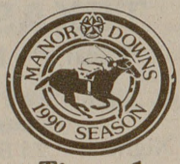
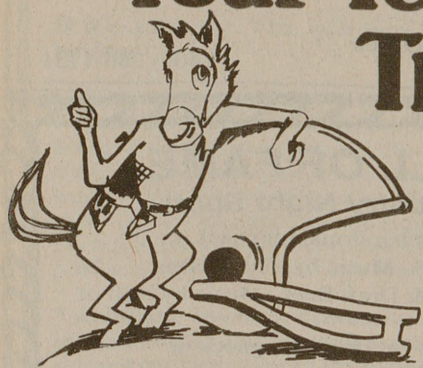
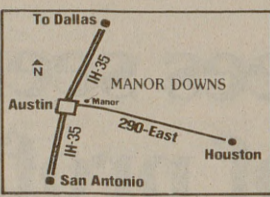


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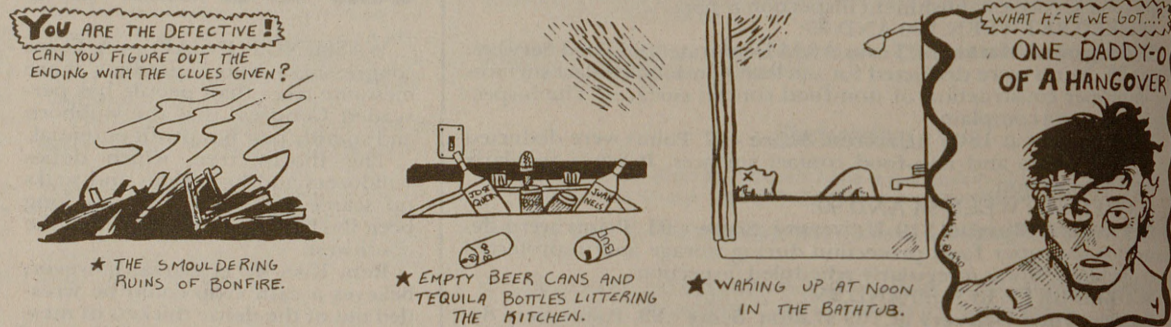
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by Scott McCullar ©1990



Spade Phillips, P.I.

by Matt Kowalski



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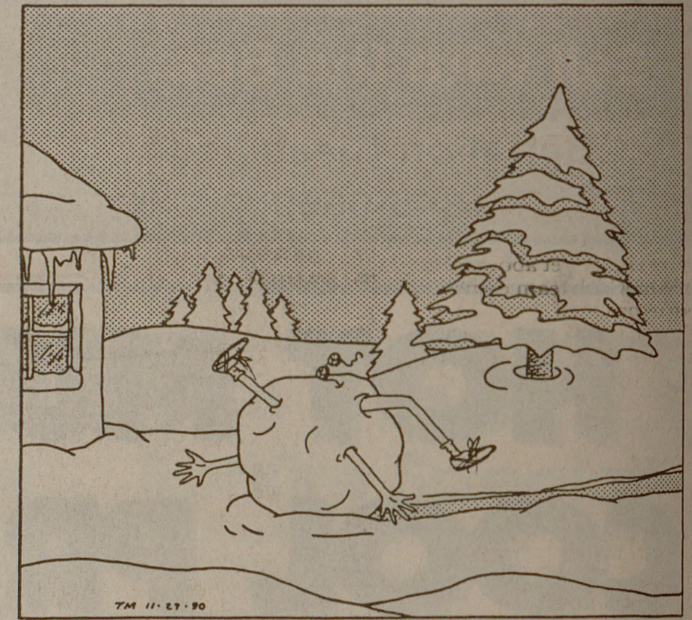
by Boomer Cardinale



Military toy sales explode, merchants say

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — They haven't surpassed Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles or Bart Simpson dolls in popularity, but merchants say military toys are experiencing a mini-boom in sales this season because of Operation Desert Shield. "As soon as the U.S. went over there, kids started coming in asking for models of the jets and armor they'd learned about in the news," Al Whitenack, manager of Hobby Stop in San Antonio, said. Among the top-selling models at Whitenack's store are F-15 Eagle aircraft and Abrams M1 tanks. Models of the F-14 Tomcat plane, featured in the 1986 movie "Top Gun," also are enjoying a resurgence. Action toys always sell well during the fourth quarter of each year, which accounts for 60 percent of annual toy sales, industry officials said. And despite the military toys' popularity, retailers report the biggest-selling toys still are Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles and Bart Simpson dolls. "It makes sense that military toys would be up, but I'd say business is warm, not hot," said industry analyst Barry Rothberg of Mabon, Nugent & Co. in New York City. On Wednesday, Paul Watson, manager of a K mart store here, received his second shipment of plastic battle carriers and Hercules planes. "I would say that our military-type toys are selling better than anticipated, and I think it's a direct result of what's going on over there (in the Middle East)," Watson said.

Nerd House by Tom A. Madison



AFTER THE LONG, PLAYFUL, WINTER DAY, THE BULLIES ROLLED HERBERT HOME AND WENT OFF ON THEIR OWN MERRY WAY.

AIDS vaccine promising; human test conducted

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A vaccine that shielded two chimpanzees from the AIDS virus during research in San Antonio is being tested for the first time in humans, medical officials said. Produced by California-based Genentech, Inc., the vaccine is a genetically engineered version of a major protein called gp120 found on the acquired immune deficiency syndrome virus. The chimpanzees given the vaccine here by veterinarian Jorg Eichberg at the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research developed stronger defenses against AIDS and did not become infected after being exposed to the virus. More than 50 human volunteers now are taking the vaccine at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in Washington, D.C. The volunteers have tested positive for the HIV virus but have not yet developed AIDS. The tests are expected to last 10 months. "Since the immune system of an infected individual is able to fight the virus during a long latency period, a vaccine may be able to boost the body's immune system and further delay illness," Dr. Arthur Ammann, director of clinical research for Genentech, said.

MSC VISUAL ARTS

Who, What, When, Where

Carolyn Utigard Thomas, Corpus Christi Water Colorist, will have a one-person-exhibit at Texas A&M University throughout December.

Carolyn will be demonstrating from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, and from 1-4 p.m. Tuesday, December 4th with a reception at The Memorial Student Center Gallery.

