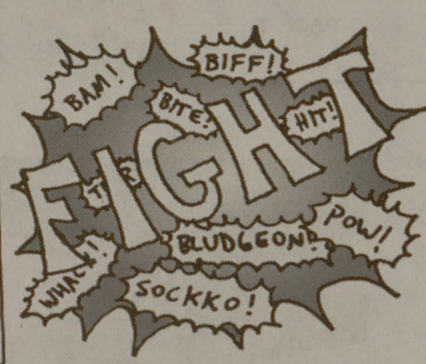


Fish

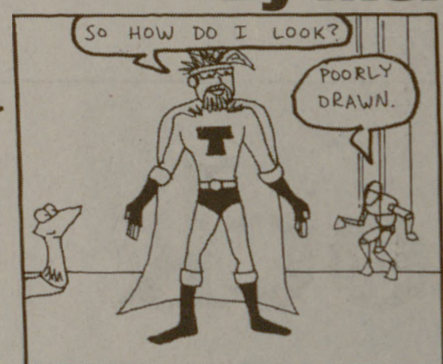


BY R. DELUNA

Simel & Lewis



By Mel



Imposter arrested after stealing trooper's identity, ruining credit

ABILENE (AP) — They had the wrong man. Bob Sims, a state trooper who patrols Stephens County, knew he did not rack up thousands of dollars in credit card purchases. Nevertheless, a river of red ink was rising around Sims, his credit was wrecked and bill collectors were beating down his door. Authorities finally caught up with the credit card culprit last year. When federal agents arrested the imposter in Baltimore, he had amassed \$250,000 in debts using Sims' name and had hundreds of unopened credit card bills logging purchases on phony accounts opened with the personal information of dozens of Robert Simses nationwide. "He was living off my credit and others," Sims said. "It was a nightmare. We had no credit anywhere, and my fear was what letter we would get in the mail next. There's no telling how many Robert Simses are out there still having problems. They may never get it straight." The Abilene Reporter-News reported in Sunday's edition that another case of identity theft in

Breckenridge is bringing even wider attention to an offense that only recently became a crime. Congress last year outlawed the assumption of another person's identity and attached a maximum punishment of 20 years confinement to the offense. The case involves Joseph Jerome Griesmer, who stands accused of stealing a New York man's identity 35 years ago. Griesmer, a Breckenridge baitshop owner, is accused of using the alias to avoid detection of a dishonorable military discharge, to pile up debts and to file a fraudulent bankruptcy. He is scheduled to stand trial May 3 in a Lubbock federal courtroom. "It's an invasion of someone's privacy and credit reputation," said Bill Mateja, the Lubbock prosecutor pursuing Griesmer's case. "Most people find it extremely damaging. It's almost like defaming someone." Prosecutors charge that Griesmer, 64, began using the identity of a New York man in 1964 after the victim's wallet was stolen at a county fair. Federal agents began investi-

gating Griesmer after he filed a bankruptcy petition using the New York man's Social Security number. In state trooper Sims' case, Sims was accused of identity theft by accessing all information of dozens of Simses while working as a trooper. Even after the offense, Sims spent weeks combing through information companies trying to erase his name. "Things started happening fast I couldn't keep up with," Sims said. "I thought, 'Oh, I got a task in front of me. I'm going to do it straight. Everything is going to be fine now. But I'm still not sure something is going to happen.' Authorities say the investigation against identity theft is a struggle against access to personal information such as Social Security numbers and credit card numbers. "I've compared it to burglary," one attorney said. "You can't clean up. There's a lot to be done to recover."

Turtle trouble

Strandings increase, shrimpers deny blame

CORPUS CHRISTI, (AP) — Wildlife officials are blaming boat propellers, fishing line and shrimpers' nets for at least 40 dead or near dead sea turtles that have washed up on Texas beaches in the past two weeks. It's been at least a year since so many stranded sea turtles were found in a two-week period on Texas beaches, said Donna Shaver, a biologist who studies sea turtles at Padre Island National Seashore. Officials said some of the dead turtles found the past two weeks were Kemp's ridleys and leatherbacks, both endangered species. Others were loggerheads and green sea turtles, which the federal government classifies as threatened species.

Shaver told the *Corpus Christi Caller-Times* in Sunday's editions that wildlife authorities around the state examined the turtles and found that one died from being caught in a gill net, another died apparently from getting tangled in fishing line and three appeared to have been killed by boat propellers. Wildlife authorities said accidental drownings in shrimpers' nets is a strong possibility in many of the cases in which cause of death could not be determined. "It's important to remember there are a variety of factors which can cause turtles to strand," Shaver said. "What I can say is that there have been numerous shrimp vessels seen off the South Texas coast and off Galveston as well, so it's possi-

ble some stranded as a result of incidental capture in shrimp trawls." Most shrimpers comply with federal laws that require turtle excluder devices in their nets to prevent the turtles from being caught and drowning in the nets, said a shrimpers' group spokesman. "There is 98 to 99 percent compliance," said Wilma Anderson, executive director of the Texas Shrimp Association, based in Aransas Pass. "I think it should be highly recognized that the shrimping industry is doing a very fine job." Anderson said most Texas shrimp boats have been shrimping off Florida for the past two weeks. Shrimpers should not be blamed for most of the deaths, Anderson said.

CAMPUS CALENDAR

TUESDAY

TAMU Buddhist Association: Khenpo Tsewang Gyatso Rinpoche will speak on "The Meaning of Life from the Buddhist Perspective" at 7 p.m. in 701 Rudder. Contact Nathaniel Rich at 696-0384 for details.

University Undergraduate Research Fellows Symposium: A reception will be held at 6 p.m. in the Rudder Lobby on the 2nd floor. Oral presentation of fellows' completed

research will be presented at 7 p.m. in Rudder 5th floor.

WEDNESDAY

Hispanic Business Student Association: There will be a general meeting at 7:30 p.m. in 128 Wehner. Call Chris at 694-6726 for more information.

THURSDAY

Texas A&M Mens Rugby: Practice

from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. by Field by the polo field. The Zachry parking lot. All students welcome. No expense necessary. Call Lucas at 825-

Campus Crusade for Christ: will be a meeting at 7 p.m. in the Center. Call Kurt at 825-

Association of Baptist Students: Weekly 7:30 worship service in the Center. Call David at 825-

ATTENTION STUDENTS

NON-STUDENT HOUSING FOR THE SUMMER

RENT A SPACE FROM US OVER THE SUMMER

You Must be enrolled in the Spring 99 and Fall 99 Semesters
A \$300 Deposit and \$25 Application fee will be required at the time you apply unless you already have a deposit on file with The Housing Office

This is GREAT for students who want to remain in the Local Work Area or go to Blinn College

To Apply Please Contact:
Housing Assignments Office
101 YMCA Bldg.
College Station, TX 77843-1258
409-845-4744

Ordering your 2000 Aggieland yearbook is as easy as 1-2-3!!

AGGIELAND 2000

Don't forget to order your 2000 Aggieland yearbook when you register for classes. Use fee option 016 during phone registration.

For any questions regarding the 2000 Aggieland, call 845-2682.

SEARCH CONTINUED

The Texas A&M University Student Publications Board is accepting applications for

Editor THE BATTALION

- Including radio and online editions -
Fall 1999
(The fall editor will serve from Aug. 16 through Dec. 10, 1999.)

Qualifications for editor in chief of *The Battalion* are:

- Be a Texas A&M student in good standing with the University and enrolled in at least six credit hours (unless fewer credits are required to graduate) during the term of office;
- Have at least a 2.00 cumulative grade point ratio and at least a 2.00 grade point ratio in the semester immediately prior to the appointment, the semester of appointment and semester(s) (all summer course work is considered summer semester) during the term of office. In order for summer school grades to qualify as previous semester grades, a minimum of six hours must be taken during the course of either the full or two summer session(s);
- Have completed or be registered in JOUR 301 (Mass Comm Law), or equivalent;
- Have at least one year experience in a responsible editorial position on *The Battalion* or comparable daily college newspaper, - OR -
Have at least one year editorial experience on a commercial newspaper, - OR -
Have completed at least 12 hours journalism, including JOUR 203 and 303 (Media Writing I and II), and JOUR 304 (Editing for the Mass Media), or equivalent.

Application forms should be picked up and returned to Franca Cagle in the Student Publications office, room 012 Reed McDonald Building. Deadline for submitting application: 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, 1999. Applicants will be interviewed during the Student Publications Board Meeting beginning at 4:15 p.m. Monday, May 3, 1999, in room 221F Reed McDonald.

An Affirmative Action / Equal Opportunity Employer. Committed to Diversity.

ATutoring 260-266

725B University Dr.
TICKETS GO ON SALE MONDAY 3PM
www.aggiecentral.com

		MON Apr 26	TUES Apr 27	WED Apr 28	THU Apr 29
PHYS 201	4-6 PM	CH. 14	CH. 15	CH. 6	
CHEM 102	6-8 PM	CH. 27	CH. 28	CH. 26	
CHEM 102 Dr. Williamson	8-10 PM	CH. 20, 21A	CH. 21 B	CH. 27	PHYS 218
PHYS 218	10 PM MID	CH. 12	CH. 13A	CH. 13B	
		MON Apr 26	TUES Apr 27	WED Apr 28	THU Apr 29
CHEM 101	8-10 PM	CH. 13	CH. 14	CH. 13	
CHEM 102 Dr. Sorlage	10 PM MID	CH. 27	CH. 28	CH. 26	

The Battalion

105 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Aaron Meier, Editor in Chief

Kasie Byers, Managing Editor
Robert Hyneczek, Graphics Editor
Riley LaGrone, Aggiefife Editor
Matt Webber, Sports Editor
Mike Fuentes, Photo Editor
Elizabeth Pariani, Radio Producer

STAFF MEMBERS

CITY: ASSISTANT: MEGAN WRIGHT; AMANDA SMITH, Melissa Jordan, Andrea Brockman, Meredith Hight, Noni Sridhara, Amanda Stirpe, Amanda Palm, Rachel Holland, Jordan Davis, Sallie Turner, Carrie Bennett, Emily Snooks, Lisa Hill, Ping-Ya Hsu, Sameh Fahmy & April Young.
SPORTS: ASSISTANT: DOUG SHILLING; Jeff Schmidt, Michael Taglienti, Aaron Cohan, Travis Harsch, Grant Hawkins, Tom Kennedy, Al Lazarus, Santosh Venkataraman, Ben Westbrook, Jason Schneider, AGGIELIFE - Stephen Wells, Beth Focht, Kyle Whitacre, Jeff Schmidt, Amy Daugherty, Hina Patel, Scott Harris, Jeff Kemp, Kiffin Collins, Mariano Castillo, Jacob Huvai, Bobbie Etekhkar, Susan Overcash & Michelle McNeely.
OPINION: Lisa Foox, Caleb McDaniel, Christina Barrows, Brendan Guy, Zach Hall, Glenn Janik, David Lee, Caleb McDaniel, Brandon Mullen, David Page, Mark Passwaters, Desmond Reed, Robbins & Luke Sauger.
PHOTO: Sallie Turner, Guy Rogers, Tom Robbins & Luke Sauger.
GRAPHICS: ASSISTANT: JP BERRY; Mark McDaniel, Michael Wagener.
CARTOONISTS: Ruben Deluna, Victor Vasquez, Ruenes & Michael Norfeldt.
COPY EDITORS: Amy Daugherty, Bobbie Etekhkar, Tiffany Grant, Amanda Stirpe, Carrie Bennett, Day, Deirdre Perkins & Menna Soman.
PAGE DESIGNERS: Jessica Wegener, Christi & Kyle Whitacre.
RADIO: Dalton Caldwell, Amanda Gargano, Holz, Bree Hudson, Noni Sridhara, Kiva Wainwright, Wolfshohl, April Young, Rachel Tache &...

NEWS: The Battalion news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University in the Division of Student Publications, Department of Journalism. News offices are in 013 Reed McDonald Building. Newsroom phone: 845-2612. Fax: 845-2611. Website: http://battalion.tamu.edu
ADVERTISING: Publication of advertising does not imply sponsorship or endorsement by The Battalion. For campus, local, and national advertising, call 845-2612. For classified advertising, call 845-0569. Advertising offices are in 015 Reed McDonald, and office hours are Monday through Friday, Fax: 845-2678.
SUBSCRIPTIONS: A part of the Student Services Fee entitles each Texas A&M student to pick up a single copy of *The Battalion* additional copies 25¢. Mail subscriptions are \$60 per school year, \$30 for the fall or spring semester and \$12.50 for the summer session (except University holidays and exam periods) at Texas A&M University, Periodicals Postage Paid at College Station, TX. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Battalion, 015 Reed McDonald Building, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-1258.

Slovacek Sausage
Presents
Texas Aggie Baseball's 25¢ Sausage Dog Night
Tonight vs. Sam Houston 7pm
Gates Open at 5:30
Co-hosted by ARA
certain limits will apply on purchases and number available