

## School staffers reprimanded for strip search

The Associated Press

BROOKSHIRE — Royal school district trustees have voted to send letters of reprimand to two staff members who conducted strip searches of several high school students.

About 20 female students at Royal High School were subjected to the search last year after a classmate said she was missing \$41. But Superintendent James A. Kemp later said the search violated school district policies.

Trustees voted Monday night to send reprimand letters to Assistant Principal Nathaniel Richardson and school nurse Cindy Stasny, who conducted the searches. The board also voted to send letters of apology to female students who were searched.

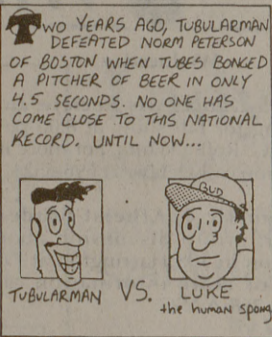
Richardson, who searched the boys, and Stasny, who searched the girls, also will have to participate in additional training seminars, Kemp said.

"From all the documentation I saw, the search went beyond turning pockets out and looking in handbags and socks," Kemp said. "Even though the students had all given permission, the staff members exceeded the scope of their authority."

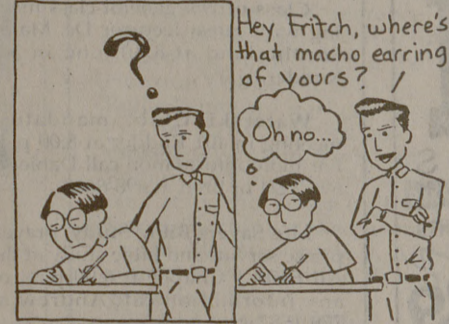
The female students, ages 14 to 18, were strip-searched in private one at a time. None of the missing money was found.

Male students did not have to remove their underwear for the inspection, Kemp said. He maintained that parental consent was given prior to the searches, but several parents have said they either were not contacted or never told their children would have to disrobe.

## Tubularman



## Fritch



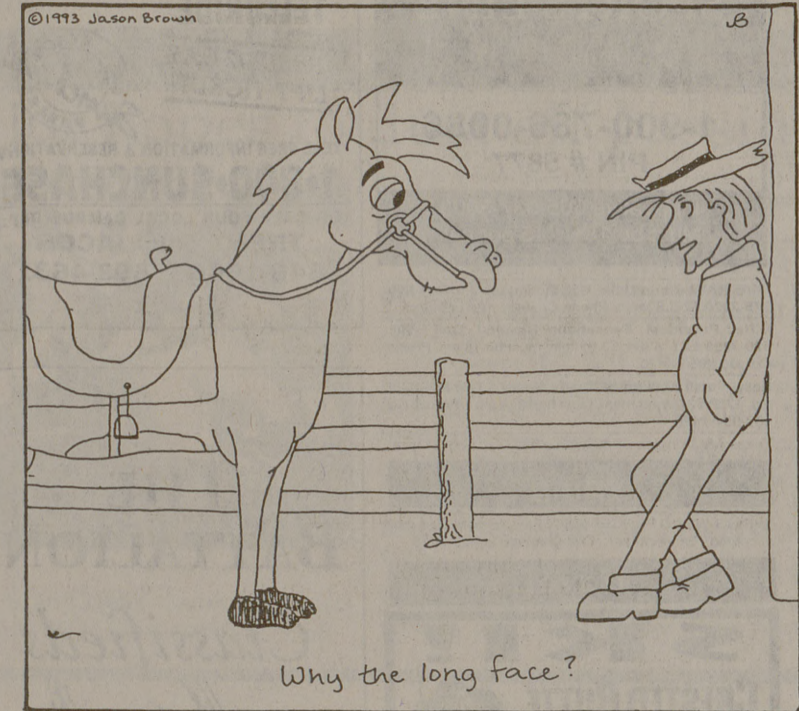
The school board's punishments failed to quell many parents' protests.

"There should be a public apology before the entire school for this," said Rebecca Alexander. "These girls will never be able to forget the humiliation forced on them."

Supporters of the two staff members were equally dissatisfied by the board's action. They argued that Kemp and other high-level administrators were trying to dodge their share of the blame.

The Royal district covers most of west and southwest Waller County, about 60 miles west of downtown Houston. Enrollment is about 1,300, including about 400 at the high school.

## JUST THE BEGINNING



Why the long face?

By Jason Brown

## Haiti

Continued from Page 1

In the match between Haiti and the international community, "Haiti has just scored the first goal," said the aide, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Although U.S. officials say that only a minority of Haitians oppose Aristide's return, military-

supported violence has hindered the transition government installed under the U.N. plan to restore democracy.

The Harlan County, carrying 472 servicemen from the United States and Canada, had floated 800 yards offshore since Monday, when military-backed port authorities, in a direct challenge to the U.N. mission, refused it a berth.

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## Ripley's curator looks for oddities, curiosities

The Associated Press

DALLAS — While it's difficult to be too weird for Ripley's Believe It or Not!, some offerings are simply too grotesque for a family amusement attraction.

A seller recently offered Ripley's curator John Turner the work locker of mass-murderer Jeffrey Dahmer for several thousand dollars. Turner declined.

Turner must track down and acquire more than a thousand curiosities each year to fill the two to three new museums and to freshen the 20 existing operations, including the Ripley's in Grand Prairie.

The Dallas-area museum features a 250-year-old crown made of a Tibetan monk's bones and an 8-foot model of the leaning Tower of Pisa made by an arthritic Englishman using 224,174 matchsticks, among other oddities.

Wherever Turner goes, he's

looking. He came up dry on his Dallas visit last week. That's OK, too.

By Turner's accounting, an item must be able to generate enough additional ticket sales over a three-year period to pay for itself. So a military paraphernalia collection of Kaiser Wilhelm II — worth every penny of its \$750,000 asking price to a collector — was impossible for Ripley's because the economics didn't work.

Turner's most expensive purchase, a 22-foot fairground organ found in an East German barn after the Berlin Wall came down, is headed for the Branson, Mo., museum under construction. He paid \$70,000 to buy and restore the grand musical instrument.

The pipe organ will share the limelight with a 6-ton, 42-foot-wide ball of twine found recently in Mountain Springs, Texas, billed by Ripley's as the "heaviest thing to cross the South since Elvis' 1977 comeback tour."

## Homosexual

Continued from Page 1

Doe was placed on administrative leave the following month, and was fired that May.

He sued the agency, saying his firing denied him equal protection and due process. Doe said he could not be blackmailed about his homosexuality because his family and friends knew he was gay.

The CIA said it fired Doe because he intentionally hid his homosexual activity for more than five years although he knew it was a security concern. His refusal to name his sex partners

might make him susceptible to threats to expose their identities, the CIA contended.

A federal judge decided that Doe was fired improperly. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit reversed, saying there is no evidence the CIA has a blanket policy against employing homosexuals.

Doe was fired because of the security concerns raised by his specific conduct, the appeals court said.

In the appeal rejected Tuesday, Doe's lawyers said the CIA considers homosexuals greater security risks than heterosexuals, even if the agency does not ban all gay employees.

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