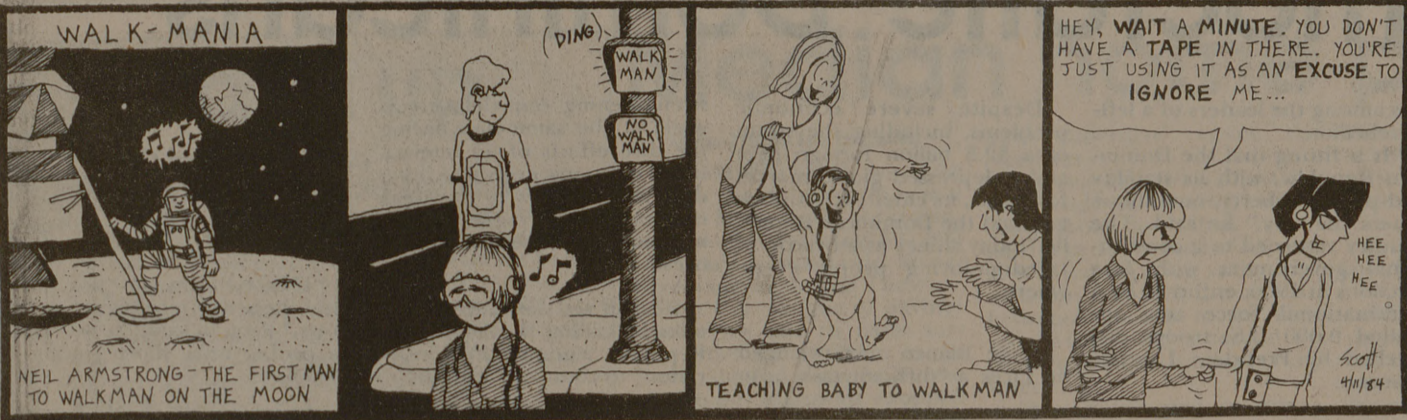


Warped

by Scott McCullar



# Robbery suspect caught, hostage left unharmed

**United Press International**  
**RED OAK** — A bank robbery suspect, armed with a handgun and two dummy grenades, was captured about 30 minutes after an attempted holdup at the Red Oak State Bank, where he took a loan officer hostage. The suspect, tentatively iden-

tified as Jesus Valenzuela, 40 of Garland, Texas, was arrested Tuesday morning in DeSoto in the truck of the kidnapping victim, loan officer James E. Boyd. He was arraigned on aggravated robbery and aggravated kidnapping charges Tuesday and was being held in the Ellis County Jail. Boyd, who was ordered to drive the robber from the scene, was released unharmed before officers surrounded the suspect in a DeSoto shopping center. The suspect allegedly walked into Boyd's office at about 10:30 a.m. under the pretense of discussing a loan.

# Deformed newborns' treatment discussed

**United Press International**  
 Maybe you've never heard the phrase "die comfortably." It shows up in a report on a survey of nurses and describes what usually happens to badly deformed babies when families, alone or in concert with a doctor, decide against heroic efforts to keep the infant alive. Babies allowed to die comfortably, the report says, get food and water. They are spared dying as the result of starvation and dehydration. The phrase appears in a report in NursingLife and was explained by Patricia Nornhold, clinical director of the professional journal. Presumably, babies left to die of dehydration and starvation would be viewed as dying uncomfortably. The insider's view of delivery and neonatal suites was provided by a NursingLife survey report. Some 3,500 nurses were polled about their views on fates decreed by doctors or parents

for severely deformed infants. Fifty-four percent of those surveyed said they favor allowing such babies to "die comfortably" when there is no possibility of any meaningful existence, the report said. Among pediatric nurses surveyed, 72 percent favored allowing such newborns to die comfortably. Among all respondents, regardless of nursing specialty, 31 percent had mixed feelings while 9 percent were "slightly" against the practice. Six percent, however, favored allowing grossly abnormal infants to die. Many nurses surveyed commented about necessary distinctions among handicapped infants, cautioning that not all handicapped ones are grossly malformed. "I'm in favor, I think, of allowing and perhaps even hastening the death of a severely abnormal newborn," one nurse said. "I am, however, very con-

cerned that many pediatricians and laymen lump Down's Syndrome children into the severely retarded groups," she said. "These children are so different from, say, microcephalic babies. We have to educate the public." Another said, "We haven't the right to decide when retarded babies should die." She identified herself as the mother of a Down's Syndrome child. "He teaches me every day to be happy with small things ... and shows me that loving and being loved is what living is all about," she said. One nurse said of her personal experience: "I gave birth to a microcephalic infant. My husband and our obstetrician decided before delivery not to resuscitate after diagnostic studies confirmed the problem. "They didn't discuss the decision with me at the time, but I have no regrets.



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# Judge denies request to use lie detector test

**United Press International**  
**IVANHOE, Minn.** — A judge Tuesday turned down a request by 18-year-old Steven Jenkins to admit a lie detector test as evidence in his murder trial for the ambush slaying of two Ruthon bankers. Jenkins and his late father, James Jenkins, 46, were charged with gunning down bank president Rudolph Blythe, 42, and loan official Deems Thulin, 37, last Sept. 29 after luring them to a vacant farm the elder Jenkins once owned near Ruthon, a town of 400 in southwestern Minnesota. Jenkins' attorney, Allan Swen Anderson, contended the youth was under duress from his father at the time of killings. He asked to admit results of a lie detector test performed on Jenkins and a character analysis of Jenkins' father based on handwriting in an alleged suicide note.

District Court Judge Walter Mann rejected the request. He said a lie test is not recognized as evidence under state law and a handwriting analysis is "unreliable as court evidence." Selection of a jury is expected to take most of this week, and opening statements and testimony are expected to begin either late this week or next week. Jenkins and his father fled to Texas following the shootings. The elder Jenkins committed suicide three days later. Steven surrendered to authorities in Paducah, Texas. Authorities theorized the Jenkins were upset over the loss of the farm to the bank and also failed in an attempt to get a bank loan to buy some milk cows. Officers said the Jenkins apparently lured the bankers to the farm and shot them. Young Jenkins faces two first-degree murder charges and four charges of second-de-

gree murder but contends he took no part in the shootings. He said he was hiding behind a shed on the farm and saw nothing until his father told him to leave.

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