

MIT
Cambridge
Massachusetts

Tuesday, February 21, 1989

The Tech

Continuous
News Service
Since 1881

Volume 109, Number 5

MIT student hacks "Morton Downey Jr. Show"

By Andrew L. Fish
and Annabelle Boyd

An MIT undergraduate apparently pulled off a nationwide hoax on the syndicated Morton Downey Jr. television show. Christopher F. Coon '90 said he masqueraded as a representative of a controversial group which protects relationships, including sexual ones, between men and boys.

Coon appeared on the program claiming to be a member of the North American Man-Boy Love Association (NAMBLA). The show, which aired in Boston last Friday, featured Coon (who was referred to only by his first name) along with clinical psychologist Dr. Joyce Brothers.

Coon defended NAMBLA, which he later called "the worst possible organization around," during the hour-long show, facing an often hostile audience, some of whom threatened him with bodily harm.

The stunt was intended to attack "the show, the host, and the format," Coon said in an interview with *The Tech*. He called the show "obnoxious and disgusting."

Bill Boggs, executive producer of the program, said, "We have reason to believe he is what he says. Otherwise he's a boldfaced liar." Boggs said the show "had some verification" that Coon was a member, though he would not elaborate.

Boggs said Coon maintained his story in conversations yesterday, after both were contacted by *The Tech*. Boggs said he warned Coon that he would be in "hot water" if he was lying.

Coon told *The Tech* that if he felt seriously threatened by a lawsuit, he would change his story and claim to be a member of NAMBLA.

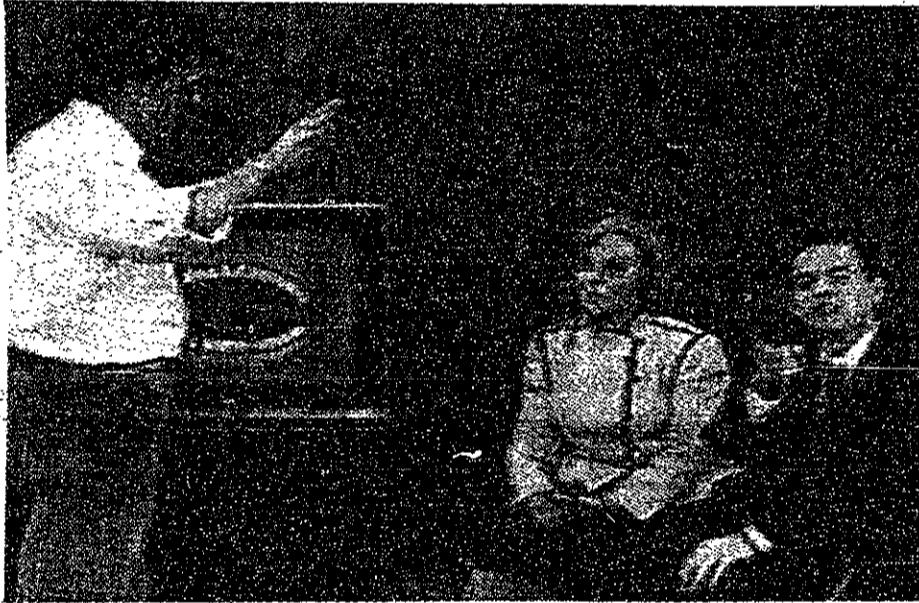
But Coon said, "You can't print that I'm a member of NAMBLA because I'm not."

The program's producers could not have verified whether or not Coon was a member of NAMBLA by contacting the organization, according to Christopher Farrell, a spokesman for NAMBLA in New York. They "never discuss whether or not a

person is a member of [their] organization," he said. Therefore, he could neither confirm nor deny whether Coon had an affiliation with the group.

About a year ago, the Downey show's producers contacted NAMBLA and inquired whether a member of their organization would be willing to appear on the show, Farrell said. At the time, no one was willing to go. NAMBLA had not heard from the producers since, and Farrell was surprised to see that the organization would be discussed on the program.

The NAMBLA program was aired in New York last night, and earlier in the day Boggs said it would be shown nationwide as well. Boston and a few other stations air the show one business day before the rest of the nation, he said.



Morton Downey Jr., Dr. Joyce Brothers, and Chris Coon '90.

Coon looked for story to get him on talk show

Coon, who has acted in several Dramashop performances and on MIT student cable television, came up with the idea to appear on a "trash TV" talk show after he heard about a couple who faked their way onto the Oprah Winfrey show [see sidebar].

Coon said he, along with Timothy D. Tuttle '90 and Jory D. Bell '89 (also members of the cable group), brainstormed for ideas of possible identities and affiliations.

But Tuttle said it was Coon's

idea to appear on a talk show, and he was involved only after Coon met with a producer of the Downey show. "Where plans were made and concerned I wasn't involved as much as he may say," Tuttle said.

Bell refused to comment.

In order to exploit the "trash TV" format and to challenge his acting abilities, Coon wanted to go on a talk show as a member of the the most outlandish organization he could find. After discarding Satan-worshipping groups as "too common," Coon decided to investigate groups which supported child molesting.

His research lead him to the MIT Humanities Library where he discovered *The Age Taboo*, a collection of essays edited by Daniel Tsang. This book not only laid out the philosophical foundation behind NAMBLA,

but also included an address in the back of the book where the organization could be contacted.

"Freak coincidence" sets up hack

In early November, while attending a student cable television conference at Brown University, Coon, in what he called a "freak coincidence," met a producer of the Morton Downey Jr. show. Coon decided to test the strength of his prank, and mentioned to the producer that he was affiliated with NAMBLA. After a short conversation, the producer encouraged Coon to appear on the show.

Boggs, the producer, confirmed this account. "As soon as I heard he was a member, I tried to get him on the show." He explained that it was difficult to get guests from such organizations. "Four or five phone conversations" ensued, and Coon was finally booked for the show, Boggs said.

"I don't think this guy came to me with the subtext of pulling this off," Boggs said. "My sense is that he is a NAMBLA activist."

A little later in November, Coon said he called up the Downey show and confirmed that he would like to go on the show as a member of NAMBLA. Coon was told by a producer to send in NAMBLA's literature, and the show would consider him.

To obtain the necessary pamphlets and magazines, Coon said he wrote to NAMBLA for information and even went to the home of a NAMBLA member in Queens, NY, to pick up one of NAMBLA's monthly magazines (which Downey tore up on the show). In early December, Coon sent all of his collected informa-

tion to the show.

Another producer contacted Coon in early January to say that the show had received his literature and was interested in having Coon go on the air. But Downey wanted Coon to bring several members of NAMBLA with him to appear in the studio audience. Both Tuttle and Bell refused to go on the show, Coon said, so he told the producer he could not get other NAMBLA members to go on the air.

Tuttle said that in December he "hesitantly" told Coon that he would be willing to appear on the show as a NAMBLA representative, even though he was not member of the organization. But

form available, he said that Coon also used his real last name when dealing with the show.

"The only precaution the Downey people took before allowing me on the set was walking me through a metal detector," Coon said.

When Coon went on the show, he said he felt like he was playing a character. "I was not nervous, but was worried that I would not be able to control my laughter."

Coon, who despises what NAMBLA stands for ("NAMBLA is the worst possible organization around"), felt that the experience was "tremendously funny and ironic" though the questions "caught him off-guard, a bit."

Couple that inspired Coon not sued

By Harold A. Stern

The actors who received nationwide attention after faking their way onto several different afternoon talk shows with a variety of cover stories never faced legal action despite threats from their duped hosts. The story, which broke in August after the appearances in 1986 and 1988, was cited by Christopher Coon '90 as inspiration for his appearance on the "The Morton Downey Jr. Show" as a member of the North American Man-Boy Love Association.

Tani Freerwald, a part-time actress from Chicago, appeared on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" as a woman who hated sex after 14 years of marriage, on "The Sally Jessy Raphael Show" as a paid sex surrogate who "could boost a client's prowess," and on "Geraldo" as a "rescuer of male virgins." Wes Bailey, a friend, posed along with her, as an impotent young married man on "Sally Jessy Raphael" and as a rescued male virgin on "Geraldo."

Although the couple with legal action, no suits were ever filed against them, Bailey said in an interview. Rivers stated later on his show that the pair had signed a release form in which they stated that they would not say anything untrue on the show, Bailey said. But "the form only protected the show from libel suits from the outside," and could not be a basis for legal action against the couple, he said.

"He had no grounds to file action against us," he added.

Burton Joseph, an attorney with the firm of Barcy, Joseph, and Lichtenstein in Chicago who offered legal advice to Bailey, said that although "his [Bailey's] hosts were embarrassed... and they made a lot of threatening gestures, since they suffered no loss or damage... any legal claims they might have made would have been highly speculative."

The release forms which the couple signed only protected the programs from any libelous statements the couple might make on the air, Joseph explained.

Only "words, pictures, or cartoons that expose a person to public hatred, shame, disgrace, or ridicule, or induce an ill opinion of a person" are libelous, according to *The Associated Press Stylebook and Libel Manual*.

Since Freerwald and Bailey made no such statements, they were in no danger, Joseph said.

Tuttle later decided he did not "want to face the hostility of the audience" and refused to appear.

Coon makes appearance

On Feb. 3, Downey's staff called Coon and invited him on the show. Coon agreed to appear. In compensation, the show sent Coon a round-trip airplane ticket and drove him from the airport to the studio in a limousine.

According to Coon, he arrived at the New Jersey studio at around 5 pm on Feb. 7. One of Downey's staff then placed Coon alone in a room to wait until the taping time of 7 pm. Though he requested to mingle with the other guests on the show, Coon was kept by himself in the room until showtime, and was visited twice by a producer. The first time, the producer briefed Coon on his arguments and on the show's format. The second time, the producer gave Coon the show's consent forms to sign.

"Using a pseudonym," Coon signed the Downey show's consent forms which stated that he was telling the truth about his identity and organization, Coon said. Coon did use his real first name on the program, however. While Boggs did not have the

He had expected Downey to ask him more generalized questions about NAMBLA and its beliefs — not such personal questions about his experiences and beliefs.

Ends up defending NAMBLA

Under Downey's personal line of questioning, Coon — who had originally hoped to be as outrageous as possible on the show — toned down his performance, worried about the long-term implications of the consent form and in the short-term "a group of policemen arresting [him] right after the show for [his] purported child-molesting activities."

Tuttle called Coon's appearance "an interesting prank." "It goes to show you who can get on the show if they want to."

Coon said that the experience was "the greatest feeling of power, just like playing a character." The insults from the audience or Downey didn't "affect me because I was a character," he said.

The strangest thing about the entire experience was that "I defended [NAMBLA] better than I intended."

(Editor's note: Seth Gordon, Prabhat Mehta, and Harold A. Stern contributed to this article.)

Excerpts from Morton Downey

(Editor's note: MD is Morton Downey Jr., CC is Christopher F. Coon '90, and A1 and A2 are members of the audience.)

MD: You represent NAMBLA... exactly what does that group stand for?
CC: We are a support and informational organization for men and boys who have relationships with each other. This doesn't necessarily mean sexual, it's just relationships such as friendship or a role model relationship.

MD: Are you a doctor, sir? A psychologist? A psychiatrist?
CC: I don't have to be a psychiatrist. These weasels, they sit in their ivy league towers up in their ivy league universities writing theories about what people are really like.

MD: The press isn't as irresponsible as they always say they are. Come in a while they have some common sense.
CC: When it comes to sensationalistic press, the press, and no disrespect, but trash TV exploits the situation because they like the sensationalism.

MD: Chris, earlier in the show you referred to trash television. When I know that we were going to do this show, I know that would be the first thing that critics would say, another trash TV show. And I would then I would take the high road. If I didn't want to take the high road, or I wouldn't want to talk to you for a minute.

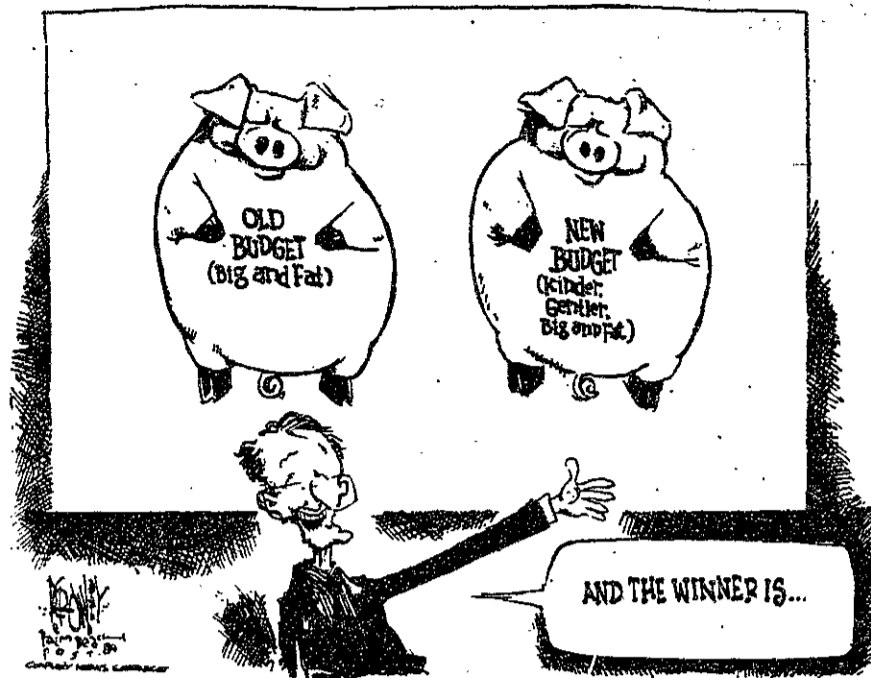
A1: ... You know what they did to Ted Bundy. I'm going to do the same thing to you.
CC: You are the kind of guy who beat out by violence. I bet when you have one think for many you start beating your kids.

A2: And if I had an 11-year-old kid that joined your organization, I think I'd punch him right in the mouth.
CC: NAMBLA members would never harm kids. We believe that any one who would intentionally hurt kids, and that includes people who beat on their kids or even spank their kids, is something wrong with them.

MD: We've spoken to a young man who is a convicted rapist. I mean very intelligent. We have seen him on the news in the work. A rapist.

opinion

feedback



The Tech

Volume 109, Number 5 Tuesday, February 21, 1989

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Pro-Life faces repeated harassment

To the Editor:
 "Harassment of any kind is unacceptable at MIT and is in conflict with the policies and interests of the Institute. . ."
 "Harassment is defined as verbal or physical conduct that has the intent of interfering with any individual's or group's educational and/or work preference at MIT. . ."
 "Harassment on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, handicap, national origin, or sexual orientation includes harassment of an individual in terms of that person's identification with a particular group. . ."

These passages come from page 74 of the MIT Bulletin under "Institute Policy on Harassment." Two recent infractions involving direct attacks on MIT Pro-Life bring about a necessity to remind people of this policy. The first incident took place on Feb. 9 when a band of loud, heckling "pro-choice" henchmen and women launched a staged, verbal terrorist attack on MIT Pro-Life's booth in Lobby 10. The latter had the booth legally reserved and registered with Campus Activities for its Rose Sale.

If the opinions expressed by our group offend anyone, the options in disagreeing with us do not include descending on our booth like vultures and repelling others from approaching it. One member of the group threatened with a grin to have the National Organization for Women join them the following day, in which case the latter would be guilty of harassment and trespassing.

The second blatant insult to MIT Pro-Life came in the form of a slide shown before a Lecture Series Committee movie on Sunday, Feb. 11. It contained the two quotes, "Birth Control is the lesser of two evils" — MIT Pro-Life on abortion" and "Every sperm is sacred" — *Monty Python's Meaning of Life*. This can only be interpreted as a direct, sarcastic attack on the group. I blame the person or group who submitted the defaming slide, and I blame LSC for its gross irresponsibility in showing

Abortion should not be denied in every instance

To the Editor:
 I have never before been privileged to hear so extreme a version of the pro-life view as that written by Chris Papineau ["Abortion is not the answer," Feb. 14]. It was enlightening. I feel that the MIT members of this organization have a genuine concern for human life. They are not like the extremists who bomb Planned Parenthood clinics. Nevertheless, several sections of the column merit response.
 I cannot countenance the vicious and mocking tone of "If one is going to openly exploit one's sexuality," and "Runaway hormones create human life." If the people of pro-life feel that non-marital sexual relations are immoral, that is their concern, but these insulting phrases cloud the issue at hand and alienate some of the very people pro-life wants to reach — namely, young people who are indeed having sexual relations.
 I also have news for the organization. Young women do not have sex, and possibly become pregnant, because of "runaway hormones." Physical desire is a potent force, but the driving need for love, affection or self-esteem is far more powerful. The very

it. It seems that LSC will be a party to any sort of personal vendetta someone wants to launch, provided they have the \$20 to spend. LSC's policy is ridiculous and the use of these slides as a catapult for mud-slinging rather than constructive messages/advertisements is distasteful and irresponsible.

I realize that the imminent pro-life favorable Supreme Court decision has terrified pro-abortionists, and I further realize that it is

this fear which elicits such inane behavior. I can assure the pro-abortionists, that if you reserve your own Lobby 10 booth, MIT Pro-Life will not send a posse of "terminators" in for a Rambo-style siege. So I suggest that if you want to create a scene, please join an actors guild, because doing it at MIT Pro-Life's expense will not be tolerated.

Chris B. Papineau '90
 Assistant Vice President
 MIT Pro-Life

Abortion issue should not be decided in US Supreme Court

To the Editor:
 "Women must have rights over their own bodies." This includes the rights to make all decisions concerning an abortion of her own fetus, Lindsay Hoagland argued in her letter to the editor [Feb. 17]. But by simple extension, this includes the right to fill it with heroin and cocaine. This is not a "right" which is accepted by society at large.

Our society, it is generally agreed, does have the right to limit actions of individuals, even when those actions affect only the individual concerned. Seat belt use, drug use, abortion, commitment of the mentally ill, death of the terminally ill, and many actions of minors are all regulated, although they may not affect anyone else.

Laws concerning these issues are based on community and societal standards of moral behavior. Although the exact limits are often controversial, the fact that such limits exist and are enforced is not controversial.

Fundamental standards such as these should be open to broad public debate and should be enacted by legislatures, not courts. The 1973 Supreme Court decision striking down state laws governing abortion was in many ways a usurpation of legislative authority, discovering in the Constitution a right to an abortion during the first trimester. The reversal of this decision would not, in fact, have drastic consequences. The likely result would

be that conservative states such as Utah would circumscribe abortion on demand, while most others, such as Massachusetts and New York, would not. In addition, flexibility would remain, allowing laws to change as necessary.

Abstinence, contraception, and moral behavior are, in most cases, perhaps a better solution.

John Outwater G

We must not kill if human life is in doubt

To the Editor:
 Richard Lawson, in his letter defending the "pro-choice" position ["No one can be sure when life begins, Feb. 17] misinterprets the position Chris Papineau took in his column ["Abortion is not the answer," Feb. 14], and goes on to state that doubt about a human being's life gives us the right to destroy that human being.
 Papineau did not imply that we must assume he is correct, nor did he assert that we have no choice but to believe life begins at conception. Lawson is likely to agree that we must place limits on the right to destroy humans based upon our beliefs. Papineau merely states that human life is so important that these limits must allow no possibility that we are destroying it.

Joseph Reel '91

girls who turn to sex as a source of the love they miss from their parents are the ones who, left standing alone and pregnant, are tempted to abortion.
 Yes, abortion is an evil. It should never be done for convenience or the smooth running of one's career. Reproduction is a deep responsibility and sometimes, like other natural forces, must be expected to disrupt plans and opportunities. But pro-life is overly fanatic in its campaign against rape and health related abortion.
 Rape is irreversible. The psychological wound never disappears. But only a woman who has been raped can know the horror of bearing the rapist's child — carrying within her every hour, ever second, the reminder of how she was used. Bearing a child whose genetic inheritance carries the mark of his father. Bearing, and possibly raising, the child of her worst enemy. Which, of course, is what it used to be like. A man wanted a woman, and he took her. Perhaps she grew to love him; perhaps she hated him. Regardless, she bore his children. Or if she hated him enough, she found a way to avoid that. I'll spare you the details.
 So a woman can't have an abortion even if death or an extremely defective child is the alternative? My mother would not be dead, and I would not exist, if that were enforced. The "life" of a radiation-deformed fetus was the price of my mother's life, mine and my brother's. I cannot feel too much guilt. How can one be concerned solely with life, without a thought as to the quality of that life? The thousands of people who are putting "no life support" in their wills and other legal papers indicate that there is a point at which mere existence is undesirable.
 Papineau set forth many good points. The pro-life organization should concentrate on convincing people to accept the risks and responsibilities of consenting sex. They should try to halt abortions for convenience. They should work on making adoption and other alternatives accessible to women. They should encourage and facilitate the use of birth control by sexually active teenagers. They should not cling immovably to their extreme stand of "No Abortion — Ever." It is hurting their cause.

Lori L. Zieran '89

news roundup

from the associated press wire

World

Europeans recall diplomats from Iran

In unison, Western Europe is protesting Ayatollah Khomeini's order that British author Salman Rushdie be assassinated for writing *The Satanic Verses*, the novel many Moslems denounce as blasphemous.

The 12 European Community nations have agreed to recall their ambassadors from Iran, and Britain is closing its embassy in Tehran.

Israel, Soviet Union, Egypt engaged in talks

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said he hopes separate talks in Cairo involving Israeli, Soviet, and Egyptian officials may improve ties between Israel and both other nations. Shamir also said the Mideast peace process may be entering a "more intensive stage."

In Egypt, President Hosni Mubarak met separately with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens '47 and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. There's a strong possibility that Shevardnadze could meet separately with Arens and Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat on Wednesday. The Kremlin envoy is pushing forward their proposal for an international conference on Arab-Israeli peace.

Two UN officers wounded in Lebanon

Two Norwegian officers with the United Nations peace-keeping force were wounded by Israeli tank fire, according to a UN official in Lebanon. The official said both are hospitalized and in stable condition. The men were on foot patrol in their area when the tank opened fire. He said the area in southern Lebanon is inside the part of Lebanon which Israel has designated as its security zone.

Two in Japan charged with illegal sale of chemical

Police in Osaka, Japan, said two people have been charged with selling the Soviets a chemical used in missile guidance systems. The officers said they are also accused of forging export documents. Analysts said the compound, which is commonly used in fire extinguishers, can also be used as a coolant in missiles. Exports of the concentrate are prohibited by Japanese law.

IRA claims responsibility for base bombings

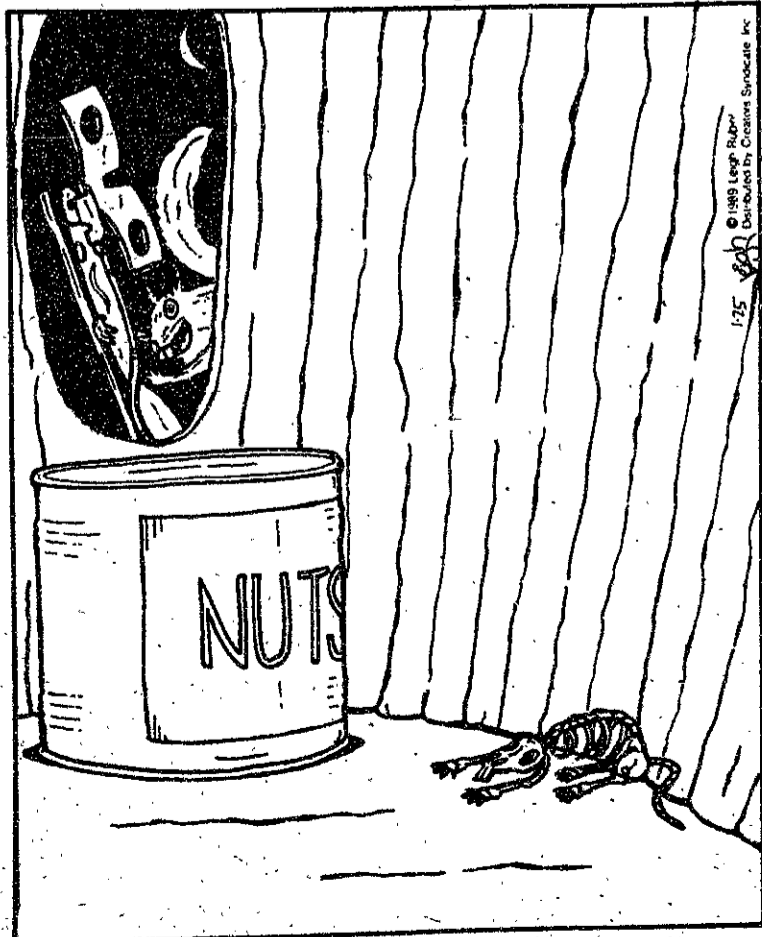
The Irish Republican Army claimed responsibility for a series of explosions at a British army base in western England. The blast took place near Shrewsbury, at the barracks of a crack parachute regiment. A Defense Ministry spokesman reported one soldier was slightly injured. The British Press Association said the regiment was scheduled to return to duty in Northern Ireland later this week.

West German company admits shipping "ecstasy" to US

A West German company already involved in one controversy acknowledged that it produced and shipped an illegal drug to the United States. A spokesman said the firm Imhausen-Chemie sent the amphetamine derivative known as "ecstasy" to America. The same company is suspected of playing a key role in building a poison gas factory in Libya.

Rubes

By Leigh Rubin



"Hey, can you believe it's almost spring?
Bet ya gave up on me!"

Salvadoran rebel wants to delay election

A negotiated peace settlement in El Salvador is possible only if next month's elections are delayed, claimed a leader of the rebel forces. The rebel commander spoke in Mexico yesterday before meeting with representatives of Salvadoran political parties. Rebel forces recently agreed to take part in elections, but only if they are postponed until September.

Nation

Tower nomination fight coming to a head

President George Bush is standing by his nomination of John Tower for Defense Secretary now that he has read the final FBI report. A White House spokesman said the report does not corroborate charges of womanizing or excessive drinking against Tower, and also does not show any problems with illegal campaign contributions.

The two ranking Senate committee members, Chairman Sam Nunn (D-GA) and ranking Republican John Warner of Virginia, are getting a copy of the FBI report.

The senators met with a State Department security officer who had investigated allegations of breaches of security by an arms talk delegation in Geneva in 1986 whose members included Tower, congressional sources reported. The sources said the investigator had already spoken in a House inquiry on a separate matter — but corroborated a report that Tower, while in Geneva, had used his secretaries as mistresses.

Oliver North trial begins today

A federal jury will be sworn in today in the Iran-*contra* trial of fired White House aide Oliver North. The trial had been delayed until the defense, the prosecution and the government worked out a deal on how to handle national security issues that may come up as North presents his defense.

The former Marine lieutenant is accused of 12 criminal offenses, including lying to Congress.

Nine dead in private plane crash

A sheriff's officer in Riverside County, CA said at least nine bodies have been found after a twin-engine private plane crashed about 45 miles from Los Angeles. The craft, which had been provided by a charter outfit, hit the top of a ridge in the Santa Ana mountains while en route from Las Vegas to Orange County.

Local

Dortch to be sworn in

Barbara Dortch is slated to be sworn in this week as the first black woman on the Massachusetts Superior Court bench, replacing retired judge Harry Elam. Dortch has been on the Boston Municipal Court bench. The appointment makes Dortch the highest-ranking black woman in the state's judiciary. She said she hopes her appointment will encourage others to push past barriers.

Tsongas names trust fund panel

The new head of the state Board of Regents has named William Thurston to head a trust fund panel. Thurston heads a three-member group that will map out new guidelines to curb abuse of state college trust funds. Thurston is board chairman of Genrad Company, an electronics firm. Former senator Paul Tsongas said stories about misuse of the funds cuts into public confidence in state colleges. He said it hampers understanding of the bigger story, which is the need for public education.

Cookie store clerk fatally stabbed

According to police, Navine Giri, 22, was found dead late Sunday night at the Mrs. Fields cookie store on Charles Street. A cash drawer was also missing from the store. A police spokesman said the victim had been stabbed once in the heart. The victim was apparently talking on the phone with his wife at around 7 pm when he said he had to take another call. When the victim never called his wife back she became concerned and called police and the store manager. Police found the store locked and the victim dead in a back room.

Stray moose seeks companionship from mares

A moose has been keeping a vigil next to the pasture of several female horses in Newburgh, ME. But the owner of the horse farm figured the moose was more in need of companionship than love.

John Calderwood said the yearling moose showed up at a neighbor's farm on Thursday and moved closer to the mares in Calderwood's pasture Sunday morning. Calderwood said the moose hasn't left his farm since then, and it looks like he's not ready to leave now.

Louvre closed for renovations

Visitors can't get into the Louvre for now; the French museum has closed for five weeks while workers complete an \$850 million expansion. But when it reopens, tourists should find the going much easier. The project includes the installation of electronic panels to guide visitors through the labyrinthine corridors in which tourists regularly lost their way.

New INS proposal announced

It'll be "in you come" or "out you go" under a program announced yesterday by the federal Immigration and Naturalization service. The INS has a proposal for on-the-spot decisions about political asylum cases that could result in the immediate arrest of those whose applications are denied.

The proposal, which is to handle the swelling influx of Central Americans into southern Texas, was announced in Brownsville. Under the plan, those who are denied asylum would be placed in deportation proceedings — but will get a second chance for asylum when their cases go before an immigration judge. As a result, more jails will be built in southern Texas to hold people who are turned down pending their appeal or deportation.

Bush should have taken over after Reagan assassination attempt

Former White House physician Daniel Ruge said he thinks George Bush should have assumed power after the assassination attempt on Ronald Reagan in 1981. Ruge said he felt the situation demanded a transfer of power from the president to the vice president under the 25th amendment. Ruge, however, said this is hindsight — at the time, he was preoccupied with the condition of the president.

Sports

Oklahoma overcomes #1 jinx

For the first time in five weeks, a team put in two straight appearances atop the Associated Press college basketball poll. The Oklahoma Sooners picked up 61 out of a possible 65 first-place votes in the balloting by a nationwide panel of sportscasters and writers. Two newcomers made the top 20 this week: St. Mary's of California at 19th, and Ball State was 20th.

Arizona, the number one club two weeks ago, remained in the second slot this week. Georgetown moves up a notch to third, while Indiana leapfrogged from ninth to fourth. North Carolina jumped from eighth to fifth. Syracuse, Missouri, Louisville, Duke, and Illinois comprise the second five.

West Virginia, riding the crest of a 21-game winning streak, checks in at number 11. The Mountaineers are followed by Florida State, Michigan, Iowa, Seton Hall, Stanford, North Carolina State, and the University of Nevada at Las Vegas.

Weather

Wet, windy, wild, and mild

It appears as if New England is in for a bout of rather wet weather for the next couple of days. Low pressure developing in the Ohio Valley will track northeast — passing west of our area late tonight. The low's attendant cold front will pass offshore early Wednesday and a series of low pressure waves will ride along the front, prolonging our rain. Another period will occur late Wednesday into Thursday as a low develops off the southeastern US and heads northeast. With cold air pressing in from the north and abundant moisture from the south, heavy snow and rain will fall across New England. Yet another period of precipitation may occur from Thursday into Friday as a frontal wave passes east of the area.

Today: Cloudy, breezy, and mild with rain. High near 53-58°F (12-14°C).

Tonight: Mostly cloudy with rain continuing. Rain may be heavy at times. Low 47-52°F (8-11°C). Winds south 10-20 mph.

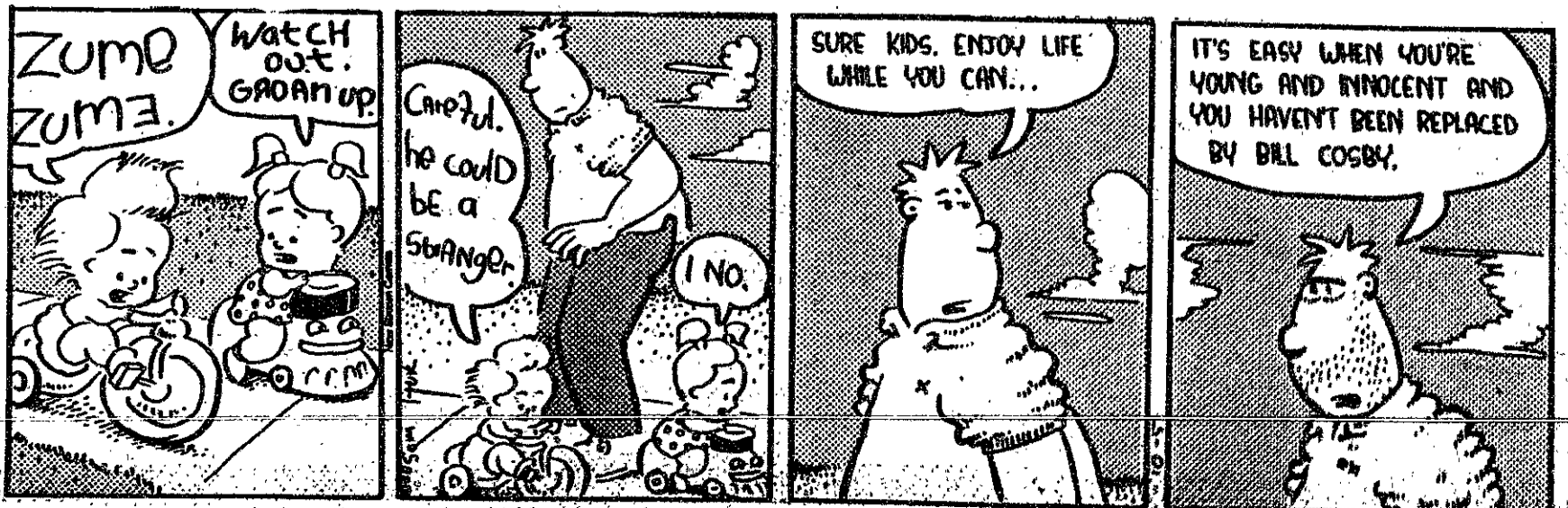
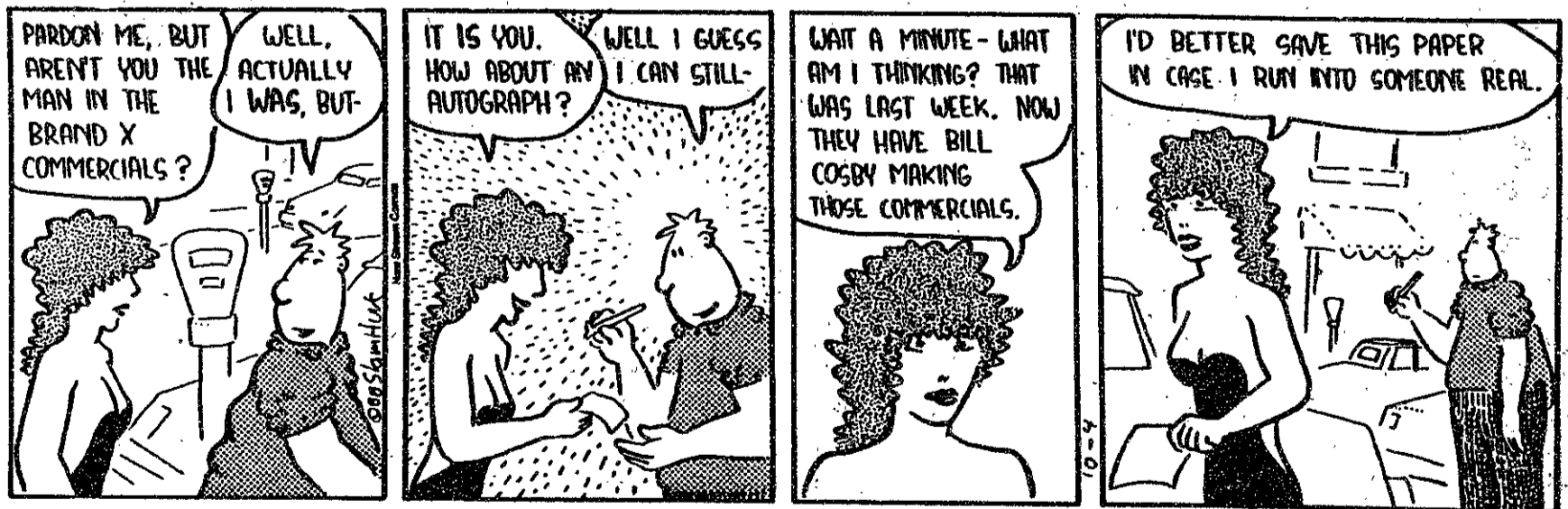
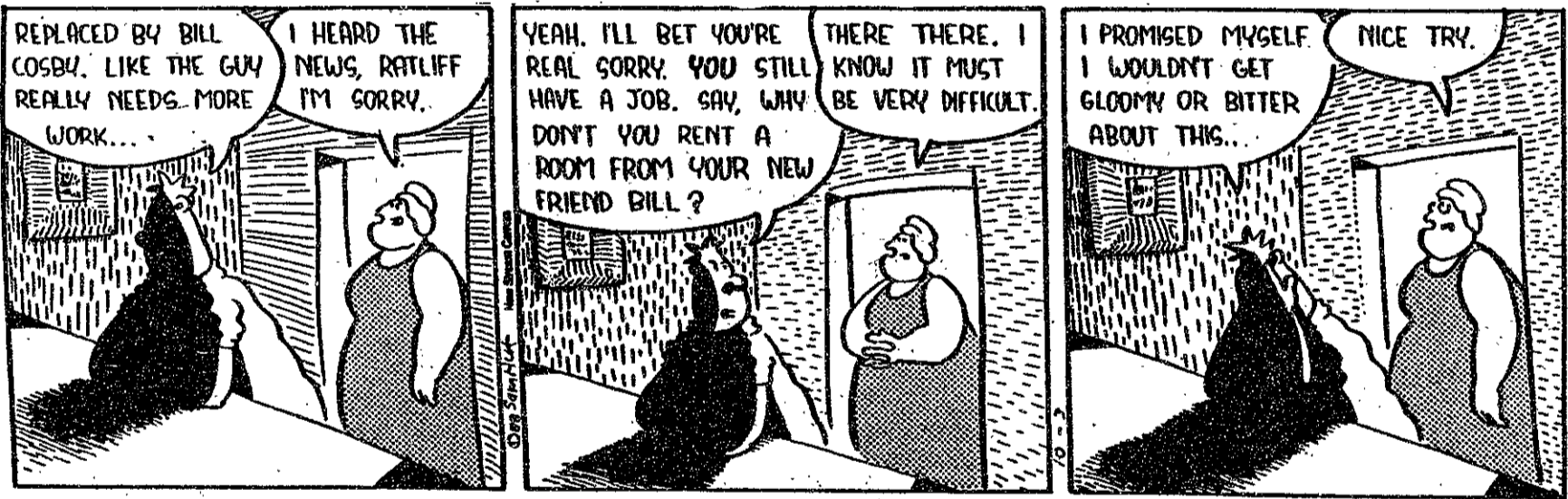
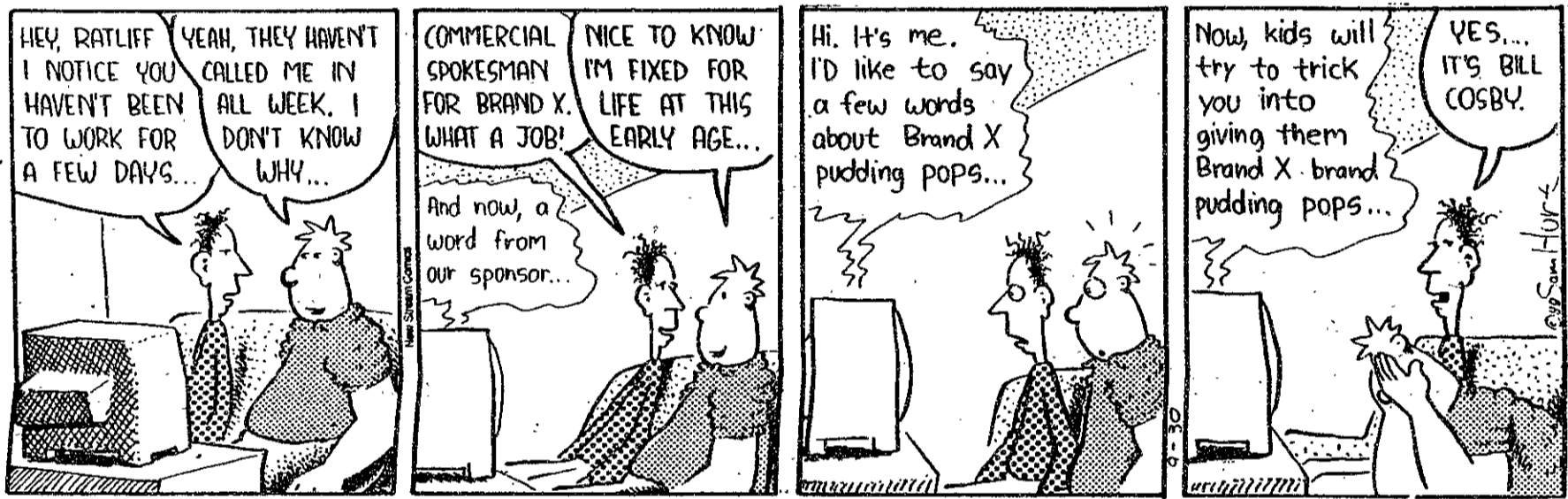
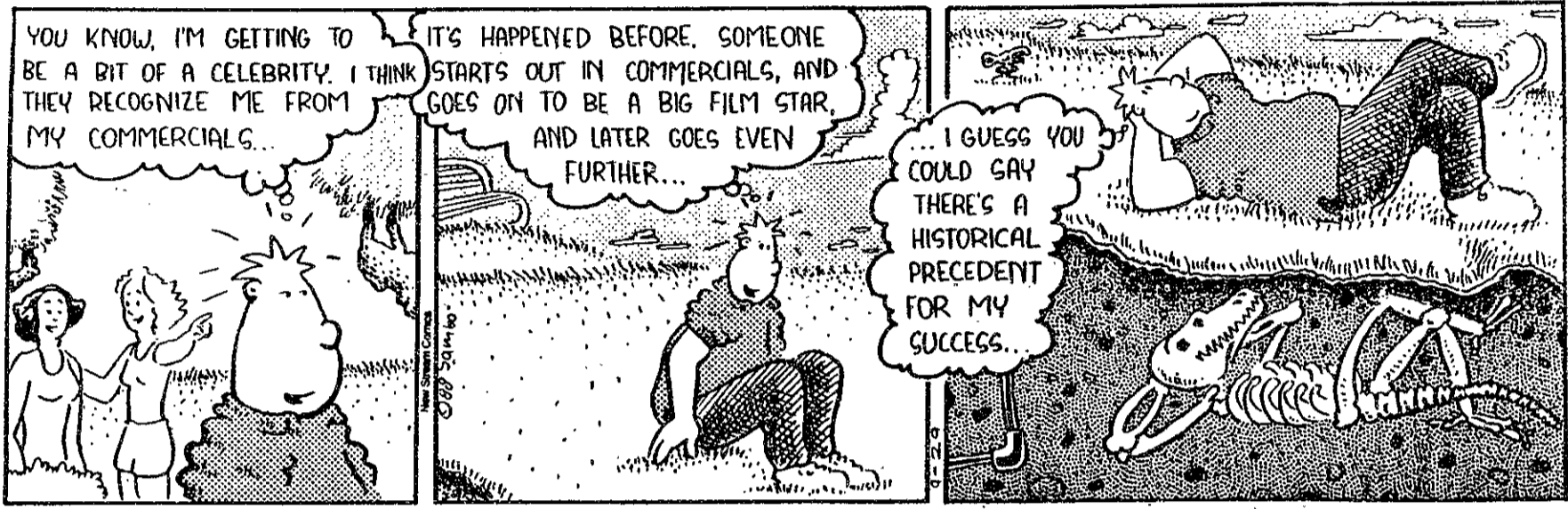
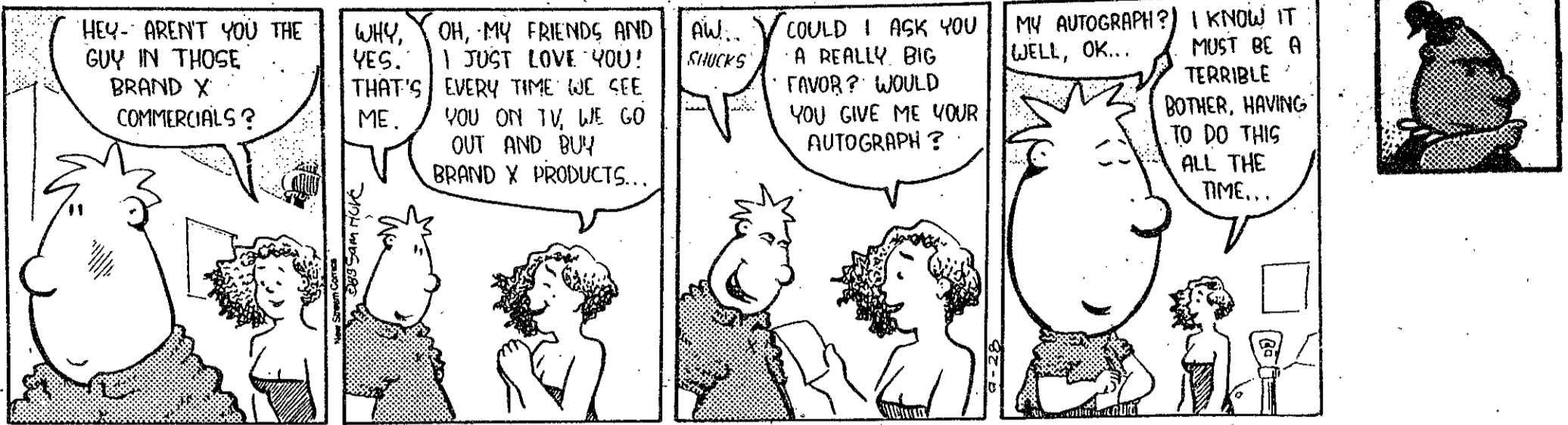
Wednesday: Cloudy with more rain. Temperatures falling into the 30s. Winds shifting to north-northwest at 10-20 mph.

Thursday: Rain heavy and early — possibly mixing with or changing to snow before ending. High in the 30s. Low in the 20s.

Forecast by Michael C. Morgan

Compiled by Marie E. V. Coppola and Harold A. Stern

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By Sam Fort

