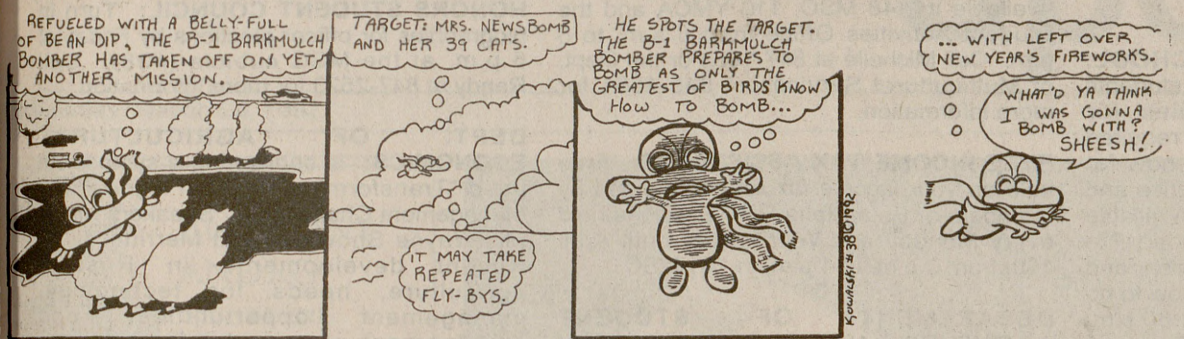


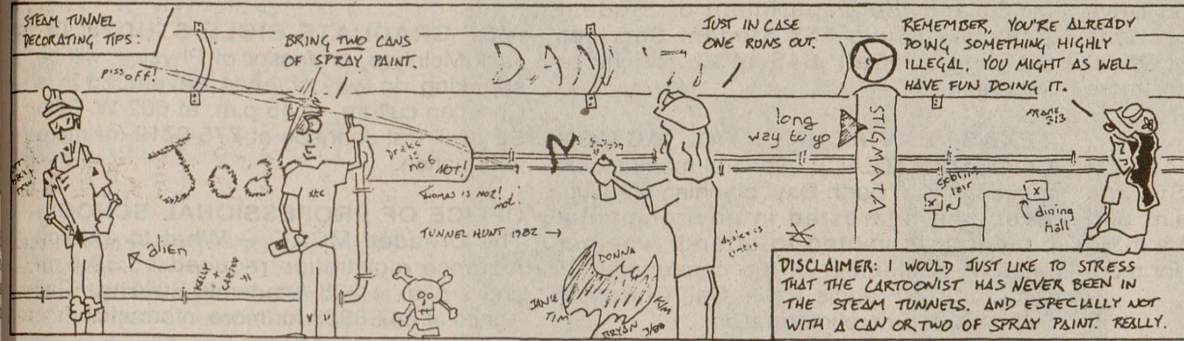
Spade Phillips, P.I.

by Matt Kowalski



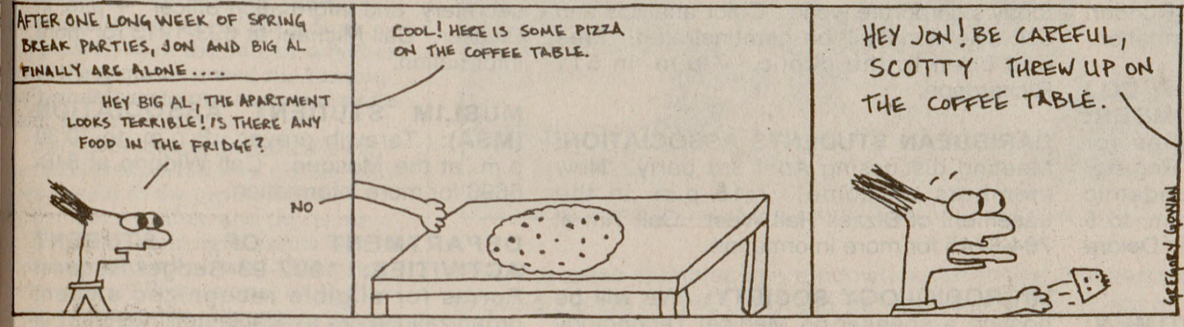
(the story so far...)

by thomas deeny



FISH OUT OF WATER

by GREGORY GOWAN



whoop

by William



Past catches up with escapee

ATLANTA (AP) — The past he feared for 17 years finally caught up with James Sanders of Fritch, Texas, on Tuesday as he answered to Georgia officials for a 1975 prison escape. But instead of jail, he drew a commuted sentence and left a free man.

"I'm going to go on with my life, live for the future and get this big load off my shoulder," Sanders declared as he embraced tearful members of his two families — the one he left behind in Georgia and the new one he started in Texas.

"I feel good because I'm free. I'm going to make the best of my family, and my daughters and my grandkids — I can be with them and they can come see me, enjoy life."

Sanders, 42, walked away from a prison in Louisville, Ga., in 1975 and hopped a bus to Texas. He lived there quietly, establishing a reputation as a hard-working, law-abiding citizen, witnesses told the state Board of Pardons and Paroles.

Friends from Fritch, a Panhandle town of about 2,500, backed Sanders' bid for clemency with petitions signed by 700 to 800 people. Sue Middaugh of Fritch said Sanders is "a good, honest, decent, hard-working man."

State Rep. David Swinford, R-Dumas, who also worked for Sanders' release, said justice was served Tuesday.

"We incarcerate criminals to try and get them to change their way — rehabilitate them," Swinford said.

"I don't condone anything James did. But when you count the cost of life on the run and the good life he made in Fritch, it's clear that James rehabilitated himself."

Media, lawmakers anticipate law

News organizations must first agree on provisions, legislator says

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Tension between Texas legislators and the news media probably will ease by 1993, making passage of a shield law more likely if the press wants it, a lawmaker said Tuesday.

But state Rep. Henry Cuellar, D-Laredo, told the Texas Daily Newspaper Association he hopes news industry groups agree on the content of a shield bill before he introduces another one.

"In looking at the shield law, I realize the media is not monolithic," he said at the 71st annual TDNA convention. "I see that there are divisions in the media."

Cuellar said he proposed a shield bill in the 1991 legislative session after he was approached by broadcast journalists who supported the measure. Several print media groups, including TDNA, opposed a shield law.

The lawmaker stopped pressing for the law after encountering opposition from some in the news industry. Generally, such a law "shields" journalists from providing courts with confidential information obtained during news gathering.

In the past two years, journalists in San Antonio, Corpus Christi and Houston have been arrested after refusing to provide courts with confidential information related to criminal cases.

New leadership and other changes occurring in the Texas House before the 1993 legislative session means news media representatives will deal with new personalities there if they decide to seek a shield law, Cuellar said.

"I believe that the adversarial nature between the Legislature and the media... will change in '93," he said.

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