

Warped

by Scott McCullar

WRPD PRESENTS:
A HASTILY WRITTEN, MADE-FOR-TELEVISION SITCOM...

All In the Family Ties Growing Pains
(SUBTITLED)

THE SCENE: THE LIVING ROOM, (WHERE IT ALWAYS BEGINS)

GOSH, MERRITT, WHAT'LL WE GET DAD FOR CHRISTMAS??

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HUH?

How will we afford the new powersaw he wants??

WHAT'S GOING ON, PAUL? WHERE'S MY SCRIPT?

WE SUBTITLE ALL OUR LINES NOW SO WE DON'T HAVE TO MEMORIZE 'EM.

Gee, why don't we sell his golf clubs for the money?

Waldo

by Kevin Thomas

OH, SORRY! YOU KNOW I LOVE YOU...

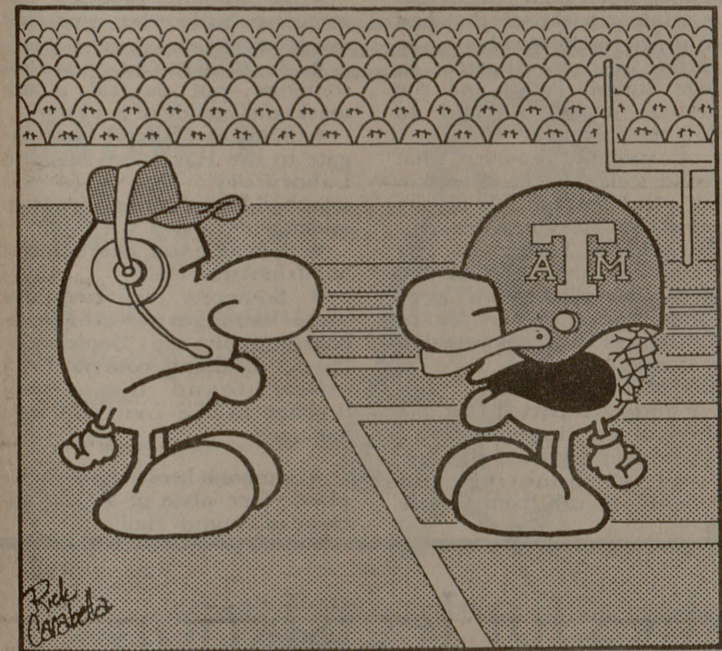
BUT I'M JUST AN EXTENSION OF YOUR EGO AND I REALLY DON'T EXIST!

PooF!

I HATE WHEN THAT HAPPENS.

Scrambled Eggs

High Court frees teachers from 'bondage'



DON'T WE HAVE ANY PLAYS BESIDES QUARTERBACK SNEAK?

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Supreme Court — in the words of one lawyer — on Wednesday freed many public school teachers from economic bondage.

The court in a unanimous opinion determined that school districts granting continuing contracts must decide by Aug. 1 what they are going to pay teachers for next school year.

If a district has not set a determinable salary by Aug. 1, then it is obligated to pay the salary from the previous year, the court said in an opinion by Justice William Kilgarlin.

Austin attorney Jay Brim said that while Dec. 7 may be a date of infamy in the minds of many Americans, he thinks in the minds of Texas teachers it's going to take on a new meaning.

"This is, in effect, an emancipation proclamation for Texas teachers," he said.

Brim, an attorney for the Texas Association of Professional Educators, said teachers historically have been required to perform contracts without knowing what they were going to be paid.

Justice Kilgarlin wrote that teachers who sued the Lumberton Independent School District were correct in stating, "It is unconscionable to bind them to employment contracts under penalty of law without a specific agreement as to what the compensation will be."

The suit was filed after Lumberton school trustees, one month after school started and salaries were set, voted to decrease certain salaries because the state had lowered its share of the payment.

Brim said salaries were reduced for 107 teachers. Of those, 26 plus two librarians joined in the lawsuit. Some teachers lost as much as \$2,800 a year under the trustees' decision, according to the professional educators association.

Brim said there is still time for the other Lumberton educators affected by the ruling to seek relief in court.

He also estimated that 100,000 teachers in some 200 of Texas' 1,000-plus school districts — including many urban districts — are covered by continuing contracts, and would be affected in the future by the Supreme Court ruling.

Kilgarlin's opinion noted that once a teacher achieves continuing contract status, or tenure, employment continues without the necessity of annual school board approval.

Brim said the practice of school districts waiting to the last minute to set salaries never had been tested in court, and was challenged in the Lumberton case.

ity about it, but these people will not be lending their name to any cause."

Before accepting, Allison said he contacted representatives of U.S. Rep. Charles Wilson, D-Lufkin, and U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm to check the committee's background. Both offices encouraged him to participate, he said.

Elaine Lang, Wilson's press secretary, said the committee is a respected group in Washington that is "very definite" in its pro-Palestinian support.

The tour begins Thursday and concludes Dec. 19 in Washington, D.C.

The itinerary includes meetings with mayors of the Israeli-occupied cities of Bethlehem, Ramallah, Nablus and the deposed mayor of Hebron.

"It's a chance to tell people how I perceive the situation there firsthand, instead of how the news media presents it," Allison told the *Palestine Herald-Press*.

Small-town delegation tours Israeli-held area

PALESTINE, Texas (AP) — One of six U.S. mayors who will tour the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip says he has been encouraged to make the trip, despite claims that the tour is an attempt by a sponsoring pro-Palestinian organization to spread propaganda.

"I've read about this situation but never knew a whole lot about it," Danny Allison, mayor of Palestine, Texas, said. "In my personal opinion, I've kind of sympathized with both sides."

The American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee recruited the mayors to tour the area. The mayors represent cities whose names are well known in the regions they will tour — Palestine, Texas; Palestine, Ark.; East Palestine, Ohio; Bethlehem, Conn.; Hebron, N.D., and Hebron, Ind.

Faris Bouhafa, public relations director for the committee, said the tour would commemorate the Christmas season and the first anniversary of the Palestinian uprising. "They are our guests for the trip," Bouhafa said. "There will be public-

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