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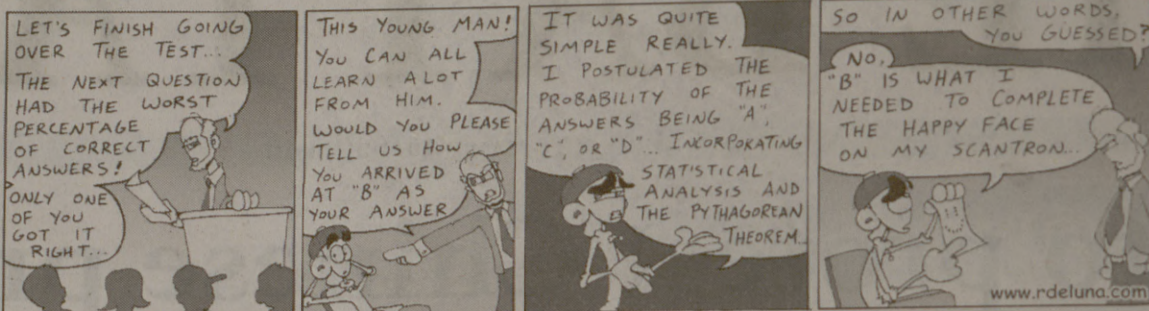
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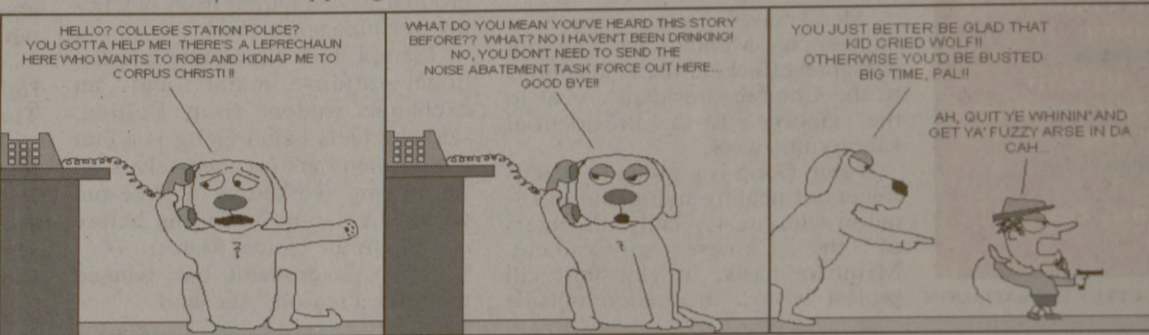
Continued from page 1

give the agricultural community an advantage in conserving water resources, Jensen said. Another project will analyze the advantages of replacing deep-rooted brush species in West Texas with types of grass. Jensen said the hypothesis that clearing out brush species as mesquite, juniper and cedar will allow more water to flow through surrounding rivers and soil. Jensen said areas such as San Antonio, which has a huge demand for water, this project could be instrumental in developing new methods of conservation.

Don Wilkerson, a professor and extension specialist in the Department of Horticultural Science, is working on an extension program concerning the management of irrigation systems. The new irrigation system provides access to controlling mechanisms through the Internet. Old irrigation systems usually are panels that must be directly controlled.

Wilkerson, working with a grant from the TWRI, said he uses his research to educate companies and other researchers how to properly use this technology and information. "Texas A&M has taken a leadership role in helping agricultural companies and homeowners in conserving water resources," Wilkerson said. "In this dynamic field of study, grants are important in assisting great ideas and technology."

Beernuts by Rob Appling



Protest

Continued from page 1

monitored by 17-year-old Chinese guards, he said. "They kept us under surveillance for 24 hours, even watching us go to the bathroom," Nappi said. "When we asked to call the embassy, they told us we were their guests. When anyone tried to leave, they were beaten up."

Finally, Nappi and the other 60 international protesters were escorted to a flight leaving Beijing and identified as terrorists to the other passengers.

Nappi said he hopes that President Bush will sit down with Jiang at his Crawford ranch and ask him what is going on with the human rights violations in China.

Nappi said a lot of Falun Gong members in China practice in secret.

"There were 200 million people doing it when they cracked down on it (in 1999)," Nappi said. "They outnumbered the Communist Party two to one. The Communists thought Falun Gong members were taking over."

Chan said Falun Gong is not a political organization.

"We have a series of five exercises we go through, and we practice truthfulness, compassion and tolerance," Chan said.

Kent McKinney, a Falun Gong activist, came to

Texas this week from Florida to participate in demonstrations before Jiang's talk.

"Recently, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a resolution condemning China's actions toward Falun Gong," he said. "I am here to raise awareness among students. This method has proven very effective in the past."

Falun Gong members will protest Thursday in front of the Presidential Conference Center from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. in a designated free speech area, McKinney said. Jiang is slated to speak at 11:15 a.m.

"We've already worked it out with the police how this protest is going to work," Nappi said.

"We're going to meditate and then raise a sign. We want the president to see us,"

Becky O'Brien, a senior customer service assistant at Scheduling and Services, which handles all the free speech areas on campus, said that Falun Gong has registered to speak in the Academic Plaza near the Lawrence Sullivan Ross statue Tuesday and Thursday. The space around the MSC was already booked, she said.

"Anyone is welcome to use that area," O'Brien said. "They just have to schedule it through me to make sure that space is available and then (Associate Director of the University Center Complex) Dennis Busch signs off on it. If we think there's going to be a problem, we will alert security and police."

TiMS

Continued from page 1

Aerospace Technology for NASA, said that some of this technology is only a decade away from application.

Tenney said the United States has lost its dominance in the aerospace industry to

European competitors because of subsidies to private industry.

Reichman said TiMS will train the next generation of NASA engineers. The amount of engineers reaching the retirement age is causing a work force dilemma in the aerospace industry.

"This is more than just research dollars,

it's education as well," Reichman said. To accomplish the broad goal, NASA, TiMS will include research of biologists and chemists.

"Although we are focusing on the spacecraft, the structures will be done by mechanical engineers and electrical engineer and bioengineering for some of the sensors," Bennett

chat & chew

with the Vice President for Student Affairs

October 22
11:30am - 1:30pm
Wehner (outside Room 159)

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EMAIL samantha@cctr.tamu.edu for more information about this event