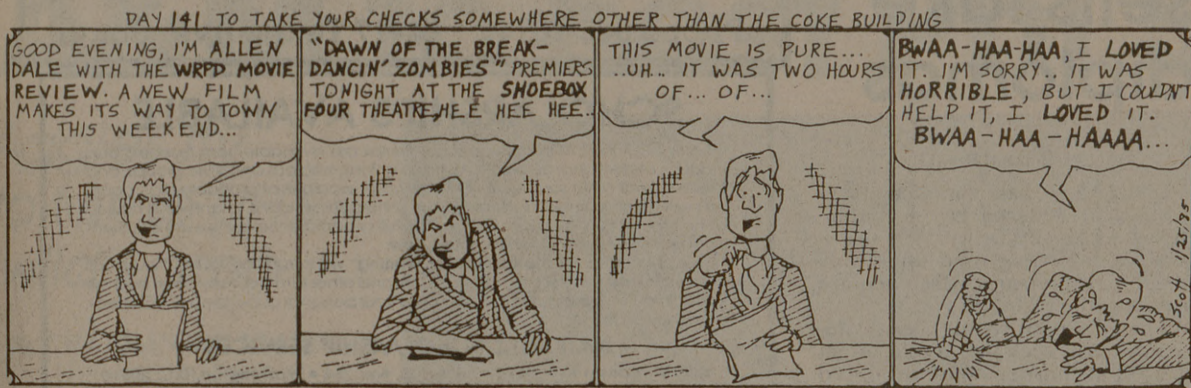


STATE AND LOCAL

Warped

by Scott McCullar



DAY 141 TO TAKE YOUR CHECKS SOMEWHERE OTHER THAN THE COKE BUILDING

Democrat won't rule it out

Hance for governor?

Associated Press
AUSTIN — Former Congressman Kent Hance of Lubbock, an unsuccessful candidate for the U.S. Senate in 1984, is considering running for any of several offices, including governor, it was reported Thursday.
"Hance, who has a debt of more than a half-million dollars from his near miss race for the Democratic nomination for U.S. Senate last year, has been exploring with backers the possibility of running for governor," the Austin American-Statesman said.
The newspaper quoted Hance as saying, "I haven't ruled anything out or in," including the Railroad Commission.

The American-Statesman also said Railroad Commissioner Buddy Temple, whose term expires next year, "probably will not seek another six-year term."
Temple, who sought the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in 1982 but dropped out of a runoff with Mark White, said he probably will get out of politics for a time if he doesn't seek re-election.
"I've made no secret of the fact that right at this moment I'm inclined not to run again," Temple said. "But I don't want anyone to take that as a decision that I'm not going to run, because it isn't."
Hance, a conservative, was the top vote-getter in the Democratic Senate primary, but was edged by liberal

Lloyd Doggett of Austin in the runoff.
A number of leading Texas Democrats have speculated that Hance might be interested in running for attorney general or lieutenant governor in 1986. But Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby, a friend of Hance, has indicated he will seek re-election.
Temple said he plans to consult with long-time supporters before making any final decision on his political future. He served in the Texas House and ran for speaker before seeking election to the Railroad Commission in 1980.
"Part of my thinking is I've been in it since '72, and there have been a lot of tough races," Temple said.

Bryan-College Station unemployment still low

By JEFF BRADY
Reporter

Latest figures from the Texas Employment Commission indicate Austin had November's lowest unemployment rate in the state — 3 percent. Bryan-College Station and Midland were tied for the second lowest with 3.2 percent, says Walt Baker, director of the agency's local division.

With one of the lowest unemployment rates in the state, a secure job environment provided by Texas A&M and a good economy, Baker says Brazos County offers job-seekers a community that is hard to beat in terms of economic potential.
Surrounding counties in the Brazos Valley averaged approximately 7 percent unemployment. The national rate was 6.9 percent.
The unemployment rate is calcu-

lated by dividing an area's total work force into the number of persons looking for jobs. That figure is then adjusted to reflect seasonal trends and other variables.
Baker says there are a number of reasons that the local unemployment rate, normally around 3.5 percent, has remained low. Those reasons include Texas' status as a right-to-work state and the prime location of Bryan-College Station, he says.

On the other hand, Edwin Latta, the Executive Director of the Bryan Development Foundation, says this rate does not mean there are no people here to fill existing jobs. It simply suggests that workers in the immediate area who want to work can find jobs.
Latta said the area's biggest employers are the University, local school districts, industrial employers

and hospitals, whose hiring has caused the labor force to double from 30,000 to 60,000 during the last 10 years.
Between 1970 and 1980, Bryan-College Station was the fastest-growing area in the state statistically, Latta said, and the sixth fastest-growing area in the nation.
Latta said he attributes this economic development largely to the oil boom of the 70s and to the growth of the University.
However, the local economic upswing has yet to fade, Latta says. Within the last year, he says, 15 new businesses have opened in downtown Bryan alone. And while the unemployment rate traditionally drops in the months of January and February, Latta said he predicts continued employment opportunity and economic growth for Bryan and Brazos County in 1985.

Single mothers topic of program

By AMY BOWMAN
Reporter

Many women in today's society are choosing to explore the rewards and frustrations of being single parents in a two-parent world.
The program, "And Baby Makes Two," reveals how many women feel about marriage, their daily routines and their decision to have children.
Women choosing to raise children on their own may, often as a result of

divorce or separation, face emotional, legal and economic problems.
Clinical Director of Family Life Counseling Services Dale Simpson said the number of single parent families has risen from about three million in 1970 to more than six million in 1980. In Brazos County alone, the number of single parent families increased 140 percent between 1970 to 1980, Simpson said.
Single mothers frequently encounter custody battles, unemploy-

ment and depression as a result of trying to raise children by themselves, he said.
Many women who must return to work usually have a difficult time holding a job while raising a child. Single women, however, can also enjoy the same rewards of motherhood as married women.
"And Baby Makes Two," a 30-minute program, will be at noon Monday in Lecture Room #1 of the Medical Sciences Building.

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