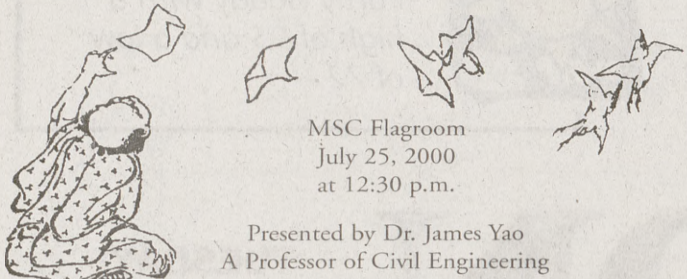


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Care center neglects students

DENTON (AP) — Abuse and neglect of residents at Denton Development Center was accompanied by a management cover-up as well as incompetence and lack of training among staff members, according to a state agency's report.

Closing of the Denton Development Center followed a state investigation that persuaded Medicaid officials to discontinue payments to the institution, according to a Texas Department of Human Services report obtained by the *Denton Record-Chronicle*.

The report, obtained Friday, says that investigators found 13 deficiencies "during an on-site inspection Jan. 5 through Jan. 14 at the center. The report says the deficiencies caused immediate and serious threat to the health and safety of the center's residents."

Sixty-eight clients lived at the development center, an intermediate care facility for persons with mental retardation, until it closed its doors on Friday. The closing was announced in June.

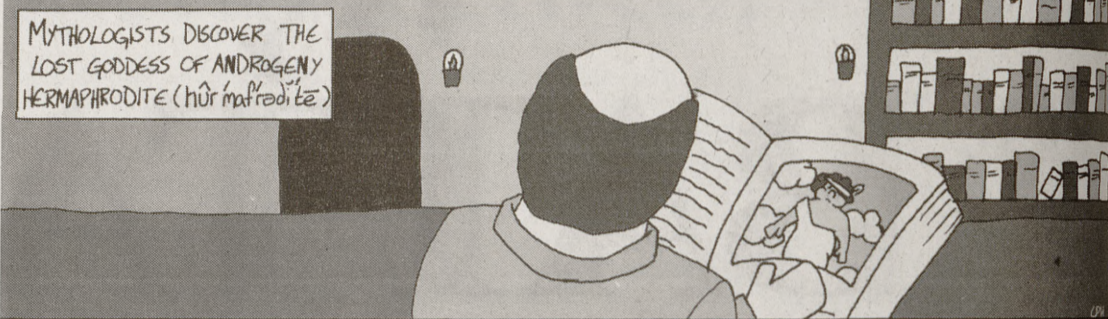
The state report on the January visit said that the development center failed to protect 26 residents from abuse or neglect.

All clients now have been relocated. An ex-employee had observed a co-worker take a young girl, about 10 years old, into a room, according to the report. It stated that when the two came out, the witness reported that the girl had a bloody nose.

"He (the witness) said that as she lay on the floor bleeding and crying, both of them stood over her and agreed not to tell," the report stated.

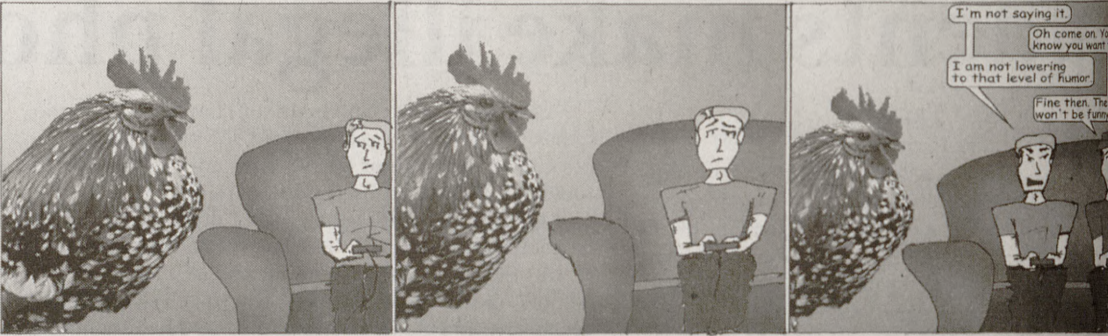
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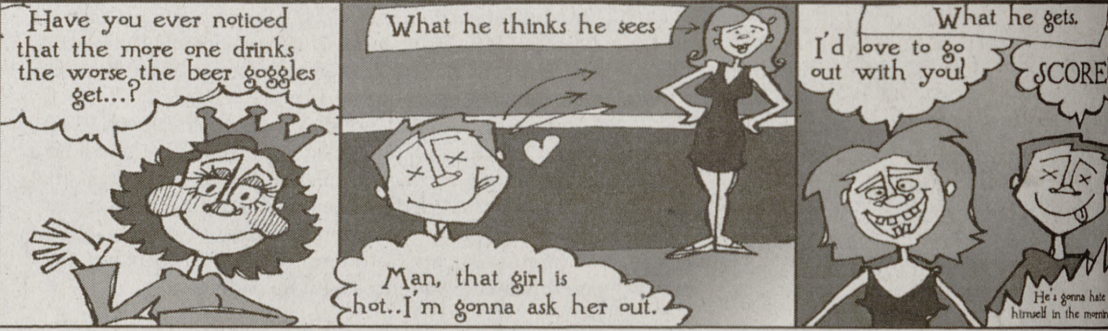
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Nursing home resident murdered

DALLAS (AP) — A nursing home resident is being held on charges of murder and aggravated assault after his roommate at a nursing home was murdered, police said.

Elzie Calahan, a 54-year-old paraplegic, died at Parkland Hospital this weekend, after being bludgeoned to death with a dresser drawer and a cane.

Jose Amador, 53, Calahan's roommate at Professional Care Center, was being held at Lew Sterrett Justice Center in lieu of \$150,000 bail.

Homicide detectives said they had

not determined what led to a fight Saturday between the two men staying at the home. Both patients were partially paralyzed before the incident.

Officials with Integrated Health Services, which owns the 155-bed center, declined to comment on most aspects of the case but said they were not aware of any problems between Calahan and Amador. The men had been roommates for less than two months.

Amelia Hillmon, the nursing assistant who was the first to respond to an alert light outside the pair's room, was treated Saturday for a

head injury she reportedly suffered when Amador allegedly struck her with a cane, police said.

"It was a bloody mess," Hillmon said. "Elzie was covered in so much blood that you couldn't tell if he was white, black or Hispanic."

As she entered Room 231, Hillmon said, she saw Amador's bed and nearby walls splattered with blood. She did not recognize the body on the floor. Amador then started toward her in his wheelchair and hit her on the head with a cane, according to *The Dallas Morning News*.

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Beverly Mireles, Editor in Chief

THE BATTALION (ISSN #1055-4726) is published daily, Monday through Friday during the fall and spring semesters and Monday through Thursday during the summer session (except University holidays and exam periods) at Texas A&M University. Periodicals Postage Paid at College Station, TX 77840. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Battalion, Texas A&M University, 1111 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-1111.

News: *The Battalion* news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University in the Division of Student Media, a unit of the Department of Journalism. News offices are in 014 Reed McDonald Building. Newsroom phone: 845-3313; Fax: 845-2647; E-mail: Thebattalion@hotmail.com; Web site: http://battalion.tamu.edu

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