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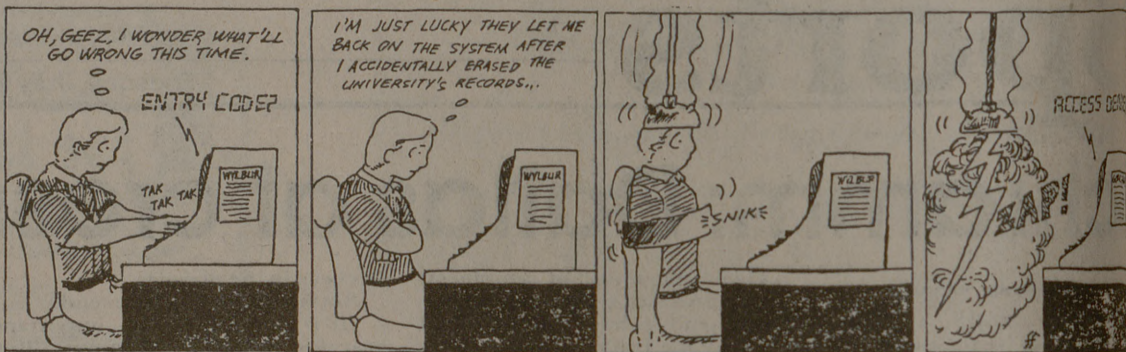
**New cartoon in Battalion**

A new cartoon strip, drawn by a Texas A&M student, appears in today's Battalion. The strip, "On the Fringe," will run for the remainder of the summer.

Fred Leong, the cartoon's creator, is a junior electrical engineering major from Galveston. He has been cartooning since his freshman year.

The cartoon's main characters, Dave and Chuck, are college roommates. Another character, Buffy Prentiss, attends the same college but lives at home.

**On the Fringe**



**Melon picking advice**

**University News Service**

For some people, picking the "perfect" watermelon is a favorite summer rite that involves thumping and shaking and looking for tell tale signs of what could be inside.

But, judging the quality of a watermelon is very difficult unless it's cut in half or quartered, says Mary K. Sweeten, Texas A&M University Agricultural Extension Service Food and Nutrition specialist.

In fact, one recent produce industry study showed that about forty percent of consumers find melons the most difficult fruit to judge for ripeness and freshness, she adds.

According to Sweeten, there are a few appearance factors which may be helpful — but not totally reliable — in guiding you to a good, ripe, juicy watermelon.

The surface of the watermelon should be relatively smooth, she says. The find should have a slight dullness, neither shiny nor dull. The ends of the melon should be filled out and rounded, and the underside of the melon should have a creamy color.

It's easier, but usually more expensive to buy a cut melon for your money unless you inspect it well. The best melon has firm, juicy flesh with good red color, she says. Look out for white streaks and whitish seeds since these indicate immaturity.

The peak watermelon season is here so there are plenty of delicious melons to choose from at the supermarkets and produce stands. With prices low and likely to get lower as the season progresses, several opportunities to pick the "perfect" melon will be available.

**Warped**



**SHOE**



**Rev. Moon washes dishes**

**United Press International**

DANBURY, Conn. — The Rev. Sun Myung Moon gamely cleaned the filthy trays and loaded dishes into washers Monday in his first stint at food service duty at a federal prison where he is serving time for tax evasion.

Instead of a finely tailored suit, the Korean-born leader of the Unification Church serving an 18-month term donned the prison uniform of surplus khakis and fatigues and tackled the kitchen cleanup chores for 200 other inmates.

Since Moon, 64, speaks no English, Warden Dennis Luther said it was "almost a necessity" that the spiritual leader with 3 million followers be given a menial job requiring no communication skills.

Moon was convicted in 1982 for not paying taxes on nearly \$162,000 in interest earned on nearly \$2 million kept in New York banks. His appeal to the Supreme Court was refused May 14.

U.S. District Judge Gerard Goetzel rejected a plea for a reduced sentence last week and also refused to allow Moon to voluntarily leave the country for six months instead of going to prison.

The choice was between kitchen service or janitorial work, Luther said.

Luther said Moon — with defendant and aide Takeru Kamme interpreting — "had no particular preference or objections" to approximately five hours a day of cleaning trays, loading washers and general kitchen duties.

Luther said every inmate at a minimum security camp atop picturesque hills of western Connecticut is assigned a job and Moon no exception.

Moon shared the chores with several other inmates of cleaning up after the prison lunch.

**Miss America gives up title amid controversy**

**United Press International**

NEW YORK — Vanessa Williams reluctantly gave up her Miss America title Monday, saying Penthouse magazine's publication of sexually explicit photos of her and another woman made it impossible for her to finish her reign.

The 21-year-old beauty, the first black woman to hold the title, told a packed Manhattan news conference she never agreed to have the pictures published and did not realize how explicit they were until she saw them in the magazine.

"It is apparent to me that because of all that has happened during the past week, it would be difficult for me to make an appearance as Miss America," she said.

"I wish I could retain my title," said Williams.

In Atlantic City, N.J., pageant officials said Suzette Charles, the first runnerup from New Jersey, would serve the remaining two months as Miss America. Charles is also black.

Pageant Director Albert Marks Jr. said Williams "fulfilled all of the duties and responsibilities of her position in exemplary fashion."

The 10-page layout in the September Penthouse, rushed to newsstands and selling at a brisk pace Monday, showed Williams posing nude in several sexually suggestive scenes with an unidentified woman.

Last week, the pageant committee, after learning of the pictures, gave Williams 72 hours to resign, a demand she said had "shocked, surprised and deeply hurt" her.

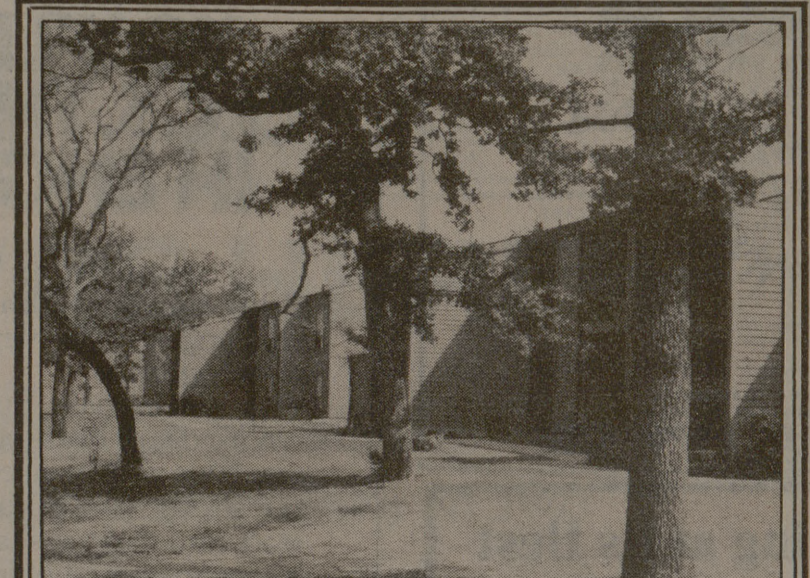
However, she quickly added, "I fully support the Miss America pageant and the opportunity it has provided" other women like her.

With her family at her side, Williams read a brief statement saying she had posed for the pictures during two sessions in 1982, while she was on summer vacation from Syracuse University and working as a receptionist and makeup artist in Mount Kisco, N.Y., modeling agency.

The photographer, Tom Chien, "told me I would need a portfolio to be a model, she said. The beauty queen, who swept to the title with impressive singing performance was 19 at the time.

She said she could only recall signing an application for the job, and release for the photos to be published.

Attorneys for Penthouse, however, insisted Monday they had release signed by Williams, legal entitling them to reprint the pictures.



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