

Eastern Illinois University

## The Keep

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The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)

The Post Amerikan Project

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10-1981

### Volume 10, Number 6

Post Amerikan

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Hospital runs wild, mutilates neighborhood  
--see pages 12-15

# POSTER AMERICAN

Bloomington-Normal

25¢

Oct. 1981  
Vol. 10 No. 6

BY DAY, A KINDLY  
DOCTOR OF MEDICINE...

Paging Dr.  
Brokaw!

HE SUDDENLY IS  
TRANSFORMED INTO THE

Evictor!

WHERE DOES IT  
HURT, LAD?...

MORE PARKING  
LOTS!!

CRACKLE!!

HEY!!

Residents  
to  
Harass



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The Post-Amerikan is a worker controlled collective that puts out this paper. If you'd like to help, give us a call and leave your name with our wonderful answering machine. Then we'll call you back and give you the rap about the Post. You start work at nothing per hour and stay there. Everyone is paid the same. Ego gratification and good karma are the fringe benefits.

Decisions are made collectively by staff members at our regular meetings. All workers have an equal voice. The Post has no editor or hierarchical structure, so quit calling up and asking who's in charge. Ain't nobody in charge.

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

all stories and tips for stories, which you can mail to our office. The deadline for next issue is Oct. 29.

We like to print your letters. Try to be brief. If you write a short abusive letter, it's likely to get in print. But long abusive letters, especially ones that set forth ideas you can read in Time magazine every week, are not likely to get printed. Long, brilliantly written, non-abusive letters may, if we see fit, be printed as articles.

If you'd like to come work on the Post and/or come to meetings, call us at 828-7232. You can also reach folks at 828-6885.

You can make bread hawking the Post-- 15¢ a copy, except for the first 50 copies, on which you make only 10¢ a copy. Call us at 828-7232.

Mail, which we more than welcome, should be sent to: Post-Amerikan, PO Box 3452, Bloomington IL 61701. Be sure you tell us if you don't want your letter printed! Otherwise, it's likely to end up on our letters page.

Vol. 10, No. 4

#### BLOOMINGTON

Amtrak station, 1200 W. Front  
The Back Porch, 402½ N. Main  
Biasi's Drugstore, 217 N. Main  
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)  
Gallery III, 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 (PATH) 827-4005  
Dept. of Children and Family Services 828-0022  
Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare (Social Security Admin.) 829-9436  
Dept. of Mental Health 828-4311  
Draft counseling 452-5046, 828-4035  
Gay Action/Awareness Union of McLean County 452-5852  
Gay People's Alliance (ISU) 828-9085  
HELP (transportation for handicapped & senior citizens) 828-8301  
Illinois Lawyer Referral Service 800-252-8916  
Kaleidoscope 828-7346  
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  
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 Line 827-4005 (PATH)  
Small Changes Bookstore 829-6223  
Sunnyside Neighborhood Center 827-5428  
TeleCare 828-8301  
Unemployment Compensation/ Job Service 827-6237  
United Farmworkers Support Group 452-5046  
Women's Switchboard 800-927-5404

## All savers? Not on your life!

Starting Oct. 1, you can go to your friendly bank or savings and loan, buy an All Savers Certificate, and not pay one cent in federal tax on the first \$1000 in interest (or the first \$2000 if you're married and file jointly).

Sounds good, but like all tax shelters you have to be pretty well off to profit from All Savers. For instance, the mythical family of four has to have an income of about \$38,000 (yes, per year) and a single person an income of about \$21,000 to come out ahead with an All Savers, assuming

average deductions.

If you don't make that much, you might as well buy a regular treasury bill note and pay tax on the interest. By law, the All Savers Certificates pay only 70% of the interest that a regular treasury bill pays.

So All Savers is the usual tax scam designed to help those who are already well off, while everybody else will have to make up for the lost taxes.

The beauty of All Savers is that it

was designed to bail out the savings and loans which are saddled with a lot of home mortgages at the old low interest rates. Meanwhile, the S&Ls have to pay the new high rates to depositors. (The banks didn't want to be left out, so they snuck in later.) One law that helps both the rich and the bankers. Pretty nifty.

The only good thing about All Savers Certificates is that they can't be offered after Dec. 31, 1982. But by then, Congress will no doubt come up with some new scheme to help out their favorite welfare moochers.

--D. LeSeure

## Answering machine healed

Late last month the devil snuck into the Post-Amerikan office and cursed our answering machine--which is why nothing happened when you tried to call us up lately.

We, of course, got right on the stick and tried to line up a good exorcist, but these things are not as easy in real life as in the movies.

First we tried Cardinal Cody in Chicago. He was closeted with our machine for two days and most of two

nights, without success, although he showed all signs of having wrestled well and truly with someone.

Obviously, matters were more serious than we had imagined, so went almost to the top. It took Jesus four days, with laying on of both hands and feet, but the machine was finally healed.

So once again you can converse with a friendly recorded voice--and leave a message--any time you want. Praise God.



# Novels dissect the terror of South Africa, present and future

## July's people

In her most recent novel, Nadine Gordimer has written about what most white South Africans can't bear to think about--black revolution and the destruction of the white world in their country. In *July's People*, the awful oppression of blacks has finally brought revolution to South Africa.

But the fight itself--the violence and grief--is not described directly; we only hear about it over a badly working radio. The focus instead is on the lives of three quite ordinary people and the effects the upheaval has on them.

Architect Bamford Smales and his wife Maureen are "white liberals." They live in an affluent white suburb in Johannesburg and claim to want black liberation. In fact, they had thought more than once of leaving the country. When Johannesburg explodes, when black gunmen fire into the white shopping malls and fires break out in the white suburbs, the Smales are unable to escape.

They find a savior in July, their faithful servant of 15 years, who leads them and their three children to his homeland, a hot country in the Transvaal. They hide the Smales' truck in the thorn bushes, and July tells his people that the truck has been given to him.

The Smales seem reassured by July's concern for their welfare, but July's wife wants to know why they have come to her. They once had a room to sleep in, a room to eat in, a room to sit in, a room to wash in--how could they have nowhere else to go?

Slowly Gordimer shows us that these are two separate worlds, that they hardly touch each other at any point. Adapting to life in the black home-



land is awesome for the Smales: Maureen goes to work in the fields; Bam joins the men to put up a water tank.

But a great shock awaits them.

One morning July drives off to town in the truck. When he returns, he

does not offer to give back the keys. The following day July says to Maureen, "You don't like I must keep they keys." He reminds her that in Johannesburg he was in charge of all keys. "You tell everybody you trust your good boy."

He hammers on this point until she bursts out that if he remembers all this, "What about Ellen?"--Ellen being the woman who lived with him in Johannesburg. Maureen knows that she will never be forgiven.

The next catastrophe occurs when Bam shows July's young friend, Daniel, how to use a shotgun. When the Smales come back from an outing one day, the gun--and Daniel--are gone. He has joined the revolution. Bam lies down on his bed, and rolls over onto his face, as he had never done in front of his sons before.

This decent white man who wants black liberation is shattered by the loss of the gun. The gun that enabled the whites to conquer Southern Africa, the gun that has kept them safe and secure in power.

Then suddenly the sound of a helicopter above the trees is heard. Maureen hears the sound of English being spoken. "She can still hear the beat, beyond those trees, and she runs towards it. She runs." So ends the compelling and powerful parable of "July's people."

Nadine Gordimer's novels are often not easy to read. She doesn't make many concessions to readers who want something simple and straightforward. But *July's People* has a simplicity of style and structure that may make it Gordimer's best book so far. Her penetrating observation of the human species, especially those tortured humans who inhabit the nightmare of South Africa, cannot be matched anywhere in fiction today.

## Burger's daughter

*Burger's Daughter* explores the ways in which South Africans assert their humanity in the face of the organized inhumanity known as apartheid. The author examines the moral and physical difficulties of this task in her telling of the story of Rosa Burger.

Rosa is the daughter of a prosperous Afrikaaner doctor, Lionel Burger, who has chosen to betray the privilege of his race and class and to struggle for a socialist society where race will no longer be a weapon of domination. Fighting apartheid as members of the South African Communist party, he and his wife Cathy create a household where the "definition of loneliness is to live without social responsibility."

Secret political gatherings, police surveillance, raids, and jailings become part of family life. As a child, Rosa sneaks a message to her jailed mother by wrapping a piece of paper around the stopper in a hot water bottle. As a teenager, her first "romance" is a ruse to allow her to carry information to and from a political prisoner, supposedly her fiancé. And as a young woman, she helplessly watches her father condemned to life imprisonment for treason.

Both the government and Burgers' radical friends assume that Rosa will continue the family's activist tradition. But her father's death in prison jars her belief in sacrifice and struggle. Overwhelmed by the

apparent futility of her parents' efforts, Rosa remarks that "even animals have the instinct to turn away from suffering. The sense to run away."

And so she does, first to southern France, where she falls in love with a Parisian schoolteacher, and then to England, where she continues the affair. In London, however, a confrontation with South African emigrants who continue the anti-apartheid struggle from abroad shatters her escapist life.

Rosa returns home to work in a black hospital and eventually begins resistance work. Lionel Burger once declared that "there will always be those who cannot live with themselves at the expense of fullness of life for others." Rosa is one of those people. The novel closes with Rosa in jail.

In addition to the central story of Burger's daughter, Gordimer provides striking insights into South African society as a whole.

One of the most provocative portraits is of Brandt Vermeulen, an unapologetic supporter of apartheid. The portrayal is revealing because Gordimer shows us that Brandt has admirable personal qualities. He's principled, sincere, generous; he intercedes with the government so that Rosa can receive a passport. Yet none of these "virtues" inhibits his championing of apartheid. In fact, his intelligence and integrity make him all the more influential.

For those who think that education or better communication can bring down the power structure that supports apartheid, Brandt is a sobering object lesson.

Those pictured in the harshest light in *Burger's Daughter* are the sentimental liberals who object to the "excesses" of apartheid but shrink from repudiating it entirely. There is, for instance, the woman who proposes to improve "understanding between the races" by launching a "Courtesy Year" with the slogan "Smile and Say Thanks."

The radicals, too, are dissected. The white Communists are admirable in their willingness to assume the burden of fighting a repressive regime. But their mindless political line leads to some glaring contradictions. As Rosa recalls, "When the Russians moved into Prague . . . the faithful were still promising the blacks liberation through Communism, as they had always done."

*Burger's Daughter* was banned in South Africa. That is nothing new for Gordimer; two of her previous novels were also banned. But government censorship has not deterred her. Neither has unproductive guilt about her status as well-off white. She asserts her humanity in the best way she can--by writing honestly about problems with which she herself has obviously wrestled. *Burger's Daughter* is a powerful testimony to her artistic courage.

--Ferdurke

# Conception makes strange bedfellows



The population of the U.S., which thanks to Zero Population has begun to stabilize, would sharply rise. An estimated 1.5 million abortions per year are performed in this country. Without legal abortion, about half of those would become illegal abortions and half would be born.

## Further victims

The poor woman, rape or incest victim, or teenager who bears these babies will be the further victim of a society which will demand that she has the child and then will deny her the help and support she needs to care for it for the next 18 years. Many of the babies born will be battered and neglected; many of the women who choose illegal abortion will die on back-alley tables.

Labor groups are afraid that if the fetus is elevated to personhood, pregnant women (and all women, since most women can become pregnant) would be kept out of the more physically demanding and therefore higher paying jobs.

The cost of caring for these birth-on-demand babies would be staggering to an economy that is already deeply in trouble. Poor women would bear most of these babies, since rich women have always been able to get abortions. Welfare rolls would increase massively. The City of New York estimates that it has saved \$50 million dollars since abortion became legal in 1973.

The human life bill would chain a woman to the home, would keep her barefoot (because she could not hold a well-paying job) and pregnant (because she could get neither birth control nor an abortion). It would have an adverse affect on most of the rights women have fought so hard for so long to get. This is the rationale for women's rights groups joining the pro-choice movement.

## Hello, 1984

Civil rights groups contend that fetal guardians would have to be appointed to protect the rights of the unborn. A possible Bureau of Pregnancy Investigation would have to be established, and routine checks on women would be done to be sure no one is harboring a person they do not intend to carry to term. Police would have to investigate all miscarriages to see if a charge of negligent homicide need be made. Hello, 1984.

Religious groups are opposed to the bill because they realize that enforcing their own particular brand of morality on others is absurd and nonproductive and also because they don't want anybody else's brand of morality shoved down their throats. The Methodists do not want the Catholics pushing through a bill that says divorce is immoral and therefore illegal; the Episcopalians don't want the Jews lobbying for laws to reduce Christ from Messiah to nice Jewish boy. So they also do not want to make further moral decisions for others.

All these groups are afraid of how the human life bill would affect their individual concerns, but they are united in their fear and disgust. Even people who would never choose abortion for themselves and those who have not decided how they feel about when human life begins are one in their thinking that it is a decision which is theirs, not the government's, to make.

## Taking heart

Opponents to the anti-choice movement are taking heart from recent abortion fights in two countries, Romania and Italy. In Romania, the only country

in modern times to reverse a lenient abortion law, the issue was not morality nor respect for human life; the Romanians wanted to increase their population, so they outlawed abortion. (This, by the way, is also one of the original reasons abortion was made illegal in the U.S. in the late 1800's.)

In Italy, where the Italian right-to-life is headed by none other than the Pope himself, the Italian people voted by more than a two-to-one margin to reject the proposed anti-abortion laws. If the Pope cannot get the job done in Italy, I wonder why a couple of Congressmen think they can, here.

If you would like to get more involved in the pro-choice movement, you can contact the National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL) of Illinois, 100 E. Ohio St., Suite 210, Chicago IL 60611, or the Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights, 111 N. Wabash Ave., Suite 620, Chicago IL 60602.

The majority cannot afford to remain silent any longer.

--Deborah Wiatt

Sources: Science, April 24, May 8, 1981; Science News, May 9, 1981.

The issue of when life begins is one that fundamentalist freaks and fascist politicians would like us not to answer. They would like to answer it for us. It begins when they say it does, even if they cannot agree (see articles in Vol. 10, no. 5).

But the Helms/Hyde human life bill, which would grant full Constitutional protection to a fetus from the moment of conception to the moment of birth, is scaring a lot of people. Folks from civil rights, women's rights, labor, religious, medical, and scientific groups are joining together in their opposition to the human life bill.

Putting the issues of whether the bill is moral or constitutional aside, the bill, if passed, could have ramifications that would drastically affect the quality of life in this country.

The medical concern groups feel that there will be a sharp rise in deaths from abortions, which would have to be performed illegally. They are also convinced that doctors will refuse to treat a pregnant woman for cancer, kidney disease, diabetes, hypertension, and other disorders in which the treatment could harm the fetus.

## Doctors inhibited

They fear that interrupted tubal pregnancies and premature deliveries used as treatment for other disorders could cause doctors legal problems. Amniocentesis (analysis of the unborn fetus) would probably have to be abandoned because of the slight chance of miscarriage. Most of the contraceptives now in use would be banned. Doctors are also concerned the removal of a hydatid mole, a potentially malignant cluster of cells in the uterus, would be prohibited because it is actually a fertilized human egg gone awry.

Scientists, who are just discovering the worlds of in utero surgery and treatment, genetic engineering, in vitro fertilization, and fertility research, would be prohibited from experimentation.

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# Dispelling myths, period.

Period, by JoAnn Gardner, Bonnie Lopez, and Marcia Quackenbush. New Glide Publications, Inc. (330 Ellis St., San Francisco CA 94102, \$6.75 post paid), 1979.

"I had so many questions and scares about menstruation. No one ever mentioned what was going to happen to me. I saw a film on menstruation in school a year after I began my period. Big help!"

Period is a charming solution to the incredible silence that still surrounds all aspects of reproduction. Cleverly, humorously illustrated, the book gives a good rap on menstruation that any young person faced with her first period can understand.

"We live in a crazy, mixed-up world because many girls and women think that everyone else has the longest hair or smallest feet, nicest smile or prettiest eyes." The book makes a big point that everyone is different: "Learning to love your own specialness is a big part of growing up."

The main part of the book explains all about menstruation, facts and fears, with excellent diagrams and many marvelous illustrations. As the authors say in their conclusion, "After reading this book, you know more about menstruation than the three of us did when we were 9 or 10 years old. . . . We hope that knowing how your body works makes growing up and going through all these changes easier."

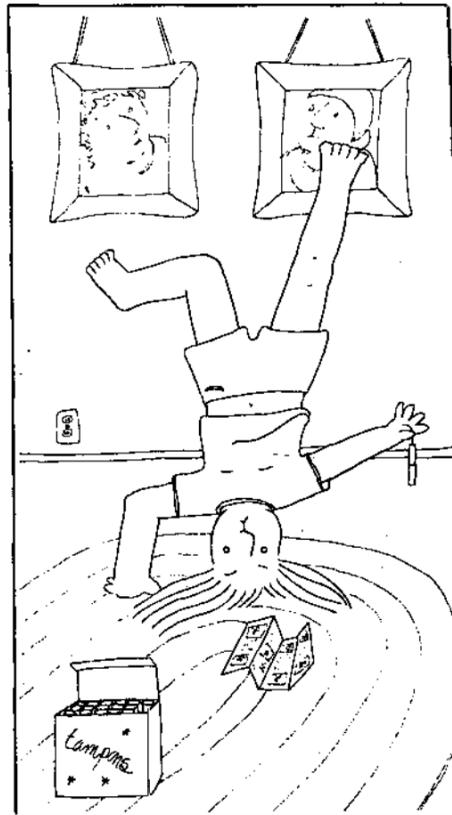
Some of the side issues are also revealing. A paragraph on vaginal

sprays and douches concludes that "vaginal sprays are supposed to help keep you 'clean and fresh.' But it's been found that, for many women, sprays actually cause infections or rashes."

I loved the sick plant in the illustration of the doctor's office in the chapter on pelvic exams. "Doctors sometimes don't give much information unless you ask," the book says. "But remember, it's your body, and you have every right to learn as much as you want about it."

I recently heard a story about a woman who was eating her foam birth control suppositories. They're supposed to go in the vagina, and they didn't work well in her stomach. Which is why we need more books like Period.

--D. LeSeure



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Post-American

## Art show review

### Five questions for art lovers

1. Did you see Lynn Webster's show of prints, drawings, and paintings at Illinois Wesleyan's Merwin gallery Sept. 12-27 and were you

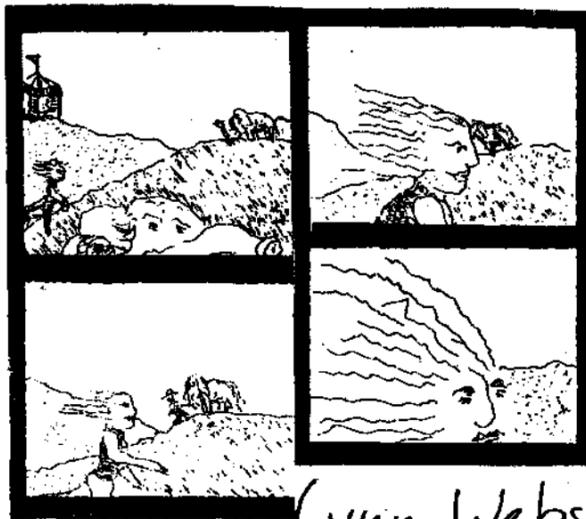
- a. shocked
- b. delighted
- c. impressed
- d. aghast
- e. all of the above

2. Did you find that the frame/sequence format of most of the drawings and prints

- a. created the illusion of having been witness to a fragment of a mysterious story
- b. caused the eye to move quickly through the frames, recreating the effect of early moving pictures
- c. gave the artist more freedom to express a feeling of three-dimensional action than a single drawing would
- d. all of the above

3. Did you find the subject matter

- a. filled with slow motion random



Lynn Webster

violence and mysterious lonely retreats to the comfort of the blank borders of the paper

- b. puzzling with its surface of quiet pathos and underlying feeling of Alice-in-Wonderland comedy
- c. far-out--I love seeing women mutating into bunny-rabbits at the hands of expressionless, rigid attackers.
- d. all of the above

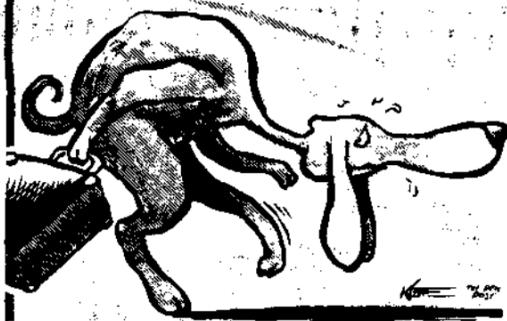
4. Did you find her treatment of the media:

- a. wonderful. The drawings had the simplistic quality of fine black line contrasted with intricate herringbone patterns of color used to flatten but simultaneously give shadow-box type dimension to the images.
- b. really keen. The vibrant colors in the paintings really gave electricity to the conflict going on in the painting.
- c. texturally rich in the etchings and lithographs with the color adding a subdued touch to detailed drawings depicting scenes and characters fraught with mystery and clues
- d. all of the above

- 5. Lynn Webster should
  - a. be applauded for her fascinating talent
  - b. be shot at dawn by a squadron of bunny-rabbits
  - c. have more shows in the future for us to see
  - \*d. be teaching art somewhere

\*Webster is currently teaching printmaking at Illinois Wesleyan University.

--L.D.



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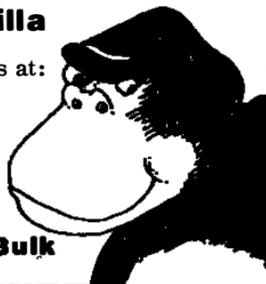
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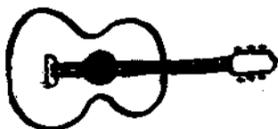
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# Boys will be boys

Alright, guys, listen up and listen good. Back in April I wrote a rather charming and clever (if I do say so myself) article on how you all ought to get your individual and collective acts together and stop harassing women. I hoped that humor was a good way of getting and keeping your attention long enough for you to recognize your dehumanizing behavior toward women and cut it out.

Apparently I was wrong.

I am not altogether surprised that I was wrong, but I am a bit disappointed. One would think that with all the books, movies, television shows, speeches, cartoons, songs, and articles in both the general and the alternative press, that you guys would eventually get the message.

The message, for those of you who need it spelled out, is this: Verbal and/or physical harassment of women is not cool and is not to be tolerated. Plain enough?

I do wonder how you ever came to believe it was cool, and I'd also like to know just what you think gives you the right to exhibit such behavior. Is there some Bill of Rights of male privilege that I missed out on due to my female socialization?

What gives you the right to follow women as they walk peacefully down

## Like attacking the Pope

Needham, MA--The annual Jerry Lewis Muscular Dystrophy Telethon for the Boston area was met this year by a demonstration outside the station where it was broadcast.

The Disabled for Dignity Coalition, with members from various disability groups, organized the Sept. 6 demonstration--not to discourage contributions to the Muscular Dystrophy Foundation--but to "object to the exploitative use of disabled men, women, and children as pathetic, helpless individuals."

The demonstration also targeted cut-backs by the Reagan administration in the 1973 Rehabilitation Act, which provides for the hiring of disabled people in government jobs and for accessibility to buildings and transportation.

The coalition says the telethon "reinforces the image of people with disabilities as powerless recipients of charity based on pity and guilt. Pity and guilt are a weak foundation upon which to support a sense of worth, individual independence and autonomy."

The group says the telethon also reveals the "deep-seated attitude that people with disabilities cannot make meaningful contributions to the world they live in." The group called on those contributing to demand that disabled people be involved in planning and producing the telethon and in performing on it.

Linda Gwizdak of the coalition said the demonstration was successful in "planting a totally new concept in people's minds" by challenging the "Jerry's kids" approach of the event. She also said that criticizing Lewis was "kind of like attacking the Pope."

Gwizdak said more such actions will follow: "What gays have done, what blacks have done, disabled people are just beginning to do." •

--Gay Community News



city streets? What gives you the right to shout obscenities from your cars? (And anything shouted from a car is an obscenity, in case you were wondering.) What gives you the right to call women on the phone and frighten them with lewd suggestions or heavy breathing?

What gives you the right to fondle women in bars, pat their heads, legs, and asses, and physically restrain them from leaving you after they have tired of such abuse? Or to walk up to a table full of women in a bar or a restaurant and ask, "What are you doing here alone?" and then get offended and leave muttering something about dykes under your breath? Or not to leave at all, but to pull up another chair and pretend that you, by the very fact of your masculinity, are of course both wanted and welcome regardless of what the women happen to say to the contrary?

What gives you the right to think that you can do absolutely anything in your power to make every woman you come in contact with feel uncomfortable, embarrassed, and abused?

Don't you know what your assumption of this right does to women? Don't you know that it makes every woman's guts churn if she has to pass a group of men on the sidewalk? Don't you know that it makes every woman reluctant to go anywhere without the protection of a rather large man? Don't you know that it makes every

woman a victim and every man an assailant?

Or don't you care?

I'm sorry if I've gotten a bit carried away. It's just that I feel really helpless sometimes, and I don't know what else I can do except write articles and believe in the powers of language and logic.

But I am quickly coming around to thinking that I am wrong, that language and logic will change nothing. I am beginning to think that the women in Madison are right.

A woman I know in Madison is part of a group called HYMN (Harass Yahoo Men Now). HYMN does not go around looking for trouble, but when the women of HYMN find trouble, they fight back. Their latest coup involved a young man in a 1980 MGB who was driving around after the bars closed and verbally harassing women as they walked to their cars. He picked the wrong group of women last week.

He picked some of the women from HYMN. One of them pulled out a pump air rifle and shot holes in the two back tires of the car and when he stopped another woman took a little knife and cut out the back window of his convertible top.

When he got out of the car to revenge this outrage my friend Sandy, a 1st degree black belt in karate, proceeded to break his collarbone and his right arm. I daresay, as does HYMN, that he will not be harassing any women for quite a while.

I'm not quite ready to start a HYMN chapter here, but it's beginning to sound better and better everytime I get asked from a passing car if I wanna f\*ck. •

--Deborah Wiatt

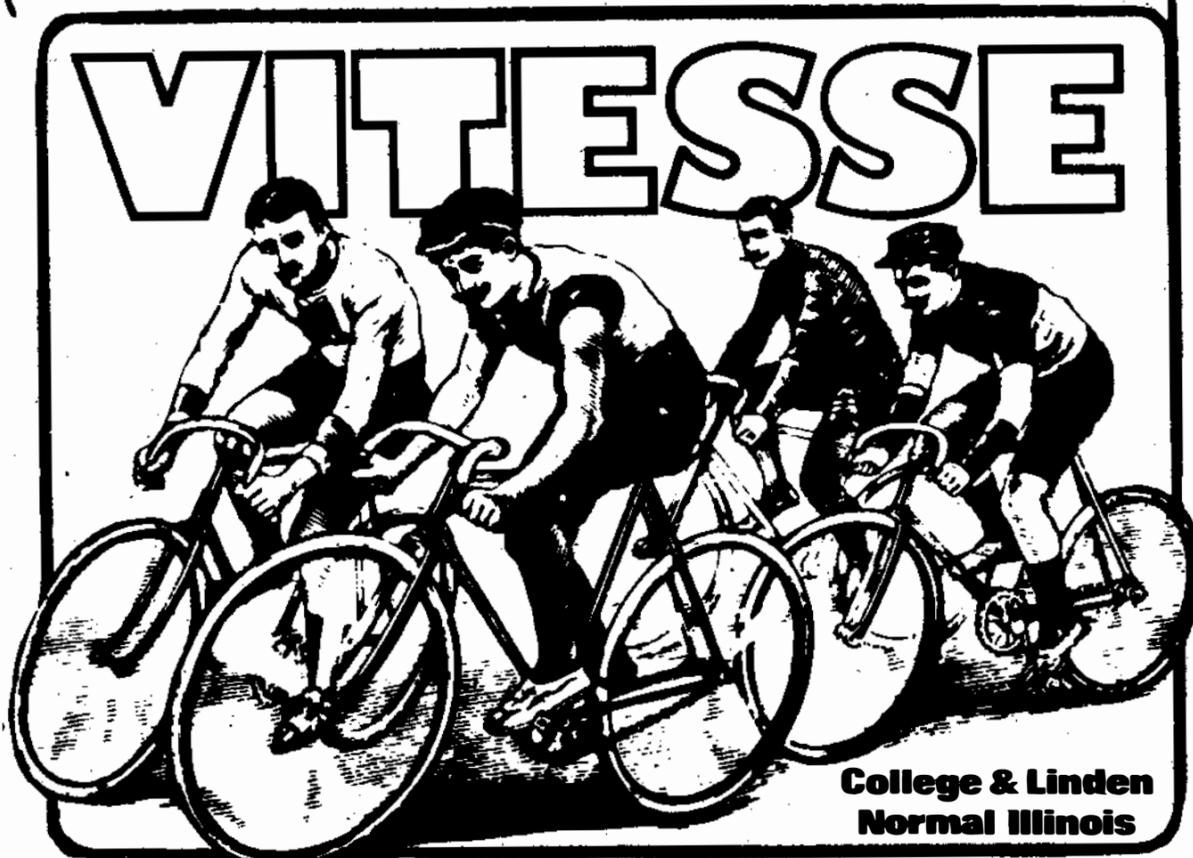


Post-American

October 1981

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# Cultural festival '81

Miller Park sprang to life Saturday, September 19, as the second annual Cultural Festival kicked off an entire day of activities. Music, art exhibits, interpretive dance, a karate exhibition, and interpretive poetry and drama--not to mention the enjoyment of kinship with community people--were part of this year's agenda.

The temperatures crept back into the seventies for this event after several days of unseasonably cool weather. The beautiful day seemed to bless the event.

Albert Gray and Ahriman Ali enchanted the crowd with poetry. K.O.S.T., a local jazz dance group, were on hand to perform interpretive dance. Throughout the day music was provided by Nucleus, Mexican Culture, Seventh Heaven, Sly, and a group effort by Karen Cotton, Lori Tice, and Tory Tucker. Tangie Beverly and Tory Tucker later performed a duet.

The New Hope Deliverance Church of Peoria was represented with a presentation of a rewritten interpretive drama called "For Colored Girls Only." The church changed the original Broadway script which dealt with suicide to an interpretation dealing with Christ and salvation.

### A bonus

This year, participants got a bonus with the advent of softball games held in conjunction with the Cultural Festival. Bacon's Ace High Lounge sponsored that portion of the events, and teams from Bloomington, Peoria, and Decatur played at the O'Neill Park diamonds.



Local artist John Nuckolls showed his charcoal and coquille pencil rendering of Cicely Tyson.

According to Gary X. Gaston, a co-chairperson of the festival, preparations began in earnest last May. Due to problems which always occur when acts and commitments are promised too far in advance, Gaston said the majority of the commitments were confirmed just three weeks before the event.

Both Gaston and the other co-chairperson, Lee Otis Brewer, anticipate changes for the Cultural Festival next year. Brewer said Delta Kappa Delta from ISU has already pledged their support, and he's received suggestions for adding a tennis tournament to the softball tournament.

Gaston said next year he will attempt to get other events, such as the Martin Luther King Memorial Softball Tournament, integrated into the festival. His hopes are to incorporate the tournament with next year's festival, as well as planning a date late enough to allow for participation by ISU and IWU students.

Even though Sebron Kendrick again displayed his sensitive and beautiful art work, Gaston was disappointed in the scanty turnout of local cultural artists. Next year he hopes to stress participation by local artists.



Seventh Heaven, a local band, thrilled the capacity audience at the Miller Park bandshell with their original songs and abundant energy.

### Art work

Still, people who appreciate art work could find some beautiful work by Jim and John Nuckolls of Bloomington. A bashful Jim Nuckolls, who is a student of graphic design at ICC, gave this reporter a peek at his work but wouldn't allow me to photograph it. I hope those in attendance at the festival had a chance to see some of his exemplary work.

I had the opportunity to meet some young, energetic, and creative local musicians, too. They call themselves Seventh Heaven and were very well received at the festival. I spoke with Donald Johnson, John Hebert, and Mike Thompson about their band and discovered that all their material is original. They write and perform jazz, soul easy listening, and other original popular selections. Their hopefully not-so-distant goals include cutting a demonstration record, but they said they are looking for backing to help promote the band. Other members of Seventh Heaven include Reggie Brown, Wendell Wallace, Randy Thompson, and Paul Wallace. If you're interested in contacting Seventh Heaven, you can call Reggie Brown at 829-7275 or John Hebert at 829-9245.

So many talented individuals shared their work at the Cultural Festival that I didn't get the chance to talk with everyone, but I did meet Olegra Lemons, who performed with the dance group K.O.S.T. She said K.O.S.T. was born of Jazz Central, a dance group which was formed in 1975. Jazz Central performed during the local bicentennial activities and had successful engagements in Springfield and Decatur and at ISU.

K.O.S.T. and Jazz Central are affiliated with the McLean County Dance Association. Members of the group also include Virgie Ray, Tamara Brown, and Karen Cotton. Ms. Lemons told me she expected the group to recombine into Jazz Central for later events and performances. You can contact the group through the McLean County Dance Association at 829-9333.

### Positive action

Gary Gaston told me that the underlying idea of the Cultural Festival is to get blacks and Hispanics to recognize the need for unity. The Cultural Festival is designed to provide a forum for minority cultures to share with everyone what they do best as a basis for pride and recognition. Gaston noted that white-people with European backgrounds continue to hold cultural fairs and festivals because they recognize the same need for unity.

Gaston and others spoke to the need for more participation and connections to promote a cultural awakening in Bloomington-Normal. He said blacks and other non-whites spend billions of dollars in the white community nationwide, "but we still have to ask white people for the right to put on an event."

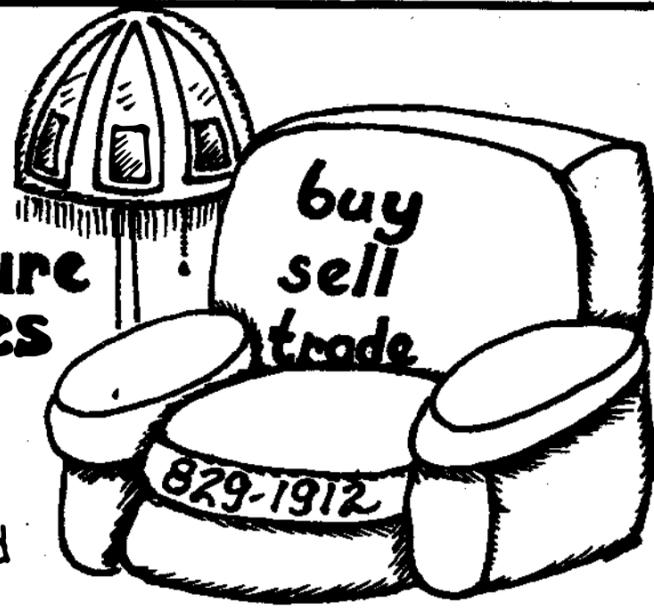
"Still, we can't blame the white community for not helping, because we don't help ourselves," he said. Gaston said he hopes the festival will promote the feeling that blacks and Hispanics must provide their cultures with financial and other supportive backing to encourage more of what everyone experienced Saturday.

--Jeremy Timmens

# A's

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## Lead hazards associated with paint removal

During the past year the McLean County Health Department blood-lead screening has focused on children under six. However, recently an adult and two children suffered high blood-lead levels as a result of lead oxide fumes from paint removal.

This incident shows the risk of lead poisoning from use of electric paint removers or "heat guns." While lead poisoning in small children usually results from eating chips of lead-based paint, lead poisoning among adults and older children can result from breathing dust or fumes.

Homeowners doing repainting should be

'aware of potential hazards of of the precautions needed to insure safety. First, if the home was built before 1960, exterior paint chips may contain lead. In homes built before the early 1950s, interior paint may also contain lead. Sample chips can be brought to the health department for analysis.

Second, homeowners using electric paint removers should use a respirator for protection against lead dust and fumes. Again, the health department can offer advice on which respirators are best.

Third, you should never eat, smoke or drink while removing paint. Other

suggestions: shower and shampoo after work, store and wash soiled work clothes separately from other clothes, and keep children away from the work area. Finally, paint scrapings should be collected and disposed of.

During or after working on paint removal projects, people who have persistent headaches, dizziness, cramps, constipation, poor appetite, loss of weight, nausea or visual problems should consult a doctor. Blood-lead screening is available at the health department by appointment.

For more information call the health department at 454-1161.

## Gay people's Alliance begins 10th year

This fall the Gay People's Alliance at Illinois State University began its 10th year of weekly meetings. As is always the policy, everyone--both students and non-students alike--are welcome to attend.

Meetings are held on Wednesdays and begin at 8 p.m. in room 112 of Fairchild Hall.

The program for Wednesday, Sept. 30 will focus on gay literature. Individual and group readings will be given from works such as Shadow Box and Faggots. Also included in the program will be readings from the works of Allen Ginsberg and Truman Capote.

Other activities planned for the fall semester will be a Gay-Straight Rap (an open discussion for people to ask questions and discuss issues

with a group of gay men and lesbians); some fun film presentations; workshops and discussion sessions; and lots of good times socializing afterwards.

A few of the most successful meetings last year may be repeated or topics discussed again. We had workshops on developing a "positive faggot identity," alternatives to the bars, relationships, and lesbian couples.

In addition to the weekly meetings, GPA offers a Speakers' Bureau, which provides speakers for classes and groups in the community. We also have an office on campus to provide a neutral territory for counseling and a library of gay publications.

Help us celebrate our second decade of gay pride. For more information, call Ivan Gronsky at 828-9085.

## CSA takes stock

On September 11 and 12 the Community for Social Action held a retreat in the Woodscamp at East Bay Camp. Those attending Friday night viewed a film about the evolution and completion of Judy Chicago's Dinner Party, a collective art project focusing on feminist history. An informal discussion period followed the film, and some participants stayed overnight in the Woodscamp cabins.

Commencing at about 11 a.m. the next day was discussion centering on the topic of "Taking Stock." Following brief self-introductions, each person related individual motivations for attending the retreat. Virtually all agreed that they were drawn by the hope of reconnecting with people they had known or worked with at one time in preparation for the years ahead.

After a lunch break for a delicious community soup, the group met again to speak about what lies ahead for the community. Reagan's budget cuts and the suffering that will ensue, the U.S. military's increased saberrattling, and the impending completion and operation of the Clinton nuke were among the topics.

The need for making activists visible was brought up, in addition to making groups accessible to others in the community. Many in attendance shared a "calendar of events" in which others present could participate.

The Community for Social Action meets the second and fourth Fridays of each month at the Wesley United Methodist Church in Normal. For more information contact Robert Sutherland at 452-4831.

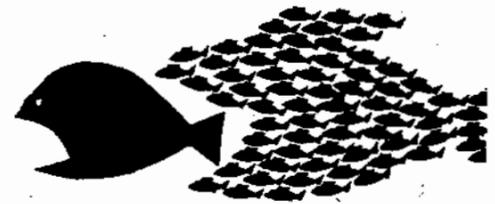
## Immunizations at Sunnyside

Starting Sept. 1, the McLean County Health Department is offering immunization clinics at the Sunnyside Neighborhood Center, 1612 W. Olive Street on the third Friday of each month, only from 1 to 3 p.m. The following is a schedule for the next six months:

Friday, September 18  
Friday, October 15  
Friday, November 20  
Friday, December 18  
Friday, January 15  
Friday, February 19.

## CDSV training

If you are interested in assisting victims of abusive relationships, explore the volunteer program of YWCA Countering Domestic and Sexual Violence. As a paraprofessional volunteer, you will provide support, information, and an important link to other social service agencies. Through training you will develop communication and problem-solving skills while experiencing personal growth. Training sessions begin Oct. 12. For further information call 662-0461.



## NOW to sponsor rape awareness week

The Bloomington-Normal chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW) will sponsor a Rape Awareness Week, Oct. 5 through 8. The campaign will begin on Monday at 1:30 p.m. with a discussion of "The Crime of Rape" on WJBC's "Problems and Solutions" program, featuring State's Attorney Ron Dozier and Linda Schwartz of Countering Domestic and Sexual Violence (CDSV).

That evening a program of "What Happens If You Are a Victim?" will be held at the First Presbyterian Church in Normal, including a viewing of the film "Rape Culture." Speakers that evening will include Debra Lilly, victim advocate for the state's attorney, Deborah Wiatt of the Rape Crisis Center (RCC), and Linda Schwartz of CDSV.

At 7 p.m. on Oct. 6, NOW will hold their monthly meeting at the Campus Religious Center at 210 W. Mulberry in Normal. The program will feature Cathy Corl of Chimera, Inc., who appeared on the "Phil Donahue Show" in August, with a presentation on women's self-defense. On Wed., Oct. 7, all the local law enforcement heads and the State's Attorney will engage in a panel discussion about rape; the discussion will be held in the basement of the Normal Public Library.

On Thursday, Oct. 8, at 3 p.m. in room 208 of Moulton Hall at ISU the film "Rape Culture" will be shown again, with a subsequent panel discussion by Linda Schwartz (CDSV), Deborah Wiatt (RCC), and Cheryl Hetherington of the ISU Counseling Center.

The week will conclude Thursday Night with a "Take Back the Night" walk, which will begin at the Campus Religious Center in Normal at 7 p.m. and proceed through the ISU campus to IWU's campus. Following the walk, a program featuring Emily Dale and musical entertainment by Marita Brake, Holly Foy, and Marilaurice Hemlock will be presented in the Davidson Room of the IWU Student Center.

"Solidarity Day in Washington was Round One in the fight against the Reagan program. The All-Peoples Congress in Detroit will be Round Two."

This was the perspective outlined by Herb Jackson, spokesperson for the Chicago chapter of the All-Peoples Congress, a broad-based national coalition organizing a "Congress of the People" to take place at Detroit's Cobo Hall, Oct. 16-18.

"The official Congress in Washington has not provided any serious opposition to the Reagan administration's budget cuts and military build-up," said Jackson. "The people of this country want their tax dollars used for nutritious school lunches and decent social security benefits--not MX missiles and neutron bombs. We need our own Congress to repre-

sent us and stop this assault."

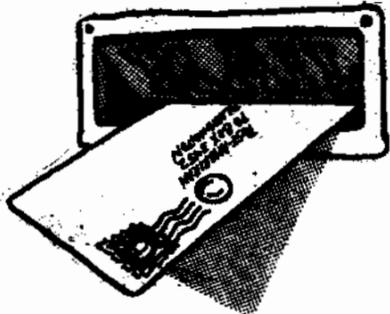
The All-Peoples Congress will involve thousands of representatives from unions, tenant groups, welfare rights organizations, women's groups--all those opposed to the Reagan program. It intends to develop a unified plan of actions throughout the country to realize its aims.

Chicago area endorsers of the All-Peoples Congress include such prominent individuals as Congressman Gus Savage; Alderman Danny Davis; and Dr. Quentin Young. Organizations actively involved include the Illinois Welfare Rights Coalition; Chicago Gray Panthers; Communications Workers of America; Peoples Anti-War Mobilization; the Committee to Save Cook County Hospital; and Substitutes United for Better Schools.

"Solidarity Day showed the deep anger that is building among workers and poor people," stated Jackson. "When the budget cuts take effect October 1st, that anger will intensify. The All-Peoples Congress will channel that anger into an organized resistance movement."

Buses will be sent from Chicago to the All-Peoples Congress. For information call the All-Peoples Congress at (312) 427-8038.

The cost of attending the Congress is \$5.00 (\$2.00 for the unemployed, senior citizens, and students), and \$10.00 for organizations. The APC will send information upon request. For advanced registration or information, contact All-Peoples Congress, 19 W. 21st St., New York, NY 10010; (212) 741-0633.



## Telecable refund

Dear Post-Amerikan,

Thanks for the article on Telecable refunds. The article motivated me to call Telecable and ask for my refund. After 10 minutes on hold, the company worker seemed to follow your article question by question: "How long were you inconvenienced?" they asked. I told them that was irrelevant.

At that point I was given the supervisor to speak with. It was then I learned I was without telecable for 80 hours. I enjoyed the article and I had fun getting my refund from Telecable. I encourage others to call Telecable for their refunds--it's fun and you get money back, too.

I've enclosed my refund and a donation to the Post. Thanks again.

--G.S.T.

## "Pinus elasticus"

Dear Post-Amerikan,

Your August issue just happened to be the first one I've read since I moved into town (forgive me). The article about the "landscaping" at Mr. Quick was of special interest to me because I work at a local garden center. If the big wheels could hear what people say about such shrubs as "pinus elasticus," they'd uproot them immediately and put real evergreens in.

They're not expensive and would give such places as Mr. Quick some class. "Pinus elasticus" is sterile and barren and 100% of the people hate it!

I enjoyed your paper and look forward to the next issue.

Sincerely,  
Lois Schick



ARMS BAZAAR, 386 pages exposing the merchants of death. Send \$3.95 to RECON, p.o. box 14602, Philadelphia, PA 19134.

## War resisters league organizer's manual

This is the first time in a decade that a comprehensive book on organizing techniques is available.

Everyone in the movement will find it an essential reference. You do not have to be a member of the War Resisters League to put this book to good use.

The WRL Organizer's Manual contains 44 chapters and 70 photos or graphics on all aspects of organizing, from using the media to fundraising to organizing demonstrations to public speaking to producing leaflets.

The 220 pages (8½" x 11" format) are softbound in an attractive 3-color cover.

No organizer should be without one. If you have a movement friend or

relative for whom it is always difficult to find a gift, This Is It! If you know someone who has always wanted to be an organizer, but seems to lack the confidence, send this book.

How often have you wanted to tell a good friend--but haven't worked up the nerve--that his or her leaflets are a blight on the movement or an eyesore to all who have the misfortune to stumble across them? Now you have the perfect way to do it in a loving and gentle manner... send a copy of the Organizer's Manual with the corner of page 136 turned down.

Each book is only \$6, plus \$1 for postage and handling.

Write: War Resisters League,  
339 Lafayette, New York NY  
10012.



## Politics and music unite

On the weekend of July 10-12 a group of midwest political singers, songwriters, and musicians met for a workshop on political song near Dodgeville WI. Out of the workshop sprang an organization--the Midwest People's Music Network (MPMN), a grapevine set up to promote the expansion of political music around the midwest and to provide peer support and contacts for the political performer and songwriter.

Our initial plans include the development of an MPMN directory of musicians and people interested in promoting political music, and the holding of another gathering this fall. Some of our members are interested in forming a pool of musicians to draw from to perform at rallies and benefits for progressive causes around the midwest. MPMN's next formal gathering, workshop, and song-swap will be at Moose Jaw Lodge near Fiefield WI on the weekend of Nov. 6-8.

People interested in joining MPMN or in attending the November workshop should call David at 608-256-8476 or write to MPMN, 1432 Morrison St. Apt. 1, Madison WI 53703.

## Stop militarism on campus

Resurgent campus militarism is the topic for a national conference Nov. 6-8 in Madison, Wis., sponsored by Nukewatch, a public education foundation, and the newly-organized Wisconsin Peace Conversion Project.

Under the theme, "Ain't Gonna Study War No More," the conference will focus on recent increases in Pentagon-funded academic research (up to 70 percent in three years.) It will also examine the related issues of university investments in the military-industrial complex, the draft, and military and corporate recruiting on college campuses.

Dr. Helen Caldicott, author of "Nuclear Madness" and president of Physicians for Social Responsibility, will be the keynote speaker. Other speakers include Rebekah Ray, research director of NARMIC; Marion Anderson, author of "The Empty Pork Barrel" and director of a Michigan public interest research group; and Ada Sanchez, a veteran organizer for peace and environmental causes.

The purpose of the conference is to stimulate peace conversion projects on other college campuses, following the example of the Wisconsin project, which arose out of student reaction to a symposium sponsored by the Army and the University of Wisconsin Math Research Center last May, to discuss the Army's research needs in the 1980's.

A free brochure with full information is available from Nukewatch, 315 W. Gorham, Madison, WI 53703.

# The return of 1954

They haven't done it yet and they sure don't have a majority for it, but the Reaganite New Right has an agenda: return the U.S. to 1954 by 1984.

That's right. Witch hunts and big guns, invisible poor and divisible stock issues. By "one nation under god," they mean their nation. There is no place for women, blacks, gays, or radicals in the Republican dream.

They have a plan, which is more than we have. (Think about that for a while.) The following list of New Right goals is adapted from a mailing put out by the Progressive Political Action Committee (PROPAC):

1. Kill the Voting Rights Act that allowed hundreds of thousands of blacks throughout the South to vote for the first time in the 1960s.
2. Re-establish the Congressional Un-American Activities committees that ruined thousands of lives and chilled dissent throughout the U.S. in the 1960s.
3. Give the Pentagon a blank check for new weapons.
4. Abolish the Occupational Safety and Health Administration that has made significant steps toward making the workplace safer.
5. Abandon the fight to stop the spread of nuclear weapons.
6. Roll back the windfall profits tax

on the monster oil companies.

7. Defeat the Equal Rights Amendment.
8. Stop U.S. pressure for human rights in Latin America and other countries.
9. Stop enforcement of environmental standards.
10. Allow tax breaks to private, segregated schools.
11. Speed up the massive nuclear arms race with the Soviet Union.
12. Severely cut food stamps, social security, and other programs for the elderly and the needy.
13. Tell adult Americans what they're allowed to read and what movies they can see.
14. Amend the Constitution to ban all abortions for all women.

It is not enough merely to fight against these New Right goals. It will not do to trade the right to abortion for continued freedom from censorship. We must proclaim our own agenda, our own dreams.

There is no majority to support any of these New Right goals unless it be a majority of corporation bosses. We must find a majority to send



Ronald Reagan and Jesse Helms and Jerry Falwell back to their pools of medieval slime.

--D. LeSeure



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## ACLU to debate moral majority

The Central Illinois Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union will be represented Sept. 29 at 8:00 p.m. in the ISU Union Prairie Room in a debate with a representative of the "Moral Majority."

Scott Eatherly will represent the ACLU and Chuck Ford of Peoria's Town and Country Baptist Church will speak for the Moral Majority in a "Face-Off: Religion and Public Policies" debate.

The encounter will cover a great deal of ground since it will focus on issues like a separation of church and state, public schools, sex and violence on TV, churches and politics, and the involvement of government in supporting family-centered life. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Also of interest to persons concerned with civil liberties will be a panel discussion of library censorship on Sat., Oct. 3, at 9:30 a.m. in the community room of the Bloomington Public Library. Entitled "When the Censor Strikes," the panel will discuss first amendment rights as they affect censorship and library responsibilities to the community.

Barry Faye of the ACLU will participate in the discussion along with others, including a representative of the Illinois Citizens for Family Life.

Other participants will be Brenda Pacey, a Lincoln Trails Library System consultant for the Illinois Association for Media in Educational Intellectual Freedom, who will advise those interested about what to do before the censor strikes.

Sharing their experiences with actual censorship will be Betty Simpson of the Mackinaw Public Library and Geraldine Schreifer of the Mahomet High School Library.

Coffee and donuts will be served at 9 a.m., and the public is encouraged to attend.

For more information about the ACLU and their activities contact Scott Eatherly at 454-1787. The next ACLU steering committee meeting will be Wednesday, Oct. 28, at 7:30 p.m. at the Sutherland home, 501 E. Willow in Normal.

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**Lobbying for our side**

Lobbyists wear gray suits, smoke cigars, and dance to the tune of your most hated oil company.

Yep. A bunch of them do, and lot of the rest are right-wing nutzoes who push for God, guns and chains for women.

But nowadays there are a few lobbyists (besides Ralph Nader) on our side, and some of them are picking up on the techniques that convinced two thirds of Congress that most Americans think like Ronald Reagan. Techniques like organized letter-writing.

If you've ever wondered why public opinion polls show that most US citizens support the ERA, abortion, and gun control while legislators regularly vote against those things, lobbying is the answer.

Whenever somebody in Congress mutters "gun control" while dozing at their desk, the National Rifle Assn. instantly buries the poor sod in 87 million anti-gun-control letters.

The god & family folks noticed the reaction to those letters a few years back: most members of Congress who get 100 letters against gun control in a week sit up and bark; most of them hop right on over to their favorite shrink or Madison Avenue image-maker and get the offending idea removed pronto.

An example (but one from our side).

When the bill providing funding for family planning first came up this year, US Rep. Edward Madigan was solidly with Righteous Ronnie. The prez planned to lump money for family planning with a bunch of other things and then let the states decide how much would go to which programs. Ronnie expected, probably rightly, that the states would spend the money on something other than birth control pills and subsidized medical care for women.

**Letters and congressional egos**

Enter a Planned Parenthood lobbyist coordinating visits, phone calls, and letter-writing in favor of family planning.

Over six weeks Madigan changed his position four times, each time a little closer to what Planned Parenthood wanted. When the final vote came, Madigan abandoned Ronnie altogether and voted for a bill that reserved a specific amount of money for family planning, money that can be spent only for family planning.

By the end of the lobbying campaign Madigan's office was calling up the lobbyist and saying things like: "We're getting a lot of letters. We thought you might clarify the Congressman's position to your people." Translated, that meant that Madigan had changed his position, and he wanted people to know it.

"It doesn't take a lot to make them sit up," Phil King, the lobbyist, said at a Planned Parenthood workshop last month. A hundred letters on one issue in one week is a lot of letters, he said. (For state reps 50-60 letters are a lot.) With very little organization, the three Planned Parenthood affiliates in Madigan's district generated 300-400 letters.

King listed five lobbying techniques that any group can use to bring pressure on wrong-headed legislators.

1. Visits. Pick one specific issue and stick to it. In fact, decide what you're going to say to your legislator ahead of time. Go with four other people and try to get variety in your group, young and old, female and male.
2. Letters. Again stick to one topic. Use a specific bill number if at all possible so the legislator

knows exactly what you want. And give reasons for your position: legislators deal with an enormous number of bills (and they aren't always too bright).

3. Phone calls. Legislators have more than one office, so call all of them. You won't get to talk to the honcho, but whoever answers the phone will be keeping a tally of who calls and what you're for or against.

4. Telegrams. Western Union has a public opinion message which can be sent by a group in an individual's name if that person has agreed to pay for the telegram. (They put it on your telephone bill.) Public opinion messages are great for last-minute drives, and they "have every bit of the impact (on the legislator) of a letter," says King, "because you're spending money" (\$4.50). Ain't capitalism wonderful.

5. Media. Write letters to newspapers, send out press releases, and hold news conferences. You will be ignored most of the time, but if the media does pick up on your cause, your legislator will notice. They hire people to keep track of such things.

Legislators went into politics because they get off on it. They like the status and recognition they get from being in the public eye, and they're very sensitive about protecting what feeds their over-inflated egos, namely their jobs.

In other words, you too can get to your politico--right through their over-inflated egos--by making them think you might be able to turn out a few hundred voters against them at the next election. So buy a cigar and organize.

--D. LeSeure

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 6th <b>4</b> Bad Attitudes	 13th <b>5</b> Eric Engel	 20th <b>6</b> Mike Hogan	 27th <b>7</b> New Wave Nite (thank to Drastic Plastic)	 <b>8</b> Suzy Bogguss	 <b>9</b> Bizzy Ditch	 <b>10</b> Bizzy Ditch			
<b>11</b> WZAD Rock Night the Midnight River Band	<b>12</b> Howie Bindrin	<b>13</b> Pete Ferrerro	<b>14</b> New Wave Nite (music courtesy of Drastic Plastic)	<b>15</b> TBA	<b>16</b> Manassas Junction	<b>17</b> TBA			
<b>18</b> Uptown Rulers	<b>19</b> Sangaman River Banquets	<b>20</b> John Norotny	<b>21</b> New Wave Nite (Drastic Plastic presents)	<b>22</b> Manassas Junction	<b>23</b> Slag Heap	<b>24</b> Bad Attitudes			
<b>25</b> John Norotny	<b>26</b> Mike Hogan	<b>27</b> Eric Engel	<b>28</b> Drastic Plastic Nite (thank to New Wave)	<b>29</b> TBA	<b>30</b> Dronz	<b>31</b> Food & Money			

# City council approves

Looking across the street from Brokaw Hospital today, you can see a beautiful tree-shaded neighborhood of well-kept older homes.

Get a good look.

Brokaw Hospital will soon pave over almost the entire 3 acres to build a parking lot.

Despite intense neighborhood opposition, the Normal City Council cleared the way for Brokaw's plans Sept. 21, when it changed the area's zoning from residential to institutional.

Brokaw has bought up all but one house fronting on Franklin Avenue, and owns 13 of the 18 houses on the block bounded by University Street, Virginia Avenue, Franklin Avenue, and Sugar Creek.

Dorothy Robison, who lives at 1311 Franklin, has held out, repeatedly refusing to sell her house to the hospital. Her house will be surrounded on three sides by Brokaw's parking lot.

## Continually harassed

At the council meeting, Mrs. Robison charged that Brokaw has continually harassed her in an effort to get her to sell her home (see adjoining story). Other neighbors complained privately about the tactics the hospital used to buy up house after house in a neighborhood that didn't want to be broken up.

Two years ago, Brokaw owned only three lots on the block. When the hospital tried to get the land rezoned for a parking lot in 1979, neighbors got together and organized against the destruction of their neighborhood.

They won. For a while.

In fall 1979, the Normal Planning Commission voted unanimously to deny Brokaw's bid for a parking lot on the block.

From reading statements of neighbors given at the 1979 Planning Commission hearing, a picture emerges of a neighborhood whose residents are committed to staying and maintaining their homes. Almost all the houses on the block were owner-occupied. Many had lived there for fifteen, twenty, even thirty years. Many had only recently spent substantial amounts of money for major maintenance or remodeling projects.

## Sincere commitments

The neighbors' 1979 statements read like heartfelt, sincere commitments to the neighborhood. Yet only two years later, many of their authors no longer live on the block.

One by one, families caved in to the

pressure generated by a large institution determined to acquire specific pieces of real estate.

Although Brokaw failed to get its three lots rezoned in 1979, the hospital didn't like taking "No" for an answer. Brokaw continued buying houses on the block.

A year later the hospital owned seven of the 18 houses. At a certain point, Brokaw's land acquisition began to build a momentum of its own. Neighbors who wanted to live on the block the rest of their lives began to believe that the hospital would eventually get its parking lot. The parking lot would devalue their property. So some block residents got out while the getting was good.

The belief that Brokaw's success was inevitable helped to make it inevitable.

Some would call Brokaw's real estate acquisition a case of blockbusting. Brokaw undoubtedly calls it progress.

By summer, 1981, Brokaw owned 13 of

the block's 18 houses. The hospital went back to the Planning Commission



## Four solutions

"For 14 years we have studied every possible alternative to acquire essential parking, including a parking garage and every property surrounding the hospital."

--Duane Miller, President of the Brokaw Board, in a letter to the Pantagraph, claiming that the only "feasible" solution to Brokaw's problem was paving over the 3-acre area across Franklin Avenue.

I'm going to present four alternative "feasible" solutions to Brokaw's parking problem. Brokaw didn't consider or accept these solutions either because of the hospital's limited thinking, or because these solutions didn't fit in with the hospital's hidden agenda: acquiring and removing the houses across Franklin Avenue to clear the way for Brokaw's future expansion.

### Parking deck

In fall, 1979, Brokaw owned three lots on the other side of Franklin Ave. After the Planning Commission refused to re-zone the lots for a parking lot, Brokaw started plans to build a two-level parking deck underneath a proposed two-story physicians' office building.

The next spring, 1980, while appealing for several zoning variances, Brokaw

argued that the deck was the "only" solution to its parking problem, since they couldn't get their holdings across Franklin Ave.

At Normal City Hall, the file on Brokaw's proposed parking deck/office building is thick. There are huge architect's drawings. Brokaw had done plenty of detailed planning. After the city approved the variances in July, 1980, it looked like all systems were go.

According to Brokaw attorney Frank Miles, the plan was dropped because it was "too expensive" to build the two levels of parking. Hard to believe that Brokaw didn't know how expensive it would be to build the deck before the hospital paid for detailed drawings, filed plans, and obtained variances.

When Brokaw considers which plan is more expensive, buying up and tearing down a neighborhood or building a parking deck, the hospital doesn't consider "expense" like loss of the



## Here's to you, Mrs. Robison

As Normal Council members, one by one, expressed their support for Brokaw's paving over a 3-acre neighborhood, each of them also "expressed concern" for Mrs. Dorothy Robison, whose home at 1311 Franklin will be surrounded on three sides by the hospital's asphalt.

That asphalt will radiate a lot of heat into Mrs. Robison's home in the summertime.

Brokaw, of course, is hoping Mrs. Robison and her home won't even be around by next summer.

To assuage the council's "concern," Brokaw attorney Frank Miles rose to speak. "As recently as this very afternoon, Brokaw was in negotia-

tions to buy the Robison property at 1311 Franklin," Miles assured the council.

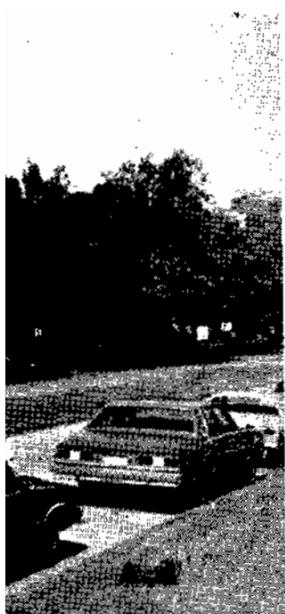
Without waiting for recognition to speak, a small older woman moved to the podium. She seemed to be shaking with anger.

"I'm Dorothy Robison. I live at 1311 Franklin." The council chamber grew quiet. "I know absolutely nothing about any negotiations to buy my property today." After that firm statement, she sat down.

Over on the sidelines you could see Frank Miles huddling with a couple of other suit-and-tie types. Miles spoke again. "I am informed that the negotiations today involved

# hospital parking lot

to ask for rezoning. The neighbors organized again. Only now there were



This lovely shaded neighborhood will soon be turned into ugly asphalt, thanks to the small minds at Brokaw Hospital.

fewer neighbors to organize.

Brokaw was arrogantly confident that it would get the rezoning it sought. Even before the Planning Commission meeting, ads appeared in the Pantagraph asking for bids for the houses' removal.

One Commissioner wanted to know why Brokaw continued to buy land on the block after rezoning had been rejected in 1979. There was no answer.

By a 4-2 vote, the Planning Commission refused, for the second time, to approve Brokaw's requested rezoning.

But the Commission's lack of approval just meant that the question went to the city council with no recommendation.

As the issue moved to the Normal Council, Sept. 21, observers figured that Brokaw's confidence could mean only one thing--that someone had privately assured the hospital's representatives of a majority support in the council.

The hospital was represented by Frank

Miles, who only of couple of years ago served as Normal's city attorney.

The city council approved Brokaw's rezoning by a 6-1 vote.

I talked with some neighbors as they left the council meeting. The fight was gone out of them. They were already resigned to defeat before the meeting started. A well-connected friend of one of the neighbors had advised them that council members had already made up their minds before the meeting.

The city council apparently believes that just because an institution has the money and determination to buy up entire chunks of our community, then it also has the right to pave it over to store cars on it.

Until that belief is given up, there will be more neighborhoods like the one on Franklin Avenue, gobbled up by the unchecked, self-serving drives of administrators to constantly expand the domains over which they preside.

--Mark Silverstein

## Brokaw didn't choose

area's beauty, more flooding downstream from the additional 3 acres of paved ground, disruption of neighbors' lives, and the increased mortgage costs displaced residents must pay in their new homes.

A multi-leveled parking deck is preferable to tearing down a neighborhood. Even if the deck is more expensive on Brokaw's balance sheets, it's not more expensive on the community's balance sheet.

Contrary to Miles' explanation, Brokaw didn't drop the parking deck idea simply because it was "too expensive." In July 1980, Brokaw knew how much the deck would cost, and was still prepared to build it. Something else happened, something which fit better into Brokaw's master plan.

That something else was the creeping success of the hospital's blockbusting across Franklin Ave.

According to Brokaw PR man Bill Adams, the hospital designed the parking deck when they couldn't go across the street. "But then Franklin Ave. residents started coming to Brokaw offering to sell," Adams said.

"That's a damn lie!" a neighbor exclaimed when I reported Adams' explanation. "They just kept spreading

rumors and harassing people to sell."

No matter how it happened, Brokaw was managing to buy the homes of neighbors who a year earlier had declared their intentions of staying. The hospital quietly dropped plans for the parking deck. The project Brokaw was once prepared to build was now regarded as "not a feasible solution" to the parking problem.

### Shuttles

When Brokaw submitted its plans for the parking deck, the hospital included detailed arrangements for supplying temporary parking to replace the spaces lost during construction.

Brokaw arranged to lease 50 parking spaces from a church 3 blocks to the north. The hospital also arranged to lease a large number of spots from Wesleyan University's lot at the athletic field 3 blocks to the south. Brokaw even proposed using a shuttle bus to haul employees from the lots to the hospital and back during the peak hours.

How creative a solution. Only 3 blocks away on either side of the hospital there are large parking lots standing empty during Brokaw's peak parking hours.



If the hospital was really interested in promoting its employees' health, Brokaw could urge them all to walk the 3 blocks from these lots.

I asked Brokaw PR Director Bill Adams why the hospital didn't consider the leased lots and shuttle buses as a long-term solution to the parking shortage.

"I really couldn't respond to that, Mark," he replied.

### Buses

I'm not going to advocate that Brokaw's employees should be required to ride city buses--not until they run frequently and everywhere.

But Brokaw--and other large employers--could buy a fleet of buses and hire drivers. The hospital could transport its employees the same way school districts transport children.

I doubt that Brokaw even thought of these two solutions--they sound too much like some bicycle-riding granola eater thought them up.

### Wesleyan property

Immediately to the south, just across the creek from the 3 acres Brokaw plans to pave over, lies a several-acre open grassy field which has not been used for years. Funk Seeds owned

Mrs. Robison's son calling from Peoria."

That did it. Mrs. Robison rose to speak again.

"I was harassed so much by Brokaw's people to sell my home after I said I didn't want to sell it, that I had to turn it all over to my attorney."

"Are you interested in selling your home to Brokaw?" Mayor Godfrey asked.

Another emphatic reply: "I am not interested now or ever in selling my property to Brokaw hospital."

It came out later that Mrs. Robison's son didn't call Brokaw--Brokaw called him.

Speaking to the Pantagraph, Brokaw administrator Jeff Schaub denied that his people had harassed Mrs. Robison. "I wouldn't stand for any kind of underhanded anything on the part of the people who work for me," the Pantagraph quoted Schaub.

Several neighbors who gave statements to the 1979 Planning Commission hearing alleged that Brokaw had pulled another underhanded tactic in acquiring one of its first three lots on the block. The statements say that Brokaw bought one house through a ghost buyer who was not identified as an agent of the hospital. This was the only way the hospital could buy the house, the statement said, because the owner had vowed never to sell to Brokaw.

--M.S.

continued on next page

# Brokaw's growth no favor to community

While lobbying for approval to pave over a 3-acre residential neighborhood, spokespeople for Brokaw Hospital occasionally strayed from the subject of the hospital's parking problem--they cited Brokaw's need to grow.

"It's absolutely essential that Brokaw be allowed to expand and to grow," Dr. Richard Doud told the Normal City Council Sept. 21. (The doctor's name last appeared in the news when former police chief Richard McGuire was caught fixing Doud's speeding ticket.)

Brokaw representatives emphasized that the hospital is a non-profit organization that is good for Normal. Hospital speakers argued--and Normal council members accepted--that what is good for Brokaw Hospital is also good for the community.

Wrong.

Brokaw's growth may not be in the community interests at all. The needs of Brokaw Hospital, determined by the hospital administrators, are not necessarily the needs of the community.

Since patients pay the costs of expanding hospital facilities, the community should make sure that hospitals don't overbuild.

## Hospitals overbuilt

And there is evidence that local hospitals are already overbuilt.

In early 1980, Mennonite Hospital's plans for a \$15 million expansion were submitted to a series of health planning coordination groups. The staff of the East Central Illinois Health Systems Agency had serious objections to Mennonite's expansion.

The staff report remarked on "a disturbing excess" of hospital beds in Bloomington-Normal.

It also criticized Mennonite's duplicating services of other local hospitals, and said that Mennonite did not have adequate plans to share its proposed facility with other hospitals. But the staff was overruled, and Mennonite's expansion program is underway.

During hearings about Mennonite's expansion, a rumor emerged in the Pantagraph that Brokaw Hospital may soon be drawing up plans for a \$10 million expansion of its own.

Hospitals pretend that they like cooperative planning and shared services. But they are just pretending.

Both Mennonite and Brokaw are expanding their facilities, at the expense of the surrounding neighborhoods. If the hospitals unselfishly planned together, and if they decided that the community really needed more hospital beds, they would decide that the hospital needing expansion should be St. Joseph's. With plenty of open land for additional buildings and parking, St. Joseph's could expand without destroying a neighborhood.

Bill Adams, Brokaw's public relations man, is a smoothie. He repeatedly emphasized Brokaw's non-profit status and the hospital's sincerity in cooperating with--not competing against--other hospitals, for the good of the entire community. "All the hospitals in town are very concerned about working together to provide shared services," Adams told me.

"So you don't agree with the perception that the hospitals are in competition with each other?" I asked.

I think Adams slipped a bit here.

## Wants 'em all

"Of course we compete for the patients," Adams replied. "Of course we would like all the patients in town to come here."

That competition for patients, combined with hospital administrators' managerial desires to control ever-larger budgets, more employees and newer flashier buildings with all the latest gadgets, leads hospital administrators to seek expansion.

When all the hospitals move in this direction, medical facilities get overbuilt, patients pay more, and the community suffers.

The expansion that Brokaw administrators seek to satisfy their own needs is not necessarily expansion that will serve the community. Normal city council members need to remember this.

--Mark Silverstein

## Four solutions Brokaw

continued from preceding page

it, but turned it over to Wesleyan several years ago.

If Brokaw just has to build a parking lot, why not try to buy the Wesleyan land?

The answers Brokaw representatives give to this question are flimsy.

According to Brokaw Director Stanley Lantz, Wesleyan didn't want to sell the land unless Brokaw offered "far, far above current appraised value."

But Brokaw has openly bragged that they are buying the homes across Franklin Ave. "at a premium above market value."

Since Brokaw is buying up houses just for the land underneath them, the hospital is already acquiring land at a price "far, far above market value."

Lantz also said Brokaw was informed that Wesleyan's land "probably" wouldn't be for sale even with a higher offer. But judging from Brokaw's persistence with the homeowners across the street, an owner's reluctance to sell doesn't discourage the hospital.

At the Sept. 1981 Planning Commission hearing, Brokaw administrator Jeff Schaub said that Wesleyan wanted \$400,000 for their land the last time they were contacted. The Brokaw board thought this price too expensive, Schaub said.

But Brokaw is paying far, far more than \$400,000 to buy up the land across the street. If Brokaw has spent an average of \$45,000 (a low estimate) for the 13 houses it already owns across Franklin Ave., then the hospital has already spent almost \$600,000. And Brokaw is still offering to buy the remaining five houses "at a premium." It makes \$400,000 for the Wesleyan land sound pretty cheap, especially since a neighborhood wouldn't get destroyed.

I firmly believe that if Brokaw wanted the Wesleyan land, the hospital could have bought it. They wouldn't even have needed to ask for a zoning change, since it's already an institutional area.

But Brokaw attorney Frank Miles told the Planning Commission that the Wesleyan land is "not as acceptable for development" as the land Brokaw is already buying up.

## Real reasons

The real reasons the Wesleyan land is "not acceptable" has nothing to do with Brokaw's need for parking. Although hospital spokespeople seemed reluctant to admit it while lobbying for the zoning change, Brokaw wants the land

Tuesday

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Post-American

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## Brokaw's "premium" offers don't impress neighbors

Throughout the city council meeting Sept. 21, Brokaw attorney Frank Miles talked as though it was only a matter of time before Brokaw owned the entire block.

But Brokaw intended to be extremely generous, Miles said. The attorney said the hospital had paid an average of 23% over the appraised value of the 13 homes it has already bought. He offered a similar price to the remaining five homeowners.

Miles even offered that homeowners could take their choice of 23% above their appraised value at this time, or 23% above the value at the time in the future when they choose to sell. (The latter offer is meant to protect the block's homeowners from any devaluation of their property resulting from Brokaw's parking lot.)

But a neighbor who is bitter about Brokaw's tactics told the Post-Amerikan that the hospital is not as generous as Miles presents it to be.

The neighbor said she negotiated with Brokaw in spring 1980. Brokaw's appraiser said the house was worth \$41,500. The neighbor's appraiser, who said he was giving a low figure, set the home's value at \$46,500.

"Brokaw just took the middle of the two figures and offered 10% over," the neighbor complained. "That just barely put us up to what our own appraiser said the house was worth."

The neighbor went on to point out the financial hardships involved in moving out of her home. "We got our interest at 9 3/4. We'd have to pay almost double that now. How could we make the payments?"

Another of the five block homeowners just feels tired from the long, fruitless fight against the hospital's encroachments. She knows she'll have to sell the house she put so much sweat and care into. It's just a matter of time. •

--M.S.



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## didn't choose

directly across the street because it would be more convenient for future expansion.

Maybe Brokaw will even ask Normal to close off Franklin Ave. and turn that land over to the hospital--just like Mennonite did with a block of East St.

Brokaw PR Director Bill Adams denies it. "We have no plans to build anything other than a parking lot on the land across Franklin Ave.," he declared.

I asked Adams about a neighbor's report that Brokaw boss Jeff Schaub was on the radio saying they might build a new power plant across Franklin.

Adams hesitated. "I have no knowledge of plans to build anything other than a parking lot," he finally replied.

When Mennonite's expansion plans were being criticized in early 1980, a Pantagraph story mentioned that Brokaw might be planning a \$10 million expansion program. No such plans have emerged publicly, and I asked Adams if Brokaw had been waiting until it got the land across Franklin and got it re-zoned.

"We have long-range plans which are not a matter of public record," Adams replied.

Tearing down that neighborhood is not the only feasible solution to Brokaw's parking problem. But it's apparently the only solution which fits in with Brokaw's hidden agenda, those long-range plans which the public doesn't get to know about. •

--Mark Silverstein



Pssst, pass  
this paper  
on to a friend!

## The gang that couldn't deal straight

At the time of their arrest, the Black Tuna Gang was called "the biggest and most dangerous drug ring ever busted" by the U.S. Attorney General. They were even accused of plotting to assassinate their trial judge.

The truth, as documented in the Sept. issue of High Times, is remarkably different. The magazine's exclusive investigation found that the Tunas were as inept as Inspector Clouseau. The Tunas' story is littered with swamped boats, ditched airplanes, and hordes of criminal associates in the pay of the government.

Long before the Tunas were brought to trial, they had bankrupted themselves through incompetence. They were a joke on the street. The big

dealers, especially the Cubans, laughed at them.

Today for the crime of smuggling marijuana badly, the leaders of the gang, two ex-used car salesmen from Philadelphia, are spending the rest of their lives in jail.

**IN LOVE?**

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(A public service message from the Post.)



# Common Ground

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# So you want to be a Cardinal?

We are not talking here about birds or baseball. If that's what you expected, you can turn directly to the plastic bush story. This is a serious article.

Being a prince of the Church is a serious business--and I do mean business. You should also know, at the outset, that being a Cardinal these days is not limited to wearing red gowns, sipping sacramental wine, and mumbling in a dead language to a bunch of bliss-ninnies. There are tax-free fortunes out there to be manipulated and protected.

Your modern-day Cardinal is well advised to forget St. Augustine and bone up on Dow Jones. If you have doubts about your fiscal savvy, you might be smart to consider something a touch less ambitious. On the other hand, in a world where peanut farmers and grade-B actors get elected president, anything is possible.

It is with these points in mind that I offer the following test of your suitability to shepherd the flock and fleece them with a minimum of bleating.

1. A good way to dispose quietly of embarrassing surpluses in the special bank account hardly anybody else knows about is to:

- a. give to the poor
- b. pay taxes on them
- c. make reparations to women for 2000 years of oppression
- d. put your "step-cousin" on the church payroll, so she can lease a luxury apartment at Lake Point Tower

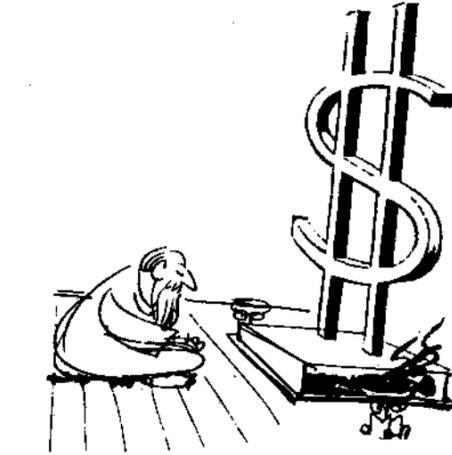
2. Should you discover an extra \$68,000 or so lying around in the \$227,000 unaudited House Account under your control, you can avoid undue concern from the IRS by:

- a. starting an abortion clinic at Cabrini Green
- b. donating it to the ERA lobby

- c. aiding the struggle for freedom in El Salvador
- d. helping your "step-cousin" to construct and furnish a \$100,000 house in Boca Raton, FL

3. An excellent investment for the tax-exempt \$898,500 in the Special Account under your exclusive control might be:

- a. a gay bar
- b. bonds for Israel
- c. birth control for teens
- d. a \$100,000 life insurance policy that you can give to your "step-cousin" and make her the beneficiary, too



4. In order to help your "step-cousin" pay the \$2500 annual premium on the \$100,000 life insurance policy she owns, you can:

- a. put her on the payroll for 6 years to "redecorate" your church-owned mansion on the north side of Chicago
- b. continue to pay her \$11,000 annual salary, even though she moves to Florida
- c. divert funds from two unaudited church accounts under your control
- d. all of the above

5. When employees in your diocese request a pension plan and group auto insurance, you should:

- a. tell them to lay up treasures in heaven
- b. place plastic saints on the dashboards of church vehicles
- c. solicit bids and choose the best one
- d. give the business to your "step-cousin's" son and let him collect the \$150,000 in commissions

6. If anyone asks you why you've given so much financial support to a woman who is, after all, related to you only through her father's second marriage to your aunt, you can say that:

- a. you're just good friends
- b. gay men and straight women often form close relationships
- c. in the 14th century, even the Pope had a mistress
- d. in a close family a "step-cousin" is just as good as a cousin, and it's the warmth of the family fabric that's important

7. Should some nosy federal agents and pushy reporters dare to question your financial dealings, you should:

- a. open your records and answer the charges
- b. confess and resign
- c. say the devil made you do it
- d. claim that an attack on you is an attack on the Catholic Church and that you are answerable only to Rome and to God (in that order)

If you answered anything but "d" on any of these questions, you would do well to seek employment elsewhere. In this line of work, there is little call for piety, compassion, and, heaven forbid, honesty.

Remember, Richelieu and Wolsey were Cardinals, and neither of them cared a rat's rear-end about honesty.

--Ferdydurke

## If Cardinal Cody can do it...

The "ministers" of the Basic Bible Church and the group's self-styled president, archbishop, and pope, Jerome Daly, have been indicted on charges they filed false income tax returns. The Internal Revenue Service said Daly promoted and sold what he represented to be "church charters," "ordinations to the ministry," and other material that a purchaser could use to claim a tax-exempt income.

The IRS said the 10 other defendants, all airline pilots, acquired the materials and were "ordained" as ministers in Daly's church. The IRS said the pilots claimed they had taken a "vow of poverty" and given all their funds to the church, but the IRS said they continued to have full access to their money.

The indictment was returned in Fort Worth, Texas, where evangelist James Robison gets away with a similar scam.

--Chicago Sun Times (except for the last sentence, which is Ferdydurke's editorial comment)

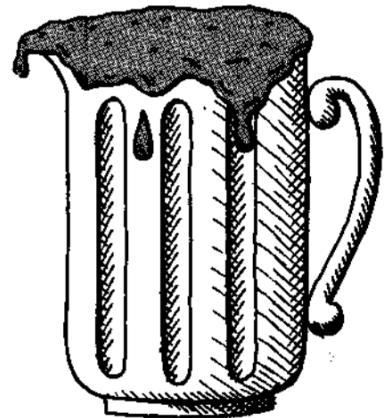
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# Become a more powerful patient

Remember spending a half hour in a muzak-filled waiting room reading 9-month old copies of *Newsweek*? Spending another half hour waiting while robed in an oversized paper towel and freezing up on a plastic-covered table? Spending 5 minutes being poked, probed, and interrogated by a remarkably human-looking medical computer who speaks "PhD" and "Rx" rather than English? Leaving \$35.00 poorer with only a prescription to show for your troubles?

Unfortunately, this rather sarcastic scenario illustrates the typical doctor visit. Yes, we probably get a prescription out of the ordeal and it will probably take care of our present symptoms, but a doctor's visit could be a pleasant, informative and strengthening experience if we as patients take a more active role.

Doctors are not super heroes (although this might be news to many of them!). They are people working a 9-5 job where it is easy to fall into a lazy mechanical way of operating. To get the most from a doctor's visit we must learn to be better patients.

Be fully prepared to tell a doctor everything you can remember about your illness. You know your body much better than the doctor does, so it is up to you to do the educating in this area. (Vital signs can only reveal so much, you know.) Include a brief discussion of your health background, family health history, social history and present lifestyle as you talk. During the actual exam, don't hesitate to help the doctor by pointing out where it hurts and anything else that might be important.

When a diagnosis is made, be sure that you understand it. Ask questions, no matter how simple they seem, until you are positive that you understand your condition. Think about the diagnosis and decide for yourself if it fits your ailment. If the diagnosis does not seem

correct, tell the doctor.

After a diagnosis, most doctors prescribe some sort of medication that is usually supposed to remove the problem miraculously. Find out if the medication will treat the cause of your illness or only suppress its symptoms. Cough syrups, for example, do stop a bothersome and annoying cough. We cough, however, to rid our lungs of harmful excess mucus, and suppressing this cough is stopping our lungs from cleaning themselves. Stored mucus often results in more serious lung problems. Be sure that you understand the purpose of your medication.

Another possibility is asking the doctor what alternative treatments are available. Can it be cured by more holistic means (diet, exercise, herbs), or will it go away in time if left alone? Chances are that a student of medical science won't know how to treat it any other way, but it can't hurt to ask. Find out also how long treatment should last before the problem is corrected.

Finally, don't leave the office until you find out how you got sick

and how this situation can be avoided in the future. Again, be sure that you get real, comprehensible answers. I once saw a videotape showing how educational a doctor's visit could be if you asked questions. The film's example of an educational visit showed a woman with a yeast infection asking her gynecologist, "Doctor, what exactly is a yeast infection?" The dear old doctor knowingly replied, "A yeast is a kind of fungus and a fungus is a yeast"! Don't let your doctor pull any stunts like that one. Yes, the doctor did answer her question, but it told her virtually nothing. It told her nothing of the causes of the infection or its preventability. When you ask a question, be sure to demand answers that answer.

Doctors seem to be cursed with the problem of speaking medical textbook rather than English. Medical training teaches Latin names and bio-medical terms. Medical students are praised and encouraged to learn this language but are not instructed how to relate to their patients. Encourage your doctor to explain terms until you are satisfied with a comprehensible answer.

Don't hesitate to bring a trusted friend with you to your doctor. The support is great and two people asking questions and listening learn a great deal more. Also, when your health problem is correctly diagnosed, you can always turn to books on holistic health care to assist in finding a cure. The library and health food stores have good reference sources.

Until we learn enough about our health to begin preventing illness, we can at least begin to use the doctor's visit as a positive educational tool. Since most health care workers feel that their patients are too passive, interest and enthusiasm on your part will most likely be welcomed.

--holly

Pharmacy & Health News/epf



"We're agreed, then--he has a very bad case of whatever it is he's got."

## Small Changes is still open

Thanks to a great show of support, Small Changes Alternative Bookstore is busy reorganizing and plans to stay open. We may even expand our hours soon. We'll have more news later as we settle into our new organization, workers, and future plans.

Meanwhile, here are just a few of the magazines and newspapers you can find on the shelves at Small Changes:

Connexions is a new magazine which prints only translations of articles from publications in other countries. Their general focus is writing by, for, and about women. Each issue has a specific theme. The issue on our shelves now, summer 1981, is about women organizing against violence. This publication will be quarterly and sells for \$2.75. The summer 1981 issue includes "To See the Forest for the Trees" (India), "A Silent Weapon" (Argentina), "Copenhagen's Refuge for Battered Women" (Denmark), and "Politics of International Prostitution" (Japan).

Another new publication we stock is Sister Source, "a midwest lesbian/feminist newspaper" from Chicago. It is free, with a suggested donation of

\$1. It's so new we've received only one issue. That issue includes articles on Judy Chicago's "The Dinner Party," "Being Black and Visible in a Largely White Lesbian Community," and pornography. It also has a good events calendar for Chicago and some other midwest events.

Bread and Roses, A Women's Journal of Issues and the Arts is new to us but has been publishing for over a year out of Madison WI. Each issue has a theme and sells for \$2. Spring 1981 is the one on the shelves now. It focuses on women and work. Articles report on migrant women workers, policewomen in Detroit, and women writers. Also included are regular features on "The Arts" and "Women and Society," as well as reviews. They publish quarterly.

We are pleased that the magazine Christopher Street has ended its year-long policy of selling only by subscription. We now have copies at the store again, selling for \$2.50. Christopher Street is a slick publication from New York City offering articles on a variety of topics each month. Its audience is primarily gay men, but it may be of interest to many other people as well.

Each monthly issue offers reviews of books and films, short stories, poetry, and visual art. The August issue profiles three new writers, with short stories by each. There is also an article on "The New Separatism in Gay America" by Larry Bush.

Small Changes continues to stock Communities: journal of cooperative living. The July issue contains articles on "Tempeh: Production in Community," "Overcoming Masculine Oppression in Mixed Groups," and "Survival Through Cooperative Self-Reliance." Communities is published by an organization of communities with offices at Twin Oaks. Folks involved in all kinds of cooperative lifestyle experiments contribute to each issue. Right now Communities costs \$2.

And, of course, we carry our own local newspaper, Post-Amerikan. Small Changes is located at 409A N. Main in downtown Bloomington. We are open 11 am to 5 pm Tuesday through Saturday. You are welcome to come and browse.

--Susie, for the collective

Last year in Chicago, 1.9 million pounds of food, food that would have been thrown away, went to feed people. That food is only part of the millions of tons of useable food that the U.S. government estimates is thrown away each year.

The food industry throws away approximately \$6 billion dollars worth of food each year for numerous reasons: overproduction, mislabeling, shipping damage, short-weighted packaging or vegetables that do not fit produce bags.

Because of food banks, some of that food was eaten instead of wasted. Needy people got food, and the companies and growers who donated food

but unmarketable, food items. The food bank then distributes the food to existing agencies which serve the needy. It does not compete with these agencies, but complements the work they do. The agencies may be emergency food pantries, day care centers, halfway houses, alcohol rehabilitation units, nursing homes, group meal sites, and similar programs.

The food bank idea started in the 1960s in Phoenix, Arizona. Since then, over 40 food banks have formed a national network called Second Harvest. In 1980, Second Harvest collected 8,767,878 pounds of food from national corporations and distributed the food to network food banks. This amount added to the millions of pounds of food the banks collected in their own regions.

### How you can help—

Central Illinois needs a Food Bank. Citizens and social agency representatives from six cities are planning one. In these difficult times, the number of people who need food is rapidly increasing, and many of the agencies are having difficulty meeting the growing requests.

If you, your agency, organization, or church would like to participate in this process, please come to a meeting on Thursday, October 1, at 7 p.m. in the Public Meeting Room of the Bloomington Public Library, 205 E.

Olive.

Here are some ways you may be able to help:

1. Participate in organizational meetings and activities.
2. Donate money for warehouse expenses, transportation, supplies, and the salary for a director.
3. Donate services (printing, fund-raising, grant-writing, art work, and so on).
4. Help us locate (or donate) a truck or warehouse.

The people to contact if you're interested in the Food Bank are Gail Tilkin at 827-5021 or 829-4015 and Mike Matejka at 828-4368 or 452-5046.

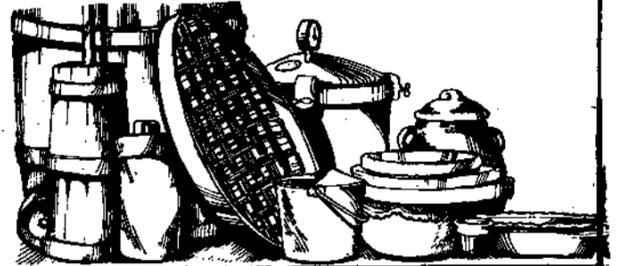


Workbook/cpf

got a better tax advantage from donating the food than they would have by throwing it away.

### What a food bank is—

A food bank is a non-profit, tax-exempt clearinghouse through which the food industry may donate edible,



Perhaps you're familiar with biographies of dead rock stars. Someone goes around hunting any and all persons who've ever had any contact with the subject, asks them for the banal details of any and all interactions they ever had together, and then makes a bestseller out of a bunch of one-line conversations with a dead idol. For instance, they find a guy who sat on a barstool next to Jim Morrison in 1963. He says, "Yeah, it was really far-out the way he finished his beer and asked me for a match. He said, 'Hey, man, you gotta match?'"

## Sensitive celebrity bio

This is a typically sorry interaction that would be included with hundreds of other typically sorry interactions which would make up the typically sorry so-called biography of your typically dead (and presumably sorry) rock star. Integrity belongs on the board of EXXON, not in dead rock star biographies.

Well--dare I say?--this one is different. The author, David Henderson, is a highly credentialed poet and writer, no Jimi Hendrix's roadie. (I know that because it says so on the back flap.) He's also a musician, and he understands through his own experience part of Jimi that non-musicians cannot understand, and tries to translate this to the reader. The translation does not work for me when the writer occasionally gets carried away with musical ecstasy, but I am able to understand at least the surface of those feelings.

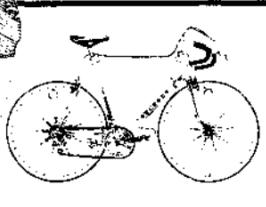
This book is good. Henderson briefly sketches Jimi's early life in Seattle and moves along quickly without getting bogged down in pointless conversations with his second grade teacher and that nonsense. He takes the reader through the whole rock trip of paying the dues and finally making it big. Then there is the customary descent into the seedy, depraved world of overindulgence: drugs, sex, booze, money. (Sounds fine compared with my seedy, depraved world of underindulgence.)

But really, the author tells Jimi's story with sensitivity and style, and it's really a relief after reading so many of those "The Night I Met Janis Joplin in the Restroom of Kennedy Airport" exploitations. Also, if you love Jimi's music and plan to read this book, it would be nice to have access to his music while you're reading the detailed descriptions on the creation of many of his songs. A subsequent listen is really necessary.

--L.D.

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October 1981

Post-American

Vol. 10, No. 6

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# Our roots were young and gay

Bloomington IN--A new study by the Kinsey Institute for Sex Research, at Indiana University, suggests that parental attitudes and childhood experiences play little or no role in determining a person's sexual preference.

"No particular phenomenon of family life can be singled out, on the basis of our findings, as especially consequential for either homosexual or heterosexual development," states the recently published report.

"What we seem to have identified is a pattern of feelings and reactions within the child that cannot be traced back to a single social or

psychological root; indeed, homosexuality may arise from a biological precursor that parents cannot control."

The study, entitled Sexual Preference: Its Development in Men and Women, is based on a controversial new statistical method called "path analysis," which was applied to 1500 men and women in the San Francisco Bay area.

The Kinsey researchers claim that "gender nonconformity" is the single most important factor in predicting the eventual sexual orientation of boys. For girls, gender nonconformity ranks second behind

homosexual involvements in adolescence. "You may supply your sons with footballs and your daughters with dolls," says the report, "but no one can guarantee that they will enjoy them."

The researchers emphasize that not all persons exhibiting gender nonconformity become homosexual. One-fourth of the heterosexual men in the study and one-third of the heterosexual women showed nonconformity as children. The report concludes that "homosexuality is as deeply ingrained as heterosexuality" and that nonconformity to gender roles in boys and girls is a refelction, rather than a cause, of their eventual sexual preference.

"I expect the study to be condemned from both sides--by the radical gays for even looking into the subject and by the analysts who may say we're trying to paint a glowing picture of homosexuality," predicted Dr. Alan Bell, who directed the project. "But we are reporting what people say, and it's all very consistent."

The authors, who include Bell, Martin Weinberg, and Sue Kiefer Hammersmith, made this introductory explanation of the goals and purpose of their study:

"How are we to account for human differences? What sense can be made of them? In the sexual sphere, how are diverse sexual patterns established, and what do they tell us about the different aspects of human behavior? Those are the real questions that we sought to address--and even we were often surprised by the answers.

"Answers to such questions may hasten the day when homosexuality is no longer regarded as a 'sin' or a 'sickness' but rather as another important form of human diversity. Through the centuries we have come to celebrate other types of diversity (e.g. religious, ethnic) that were once considered onerous. Eventually, we may view homosexuality in much the same light, as simply one of many differences that make each person unique, and a contributing a bit to a diversity that the world can ill afford to do without."

--Gay Community News

## Lust unleashed

Rev. Dan C. Fore, chair-thing of the New York State chapter of Moral Majority, said in an interview:

"I support anyone and anything that is against homosexuals. I don't have hate for gay people. I have hate for what they do. It's a damnable style of life. . . it's wicked. God gave men women. I can't visualize a man lying with a man. The thought is revolting to me. . . that masculine, virile, britches-wearin' men should deviate from natural urges for women and unleash their lust. . . We mustn't succumb to lust. We must have the authority to control our bodies."

--Gay Atheists Review

Typist's Note: How's come none of these clowns never say nothin' about feminine, passive, skirt-wearin' women who lie with other women? I demand equal idiotic statements! I will accept nothing less. --DW

## A little knowledge goes a long way

William Clark received his appointment as U.S. Deputy Secretary of State because Ronald Reagan owed him a debt of gratitude for Clark's role in helping the then-governor of California "survive a potentially ruinous scandal 14 years ago," the London Sunday Times reported some months ago.

The Times claimed that Clark got the appointment--"despite his admitted ignorance of foreign affairs"--as a reward for taking charge of Reagan's staff in the aftermath of the "homosexual sex scandal" that struck the governor's office in 1967.

According to the Times, Reagan was so badly shaken by the discovery that two top members of his executive staff

were gay that he had to call on Clark to "get the state government back on track and operating smoothly." The men resigned after colleagues prepared a report, based on "months of secret investigation and spying," which exposed the two.

The Times cited a witch-hunting account of "liaisons in motels, orgies in mountain cabins, and the involvement of two sons of a powerful state senator." Upon reading the report, an ashen-faced Reagan allegedly whispered, "My God, has the government failed?"

An appreciative Reagan first rewarded Clark several years ago by appointing him to the California Supreme Court, despite the fact that he had flunked out of one law school, dropped out of another, and failed the California bar exam on his first try.

The Times also made much of Clark's ignorance of foreign affairs--at the hearings for his deputy secretary appointment, Clark admitted that he "didn't know" the names of the prime ministers of South Africa and Zimbabwe what European attitudes to American nuclear policy were, or what was happening in the British Labor Party. Clark also said at the time that his understanding of American relations with the Soviet Union was based on "my reading of Time and Newsweek."

The Times didn't seem any more informed than Clark, though, about the role of gay people in America. "Today, after years of liberalization, homosexuals are openly involved in American politics," said the Times in a naive attempt to make it seem that U.S. politics have greatly improved for gay people since 1967. One wonders what magazines the Times reads.

--Ferdydurke

## They didn't mean to

Two men convicted of killing a lesbian in an effort to "exorcise" her sexual preference have been sentenced to three years in prison by an English court. The court changed a murder charge against the two men to manslaughter on the grounds that they had not meant to harm the woman. The judge in this case referred to the accused as "two upright Christians" and sentenced them on the lesser charge.

--Hersay



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# Escape through

I like to shop. Really I do. I like to go to town and look at all the stuff I can't afford. My favorite part of Christmas is shopping, both for presents and the precise Hallmark paper to wrap them in.

I don't like malls. I don't like them very much at all. I can tolerate some of them sometimes. I like the one in Moline, and I don't mind the one in Peoria. (That's a bit misleading; I like them over most malls the way I like having a migraine over German measles.) I tolerate Eastland merely because it's familiar.

But I don't like the New Mall.

It's too far away for one thing. (Peoria for dinner is not too far away, but never mind.) And it makes my stomach hurt.

So you can imagine my dismay a couple of Sundays ago when, after a nice, leisurely breakfast of biscuits and gravy, my friend says to me, "Ya wanna go to a bookstore?"

My heart sank. I knew she didn't want to drive up to Kroch's in Chicago (also not too far away) because they'd be closed for one thing and we had an art show to go to later that day for another. I knew she meant a trip to the mall. I heaved a great sigh (martyrdom is one of my best roles) and said bravely, "I suppose."

"We'll have to go to a Mall," she said. She hates malls as much as I do and has the added disadvantage of also hating to shop, period.

"I know. And the New Mall has two bookstores so we should go there."

She cringed visibly. "Yes," she said, her voice beginning to shake. "Let's

get it over with."

There was a gloomy silence in the car the entire four hours (okay, maybe it was really only 20 minutes) out to the New Mall. We had, in that time, worked out a plan. We would park by the mall entrance nearest the bookstores, would slip in unnoticed, grab some pocket dictionaries and a book

on dogs, and steal silently away. It sounded relatively painless.

But our plan was foiled before it began. You can't park near the entrance on the north side of the mall. So we parked outside of Carson's. We walked up the massive complex of consumer delight like two convicted Americans in a Turkish prison. We knew that in all probability we would never be heard from again.

We walked through Carson's with few problems, except that I always keep apologizing to the mannequins for almost running into them. In malls everyone looks plastic.

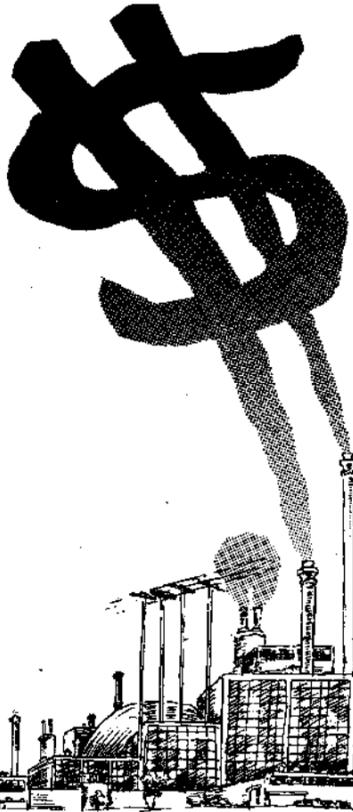
We walked through suits and shirts, underwear and ties, and soon came to dresses. My friend looked back and read the department title of the section of the store we were leaving and whispered, "Remember, escape through Mens and Boys."

We slowly made our way through the store. Suddenly, I realized I was alone. Always alert, I looked quickly around. "Wait!" I shouted through a crowd. "This way!" Fortunately she heard me, and rejoined me with little difficulty. It is terribly dangerous to become lost in a mall. You sometimes stay there until your bones turn to polyester. I didn't want to see that happen to my friend.

A few more steps and there it was, the Mall, grinning and leering like the lecherous beast it is. We checked our pockets for the cyanide capsules, and went forth to meet the beast.

Page 20

Post-American



## New council rules

A move supposedly designed to eliminate repetition and save the city council time will dangerously decrease the already low public input into neighborhood decisions.

An ordinance passed this summer cuts down on the amount of public input the city council will allow when they're considering issues which have already been the subject of public hearings conducted by city committees or commissions. Zoning issues, for example, are debated first by the planning commission. A zoning change proposal gets to the city council only after the planning commission has held a hearing and issued a recommendation.

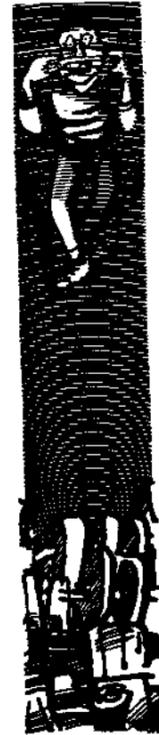
Traditionally, the city council has allowed a lot of public input during

council meetings when a hotly contested neighborhood issue, especially a zoning issue, is to be decided.

Because some of the arguments offered to the council at these times have frequently repeated what a city commission has previously heard, Mayor Buchanan argued that the city council has been undermining the authority of the city commissions.

Under the new ordinance, no facts that have previously been presented at a public hearing can be presented to the council. (This provision pretends that council members all carefully

study the entire record of a city commission's public hearing, and



therefore need no reminder of crucial facts.)

Secondly, neighbors and members of the public will no longer be permitted to speak at the council meeting. Instead each side of the dispute will be asked to select one spokesperson, who will be allowed to speak for only five minutes.

The thrust of the council's new ordinance pretends that the public hearing before the Zoning Board or other com-

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# "Mens and Boys"

It was sidewalk days at the Mall. Sidewalk days, indeed. All Malls do during sidewalk days is move their stuff further into the Mall so you have to walk through it and not around it. They should call them Mall Days. But that would entice no new business. All days are Mall Days. Or so Malls would have us believe.

We stopped first at the Book Bazaar. I bought a sale book on baking bread. (I wasn't going to buy anything, remember?) Then we went to Walden-books. We really scored there. I bought the Kinsey foundation book Homosexualities and looked through their biography section.

That one was a mistake. All it did was make me mad. Biographies all arranged by author. So that if you want a book on Andrew Johnson and you don't know who wrote it, or you don't care who wrote it but you just want any old book on him, you are forced to go through every book in the section. Fortunately--because of the hassle--and unfortunately because biographies are my favorite genre next to trashy mysteries, it is a very small section.

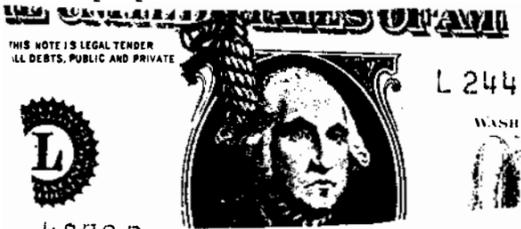
My friend bought 10 pocket dictionaries and a book on art. We went back to the Book Bazaar and she bought a book on dogs and I bought a birthday card for my nephew.

And then she uttered those fateful words, "Well, since we're here..."

Now you have to remember that all this book buying, though relatively painless, had already taken over an hour. My palms started to sweat as we braved the rest of the Mall.

We looked at all the sale racks at all the stores for dresses for my friend. We found small size 3, medium size 3, and large size 3 in almost every place we went. The only difference in sizes we could determine is that the waist in the medium size 3 is just a little bigger than it is in the large size 3. Yes, I said bigger. But remember, we are dealing with the Mall.

I am still not sure where women who wear anything larger than a 5 go to find clothes. I buy most of mine at Farm and Fleet, but, judging from the crowds I don't encounter, very few other people do.



We continued our trek and stopped at the General Nutrition Center. I needed massive doses of vitamin B-6 to help overcome the hormonal imbalance set off in my body by the rapid drop in progesterone due to the onslaught of menstruation. B-6 is supposed to help stop me from being irrationally irritable and unreasonably emotional during those first few days before the gushing starts. I found that if you can afford B-6 you can also afford to lock yourself in a room and not deal with anything or anybody during the troubled times.

On we went to Walgreens, where the same thing is true about vitamin B-6. So I bought a carton of cigarettes instead.

## deter citizen input

mission was an adequate public hearing where all concerned parties could have voiced their views.

### Not true

This just plain isn't true, as I found out last spring. The public hearings conducted by the Zoning Board of Appeals, for example, are not really public hearings because nobody finds out about them.

Last spring, a nearby church needed special city permission to tear down three houses and build a parking lot less than a block from my house. I strongly oppose tearing down perfectly good houses, especially to build parking lots, and especially to build parking lots that I will have to stare at while sitting on my front porch.

Even though I live so close by, I was not aware of the church's application for a special use permit until after the Zoning Board of Appeals had conducted a "public hearing" and approved it.

I found out that the laws governing such special use permits require that notice be sent only to the adjoining property owners. So only four houses were notified that they should express their views about living next door to a parking lot.

The law doesn't even require that notice of the hearing be sent to the tenants whose homes would be demolished if the Zoning Board gave the OK. One of the tenants, who had lived in the target house for fifteen years, didn't learn her home was threatened with destruction until after the Zoning Board of Appeals gave the OK.

I didn't find out about the proposed parking lot either until after the Zoning Board's OK, and after the city council had already heard argument on the issue and postponed decision. A small Pantagraph article at that time tipped me off to what was happening in my neighborhood less than a block away.

After finding out about the proposed parking lot, I got involved with other neighbors in organizing against it. It turned out there were dozens and dozens of neighbors opposed to the lot who never knew of the Zoning Board's "public" hearing. But even though the zoning board had OK'd the special use permit, the city council hadn't yet decided. We neighbors still had a chance to persuade the council to leave the houses intact.

### A lot harder

We lost, but that's not the point here. The city council has passed an ordinance which would make it much harder for the public to get involved in issues like neighborhood zoning.

If the council revised its concept of what constituted adequate notice for a public hearing, that would help. The council must recognize that zoning is not an issue which concerns only adjoining property owners--it's a neighborhood issue, and the neighborhood includes tenants as well as homeowners.

If the city council has decided that the Planning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals are to be the places for public input, then the council should require these bodies to send full notice of public hearings to the entire neighborhood affected.

--Mark Silverstein

My friend did not buy cigarettes because she claimed, rather loudly, that she could not carry another package or write another check. "It's time to escape through Mens and Boys," she said.

So we made our way back, armed with packages of things we did not need, tired and surly, and fingering the cyanide.

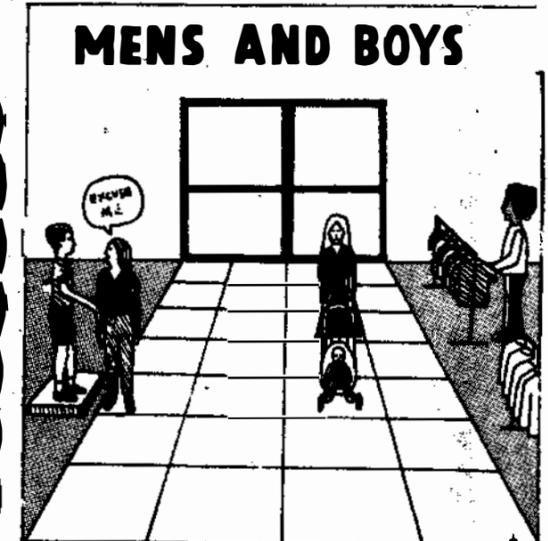
"I wish this Mall had a decent restaurant," she said wistfully as we neared the halfway point. "You know, one where you could sit down and eat and drink and was good."

Triple Treat loomed before us, and we succumbed. She got a chocolate shake and I got a hot fudge sundae. But what I really wanted was a great big glass of ice water. The woman at the counter told me I'd have to pay 15¢ for the water. "I think that's disgusting," I told her, and I went without water on principle. It was the last straw. I almost told her to keep the sundae, too, but I didn't want to cause a scene. I just wanted to go home.

We ate the ice cream so fast it froze my throat, and then we scurried away like rats deserting a sinking ship. We ran down the Mall, careening around ashtrays and running into little children. And suddenly, there it was, Carson's, our route to salvation.

Around perfumes, through dresses and hats, we darted toward the exit. "There," she said triumphantly, pausing at the portals. Looming above us was the much awaited sign, "Mens and Boys."

We had made it. We had survived another Mall experience. We had been



Malled by the best of them and had lived to tell about it.

Six steps from freedom we met another friend. She was glancing furtively around the store. Her palms were sweating. She smiled at our friendly faces. "Everyone asks me what the attraction is out here," she said without being asked. "I tell them that the main thing is it's air conditioned." She trudged gloomily away, apologizing to a mannequin as she went.

Through the long hours in the car on the way back to Bloomington, as my head started pounding from the humidity and I watched the sweat drip from my legs onto my newly acquired carton of cigarettes, I looked over at my friend and mumbled, "It ain't enough."

--Deborah Wiatt

# Last stand at Diablo

The Diablo Canyon blockade, contrary to predictions of Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) and law enforcement officials, failed to degenerate into a morass of 20,000 anti-nuclear crazies running amuck, fueled by sesame seeds and bent on property destruction. Instead the civil disobedience has gone off without a hitch.

Although over 600 nuclear power opponents were arrested Tuesday, Sept. 15, and Wednesday, as the long-awaited blockade got underway in San Luis Obispo, neither the blockaders nor the markedly restrained police acted violently or damaged property.

The Abalone Alliance launched the blockade late Monday, Sept. 14, after nearly 5 days of preparation in its 33-acre Los Osos Valley encampment. About 150 of the estimated 2000 blockade supporters hiked deep into the forests surrounding Diablo and set up several makeshift camps, setting the stage for the confrontations of the next day.

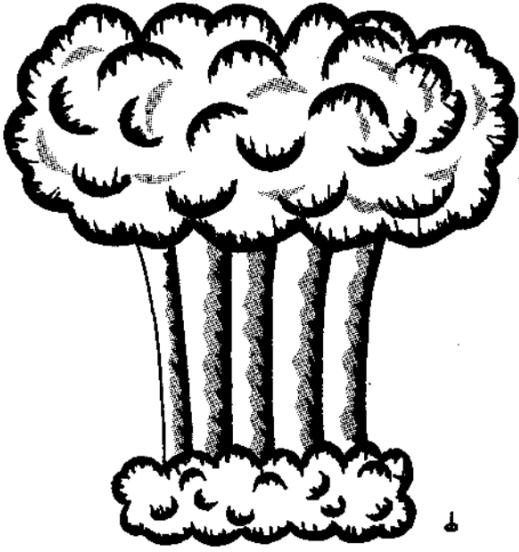
Throughout the action, Abalone's organization helped keep things under control. Its simple but forceful rules helped blockaders to perform their assigned roles while still enabling them to participate in Abalone decisions each step enroute to the blockade.

## Staying power

The procedures sometimes were cumbersome. They probably were the main reason for constant changes in the blockade timetable that drove the media nearly mad over missed deadlines. But such tactics as the organization of blockaders into decentralized "affinity groups" helped ensure that the action would have staying power.

"That was the whole idea, to maintain a continuous blockade," explained Marc Levanoff, a member of the informal steering group that did much of the initial planning for the blockade. "And it's worked. More people are joining the blockade all the time, and we hope that some of the people who have been arrested will rejoin us once they are released from jail. If this level of interest can be sustained, then we will be able to continue the blockade for days more, perhaps even weeks."

The blockade proper began easily enough. Tuesday morning the blockaders who had entered the forests around Diablo on Monday night crossed over into PG&E property. Later, a second group of about 175 blockaders sat down on both sides of the plant's main entrance at 1:30 that afternoon. In front of them were nearly 200



reporters assigned to cover the action for local and national media.

Undisturbed by riot-equipped police for nearly two hours, the protesters watched a humorous skit on radiation, sang songs, munched food and met in their affinity groups to discuss what to do when the police arrived.

Surprised blockade organizers had believed that police might meet protesters as they attempted to scale the plant's 10-foot high, barbed wire topped fence, or even arrest them on the street.

Instead of quickly clearing out the main-gate area, officers moved against a "cluster" of 35 blockaders who had entered Diablo by way of Witch Owl Creek. These protesters had marched several miles in the hot afternoon sun before sitting down on a service road several hundred yards from the main entrance.

Shortly after giving interviews to those media allowed inside the plant under PG&E's "media pool" rules, the protesters were arrested one by one. Assisted by National Guardsmen, sheriff's officers handcuffed them and moved them into a Greyhound bus bound



for the San Luis Obispo County jail.

Then the 70 to 80 men began a slow advance toward the 50 blockaders seated in a large circle on the PG&E side of the main gate. According to blockaders Jim Chasteen and Dianne Poole, the group--which included a paraplegic--resolved "to stay put until the police came... so everything they did would take place in front of the tv cameras."

"We're ready to stay here," Poole said, smiling. "I'd like to. I've got food for five days in my pack, and I'd sure enjoy sleeping here, if I could."

Before their arrest at 4 p.m., these "first wave" blockaders once more sang "No Diablo Over Me." As they ended the protest song, the group broke into a melodic harmony that faded into an eerie, soft "no." But this mantra-like sound was shattered by the buzzing of chain saws, as PG&E security guards sawed through the wooden ladders used by the blockaders to mount the high fence.

Four hours later, blockaders positioned in a restricted area directly in front of the facility's main gate, were rounded up by sheriff's deputies, assisted by state highway patrolmen and National Guardsmen. Among these protesters were Melanie Simmons and 8 others from a group of San Luis Obispo women called Local Parents Against Diablo. "My children and my husband know that I will probably be arrested tonight," Simmons said before her arrest. "But they understand how important it is to stop this plant from operating."

An hour later, more blockaders were arrested in front of the main gate, and the tough, but well-organized first day of the Diablo blockade ended.

## Something bigger

Whatever happens in the following days, the blockade has already accomplished major goals, said Abalone founder Scott Kennedy of Santa Cruz. "We're involved in a social experiment here, and that's been lost in all the talk about this being a showdown between us and the nuclear power industry," Kennedy explained.

"The blockade isn't a one-time expression of our opposition to Diablo or our way of pointing the finger at 'the enemy.' What we're doing here is broader than that. We are learning how to organize both politically and socially against things we object to."

--Thanks to G. Pascal Zachary and the Santa Barbara News and Review

## Black and white and dumb all over

Arizona state Rep. Jim Ratliff is a staunch anti-abortionist, but he does discern at least one acceptable reason for the operation: "In case a colored man raped a young girl and she became pregnant." Reportedly, Ratliff believes it would be wrong to have a 17-year-old white woman give birth to a "colored man's child." Asked if he would approve of an abortion if a white man raped a white woman, he answered, "No." He didn't offer an opinion on whether a black woman raped by a white man should be allowed an abortion.

--Ms.

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How can you resist a book that begins "Call me moi"? And how can you resist the inimitable and irresistible Miss Piggy?

Yes, the Barbra Streisand of the Muppets has taken pen in hand (a nice gold ballpoint with a little lever on the side that lets you pick any of six colors of ink depending on your mood) and has created the most important book since that Gutenberg thing.

Forget about Dear Abby and Irma Bombeck. Dispense with Dale Carnegie and Ben Franklin. Disdain Lord Chesterfield and Jesus of wherever. Miss Piggy's Guide to Life will tell you all she knows and all you need to know--truth and beauty all rolled into one slim, inexpensive volume.

As the auther herself modestly points out, this book provides "all the right answers to every important question." Miss P's true metier may be epic poems, heroic couplets, and the shorter crosswords, but her Guide to Life is the ultimate, definitive, essential book of advice on simply everything.

Everything you wanted to know about Beauty, Romance, Foreign Phrases, Tipping, Travel, Exercise, and much, much more. Here's a sample of what the divine Miss P has to say:

On finance: "The essence of managing money is managing to have enough of it." (Could that horrid Mr. Stockman have said it any better?)

On telephones at your restaurant table: "As a general rule, white telephones go

with fish and poultry."

On dieting: "Never eat anything at one sitting that you can't lift."

On eating artichokes: "You get about as much actual food out of eating an artichoke as you would from licking 30 or 40 postage stamps. Have the shrimp cocktail instead."

Yes, America's favorite porcine superstar has an opinion for all occasions. She's brash and pushy, as only a piggy can be, but you won't learn anything about life from some sniveling wimp, cherie.

Miss P's French accent--well, it's not an accent really, just a tendency to misuse French-sounding words and phrases--would befuddle your average Parisian, but toi will be delighted by it (unless you're a complete slob and can't tell une verbe from a toadstool).

In her advice on birthdays--"The celebration of one's birthday is too critical a matter to be left to chance"--she raises the language of amour to a new level by suggesting that a formal birthday announcement include this RSVP: "Runnez out and Shop for Votre Presents."

Miss Piggy admits that not everyone can be a superstar and calendar beauty like her. But she does feel that "anyone can be a semi-star, a starette or a teensyweensystar"--if they follow the guidelines she sets forth. Here she is on a variety of other topics:

"When you are in love with someone, you want to be near him all the time, except when you are out buying things and charging them to him."

"There are several ways of calculating the tip after a meal. I find that the best is to divide the bill by the height of the waiter."

"Everyone has to pay tax. The way to look it at is this: each year you are buying a few things you didn't think you were buying, like a couple of shrubs for the White House, or a new desk for the Secretary of Big Boats."

"Accepting large gifts has a very good effect on both your mood and your upper body. This is my favorite exercise."

"Beauty is in the eye of the beholder, and it may be necessary from time to time to give a stupid beholder a black eye."

Imperfect people of the world, rejoice! Help has finally arrived. But you ignore this book at your peril. Without Miss Piggy's help and advice you could well end up doing something very boring and very unrewarding in the appliance field in Delaware. You were warned! ●

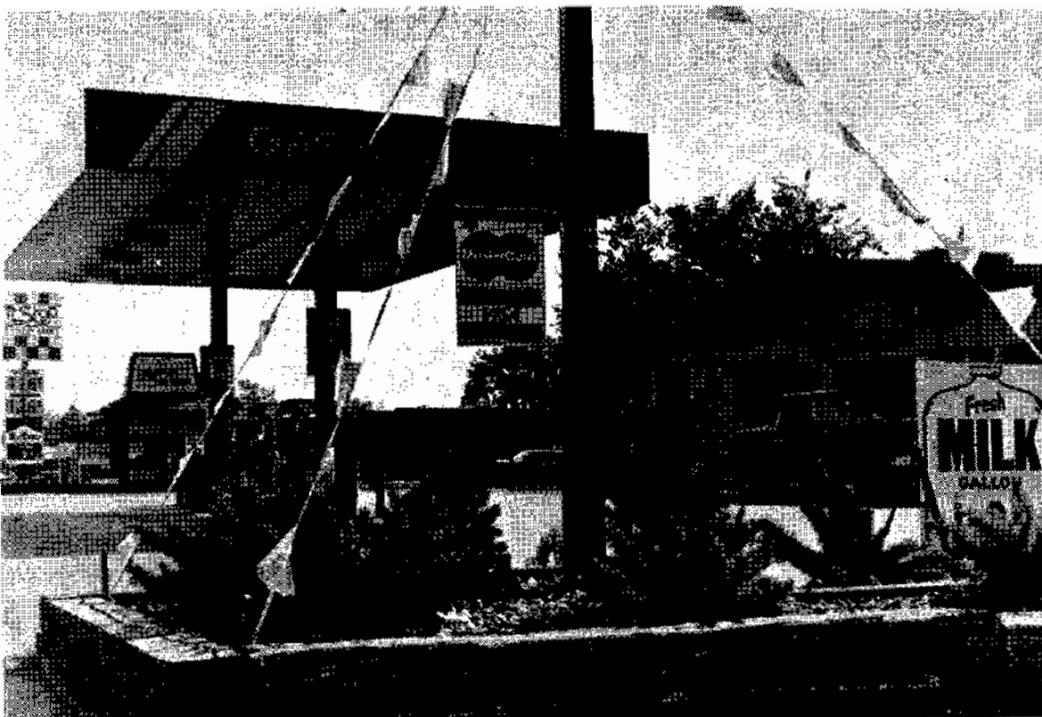
--Ferdurke

## New Age Accessories



Paraphernalia for smoking dope exists in many forms. You can use your imagination and invent any kind of smoking accessory. The new law which restricts the sale of paraphernalia to minors is easy enough to circumvent--even John Maitland, our state rep. who sponsored previous anti-paraphernalia legislation, could use his mailbox as an innovative instrument for mind expansion, or you could steal it and make up your own. We are appalled by a state legislature which, when its members aren't beating on each other, busies itself legislating our personal choices. Confront your local retailer next time you buy some innocent article with the fact that they can be prosecuted for selling potential drug paraphernalia, especially if you're not 18. ●

# E-Z care plastic improves on nature!



A new kind of bush is taking over the town! These fine specimens may be admired at the Pit Stop on Main in Normal. The advantages of high-tech landscaping over old-fashioned "natural" methods are obvious. No need for messy sprinkling and cultivating! No unsightly growth or uneven coloration--just a uniform blue-green through and through, time after time! No soil wasted, no dirty roots or shoots, no sticky sap or pungent odor, no home for insects and worms! And best of all, no loss of property due to poisonous fumes from traffic! And that means Big Savings!

(And that means no beauty, no fresh-

ness, no sudden surprising leaf springing new from familiar foliage, none of the ebb and flow of nature. Just a flat reminder of the dull crassness of the age. The wave of the future won't even be wet.)

--Phoebe Caulfield

Note: Inspired by the great response to our attack on plastic bushes, we are happy to announce a new monthly feature, the Post-Amerikan Plasti-fication Award. Call in or send us your suggestions for the most disgusting phony anything in town. We'll run a photo and comment.

# 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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