

BIG SPRING HERALD

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

THURSDAY
October 28, 1999

WEATHER

Tonight:



PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT 47°-49° FRIDAY 80°-82°

VA to give flu shots on Friday

The West Texas Veterans Administration Health Care System will be giving flu shots Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Veterans currently registered for health care through the system will be required to show their VA identification card to receive their shots. Veterans not currently enrolled in VA health care will be requested to present proof of eligibility for VA benefits (DD Form 214).

WHAT'S UP...

TODAY

□ Masonic Lodge No. 598, 7:30 p.m., 219 Main.
□ "Tower of Terror" Haunted House and Fall Festival, 6 p.m., Settles Building. Admission \$3 and \$5.

FRIDAY

□ AMBUUS, noon, Brandin' Iron Restaurant.
□ "Tower of Terror" Haunted House and Fall Festival, 6 p.m., Settles Building. Admission \$3 and \$5.

□ Ghouls Spook House, Coahoma, sponsored by Troop 25 7 p.m. Admission \$3.

□ Spring City Senior Citizens country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. All seniors invited.

SATURDAY

□ The Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
□ The Pottin House, 200 Gregg, a restored historic home, is open from 1 to 5 p.m. A one-time admission fee of \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens are encouraged.

□ "Tower of Terror" Haunted House and Fall Festival, 6 p.m., Settles Building. Admission \$3 and \$5.

□ Ghouls Spook House, Coahoma, sponsored by Troop 25 7 p.m. Admission \$3.

□ Dance 8:30 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 W. Third. Members and guests welcome.

MONDAY

□ Texas Tech Ex-Students Association Big Spring Chapter, 6 p.m., Sparenberg Building, 309 S. Main.
□ Big Spring Evening Lions Club, 6:30 p.m., 1607

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Western Container hopeful help from Moore Development will pay off

By **BILL MCCLELLAN**
News Editor

In a quest to help breathe new life into a longtime local employer, Moore Development for Big Spring, Inc. on Wednesday agreed to help Western Container build new office space at a cost of \$350,000. Commitment of the funds hinges on \$6 million in renovations at the Big Spring facility. Those renovations haven't been approved by the corporate office in Midland as yet, but local plant general manager Alf

Marsh believes they will be. "We certainly want to grow in this area and we have an extensive five-year plan," said Marsh. "I'm independent on this project, separate from corporate. But I think I can convince them this is what we need to do."

The Big Spring plant is the largest but oldest — of Western Container's five plants nationwide. What Marsh wants to do, is to streamline the Big Spring facility to make it more competitive.

"Whoever makes bottles at a

lower price is going to make bottles, that's just economics," he said.

Currently, the office space is in the middle of the facility, with bottling lines literally running around the offices, he told Moore Development directors. By moving the offices, and bringing in new equipment and upgrading older equipment, the plant can produce more bottles at a faster rate.

"The last two years, we have downsized the Big Spring facility, and we are getting ready to pull four more lines out of Big

Spring and send them to Mississippi," Marsh said. "It is a trend I am not fond of and I want to change that trend."

Western Container pulled three lines earlier this year, eliminating 15 employee positions. Marsh said no employees were fired, but the jobs were eliminated through attrition and transfers.

The \$350,000 will be used to construct new offices, a boardroom, lunchroom, lab and other rooms in front of the existing building.

"The building is owned by the

Airpark. We don't own the building. We've looked at several different ways to do this and if we could do it any other way, I would. But we can't justify it any other way," Marsh said.

Marsh is hopeful that the entire project will allow the local plant to increase productivity by 60 percent. That doesn't necessarily mean more jobs coming to Big Spring, but it would extend the overall life of the plant, which currently employs some 155 hourly work

See **OFFICES**, Page 2A



HERALD photo/Debbie L. Jensen
Fourth grader John Campos, from left, first grader Jaycee Newton and fourth grader Nadia Garcia show off their creative use of socks this morning at Bauer Elementary. The school had "Crazy Sock Day" and many kids took part.

Forsan band marching off to state

By **MARSHA STURDIVANT**
Staff Writer

Folks in Forsan cannot contain their excitement at the prospect of the high school band competing in University Interscholastic League Class 2A state marching contest Monday.

"We've got a community pep rally at 7 p.m. tonight for the band as a special send off when we go to state competition," said Forsan band director Jim Rhodes.

"We'll have parents and friends, and the band will march and we'll give speeches and cheers. We'll introduce the band members. We may even serve ice cream and cake," Rhodes said.

See **FORSAN**, Page 2A

New Deal man killed in fiery wreck Wednesday

HERALD Staff Report

ACKERLY — A 36-year-old New Deal man was killed Wednesday when the transport he was driving overturned one mile north of here on U.S. Highway 87 and caught fire.

Leslie McNutt was pronounced dead at the scene at 2:19 p.m. by Dawson County Justice of the Peace Denise Dyess.

"The truck ran off the road, overturned and caught fire with the driver trapped in the vehicle," said Cpl. Johnny Anzaldúa of the Lamesa Department of Public Safety office.

Anzaldúa said the vehicle, a 2000 Peterbilt owned by Petroleum Transport of Lubbock, was hauling jet fuel from the Big Spring Refinery back to Lubbock when it overturned. The accident occurred about 12:40 p.m., he said.

See **WRECK**, Page 2A



HERALD photo/Marsha Sturdivant
Forsan Band students marched in the Big Spring State Hospital annual Halloween Parade today. These 115 students will compete for the state 2A title of best marching band Monday in Mesquite.



HERALD photo/Marsha Sturdivant
These witches and goblins, who are housekeeping and laundry personnel in another life, joined in the Big Spring State Hospital annual Halloween Parade today.

StarTek

Company demands \$2.3 million loan to locate in Big Spring

By **BILL MCCLELLAN**
News Editor

Moore Development for Big Spring has tabled a \$2.3 million loan request from StarTek, wanting first to see the company's audited financial statements and settle a question of collateral.

The request, made public in the board's Wednesday meeting, had Moore Development directors shaking their heads.

"We thought we had an agreement that we were moving forward under. Now they are questioning it.

Apparently all the powers that be at StarTek were not in agreement," said Charles Beil, Moore Development board president.

In other business, the board approved \$25,000 to help an investor group interested in bidding on Fina's Big Spring Refinery, but tabled a request for assistant from West Texas Centers for Mental Health/Retardation as well as an incentive package for Solitaire Homes.

As Moore Development directors were meeting Wednesday, they were waiting on information from StarTek, the company that had indicated plans to build a call center in Big Spring that would employ some 350 to 375 people.

Work is under way to renovate the former TG&Y building at College Park Shopping Center, and hiring has begun. What hasn't been completed, however, is a finalized agreement with StarTek.



BEIL



GREEN

"They (StarTek) stated very plainly the only reason they were coming to Big Spring was \$2.3 million," Beil said.

The question of collateral for the loan may be a moot point, because it would be in the form of computer equipment, which becomes outdated in just a few years.

"That's certainly better than no collateral," said Beil.

"I don't know. It may cost more to get rid of the stuff than it is worth," remarked Kent Sharp, Moore Development executive director.

Board member Max Green suggested the board table the matter until directors receive StarTek's financial statements.

"Two and a half million dollars. For this old country boy, that's not chicken feed," Green said.

Afterward, Beil said repayment of the total amount of the loan would be tied to employment incentives. He said the request by StarTek had not actually changed substantially, but the fact that officials from the company were requesting a change was unsettling.

"We think they are coming," he said.

Moore Development directors approved \$25,000 to help a locally based investor group complete the necessary details to make a bid to purchase Fina's Big Spring Refinery.

"It (the funding) does a couple of things," said Sharp. "It shows a good faith on the community's part, plus most of the investors have a presence in Big Spring. It helps them when they go to the table to be able to say we have the community's support."

And though the vote was unanimous on giving the money to the group, some directors — including Beil — had some doubts.

"I understand about commu-

See **STARTEK**, Page 2A

Early voting going slowly; ends Friday

By **BILL MCCLELLAN**
News Editor

Howard County citizens who plan on casting a ballot in the Nov. 2 constitutional amendments election but haven't, get just two more opportunities.

They can vote Friday at the county courthouse before 5 p.m. — that's when the early balloting period ends. Or they can vote Tuesday — election day — at one of six polling places in the county.

As with most constitutional amendments, voters haven't



WRIGHT

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OCT 28 1999

Perry: Texas needs more college graduates

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas will lose ground economically if more of its residents don't earn college degrees, Lt. Gov. Rick Perry said Wednesday.

Perry charged the Special Commission on 21st Century Colleges and Universities to find ways to boost college enrollment. According to 1990 Census figures, about one in five Texans earns an undergraduate or graduate degree.

"Higher education has a dramatic impact on the future pros-



PERRY

perity of our citizens and our state," Perry said.

"With an increasingly global economy, advances in telecommunications and the incredible progress in high technology, more and more jobs will require a college education," he said.

According to University of Texas researchers, Internet-related businesses are expected to generate more than \$507 billion in revenues this year.

Those businesses, whose revenues were measured at \$301 billion last year, also directly account for 2.3 million jobs and growth is not expected to subside, the Texas researchers said.

"Higher education ... can mean the difference between

business and entrepreneurial success and economic stagnation," Perry said.

A college graduate is projected to earn up \$1 million more in their lifetime than a worker without one, Perry said, with the difference as large as \$2.7 million for a college graduate compared to a high school dropout.

Higher Education Commissioner Don Brown said 32 percent of Texas' 19-year-olds were enrolled in colleges and universities in fall 1996, well below the national average of 40 percent.

From 1990 to 1998, the percentage of white residents aged 19 to 34 enrolled at public colleges and universities dropped from 17.2 percent to 15.5 per-

cent. For Hispanics, the numbers rose from 7.8 percent to 9.4 percent. The percentage of black students also rose from 8.7 percent in 1990 to 10.1 percent last year.

Enrollment trends indicate a need for local campuses for students in under-served areas, particularly South Texas, said Sen. Carlos Truan, D-Corpus Christi.

The commission should look for ways to make college more accessible and affordable, Perry said.

The panel of state officials, businessmen, education officials and clergy is to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature by Nov. 1, 2000.

Texas attorney general tries to clear confusion on school prayer issue

HOUSTON (AP) — Hoping to dispel widespread confusion about the legality of prayer at school-sponsored events, Attorney General John Cornyn has mailed letters explaining a federal appeals court ruling to school officials across the state.

In February, the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals issued an opinion banning organized prayer from football games and nonsectarian, non-proselytizing prayer from graduation ceremonies. Some school districts interpreted the decision as a ban on all prayer at football games, creating turmoil where pre-game prayers were a long-standing tradition.

Cornyn's letter, mailed last week to school boards and school administrators, states that the ruling prohibits only "school-organized" prayer.

"The opinion does not prohibit students from engaging in voluntary prayer and should not be construed to prevent that type of activity as long as the school and school officials are not involved," the letter states.

Citing a recent ruling by U.S.

District Judge Sim Lake, Cornyn also says schools may adopt policies allowing a student elected by peers to deliver a pre-game message over the school's loudspeaker.

"If such a pre-game message is given, school officials may not legally prohibit the student speaker from voluntarily and freely praying," the letter states.

Judge Lake ruled early last month that a Santa Fe High School student could not be disciplined by the school district for praying before the football team's season opener.

Two Santa Fe families filed suit in 1995, challenging the district's policies allowing student-led prayer. That suit fueled a national debate on school prayer and led to the 5th Circuit ruling.

The Galveston County district petitioned the Supreme Court in July to review the case. The petition has received support in a brief filed by Cornyn, Gov. George W. Bush and officials from Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, South Carolina and Tennessee.

Prosecutors try to subpoena Rather in dragging death trial

HOUSTON (AP) — Prosecutors have begun the process of subpoenaing CBS News anchor Dan Rather to testify at the capital murder trial of the third man charged in last year's dragging death of a black man.

Prosecutors want to ask Rather about an interview he taped last month with defendant Shawn Allen Berry.

The interview aired on "60 Minutes II" on Sept. 28. In it, Berry said he tried to stop the attack but backed off when one

of his alleged accomplices, John William King, threatened him.

Berry, 24, is accused of chaining James Byrd Jr., 49, to the back of a pickup truck last year and dragging him to his death along a country road.

King and Lawrence Russell Brewer, both avowed white supremacists who met in prison, were convicted earlier this year in separate trials. Each received a death sentence.

The motion to secure the newsman as a witness escalated

a duel between prosecutors and the broadcast network, which began with an earlier subpoena to the producer of the interview asking for the unedited outtakes of the interview. The motion also asks that Rather bring the outtakes, should he appear.

"The motion to have him subpoenaed has been filed here, and the judge approved our certificate to have a motion filed in New York," said Brit Featherston, an assistant U.S. attorney who is helping Jasper

County prosecutors.

State District Judge Joe Bob Golden approved the certificate to file the subpoena in New York on Tuesday.

As to whether Rather will be ordered to appear, Featherston said, "A judge in New York will make that decision."

If the subpoena is issued in New York, Rather will be expected to be available to take the stand at any time after the evidence portion of the trial begins.

25 cases of dengue confirmed in Texas

DALLAS (AP) — Texas health officials have confirmed 25 cases of dengue fever since July, including the only cases of the tropical disease acquired in the United States this year.

"There are a lot of imported cases of dengue every year into the United States," said Vance Vorndam, a microbiologist with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "Texas is leading the pack this year because it's so close to Mexico."

New figures from the Texas Department of Health show that 18 cases were travel-related, most acquired in Mexico and one in Brazil. Five were acquired in Texas, however. It has not been determined where the remaining two cases came from.

It is the biggest outbreak since 1995, when 29 Texans caught disease, seven of them acquired in-state.

Texas is the only state that has reported locally acquired cases in the last 50 years, Vorndam said. Although diseases like dengue, yellow fever and malaria were common in the U.S. earlier this century, they have been mostly wiped

out.

In fact, modern conveniences like window screens and air conditioning are probably the reason dengue rarely spreads in the United States, Vorndam said. Dengue is spread only by mosquitoes, not person-to-person.

Dengue fever is a viral illness spread by the Aedes aegypti mosquito.

Symptoms include high fever, severe headaches, joint and muscle pain, nausea, vomiting and skin rash. The disease usually lasts about two weeks and is rarely fatal. There is no vaccine or cure for dengue.

About 200 people reportedly acquired dengue in the United States last year with 90 cases confirmed by CDC tests. Since dengue is rarely fatal, many cases might go unreported or misdiagnosed, however.

Texas is experiencing spillover from an outbreak in northern Mexico, where 7,000 cases have been reported this year.

Arizona had three suspected travel-related cases of dengue fever this year, and California had a handful of cases, accord-

ing to the states' respective departments of health. New Mexico had none.

The Texas Department of Health has stepped up efforts to warn people about dengue, alert doctors to the symptoms and has gone through records attempting to track down possible cases from earlier this year.

The most recent cases the state is reviewing are from August and September, said department epidemiologist Julie Rawlings.

Webb County, which includes the busy international port of Laredo and leads the state with 18 cases, is not letting its guard down, however.

"We're having cooler weather which means the mosquitoes are slower and more sluggish and less voracious in their biting appetite, but they're still pretty much alive and they're still pretty much in quantity," said Jerry Robinson, Laredo-Webb County health director.

Health officials recommend people wear insect repellent, long sleeves and long pants to avoid mosquito bites. They also suggest that people empty out outside water containers like pet water dishes.

Hill Country monk convicted of molesting boy

JOHNSON CITY (AP) — Jurors on Wednesday found a monk guilty of indecency with a child and sentenced him to 10 years in prison for his relations with a boy at Christ of the Hills Monastery near Blanco.

Jonathan I. Hitt, 38, known as Father Jeremiah, was convicted on eight counts stemming from incidents at the monastery in the summer of 1997. Hitt could have received a minimum of probation and a maximum of 20 years in prison.

The 14-year-old victim, who was a novice monk studying at the monastery in the Hill Country, testified during the

weeklong trial that he had several sexual encounters with Hitt.

He accused Hitt of climbing naked into bed with him and kissing and hugging him.

Despite feeling awkward about the episodes, the youth testified he didn't object on the advice of Sam A. Greene Jr., the spiritual leader of the religious enclave.

Greene, 54, known as Father Benedict, also was charged with indecency with a child. He hasn't yet gone to trial.

As jurors deliberated in Hitt's case, fellow monks from Christ of the Hills prayed for him on

the Blanco County Courthouse lawn.

The teen-ager was a student at the monastery for more than three years. Assistant District Attorney Tom Cloudt told jurors in opening statements that Greene was the boy's godfather and that the youth "was victimized by the people he trusted, the people he looked up to and the people he wanted to be like."

The boy's mother testified he had struggled in public school and that she had hoped the monks would provide individualized lessons and serve as father figures for him.

Court upholds four death sentences

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals Wednesday upheld the death sentences of four inmates, including a San Antonio man whose footprints left a trail of evidence for investigators.

The court ruled against the appeal of Richard Hinojosa, who was convicted of the 1994, rape and stabbing death of Terry Wright, 29, of San Antonio.

Ms. Wright's father reported her missing after finding her home ransacked and burglarized. Police found a shoe print outside the home.

The same morning, police found Ms. Wright's body and

car in a field. Police also found a shoe print identical to the one found near her home.

At trial, prosecutors presented evidence that Hinojosa had worn shoes that left prints similar to those at the crime scene. They also matched his DNA with semen found in the victim's body.

The court also denied appeals by:

- Kenneth Eugene Bruce, who was convicted of the Dec. 10, 1990, robbery and murder of Helen Ayers, of Prosper.
- Bruce and another man told Mrs. Ayers and her husband, Richard, they were having car

trouble. They were invited inside and two more men armed with guns burst through the front and back doors.

The Ayers were taken to their bedroom, ordered to lie face down on the floor and shot, wounding Richard Ayers and killing his wife.

— Eugene Broxton, who was convicted of the 1991 shooting of Sheila Dockens, a 20-year-old Louisiana resident who was visiting Houston with her husband.

— James Lee Henderson, convicted of the 1993, burglary-shooting of Martha Lennox in Red River County.

Christmas in October?

Now thru Saturday anyone who purchases a new or used vehicle will receive a \$200 gift certificate good at any of the merchants at the Big Spring Mall.

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<p>'96 Regal \$8395 Stk. # 473A</p>	<p>'97 Breeze \$8795 Stk. # 397</p>	<p>'98 LeSabre \$14995 Stk. # 308</p>	<p>'99 Cavalier \$10495 Stk. # 399</p>
<p>'98 Intrepid \$13995 Stk. # 375</p>	<p>'99 Regal LS \$15995 Choose from 4</p>	<p>'97 Concorde \$12695 Stk. # 297</p>	<p>'99 Malibu \$13495 Stk. # 388</p>
<p>'95 Concorde \$19995 Stk. # 328</p>	<p>'99 Century \$14495 Stk. # 352</p>	<p>'96 Prizm \$8795 Stk. # 318</p>	<p>'99 Taurus \$14495 Stk. # 381</p>

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THE WAR OF THE WORLDS

OCT 28 1999

GOP ready for showdown vote in budget clash with Clinton

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ignoring a veto threat by President Clinton, Republicans say they are ready to push an across-the-board spending cut through the House in a vote they hope will burnish their credentials as protectors of Social Security.

After days of lining up votes and tinkering with their plan, GOP leaders planned a House vote on the measure today. The cuts — slightly below 1 percent for all federal agencies — were attached to a huge spending package that contains \$314 billion for health, education and labor programs plus \$429 mil-

lion more for the District of Columbia's budget. "If we bring it to the floor, we're going to have it," predicted House Majority Whip Tom DeLay, R-Texas. Passage by the House, and then the Senate, is certain to trigger a veto by Clinton, followed by negotiations over the last, overdue spending bills for fiscal 2000, which began Oct. 1. Clinton said the across-the-board cuts would hurt defense, schools and other programs, and he objected that Republicans did not provide money he wanted for hiring elementary school teachers.

Even so, Republicans were eager to get the bill to the White House. Doing so would let them claim they had finished all 13 spending bills for the new fiscal year without touching Social Security's surpluses — a boast they hope will help them in the 2000 elections. Clinton and congressional Democrats say budget gimmicks shield the fact that the Republicans' plans would violate their own pledge, dipping into Social Security this year for \$18 billion, according to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office.

"That is wrong and it doesn't have to be," Clinton said. In addition to the across-the-board cut, Republicans claimed savings from a computerized effort to crack down on unpaid federal student loans, and by trimming \$120 million in administrative costs at the departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education. The GOP designed the labor-health bill so Clinton would have little opportunity to attack them for cutting programs. The measure would provide about \$600 million more than Clinton requested for the annually

approved programs the bill controls, including \$300 million more for education than he proposed. Instead, their biggest disagreements are over who controls the money. Instead of the \$1.4 billion Clinton wants for hiring teachers, the bill would provide \$1.2 billion that states could use to improve schools in many ways. Realizing that their budget battle will take a while to resolve, GOP leaders also planned votes today on another week-long extension of the authority many agencies need to keep functioning through the budget impasse. Clinton is expected to sign it. The most recent extension, the second so far this year, expires Friday night. In their struggle to find votes, GOP leaders promised lawmakers reluctant to cut highway projects that they would get a chance to restore the reductions next year. Despite some internal grumbling, lawmakers also included their own salaries in the spending reductions. Their pay, currently set to rise 3.4 percent to \$141,300 in January, would grow instead to \$139,900.

FDA approves Tamiflu as second flu treatment choice

WASHINGTON (AP) — Flu sufferers won their first effective pill against both types A and B flu Wednesday as the Food and Drug Administration approved Tamiflu. The pill, manufactured by Hoffmann-La Roche, helped reduce the duration and severity of flu symptoms in unvaccinated adults who agreed to be infected with influenza to test the drug. Wednesday's decision means flu sufferers this year have two new treatment choices. The FDA earlier approved an inhaled flu drug called Relenza that also works against both A and B flu. Older flu medicines worked against only the type A flu, which accounts for about two-thirds of the estimated 20 mil-

lion U.S. flu cases yearly, and doctors have said those medicines didn't work very well. Tamiflu is not a cure-all, the FDA warned. Studies showed taking the drug helped patients recover only about a day earlier than flu patients who took a dummy pill, the agency said. To get that benefit, patients took Tamiflu within 40 hours of the first flu symptom — meaning patients would have to recognize flu symptoms and get to the doctor to get the prescription-only drug rapidly. Side effects included nausea, vomiting, bronchitis, trouble sleeping and dizziness, FDA said. Health experts stress that neither Tamiflu nor the competing Relenza flu treatments are a substitute for a flu vaccine. The

flu kills about 20,000 Americans a year, a toll the government says could be decreased if more people got their flu shots in the fall. Flu vaccination is most recommended for people over 64 — although one doctors' group now recommends the shots starting at age 50 — as well as anyone with chronic heart or lung problems or a weak immune system, and anyone in close contact with high-risk patients, including relatives and caregivers. Doctors have welcomed more treatment choices because so many Americans don't get vaccinated. In addition, flu vaccine isn't always perfect, so treatments like Tamiflu or Relenza might be useful during flu outbreaks in nursing homes.

The FDA said Tamiflu has not yet been proved to prevent flu. But a study published in Thursday's edition of the New England Journal of Medicine suggested it might reduce the chances of catching flu if unvaccinated people took it daily during flu season, which runs from November through April. Tamiflu, known generically as oseltamivir, was given to 520 people for the first six weeks of the 1997-98 flu season. Just 1 percent of them got the flu, compared with nearly 5 percent of a comparison group that took dummy pills, concluded researchers. Hoffmann-La Roche spokesman Charles Alfaro said the drug would be available to customers within a month. A retail price has not been set.

House votes to prohibit federally controlled drugs for assisted suicide

WASHINGTON (AP) — Eyes will be on the Senate as Congress wrestles with the emotional question of what role doctors should play in helping suffering patients die. The House approved a bill Wednesday that bars doctors from using federally controlled drugs to aid in a suicide. The 271-156 vote came despite opponents' claims that such a bill, if it became law, would put federal drug agents in the role of making health care decisions. Anti-abortion forces have made the bill by Rep. Henry Hyde, R-Ill., a priority this year. It would create a major headache for Oregon, the only state that has legalized physician-assisted suicide for patients with less than six months to live. All 15 patients who died under Oregon's landmark law during its first full year in 1998 used controlled substances to end their lives. House Democrats from Oregon were pleased they garnered more than the 146 votes that would be needed to sustain a veto — although President Clinton has not yet said whether he would veto the bill. The Senate version of the bill, by Sen. Don Nickles, R-

Okla., has not yet come to the floor, but Nickles said he hoped to pass it this year. Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., has pledged to filibuster the bill, but said he faces a "very uphill" battle to defeat the measure given Nickles' No. 2 position as the majority whip. Senate action on the bill, previously thought by many to be unlikely in 1999, becomes more of a possibility because of a federal budget fight that is expected to keep lawmakers in the nation's capital into next month. Hyde's bill, while it penalizes doctors who aid in a suicide, encourages physicians to treat the pain of dying patients. The measure authorizes \$5 million for more training and education to improve end-of-life care. "Suicide is the ultimate act of despair and facilitating the intentional killing of a human life is the opposite of healing," Hyde said. But opponents said the bill would discourage pain treatment for millions of Americans. Doctors would be so worried about losing their licenses to prescribe drugs, and spending at least 20 years in jail for aiding in a suicide, that they would decline to dispense needed medication, they said.

Governor decides against special prosecutor in Ramsey case

DENVER (AP) — Gov. Bill Owens urged the parents of JonBenet Ramsey to "quit hiding behind their attorneys" and help find their daughter's killers. Owens' comments came Wednesday as he announced his decision not to appoint a special prosecutor to look into the 1996 death of the 6-year-old beauty pageant winner. He said after initial mistakes, police and prosecutors are working with new evidence and headed in the right direction. The governor, though, had strong words for the girl's parents. "If I could speak to John and

Patsy Ramsey," Owens said, "I would tell them to quit hiding behind their attorneys, quit hiding behind their PR firm. Come back to Colorado and work with investigators in this case, no matter where that trail will lead." The Ramseys, who moved to the Atlanta area after the killing, have insisted they are innocent. In a statement issued late Wednesday, the Ramseys' attorneys called Owens' remarks "slanderous." "Coming from a public official elected to the highest office of this state, his comments are unconscionable," the statement said.

Early on Dec. 26, 1996, Mrs. Ramsey told police she found a ransom note demanding \$118,000 for her daughter's safe return. Eight hours later, JonBenet's father said he found his daughter's body in the basement. Critics contend the investigation was compromised when detectives allowed the Ramseys and friends to roam through their mansion in Boulder. Owens said the guilty parties have been smart, stonewalling police and covering their tracks. "To the killers, let me say this: You only think you have gotten away with murder.

There is strong evidence to suggest who you are," Owens said. "I think investigators are moving closer to proving their case. They will keep pursuing you. You will reap what you have sown." Owens declined to comment when asked if he was referring to the Ramseys when he cited more than one killer. He wouldn't say if he believed the Ramseys were involved in their daughter's death. Later, on CNN's "Larry King Live," Owens said, "it's been a very difficult process working with the Ramseys and I think that has delayed our ability to move on in this case."

Employers remain stingy on health insurance coverage study indicates

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. employers have done little to expand health insurance coverage to their workers, despite a robust economy and years of relatively stable health insurance premiums, according to a study released today. In fact, companies that provide coverage have started to shift more insurance costs to their employees, reduced benefits for mental health care and limited assistance to retirees, according to the study. While nearly all companies with 200 or more workers in 1999 offered health insurance benefits, just 60 percent of smaller firms did so — virtually the same level as in 1996, said the report by Kaiser Family Foundation, an independent research organization, and the Health Research and Educational Trust, an affiliate of the American Hospital Association. The survey also found surprisingly strong support among employers, particularly of small firms, for the right of patients to sue their health plan, an issue now before Congress. Though employer groups have fought the proposal along with HMOs, saying it will increase health costs, 61 percent of small firms agreed with the provision, compared to 26 percent of large firms.

The failure of small and medium sized employers to add coverage is one reason the number of Americans without health insurance has increased from 39 million in 1994 to 44 million in 1998, benefits experts say. Though more Americans are working today, many of the new jobs do not include insurance benefits. If employers are unwilling to expand coverage in times of economic prosperity, that does not bode well for what will happen if the economy sours, said Jon Gabel, an author of the report and vice president with the Health Research and Educational Trust. "We're treading water," he said. "If we can't expand coverage now, we never will." Employers contend health insurance premiums still remain too high and they're worried that if they start providing the coverage, they would not be able to keep up with rising expenses. "Many employers are scared to death of health care insurance," said Becky Cherney, president of the Central Florida Healthcare Coalition, which represents about 100 employers. "Employers realize once you give the benefit, you can never take it away because it becomes a right," Cherney said. Health insurance premiums

for all employers increased an average of 4.8 percent in 1999, the highest increase since 1994, according to the study, which was based on a survey of 1,934 public and private employers last spring. But smaller employers (those with less than 200 employees) this year saw premiums increase 6.9 percent, compared to a 2.1 percent rise in 1996. Other key findings in the study showed: — Employees paid on average \$145 per month this year for family health insurance coverage, up from \$52 in 1988. Employees now pay 32 percent of the costs of family coverage, up from 29 percent in 1988. Employees opting for single coverage now pay 16 percent of the total cost, up from 11 percent in 1988. — During the past two years, 35 percent of large companies that offered retiree coverage capped their maximum contribution, and 7 percent dropped traditional indemnity coverage in favor of managed care plans. About 41 percent of large companies provide retiree coverage, the same as in 1996. — About 21 percent of workers in large firms had unlimited outpatient mental health benefits, down from 36 percent in 1991.

13th Big Spring Herald Community Christmas Parade

5:15 p.m. • Saturday, December 4, 1999

Parade theme — "150 Years of West Texas Christmases"
Entry deadline — Noon, Friday, Nov. 19



It's the last Christmas Parade of the century and you can help make it the biggest and best ever! The parade will begin promptly at 5:15 p.m. at the corner of the north frontage road of FM 700 and Gregg Street and will head north, arriving in time for the downtown Christmas celebration. We hope you will join us this year and help keep Big Spring's Community Christmas Parade the largest in the Southwest.

First-place plaques will be awarded in the following categories

- 1. LIGHTED
- 2. SCHOOL/CHURCH
- 3. COMMERCIAL/MANUFACTURING
- 4. CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

PARADE RULES

- 1. Parade's official Santa Claus will be provided by the Herald. No other Santa Claus will be permitted in the parade.
- 2. Floats can not exceed 65 feet long, 8 feet wide or 14 feet high.
- 3. Vehicles other than antiques must be decorated.
- 4. Vehicles of a strictly commercial nature will not be permitted.
- 5. Entries not in line at start of parade will be placed at end of parade and will not compete.
- 6. Candy may be distributed by elves on foot only. None can be thrown from floats.
- 7. Mail, fax or hand deliver entry forms to:

PARADE COMMITTEE
Big Spring Herald
P.O. Box 1431
710 Scurry St.
(915) 264-7205 (fax)

QUESTIONS? CALL 263-7331, EXT. 227

Bob's Custom Woodwork
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"Garage Door"
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ENTRY FORM

ENTRANT: _____

CONTACT PERSON NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

CATEGORY: LIGHTED CHURCH/SCHOOL
 COMMERCIAL/MFG. CIVIC

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ENTRY: _____

OCT 28 1999

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**EXTRA
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60%-75%
when you take an
EXTRA 50% OFF
all permanently-reduced
Men's Sportswear

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YOU'LL SAVE:

ORIG. PRICE	60.00
CLEARANCE-TICKETED 50% OFF PRICE	29.99
EXTRA 50% OFF AT REGISTER	-14.99
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Total savings off of original prices. Interim markdowns may have been taken. Styles, sizes and colors may vary by store.

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Misses' Fall Sweaters & Knit Tops
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Also pants. Reg. 18.00-28.00, **SALE 9.00-14.00.**

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Graphite Jeans
Loose and relaxed fit styles, reg. 25.00, **SALE 18.75.**

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ALL PURCHASES*
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Just a sample of the savings you will find. Interim markdowns may have been taken. Styles, sizes and colors may vary by store. *Excludes the following categories.

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1ST GRADE-Stephen Arnet, Kyle Bales, Rachel Barbee, Robert Barlow, Machel Barr, Shae Carroll, Tailor Fields, Lane Gammons, Aaron Gonzales, Joanna Gonzales, Kimberly Herrera, Braydon Iden, Rachel Kennedy, Dave Lewis, Jason Martinez, Mia Medina, Reagan Reid, Cody Riddle, Jacob Robbins, Brandi Smith, Cassandra Stonerook, Ronnie Thompson, Andrew Toscano, James Wheeler, Hunter Williams, Brent Wright, Matthew Wynn, Brooke Zitterkopf.

2ND GRADE-Gradalupe Abrego, Ashley Buske, Elisha Carroll, Monica Cevallos, Alexandra Cordes, Britt Dickenson, Jacob Dominguez, Katie Dunn, K'Leigh Fowler, Kylie Gee, Mark Gutierrez, Jordan Hammond, Chance Hart, Mikael Hill, Kenzie Hunt, Barton LaRue, Logan Lewis, Seth Mansfield, Jordan Martin, Courtney McAdams, Hayli McCullough, Kalea Neff, Megan Parrish, Maggie Pollock, Carlos Rodriguez, Jacqueline Ruiz, Lauren Ruiz, Nicholas Sevey, Charles Willard, Riley Wood, Linzee Yarbar.

3RD GRADE-Tia Bailey, Jared Blythe, Kyla Clark, Megan Conley, Nathan Gomez, Carly Green, Barden Griffin, Aricka Hart, Berkley Iden, Paige Jackson, Ashley Martin, Alexandra Moore, Shelby Paige, Jovi Paniagua, Kyndra Pennington, Timothy Rodriguez, Alexis Ruiz, Heather Scoggins, Laci Sterling, Erika Stiller, Nina Toscano, Rachel Tucker, Katelyn Wilson.

4TH GRADE-Teryn Bibb, Jordan Cochran, William Reilly, Christie Rich, Kay Spiller, Steven Stiller, Rachael Wheeler.

5TH GRADE-Stephen Ewing, Kamrun Green, Nathan Maddox, Callie Paige, Briana Thurman.

6TH GRADE-Amber Arthur, Sarah Bartlett, Terrell Bibb, Crystal Bridges, Emily Burgess, Natasha Casillas, Caroline Conley, Billy Crawford, Patrick Croft, Sarah Dunn, Taylor Haile, Kassi Hutchison, Elisha McCarty, Ashle New, Tori Paige, Shawna Sullivan, Trey Thornton, Drew Wells, Kelsea Wood.

ALL A'S AND B'S
1ST GRADE-Bianca Cruz, Itzel Gomez, Dakota Griffith, Martin Gutierrez, Jeffrey Hearin, Kandice Hodnett, Skyler Jobe, Courtney Long, Rusty Martin, Brooks Osborne, Ransom Rawls, Austin Rinard, Roslinda Rodriguez, Steven Smith, Stephen Tatum, Kyla Theftford, David Thompson, Daniel Wilson, Amanda

Winters.
2ND GRADE-Kali Anderson, Macy Bailey, M.J. Castillo, Zackery Gilliam, Jennifer Gonzales, Joshua Gonzales, Jesus Gonzales, Donovan Grissom, Jacob Grissom, Raymundo Gutierrez, Kirk Hahn, Corbin Harrison, Geraldo Herrera, Isaac King, Krista Lyons, Jay McLeod, Ryan Norman, Jacob Owens, Joshua Paniagua, Jennifer Pittman, Reagan Rainey, Kassie Ramirez, Jared Ringener, Ashely Rodriguez, Hilary Rodriguez, Lisa Salazar, Sarah Stonerook.

3RD GRADE-Devin Adamson, Isaac Arguello, Damian Bailey, Kelsy Butts, Kimberly Calvert, Crista Coker, Canyon Daniels, Albert Daylong, Danja Gonzales, Melanie Gutierrez, Christian Guzman, Jay Harris, Arthur Hilario, Kayla Holleman, Kaegan Hunt, Danielle Johnson, Kelly Lee, Karrie Patterson, Justin Ramirez, Michael Reid, Ashlie Richter, Andrea Rodriguez, Kristian Schlipf, Cody Sheppard, William Smith, Justin Sons, Matthew Taylor, Hilari White, Brandy Winters.

4TH GRADE-Lisa Burgess, Veronica Cortez, K'Leigh Dehoyos, Maricela Delgado, Janice Gonzales, Kayla Guterrez, Stacy Hernandez, Amy Holleman, Gilberto Jacques, Krista Kerby, Chris Mault, Guillermina Martin, Jimmy McNutt, Colter Morgan, Lani Mow, Regan New, Bobby Payne, Justin Rau, Timothy Roberts, Courtney Schaedel, Heather Schlipf, Morgan Schumpert, Kaleigh Sevey, Jerrod Smith, Carlie Williamson, Caylea Wood.

5TH GRADE-Brett Bennett, Trystan Cevallos, Justin Cline, Shandra Coker, Jason Gonzales, Kayla Hall, Kayla Hankins, Kayla Hogan, Blaine Kerby, David LaRue, Katelin Lyons, Ami Martinez, Devyn Martinez, Jacob McCain, Rebecca McEndree, Collin McMillan, Jessica Pittman, Taylor Rainey, Shilo Rawls, Juan Rodriguez, Cody Scoggins, Trevor Sheppard, Dakota Teaff, Tyler Tucker, Ryan Walker, Chelsea Watts, Dustin Wright, Miguel Yanez, Michael Yeater.

6TH GRADE-Rachell Atkinson, Bryan Banks, Michael Barnett, Tania Bradley, Randi Davis, Chris Dominguez, Monique Garcia, Sterling Gee, Jury Gomez, Ryan Green, Cody Griffith, gabrielle Hilario, Joe Holguin, Genevy Jacques, Cynthia Ortiz, Cory Payne, Tyler Sheppard, Ashton Taylor, Jacqueline Valencia, William Watts, Prospero Yanez.

One-room school offers one-on-one instruction

ABILENE (AP) — One-room schoolhouses may be a memory for some, but for 16 first-through eighth-graders at Abilene Junior Academy, the old-style teaching method has returned and is making a difference in what and how much the students learn.

The Seventh-day Adventist worldwide church operates the academy. It reopened in August under the new name after a four-year absence. Accredited by the Texico Conference, which is part of the Southwestern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, the school prides itself in providing more individual instruction for its students.

Although some may think a multi-grade classroom is distracting and not beneficial to students, principal Wayne Hughes and his wife, Sandra, a fellow teacher, think that operating this way makes perfect sense.

"We have multi-level kids," he said. "Some of the older kids who function at a lower level can understand the younger kids questions, which is good. And some younger kids function at a much higher level. It also helps the younger student when the older kids ask questions. It just reinforces the concept we are trying to teach."

The classes and homework are based on an age-appropriate level, but group discussion can include the upper- and lower-grades.

The students, who wear red, collared shirts and navy pants, shorts or skirts are encouraged to bounce questions and ideas off each other to enhance their learning experience.

"Its neat because I can answer fifth-grade questions," said second-grader Larla Morales, who was recognized as gifted and talented last year while attending Clyde Elementary School.

"Last year it was always work, work, work — no fun," the 7-year-old said. "It is fun to learn about God."

Larla's father, Rufino Morales, said he has nothing against the public school system.

"The reason I like her here is because they start the day with prayer and end the day with prayer," he said.

Because Seventh Day Adventists regard Saturday as their holy day, he said his daughter would often miss out on activities sundown Friday to sundown Saturday at her former school.

"This is a lot easier. She doesn't miss out, and she isn't excluded because of her religious beliefs," Morales said.

DOBSON

Continued from Page 8A

That is a great mistake. Preschoolers learn by poking their fingers into things that adults think they should leave alone. But this busy exploration is extremely important to intellectual stimulation.

Whereas you and I will look at a crystal trinket and obtain whatever information we seek from that visual inspection, a toddler will expose that pretty object to all of her senses. She will pick it up, taste it, smell it, wave it in the air, pound it on the wall, throw it across the room, and listen to the pretty sound that it makes when shattering. By that process she learns a bit about gravity, rough vs. smooth surfaces, the brittle nature of glass, and some startling things about mother's anger.

I am not suggesting that your child be allowed to destroy your home and all of its contents. Neither is it right to expect her to keep her hands to herself. Parents should remove those items that are fragile or dangerous, and then strew the child's path with fascinating

objects of all types. Permit her to explore everything possible and do not ever punish her for touching something that she did not know was off limits, regardless of its value.

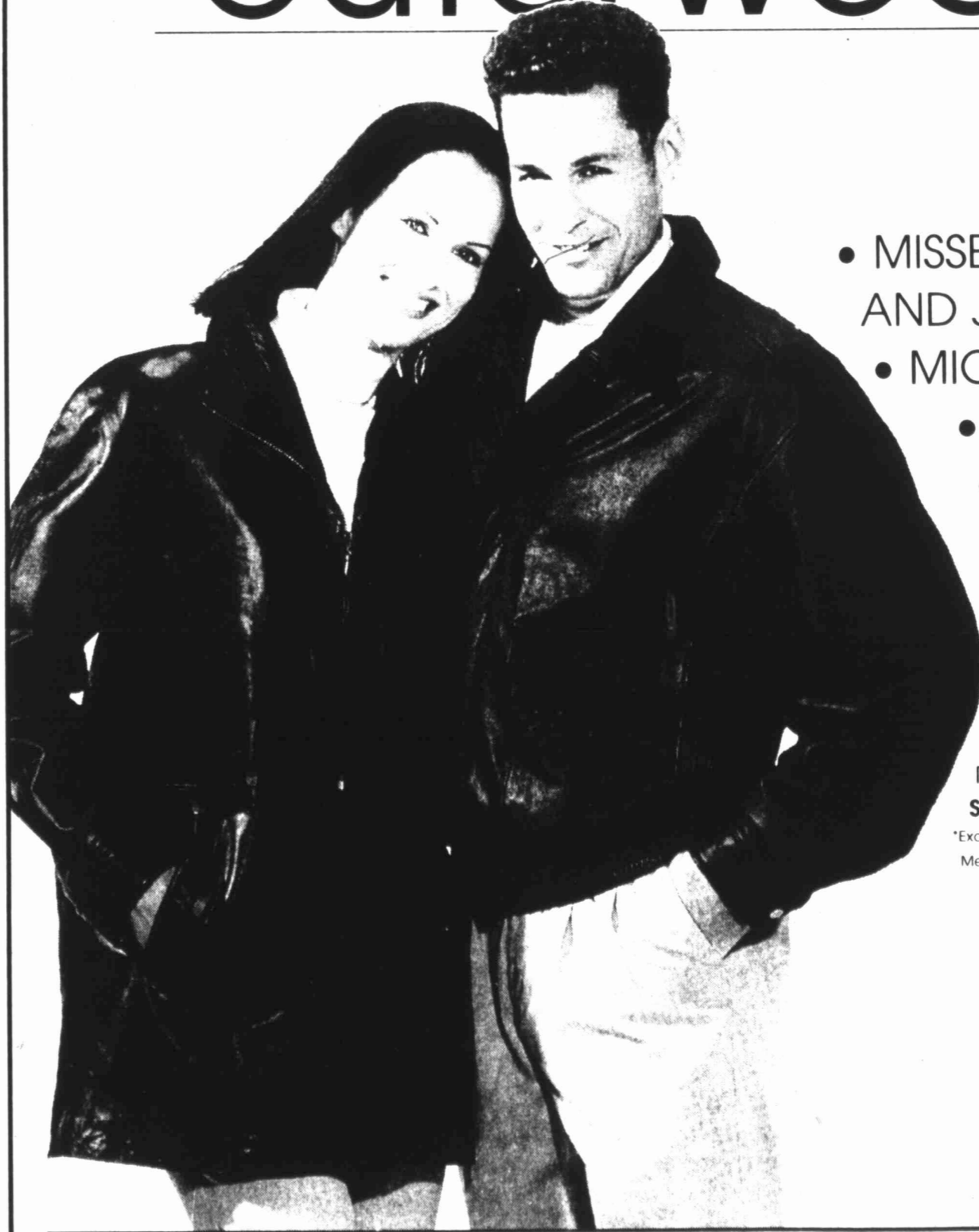
With respect to dangerous items, such as electric plugs and stoves, as well as a few untouchable objects, such as the knobs on the television set, it is possible and necessary to teach and enforce the command "Don't touch!" After making it clear what is expected and the child refuses to obey, a mild slap on the hands while saying "No" will usually discourage repeat episodes.

I would, however, recommend patience and tolerance for all those other everyday episodes that involve neither defiance nor safety.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr. James C. Dobson's "Focus on the Family" appears each Thursday, as a cooperative effort of Science Mountain Medical Center and the Big Spring Herald. Letters to Dr. Dobson may be sent to: P.O. Box 444, Colorado Springs, Colo., 80903.

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Births to high-school girls fall to record low

WASHINGTON (AP) — Births to teen-agers fell for a seventh straight time last year, with births to girls of high school age hitting a record low, the government said Monday.

Overall, births to teens ages 15 to 19 dropped by 2 percent from 1997, and were down 18 percent since 1991.

But policy-makers are most concerned about girls 15 to 17, who are still in high school. Births to this group fell 5 percent last year — down to 30.4 births for every 1,000 teens. That rate has dropped 21 percent since 1991 — when it was 38.7 births — and is the lowest rate in at least four decades.

Donna Shalala, secretary of Health and Human Services, called the news "very encouraging" but pressed communities to accelerate their efforts at pregnancy prevention.

"You have to organize locally and be in there for the long

term," she said, releasing a guide for local community groups working on the issue.

Analysts point to a number of reasons for the drop. Surveys show fewer teens are having sex and they're using more reliable forms of birth control, including long-lasting implants and injections. Fear of AIDS has also increased use of condoms.

"We all believe AIDS has scared teen-agers," Shalala told reporters.

The reduction in births to teen-agers is "not surprising because we've been seeing these drops since 1991. It's more good news," said T.J. Mathews, a co-author of the report and a demographer at the National Center for Health Statistics, a branch of HHS.

The birth rate among the youngest teens and preteens, ages 10 to 14, also fell 6 percent, to its lowest level since 1969.



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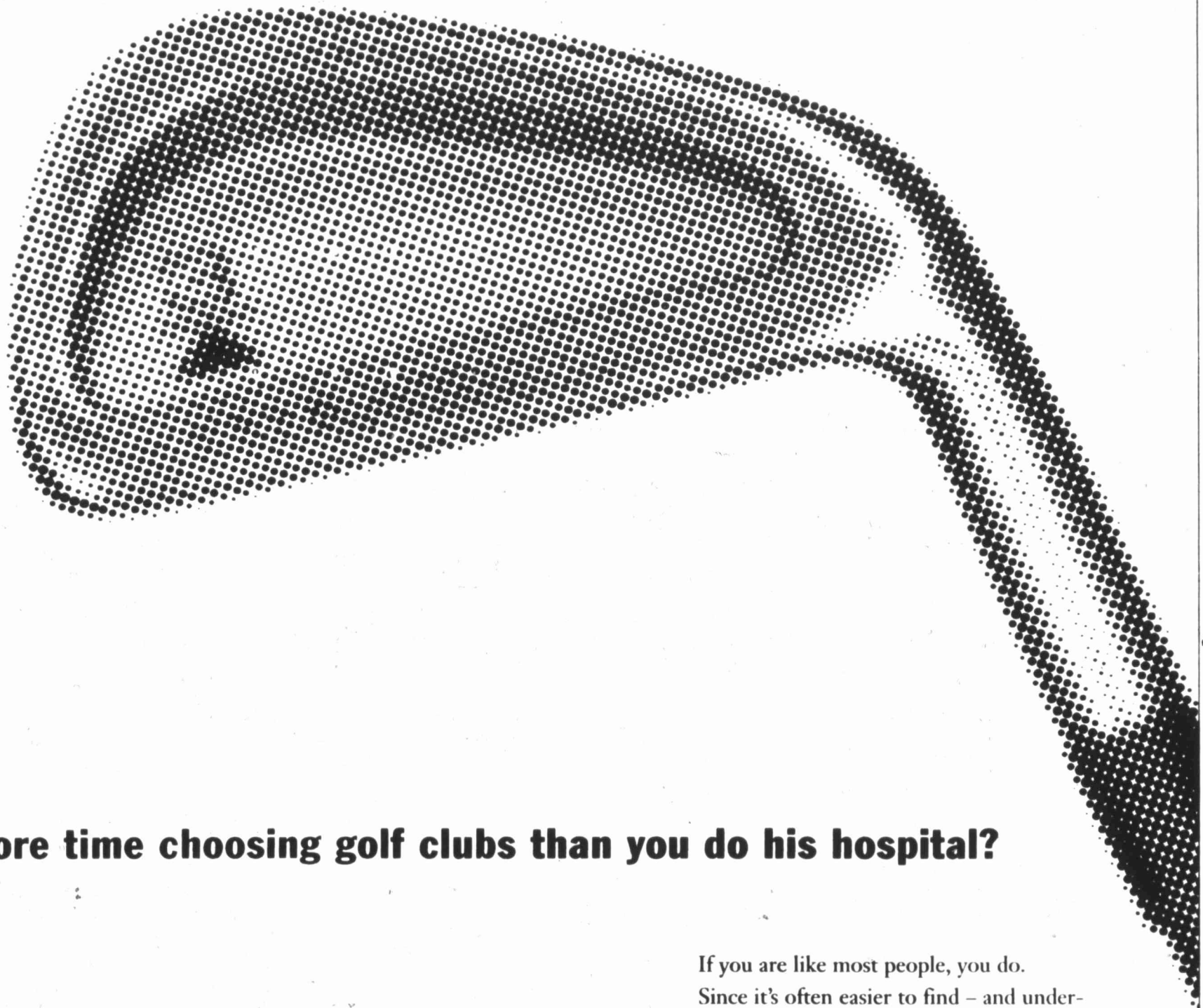
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OCT 28 1999



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If you are like most people, you do. Since it's often easier to find - and understand - good information on everything from pickup trucks to golf clubs than it is on the quality of healthcare, it's easy to make the mistake of assuming all hospitals are the same. So how do you make sure you choose the best care for your family?

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Is accreditation important to you? *You bet.* It means you can rest assured that the entire medical and hospital staff at Scenic Mountain is meeting or exceeding nationally-recognized quality healthcare standards. *Everyday.*

So, if you're like most and can spend more time deciding between Titleist or Taylor Made golf clubs than researching healthcare, rely on the fact that Scenic Mountain Medical Center is the best choice.

After all, JCAHO has already done the research for you.



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SP

IN BR

Coahoma boosts slates meeting

The Coahoma Booster Club will meet Monday at 7 p.m. Monday in the Coahoma Elementary School. Members will discuss short business meeting, viewing high school Bulldogs' game.

BSHS baseball slate meeting

The Big Spring Boosters Club will meet Monday at 7 p.m. Monday at the Athletic Training Center. Schedules for the season for varsity, junior and freshman teams will be distributed. Boosters will also discuss facility improvements. Parents of all baseball players and other fans are invited.

YMCA offering free racquetball lessons

The Big Spring YMCA is currently offering free racquetball lessons for adults and youngsters. The hour-long sessions are offered on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Nov. 20. Jim Wright will conduct lessons on the YMCA renovated courts. For more information call the YMCA at 267-8222.

Cowboys sign three cut three from roster

IRVING (AP) - The Cowboys have signed agent linebacker Tim Lester, linebacker Hemsley and offensive lineman Ben Fricke. Lester started after being signed. Daryl Johnston's starting neck injury. starter will be Robert a linebacker moved back late in training. This is the second Fricke has been signed. hopes he clears with can be signed to the squad.

Burn overcomes for 3-2 win over

DALLAS (AP) - Burn overcame a deficit Wednesday advanced to the Conference finals victory over the MLS champion Chicago. The Burn won game of the best and advance to the conference finals. Angeles on Sunday. The Fire took a the game's opening minutes on goals by and Jesse Marsch. Dallas finally got board in the 55th header by Chad De Burn tied it in the 8 on a penalty kick Jorge Rodriguez.

Agassi takes qu to advance at E

STUTTGART, (AP) - Top-ranked Agassi needed just to beat Mark Philipp 2, 6-4 and advanced round of the Eurocup. Second-ranked Kafelnikov was Mariano Zabaleta, other upsets, David beat 10th-ranked T 6-3, 6-1; Jiri Novak 14th-seeded Cedric 3-6, 6-3; and Sien ousted 15th-seed Kucera 7-5, 6-1. Third-seeded Tom No. 6 Marcelo Rios Corretja, No. 11 Tom No. 12 Nicolas Pietrangola, No. 16 Magnus Th advanced to the th

ON THE

Television
NCAA FOOTBALL
7 p.m. - Utah at State, ESPN, Ch. 30

SPORTS EXTRA

AP Top 25

Table with 2 columns: Rank and Team. Lists top 25 college football teams.

NFL STANDINGS

Table with 4 columns: Conference, Team, W, L, T, Pct., PF, PA. Shows NFL team standings.

SCHOOL BOY POLL

Table with 2 columns: Team and Record. Shows high school football polls for various teams.

SUNDAY'S GAMES

Table with 2 columns: Game and Location. Lists NFL games for the week.

MONDAY'S GAME

Table with 1 column: Game. Lists the Monday night NFL game.

PORTLAND TRAIL BLAZERS

Portland Trail Blazers news article snippet.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

NFL game preview and analysis.

WORLD SERIES

World Series game report and stats.

NHL

NHL game reports and scores.

MLS PLAYOFFS

MLS playoff game reports.

TRANSACTIONS

NBA, NFL, and other league transactions.

TBA

Tennis and basketball results.

MLS CUP

MLS Cup game report.

NBA PRESEASON

NBA preseason game reports.

LOCAL BOWLING

Local bowling tournament news.

WPHL

WPHL game reports.

UIL VOLLEYBALL

UIL volleyball tournament news.

Tour championship becomes stage for memories of Stewart

HOUSTON (AP) — The Tour Championship used to be the end-of-the-year event for the rich to get richer. This year, it has become a stage to honor the memory of Payne Stewart.

DEION

Continued from page 1B
Westbrook, both of whom had taunted him in the days leading up to the game.

YOUNG

Continued from page 1B
Mariucci said, "Young insists he is indeed serious about his health.

STEERS

Continued from page 1B
The Class 4A state volleyball playoff pairings as provided by the University Interscholastic League.

FISHING REPORT

Here is the weekly fishing report for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

WATER CRAFT

Watercraft news and reports.

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THURSDAY

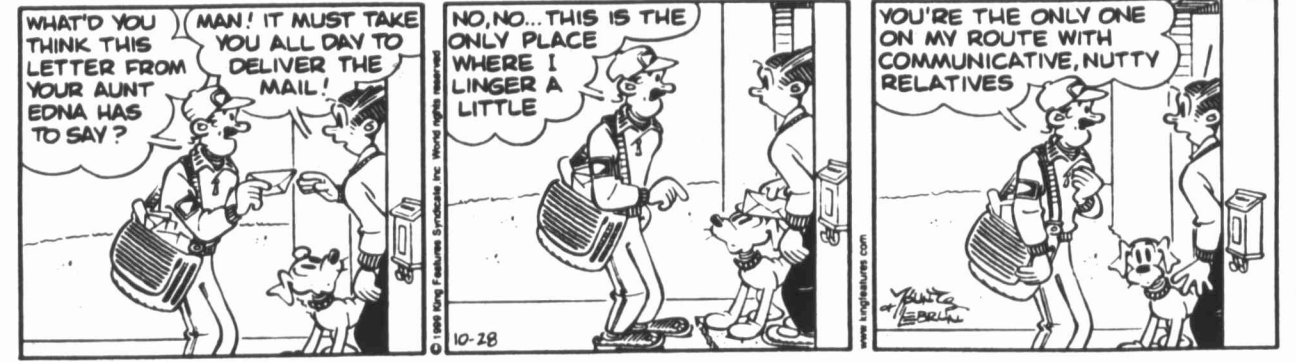
OCT. 28

Table with 20 columns (KMD, KPEJ, KERA, FAM, KOSA, WFAA, KWES, WTBS, UNI, DISN, NASH, TMC, SHOW, HBO, KMLM, A&E, DISC, TNT, USA, SCIFI, LIFE, TLC) and 12 rows of program listings.

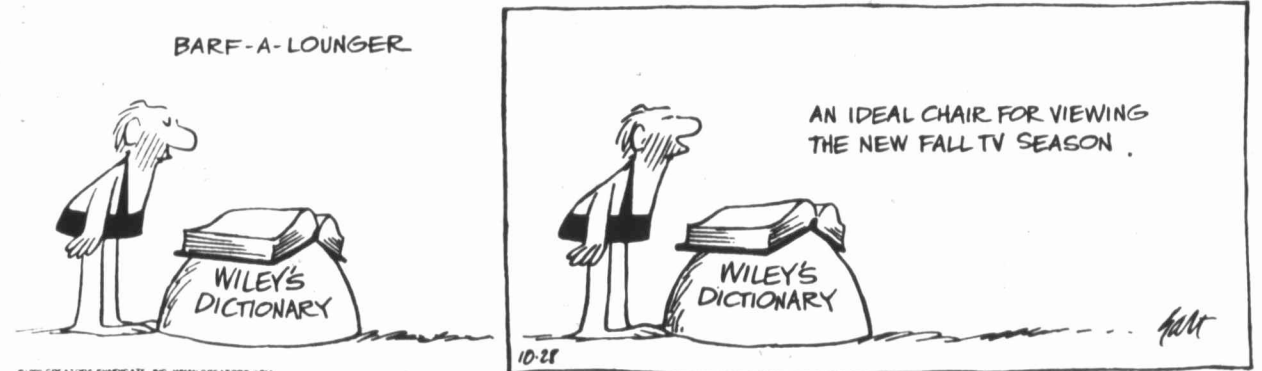
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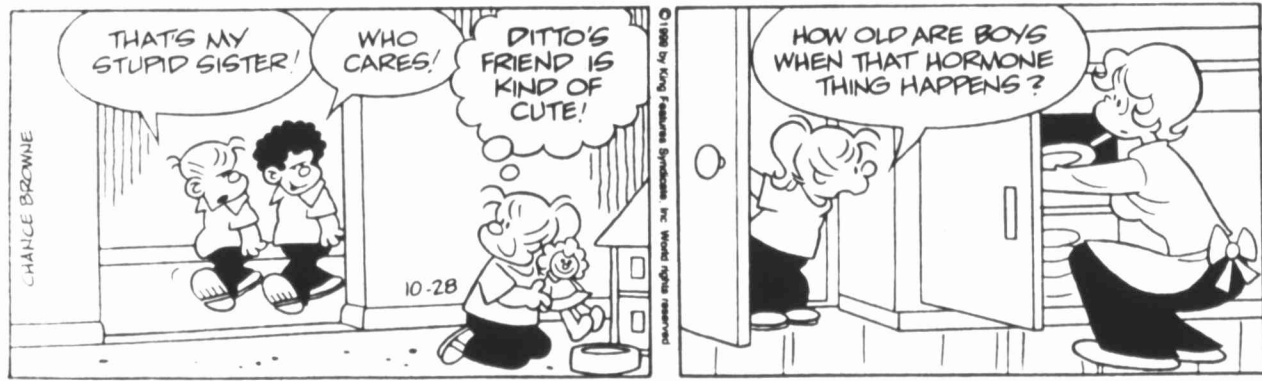
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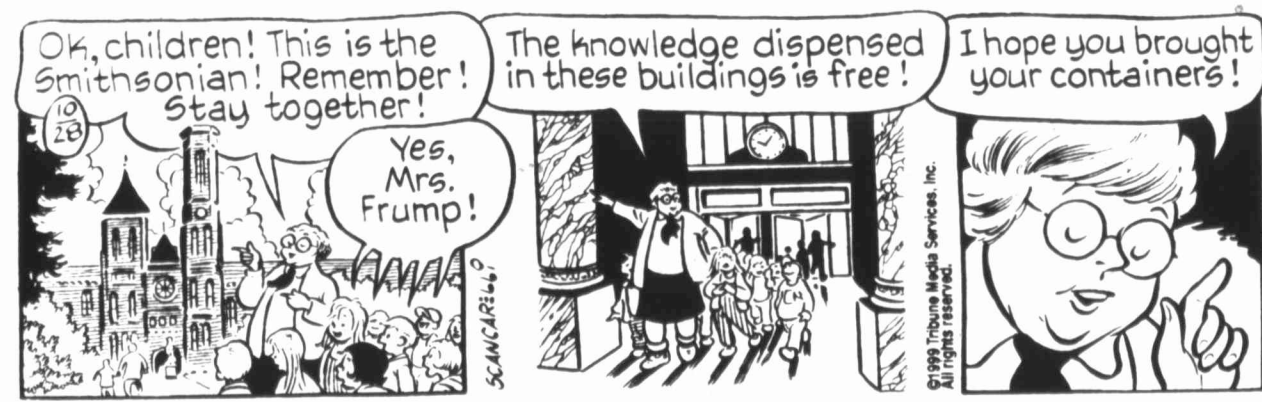
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HI AND LOIS



GASOLINE ALLEY



SNUFFY SMITH



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THIS DATE IN HISTORY

The ASSOCIATED PRESS Today is Thursday, Oct. 28, the 301st day of 1999. There are 64 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Oct. 28, 1919, Congress enacted the Volstead Act, which provided for enforcement of Prohibition, over President Wilson's veto. In 1636, Harvard College was founded in Massachusetts.

In 1793, Eli Whitney applied for a patent for his cotton gin (the patent was granted the following March). In 1886, the Statue of Liberty, a gift from the people of France, was dedicated in New York Harbor by President Cleveland.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down.

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved grid with the solution to the crossword puzzle.

Word list for the crossword puzzle, including 37 Across and 58 Down.

Big Spring Herald advertisement with contact information and office hours.

In 1893, Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky conducted the first public performance of his Symphony No. Six in B minor ('Pathétique') in St. Petersburg, Russia, just nine days before his death. In 1922, fascism came to Italy as Benito Mussolini took control of the government. In 1936, President Roosevelt rededicated the Statue of Liberty on its 50th anniversary. In 1940, Italy invaded Greece during World War II. In 1958, the Roman Catholic patriarch of Venice, Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli, was elected Pope; he took the name John XXIII. In 1962, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev informed the United States that he had ordered the dismantling of Soviet missile bases in Cuba. In 1965, Pope Paul VI issued a decree absolving Jews of collective guilt for the crucifixion of Jesus Christ.

Ten years ago: The Oakland A's won the earthquake-interrupted World Series, completing a four-game sweep of the San Francisco Giants. Twenty people were killed in the crash of a commuter plane on the island of Hawaii. Five years ago: President Clinton visited Kuwait, where he praised U.S. ground forces sent in response to an Iraqi threat, and all but promised the troops they'd be home by Christmas.

One year ago: In London, the High Court ruled that former Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet was immune from prosecution in British courts (however, the House of Lords later overturned the decision, saying Pinochet's arrest could stand).

Today's Birthdays: Former baseball commissioner Bowie Kuhn is 73. Actress Joan Plowright is 70. Actress Dody Goodman is 70. Actress Suzy Parker is 66. Musician-songwriter Charlie Daniels is 63. Actress Jane Alexander is 60. Singer Curtis Lee is 58. Actor Dennis Franz is 55. Pop singer Wayne Fontana is 54. Actress Telma Hopkins is 51. Olympic track and field gold medalist Bruce Jenner is 50. Actress Annie Potts is 47. Microsoft chairman Bill Gates is 44. Rock musician Stephen Morris (New Order) is 42. Country singer-musician Ron Hemby (The Buffalo Club) is 41.