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WRPD

THIS IS ACTUALLY PRETTY DEPRESSING, BEING HERE ON A HUBBLE TELESCOPE THAT DOESN'T WORK...

...ALL THAT MONEY AND TIME AND EMBARRASSMENT AND FAILURE NASA'S GONE THROUGH... I FEEL SO BAD FOR THEM.

I DON'T KNOW IF THAT'LL HELP, BUT I FEEL BETTER, AND IT ALWAYS MAKES TV WORK.

WRPD LIVE FROM SPACE

by Scott McCullar

IN FULL EFFECT

THEY SAY THAT ALL GOOD THINGS MUST COME TO AN END, WELL THAT TIME HAS COME FOR "IN FULL EFFECT"

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE BATTALION FOR GIVING ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO THIS COMIC STRIP ESPECIALLY MR. HINES, MONIQUE (MO).

MELISSA, TODD, WEA, HERBIE, GEORGE AND THE REST OF THE BATTALION STAFF. BUT MOST OF ALL I WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU, THE READERS.

I HOPE YOU'VE ENJOYED IT, IT'S BEEN FUN DRAWING IT. I'M OUTTA HERE PEACE.

By Eric V. Lewis

Zey

(Continued from page 1)

Zey said she has seen many changes at A&M, especially in the social sciences and humanities.

The College of Liberal Arts has "come into its own," Zey said.

Enrollment in these fields has increased, she said, and the University's national visibility also has increased and become more positive.

These facts make recruiting faculty easier, she added.

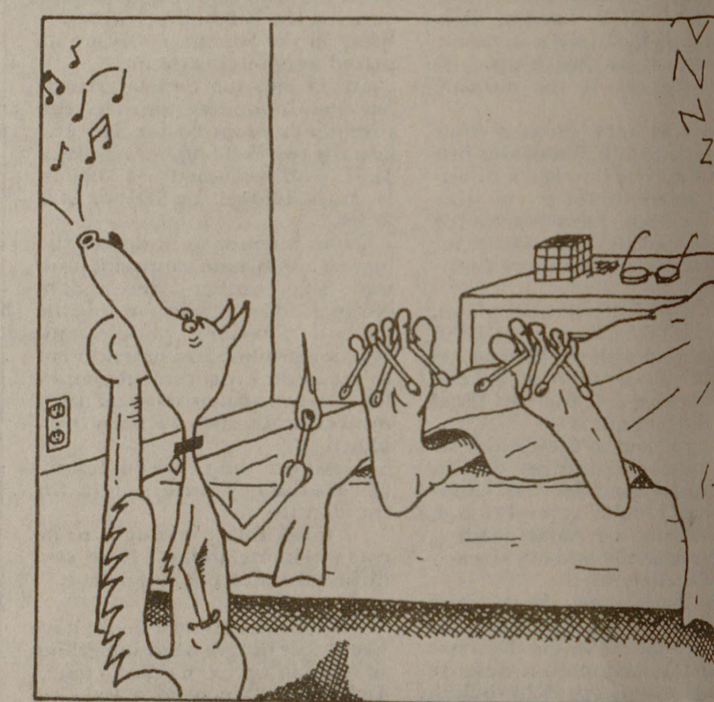
"I'm very excited about the institution as a whole," she said.

Zey came to A&M from the University of Illinois, where she did post-doctoral work after receiving her doctorate in sociology from Louisiana State University.

Organizational deviance, which is commonly referred to as "white-collar crime" is Zey's main interest right now. Specifically, she is examining how insider trading and securities fraud occur.

When Zey returns to A&M, she plans to continue her research and teaching, in addition to starting a third book. She currently is working on two books.

Nerd House



LOYAL TO HIS MASTER, SCRATCH MAKES SURE THAT HERBERT NEVER OVERSLEEPS.

By Tom A. Mack...

Scientists study Viking artifacts to unlock secrets of ancient life

BIRKA, Sweden (AP) — The center of the Viking world 1,000 years ago is under siege by archaeologists who are trying to pry secrets from beneath the pastures that now cover this farming island.

Historians believe that Birka, a settlement on an island in Lake Mälaren just west of Stockholm, was home to about 1,000 people. The site now is covered with grids, in which workers dig by hand through the seven feet of dirt covering the settlement.

Two sections have been excavated since the dig began this spring, and although the findings have not been startling, they hint at a wealth of artifacts to come. The project is to last until 1994.

Animal bones, remnants of meals, colorful beads, combs and household utensils that could shed light on Viking home life have turned up. Archaeologists also found Arab coins, evidence of how far the Vikings roamed.

The Vikings thrived from the late 8th century to the 11th century. Their raids struck terror throughout Europe, and their spirit of adventure drove them far afield, to Iceland and North America.

Birka has been recognized since the Middle Ages as the cradle of Christianity in Sweden. It was here that Ansgar, a missionary from Bremen and later bishop of Bremen-Hamburg, first preached around 830.

But while some Viking towns flourished, Birka was deserted at the end of the first millennium. Where traders once exchanged goods from all of the known world, sheep graze in meadows and on grassy mounds containing the graves of Viking traders.

Historians say Vikings from the Birka region, a people known then as the Rus, sailed eastward across the Baltic Sea and lent their name to the land of Russia. They reached the Caspian Sea.

Although Birka was the Vikings' center, it has remained mostly unexamined while extensive digs were conducted at Viking settlements in York, England; Dublin, Ireland; Heideby, West Germany; Kaupang, Norway; and Staraya Ladoga, Soviet Union.

The Viking era generally is regarded as having begun in 792, a year a raiding party attacked Lindisfarne monastery on Britain's North Sea Coast. But evidence can be uncovered indicating that it began earlier, Bjorn Ambrosiani, Stockholm's Museum of National History, said.

The only previous excavation of Birka was conducted 100 years ago by Hjalmar Stolpe, a zoologist who came in search of insect fossils. He stayed 24 years to dig many of the 2,500 Viking graves.

Stolpe touched very little of the town of Birka, which stood at the center of a heroic chapter in Scandinavian history. Ambrosiani and other experts are eager to find out how it was built and developed.

The project is being financed by one of Sweden's richest men, industrialist Gad Rausing.

"If you go digging you should have proper resources, otherwise you do more damage than good," Ambrosiani said.

Proposal threatens habitat Squirrel fights extinction

MOUNT GRAHAM, Ariz. (AP) — The survival of a half-pound rodent that has lived here for 10,000 years, the Mount Graham red squirrel, has been pitted against a proposal for a \$200 million astrophysical observatory.

The squirrel, genetically distinct from 24 other subspecies of red squirrels, now numbers fewer than 150. Environmentalists contend construction of the University of Arizona's Mount Graham International Observatory will mean extinction.

Emerald Peak, at 10,500 feet, and its stands of majestic, mature Engelmann spruce and corkbark fir, are the object of a battle as heated as the Arizona desert below.

The mountain road twists through the lush Coronado National Forest in southeastern Arizona, and eventually pavement gives way to gravel and dirt. At 9,200 feet, a year-old, two-mile dirt route barely a vehicle wide knifes amid aspens, Douglas and white fir and Southwestern white pine.

Emerald and nearby High Peak, at 10,720 feet, are the crown jewels of what environmentalists, wildlife specialists and scientists call a unique "sky island," an ecosystem that has been called "probably the most sensitive barometer of global warming in North America."

On Emerald, encircling a clearing cut years ago to harvest trees downed by heavy winds, several hundred Engelmann spruce — cordoned inside 1 1/4 acres and wearing painted numbers — await the ax to make way for the New Vatican Submillimeter telescopes and maintenance facilities.

A third instrument, the Columbia Telescope, destined to be the world's most powerful, would occupy an additional two acres.

While the construction, including the road, would encompass only a few acres, opening the spruce-fir canopy and exposing its damp, cool, moist-covered floor would magnify "degraded edge effect" over surrounding acreage, forest experts say.

Temperatures would increase with more wind, land would dry out. "These animals need moist, cool habitats," U.S. Forest Service biologist Kathleen Milne said.

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