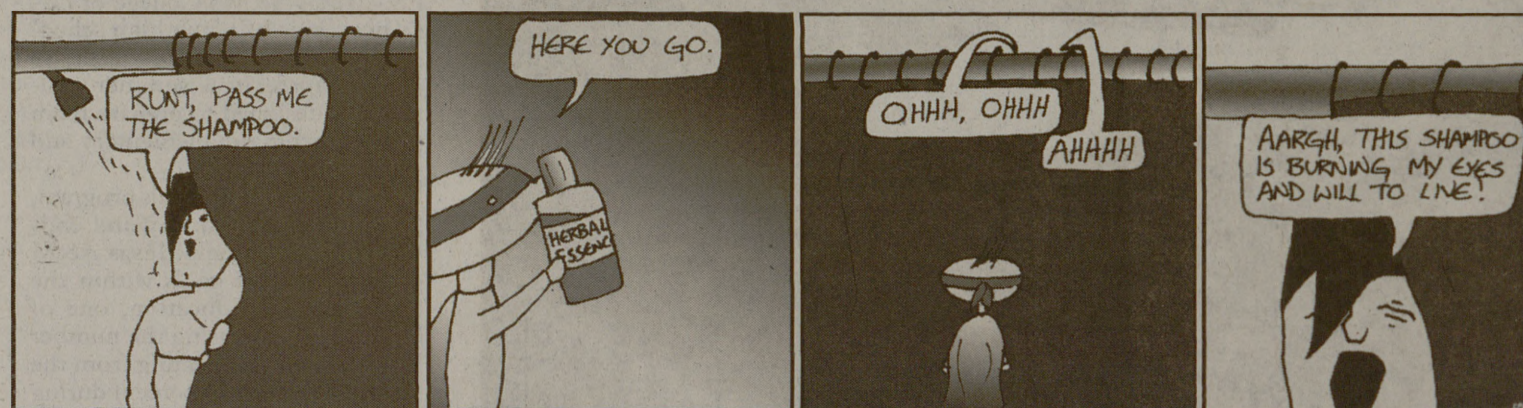


DIRTY APES



BY R. DELUNA

The Fantastico Chronicles



BY J. GOLDFLUTE

Former pimp executed for killing security guard

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — A former pimp who became a church group leader while in prison was executed Tuesday evening for fatally shooting one of two hotel security guards slain during a robbery in San Antonio more than 22 years ago.

Miguel "Silky" Richardson, 46, with a history of violence and attempted escapes, was the ninth condemned inmate to receive lethal injection this year in Texas, where a record 40 convicted killers were put to death last year.

"I feel so much love," he said as witnesses filed into the chamber.

Richardson spoke for nearly eight minutes about love, smiling and winking the entire time. He then began chanting in a foreign language, his voice rising and falling with a tear running

from his right eye, before shouting "take me! I'm ready!" "I'm your friend, I'm not a monster being executed. I am a minister of love," he said.

As the drugs began flowing, Richardson remarked it was a "good day to die. Take me God."

He took several deep breaths and uttered a slight gasp before slipping into unconsciousness. He was pronounced dead at 6:28 p.m. CDT, 13 minutes after the lethal dose began.

Richardson adopted the nickname "Silky" after the lead character in a 1970s book about a Harlem, N.Y., pimp.

At the time of the March 1979 shootings of security guards John Ebbert and Howard Powers at a San Antonio Holiday Inn, Richardson was sharing a room with three

prostitutes, two 17 years old and one 16.

The security guards confronted him after responding to a complaint from a woman across the hall that someone was trying to break into her room. Testimony later showed Richardson had coveted the expensive jewelry worn by the woman staying in that room.

When Richardson — wearing a woman's wig — was being escorted down a stairwell to the hotel lobby, the two unarmed guards were robbed and shot to death. Richardson was arrested a few days later in Denver during another robbery and fought extradition to Texas for two years.

Over the 20 years since his capital murder conviction, Richardson's case went to the U.S. Supreme Court at least six

times, including an 11th-hour review that was rejected by the justices late Tuesday afternoon.

"He had all those chances when my husband had no chance," said Ebbert's wife, Debra, after watching Richardson die. "I'm angry but I do feel justice was served."

Also among the witnesses was Ebbert's daughter, Catherine, who was 4 months old when her father was killed and has no recollection of him.

"I didn't know Dad but I have him in my heart," Catherine Ebbert, now 22, said.

"I think it should be frustrating to all the citizens of the state," said Steve Hilbig, who prosecuted the murder case in 1981, of the time it's taken to carry out the death sentence. "It loses its meaning when it takes 20 years to carry forward."

TEACHERS

Continued from Page 1

who are interested in becoming teachers to come and learn more about teaching and to learn more about Texas A&M," said Dorian Martin, assistant director for Communications and Partnership Development.

The students participating in the camp will be housed in campus residence halls and participate in many learning activities.

During the conference, the students will design and present a classroom lesson, and gain first-hand experience of teaching.

Michel Zuch, coordinator of Teacher Recruitment and Induction said this is the second year for the conference. She said students gave great evaluations last year but offered some positive feedback.

"The students had a lot of great activities, but they wanted to get up and do more stuff," Zuch said. "So we're changing some of the things from last year."

She said the changes include increased activity at local elementary schools and more hands-on activities with teachers from the Bryan-College Station area.

Zuch said last year's conference brought in approximately 60 students and that this year they are expecting approximately 50 students.

HIV

Continued from Page 1

severe and persistent diarrhea, vision loss and even coma.

Fewer than 50 people in the United States have had HIV for 10 years or more without developing AIDS. Doctors are studying these people, hoping to find something in their genes or elsewhere that is helping them fight the disease.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved many drugs that prevent HIV cells from duplicating, therefore slowing the progression of the disease. There are also 29 different HIV vaccines currently being tested around the world.

Condoms may reduce risk of getting herpes

CHICAGO (AP) — A study confirmed that condoms significantly reduce women's risk of contracting genital herpes. But they may not be as effective in protecting men.

One theory is that condoms do not shield men from the entire area from which women shed the incurable virus. But

long advised condom use, the first study to confirm that condoms offer protection against genital herpes, Wald, director of the University of Washington virology search clinic.

The study in Wednesday's Journal of the American Medical Association looked at monogamous couples with infected partner from 1991 to 1996. About half the uninfected partners were women. Only 10 percent of couples reported using condoms during the study period, though they were advised to do so.

Genital herpes is estimated to infect almost one-fourth of U.S. adults.

Dr. Anna Wald, who led the study, cautioned that the finding was more likely a statistical fluke.

Genital herpes is estimated to infect almost one-fourth of U.S. adults and is spread through sexual contact when it enters the body through tiny passages in the skin. Most people who have the virus do not know it. Women are at higher risk of contracting the virus from an infected partner. While health officials had

Overall, 31 people — women and five men — acquired herpes during the study. But among the 118 participants who reported using condoms more than 50 percent of the time, only two — both men — acquired herpes.

Herpes sores can make it easier to become infected with AIDS virus, and without precautions, herpes can be transmitted during childbirth, infecting the baby and sometimes causing brain damage or death.

SPORTS

Continued from Page 1

that, instead, athletes should be required to maintain rates similar to those of other college students.

Dempsey said most of the other commission recommendations tracked ideas the NCAA had been considering or has endorsed, including a prohibition against college sports betting in Nevada.

Bryce Jordan, president emeritus of Penn State, said college sports has gotten more

"The average fan probably loves it just the way it is. You'll never convince the real die-hard fans these things are needed."

The NCAA adopted some commission-proposed reforms in 1996. Hodding Carter III, president of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, a journalism consortium that sponsors the commission, said that despite those reforms "you have big money without good sense."

The commission proposed the establishment of a group to be called the Coalition of Presidents, which would work with the NCAA board of directors.

The commission also recommended a new distribution formula for television revenue from the men's NCAA Division I basketball tournament that does not take victories into account, as well as the establishment of a watchdog group to monitor the largest college sports programs.

The commission considered, but did not propose, a prohibition against players dropping out of college to join the National Basketball Association.

The commission instead recommended that the NBA and National Football League set up minor leagues.

The plan was released Friday before the NBA draft. Several of the top prospects of high school graduates chose to skip college.

"The average fan probably loves it just the way it is. You'll never convince the real die-hard fans these things are needed."

— Dick Schultz former executive director of the NCAA

commercial since 1989, when the commission was established to study reforms.

"In some institutions, you win at any cost," said Jordan, whose name is on the basketball arena at Penn State.

Dick Schultz, former executive director of the NCAA, said the changes are needed but will be opposed by some coaches, athletic directors and fans.

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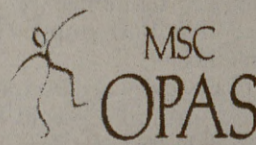
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