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2
Monday, November 4, 2002

Fish



by R. DeLuna Parsons

Continued from page 1

This incident is the latest in a series of high-profile harassment allegations against the Corps. In one incident that surfaced during the summer, cadets were photographed naked and dressed with duct tape. However, no criminal charges were filed.

The cavalry previously was disbanded in 1991 when a woman cadet claimed she was attacked by other members. The cavalry was reinstated when she recanted her story.

The Fish Drill Team, which was reinstated in January, was suspended in 1997 after a freshman reported being hazed by upperclassmen.

Cadet

Continued from page 1

there are any other victims who wish to press charges, he said. As of Thursday, Wiant said no other reports have been filed with the UPD.

"The Corps does not condone public misconduct of our cadets," Mills said. "We don't condone this incident."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Earthquake of 7.9 magnitude rocks interior Alaska

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — A major earthquake rocked a sparsely populated area of interior Alaska early Sunday afternoon, cracking highways and roads, knocking over fuel tanks and shaking rural homes.

The magnitude 7.9 quake rattled 90 miles south of Fairbanks, was strongly felt in Anchorage about 270 miles to the south. It hit at 1:15 p.m. Alaska Standard Time, said Bruce Turner of Alaska's Tsunami Warning Center.

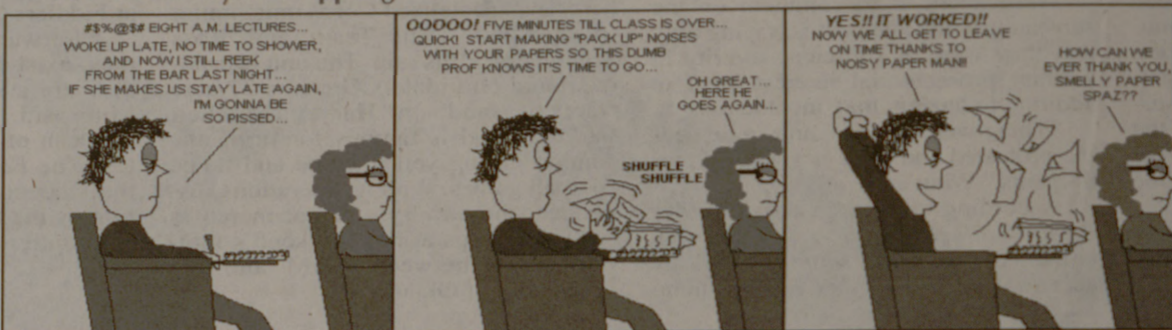
Mild earthquake in Nebraska felt in 3 Midwestern states

O'NEILL, Neb. (AP) — A 4.3 magnitude earthquake centered near Nebraska-South Dakota border was felt in parts of the states Sunday.

No major damage was reported, but callers reported that power lines were knocked out weeks ago, O'Neill and some other towns in the region.

The 4.3 magnitude earthquake hit about 2:45 p.m. CST, some 30 miles northwest of O'Neill and lasted about 10 seconds, said John Minsch, a geophysicist with the U.S. Geological Survey. "It was felt in parts of Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota," Minsch said from the National Earthquake Information Center in Golden, Colo.

Beernuts by Rob Appling



Pickett

Continued from page 1

never planned on getting caught. "Of all the punishments they said they'd hate life in prison the most," he said. "Life in prison is horrible."

Pickett described witnessing a 73-year-old man leap to his death a day before he was to be paroled.

"Nobody bothered to tell him," he said. Pickett also said that he once had three inmates commit suicide in one night.

Audience members Judi and Vince Sweat said they recently changed their opinion on the death penalty after seeing Sister Helen Prejean, the author of *Dead Man Walking*, speak in Kansas advocating a moratorium on the death penalty.

"I think more people would support the death penalty if we could be assured a life sentence really meant life without parole," Vince Sweat said. Sophomore general studies major Nazer Taqui

said that Pickett's speech was moving, and made him look at both points of view: the victim's family and the murderer's family. Taqui, a practicing Muslim, asked Pickett what the Christian viewpoint on the death penalty was and why so much attention had recently been focused on potential change.

Pickett said the Old Testament teaches "eye for an eye" but that most Christians today follow the New Testament: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you," a more forgiving message of love, he said.

Pickett's talk was sponsored by the Memorial Student Center (MSC) Current Issues Awareness (CIA) committee and the Catholic Student Association (CSA).

Four executions are scheduled for this month. A Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty (TCADP) member who declined to be identified said the group will protest Nov. 6, 19, 20, and 21 at the corner of Texas Avenue and New Main Drive at 6 p.m., the same time as each scheduled execution in Huntsville.

Bush says North Korea must scrap nuclear weapons program

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — The Bush administration showed little interest Sunday in renewing official dialogue with North Korea unless the communist government first scraps its nuclear weapons program.

A senior North Korean diplomat was quoted as saying his country was willing to negotiate with the Bush administration over the newly disclosed weapons program, which violates a 1994 accord with the United States.

"North Korea knows what it needs to do. It needs to dismantle its nuclear program and honor its treaty obligations," White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said aboard Air Force

One as President Bush headed to Illinois on a political trip.

"North Korea in 1994 entered into a quid pro quo, and it's inappropriate for North Korea say that we will walk away from our quid, and ask for more quid. They entered into an agreement, they should abide by the agreement, and that's why we're working in concert with our allies."

North Korea's ambassador to the United Nations, Han Song Ryol, was quoted by The New York Times as saying, "Everything is negotiable."

He added, "There must be a continuing dialogue. If both sides sit together, the matter can be resolved peacefully and

quickly." But Fleischer said: "It's not a question of talking. It's a question of action," getting rid of the nuclear weapons program.

"North Korea should not have abandoned its obligations, and that's what they've done. ... North Korea gave its word and didn't keep it. North Korea needs to keep it."

The North Korean diplomat said his government would consider allowing international inspections of the uranium facilities. Asked if North Korea would consider shutting down its uranium enrichment program, Han said: "Yes, I believe our government will resolve all U.S. security concerns."

1 in 4 Florida students have given up private school

MIAMI (AP) — More than one in four students who took a voucher to attend private school in Florida this semester have transferred back to public education, a newspaper reported.

This summer, 607 students requested taxpayer-funded vouchers to leave public schools that received failing grades. As of last week, 170 had returned to public schools, *The Miami Herald* reported Sunday.

In one county, Miami-Dade, 90 of 330 students who requested vouchers have returned to public school — and more than two in three were back in their original school.

Many returning students said they felt

more comfortable at their neighborhood schools, even those labeled as failing. They also cited trouble with transportation, and more demanding curricula or firmer discipline at their new schools.

"I didn't know the teachers and the principal there," said junior Michael Seymour, 16, who returned to Miami Edison Senior High from Archbishop Curley/Notre Dame High. "I had to learn a whole new system there, and I've already been through that process once at Edison."

Critics of vouchers, a cornerstone of the education policies implemented by Gov. Jeb Bush, said the returning students show that vouchers are misguided.

But a spokeswoman for Bush called the trend a triumph of school choice.

"No longer are these children trapped in failing schools," Katie Muniz said. "Now they have a choice — and some prefer to stay in their home school. These were choices they never had before."

A 1999 state law allows students at public schools that earn a failing grade two years out of four to get a voucher to attend private school. Students in Escambia County that year became Florida's first to use vouchers. About 9,000 students at schools in Escambia, Miami-Dade, Orange and Palm Beach counties became eligible this summer for the first time.

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