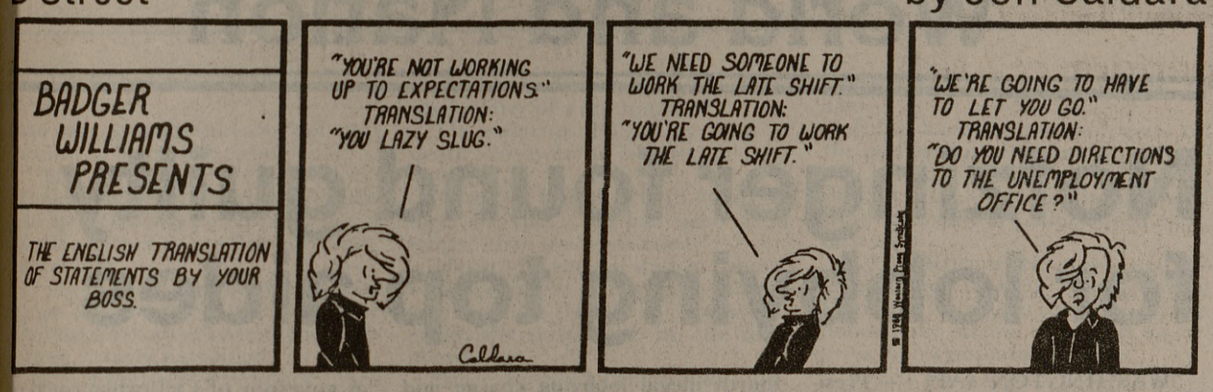
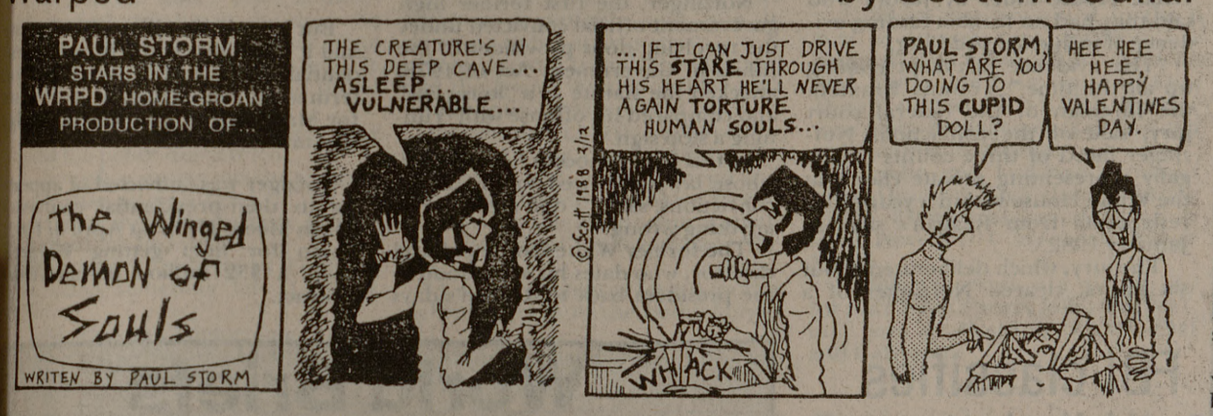
B Street by Jon Caldara



Warped by Scott McCullar



Waldo by Kevin Thomas

Officers arrest highschoolers for drug sales

TEMPLE (AP) — Investigations by police officers posing as high school students in Temple and Waco have led to arrests for alleged drug sales.

Four students and 10 Temple residents were arrested following a five-month investigation into drug sales at Temple High School.

Eight students and 11 Waco-area residents were arrested as the result of similar operations at Waco High School and Waco Midway High School, authorities said Wednesday.

Authorities said a Waco police officer, in his early 20s, began attending classes at Temple High School in September.

Temple Police Chief Thomas Vannoy said the officer purchased cocaine, LSD, marijuana and methamphetamine from 17 people during the investigation.

"Of the six students that he bought from, only two sold on campus, and that was like on the parking lot during the lunch break," Vannoy said.

The city spent $13,000 on the investigation, including the cost of buying drugs, he said.

Waco Police Capt. Dan Wetherington said Waco spent $23,000, including pay for a non-commissioned officer who went undercover at Midway High School. Temple police supplied a 21-year-old rookie to infiltrate Waco High School, he said.

A similar operation at Waco and University high schools netted 79 people last March, including 35 students.

"We are aware now of how great the problem is on campus," Vannoy said. "In the past it was all hearsay and rumor. But I can tell you right now that at least 50 percent of our students are using today or have used drugs."

TEES program assists Texas cities in business, economic development

By John H. Neill
Reporter

A program to aid Texas cities in their economic development has been created by the Texas Engineering Experiment Station at A&M.

The Municipal Assistance Program was designed to provide cities with technology such as community inventory and assistance in the formation of new companies in the areas, Dr. Helen Dorsey, director of the business development division of TEES, said.

The first implementation of the program began in Temple, where TEES opened an urban outreach center at the City Hall.

The office will serve as headquarters for a variety of projects between Temple and the TEES office at A&M, Dorsay said.

The extension service provides an analysis for each city that describes their needs and then structures a service package to meet those needs, Dorsey said.

TEES may assist selected communities in attracting and retaining industries in those areas. Dorsey said this could include research and technical training programs.

The proof that the program is working is in Temple, she said.

"We do have an actual project," Dorsey said. "It's getting the people's attention."

Ray Abbott, director of the City of Temple Economic Development Department, said Temple is looking for closer ties with Texas A&M.

"We are looking for a broad-based, multi-subject relationship with Texas A&M," Abbott said.

He said a prospective businessman could call TEES or the outreach office in Temple and receive information about real estate, facilities or training programs available in the area.

A&M offers education, research and the knowledge of the extension service, Abbott said, so at the least one of those benefits is utilized with this program.

The assistance program tries to fit a business with the needs of the Temple community, Abbott said.

"We take a business and community and fit them together to meet each other's needs," Abbott said.

He said the program also tries to match the goals of A&M with those of the Temple area.

The Temple community as well as political groups are excited about the program and the good it could do for the city, Abbott said.

Police blame unpaid taxes for suicides

HOUSTON (AP) — A couple faced with auctioning off their belongings to pay back taxes apparently committed suicide after several possible buyers left their home, police said.

Wanda and Jack Biggars were found dead in their northwest Houston home Wednesday afternoon by their youngest son. Both had been shot to death.

The auction took place Wednesday, but police said the bids were too low.

Bungled abuse cases lead to probe

EL PASO (AP) — The state attorney general's office will investigate the local office of the Department of Human Services because of questions about its handling of five child-abuse cases, the county attorney says.

County Attorney Joe Lucas said he asked the attorney general last month to investigate what he called bungling by child welfare workers.

In one case Lucas cited, two boys were released from DHS child protective services to stay with their father for the 1986 Christmas holidays. The man set fire to the house with the boys inside and both children died, he said.

In another case, DHS officials said they knew a boy was sleeping in ditches and abandoned cars to escape his father's beatings at home, but did nothing about it, Lucas alleged.

He also charged that DHS officials ignored a report that a 16-year-old prostitute was being provided with heroin by her mother.

Lucas said he finally was prompted to request the attorney general's probe when he discovered the DHS investigated an abuse report before a 15-month-old boy's death in May, but that a supervisor closed the case because of staff shortages.

"If they have a staffing problem, they can do away with other services, but not protection of children," Lucas wrote to the attorney general.

In a letter to Lucas received Wednesday, Assistant Attorney General David Hess said his office would investigate the four cases, plus one in which a 13-year-old boy injured his 16-year-old sister when he shot her in the neck. The DHS had received reports that the children were often left unsupervised, officials said.

In a phone interview from Reno, Nev., where he was attending a seminar, Lucas said: "What I hope to see is that we can find out what the problem is and then correct the situation."

Walter Deines, regional director for the DHS' child protective services department, pledged cooperation and said he expected a thorough review.

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Thurs: New Orleans Trip Depart 10 a.m. Fish Lot