

Friday, July 27, 1990

Artist adds new dimension to University's newspaper

IN FULL EFFECT

By Eric V. Lewis



This cartoon, which ran in Wednesday's Battalion, was the subject of some controversy.

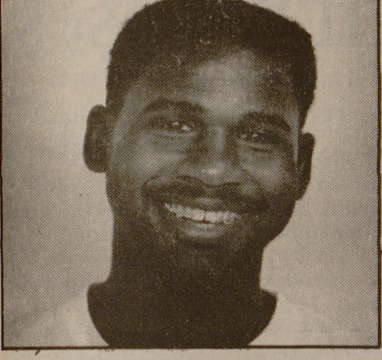


Photo by Thomas J. Lavin
Eric V. Lewis
By TODD STONE
Of The Battalion Staff

than anything else." Lewis originally intended to apply to The Battalion as a graphic artist, but he decided to follow a friend's suggestion to develop a cartoon. His comic strip, "In Full Effect," began this summer.

"A lot of things I draw are about conversations or stories I've been told — jokes between blacks on campus," he said.

"I'm not targeting the black audience, but I want to show that a lot of funny things happen to blacks on campus."

Many of Lewis' jokes parody African-Americans in his cartoon, and a few readers have accused the comic strip of being a racist commentary from a white creator. Lewis said he has mixed feelings about this view.

"I could understand the racist accusations if it was a white person doing this," he said. "Why couldn't it be a black person? It makes them (critics) seem racist by assuming a white person is doing this."

Lewis said he has received mostly positive feedback, and his jokes have

been well-received by African-Americans.

Since The Battalion never has had a black cartoonist, Lewis believes he is adding racial diversity to the newspaper.

"I think it ('In Full Effect') makes black people feel The Battalion is more for them," he said. "They can look at this and say, 'We can identify with this.'"

"It also says they can participate in The Battalion."

Lewis said his comic strip is often a retrospect of his past four years at A&M, and he hopes to continue with graphic art — perhaps opening a graphic design business on the side. He will graduate from A&M in August.

For now, his next step is finding a job, and he hopes to go to medical school next year. Until graduation, Lewis will continue creating "In Full Effect" cartoons.

"I want to make people laugh," he said. "The fact it (cartoon) is by a black person is not important — the primary function is humor."

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Agency sells illegal tickets to unknowing customers

HOUSTON (AP) — Several hundred airline tickets that will not fly are circulating in the area because the travel agency that sold them has not paid the airlines, officials said.

A travel agency known as Old Times Tours & Travel has not paid the airlines for more than 800 tickets, said Chuck Wolff, director of fraud protection for the Airlines Reporting Corp., in Washington, D.C.

Airlines are watching for those tickets because their serial numbers are included on a list of stolen tickets, Wolff said Wednesday. But it could be months before all of them surface.

The U.S. Secret Service is investigating the case, Wolff said. The travel agency's telephone has been disconnected.

Wolff's organization provides the blank tickets to the travel agents for

Dallas museum stores medieval treasures

DALLAS (AP) — While still haggling over ownership, the heirs of an American soldier accused of pilfering medieval art treasures from a German church have given the trove to a Dallas museum for safekeeping.

However, the so-called Quedlinburg treasures will not be displayed publicly at the Dallas Museum of Art until the ownership is decided in U.S. district court, says Museum Director Richard R. Brettell.

Brettell said professionals and scholars might be allowed to see the treasures, but that would be subject to approval by the court and both sides in the lawsuit.

The public likely will get to see the art once ownership is clear.

"Each party was interested in eventually displaying the art for the people in Texas," Brettell said.

He said the pieces will be moved from rural Whitewright, about 60 miles north of Dallas, to the downtown museum "within the week," but would give no details.

"Anyone knows that when one is transporting important works of art, one doesn't talk about the mode of conveyance or the timing," he said. "That would be grossly inappropriate of the museum."

The Lutheran church, Stiftskirche-Domgemeinde of Quedlinburg, claims Joe T. Meador of Whitewright stole the trove while his U.S. Army unit was guarding a mine shaft where the items had been hidden.

Attorneys for Jack Meador of Whitewright and Jane Meador Cook of Mesquite, brother and sister of the soldier, have been negotiating a proposed move of the treasures to the Dallas museum.

The ownership lawsuit is being heard by U.S. District Judge Sidney Fitzwater of Dallas, who is expected to review the custody agreement. Fitzwater on July 9 ordered the heirs and the church to agree on a facility to store the items until the case was settled.

Meador, who died in 1980, bequeathed the artwork to his siblings. The heirs claim to have several, but not all, of the 14 treasures sought by the church. They say they have a 9th- or 10th-century wood reliquary of Germany's second king, Henry I, decorated with silver, gold, ivory and

precious stones; a jeweled ivory-and-gold comb of Henry I; a Byzantine rock crystal flask; four small reliquaries in the form of turrets; and a small reliquary in the form of a heart.

Two jeweled medieval manuscripts, believed held by the Meadors for several years, were sold recently on the European art market.

Brettell said he did not know how many objects the museum would receive, but they include articles of gold, silver, ivory and crystal dating from the 8th to 14th centuries.

Brettell said no one at the museum has seen the treasures, but "there's no doubt" that they are the Quedlinburg artwork. He said an inventory of the treasures had been agreed on by both sides, but would be rechecked when they arrive at the museum.

"The Quedlinburg treasury is undoubtedly the most important Carolingian treasury of the Germans," he said. "The objects were made for important kings. They were in a repository which was among the three or four greatest medieval repositories."

WRPD

by Scott McCullar © 1990



Breeder discovers new pickle possibility Pike finds cucumber variation

By ISSELLE MCALLISTER
Of The Battalion Staff

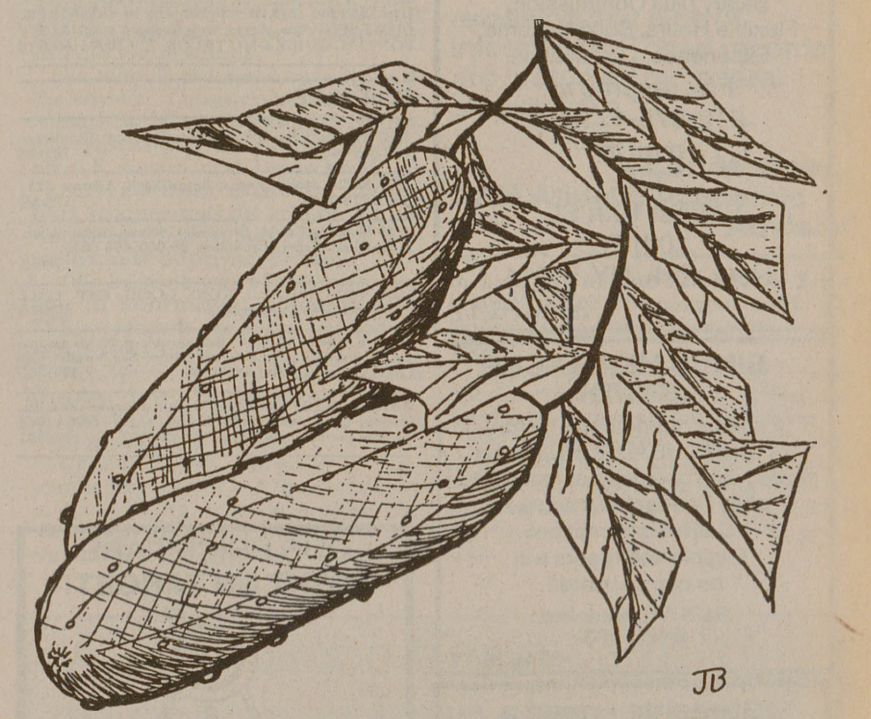
The pickle industry will relish a new variety of cucumber plant with fruit that matures at about the same time thanks to Texas A&M vegetable breeder Dr. Leonard Pike.

Developed by Pike, this new variety is quite different from the traditional variety and has a tremendous potential for high yield.

"It doesn't even look like a cucumber plant," he said.

Instead it looks more like an ivy, with leaves about one-half to one-third the size of normal cucumber leaves.

But the uniqueness of this variety, he said, is that all the fruit matures at about the same time.



Cucumbers presently are picked by hand because each individual fruit ripens at its own pace.

This leaves cucumber growers in a pickle.

The new variety can produce two or three times the yield of the regular variety, he explained, plus they all ripen at about the same time.

This makes mechanical harvesting economically feasible, and a higher yield means lower prices at the store.

And since the cucumbers will be picked in a shorter period of time, farmers can use fewer chemical pesticides and fertilizers.

Pickles are big business in the United States, and Pike's new cucumber plant seems to have producers jumping for joy.

G.O. Dalton, with Best Maid Pickles, said American consumers buy about \$1 billion worth of pickles from grocery stores every year, and they eat almost another \$1 billion in restaurants.

Cucumber growers from across the country are impressed with Pike's discovery.

"This is the breakthrough we've been wanting," said Clyde Bradley, field manager for food processor W.B. Roddenberry Co. Inc. "This is what we want to see. Just get us some seed."

Pike said Texas cucumber growers have another reason to be interested in the new plant because it was bred and developed in the state's growing conditions.

About 25 thousand acres in Texas are utilized in cucumber production. About half of that is used to grow pickling cucumbers, he said.

Pike said he has developed a new strain of the store-variety cucumbers as well.

But farmers will have to wait before they are able to grow their own. Seeds will be available for further testing next spring, Pike said, but it is strictly experimental.

The seeds must be tested for two or three years before they can be released to make sure they are safe and problem free.

He said he does not know everything about the plant. These plants seem to be more drought resistant, he said, but he is not certain.

Pike, who developed the 1015 Supersweet Texas onion that turned into a multi-million dollar industry, hopes to have the same success with pickles.

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION
REQUIRED MEETING
FOR ALL STUDENTS WHO
PLAN TO WORK IN
FALL 1990
(even if you don't have a firm offer)

JULY 30, 1990
5:15 P.M. 102 ZACHRY

- * Receive final reminders and instructions for your work term from co-op staff
- * Meet in small groups with your faculty co-op advisor to receive additional instructions on your report
- * Meet in small groups by company's geographical location to discuss company policies and procedures

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JR. FULBRIGHT

Grants for Graduate Research Abroad
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INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

Friday, July 27, 2:00-3:00 pm
251 West Bizzell Hall
STUDY ABROAD OFFICE

\$800	\$800	\$800	\$800	\$800
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\$800	\$800 incentive for those who enroll and complete study. Individuals (12 and older) who have asthma and medicate daily to participate in a research study.			\$800
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