

Waldo

by Kevin Thomas

Space will be subject of lecture

Gerald D. Griffin, director of Houston's Johnson Space Center, will speak on "Design in Space: Challenge of the Future" tonight at 7:30 p.m. in 601 Rudder as part of the University Lecture Series.

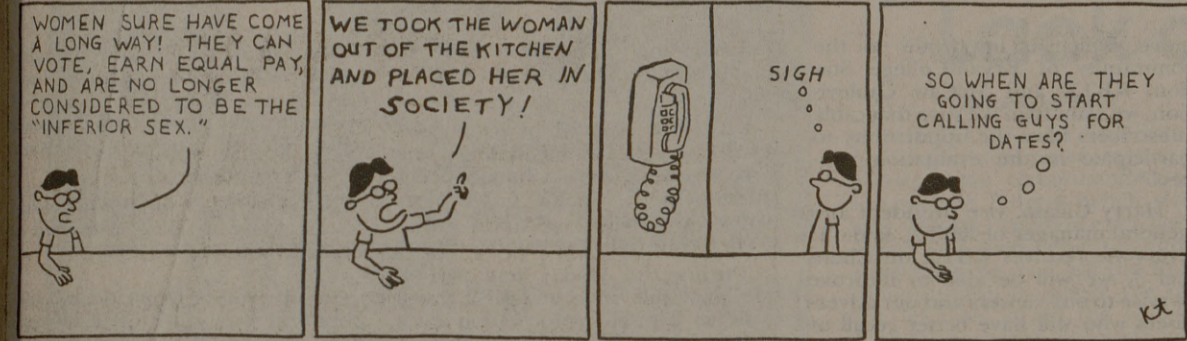
The lecture, sponsored by the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, will cover the expanded use of space vehicles and the future plans of NASA to increase trips into space.

Griffin, a 1956 graduate of Texas A&M, has held many posts since beginning at NASA in 1964.

He was a flight director in Mission Control on all 11 Apollo missions and lead flight director in Apollos 12, 15 and 17.

Griffin assumed his current post as director of Johnson Space Center on Aug. 8, 1982.

In May 1985, Griffin was named Distinguished Alumnus of Texas A&M.



Employee complaints spur nursing home investigation

Associated Press

BEAUMONT — Texas Attorney General Jim Mattox's office is investigating the actions of a Beaumont nursing home during a two-month strike by employees.

Mattox's office will continue its investigation of the Schlesinger Geriatric Center until the facilities directors "show they're not a charitable trust and not under our authority,"

said spokeswoman Elna Christopher.

The state attorney general monitors charitable trusts and actions of the directors. According to Texas law, a charitable trust is a tax-exempt organization that serves scientific, educational and philanthropic purposes or benefits the arts and humanities.

Papers filed by Schlesinger with the Texas secretary of state's office,

list the nursing home as a charitable trust with tax-exempt status.

Mattox's office received a letter last week from Service Employees International Local 706, calling for an investigation of the center's actions, Christopher said Wednesday.

The union on Sept. 1 ended a two-month protest against the center and about 150 striking employees offered to return to work unconditionally.

Around town

On-campus housing still available

On-campus housing is still available for this fall semester. Oct. 11 is the deadline to move on campus and be eligible to automatically reserve your room for the spring semester. Interested students should contact the On-campus Housing Office, 101 YMCA Building at 845-4744.

Who's Who applications due at 5 p.m.

Applications for Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges will be available at boxes located at eight different campus locations from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. today. Applications can be picked up at the Commandant's Office, Memorial Student Center, Student Activities Office, Zachry Engineering Center, Sterling C. Evans Library, Kleberg Center, the Office of the Dean of Veterinary Medicine and the Office of the Vice President for Student Services.

Science students must take exam

Any junior or senior in the College of Science who has not previously taken the English Proficiency Examination should plan to take the test on one of the following dates: Oct. 22, Oct. 29, Nov. 7, Nov. 12 or Nov. 14. Students must take the proficiency examination unless they have completed English 301 with a minimum grade of C. Students entering the College of Science under catalog #107 or later must complete English 301 as required in their degree program. They are not required to take this exam. The English Proficiency Exam will be administered by the English Department. Students in the biology, chemistry, mathematics and physics departments should register for the exam in 151 or 152 Blocker three days prior to the exam date. All exams begin at 6:45 p.m. and end at 9 p.m.

Texas said to be best in bilingual education

Associated Press

EL PASO — Bilingual education in this border city and some other Texas school districts is treated "very much differently" than in other areas of the country, which has led to alternative teaching methods that have produced great success, education officials said Thursday.

"We've seen our kids growing by leaps and bounds," Rosita Apodaca, bilingual education consultant for the El Paso Independent School District, said of the variety of approaches used to teach non-English speaking students in her district.

"We feel we're very successful because of the many ways we attack the problem," Apodaca said.

In New York Thursday, Secretary of Education William J. Bennett said he plans to press for changes in the nation's bilingual education program to give school districts more flexibility on what teaching methods to employ.

The law currently requires that the Education Department spend 96 percent of its \$139 million-a-year in bilingual aid helping schools teach children basic courses in their native language while also trying to teach them English.

The El Paso district, using state and local funds, already offers a break from the transitional teaching

method in a "high-intensity language training program" in eight of its secondary schools, Apodaca said.

Another Texas district that has gained impressive results in educating Hispanic children by using several approaches is in McAllen, said Carol Pendas Whitten of the Office of Bilingual Education and Minority Language Affairs in Washington, D.C.

She said she saw the immersion technique of teaching bilingual education working well in McAllen on a recent visit there.

"However, I would like to say also that McAllen, Texas, was probably the best bilingual education program that we saw," she said at a news conference at the Department of Education.

The English-immersion experiment in Texas grew out of a 1981 state law that directed the Texas Education Department to study alternative methods of helping teach children with limited English-speaking ability.

Approximately 20 percent of elementary and secondary El Paso district students are enrolled in bilingual education.

"We've been teaching bilingual education for many years," Apodaca said. "El Paso is known to have the Cadillac program in the state."

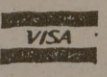
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