

### FDIC to reopen bank's doors for business

LA MARQUE (AP) — The La Marque Bank, southeast of Houston in Galveston County, will reopen today as a branch of the First Bank of La Marque, FDIC spokesman Bill Olcheski said.

The La Marque Bank, which had only one office, was closed Thursday by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., which approved the assumption of its deposits by the First Bank of La Marque.

The failed bank had total assets of \$5.6 million and was ordered closed by Kenneth W. Littlefield, Texas banking commissioner, with the FDIC named receiver.

Its depositors automatically will become depositors in the First Bank of La Marque subject to approval of the proper courts, Olcheski said.

The failure is the thirty-seventh in Texas so far this year and brings the national total of bank failures to 123, he said.

First Bank of La Marque will assume about \$6.1 million in 1,800 deposit accounts and has agreed to pay the FDIC the purchase premium of \$155,000, Olcheski said. He said the bank also would buy some of the failed bank's loans and other assets for \$4.8 million.

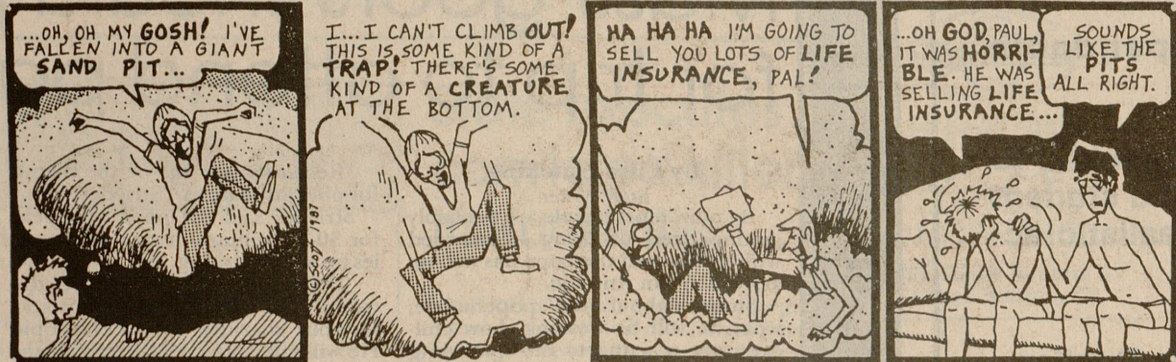
The FDIC is advancing \$1.2 million to First Bank of La Marque and will retain assets of the defunct La Marque Bank with a book value of about \$800,000.

Olcheski said the FDIC would recover a portion of its outlay through the liquidation of assets not transferred to First Bank of La Marque. The liquidation of assets is supposed to cover much of the current debt the establishment now is facing.

The FDIC noted its claims have priority over claims of non-depositor creditors and shareholders of the failed bank.

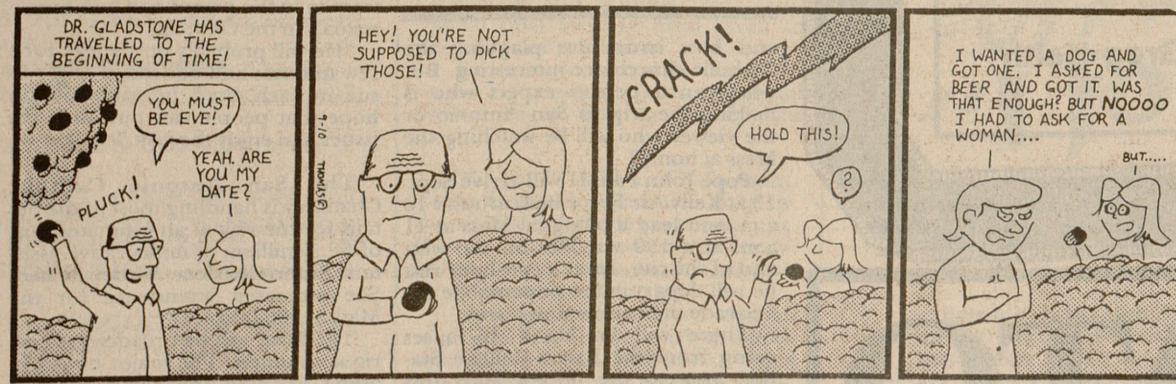
### Warped

by Scott McCullar



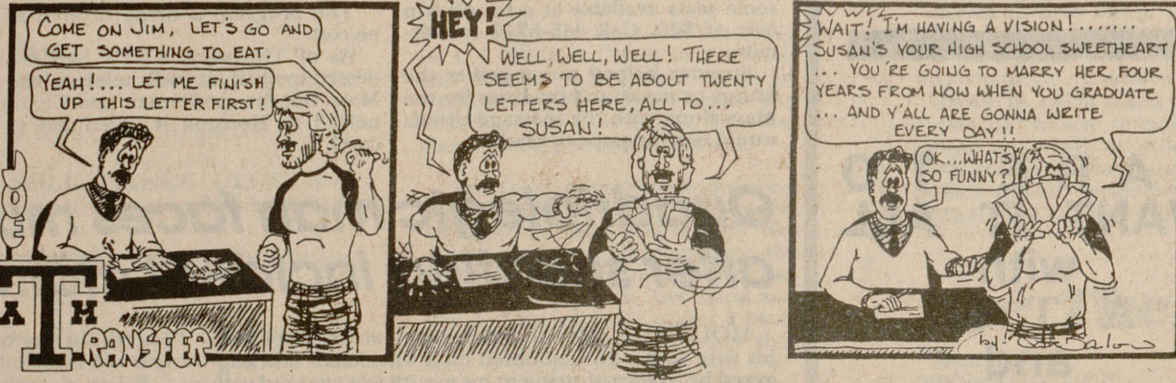
### Waldo

by Kevin Thomas



### Joe Transfer

by Dan Barlow



## Assault case strikes taxpayer's pocketbooks

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The spat between veteran congressman Henry B. Gonzalez and a conservative businessman cost the man a bruised eye and taxpayers a pain in the pocketbook, officials said.

Last month, Bexar County prosecutors dismissed a misdemeanor assault charge against Gonzalez, who was accused of hitting Bill Allen in the face at a restaurant on Dec. 4.

Gonzalez issued a statement on Aug. 28, apologizing to his constituents that the incident occurred after Allen allegedly called the congressman a communist.

The statement ended a crop of paperwork for

prosecutors, Gonzalez's attorneys and transcribers of the U.S. Congressional Record.

The bill, however, will cost more than \$13,000, the Texas Lawyer magazine reported this week.

In June, Gonzalez went to the House floor five times to tell his version of the incident and to evade a gag order from court-at-law Judge Timothy Johnson.

Gonzalez filled 21 pages of the congressional record, which will cost the taxpayers about \$10,300, the Dallas-based magazine said.

Gonzalez's attorney, Jack Paul Leon, said any waste of money should be blamed on the district attorney's office which pursued the case in county court.

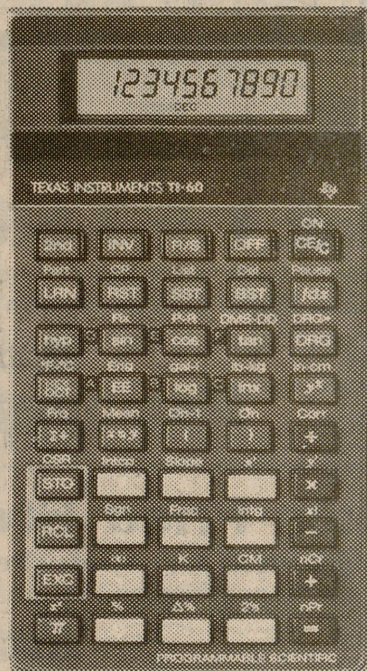
"Anybody else involved in the same type of situation would have been in municipal or justice of the peace court and not faced with a potential year in jail," Leon said. "It would have been just like a traffic court and wouldn't have cost anybody anything."

John Wondra, the district attorney initially assigned to the case, said police filed the case as a Class A misdemeanor and the evidence seemed to back up the charge.

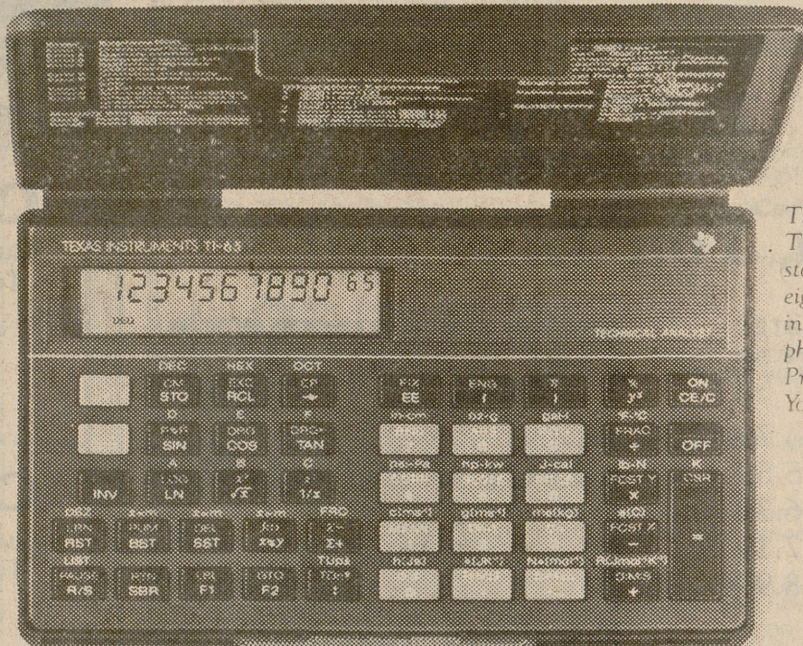
"We don't feel our time was wasted," he said.

"The case has been resolved, and part of the obligation is to work up the case, get it ready and if it's resolved short of trial, then that's the way the criminal justice process works," he said.

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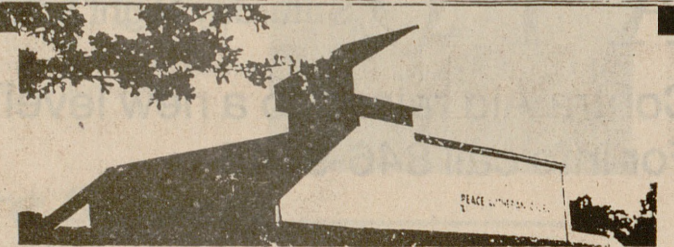
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