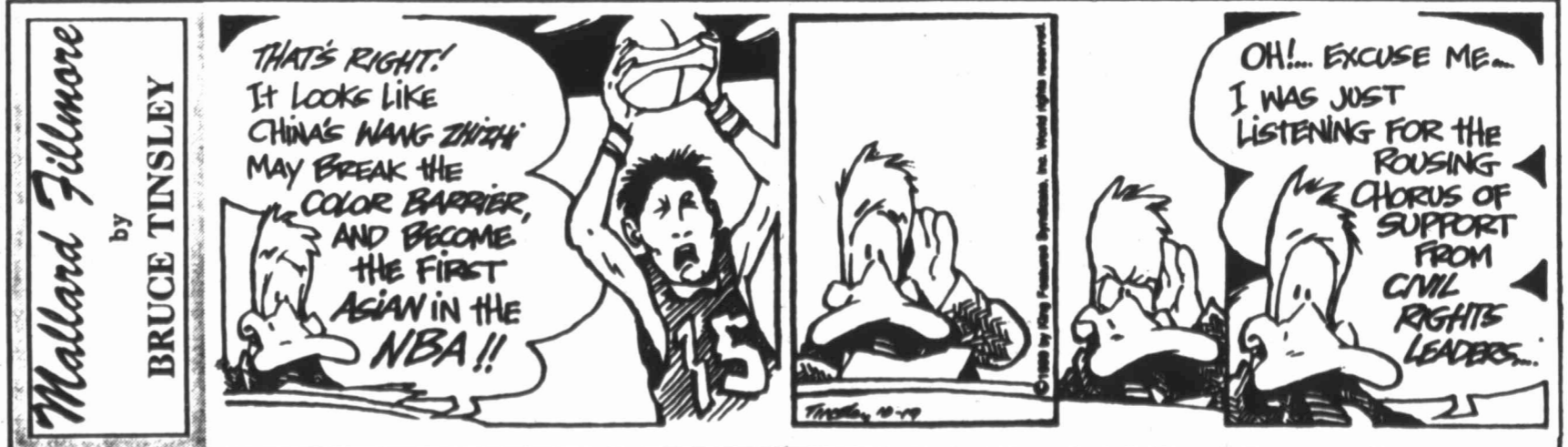
To which I say, "Bleep." You needn't worry, of course, that the Clinton administration will do any testing. No, the real interests don't go beyond partisan demagoguing and fund raising. To call the vote against the treaty partisan, as the Democrats are doing, is just another lie.

You should note those senators who wanted to postpone a vote. Now, the treaty was either a good one or a bad one, and postponing a decision was not going to change it by so much as one sentence. So why did they really want to postpone voting on it? Well, those in favor of it hoped they could win more votes, and the rest hoped to avoid having to take a stand. That is despicable. Taking a stand on issues is what we pay those nabobs to do.

As for the message the treaty's defeat sends to rest of the world, it is simply this: The United States has not com-

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2424.



IN B

BSHS golfers

Big Spring's Steers took part in a match with L. Levelland square the Lamesa County Isaac Wilborn Steers' entry with 78, while Chris R. right behind a Womble and Jarr added scores of while Richard G. an 84.

Zach Hall finished 87, while Nick R. out the boys' entry. The Lady Steers was a 105 turned Anthony, while Harris added Brittany Griffith Leslie Harris rou girls' scores with

Junior high La close season

Big Spring Ju Lady Steers swe matches from C teams Monday n out the 1999 volle

The Lady Ste grade Gold square 15-7 win that left 11-4 mark overall Timmi Black Big Spring with while Lindsay Kristin Choate h. The seventh-t team posted a 15- to finish the seas mark. Shannon the way in that points. Stefani S and Nieves Orteg

Buffaloes cross team ranked

Stanton's Buffaloes won six straight onships at meets currently sitting Class 2A ranking Track & Field Ne. The Buffs are Ramos, who fin at the Abilen Invitational, as Cazares, Aaron Abel Wilson and all of whom finish 10 individually. Dustin Rogers fir rounding out the

Lady Steers bu meet Thursday

The Big Spring Booster Club w p.m. Thursday a High School Training Center. For more info Debbie Church 7538.

Tennis social at Figure 7 Te

A tennis soci informal matches professional Jim has been schedu to 6 p.m. Sunday 7 Tennis Center. For more info Blacketer at 264-4

Turkey shoot, scheduled for

A turkey shoot day has been sch a.m. to 4 p.m. Sa Western Sport located 91/2 mile Spring on Highw Free chili and will be served. spotting scopes will be furnished. For more info Elaine Delinger a

Big Spring Co sets 80 & ove

An '80 and ov tournament is set and Sunday at Country Club. Fees are \$65 pe cart rental. Play shotgun start at days. For more info the pro shop at 2

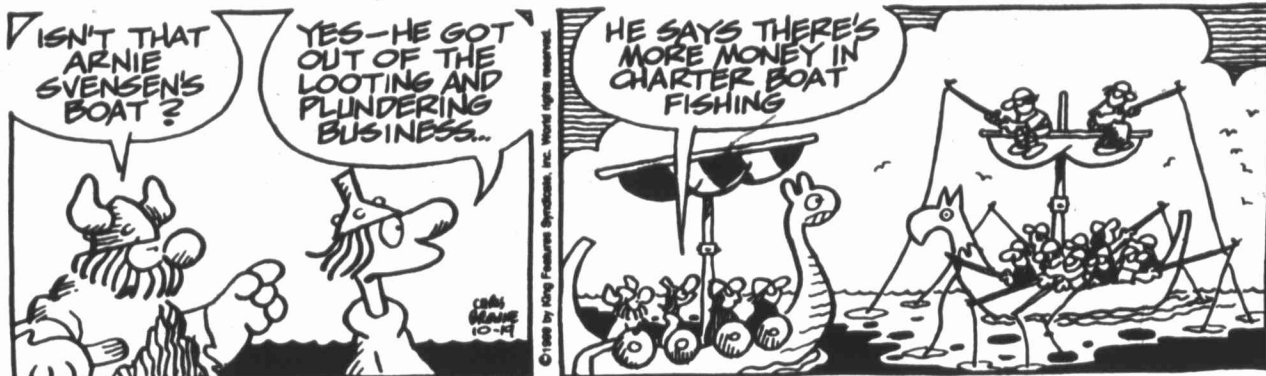
ON THE

Television MAJOR LEAGUE B 7 p.m. — Nation Championship Ser New York Mets at NBC, Ch. 9.

TUESDAY OCT. 19

Table with 26 columns representing different TV channels (KMD, KPEJ, KERA, etc.) and rows for different times of the day (6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 12:30). Each cell contains the channel name and the program being aired.

HAGAR



BLONDIE



B.C.



FAMILY CIRCUS



DENNIS THE MENACE



GEECH



"That's Spanish. They put wavy hair on the letter 'N' sometimes."

"I GUESS THAT'S WHY I NEVER DID ANYTHING LIKE THAT BEFORE."

WIZARD OF ID



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS Today is Tuesday, Oct. 19, the 292nd day of 1999. There are 73 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Oct. 19, 1781, British troops under Lord Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown, Va., as the American Revolution neared its end. On this date: In 1765, the Stamp Act Congress, meeting in New York, drew up a declaration of rights and liberties. In 1812, French forces under Napoleon Bonaparte began their retreat from Moscow. In 1864, Confederate Gen. Jubal A. Early attacked Union forces at Cedar Creek, Va.; Union troops rallied and defeated the Confederates. In 1944, the Navy announced that blacks would be allowed to become WAVES as members of Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service. In 1950, United Nations forces entered the North Korean capital of Pyongyang. In 1951, President Truman signed an act formally ending the state of war with Germany. In 1960, the United States imposed an embargo on exports to Cuba covering all commodities except medical supplies and certain food products. In 1977, the body of West German industrialist Hanns Martin Schleyer, who had been kidnapped by left-wing extremists, was found in Mulhouse, France. In 1977, the supersonic Concorde made its first landing in New York City. In 1987, the stock market crashed as the Dow Jones Industrial Average plunged 508 points, or 22.6 percent in value. Ten years ago: The Senate rejected a proposed constitutional amendment barring desecration of the American flag. Camilo Jose Cela of Spain received the Nobel Prize for literature. Five years ago: Twenty-two people were killed as a terrorist bomb shattered a bus in the heart of Tel Aviv's shopping district. Entertainer Martha Raye died in Los Angeles at age 78. One year ago: Israel suspended negotiations with the Palestinians on issues other than security after a bloody attack at an Israeli bus stop. Government lawyers opened their antitrust case against Microsoft Corp. in Miami, the first class-action lawsuit brought by smokers against the tobacco industry went to trial. Jurors later found the nation's largest cigarette makers and industry groups had produced a defective and deadly product.

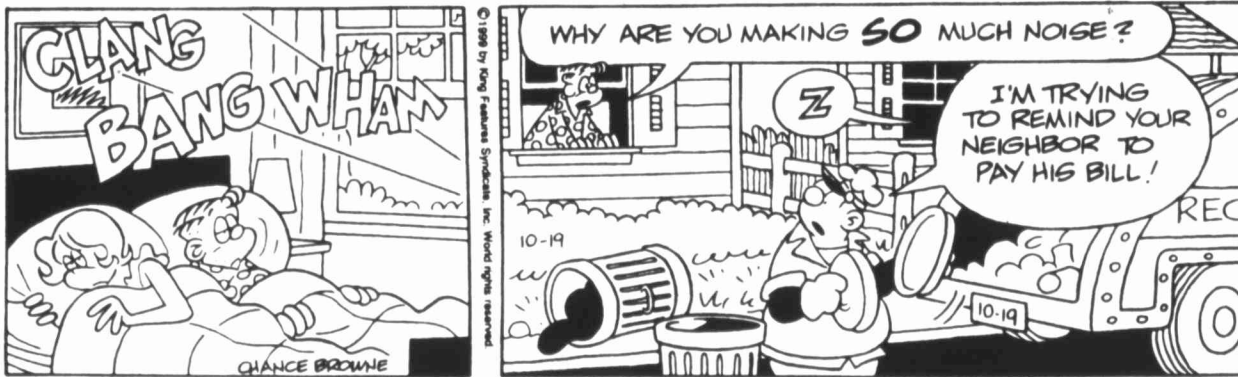
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Today's Birthdays: Former U.S. ambassador to Russia Robert S. Strauss is 81. Actress LaWanda Page is 79. Actor George Nader is 78. Columnist Jack Anderson is 77. Author John le Carré is 68. Artist Peter Max is 62. Actor Michael Gambon is 59. Actor John Lithgow is 54. National Organization for Women President Patricia Ireland is 54. Singer Jeannie C. Riley is 54. Talk show host Charlie Chase is 47.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

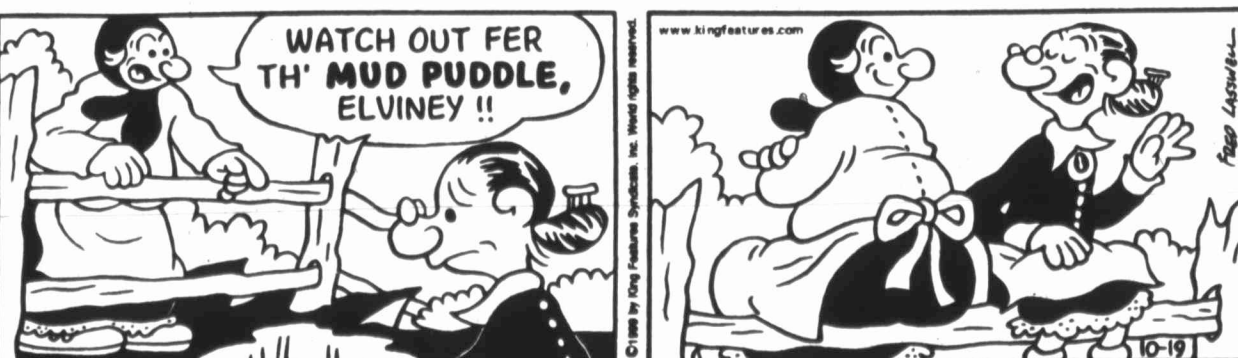
HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILY



Monday's Puzzle Solved grid with words filled in.

Big Spring Herald advertisement with contact information and subscription rates.