WARNING:  
BROWN RECLUSE SPIDERS

FEATURES:
- Violin pattern on back at point where legs attach to body
- Base of violin, at head of spider
- Neck of violin, points to rear
- Yellowish-tan to dark brown in color
- Darker legs approx. 1 inch in length
- 6 eyes (but who is going to get close enough to count?)

HABITS:
- Non-aggressive
- Bite only if threatened (usually when pressed up against victim’s skin)
- Likes dark, warm, dry environments
- Haphazard web mostly in corners and crevices (Use to protect and eggs, not for food collection)

BITE:
- Toxic to cells and tissues
- Often unnoticed—generally painless
- Initial bite---
  - Mildly red
  - May reveal fang marks
  - Generally becomes firm and heals within few days to weeks

Symptoms develop 2-8 hrs after bite
- Severe pain 4 hrs after bite
  - Severe itching
  - Nausea
  - Vomiting
  - Fever
  - Muscle pain
- Bite may become severe
  - Significant red, swollen blistering skin
  - Blue discoloration
  - Leads to necrotic tissue/scarring

FIRST AID:
- Apply ice to decrease pain and swelling
- Elevate area above heart if possible
- Wash area with cool water and mild soap
- Avoid strenuous activity may spread venom
- Use Tylenol for pain
- DO NOT use hydrocortisone ointment

PREVENTION:
- Routine thorough housekeeping
- Reduce clutter
- DO NOT leave clothing on floor in piles
- Remove everything from under beds
- Shake out clothing prior to putting on
- Shake out shoes especially first thing in morning
- Take care when carrying or emptying boxes

Approved: Engle