

Willie Nelson escapes charge of marijuana possession

AUSTIN (AP) — First the IRS, then the Hewitt Police Department. Less than a year after paying the bulk of a \$9 million tax debt to the IRS, singer Willie Nelson appears to have beaten a misdemeanor charge of marijuana possession.

A smiling Nelson praised a Waco judge Wednesday for suppressing evidence in his case, which began last May when Hewitt police officers found Nelson sleeping in his gray Mercedes along Interstate 35 after a long night of poker with friends. Hewitt is just south of Waco.

Officers contended that along with an ounce of marijuana in the car. "If those guys had given me an option that I could have lived with, I might have just paid the fine and went on, but they didn't," Nelson said.

Instead, Nelson said, authorities wanted to give him six months probation, a fine and take his driver's license away.

"All this for something I felt like was an illegal search and seizure, and I felt strongly enough that I wanted to take it to court," Nelson said.

On Monday, McLennan County court-at-law judge Michael Gassaway granted a motion by Nelson's lawyers to suppress evidence in the case, including the marijuana found in the car and any statements made by Nelson after the search.

Gassaway ruled the state failed to establish probable cause for the search.

McLennan County prosecutor Alan Bennett said he disagreed with the judge's ruling and was considering an appeal.

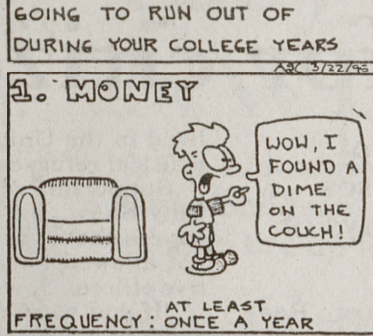
Bennett said the arresting officers "saw Nelson try to hide" the marijuana.

But Gassaway said that a standard-rolled cigarette lying in a wastebasket that was in plain view of three of the officers "is not enough for a plain view search."

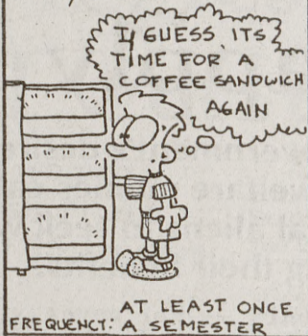
While Nelson said he thinks marijuana should be "taxed and regulated," he said he hasn't admitted to using the drug the morning he was arrested.

Stick

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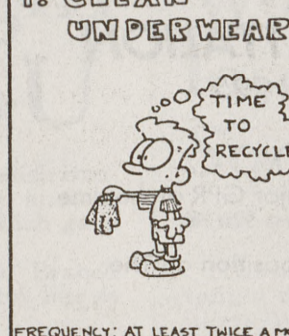
2. FOOD



3. COFFEE

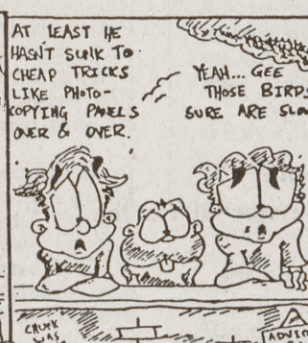
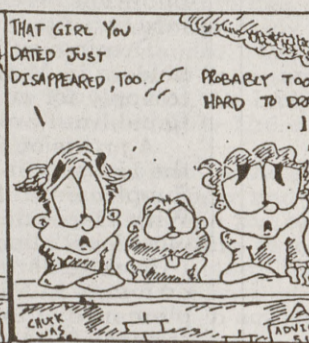


4. CLEAN UNDERWEAR



By Alvaro

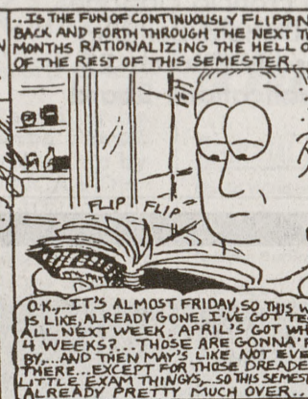
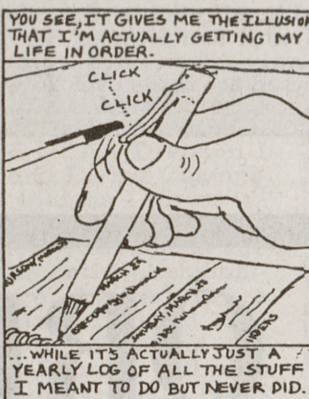
THE INKWELL



By Brad

ADVENTURES IN AGGIELAND

By Greg



WEATHER

Today
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Tonight
Partly cloudy with low near 62.

Friday
Partly cloudy and warm with high near 85.

Friday Night
Increasing clouds with low of 64.

Saturday
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and thunderstorms. High near 77.

Source - A&M Chapter of the American Meteorological Society

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