

Eastern Illinois University

## The Keep

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The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)

The Post Amerikan Project

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3-1982

## Volume 10, Number 10

Post Amerikan

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porn; planting; parking; propaganda; pizza

# POST-AMERICAN

Bloomington-Normal

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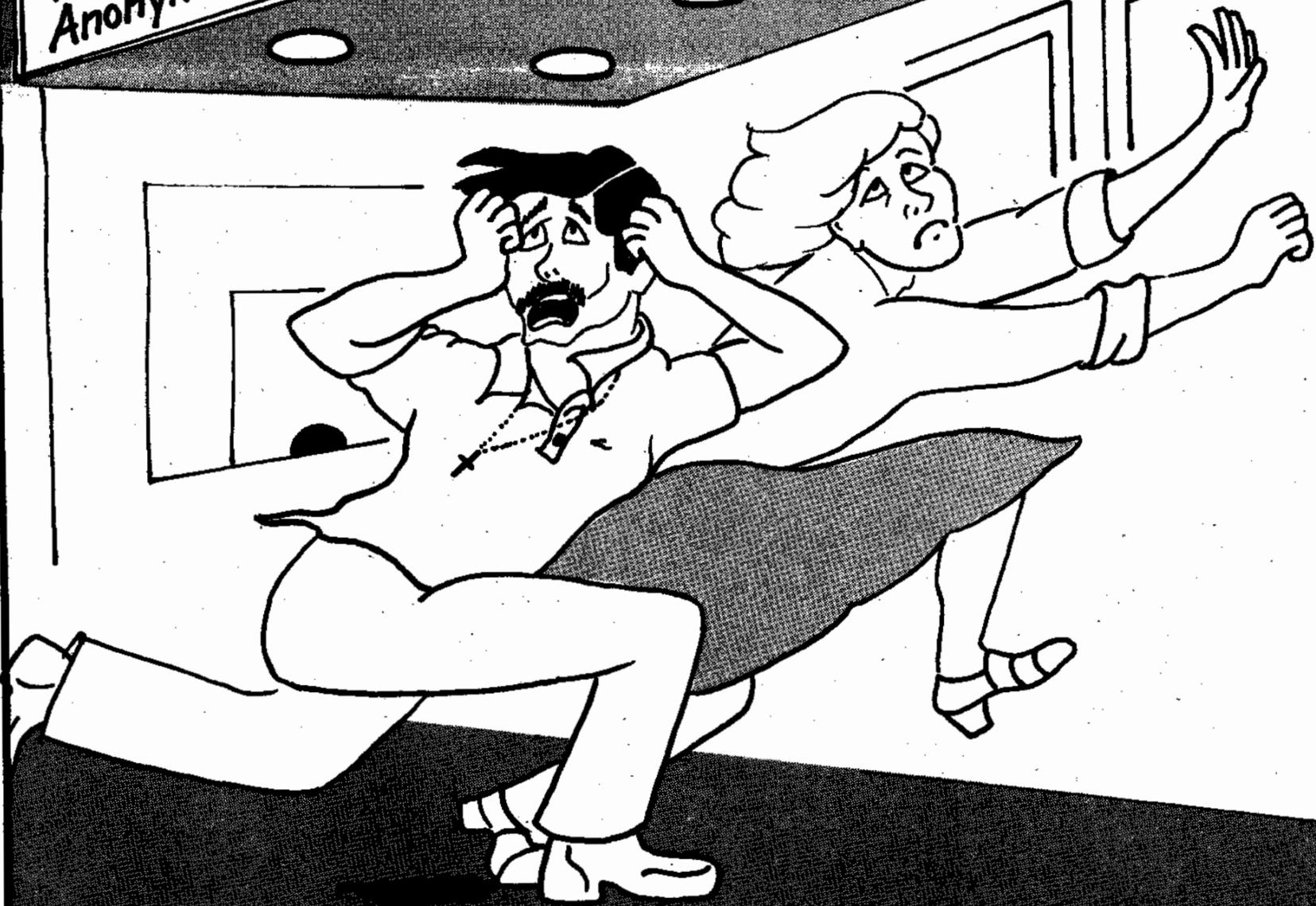
Vol. 10 No. 10

March 1982

# PALACE

"A public nuisance... trash  
... a morbid interest in  
nudity..." all in  
Anonymous Darkness!!

# XXX CITY OF PORN



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Anybody who reads this paper can tell the type of stuff we print. All worthwhile material is welcome. We try to choose articles that are timely, relevant, informative, and not available in other local media. We will not print anything racist, sexist or ageist.

Most of our material and inspiration for material comes from the community. We encourage you, the reader, to become more than a reader. We welcome

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Amtrak station, 1200 W. Front  
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Bus Depot, 523 N. East  
Common Ground, 516 N. Main  
Discount Den, 207 N. Main  
Gene's Drive-in, 1019 S. Main  
Haag Drugstore, 509 W. Washington  
K-Mart, at parking lot entrance off  
of Empire  
Kroger's, 1110 E. Oakland  
Last Page, 416 N. Main  
Law & Justice Center, West Front  
Main and Front, southwest corner  
Main and Washington, northeast corner  
Medusa's Adult World, 420 N. Madison  
Mel-O-Cream Doughnuts, 901 N. Main  
Mike's Market, 1013 N. Park  
Mr. Donut, 1310 E. Empire  
My Place, 424 N. Main  
Pantagraph (in front of building),  
301 W. Washington  
The Park Store, Wood and Allin  
Red Fox, 918 W. Market  
Small Changes Bookstore, 409A N. Main  
Steak n Shake, Locust and Clinton  
U.S. Post Office, 1511 E. Empire (at  
exit)  
U.S. Post Office, Center and Monroe  
Wash House, 609 N. Clinton  
Washington & Clinton, southeast corner

### NORMAL

Alamo II, 319 North (in front)  
Blue Dahlia, 121 E. Beaufort  
Bowling & Billiards Center, ISU  
Cage, ISU University Union  
Dairy Queen, 1110 S. Main  
Drastic Plastic Records, 115 North  
Eisner's, East College & Towanda (at  
College entrance)  
Fink's, 111 E. Beaufort (in front)  
Midstate Truck Plaza, U.S. 51 north  
Mother Murphy's, 111½ North  
North & Broadway, southeast corner  
Old Main Bookstore, 207 S. Main  
Record Service, Watterson Place  
Redbird IGA, 301 S. Main  
Upper Cut, 318 Kingsley  
White Hen Pantry, 207 Broadway (in  
front)

### OUTTA TOWN

Urbana, Horizon Bookstore, 517 S.  
Goodwin  
Blackburn College Bookstore,  
Carlinville, Illinois

## good numbers

Alcoholics Anonymous 828-5049  
American Civil Liberties Union 454-1787  
CETA 827-4026  
Clare House (Catholic Workers) 828-4035  
Community for Social Action 452-4867  
Connection House 829-5711  
Countering Domestic Violence 827-4005  
Department of Children and Family  
Services 828-0022  
Department of Health, Education and  
Welfare (Social Security) 829-9436  
Department of Mental Health 828-4311  
Draft Counseling 452-5046, 828-4035  
Gay People's Alliance (ISU) 828-9085  
God 800-JC5-1000 (in New Jersey, 201-  
555-1212)  
HELP (transportation for handicapped  
and senior citizens) 828-8301  
Illinois Lawyer Referral Service  
800-252-8916  
Kaleidoscope 828-7346  
McLean County Economic Opportunity  
Corporation 829-1921  
McLean County Health Dept. 829-3363

Mobile Meals (for shut-ins) 828-8301  
National Health Care Services (abortion  
assistance in Peoria) 691-9073  
National Runaway Switchboard 800-621-  
4000; in Illinois 800-972-6004  
Occupational Development Center  
828-7324  
PATH (Personal Assistance Telephone  
Help) 827-4005 or 800-322-5015  
Parents Anonymous 827-4005 (PATH)  
Planned Parenthood 827-8025  
Post-Amerikan 828-7232  
Prairie State Legal Services 827-5021  
Project Oz 827-0377  
Public Aid, McLean County 827-4621  
Rape Crisis Center 827-4005 (PATH)  
Small Changes Bookstore 829-6223  
Sunnyside Neighborhood Center 827-5428  
TeleCare 828-8301  
Unemployment Compensation/Job Service  
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United Farmworkers Support Group  
452-5046  
Women's Switchboard 800-927-5404

### Supreme Court says ...

## Don't bother us with the constitution

Bet you thought the Supreme Court decided constitutional issues. Well, guess again. In a recent decision, a slim majority of the high court virtually ignored the First Amendment's concern for the separation of church and state and, in effect, told citizens to quit bothering the federal courts with trivial things like the Constitution and the general welfare of the country.

On Jan. 12, the Court ruled, 5-4, that a group called Americans United for Separation of Church and State has no legal standing to block transfer of 77 acres worth \$1.3 million to the Valley Forge Christian College. The college is run by the fundamentalist Assemblies of God.

Although Americans United charged that the gift of former Army hospital grounds to the sectarian Pennsylvania school violates the Constitution, the Court's decision sidestepped the church-state issue and instead focused on the technical question of whether members of the citizens group had suffered any real harm by the transfer.

The group had argued that the transfer infringed on their constitutional rights as taxpayers and citizens, and the U.S. 3rd Circuit Court of Appeals had ruled that they could proceed as "citizens with a shared individuated right" to see that the First Amendment was honored.

### Judicial jargon

In reversing the Circuit Court's ruling, the Supreme Court criticized the appeals court for taking an "unusually broad and novel view" of the doctrine of legal standing, which is judicial jargon for the right of access to the federal courts.

Justice William Rehnquist, writing for the majority, said the plaintiffs had failed to allege "an injury of any kind, economic or otherwise, sufficient to convey standing." The claim that the government had violated the establishment of religion clause in the First Amendment "does not provide a special license to roam the country in search of governmental wrongdoing and to reveal their discoveries in federal courts," wrote Rehnquist. "The federal courts were simply not constituted as ombudsmen of the general welfare."

In other words, the government can turn the whole country into one big revival meeting and the Supreme Court won't do diddly-squat unless somebody can show an "injury," preferably economic.

### Slam the door shut

In a sharply worded dissent, Associate Justice William Brennan accused the majority of using the "rhetoric" of legal technicality to avoid dealing with the substantial issues. He blasted the court for being "plainly hostile to the Framers' understanding" of the constitutional separation of church and state. The majority uses the argument of legal standing "to slam the courthouse door" against plaintiffs entitled to full consideration of claims, said Brennan.

He was joined in the dissent by justices Marshall and Blackmun. In a separate dissent, Justice Paul Stevens said the effect of the decision was "to trivialize the standing doctrine."

Solicitor General Rex Lee called the ruling the most significant decision in a decade on the right to sue. "It will substantially affect the extent to which citizens can raise public-interest issues in court," he said.

That's about the size of it, Rex. ●

--Ferdydurke

Sources: Facts on File, 22 Jan. 1982;  
Detroit Free Press, 13 Jan. 1982.

**Clinton nuke**

# Planning Commission downplays nuke waste danger

In their Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the Clinton Nuclear Power Plant, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and Illinois Power Company (IPC) conclude (naturally) that the facility is safe, and will have minimal impact on the environment.

I wasn't surprised to see both the NRC and IPC downplay the dangers of the plant's operation.

But I was surprised that a report produced by the McLean County Regional Planning Commission downplayed the nuke's dangers even more.

In the entire 2-inch-thick Draft Environmental Impact Statement, only one paragraph deals with the hazards of transporting nuclear waste away from the Clinton plant. (There's no hazard; it's safe, the NRC and IPC say.)

In a six-page review and summary of the environmental impact statement, the Regional Planning Commission goes even further: "Hot (used) fuel is not expected to pass through McLean County because the route used for transportation of the used fuel is away from McLean County."

**Not true**

"That's just not true," says Brian Crissey of Prairie Alliance. "No one knows where the waste will be sent, because the whole issue is still up in the air."

Used radioactive fuel has been building up at on-site storage areas at nuclear plants all over the county, while politicians try to figure out where to put it all.

"The Morris, Illinois, site is considered the most likely to be selected as a national storage facility," Crissey said.

If Morris becomes the dump for off-site storage of nuclear waste, spent fuel from the Clinton plant will travel right through McLean County.

The environmental impact statement pro-



duced by the NRC and IPC never says where Clinton's waste will or will not travel.

So why does the Planning Commission's document maintain we won't see the waste traveling through McLean County?

**Wrong way, trooper**

Planner John Johnston wrote the Review and Summary for the Planning Commission. While working on the document, Johnston went over to talk with Al Thomas, director of the county's civil defense and emergency services. A state trooper, whose name Johnston can't remember, was hanging out in Thomas' office. The state trooper told Johnston that the route for transportation of spent fuel from Clinton leads away from McLean County.

In the Planning Commission's 6-page Review and Summary, the state trooper's information is presented without attribution. If I hadn't asked about it, I would have thought it was part of the information in the NRC/IPC environmental impact statement.

Johnston believes that transporting nuclear waste is not hazardous, and that it's even less hazardous because Clinton's wastes won't pass through McLean County.

He's wrong on both counts.

A December, 1981, Chicago Tribune story reported that an unpublished government study labeled regulations on the transport of nuclear waste "primitive." The Tribune said the report, by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), points to the increasing likelihood of accidents in the transport of nuclear material.

Planner Johnston told me about tests of the casks used to ship nuclear waste, where they've withstood collisions of 80 miles an hour.

Those tests, however, have been heavily criticized. Even the railroad industry, the Tribune article says, is so skeptical of the results that they won't accept the casks on freight trains.

**Death**

If only 1 per cent of the contents of one cask of spent fuel were to escape, the NAS study said, thousands of people would die.

That's quite a potential environmental impact, but one wouldn't know anything about it from reading the Regional Planning Commission's assessment of the Clinton nuke's operation.

Almost two hundred local governments have banned shipment of nuclear waste through their jurisdictions. Another two hundred require prior notification before allowing spent fuel to be shipped.

If the McLean County Regional Planning Commission had acknowledged the potential dangers of Clinton's wastes passing through our county, maybe our local government would have been encouraged to take action, too. ●

--Mark Silverstein

**Informers revealed**

## If you can't beat 'em, join 'em

In Oct. 1976 Tamara Glaser and several hundred other Bloomington residents joined together in a march against MEG in downtown Bloomington, protesting the undercover narcs' spying into our personal lifestyles.

Glaser and her friends were enthusiastic supporters of the march. In the weeks

preceding the demonstration, Glaser and her friends would stop by the Post-American office, pick up leaflets and pass them out, urging people to attend the event.

By 1981, MEG was still around. So was Tamara Glaser. Only now she was working for the undercover narcs, as Confiden-

tial Source #280.

Glaser continued to use illegal drugs herself as she helped MEG bust her friends for using illegal drugs. But that's not unusual--most of MEG's snitches do the same.

According to testimony Glaser gave to a grand jury in August 1981, her snitch career began when Bloomington police Lt. Sprague approached her about working for MEG.

Bloomington police had busted Glaser for possession of a controlled substance. But those charges were never even filed, Glaser told the grand jury, apparently because she immediately agreed to cooperate with police.

Tamara told the grand jury that her brother, Pete Glaser, also worked as a MEG snitch for a short time. ●

--Mark Silverstein

## Council rejects alternate side parking

Last issue's cover story blasting Bloomington City Manager Bill Vail's new parking plan for Bloomington did the job.

Before we were even finished distributing the paper Jan. 25, the Bloomington council voted, 6-2, to kill Vail's proposal, which would have required residents to park on one side of the street on odd-numbered days,

the other side on even-numbered days.

For areas of town without much off-street parking, Vail had proposed tearing down a house on every block.

The issue was controversial enough that the council rushed the plan to a hasty death--the matter hadn't even been on the agenda that night. ●

# Something's wrong at Practical

When Sandy Rost, a divorced woman in her 30s, was told that she certainly could not be addressed at school as Ms--she had to be Mrs.--she knew something was wrong.

When she wrote  $\frac{1}{4} = .25$  on a fraction-to-decimal conversion test and got points taken off for "not showing her work," she knew something was wrong.

When a classmate's doctor insisted that she drop out of school because it was dangerously raising her blood pressure, Sandy knew something was wrong.

When the nutrition teacher acted like Sandy was a kook when she questioned the appropriateness of future nurses selling candy to raise money for their class, she knew something was wrong.

And when time came around for check of shoelace cleanliness . . . well . . .

### Submission to absurdity

But she made it. Sandy Rost (not her real name) graduated from Bloomington School of Practical Nursing (BSPN) last year after 12 months of training in submission to absurdity.

"Looking back now, I can't believe that I did it," she says. "It was worse than any school I've ever been to."

The instructors at BSPN are registered nurses, but aren't required to have any teacher training. "Their methods are . . . well, there aren't any."

Sandy remembers being flabbergasted the first time her teacher "screamed at the class for not doing well on a test." Bullying and fear, she says, were the motivational techniques most prevalent.

Students lived in fear of not passing tests because their scores determined whether they could stay in school or not. Throughout the year, they took a series of tests, each of which they had to pass or get kicked out of school. Some people were kicked out two weeks before graduation.

### Arbitrary and bizarre

There was absolutely no arguing over the scoring of a test, Sandy says, even though they were often ill-constructed, arbitrary, and bizarre. For example, on one test the students had to write the definition of dangling, which is "sitting the patient on the edge of the bed with the legs and feet hanging over the edge and moving." Students who left out the words "and feet" got the question entirely wrong, even though they argued that feet were generally attached to legs. The definitions all had to be given exactly as they were read out in class.

Students who were excellent memorizers had an advantage over others, but even they could not feel confident that they'd pass the tests.

On one of the required tests, the students were given outlines of three syringes and instructed to "with a back and forth motion, blacken them in lightly" to a given level. Sandy got the correct levels but had points taken off for blackening in two of them too darkly. Another student flunked out of school for points taken off because she blackened them in with an up-and-down rather than a back-and-forth motion.

Why do students go through this? "There isn't any other school, and they've got your money," Sandy says. BSPN is the only school in this area. And the tuition--over \$1200--is only refundable in the first week of school, during which the students have no taste of the treatment they're in for.

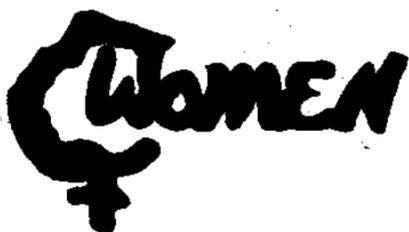
The commitment--of money (tuition plus the hidden costs of uniforms and supplies), effort ("I came home from school each night, had dinner, and studied straight until I went to bed for a year"), and time--keeps students in when they might otherwise throw the silly thing over.

Also, many of the students are people like Sandy, who need a stable career but haven't the time or money to put into a college degree (or another degree--Sandy already had a college degree when she went into practical nursing). So their motivation to make it is very high.

### Few make it

Nonetheless, even with all this motivation, some of the ratios of students entering and graduating from the program over the past few years are 33 entering with 11 graduating, 36 entering with 18 graduating, and an unusually high 34 entering with 25 graduating.

Those ratios, Sandy points out, do not at all reflect the ratio of competent to incompetent students. She thinks that the fat, the middle-aged, and the "just plain 'different'" students had a harder time of it than the young, more conforming students. "It was all so subtle, though," she remarked. "The evaluations were so subjective, they would never show exactly why you



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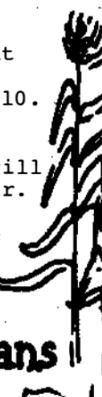
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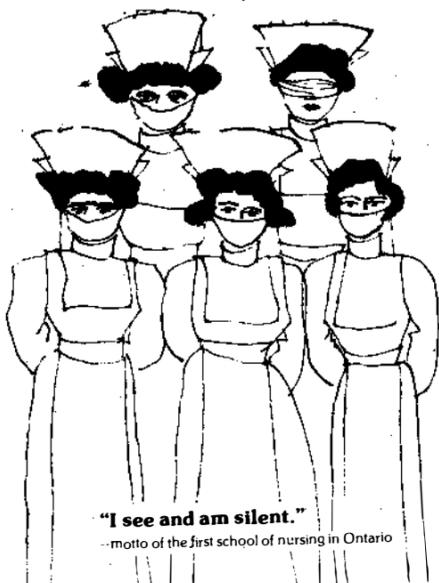
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# Bloomington School of Nursing



were getting low points. Prejudices could be hidden behind some other criticism."

The program had no consideration for the students' differing life situations, which made it exceptionally difficult for single mothers of young children (exactly the type of person who needs and wants this kind of training). "They didn't tell us until two weeks in advance that a week of our work in the hospitals would be on the 3 to 11 shift, which meant a lot of hassles for the mothers who had set up regular child care schedules."

### Outdated ideas

Besides these kinds of difficulties, Sandy is troubled by the outdated materials, techniques, and ideas at BSPN. The psychology course still teaches that homosexuality is a

mental illness--a theory rejected even by the conservative American Psychiatric Association since 1971. The students learned a preparation for childbirth which included shaving the entire pubic area, a practice which is no longer common in hospitals.

The materials which the students had to rigorously study and memorize are no longer in use. One of Sandy's instructors, while teaching them about a certain instrument, said, "You'll probably never see one of these again" --and taught and tested them on it anyway.

A good deal of the problem here, Sandy says, stems from the fact that the teachers "desperately need floor experience in hospital. When I was in school, it had been four to seventeen years since any of my teachers had actually done nursing work. Things have changed a lot."

### Only one way

Not only equipment has changed, but attitudes too. At school, students were taught that there is one and only one way to do each thing, and any irregularity is so severely reprimanded that "We were all totally paranoid of doing one thing wrong."

Sandy remembers her surprise when she began work at a hospital and observed two nurses perform the same procedure in two different ways. She was even more surprised when one of them said, "Oh, everyone has their own way of doing it." At work, Sandy says, if the end result is satisfactory, the procedure is whatever each nurse thinks best; at school, one of the tests asked, "When you make a bed, which side do you start on?" The students were led to believe that they would face this rigid, inflexible

attitude in the working world, and they do not. "It's a lot easier to learn things at work because you aren't terrified of being yelled at or flunked out."

The most serious effect of her training, and one that Sandy says other BSPN graduates complain of too, is that they find themselves at work unable to make decisions. "We had our damn shoelaces checked to make sure they were clean," she says, "but I can't interpret, I can't make judgments I need to make. I'm too scared. I know the exact procedure for suctioning (mechanically assisting a patient's breathing), but I can't tell whether a patient needs it or not. And I should be able to."

### Trained robots

"At school, everyone's so paranoid about doing something wrong, we're constantly directed, and now we don't know what to do with no one there to tell us. We were trained to be robots."

Of course, work experience will give the BSPN graduates more judgment and self-confidence--but your training should not be something you have to overcome when you go out to work. To be fair, BSPN classes do exceptionally well on the State Board examination--only 5 or 6 have failed in the school's 17-year history. "But that's paper and pencil knowledge," Sandy says. "That's not all you need. And the Boards don't ask any of those asinine questions, either."

Sandy says she's heard that local doctors donate generously to BSPN. "I wonder if they know what's going on there. If they did, I wonder if they'd still give money." ●

--Phoebe Caulfield

## Thicker than water

The American Association of Bloodbanks recently dismissed Tony Randall as a public-service-announcement spokesman for the Philadelphia-based organization when it was learned by the AAB that the actor would be portraying a closeted homosexual in the tv-sitcom series *Love, Sidney*.

Randall, a self-described heterosexual --who wasn't giving blood in the first place--was told that his services would no longer be needed because it was contrary to the associations's policy to "take blood from homosexuals."

Gil Clark, AAB executive director, later denied the statement, saying "People are confusing the moral with the medical." When pressed to explain what, exactly, the medical implications were, Clark would only reply, "No comment." ●

--The Advocate (21 Jan. 1982)



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# Councils ok public access tv

After a joint meeting of the Bloomington and Normal city council gave their informal approval, it looks like the coast is clear for funding a TV studio for members of the public to make their own shows for cable TV.

After 10 months of studying the possibilities of a public access channel and public access programming, the cities' Joint Cable Television Committee recommended going ahead.

While negotiating for its new 15-year franchise last year Telecable agreed to provide a public access channel if the cities wanted one. But Telecable was in such a hurry to get its franchise that the company agreed to put up \$150,000 for the channel, sign the franchise, and work out the details of public access later. Telecable even agreed to negotiate in good faith if the \$150,000 didn't turn out to be enough.

The Joint Cable Television Committee was assigned to decide whether there should be public access. If the answer was yes, the committee was also supposed to decide where to locate a studio, what equipment to buy, and how the studio should operate.

To cover the annual salary and help with other expenses, the committee recommends asking Telecable for an additional \$26,000 a year.

The additional \$26,000, the committee calculated, comes to only 6¢ per subscriber per month--not enough to give Telecable an excuse to increase rates.



Educational & Industrial TV/cpf

Here are some of the types of programming that community groups suggested might be telecast on the access channel:

Programs about severe weather, a community news program, crime and justice information programs, public health programs, emergency preparedness programs, adult education classes, crime prevention programs, arts and crafts programs, and a weekly talk show about Bloomington-Normal.

In a survey of local residents, 72% thought that a public access channel would benefit the community. Even more than 72% said they would watch the channel when some of the specific programs were mentioned.

## Controversy

Most of the possible programs the committee mentioned dealt with mild neutral type subjects that are not likely to spark controversy. Almost all the community groups contacted by the committee are the type that are highly unlikely to produce anything even mildly controversial.

One of the committee's reports said that a Planned Parenthood program on Decatur's public access channel was considered controversial. The committee's report went on to suggest that the public access channel should deliberately steer clear of anything controversial.

Wrong.

When the Federal Communications Commission first required cable TV companies to provide a public access channel, its primary purpose was to guarantee a space which would actively encourage wide diversity in opinion and content.

The FCC prohibited cable companies from interfering with the content of public access programming, except for making sure that obscenity and lottery information were not broadcast.

(Cable companies, including Telecable, attempted to interfere with content anyway. But that is another story, which you can read about in Post-Amerikan Vol X #2.)

A few years ago, the Supreme Court ruled that the FCC couldn't force cable com-

Cont. next page....

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The studio will be at Illinois State University, which already has television facilities. An ISU faculty member will work half time to provide technical assistance to members of the public producing programs.

About \$100,000 initially will be spent on studio equipment, including some portable video cameras. The rest of the money will be invested, with the interest used to pay annual expenses for videotape and other supplies.

The committee's plan calls for a Bloomington-Normal Public Access Television Board to oversee the operation of the public access channel. To deal with the channel's day-to-day operations, the board will hire a full-time person knowledgeable in video, who will coordinate programs, work with community groups, and even help with actual production.

The channel won't be available until Telecable completes its system-wide expansion to 20 channels. Cable customers will have to pay a one-time fee of \$25 to get a converter which will enable them to receive the extra channels.

## Community response

To determine whether Bloomington-Normal could use a public access channel, the committee commissioned a study (natch). Ninety-one per cent of the leaders of community groups interviewed said they would like to make use of public access television. Their primary hesitations were possible expense and their organizations' lack of technical know-how about program production.

Under the committee's plan, users of the channel will get technical help. And there will be no charge for broadcasting time.

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## Police propaganda on public access

Some analysts of the future development of cable television fear that use of local access channels by government could lead to self-serving propaganda programs.

A memo written by Bloomington Police Chief Donald Story shows that some of those anxieties are not off-base.

"Public Access TV offers the capacity to reach many people with informative programs about the Criminal Justice System and how it works," Story's memo begins.

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March, 1982



"Everybody said I should go into show business but my heart was in police work."

panies to maintain public access channels. But cities, in their franchise agreements with the cable companies, can still require public access.

Telecable's franchise requires the cable company to provide the public access channel. But instead of the FCC making the rules about who can use the channel and what they must be permitted to say, it's now up to the cities of Bloomington and Normal.

The Public Access Television Board should establish strict guidelines to prevent the full-time coordinator or the cable company from interfering in the content of public access programming.

Under the old FCC guidelines, any member of the public could get up to

"Public access is also valuable in discrediting some of the myths and misconceptions that abound. Commercial television networks and popular literature have provided distorted views of law enforcement and other aspects of the CJS," Story continued.

Good. Some police-produced programs about police ought to clear up some of those distortions produced by biased media. ●

--M.S.

five minutes of public access time for free, on a first-come first-served basis. (After five minutes, the cable company could charge a minimal fee for its employees' time.)

During this time, a citizen could read, for example, an entire issue of the Post-Amerikan on TV. The FCC required that the cable company telecast every rant and rave, every character assassination, every blistering attack on respectable pillars of the community.

The guidelines established by the Public Access Television Board should preserve the spirit of the original FCC concept of public access programming, by being similarly supportive of free expression. ●

--Mark Silverstein

Jacks up power,  
goes 24 hours

## WESN goes big time!

Having just begun broadcasting 24 hours per day, with new and superior stereo wattage, WESN-FM (88.1) has implemented its musical programming with a nightly 3-hour show featuring the best in progressive and alternative music. Featuring different hosts each evening, the show can be heard from nine to midnight, 7 nights a week.

WESN, on the campus of Illinois Wesleyan University, has been operating for 10 years now, but because it only transmitted at 10 watts, few people knew of its existence. "On a good day, when the wind blew favorably, we reached a few people at ISU," remembers Drew Bendelow, music director at WESN. "We were doing some good things, and it was always a frustration for a DJ to ponder the probable audience size."

"Now," Bendelow continued, "with the addition of 90 watts, we're heard loud and clear from here to the developments outside town. At least that far," Bendelow went on to say. "And in stereo too."

When asked to explain the musical philosophy of the new version of WESN, the director emphasized the novelty of this year's approach: "In years past, steps were taken in the direction of becoming a progressive alternative to the schlock one hears on top-40 and MOR/AOR (middle of the road/album-oriented rock) stations in the area. But they were never institutionalized like they are now. We have a policy regarding song ratios per show: one of every three songs played by a DJ during his/her three-hour stint must originate in our new release rack, which contains only the best and most integral music available to us. That way, even if a DJ decides to fill up 2/3 of the show with dross, there will at least be real substance in the overall sound."

According to Bendelow, the 9-midnight slot is aimed specifically towards attracting the large contingent of FM enthusiasts who are bored and even repulsed by what stations such as WWCT and WBNQ program musically. "We shy away from recording artists who are clearly mercenary. Acts like Styx, or REO, or Pat Benatar--sellouts who produce music devoid of any innovation or integrity--we won't play because we don't need them. And they hardly need us," he said.

Rather than supporting musical artists who have already achieved wide audiences, WESN intends to afford the better part of its airplay to worthy artists who have yet to receive the attention they deserve. Says Bendelow, "People like Elvis Costello, the Clash, U2, Ultravox have for some reason never generated the enthusiasm they warrant. I suspect a large part of their (the unnoticed acts) problem lies in the fact that not a whole lot of America has ever had the opportunity of hearing them. At WESN this year, and especially during 'P & A Time' (progressive and alternative time), we hope we'll get Central Illinois acquainted with new and different tunes. There are no commercial interruptions." ●

--WESN

Tuesday

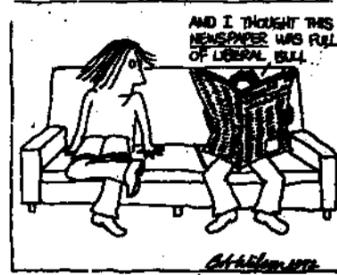
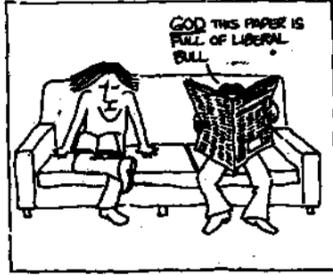
50¢ beer night



424 N. Main

9-1 T-Th, 9-2 F-S

(X)



(X)

## Corporation counsel shows true colors

David Stanczak, in his report to the city council regarding the proposed ban on x-rated movies, makes a very good case for keeping the constitutionality and integrity of the city's ordinances intact. He effectively makes the point that an x rating is not necessarily indicative of obscenity or pornography.

"...At least three movies that were widely considered to have serious value as motion pictures, 'Midnight Cowboy,' 'Last Tango in Paris,' and 'Clockwork Orange,' were originally released with 'x' ratings. The likelihood that any of those three movies would be found to be obscene and unprotected by the First Amendment is virtually nil," says Stanczak.

But somehow, after three pages of his report, Stanczak the attorney turns into Stanczak the man, and the man don't like them nasty movies no how.

He blasts the Pantagraph for giving "free advertising in front page coverage and a page 2 review of a movie

whose cinematic merits are questionable at best."

Now I will grant you that the coverage of "Hot Dallas Nights" has probably increased its attendance and its run in Bloomington. But pointing the finger of blame at the media is ridiculous at best. Stanczak seems to be asking the Pantagraph not to cover local news. Excuse me, but I thought that was what a local paper was supposed to do.

The Pantagraph does not ordinarily review movies like "Hot Dallas Nights." But when a local group has petitioned the city council for an ordinance banning all x-rated films, when the group floods the paper with letters to the editor about what mere presence of this particular film is doing to the moral decay of the community, and when the group pickets the movie house where the film is showing, the paper is put in the position of choosing whether to ignore the hottest local issue since Judge Campbell's investigation, or to give the group, and thereby the film, free publicity. They chose free publicity. I think they chose wisely.

Stanczak goes on to attack the Pantagraph's advertising policy. He objects to the illustrations, casts, and theme of x-rated movies being advertised in the same fashion as g, pg, and r movies. He wants a return to the days when the paper would run only the name of the film and the x-rating.

"The advertising of such morally reprehensible films as if they were legitimate cinema bestows an undeserved degree of acceptability upon them in the public's eye," Stanczak tells the council.

Come on now. "Morally reprehensible?" Methinks the learned counsel is falling victim to the same trap he just warned the city council about. Not all x-rated films are nasty, remember? Nasty is in the eye of the beholder, right?

Oh well. But considering he doesn't believe a word of what he wrote in the first three pages of his report to the council, Stanczak did a damn fine job, anyway.

--Deborah

# Madison Avenue porn

I am glad that the Women's Club of Bloomington-Normal is tackling a serious issue. I am sorry the issue they chose was pornography.

I have followed the coverage of the fight over x-rated movies in the Pantagraph's articles, their letters to the editor; I voted in their poll. I did not vote the way the Women's Club wanted me to.

Pornography in film and literature is an extremely complicated issue. Discuss it and you get into huge debates over what it is, why it is, when it is, what it does, and who really cares anyway.

What it is seems to be up for grabs. It's got something to do with sex, describing it or depicting it, not doing it.



Why it is seems to be because it always has been, or because it's fun to read about or see sex, or because the country is experiencing moral decay, whether you're talking about the moral decay of the Roman Empire which tried to suppress pornography, or the good old U.S. of A., which is trying to suppress pornography.

When it is seems to depend on if you like it or not. If you like a particular dirty book or movie, it is certainly not pornography. It is erotica. If you don't like the book or movie, it's pornography. If you don't like the whole idea of sex, it's pornography, too.

Or if you don't like the particular type of sex, it's pornography--like if you like dirty books about men doing it with dogs but you don't like dirty books about women doing it with dogs, then only the latter is pornography.

What it does seems to be a big issue. It does nothing but create a fun-filled evening at the movies, it is a wonderful aphrodisiac, it creates sexism, it causes rape, it turns men into animals, it exploits women, it creates jobs, it stimulates the economy, it is a valid artistic form.

The choice is pretty much up to you. You can pick any one or more of the above, or make up some of your own, because nobody can prove you wrong. Or right.

Pornography is, I think, a matter of individual conscience. It is not an

issue to ban outright or make illegal. Kiddie porn (use of actors and actresses under 18 in x- or xxx-rated films) is illegal. Yet kiddie porn is everywhere. Snuff films (films in which the actress, after going through an hour or so of sex with everybody and their pet kitty, is killed--not the character, you understand--the actress is killed right there before your very eyes) are so illegal as to defy description. Yet if I had enough bucks and I wanted to see a snuff film, I probably could.

Hard core porn does degrade women, it is usually violent. That violence is directed against women most of the time. It upholds the tradition that sex is inherently linked with violence. But it merely upholds the tradition, it does not create it.

The elimination of pornography will not make Bloomington-Normal a safer place to live. The incidences of rape, child molestation, and incest will not decrease.

Prostitution will not be eliminated, nor will pre-, post-, extra-, or inter-marital sex. Teenagers will still experiment with other teenagers, trying both homo- and hetero- sex.

And relationships between men and women will not get any better. Women will not be seen as peers of men, women will not suddenly obtain new status as people. Pornography is not the problem; it is a symptom of the problem.

# X-rated movie bans unconstitutional

According to David Stanczak, Corporation Counsel for the city of Bloomington, the proposed ban of all X-rated movies in Bloomington is unconstitutional and should not be considered.'

In his report to the city council, Stanczak cited two reasons why the proposed ordinance cannot be passed. The first has to do with the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), which rates films on the basis of privately adopted standards which are not in accordance with the Supreme Court's decision on obscenity. Also, says the report, "They (the ratings) are sufficiently arbitrary as to foster game-playing by the movie makers who insert, cut or alter scenes or

change dialogue for the explicit purpose of changing the rating of a movie with the result that the movie receives the rating desired by its makers.

By banning all x-rated movies, and by allowing the MPAA to have the only say in which films receive an x-rating, the city council would, according to Stanczak, improperly delegate the city's legislative authority to the MPAA. A similar ordinance in Kenosha was held to be unconstitutional on those grounds.

The "more fundamental problem" with the proposed ordinance is that it would probably violate the First Amendment. The Supreme Court has held that the First Amendment does not apply to obscenity. But the

problem then becomes deciding what is obscene. The x-rating does not constitute obscenity. In his report, Stanczak quotes the MPAA president, Jack Valenti: "It should be noted, however, that x does not necessarily mean obscene or pornographic in terms of sex or violence." A determination of obscenity would have to be made on every film that came to town before a ban could be placed on it.

"It is legally impossible for the City of Bloomington to take action to prohibit the showing of x-rated movies....," according to Stanczak.●

## Local control of x-rated movies still possible

Although the proposed ban on x-rated movies is unconstitutional, do not rest easy. The fight will not stop because of a silly little thing like the Constitution. David Stanczak, corporate counsel for Bloomington, suggests to the city council that since the ordinance is not legal the city pull a fast one and opt for "local control."

He sees two alternatives to the proposed ordinance. The first is prosecution of the movies under Illinois' obscenity law. To prosecute a film, the state's attorney must either view the film or read a detailed description of it from a witness. Then an affidavit describing the film and an application for a search warrant must be taken to a judge.

If the judge decides that there is evidence that the film is obscene, a search warrant will be issued to seize the film for evidence in a trial. The

film owner apparently often opts for a jury trial, and the decision of the jury must be unanimous and beyond a reasonable doubt.

Stanczak seems not to like this alternative very much, because juries are not consistent in their decisions. He warns the city council, "For example, several years ago a Champaign County jury found 'Deep Throat' not to be obscene." Way to go, Champaign County.

The other method for using "local control" to stop x-rated films is to invoke the city's Adult Use Ordinance. This would entail keeping a log of all the films shown at a particular theater over a period of time and then going to court and telling the judge, "Look, your honor, this theater is so an adult movie house. Look at these titles. This is what they were about. Uck, blech!" Then the court would have to decide if the movies were basically

questionable and judge whether or not to declare the theater an adult theater.

If the movie house were so declared, it could be run out of business depending on the location of the movie house. For instance, the Castle, which is the theater in question at the moment, is across the street from Withers Park, which would, according to Stanczak, not be permissible as an adult theater location.

The "local control" that Stanczak favors is, coincidentally, the same one I favor: Don't go. "Lack of profitability is the most effective way of making such movies go away," says Stanczak.

In other words, individuals who object to x-rated movies should strive to make them not seen, rather than obscene.●

--Deborah

## gets "G" rating

If the Women's Club--or anybody else--wants to tackle the problems of sexism and rape culture, then I would suggest they start at a problem that is bigger and more far-reaching than pornography ever thought of being. Pornography reaches only a select number of people. You have to choose to buy that book or go see that movie. You can't even get into x-rated movies or bookstores unless you're 18.

If the problems attributed to pornography didn't start until the population was over 18, we'd have no problems. But they don't. Obviously. Ask any woman who has been raped by a 14-year-old if she thinks the existence of pornography made any difference in that young man's mind. She'll probably tell you no.

But ask her if the existence of sexism and the image of women in the media and in advertising made any difference, and she just might tell you yes.

If the Women's Club wants to go after the true pornographers, the folks who really have control over the minds of our children, have them start looking at Madison Avenue. They could start there, and probably stop there.

Pornography in advertising invades our lives without our consent. We have to choose to go see "Hot Dallas Nights." We do not choose to watch two prepubescent children trying to hump in skin-tight designer jeans, when all we



wanted to do was read Time magazine. We don't choose to watch the Barclay's man get ready to rape or batter the woman who's lighting his cigarette.

Pornography teaches us that sex equals fun. Advertising teaches us that sex equals love. And they use it to sell everything. If you only use the right shampoo, deodorant, foot powder; if only you wear the right jeans, pantyhose, track shoes, if you only chew the right gum, smoke the right cigarettes, read the right magazines, you, too, will have all the love, and more importantly all the s-e-x you can handle.

Want your husband to screw you tonight? Serve stove top stuffing instead of potatoes. Want to get laid by a different man every night? Give every male you know English Leather. Want to have your boyfriend notice you? Chew Big Red gum.

Want to have sex with a new woman? Give her a bottle of Harvey's. Want to know why your wife won't let you screw her? Try using Irish Spring. Want to go to bed with every woman you see? Buy yourself a copy of How to Pick Up Girls.

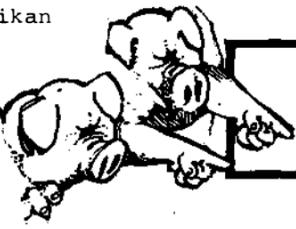


And blatant sex is not all advertising sells. It also sells sex roles. Women are to keep house, take care of the children, and put out. They can have a job if they want (this is, after all, the eighties), but they have to do everything else, too.

And men are to have a job, fix things around the house, pat the children on the head, and put out.

You may not ever think of taking a 4-year-old to an x-rated movie, yet you allow them to sit and be bombarded by TV advertising every day. You don't allow a 10-year-old to go into a dirty bookstore, but you let them flip through Newsweek and view soft-core advertising every week.

Wanting to eliminate pornography is, indeed, a worthy goal. But I think we should start at the root of the problem and stop lopping off the symptomatic branches.● --Deborah Wiatt



# Miscellaneous outrages

## Christian TV: tax shelter

Although they are undoubtedly motivated primarily by spiritual concerns, the organizers of the soon-to-be-broadcasting Christian-oriented Channel 43 TV in Bloomington are apparently quite competent in worldly matters.

Like tax shelters, for instance.

The owner of Channel 43, the non-profit corporation Grace Communications, won't own its own studio equipment.

Instead, the organizers of Grace Communications are forming another (paper) entity--a limited partnership of 50 area residents. The limited partnership will buy the studio equipment, and lease it to Grace.

The arrangement amounts to nothing more than a bunch of pieces of paper filed in some office somewhere. But it will save the 50 limited partners (who are all, I'm sure, pious Christians) from having to pay a bunch of taxes.

## Time is relative

Some people think a day is a short time. Some don't. Take Illinois State University President Lloyd Watkins, for example.

On Feb. 10, Watkins announced that budget reductions would force ISU to cut as many as 37 jobs by July 1. But the university executive said that decisions on which jobs would be affected were "a long way off."

The very next morning, the Pantagraph reported, university employees were receiving notices that their jobs would end July 1.

## Normal slides business a favor

Socialism always seems more palatable to government officials when it benefits private businesspeople instead of poor people. Washington makes huge loans to bail out Chrysler, while cutting back on social programs.

The Town of Normal instituted a little welfare program for a private business in January. The recipient is a company called Group VI Ltd, which will build a water slide, arcade, and concession stand at Fairview Park.

Normal gets 10% of the revenues, but only if the project makes money.

If not, well, Normal only has to come up with \$324,000. That will pay off Group IV's bank loans, which Normal has promised to pay off if the venture

fails.

In addition, Normal has to shell out an initial \$25,000 to run utilities to the site.

Normal's anticipated income from the water slide is less than \$10,000 a year. Normal's possible loss is \$350,000.

According to the Pantagraph, several Normal council members "voiced concern" about the project's economic feasibility, "but went along with the agreement after hearing assurances that the venture would be profitable."

Do such "assurances" make any sense in today's economy?

## 11,900% markup

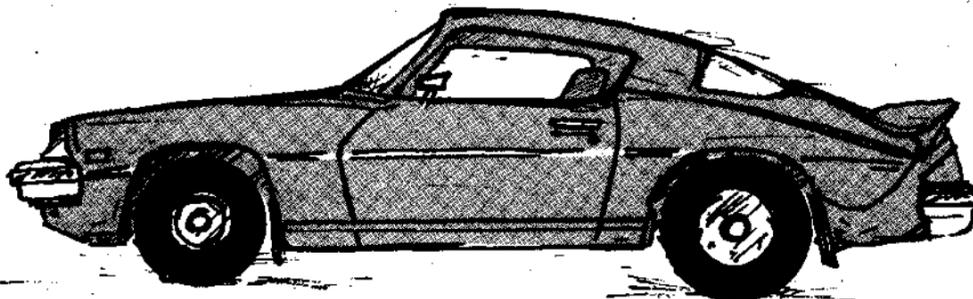
"I got it at Ragstock," I heard over and over from my more counterculturally fashion-conscious friends after the Minnesota-based secondhand clothing chain store opened in Normal last fall. Seemed like lots of hippie types had moved from the garage sales and downtown Bloomington thrift shops to the more reliably stocked but higher-priced Ragstock.

How does a chain of used clothing stores make enough to stay in business? Locate only in college towns and charge a modest mark-up on the clothes. The size of that price mark-up became evident when a friend found a dress with its original garage sale masking tape price tag: 5¢. Ragstock sold the dress for \$6.00--a modest 11,900 per cent mark-up.

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## Cleaning up the bars

To tighten up enforcement of the city's liquor code, officials are considering a new ordinance that would require bartenders to be licensed. Since bartenders could lose their licenses for liquor violations, the theory goes, they will be more vigilant about underage drinking and other evils.

None of the proposal's backers offered

a shred of evidence to suggest that bartenders who are ex-felons violate the liquor law more frequently than bartenders who are not ex-felons.

But the proposal being considered says that no licenses would be issued to bartenders with a felony on their record.

## Layoffs hit Bloomington workers

Already hit by 269 layoffs in mid-December, the ranks of workers at the Eureka Co. were severely thinned in mid-February with the announcement of 329 more layoffs. Workers with up to 10 years seniority are among the almost 600 now unemployed.

At General Electric, management announced 650 workers will have their hours cut to 35 a week and about 15 will be laid off.

The Firestone plant in Normal won't have any layoffs right now, a personnel spokesperson told the Post-American, but the plant will shut down for a week.

Sugar Creek Packing Company announced it was shutting down operations, leaving 70 workers without jobs.

## Catch 22

Western Avenue Community Center will be the only social service agency denied federal revenue sharing money, if the recommendation of a committee of McLean County townships sticks.

Twelve other agencies will get money. Most of them will get all that they asked for.

Western Avenue had asked for about \$13,000 to hire a youth social worker who would work out of the Sunny-side Neighborhood Center on the west side.

Maxine Schultz, Bloomington Township Supervisor, explained the turndown by saying that Western Avenue should have tried to get funding first from the United Way.

But the United Way had already turned down the grant.

According to the Pantagraph, Michael Frandsen, director of Western Avenue Community Center, was "surprised and appalled" that the committee recommended rejection of Western Avenue's proposal. He labeled the committee's reasons "doubletalk."

## IPC wants higher charge

Not satisfied with a 20% increase in electric rates granted in July, 1981, Illinois Power Company announced Feb. 20 that it would seek another 20% increase from the Illinois Commerce Commission.

Much of the increased electric charges are needed to finance construction of the Clinton nuclear power plant, which has been plagued by repeated delays.

The latest work stoppage was ordered in mid-February, when a welder discovered that a manufacturer had substituted inferior quality welding rods for the ones supposed to be used. Work was halted while welds were inspected.

Each day's delay in construction costs IPC (and its customers) an extra \$750,000 in interest charges.

## Pantagraph oinks

In a mid-February editorial, the Daily Pantagraph called for a return to the days when colleges and universities prohibited most of their students from owning cars.

## Students stuck for \$100

Students who got scholarships last year are being billed \$100 each, even though the money was supposed to come with no strings attached. Since more students than expected wound up staying in school, the Illinois State Scholarship Commission wound up paying out \$2.5 million more than expected. The money never went through student hands --and universities had already received the grants as tuition before the deficit was noticed.

Last July, the Illinois Board of Regents decided not to try to get the money back from students. But in late January, they reversed themselves.

About 1700 Illinois State University students are being hit for the \$100 each.

Students who've already graduated should sit tight before complying with ISU's request for the hundred bills. The university might not have any way to enforce payment.

## Hospitals drool over Scott estate bucks

Bloomington's share of money from Judge John Scott's estate is being used to set up the John Scott Health Care Center. Interest on the \$5.4 million trust fund will be used to give medical care to poor people.

The board overseeing operation of the health care center is in the process of determining who will be eligible and what types of services will be funded.

The board wants to provide medical care mostly to people who aren't getting it now--people who "fall through the cracks in the system."

But administrators of the three local hospitals have a different idea. According to a Feb. 14 Panta-

graph story, the three hospitals plan to ask that the John Scott money be used to make up for lower Medicaid payments the hospitals will be receiving.

Last year, the government paid St. Joseph's Hospital \$188 a day for a Medicaid recipient's in-patient care. This year, the government will pay only \$181. The other hospitals face similar cuts.

Using the Scott estate money as the hospital administrators suggest does nothing but transfer money to the hospitals. The same people currently getting medical care would still get care, while those falling through the "cracks in the system" would still be without medical care.

## Junk mail

## Turnabout is fair play

I have always been one who has enjoyed getting mail. Letters from friends, my magazine subscriptions and letters of interest from different political organizations. Lately though, I seem to be getting more and more junk mail. Once your name is placed on some advertiser's mailing list, I think they must computerize the list, and make it available to other advertisers upon request.

I have received so much junk mail lately I could scream. Matter of fact it makes me so mad I could send it back. What did you say, send it back? Hum, that gives me an idea.

Upon examining the contents of my junk mail, I find a self-addressed stamped envelope. Now, they have the nerve to send me their junk, why don't I send them some of my junk? Sounds fair.

Now there's a thousand different combinations of junk that can be sent. I can send the junk mail from one advertiser to the other. I have a lot of different paperwork I need to discard. How about some nice mushy leftovers from the table, like mashed potatoes, dried raisins, or how about some chewed bubble gum. Peanut butter is a real good idea. Funny what characteristic the peanut butter

takes when it dries. My cat box always needs cleaning, that would work just fine.

And just think of it, how many people we can keep in work. The mail service needs it, the mail room of the advertiser who receives the mail. Not to mention the discussions this form of "communication" can create with the advertisers.

So with spring coming up, I'm sure the advertisement companies will be in full swing with their junk mailings. For myself, spring house cleaning is on my schedule. ● --Michael

# THE FERTILE CRESCENT

The Organic Gardener's Companion. The Fertile Crescent will cover the how-to of gardening, farming, and landscaping in cooperation with nature, including companion planting, herbs, native plants, helpful insects and wildlife, organic fertilizers and sprays. Address questions, comments, and suggestions to: The Fertile Crescent, c/o The Post-American, P. O. Box 3452, Bloomington IL 61701.

## Garden planning books give offbeat, useful info on planting strategies

**Planetary planting**  
 Planetary Planting: Organic Gardening by the Signs of the Zodiac and the Phases of the Moon. By Louise Riotte. Simon and Schuster, 1975.

"This is not just another pretty gardening book," begins Louise Riotte in her Planetary Planting. "It is a blueprint for those who are seriously interested in practicing lunar agriculture." What most gardeners know about "lunar agriculture" would fit into a pea pod.

We may recall our grandparents advising us to plant above-ground crops in the waxing (increasing light) of the moon and below-ground crops in the waning (decreasing light) of the moon. But few of us know that there are gardening tasks which are best completed in each quarter of the lunar cycle, and each sign of the moon's position in the zodiac.

Riotte's ancestors grew grapes in the Rhine country of Germany and used principles of natural astrology in their work. Her father applied these principles, too, when he established a small vineyard in the United States.

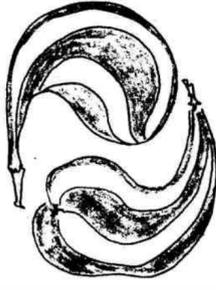
As a child, Louise took these rules for granted, and assumed everyone conformed to the phases and signs of the moon in their planting. Not until she grew older and was challenged did she actually research the origins of these practices of natural astrology. Planetary Planting is a result of her research and four decades of successful lunar gardening.

It has long been known that the moon was associated with the rise and fall of tides, and Sir Isaac Newton's gravity theory suggested a cause-and-effect relationship. The moon, it has since been determined, has a similar effect on all bodies of water. Inland lakes have tides, though they are harder to detect, and water in the earth is subject to rise and fall with the revolution of the moon.

Riotte explains the importance of these tides of groundwater: "Moisture, to the newly-planted seed, is all-important. I believe that the full moon, which affects all the water on the earth, causes soil moisture to rise closer to the earth's surface, where the newly planted crops can take full advantage of it. And this, to my thinking, is why consideration of the correct phase of the moon is so important to the success of the planting or transplanting of seeds or plants."

In discussing the importance of astrology in lunar agriculture, Riotte notes that some people consider astrology to contradict religious teachings. She refers to two biblical quotations in support of an astrological belief:

Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide



the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days and years." (Genesis 1:14)

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to destroy and a time to build. . . . (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8)

Each of the 12 signs of the Zodiac is best suited for certain garden activities (see chart) including cultivating, planting, and weeding. Vegetables, flowers, herbs, berries, vines, and trees each have varying "best" signs and phases of the moon.

The best lunar planting times for vegetables vary from plant to plant

and the major portion of Planetary Planting is devoted to alphabetized easy-reference discussions of these times. Also included are discussions of the best planting times and care of trees, berries, herbs, flowers, and grains.

Riotte also offers good organic gardening advice on planning, preparing the soil, composting, growing your own seedlings, hotbeds, organic insect sprays, and harvesting and storing vegetables. Planetary Planting is available at Milner Library.

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Already have your seeds for this year's garden? To insure proper germination, store them in a tightly-sealed jar in the refrigerator. To keep them dry, add a handful of cat litter to the jar.

### Companion planting

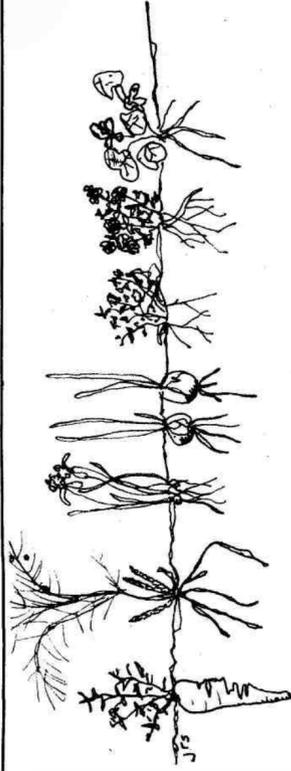
Secrets of Companion Planting for Successful Gardening. Louise Riotte. Garden Way, 1975. Illustrations by the author.

In Companion Planting (now published as Carrots Love Tomatoes) Louise Riotte provides an encyclopedia of the known beneficial and inhibiting relationships between many common and not-so-common garden vegetables, herbs, weeds, and insects.

The study of the ways in which different species of plants and animals use natural chemical substances to transmit "messages" is called allelochemics. Allelochemics, a rapidly growing field of ecology, has important applications in agriculture and some gardening—particularly in today's "French intensive" gardening methods.

From Absinthium to Yucca, Riotte describes each plant's helpful "companions" and inhibiting or competing neighbors. When asparagus and parsley are planted together both benefit, she reports. Asparagus benefits from a close planting with basil, and a substance in tomatoes called solanine will protect asparagus from asparagus beetles. As if trading favors, an asparagus juice derivative can be used to kill nematodes on tomato plants.

Basil helps tomatoes to overcome insects and disease—and will improve tomato flavor and growth. The solanine in tomato leaves is the active ingredient of an organic insecticide which can be made in a blender and sprayed on roses. To four or five pints of water add one tablespoon of cornstarch and some tomato leaves. Liquefy this mixture in your blender, strain, and refrigerate any unused portion.



### Fertile snow

Snow, which furnishes not only nitrogen but phosphorous and other minerals, yields an extra bonus denied warm climate areas. Snow contains forty percent less heavy water (or deuterium oxide) than normal water.

Deuterium is a heavy isotope, a form of hydrogen but a little different. Combined with water it does not form H<sub>2</sub>O, the water molecule, but D<sub>2</sub>O instead. Heavy water, according to the Russian scientists who observed this, slows down some chemical and biological processes of growing plants.

When the heavy water molecules are removed, plants seem to grow faster. Thus crops are aided in short-season, snowy climates such as Alaska. Even fog contributes to the soil's fertility, especially along the seacoast where it brings in large quantities of iodine, nitrogen and chlorine. •

--from Companion Planting

## M O O N S I G N C A L E N D A R M A R C H 1 9 8 2

1	GEA 19:51	2	GEM	3	CAN 22:49	4	CAN	5	CAN	6	LEO 1:51	7	LEO	8	VIR 5:28	9	Full Moon VIR 14:45	10	LIB 10:35	11	L-B	12	SCO 19:17	13	SCO	14	SCO	15	SAG 5:04	16	SAG
17	Last Quarter CAP 17:48	18	CAP	19	CAP	20	AQU 5:54	21	AQU	22	PSC 15:02	23	PSC	24	ARI 20:38	25	New Moon ARI 4:17	26	TAU 23:40	27	TAU	28	TAU	29	GEM 1:45	30	GEM	31	1st Quarter CAN 4:10		

Times adjusted from The Daily Planet Almanac 1982.



**March 1 Sangamon River Bandits**

**3 B-Lovers**

**5 Sangamon River Bandits**

**6 Teazers**

**7 Jeannie Buckholtz**

**8 John Novotny**

**9 Willis McGrinnis**

**11 Mannassass Junction**

**12 Ace High**

**13 Drönz**

**14 Bob Bogart**

**15 Jeannie Buckholtz**

**16 Willis McGrinnis**

**17 Food & Money**

**18 Jerks**

**19-20 Jason & the Nashville Scorchers**

**21 Saints**

**22 John Novotny**

**25 Flames**

**28 Jeannie Buckholtz**

**29 Bob Schwartz**

**30 Bob Bogart**

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# IRAs: The most

You can tell it's not much of a retirement party by the snatches of hushed conversation audible over the tinkling glasses. "A gold watch--big deal," one office worker snorts. Social Security? "You can't live on that." And the chances of being covered by the company pension plan? "You've got to be kidding," someone else says.

With radio ads like this one, Home Savings and Loan is introducing its individual retirement accounts, or IRAs--and is stabbing at the heart of American workers. The cynical tone of the ads cuts through the usual pension plan assurances to expose the sinking

bargain for broader company pension plans or push for cost-of-living adjustments in existing plans.

Since IRAs offer a "private" solution to worker retirement, they may also be used to soften up the public for renewed attacks on the Social Security system--the most effective non-market social program in U.S. history.

## Deception

IRAs will make community or union control of existing pension funds even more difficult by emphasizing individ-

\*\*\*\*\*  
**'The only millionaires the IRA's are likely to create already work in the financial industry.'**

\*\*\*\*\*

feeling most workers share: the system will screw us in our old age.

While the ad campaign may be ruthless, it brilliantly conveys the message of the Reagan administration--you're on your own, so better take care of Number One while you still can.

IRAs have existed for years, but the Reagan-sponsored Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981 increased the size of the tax shelter and extended the eligibility to almost all wage earners. Workers can now escape taxes up to \$2,000 in income a year if they put the money in an IRA. Interest earned in an IRA account accumulates tax-free. Money withdrawn from an IRA after retirement is taxed as ordinary income, but the recipients are expected to be in a lower tax bracket at that time.

The bankers' heavy ad campaigns paid off quickly, with millions of dollars flowing into IRA accounts in the first days of 1982. The rush to open IRA accounts received a boost when syndicated financial columnist Sylvia Porter called IRAs "the most valuable tax shelter ever devised for the average individual."

## All that glitters...

So what's wrong with the new IRAs? As a national solution to the problem of paying for workers' retirement, they stink. If Congress had burnt the midnight oil for a year it couldn't have invented a more inequitable and subversive pension scheme.

First, IRAs still exclude the vast majority of wage earners who cannot afford to save anything, regardless of the tax shelter.

For those who can afford it, IRAs offer financial security at the cost of accepting full responsibility for planning and funding an individual account. The employer's responsibility neatly disappears.

IRAs could undermine union efforts to

ual, rather than social, control of capital.

The IRAs can look so appealing that many optimistic savers are planning to retire as millionaires. But the only millionaires the IRAs are likely to create already work in the financial industry.

The layers of deception begin with the ad campaigns, which explain the miracle of compound interest. \$2,000 invested every year for 35 years at 12% interest will come to just over \$1 million, the bank ads tell us.

The ads don't mention that continual 12% interest implies underlying inflation at around 10% (or worse). Adjusted for 10% inflation, the holder of a million-dollar IRA account in 2017 will have about \$34,000 in 1982 dollars.

With or without IRAs, we might all be millionaires by 2017. But a case of beer will cost \$250.

## Who benefits?

The second layer of deception hides the true beneficiaries of IRAs. The bank ads imply they are for everyone. But \$2,000 represents savings of \$1 per hour for a full-time worker, or 20% of the income of someone earning \$5 an hour. The current U.S. rate of savings is around 4% and not likely to rise during a recession. IRAs don't help people who are struggling just to pay the rent.

The benefits of the IRA tax shelter are much greater for those already in the upper income brackets than they are for the average wage earner. For the poorest workers, there is no tax shelter advantage, even if they did have the extra money to save.

Middle-aged professionals with high incomes but no retirement plan appear to benefit most from the IRAs. They can afford to make the annual investments, are in a high enough tax bracket to gain from the tax shelter, and presumably are sophisticated



Shelter Force/cpf

# unfair pension plan of all

enough to manage the dozens of IRA options now available.

"IRAs don't offer much for most people in the organized labor movement," adds Rob Layton, a consultant on pension plans for the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Department. "Social Security is still the most valuable option."

## Big business gains

The biggest class of beneficiaries, however, are not professional workers but the major U.S. corporations that have resisted setting up comprehensive pension funds for decades.

In 1979, only 42 percent of active workers were covered by a private pension, and barely 25 percent were actually vested, or qualified for those benefits.

Most companies still have a 10-year vesting period—a ridiculous standard in light of the U.S. median job tenure of just 3.6 years. Even white collar workers, whose median job tenure is 4.8 years and 5.9 years for managers, fall far short of the usual vesting period.

In addition, company pensions are usually not "portable"—you can't take them with you—so the accumulated years toward vesting are lost with each job switch.

Shorter vesting periods and portability would seem obvious reforms, but so far Congress has not interfered.

After a three-year study, President Carter's Commission on Pension Policy submitted its final report last year. Citing the nation's inadequate retirement system, the commission called for a "minimum universal pension plan" independent of social security.

## Shifting responsibility

Instead of a universal minimum pension plan, we got IRAs, which shift the burden of responsibility and finance from the employer to the individual.

Private pension consultant Lloyd Kaye of William M. Mercer Co. agrees. "IRAs could be one of the most important elements in relieving an employer's obligation toward employee pensions. They could mean the end of indexing of pensions."

IRAs philosophical shift of retirement responsibility from group to individual comes at a time of unprecedented Republican attack on the Social Security system. Reagan attempted to cut benefits or extend the working age three times last year. Although he failed, Reagan's advisors promise that the President is not yet through with Social Security.

Retirement age, early retirement benefits, minimum benefits, and outside earnings are all scheduled for attack once again in 1982.

Donald Underwood, VP in charge of IRAs for Merrill Lynch, says IRAs are a perfect vehicle for relieving pressure on the Social Security system.

The Wall Street Journal expressed the same opinion three months before Congress passed Reagan's Tax Act. The

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**JUST PEANUTS**

**IMPORTANT NEW TAX LAWS EFFECT EVERY WAGE EARNER**

of January 1, 1982, they are active participants in a pension plan can make individual retirement contributions until retirement. Following are some of the new pension regulations.

Journal identified IRAs as "a sort of early warning gambit. The idea is to lay the political groundwork now for almost certain eventual cutbacks in Uncle Sam's retirement program by inducing Americans to start saving more on their own."

IRAs could also cut short attempts to influence the allocation of capital in the U.S. The AFL-CIO is just beginning to talk about labor control of its pension fund assets (like holding stock only in unionized companies). That movement could be hampered by a national move to individually controlled retirement accounts.

Litvak of Community Economics thinks that the kinds of investments people make in IRAs limit the possibilities for social control of capital. "Because of the way the tax laws are written, people are encouraged to put short-term investments in their IRAs—certificates of deposit or taxable bonds," he says. "That's the opposite of what large group plans can do, such

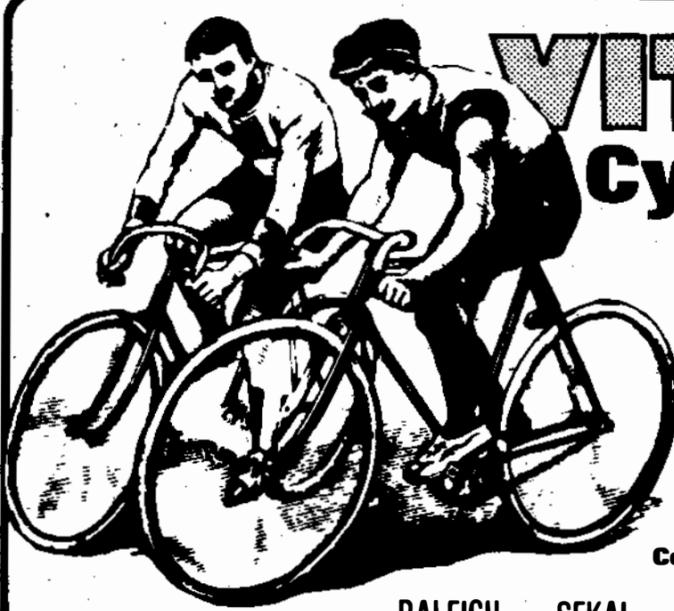
as making long-term investments in housing or community development."

None of these considerations, though, are related to whether you should or shouldn't open an IRA. That really depends on your income, age, family size, and financial plans.

"If you don't need the money until you retire, it's a good deal, but not a great deal," says Dan Lindheim, an economist on the staff of Congressman Ron Dellums. "But at the lower tax brackets, the whole thing is dubious."

Making that private decision, however, really misses the point. As Dean Tibbs of Citizens for Tax Justice says, most people are losing ground to inflation, and are less and less likely to have the savings they need to open an IRA. "Asking people now to finance their own retirement is almost pathetic. It's a return to the ethics of the 1920s."

--Thomas Brom (edited from his article in In These Times)



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# LETTERS

## Likes Post anyway

To the staff collective:

I was pleased to see that you found my article "Designer Genes" worthy of reprinting. Imagine my chagrin, though, when I saw that it was credited to the Prairie Sun!

If your office is anything like ours, I can see how something like this could easily happen--we've done it ourselves. For the record, then: the article first appeared in the Oct. 1981 issue of the Delaware Alternative Press.

We enjoy and respect your paper a great deal--it's one of the best that we exchange with, and we use a good bit of your material. We wish you the best of luck for the future and look forward to meeting you folks someday.

--Greg DeCowsky, Delaware Alternative Press

## A DEPRESSING PERSONAL

Karge,

You left without saying goodbye. That's okay, though. I've always hated goodbyes. Glad to be with you, again.

Your Friend,  
Thurman

//Is your name really "Thurman," Thurman? --the typist//

## Responder responds to response

Dear Post,

I would like to comment on the letter from Jack Davis in your February issue. I am the same person who wrote the letter that Jack was commenting on.

I wrote the original letter to make a few points, provide a little satire (directed at men, myself included), and to stir some thought and controversy. I see that I have succeeded in the latter. However, I find a few of Jack's points incomprehensible.

I do not see, no matter how I look at it, how "All men in this culture have been conditioned to be potential rapists," as Jack states in his letter. I would like to know where this kind of thinking comes from. I know that there are people who hold this view, but it is incomprehensible to me. To throw out extreme statements, such as this, without support does nothing to further thinking. I really would like to be able to understand it.

The point in my letter about learning what sexism is and how to avoid it was intended somewhat tongue-in-cheek. This is a trap that many so-called enlightened men fall into. It is akin to saying you are no longer sexist because you don't want to be. I believe that elsewhere in my original letter I point out that I do indeed have some problems in regard to sexism and that my amusement in regard to the issues contained in "the rape culture we live in" is a problem. I admit that my feelings can be seen as sexist, but also that they are real. I would guess that many men experience the same dilemma concerning their emotions and cognitions regarding the issue of sexism and women's situation. This was my point.

Jack's objection to my comment on thinking it is pathetic that Deborah feels the need to fear strange men does not stand up with me. I, like Jack, am also a gay man and have experienced some of the same things that he has. I think that it is also pathetic that he is afraid of strange and/or straight men. For anyone to

the small society by Brickman



1981 King Features Syndicate, Inc. Work right here.

Brickman 9-23

be afraid of a certain portion of the populace because of who they are is pathetic and narrow-minded. Be afraid of those who taunt you, but not men in general.

Jack is right; I do not live with the constant threat of rape that women do, nor do I deal with some of the problems that they have to deal with. However, being who I am, I have different problems and it is not easy being anyone in this world. It's not easy being a woman, a man, gay, a laborer, a professional, black. . . . I trust that Jack finds it much the same, although his world sounds much tougher than mine (tongue-in-cheek).

I was not soliciting sympathy from anyone through my original letter. I only intended that people have a second look at extreme points of view and how some people react to them. I think that Jack needs to have a second look at his.

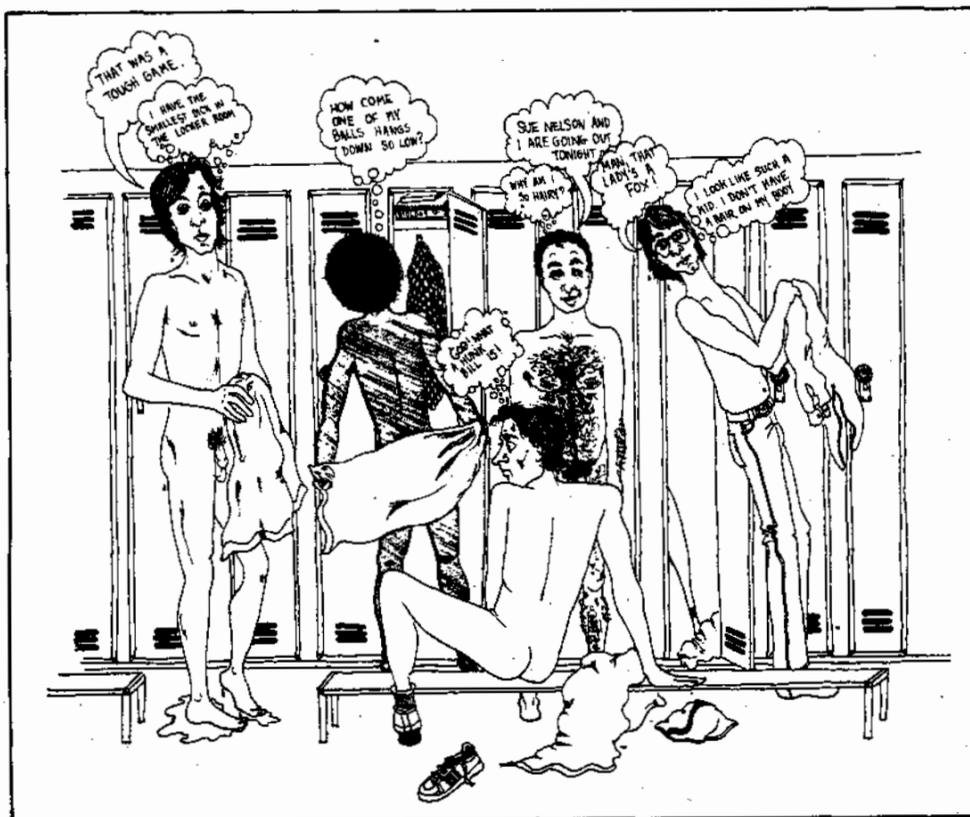
I liked Jack's comment about elitism, as it is a point well made and taken. I do not deny that I am an elitist (at least in this particular instance). Anyone, Jack included, who feels that their point of view should be heard is an elitist. This stems from having a healthy ego. It is a good survival strategy and makes for an interesting world. So be it.

--The Same Man

P.S. I know that this letter would hold more weight if it were signed. Sorry, but I cannot afford to be identified in your paper with extreme views such as these at this time. (Elitist person that I am.) After all, this is still Bloomington. Continue the struggle.

## Questions about sex?

# Candid



I finally found the book that I needed back in junior high school. I also found the book that my parents needed back when I was in high school. And I found the book that I was looking for to send to my 15-year-old sister as a gift. The book is Changing Bodies, Changing Lives: A Book for Teens on Sex and Relationships.

Don't let the title fool you. The book, although it was prepared for teens, would benefit any parent, teacher or adult who deals with teens or has questions about sexuality and relationships.

Changing Bodies, Changing Lives was written by a collective of women, men and teens. Several of the women authors had worked on the popular Our Bodies, Our Selves, and this version for teens reflects the same format. Written informally, in a candid and honest style, this book explains the physical and emotional changes as well as the new set of decisions that teens face. Amidst the paragraphs of frank information are comments and insights from teens, diagrams, cartoons and photographs which create a multi-layered view of the subject matter.

The attitude of the book is that honest questions, answers and exploration are the best ways to deal with the changes of youth. The book gives a fabulous amount of support for individuality and encourages the

# Big cheeses slammed at Pizza World

Post:

I would like to echo some sentiments shared in last month's letter from Ms. Hanson, a former Pizza World employee. While Ms. Hanson's views are quite accurate, I would like to offer a few of my own, since I, too, am no longer employed at the "World."

Although I was not directly involved with the everyday episodes at each store, after two years of delivering supplies, I began to develop some insights.

I began to recognize an atmosphere of uncertainty, contradictions, and at times, fear for one's job. I also struggled through times of confusion, watching a content manager terminated with no notice or little reason. Oh, there were your typical flimsy reasons, like "productivity was off," or "s/he just wasn't getting the job done." Through all the crap, people knew what was going down.

I've watched managers and assistants wonder in amazement if they were to be the next victim of what Ms. Hanson

refers to as the "falling ax" syndrome. I saw hard-working store managers devote their lives to a company whose sensitivity to people resembles that of a 270-lb. defensive end blindsiding an unsuspecting quarterback.

I watched the incompetent and inept promoted and rewarded as if they were the wizards who invented the Pizza Pie. I watched 5-year devoted workers discarded like yesterday's trash.

My own analysis of the problem starts at the top and stays at the top. Ownership has lost its self-confidence and self-respect, and it shows. When there is a problem, the top dogs think that they can eliminate it by dumping a store manager, when, in fact, they are contributing to a more complex problem.

Let's face it! When a company spends thousands of dollars on a radar gun to hide behind trees and check to see if its drivers are speeding, what does that tell you? Then there is the resident genius who follows drivers around in an unidentified car to check their driving habits.

Is that not an indictment of themselves? Perhaps their own inadequacies are reflected in this behavior. You can no more change workers' behavior by spying on them, than you can change a child's behavior by beating them.

Not long after I started at the "World" I realized what it would take to maintain a peaceful, enjoyable working relationship with the company:

1. Don't ask questions. Only ask simple questions; never ask about changing a method or system, or about doing something a different way.

2. Don't make any suggestions. If you do, make sure they come across as a superior's idea, not yours.

3. This is the big one: MAKE MISTAKES. Not often, but every now and then mess up. This gives management the chance to show you what you did wrong and how to do it right the next time. They love that.

Marty Meketarian

## New prison falling apart

Dear Post Amerikan:

Being incarcerated restricts one's being, but this letter will prove my mind will always stay free and unrestricted!

I wish to share an exclusive piece of news with the Illinois taxpayers concerning Governor Jim Thompson's solution to the Illinois prison controversy.

The subject I wish to bring to light concerns Graham Correctional Center, located outside of Hillsboro, Illinois. This facility is less than two years old and has cost the taxpayers and Federal Government well over thirty million dollars.

I feel it would be a wise move on the behalf of the Illinois taxpayers to investigate the contracting and construction work done here before they allow the politicians of this

state to spend another two hundred million dollars by 1985 on other new prisons.

Seeing that the readers are unable to see the conditions here at Graham, let me explain in detail the situation.

In laymen's terms the footers are cracking. In construction terms, the footers are cracking, causing block and brick walls to crack. Most of the block walls weren't tied in, causing walls to separate. The poor contracting and construction of brick and block is causing the floors to crack, and in turn the finish work on the floors is also faulty and cracking in some areas.

The taping of the drywalls was very poorly done which has caused it to pull away and leave large cracks in various locations.

Little or no insulation of the outer walls and ceilings is causing two major problems: an extremely

expensive heating problem and plumbing problems. Water pipes installed inside the outer walls and ceilings are freezing and bursting.

Other poor contracting and construction of the plumbing include underground water pipes not being buried below the frost line, so in turn they freeze and burst also.

I'm not arguing the fact that Illinois needs new prisons; in truth, most Illinois prisons should be condemned. But if the taxpayers' money need be spent on new prisons, they should be entitled to a long range solution, rather than let the politicians waste their money on new prisons that will eventually deteriorate because of poor contracting and construction work.

As a wise man once said "All that glitters is not gold," and I should know, I live here!!!!

--Tony Soldier

Page 17

## answers for teens

reader to use the information in the book to assist in making personal choices.

The following is a sampler of excerpts from the book.

\* \* \* \* \*

"Kathy wanted to have the baby, and there wasn't anything I could say. My parents even offered to pay for an abortion, but she didn't want to, so now she's married to some other guy and they have my baby. That feels pretty wierd."

\* \* \* \* \*

"I used to think I'd never be able to use a diaphragm because it was creepy for me to even think about putting it in. I thought that whole area down there was sort of disgusting. But one day one of our teachers took the girls in our class to the women's clinic near the school and they did this demonstration for us, where they showed us their cervix and everything and some of the girls in class even did it. Right there. Nobody forced you or anything--only if you wanted to do it. But everybody wanted to look. It was really amazing. Everybody's cervix looked a little different. Some were big, some were little, some holes were open pretty big and some were pretty tight. Then they showed us how a diaphragm goes in and covers up that hole. It made it seem logical."

\* \* \* \* \*

"When Ed first said he was gay, I thought, Let me out of here! But I knew the guy, we were friends already, I knew what he did in his spare time, what kinds of fights he had with his mother, what kinds of movies he dug. I mean, he's a person. So by now his being gay is just something else I know about him. I never thought I'd hear myself saying that."

\* \* \* \* \*

"I've never been in an experience where I might have to compromise my morals, because most of the people I hang out with feel the same way I do. I know I want to be a virgin when I get married, and that's all there is to it."

\* \* \* \* \*

"Next time you catch yourself saying, I hate my legs, or breasts, chest, face, hair, stop for a minute and ask yourself: Who hates them? Who says they're not good enough? Do I really agree? Look at yourself in the mirror and name what you do like. Compliment yourself. Compliment your friends, help them like themselves better. Marge Piercy, a poet, writes: Live as though you liked yourself, and it may happen."

\* \* \* \* \*

"Pubic hair scared the shit out of me. I saw all these little bumps and I didn't know what they were. I thought maybe I had VD but I hadn't even had sex. I told my father right away because I was terrified."

\* \* \* \* \*

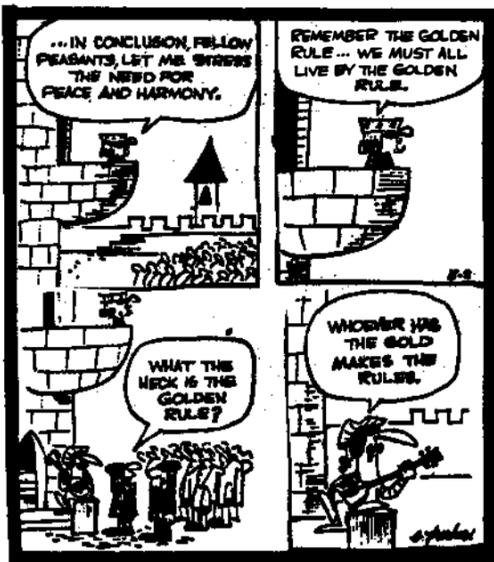
Changing Bodies, Changing Lives can be bought at local bookstores or checked out at either of the two public libraries. It can take the confusion of change and transfer it to a cause for celebration.

--Holly



\*\*\*\*\*  
**Making Love**  
 \*\*\*\*\*

# Hollywood comes



**Making Love.** Directed by Arthur Hill; screenplay by Barry Sandler.

**Personal Best.** Written and directed by Robert Towne.

Two recent films from major Hollywood studios deal directly with gay relationships. Their back-to-back openings in early February may signal a breakthrough of sorts for the American film industry, but they also show how far Hollywood has to go in handling gay themes and characters.

"Making Love" is described, in the promo sheet from 20th Century Fox, as

"the bold and compassionate love story of a young couple who after 8 years of marriage must come to terms with the husband's attraction to another man."

Michael Ontkean plays Zack Elliot, "a caring and dedicated doctor who finally summons the will to defy his conventional upbringing and acknowledge the truth of his sexual identity." In other words, he comes out of the closet.

Kate Jackson is the wife "who finds that she is strong enough to let go of her past and make a new beginning." And Harry Hamlin is the "gay novelist

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# Will the real gay movie please

**Taxi Zum Klo.** Written and directed by Frank Ripplloh.

"Taxi Zum Klo" is writer-director Frank Ripplloh's autobiographical account of his "adventures" as a gay man in West Berlin and of his relationship with his lover, Bernd Broaderup. Both men play themselves in the movie.

The reality of this film--its full-time attention to the everyday details of the life of a gay man--sets it in sharp contrast to the recent Hollywood excursions into gay life, which hold their gay characters at arm's length, idealizing them as people and treating their sexuality as secondary and second-best (see accompanying article).

If anything, the two Hollywood films take gay people too seriously. They seem afraid--or unwilling or unable--to explore the subject too much, lest they blunder into something that might offend somebody.

By contrast, "Taxi Zum Klo" is refreshingly candid and unafraid to laugh at the material it carefully depicts. Michael Bronski, of *Gay Community News*, says "Taxi" is the first full-length film that treats gay life as a comedy, and the reviewer for *Christopher Street* calls it "the first gay comedy of manners."

The story of "Taxi" centers on the

love relationship between two men: Frank, a teacher of sex education at an elementary school, is very promiscuous; Bernd, who manages a movie theater, believes in monogamy.

### Vivid images

But the bulk of the film's details are drawn from Frank's life: his gay liberation buttons and movie star pictures, his travels through the city, his fantasies and thoughts all thrown together in a crazy quilt of images that vividly represent the life of a post-liberation gay male.

Not surprisingly, some gay viewers don't find this material to their liking. The letters' pages of several gay publications have been bristling with the objections of those who think the movie an empty distortion of the gay experience and the defenses of those who love it.

Part of the controversy stems from the

conflict of lifestyles that the two lovers represent. There are those who argue that "Taxi" champions the promiscuous behavior of Frank--he's liked by his friends, his co-workers, and his students; and he seems never to get turned down in sexual situations.

Others argue that the film implicitly favors fidelity--Bernd is steadfast in his love for Frank and his desire to establish a faithful home life with him. It is Frank who has doubts about his "carefree" lifestyle, who worries about ending up a lonely old fag.

### Graphic sex

The movie's graphic sex scenes, including an S-M/ golden shower incident between Frank and a trick, have prompted a similar division of opinion. Some find them offensive, boring, unnecessary; others are excited by them and delighted by the

## Anita's at it again

Anita Bryant, who indicated in 1980 that she had mellowed in her feelings about homosexuality, is up to her old tricks again.

In a December fund-raising letter

on behalf of tv evangelist James Robison, Bryant asks for "a gift of at least \$25.00" so that Robison can continue disseminating his video message of "repentance and righteousness."

Robison, a Dallas-based tv minister, came under attack in 1979 for his repeated on-the-air attacks against homosexuals. After a suit was filed by the Dallas Gay Alliance, the station suspended Robison's show but reinstated it later on the condition Robison refrain from anti-gay rhetoric.

Among the inaccuracies of Bryant's mailing is the statement, "In Washington, D.C., militant gays are demanding a bill of rights--a legislation that would force employers to hire homosexuals according to quotas." Federal gay rights bills contain no such provision.

--The Advocate

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## Pizza World

What if you are delivering for Pizza World and you accidentally don't collect enough money for the pizzas you deliver?

According to Pizza World policy, a former driver told the *Post-American*, delivery people must make up the shortage out of their own pockets.

If delivery people accidentally collect too much money, however, Pizza

# out of the closet

whose involvement with Zack dramatically changes the lives of all three."

## A GAY SOAP?

If this sounds to you like the gay subplot of "General Hospital," you may not be too far off. At least, that's what film critic Roger Ebert (Chicago Sun Times) called it: an insipid, unconvincing soap opera. Likewise, Tom Shales (Washington Post) termed it passionless and trendy, and Richard Schickel (Time) called it "sterile."

But not everyone agrees. Especially

# stand up?

witty way Ripplon treats some of his encounters.

Ironically, "Taxi" has been a big hit with heterosexual audiences, here and abroad. Both movie critics for the New York Times praised the film's candor, self-awareness, and good humor. Other non-gay reviewers say they can identify with the lovers' situation because Frank's compulsive sexual hunting stands for problems that can exist in any relationship.

Perhaps the most disturbing incident is the one that gives the movie its title. ("Taxi Zum Klo" has been translated as "Taxi to the John" or "Toilet" or "Loo" or the euphemism of your choice.) In this sequence, Frank, confined to bed with infectious hepatitis, flies the coop, taking a taxi from the hospital to one public restroom after another until he finds a suitable sexual partner.

## Accurate

The humor of the scene--the encounter doesn't work out because of the difficulty of getting Frank's hospital shirt out of the way--covers the fact that Frank was willing to infect a stranger in order to have sex. When confronted with this point at the press conference in New York, Ripplon at first avoided the issue by saying that the sex didn't happen; but later he admitted that the scene accurately portrays what can happen as a result of compulsive behavior. In retrospect, he said, he was sorry about the scene.

But many people are not. They feel it demonstrates the honest, non-romantic vision that marks this film as unusual and engaging.

Whichever way you look at it, "Taxi Zum Klo" is an amazing movie. It's gutsy, looks good, and keeps people interested. And it was made for an incredible \$50,000 (a sum that wouldn't pay the salary of one star in a Hollywood film). It's almost enough to give one hope for the future of the movies. ●

--Ferdydurke

Sources: Gay Community News, 21 Nov. 1981; Christopher Street, Nov./Dec. 1981.

not Gene Siskel of the Chicago Tribune.

Siskel gives the film a lot of credit for breaking new ground: "'Making Love' is sober and thoughtful and honorable, without being Pablum. It's an honest beginning at correcting the pathetic image of homosexuals as doomed figures that has been a Hollywood staple . . . ."

Siskel also admits that the movie is aimed at mainstream audiences, much as "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" was 14 years ago, and that, as such, it runs the risk of being called superficial and simplistic by some critics and by militant gays.

That seems to be an accurate assessment of the film's appeal. If you thought "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" made a bold and compassionate statement about interracial marriage, you you'll probably like "Making Love."

## A moonlight walk

The reviewer for Gay Community News, Walta Borawski, compared the movie to "a moonlight walk in a crimeless park." But he also said it's "a gentle film with the calculated power that comes from acting."

Borawski further pointed out that the film is liberal and nonjudgmental and seems intent on making gay people "hypernormal." If you loved "Taxi Zum Klo" (see adjoining article), you'll probably want some No Doz--or an insulin injection--for "Making Love."

On the plus side, the movie shows two males kissing and being affectionate and tender. And no one is dismembered or loses his favorite pet.

On the negative side, the script is cliché-ridden and contains dialogue that often sounds right out of the latest self-help book.

Borawski's final judgement is this: "These are tv soap opera people who've just had a long bath and been given their very own feature film."

\* \* \* \*

"Personal Best" sounds more satisfactory on all counts. Written and directed by Robert Towne (who wrote the screenplays for "Chinatown" and "Shampoo"), this movie tells the story of two women athletes, track stars who meet at the 1976 Olympic trials and carry on a shifting relationship through the four years they work to make the 1980 Olympic team (the one that didn't get to Moscow).

The movie centers on the pain, competition, and consuming effort that define this level of athletic activity. But it also shows a loving sexual relationship between two young women.

"Personal Best" has been consistently



"Well, as The New York Times would put it, we're sharing the same apartment."

praised by the critics for its openness, sensitivity, and insight in including the sexual encounter as part of the women's story.

If there's anything to criticize (from a gay point of view) about this movie, it may be in the presentation of the love affair as an inevitable but secondary part of the special nature of these women and their unusual situation. ("Women athletes might fall in love, but it doesn't happen in real life.")

The comments of director Towne make me wonder just what emphasis the gay story is given in the film. For one thing, he gets upset when his movie is compared to "Making Love" or grouped with other so-called gay films. It's not about homosexuality, he insists; it's about competition.

Towne is also quoted in Newsweek as telling the two straight women he was directing: "I'm going to try some things that will shame you and anger you" in filming the love scenes. What did he do that shamed them? During rehearsal of a scene in which the two women arm-wrestle, Towne yanked a towel away, leaving one of the actresses to play the scene naked. That's shameful?

Jack Kroll, the Newsweek critic, makes this interesting comment about the development of the plot: Mariel Hemingway, who plays the younger woman, "winds up with a man, a swimmer named Denny, and it's this heterosexual pair who play the film's central scene." Does this mean that the lesbian affair is shown as just a warm-up for the "real thing?" Read on.

## Just a phase?

Here's Towne commenting on the "sexual odyssey" of his two heroines: "To me the story is about innocence, purity, growing up. My idea is that they're children, like my daughter, discovering who they are with their bodies." And when Hemingway is through experimenting, she turns to a man, just like God intended her to-- is that it, Bob?

Maybe the movie doesn't actually make this statement. None of the other reviews I've read suggests that it does. But I've heard too many times that gay sex is just "kid stuff," just "an adolescent phase you're going through," not the "real thing" like Coke and heterosexuality. And I don't trust any filmmaker who talks that way.

If such a value system is operating in the film's use of lesbianism, then Robert Towne's "Personal Best" may turn out to be "second best" for gay viewers. I think I'll spend my money on "Taxi Zum Klo" first. ●

--Ferdydurke

Sources: Newsweek, 8 Feb. 1982, Los Angeles Times, 5 Feb. 1982.

# violates Illinois labor law

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Pizza World's policy is not legal, according to the Illinois Labor Law Handbook, published by the Illinois Department of Labor.

An employer may not deduct the cost of shortage, breakage, or spoilage of materials from a worker's wages without approval from the Department of Labor. An employer may not make

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Pizza World delivery people who feel that illegal deductions have been taken from their pay should write the Illinois Department of Labor Wage Claims Division, 910 S. Michigan, Room 1808, Chicago IL 60605. Or phone 312-793-2808. ●

--M.S.

# Political film irks U.S. gov't.

In a highly unusual move, the U.S. State Department has released a 3-page statement taking issue with a current movie. The film is entitled "Missing" and was directed by Constantin Costa-Gavras.

Based on the story of a young American journalist who was killed during the 1973 right-wing takeover in Chile, the movie gives the impression that the U.S. covered up the events surrounding the case and was involved in the journalist's death.

Costa-Gavras never names the country in which the events of the film take place, but there are plenty of clues. The director is known for his cinematic versions of political incidents--namely, "Z" (1969), based on the murder of a liberal Greek deputy; and "State of Siege" (1973), derived from the kidnapping and assassination of a U.S. official in Uruguay.

## Post-coup bloodbath

"Missing" is Costa-Gavras' first English-language film and is based on the true story of the 1973 kidnap and murder in Chile of Charles Horman, a young American, Harvard-educated, counterculture journalist. The film suggests not only that the U.S. supported the overthrow of the democratically elected, Marxist government of President Salvador Allende, but also that U.S. representatives directly or indirectly approved the execution of Horman, who became a victim of the post-coup bloodbath in which hundreds of Chilean leftists were murdered.

The story of "Missing" is simple enough: Ed Horman (played by Jack Lemmon), a well-to-do New York advertising executive and a political conservative, comes to Chile to help his daughter-in-law Beth (Sissy Spacek) search for his son, who disappeared without trace a couple days after the coup. The father is impatient with the cynical, suspicious young woman: "I don't want to hear any of your anti-establishment paranoia," he rages, "if he'd settled down where he belongs, none of it would have happened."

But little by little, after frustrating appointments with silky-smooth American officials, nervous encounters with local police, and near-secret interviews with neighbors and friends, Ed comes to understand some realities that had never touched his life before: that his government has lied to him and is not serving his best interests; that power is often its own justification; that being an American is no proof against disaster.

## Loss of innocence

According to film critic Judith Crist, "Missing" is "the story of a man's slow loss of innocence, a father's final realization of who and what his son was as a person, and of a young woman's growing compassion for the older generation."

The State Department contends that the U.S. government "undertook intensive and comprehensive efforts to locate Charles Horman from the moment it was learned he was missing" and that special investigations failed to turn up any evidence of his whereabouts or of any cover-up of his disappearance.



In 1977 the Hormans sued Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and a number of other State Department officials. The suit was withdrawn in 1981.

Costa-Gavras argues that the "facts" of such a case as this cannot be retrieved by official government investigations--especially not in a country where political executions and their cover-up are routine. The

director claims he is working "from reports that cannot be substantiated."

But he shares the conviction of Charles Horman's family that the U.S. government played a part in their son's death. This attitude is also supported by journalist Thomas Hauser, who wrote a book about the case in 1978 (The Execution of Charles Horman), from which Costa-Gavras took much of his material.

## The "truth"

The truth of "Missing" is not in its proven facts, however. The film's value lies, in the words of critic Vincent Canby, "in the way it dramatizes the sometimes unbridgeable gulf that separates us, the governed, and those who govern us in what are supposed to be our own best interests."

Canby also points out that it's impossible to ignore the present-day situation that the movie relates to: "One thinks especially of the events in El Salvador and of the contradictions, which one can read in the newspaper almost any day of the week, between official Government (U.S. and El Salvador) statements and the first-hand stories being sent back by American reporters there." ●

--Ferdydurke

Sources: New York Times, 2/14/82  
Saturday Review, Feb. 1982

# U.S. develops race weapon

If you think that the neutron bomb holds an undisputed claim to be "the sickest weapon ever conceived," think again. The Department of Defense (DOD) has a new biological warfare (BW) agent called *coccidioides immitis* or "cocci."

Details are sketchy about how the DOD managed to develop this BW agent--the US supposedly renounced BW in 1969. Last year, the Reagan administration gave the green light to new BW development.

Cocci is a fungus native to arid areas of California, the Southwest and Mexico. In its primary form, cocci will induce mild flu symptoms in 80% of the people it contacts. In its secondary, or progressive, form, it can lead to a mortality rate of 50-60%.

Here's the kicker: while only 1-11% of caucasians will develop the fatal

form of the disease, black people will develop this form in numbers ranging from 20-59%. Mexicans and Native Americans tend to be intermediate in susceptibility; Filipinos appear to be even more susceptible than blacks.

Of the half-dozen significant systematic fungal diseases of humans, only cocci shows such pronounced racial specificity; and only cocci has been researched as a BW agent by the DOD. Further research and development will probably "improve" cocci's targeting characteristics.

While the Ku Klux Klan might rejoice at the development of such a weapon, the rest of us can only see such race-specific BW agents as a concrete manifestation of the racist nature of America's military-industrial complex. ●

--Todd Jailer (from WIN)

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# Big change at Small Changes

Small Changes Alternative Bookstore has changed a great deal in the last five months. Last summer the remaining three collective members called an open meeting to generate some feedback about the future of the collective. As a result of this meeting, five new wimmin joined the collective, several enthusiastic groupies were recruited, and the store itself received a face and spirit lift (new paint, new paneling, new furniture arrangement, and new stock).

Since that meeting the three remaining members have left the collective due to time and energy crunches and burn-out. One moved out of town, one dropped out, and the third is taking a leave-of-absence.

But the new collective of wimmin and the dedicated groupies are pledged to keeping the store and its ideals alive. We still see ourselves as a part of the movement of people challenging the forces that keep us passive and isolated and powerless.

As individuals and as a collective, we want to take an active part in the community and reunite with the people who have supported and encouraged the store over the years. In this "let's get together" spirit, we are sponsoring a Coffee House on Friday, March 19th, from 7:30 pm to 10:00 pm at the Newman Center. (It's on Main Street in Normal next to the Avanti's parking lot.) We'll have an open mike for those of you who wish to participate, goodies for those of you who wish to munch, coffee and tea, and lots of good company.

We are working at making Small Changes a comfortable place to meet and exchange ideas with other folks. Store hours have been a problem because we all work at straight jobs or attend classes. However, we want it to be known that our definite hours, from now until spring is here to stay, are from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm Tuesday through Friday and from noon until 5:00 pm on Saturday. We will be open additional hours that we

will post on the door weekly, or you may telephone the store during our definite hours for the additional ones.

You are probably asking yourself, "Aside from new (and a few old) faces, stimulating conversation, a topnotch lending library, and information on subjects and events of interest, just what does Small Changes offer in the way of merchandise for sale to pay the rent?" We are glad you've asked, because it gives us the chance to tell about our increased stock of new books, huge selection of used books, and wimmin's music albums. Not to mention our many spiffy slogan buttons, fantastic greeting cards, and arty pins made by crafty local people.

If your fashion sensibilities lean toward radical sportswear, we still push movement t-shirts. Realizing that we cannot stock every book you might desire, we will make special orders a high priority.

If you are near downtown Bloomington or want to meet us and chat or are shopping for a stimulating book, stop in at 409 A North Main Street. We want to get acquainted! •

--The Small Changes Collective

## ACLU blasts El Salvador junta

The American Civil Liberties Union has charged that the government of El Salvador is "engaged in a concerted and significant effort to deprive its citizens of internationally recognized human rights." In a 273-page report made public Jan. 26, the ACLU documents "systematic murder, torture, and arbitrary arrests and denial of fair trials, political rights, and freedom of religion, expression, and association."

The ACLU sent the report to Ronald Reagan to urge him not to certify to Congress that the human rights record of the El Salvador government is improving.

Reagan was precluded from dispersing the \$135 million in military aid allocated by Congress to El Salvador this fiscal year unless he certified that the El Salvador government was curtailing its repressive policies.

Despite the ACLU report, Reagan on Jan. 29 certified that the El Salvador government is improving on human rights. The certification has met widespread disbelief in Congress. Representative Gerry Studds plans a lawsuit to declare the certification void.

The ACLU report, which deals exclusively with abuses outside the context of armed combat, charges the government of El Salvador with responsibility for:

- \*The great majority of some 200 politically motivated murders a week, or about 10,000 a year.

- \*Widespread torture by all branches of the nation's security forces.

- \*Permitting paramilitary forces, which the government ostensibly dissolved in 1979, to continue to operate since then with impunity, engaging in murder, mutilation and torture.

- \*Increasing repression during 1980 and 1981 following the accession to power of the current "reform" military junta.

- \*Issuing decrees that have stripped Salvadorans of their rights against arbitrary arrest and prolonged detention.

- \*The "disappearance" of more than 600 persons following their detention by security forces in the first year and a half of the present "reform" military junta.

- \*Ending fair trials and destroying judicial independence.

- \*Systematic repression directed against the Catholic Church.

- \*Systematic repression directed against peasant and union leaders and opposition political leaders.

- \*Suspending freedom of the press, closing opposition newspapers, bombing news offices and killing journalists.
- \*Suppressing freedom of expression, assembly and association.
- \*Forcing thousands of Salvadorans to become refugees and subjecting refugees to brutal treatment. •

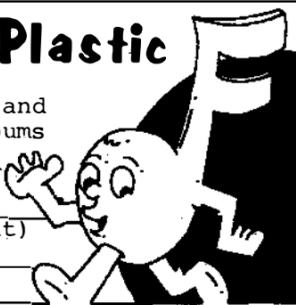


## U.S. official lies again?

Thomas Enders, Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, testified in Congress that El Salvador has made "substantial progress" in human rights and discounted reports that government troops there had recently massacred hundreds of civilians (*In These Times*, Feb. 10). Sydney H. Schanberg's Feb. 6 column in the *New York Times* described how Enders, while supervising the illegal bombing of Cambodia, tried to cover up nearly 200 casualties--"first by sending an aide to tell the press corps that the death toll was probably only 25 but certainly no more than 65, then by issuing orders to block reporters from getting to the town..." •

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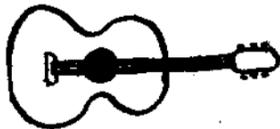
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## PATH seeks volunteers

Become a productive part of McLean County by becoming a PATH volunteer. PATH (Personal Assistance Telephone Help) is accepting applications for phonerom volunteers.

PATH volunteers have an excellent opportunity to develop personal resources and to become familiar with community resources. The training session includes group and phonerom training. Practical experience in simulated and actual situations are an integral part of the program. Once training has been completed, volunteers meet as 18-hour-a-month commitment for at least 6 months.

The initial interview will be March 17. Juliana Sullivan will receive applications at PATH no later than March 12. For further info or an application call Ms. Sullivan at PATH, 828-1922, or toll free at 1-800-322-5015.

PATH is a United Way agency.

## Westside Improvement meeting

George Swier, Director of Engineering, City of Bloomington, will discuss the new West Oakland Street bridge and Alexander Road project at the March 11 meeting of the Westside Improvement Association at City Hall, 7:00 p.m.

The group will also discuss solutions to Goose Creek's flooding.

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Lamda council reorganizes

The Lambda Council of McLean County has gone through a re-organization and is now in the early stages of planning activities and programs for Bloomington-Normal's gay community.

The main project of the Lambda Council is the implementation of a gay hotline. The hotline committee is presently working with PATH and plans an extensive training program for volunteers to deal with gay call-ins. The council hopes to open the gay hotline later this year.

There are presently seven people, both gay men and lesbians, who make up the Lambda Council. They are occupied at this time with trying to enlist financial support and to enlarge the size of their organization. The council meets every 2 weeks--on Sundays at 1 p.m.--and the meetings are open to the community. The next meeting will be March 7. Interested people should call 828-9220 or 827-6453 to get more information.

The first newsletter, WINGS, is being prepared for distribution during the last week in February. (WINGS stands for "Wanted: Involvement Necessary for Gay Survival.") The newsletter will be published monthly and will be distributed at Small Changes bookstore,

My Place, Gay People's Alliance meetings, and elsewhere around town. You can also get it mailed to you.

The council plans to incorporate. While funding is a major concern at present, the council is also talking about future activities, which may include: a camp-out; a float in the Gay Pride Parade in Chicago this summer; the formation of a "mixed" rap group for both lesbians and gay men; and other social and political events.

The Men's Rap Group, an associate organization of the Lambda Council, has grown to a regular attendance of 10. The rap group meets every Monday evening from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. Any man in the community is welcome to attend. Each meeting focuses on a topic for discussion. Some past topics have been rejection, racism, looksism, alternatives to the bar scene, and "looking for Mr. Right." Men can call 828-9220 for more information about the rap group.

## Group explores wholistic life

Interested in learning about the natural ways of health care, food preparing, gardening and other aspects of living? Join us! We are a casual, friendly group of learners and sharers who meet every other Wednesday to explore various areas of wholistic ways of life. Wednesday March 3 we will discuss allergies: What causes them, how they can be prevented and natural ways of caring for them. Two weeks later, on March 16, we will focus on organic gardening. Meetings run from 7 p.m. until around 10. We meet at 507 W. Locust in Bloomington. Call Nancy for more details at 828-8249.

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# Kinsey study says what we already know

Sexual Preference: Its Development in Men and Women, by Alan P. Bell, Martin S. Weinberg, and Sue Kiefer Hammersmith. Indiana University Press, 242 pages.

The latest report from the Kinsey Institute for Sex Research got a lot of notice in the press when it was issued last September. But the notice was mainly for the wrong reasons.

The chief message that most of the national media got was that homosexuality may be biological in origin after all. As it turns out, the research doesn't make any more of a case for biology than already existed--a case which is a very tentative one.

The main message of the book is really this: No one social or psychological factor shows a strong correlation with sexual orientation. But didn't we already know that? I did.

The explicit aim of the Kinsey researchers was to test the validity of theories that attribute sexual preference to aspects of childhood and adolescent experience--for instance, "closeness to mother," identification with father, early sexual behavior. So they administered an intensive questionnaire-survey to 979 homosexuals (686 men and 293 women) and 477 heterosexuals in San Francisco in 1969-70. The answers were then compared to see which were statistically more typical of the homosexual group than the heterosexual group.

These statistics allowed the researchers to identify the possible variables that might have a "determining" effect on adult sexual preference. To find out how the statistically significant variables might fit together, the authors adopted a technique from biology called "path analysis," which is a very complex and highly theoretical process.

Now, it should be obvious that this method is open to all sorts of criticism. Is the survey representative? What constitutes "statistical significance"? And so forth. But one of the most serious questions I have is how people distort their answers when called on to remember or interpret early experiences or feelings. In reading this book, you notice that most heterosexuals had little memory of homosexual feelings early in life, and that most gay people did. Are both groups adjusting their memories to fit their adult situations?

So why was there all the hoopla about a biological basis for sexual orientation? Well, part of it was your usual media hype. Newsweek's headline "Gays Are Born Not Made," for example, was mostly sensationalism.

But Sexual Preference does contain a chapter on biology. Chapter 19 is entitled "Biology?"--and the question mark is important. In this section the researchers don't come anywhere near supporting a theory; they merely flirt with one. Their claim is that the results of their study would not be incompatible with a genetic explanation. The same results are also compatible with other possible theories.

Bell-Weinberg-Hammersmith suggest that biology may be the answer. They suggest this for two rather questionable reasons: 1) sexual orientation appears to be more or less fixed early in life, and 2) they can't find any psychosocial reasons for it. But, as one reviewer has pointed out, a study of this kind can hope to find the causes of sexual orientation only if those causes are few and very strong. With 15 to 20 possible factors, the correlations aren't very precise--there are just too many connections and combinations.

So what we're actually left with is this predictable conclusion: "We may be able to separate the homosexual respondents into different groups according to differences in their developmental histories and so find that homosexuality has many different origins."

Well, in my view, saying that homosexuality may have many different origins is no different from saying taxi drivers, poets, and tv evangelists may have many different origins--maybe as many as there are taxi drivers, poets, and tv evangelists. The only reason researchers do not work double-time establishing careers and building whole industries devoted to finding the causes of taxi driving, poetry writing, and tv evangelism is that these forms of behavior have been spared the stigma and vilification of several thousand years of religious oppression.

Despite my irritation and impatience with the way the Kinsey study continues the cultural obsession with the causes of gayness, I did find some of its results interesting and revealing. Mainly what they didn't find:

1. They found virtually no support for any of the standard psychological theories--no effect of a man's relationship with his mother, no effect of a poor relationship with the opposite sex, no negative influence of early sexual experiences with the opposite sex.

2. Gay men, especially "effeminate" ones, appear to have poor relationships with their fathers, but it is impossible to tell which is cause and which is effect--uptight fathers may reject a non-conforming son.

3. Gays who have been in therapy tend to fit some of the psychological theories; those who haven't, don't. (This is my favorite finding, confirming my belief that psychotherapists come up with theories that reflect their patients' problems and don't have any true understanding of what makes gay people tick.)

4. Finally, there is not a hint that homosexuality is caused by seduction by older children or adults. Just about every gay person knows this, of course, but Kinsey's documentation could be valuable.

In short, this book doesn't give us any important new insights about the reasons for sexual preference; its real value comes in giving the lie to many popular myths and misconceptions.●

--Ferdydurke



## Draft officials get tax info

Even though court decisions have previously banned such snooping, a little-noticed change in federal law --just signed by President Reagan--now gives the Pentagon the right to cross-check its own files with I.R.S. and Social Security records to find who hasn't signed up for the draft. The new law, according to Robert Ellis Smith, publisher of the Privacy Journal, is a step backwards to the pre-Watergate era. He says government snooping has never been more active, thanks mainly to the spread of computerization. The Reagan Administration, he contends, is "throwing caution to the winds," when it comes to ignoring privacy in the name of intelligence gathering.●

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# Cuss out a cop! It's fun! It's legal!

Ever felt like screaming, yelling and cursing at a police officer, but chickened out because he might arrest you?

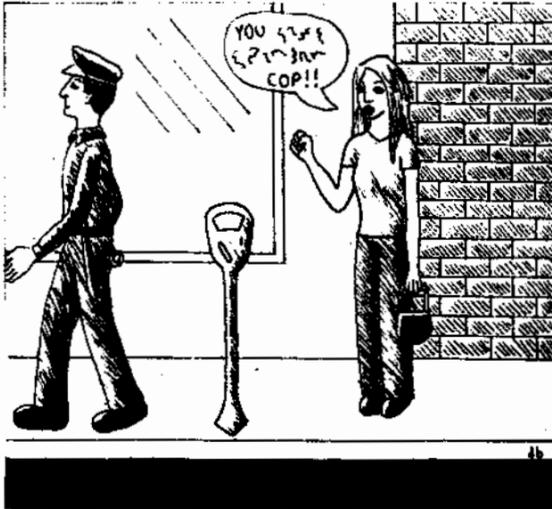
Well, don't chicken out next time. According to State's Attorney Ron Dozier, police are expected to put up with a certain amount of verbal abuse as a part of their duties.

Most cops have frequently deserved a heavy bath of verbal abuse. And yelling and screaming at a cop can be very therapeutic for frustrated citizens.

There are certain guidelines to follow, however.

If someone who is not a police officer witnesses your verbal abuse, and chooses to sign a complaint against you, you can be arrested for disorderly conduct.

So when you cuss out cops, make sure that just you, your friends, and the cops are around.



Also, do not make any threatening statements.

Information on the legal status of cop-cussing comes from a Pantagraph story which explains why the state's attorney dropped charges against a Normal man. The suspect, who happens (coincidentally) to be the step-son of the Normal city manager, was charged with disorderly conduct for yelling at a Normal cop and calling him foul names.

In dropping the charge, State's Attorney Dozier told the Pantagraph: "It has been a general principle based on the free speech guarantees of the First Amendment that policemen have to put up with verbal abuse. I don't agree with that, but it's what the courts have said."

According to the Pantagraph story, Dozier hoped that his dropping the charges "would not signal that people should expect policeman to take verbal abuse and like it."

Well, they don't have to like it. As long as they just smile.●

--Mark Silverstein

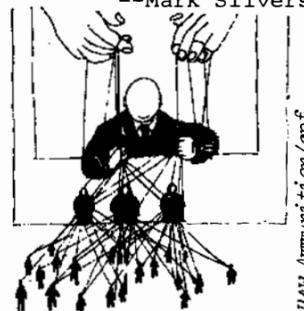
## Post-Amerikan Plastification Award

### Plastic hater blisses out

I know there's a plastic world out there to hate, but I can't get inspired. As I walk, I look down most of the time, for safety's sake. I see brown mud and rainbowed slush and interesting footprints and once in a while--my old pal the sidewalk! Sometimes I look up. I see the

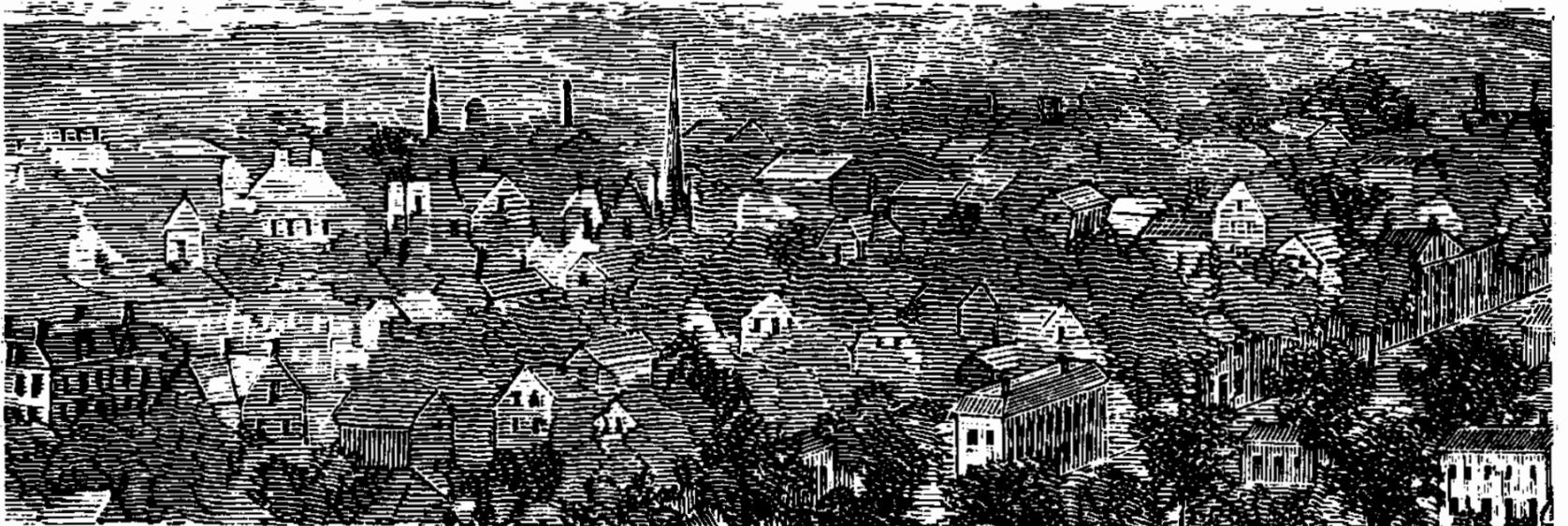
delicate blue February sky and the new snow clinging wetly to the branches. I feel the fat damp flakes on my face. I smell the sweet moist promise of March. I don't know...I'm just not disgusted right now.

See ya next month!●  
--Phoebe Caulfield



UAW Ammunition/cpf

# looks like a sleepy, serene community.



## look again.

If you listen to the city fathers, the Pantagraph, the civic boosters and the phony speechmakers, you would think we lived in a 1930's Hollywood set. But let's look behind the scenes. Each month since April 1972, the Post-Amerikan has been denting that serene facade, printing the embarrassing truths the city fathers would rather overlook. Take another look at Bloomington-Normal. Subscribe to the Post-Amerikan.

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