

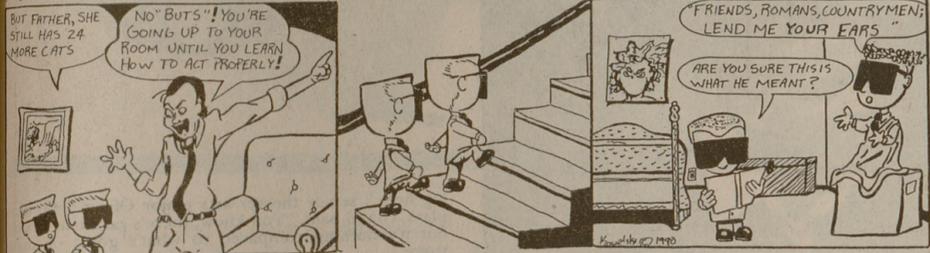
WARD

by Scott McCullar ©1990



Spade Phillips, P.I.

by Matt Kowalski



Tubularman

by Boomer Cardinale



'Boot camp' approved to ease crowded jails

HOUSTON (AP) — Harris County officials hope a \$4.2 million "boot camp" for nonviolent probationers will ease overcrowding in the local jail that has been a problem for 18 years.

County Commissioners approved the plan, which calls for the facility to be operational within 10 months. It will be the first expenditure from the \$10.4 million allotted the county in state community justice funds to provide alternatives for jail overcrowding.

The boot camp, approved by commissioners Tuesday, is designed to provide another option for criminal court judges in sentencing offenders 17 to 25, said Larance Coleman, director of the county's Community Supervisions and Corrections Department.

The 90- to 120-day program is expected to begin with about 200 inmates but will eventually expand to 600-inmate capacity, said Jim Lewis, legislative coordinator for county Judge Jon Lindsay.

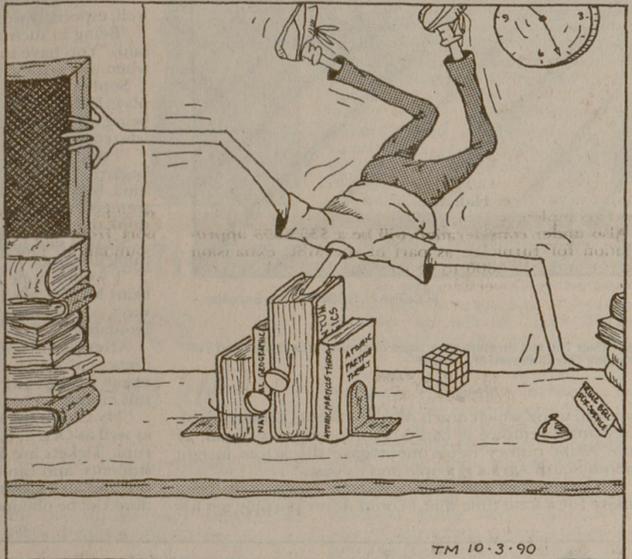
Modular metal buildings will be erected at the Humble Rehabilitation Center to house the inmates. Security will be bolstered by electronic monitoring and surveillance.

The 90- to 120-day program is expected to begin with about 200 inmates but will eventually expand to 600-inmate capacity, said Jim Lewis, legislative coordinator for county Judge Jon Lindsay.

The program will include discipline and heavy labor to build physical strength, in addition to psychological intervention intended to enhance intellect and emotion in offenders.

Nerd House

by Tom A. Madison



WHEN NERDS FORGET THEIR LIBRARY CARD.

Man pleads guilty to slaying

GEORGETOWN (AP) — A flower salesman has pleaded guilty and has been sentenced to 50 years in prison for killing an Arkansas woman he met in Austin.

Richard Patrick Barber, 25, was sentenced after Tuesday's guilty plea in the June 15 slaying of Maureen McLaughlin, District Attorney Ken Anderson said.

Anderson said he couldn't establish "a firm motive" for the killing.

McLaughlin, 27, had been visiting a friend who lives in a Williamson County suburb of Austin. Both

women worked for Beverly Enterprises, a health care business, Anderson said.

He said the women went to Austin's Sixth Street nightclub district, met Barber and another man and went with them to McLaughlin's friend's house.

Shortly after the four arrived and paired off in different parts of the house, the other couple heard noises and found Barber had slit McLaughlin's throat, Anderson said. He said the murder weapon was a double-edged boot knife Barber had purchased earlier that night.

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