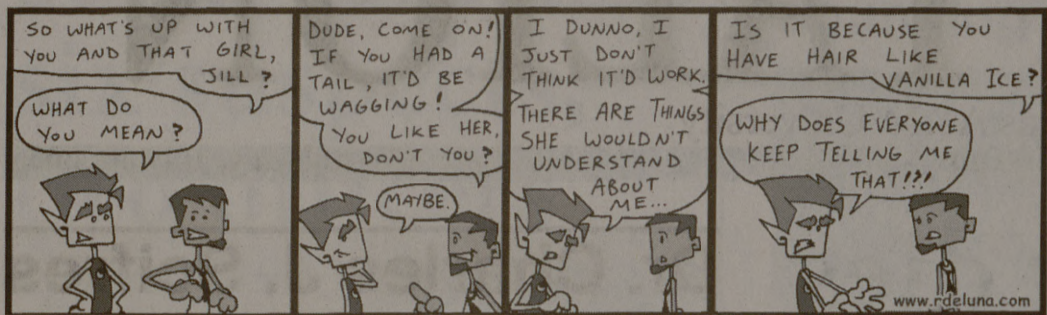


Full Moon

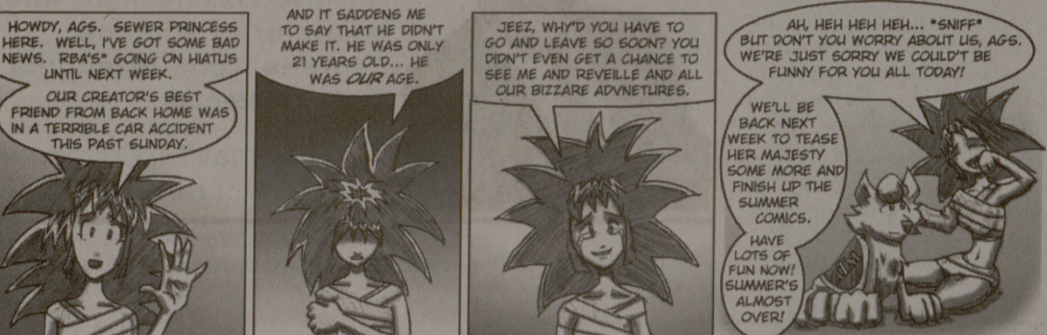
by R.DeLuna



#34
Reveille's Bizarre Adventure

In Memory of Jeffrey Russell Stovall
March, 24 1982 - July 27, 2003

By I.FLORES



*RBA = REVELLE'S BIZARRE ADVENTURE -- COME ON GUYS, USE YOUR HEADS :P

Journalism

Continued from page 1

"Naturally, I was really upset when I heard about the closure because I was wondering if I should change schools or not," she said. "I'd almost rather have support from another school than stay in the journalism department at A&M. I feel like I won't have guidance."

Walraven said students who are worried they will not receive proper support should know that the journalism department will continue to aid students.

"One thing we are trying to work out is how students will be advised," he said. "There will be a number of places they will be able to go, possibly more than there are now."

Current advisers in the department will stay the same, Walraven said.

Moghe said she hopes to be respected by others when she starts school in the fall. She said she's afraid no one is taking the closing of the journalism department seriously.

Walraven said he believes The Battalion will become more important to students who are trying to get experience in journalism. However, with time, he said, it has the potential to weaken.

"Someone needs to be grounded in journalism to show the others," he said.

He said he is concerned that inexperienced writers in journalism may not know how to emphasize the importance balance, fairness and accuracy.

Walraven said incoming freshmen should speak with someone in the advising office if they have questions.

Warning

Continued from page 1

as possible targets.

"No equipment or operatives are known to have been deployed to conduct the operations," the warning says.

The warning was based on information gleaned from interviews of at least one al-Qaida prisoner as well as intercepted communications, said one intelligence official, speaking on condition of anonymity. The information was developed in the last several weeks.

"Cognizant of changes in aviation security measures since Sept. 11, 2001, al-Qaida is looking for new ways to circumvent enhancements in aviation security screening and tightening immigration requirements," the warning says.

Homeland Security officials initially provided the warning only to the aviation industry and law enforcement agencies but acknowledged its existence in response to press queries.

The agency placed a statement on its Web site saying the advisory was transmitted after U.S. intelligence gatherers "received information that al-Qaida continues to be interested in using the commercial aviation system in the United States and abroad to further their cause."

In response to the advisory, the State Department on

Tuesday revised an existing caution for American travelers to reflect the perceived hijacking threat.

"Terrorist actions may include, but are not limited to, suicide operations, hijackings, bombings or kidnappings. These may also involve commercial aircraft," the revised statement said.

"Terrorist actions may include, but are not limited to, suicide operations, hijackings, bombings or kidnappings."

— Federal warning
Homeland Security

The national terrorist threat level remains at yellow, signifying an elevated risk of attacks. The five-level, color-coded system was last raised to orange, or high risk, for 11 days in May. Officials said they do not plan to raise it to reflect the possibility of suicide hijackings.

Some complained the government still is doing too little to alert the public and key industries to terror threats.

"Our concern is that there will be bulletins put out that will not be made available to us," said Capt. Jon Safley,

president of the Coalition of Airline Pilots Association, a pilots union. Safley, who doesn't fly, said he hasn't been getting warnings and isn't sure all pilots know when advisories pertaining to air travel are issued.

Jim Schwartz, director of emergency management for Arlington County, Va., which includes both Reagan Washington National Airport and the Pentagon, said his agency had received no warning from Homeland Security. He said he would need more specifics before increasing security based on published reports.

Since the Sept. 11 attacks, Congress has taken a number of actions to limit the possibility of suicide hijackings, including arming commercial pilots, boosting the number of air marshals and hiring an all-federal work force to screen airline passengers.

Last week, House and Senate negotiators agreed to arm cargo pilots as part of a Federal Aviation Administration funding bill. The bill also would require that commercial airlines teach flight crews how to deal with terrorists, including self-defense, and Homeland Security and the FAA would have to review security at facilities that repair and maintain aircraft outside the United States.

Lawmakers are expected to pass the bill in September.

Democrats

Continued from page 1

House adopted in the first special session over Democrats' objections.

Republicans want to gain a majority of the seats in the 32-member Texas congressional delegation. Democrats now hold a 17-15 edge and want to keep existing districts.

Democrats blocked a Senate vote on redistricting in the first special session because of a rule requiring two-thirds of the 31-member chamber to agree to bring a bill up for debate. Eleven Democrats and one Republican opposed consideration, thwarting the measure.

In the new special session, Republican Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst is arranging the order of bills so that the two-thirds rule is not needed to bring up redistricting. That move, Democrats said, breaks Senate tradition and

led to their walkout.

Van de Putte said the Democrats would return if Perry ends the second special session or Dewhurst reinstates the two-thirds rule.

"When either of these two requests are granted, we will be on the first flight home," Van de Putte said.

Dewhurst and Republican senators said no two-thirds rule has been used in the three other legislative sessions on redistricting that have occurred in the past 32 years.

Sen. Steve Odgen, R-Bryan, also said Democrats should return to address other important issues before the Legislature, notably a transportation bill that could provide for the appropriation of \$231 million.

"Nobody in this state that I know of campaigned on the proposition that if you elect me I won't show up," Odgen said.

Dewhurst himself didn't speak publicly about the Democrats on

Tuesday.

His spokesman, Dave Beckwith, said the lieutenant governor has been in contact with two of the absent Democrats. He declined to identify them or elaborate on the conversations.

"He's always willing to entertain compromise," Beckwith said. "They could come back now and have meaningful input."

On Monday, Dewhurst said he may consider hiring off-duty police officers to assist in returning the senators to the Capitol.

Beckwith said Tuesday he didn't know anything about "booby hunters" that some Democrats said they heard might be after them. Beckwith wouldn't specify what actions the lieutenant governor is taking with regard to off-duty police officers or others to force the senators back to Austin.

"We're being deliberately vague about that at this point," Beckwith said, "because we are not going to telegraph what we are going to do in advance."

Death

Continued from page 1

of Arkansas System. Prior to that, he held a faculty position in range science at Texas A&M, where he was the first Thomas O'Conner Professor of Range Science.

Scifres received Bachelor of Science and master's degrees in agronomy from Oklahoma State University and a Ph.D. in agronomy from the University of Nebraska. He was the recipient of several awards including Faculty

Distinguished Achievement Award for Research, Distinguished Performance Award in Team Research, the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Society of Range Management and was also a Fellow of the Weed Science Society of America.

He is survived by his wife Julia son, Dirk and daughter-in-law Vickie Scifres of College Station, daughter Holly and son-in-law Thomas Wooton of Belgium and four grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday at Hillier Funeral Home in Bryan.

Iraq

Continued from page 1

the enemy," the voice said.

"The aggression armies surrounding them with all kinds of weapons and ground troops were not able to conquer them until they used their warplanes on the house that they were in," the speaker said.

The speaker said the recording was made in July 2003, but the exact date was not clear. Al-Arabiya said it received the tape Tuesday. The widely-watched satellite station, which broadcasts across the Middle East, including in Iraq, aired the tape at least twice more after the initial play.

The CIA was reviewing the new message to determine if it was authentic, a U.S. intelligence official said. The speaker sounded like the voice in other recordings attributed to Saddam, with the same vocabulary and tone.

The last audio recording attributed to Saddam was broadcast by Al-Arabiya on July 23 and claimed to have been recorded July 20. U.S. intelligence officials said it was probably authentic.

The other recording said Saddam was speaking on July 14 and referred to the new Governing Council of Iraq. U.S. intelligence officials said that recording also was probably authentic and was further evidence that Saddam survived the war.

U.S. commanders, meanwhile, said the documents seized in Tikrit gave clues to Saddam's flight from American forces, who have reported at least two near-misses in the past week.

"Each time we do something, we get information, even if we don't get the people," said Lt. Col. Steve Russell, who led the raids in Tikrit. "It slowly leads to pieces of the puzzle, and it keeps filling in."

In Washington, U.S. officials expressed confidence that Saddam would be tracked down,

saying that in the end, he will be the one to decide whether he's taken dead or alive.

"The decisions made by the individual being pursued will prevail in most cases if he doesn't wish to be taken alive," Pentagon spokesman Lawrence Di Rita said. "In many cases it's difficult to take them alive."

"Each time we do something, we get information. It slowly leads to pieces of the puzzle."

— Lt. Col. Steve Russell
leader of Tikrit raids

Russell, commander of the 22nd Infantry Regiment's 1st Battalion, led simultaneous pre-dawn raids on several homes in the heart of Saddam's hometown, 120 miles north of Baghdad. Soldiers blasted open doors with shotguns, leading away dazed occupants in blindfolds and throwing photographs and documents into the street.

Similar raids have occurred daily across Iraq. A coalition military official said American forces conducted 58 raids between Monday afternoon and Tuesday afternoon, detaining 176 people. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, gave no other details.

Among those captured was Adnan Abdullah Abid al-Musslit, a stocky man commanders said was one of Saddam's most trusted bodyguards. Al-Musslit, who is Saddam's cousin, was believed to have detailed knowledge of Saddam's hiding spots.

Al-Musslit had retired from his job, but Saddam called him back into service before the war started, Russell said, citing

intelligence gathered from Tikrit residents.

"If everything else had failed and we just got that one guy, we would be happy," Russell said.

The soldiers had to overpower al-Musslit, who several soldiers said was quite drunk, wrestling him to the ground and dragging him down the stairs. Al-Musslit tried to make it out of his bedroom to grab a submachine gun, but the soldiers were too quick, said Lt. Chris Morris, a sniper on the raid.

Outside, soldiers tied a tan cloth over al-Musslit's eyes and stripped him to his underwear, searching for weapons. Blood seeped through the blindfold—Morris said from a broken nose suffered in the scuffle—and an Army medic examined him.

Russell said the resistance was to be expected.

"Were we surprised? He's a bodyguard," Russell said. "That's why we went in with our steely knives and oily guns."

Eleven other suspects were taken away from the Tikrit raids, including Daher Ziana, responsible for security at Saddam's Tikrit palaces, and Rafa Ildham Ibrahim al-Hassan, another Saddam cousin and bodyguard who led the Saddam Fedayeen militia in Tikrit.

Outside Ziana's yard, six women wailed as soldiers tossed photographs and documents into the driveway. A large portrait of Saddam lay alongside a picture of Ziana in uniform. One album featured a photograph of women posing with Kalashnikov rifles.

Among the documents was something called a "Saddam Privilege Card," Russell said.

Soldiers took the men to an Army detention facility in Tikrit for interrogation.

Although President Bush declared major combat over nearly three months ago, the chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Richard B. Myers, said Tuesday the area from Baghdad to Tikrit was "still a war zone."

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THE BATTALION

True Brown
Editor in Chief

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