

Papal vestment created by Houston duo

HOUSTON (AP) — When Pope John Paul II celebrates Mass this month in San Antonio, he will be wearing a bright silk vestment designed and crafted by Houstonians.

Watson Riddle and Robert McKeown, partners in a freelance graphic design firm, were chosen by a liturgical committee to design the chasuble, or vestment the pontiff will wear when he celebrates an outdoor Mass.

A different company, Craft Industries of Houston, was chosen to design the cloak which will be worn Sept. 13 at the San Antonio service.

Riddle and McKeown submitted seven designs to the liturgical committee for the papal Mass, which is comprised of a representative of each of Texas' 14 dioceses. The design chosen has a large geometric pattern of colors that invoke the Southwest.

"We chose a deep, rich dark green that represents the Texas earth," Riddle said. A large cross that will intersect on the pope's chest is made of triangles of light blue and aqua blue that represent the Texas sky and the state's rivers.

The cross is made of triangles to represent the Trinity and resembles the large, wrought iron crosses that have identified Texas missions for decades.

Silk yarn, chosen because it will be cool, was dyed and the weaving took 1,000 hours.

Craft Industries, the ceramic and weaving shop, is located not far from St. Cecilia Catholic Church where Monsignor Vincent Rizzotto heads the liturgical committee. Rizzotto was looking for someone to manufacture the vestment when he walked by the shop and saw a loom on display.

With the choice of Craft Industries, the \$2,000 project became an entirely Houston affair.

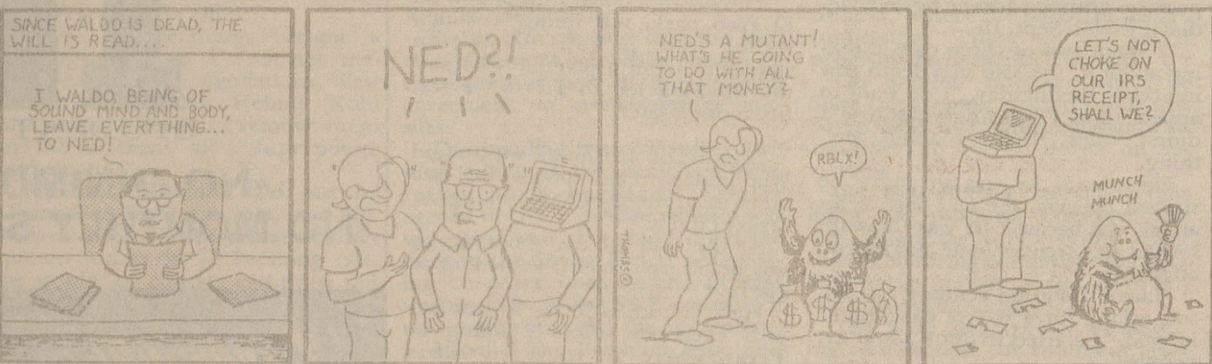
Warped

by Scott McCullar



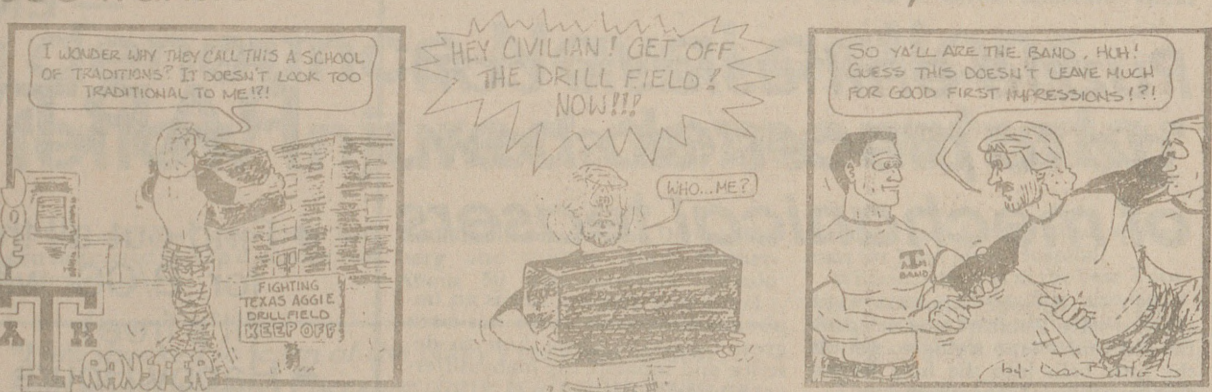
Waldo

by Kevin Thomas



Joe Transfer

by Dan Barlow



Death row inmate makes plea of innocence fearing execution

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Markham Duff-Smith, convicted of arranging the death of his mother to inherit her estate and accused of the similar deaths of three family members, broke a year-long silence Wednesday because he fears he will be executed next month.

"I have taken everything on my own behalf at this time and am doing everything in my power to bring the details, the evidence, everything — to show what the actual facts were of the case," he said in what he termed his first interview in 6½ years on death row.

"I wasn't involved in any murder," he said. "I didn't hire. I didn't pay. I didn't plan. I didn't kill anyone."

"I was not at, near or part of any scene of the crime."

"That's why stories were told. Stories replaced evidence."

Duff-Smith, now 40, was convicted in 1981 of arranging the October 1975 slaying of his adoptive mother, Gertrude Duff-Smith Zabolio, who was found strangled in the bathroom of her home in Houston's exclusive River Oaks area.

Testimony also indicated he masterminded the 1979 killings of his sister, Diana Wanstrath, her husband John, and the couple's 14-month-old son, Kevin.

The inheritances to Duff-Smith amounted to about \$500,000, according to testimony.

Duff-Smith said Wednesday the amount he received was closer to \$400,000-\$450,000.

Now he is broke, he said. Testimony at trial indicated Duff-Smith was living beyond his means and needed the inheritance.

"I wasn't involved in any murder. I didn't hire. I didn't pay. I didn't plan. I didn't kill anyone. I was not at, near or part of any scene of the crime. That's why stories were told. Stories replaced evidence."

— Markham Duff-Smith, death row inmate

The convict said Wednesday that was not true.

"I had a sufficient amount of money and I did work," he said.

Duff-Smith has an Oct. 8 execution date.

It is his second date. Although convicted in his mother's death, he never was tried for the Wanstrath slayings.

Duff-Smith, who worked as an investor, said he declined to speak out previously because he wanted his attorneys to work through the appeals

courts without publicity in the media.

"We're at the point now where I am facing death," he said, explaining his reason for agreeing to an interview.

"It's time for the truth," he said.

"The legal system has not worked from the start," he said.

Allen Wayne Janecka, 37, was in-

He remains in prison.

"You have numerous confessions from Allen Janecka," Duff-Smith said. "You have numerous confessions from Walter Waldhauser."

"You have numerous confessions from Paul MacDonald."

"No matter how much evidence I presented, no matter how many times I proved witnesses lied or their information was false, they just buried it."

"All I can do in my power is show the lies — how I was convicted wrongly, how I was attacked."

A Houston police detective, Johnny Bonds, is credited with breaking the case after working hundreds of hours poring over bank and telephone records.

And those records showed that Duff-Smith used Waldhauser as a middleman to pay hitman Janecka \$10,000 for the Zabolio slaying and between \$11,000 and \$14,000 for the Wanstrath killings.

Another strange twist in the Duff-Smith case was the original ruling by the Harris County medical examiner.

The medical examiner ruled that the Zabolio death was a suicide and that Mrs. Wanstrath killed her husband and child before taking her own life.

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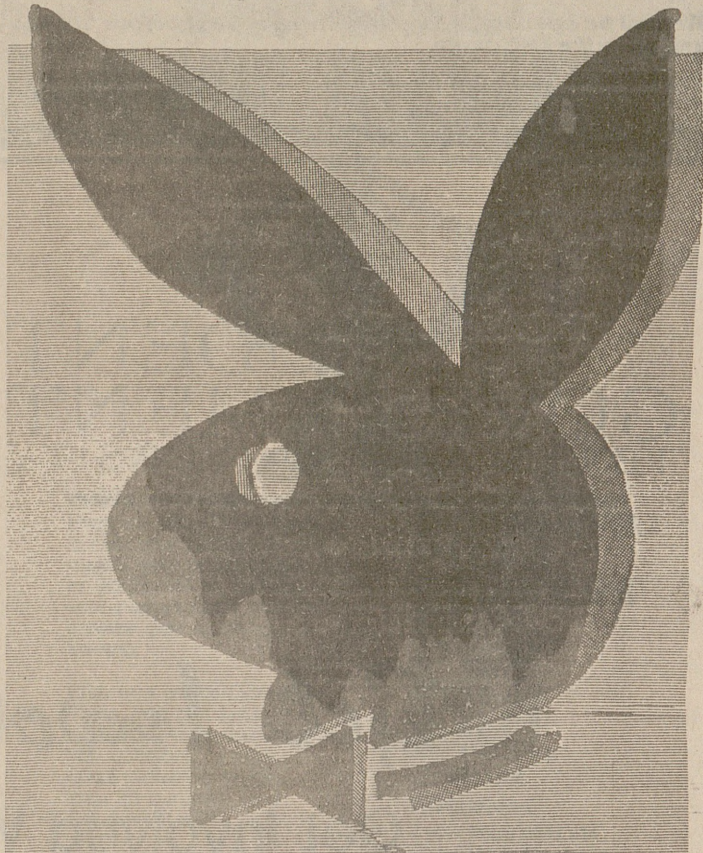
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