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Album case not affected by acquittal

DALLAS (AP) — A prosecutor said acquittal of 2 Live Crew members on an obscenity charge will not hurt a case against a retailer accused of selling the rap group's album.

Sound Warehouse of Dallas faces charges for allegedly selling a 2 Live Crew album, "As Nasty as They Wanna Be," to minors. Prosecutors and a defense attorney are scheduled to discuss the case at a court setting next month.

"It's like comparing apples and oranges," Dallas County District Attorney John Vance said Sunday. "In Florida, (2 Live Crew) was being tried for their live performance."

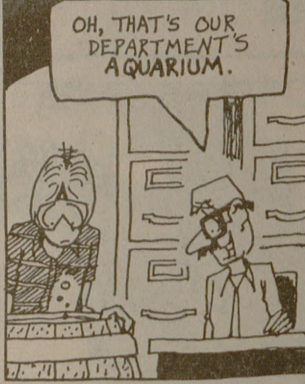
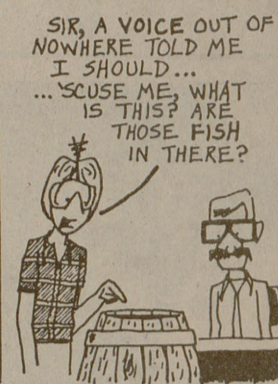
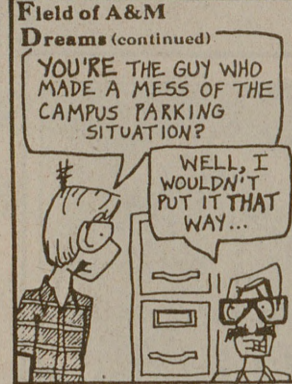
But in Dallas, prosecutors are trying the retailer for allegedly selling the album to minors, he said. Sound Warehouse was named July 27 on misdemeanor charges.

Sound Warehouse faces eight charges and a possible fine for selling the album if convicted, the Dallas County district attorney's office said.

In a so-called announcement setting, prosecutors will discuss the case with a defense attorney Nov. 8, said Mike Sullivan, assistant district attorney in the obscenity section of the office's organized crime unit.

Sullivan said the setting has been postponed until then to allow Gerald Goldstein, attorney for Sound Warehouse, time to handle another court case.

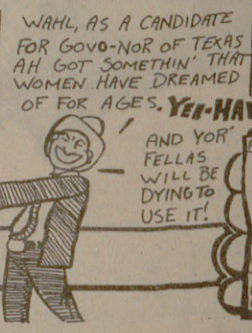
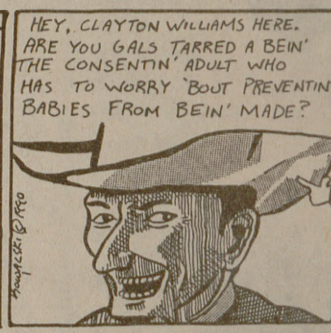
WARD



by Scott McCullar

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State agency finds crowding in schools

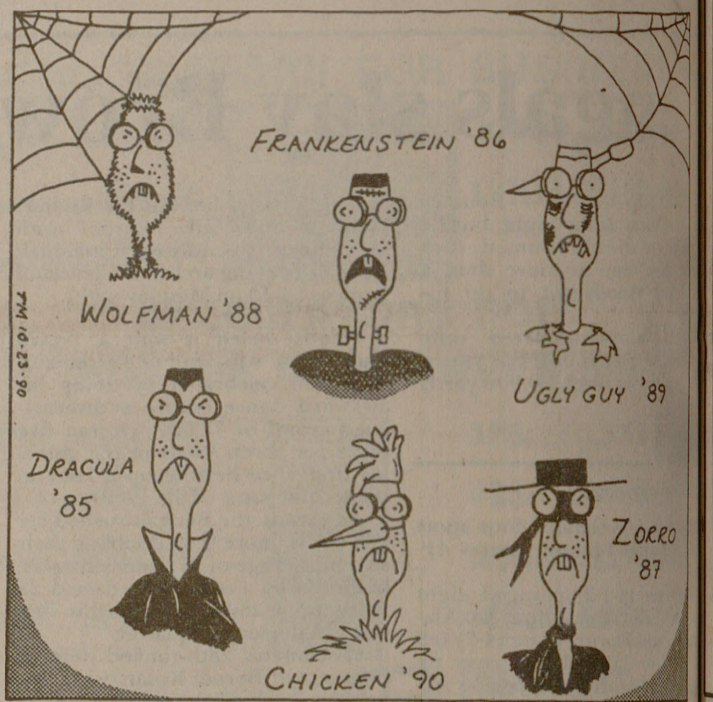
HOUSTON (AP) — Texas Education Agency records show the Houston Independent School District, the state's largest, is the only major district in Texas that still has overcrowded pre-kindergarten and kindergarten classrooms.

Agency spokesman Joey Lozano says the Houston district also is the only major school district to seek waivers on class size limits for all six grade levels where limits are in force.

According to Texas law, no more than 22 students are allowed in classrooms for students from pre-kindergarten through the fourth grade. The law does allow districts, however, to request exemptions if they don't have enough classroom space or teachers.

In January, the Houston schools won waivers for 676 classes.

Nerd House by Tom A. Madison



THE EVOLUTION OF A NERD'S HALLOWEEN COSTUME.

Bush vetoes bill; override unlikely

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush vetoed a major civil rights bill Monday and seemed assured of winning a battle in Congress to override him.

"I deeply regret having to take this action," Bush said.

The president called on lawmakers to enact his version of the measure before they quit for the year, expected later this week.

The administration argued that the bill, as passed by Congress, would force businesses to adopt quotas in hiring and promotion. Supporters of the measure rejected the White House argument and portrayed Bush's stand as a measure of his commitment on human rights.

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., the chief Senate sponsor, called the veto "tragic and disgraceful."

"When the chips are down, the White House is against civil rights," Kennedy said. He urged Congress to override the president.

The bill was approved by substantial margins in both the House and Senate, but both votes fell short of the two-thirds needed to override.

Rep. Augustus F. Hawkins, D-

Calif., the prime House sponsor, said he would not even ask for an override vote without the two-thirds needed by supporters. "I'm just not going to waste any more time," Hawkins said, adding that civil rights forces might even lose support in an override fight.

The measure would nullify six Supreme Court decisions that have made it more difficult for women and minorities to prove and win job discrimination suits. It would ban racial harassment in the workplace and allow punitive damages in the most serious discrimination cases.

It was passed by the Senate 62-34 and by the House 273-154.

Bush said there were many similarities between the bill he vetoed and the version that the administration supports. Civil rights advocates denounced the latest version of Bush's bill as a sham for permitting challenged hiring practices to stand if they could be justified on such grounds as "customer relations," justifications they said were used to support the separate-but-equal "Jim Crow" laws of the first half of the 20th century that kept African-Americans in segregation.

State college enrollment increases

AUSTIN (AP) — Enrollment at state colleges and universities rose by 26,035 students this fall, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board reported Monday.

Preliminary figures for the current semester showed that the combined enrollment at all institutions of higher education statewide was 885,515, a 3 percent increase over last year.

Enrollment at public junior colleges and public universities totaled 779,713, an increase of 24,287, or 3.2 percent, the board reported.

This fall's increase continues a trend, Kenneth Ashworth, commissioner of higher education, said.

"In the last five years, enrollment in public institutions has grown by more than 130,000 students, almost as many students as the total enrollment of the entire University of Texas system," Ashworth said.

Twenty-three public universities reported combined enrollment increases of 10,107, while 12 reported a combined loss of 2,246. Total enrollment at the 35 institutions is 407,809, up 7,801 students from last fall.

For the third consecutive year, Texas A&M University at Galveston reported the largest percentage gain, 14.9 percent. The University of Texas at San Antonio reported the greatest increase in the number of students, 1,458.

Enrollment also is up at 38 of the 49 public junior college districts.

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