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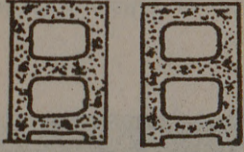
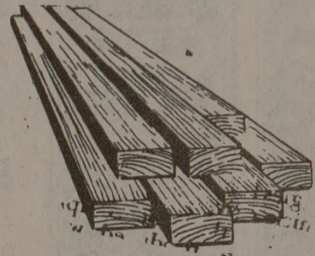


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Fake robbery, gunfight foiled by real police

United Press International FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Nostalgia buffs dressed as rifle-toting cowboys were headed off at the pass by police who thought their fake train robbery was the real thing.

Every few weeks, the people at the Gold Coast Railroad Museum stage an elaborate train robbery along the 5-mile route of its 1926 vintage train.

"What they kind of do is wait behind the trees in the park, come out from the trees and make a lot of noise," said Walt Locke, president of the museum. "We have a little gunfight out there, capture the robbers and take off."

"We always capture the robbers. The good guys always win. We have a sheriff that rides the train with a small posse," Locke said.

But Sunday someone noticed the armed men lurking about and called police. Police spokeswoman Diane Morrissette said seven police cars, a helicopter and a SWAT team from the Fort Lauderdale Police Department and the Broward County Sheriff's Office were rushed in.

Warped

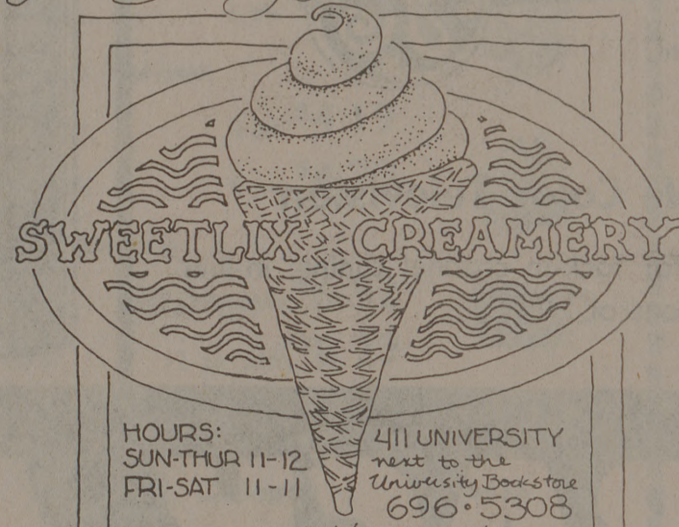
by Scott McCullar



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A&M student portrays University in new strip

Paul Dirmeyer, a sophomore meteorology major, is the artist of a new comic strip R.I., which will run in the Battalion two to four times a week.

The strip will be a comic portrayal of life on the Texas A&M campus. The personalities of the eight characters in the strip are based on Dirmeyer's friends in El Paso, and he uses those personalities to show how the characters react to events on campus.

Dirmeyer began drawing the strip last year, but this will be the first time the strip will be published.

He said he starts by writing the dialogue, then decides how to fit it into four frames. Once that is completed, he does the actual drawing.

The drawing was the hardest part at first, he said, but he now enjoys that part. He said it takes about an hour to draw the frames.

The strip usually will have one subject a week, but at first he will spend most of his strip introducing his characters.

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'Light' foods not necessarily low in calories

United Press International COLUMBIA, Mo. — "light" trend in food and beverages may be an exercise in delusion, says a University of Missouri-Columbia member.

Donald L. Shawver says "light" pancake syrup may have fewer calories than regular, but pancakes still are pancakes. And, he adds, national advertisements for "light" tacos and small print they are no lower in calories than regular tacos.

Shawver, who is marketing department chairman for the College of Business and Public Administration, says American marketers who emphasize "light" products may be misleading consumers what they are instead of manipulating them into thinking their new products are really what they need.

"Consumers will try it, but less they really like it, it will go," he says, adding that it is a good product to generate repeat purchases.

Shawver also speculates that the prototype consumer designed by U.S. marketers may be a woman who treats herself to extravagances, is status-conscious, and concerned about health — not enough to quit smoking or drinking — enough to reduce her calorie intake. She also knows guests weight conscious even at social events, he says.

Now you know

United Press International Saippuakivikauppias — the Finnish word for a lye dealer — is the same spelled backward forward, making it the longest palindrome in the world.

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