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The Keep

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Post Amerikan

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Movie trivia quiz; punk rocker; GI Joe; and more

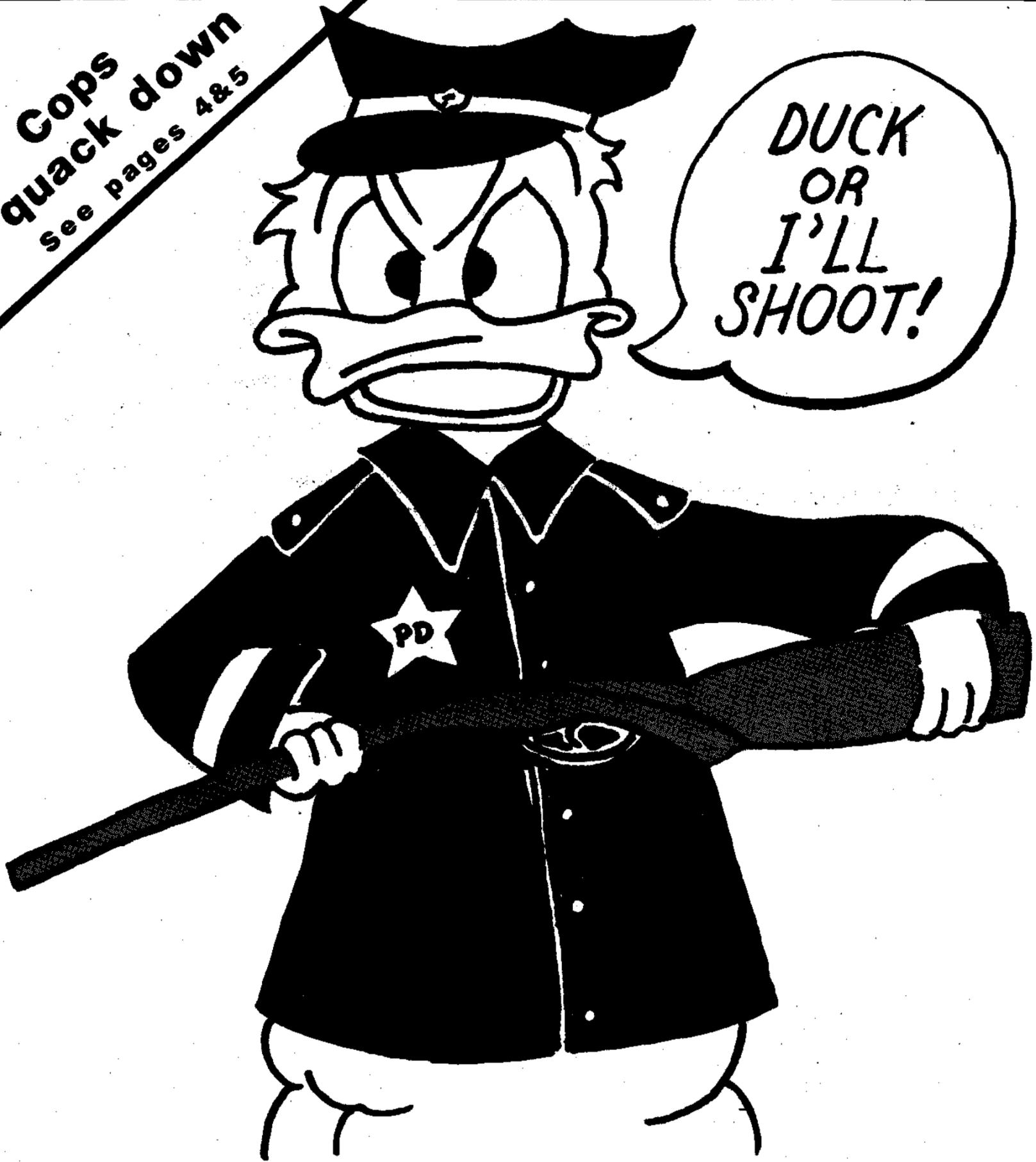
Bloomington-Normal

October 1982 25¢

POST AMERIKAN

Vol. 11 No. 6

**Cops
quack down**
See pages 4&5



BULK RATE
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61701

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED POST-AMERIKAN
POST OFFICE BOX 3452 BLOOMINGTON IL 61701

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 the next issue is Oct. 28.

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.

BLOOMINGTON

Amtrak station, 1200 W. Front
The Back Porch, 402½ N. Main
Biasi's Drugstore, 217 N. Main
Bus Depot, 523 N. East
The Coffee Shop, S. Main, Blm.
Common Ground, 516 N. Main
Discount Den, 207 N. Main
Front and Center Bldg.
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
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
Nierstheimer's Drugs, 1302 N. Main
Oakland & Morrissey, NW corner
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 and Shake, Locust and Clinton
Susie's Cafe, 602 N. Main
U.S. Post Office, 1511 E. Empire (at exit)
U.S. Post Office, Center and Monroe
Wash House, 609 N. Clinton
Washington and Clinton, SE corner
Washington St., across from courthouse
W W Bake Shop, 801 E. Washington

NORMAL

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

OUTTA TOWN

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

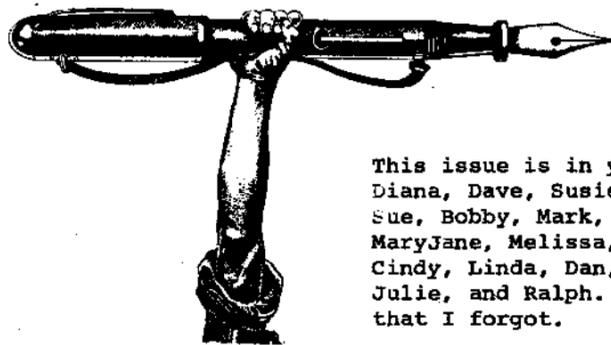
good numbers

Alcoholics Anonymous 828-5049
American Civil Liberties Union 454-1787
CETA 827-4026
Clare House (Catholic Workers) 828-4035
Community for Social Action 452-4867
Connection House 829-5711
Countering Domestic Violence 827-4005
Department of Children and Family Services 828-0022
Department of Health, Education and Welfare (Social Security) 829-9436
Department of Mental Health 828-4311
Draft Counseling 452-5046, 828-4035
Gay/Lesbian Information Line 829-2719
Gay People's Alliance (ISU) 828-9085
God 800-JC5-1000 (in New Jersey, 201-555-1212)
HELP (transportation for handicapped and senior citizens) 828-8301
Illinois Lawyer Referral 800-252-8916
Kaleidoscope 828-7346
McLean County Economic Opportunity Corporation 452-8110
McLean County Health Dept. 829-3363

Metropolitan Community Church 829-2719
National Health Care Services (abortion assistance in Peoria) 691-9073
National Runaway Switchboard 800-621-4000; in Illinois 800-972-6004
Nuclear Freeze Coalition 828-4195
Occupational Development Center 828-7324
PATH (Personal Assistance Telephone Help) 827-4005 or 800-322-5015
Parents Anonymous 827-4005 (PATH)
Planned Parenthood 827-8025
Post Amerikan 828-7232
Prairie State Legal Services 827-5021
Prairie Alliance 828-8249
Project Oz 827-0377
Public Aid, McLean County 827-4621
Rape Crisis Center 827-4005 (PATH)
Small Changes Bookstore 829-6223
Sunnyside Neighborhood Center 827-5428
TeleCare 828-8301
Unemployment Compensation/Job Service 827-6237
United Farmworkers Support 452-5046
Women's Switchboard 800-927-5404

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Thanx...

This issue is in your hands thanx to Diana, Dave, Susie, Laurie, Michael, Sue, Bobby, Mark, Gary (coordinator), MaryJane, Melissa, Deborah, Lisa, Cindy, Linda, Dan, Bumper, Bill, Julie, and Ralph. And probably others that I forgot.

Answering machine stricken again

Every few months, it seems, our answering machine goes on the fritz. Some blame it on the weather; some blame it on loose livin'; some even dare to question the worth of modern electronic technology. But whatever the cause, we haven't had an answering machine for several weeks.

If you've tried to reach us by phone recently, you already know that. Sorry for the inconvenience.

We're presently trying to heal our old machine. If that fails, we're going to (shudder) invest some hard-earned capital in a new one. In any case, please be patient. We'll soon be set to take your messages once again.

It's cool!
It's trendy!

The Post movie trivia quiz!

Movie trivia contests are a newspaper institution, as regular as Gene Siskel on an anti-slashfilm rampage. Every paper with a regular flick crit runs one, it seems, perhaps because creating such quizzes generates such a satisfying feeling of power ("Ha, ha! I know all the answers and you don't!"), and critics by their very natures are fantasizers of personal power.

Even the Pantagraph's Preview section runs an annual contest, which Post people have taken to perusing, and while it's by no means as hard-core trivial as the big city papers' (the only way you can win Chicago Tribune's contest is to own a Betamax and an exhaustive film videotape library), it's still quite a challenge.

The only problem with such quizzes is their invariable emphasis on "respectable" movies, flicks that garner all the press and all the audience but are as culturally confrontational as Andy of Mayberry. (I mean: was anyone offended by On Golden Pond?) Most of the Post staff tries to avoid such pics and you probably do, too, because who wants to go to the movies to see something "respectable"? You want respectable, go to Community Players.

So for all you folks who grew up with Moviegoing As A Subversive Activity (or at least a good thing to do stoned), here's the Post's first movie trivia quiz. (We may not have a regular critic at this paper, but we we're hardly short on opinionated movie fans.) All the questions deal with genuine counter-cultural "classics" of the past fifteen years (sorry James Dean buffs--we didn't go earlier), as selected by our special Hip Entertainment Committee, and range in difficulty from A Snap! to You Expect Me To Remember That?

There are no prizes for this quiz, but if you mail your answers in before October 15, we promise to read and sneer at them. First and second place winners' names will be printed in the Post, just to prove that we can honor ridiculous positive achievements just like any other paper.

And, yes, we'll print the quiz answers next issue.

--Bill Sherman

Punks

1. In seminal motorcycle punk flick The Wild Angels (which introduced Peter Fonda to the joys of two-wheeled thuggishness), our boy Pete and his crowd commit a "shocking" act of wanton nose-thumbing in the flick's final quarter. What is this act and who is it in honor of?

2. In "maturer" cycle flick Easy Rider (the movie that got the big studios really noticing "youth pictures"), our man Pete and his talkative buddy Dennis Hopper have a run-in with eccentric straight Jack Nicholson. Town drunk Jack, in order to show that short-hairs can be as crazy as long-haired types, gets to pontificate comically (courtesy of screendoctor Terry Southern) on a topic of National Enquireresque paranoia. What's his beef?

3. And while we're on the subject of chopper flicks, what's the counter-cultural importance of 1967's Born Losers?



Drugs

4. Roger Corman's The Trip is generally acknowledged to be the first commercial movie to deal with the hallucinogenic experience. In it neophyte tripper Peter Fonda (yup, him again!) rhapsodizes over the vibrations emanating from a piece of foodstuff. What causes Pete to rap so poetically?

5. For sheer druggee silliness, few films beat Wild In the Streets (featuring Shelly Winters' greatest screeching performance), an American International fantasy about a rock 'n' roll president and LSD concentration camps. The movie spawned a top forty hit song--what was it?

6. Ken Russell's Altered States took the drug fantasy exploitation pic into the era of bigtime effectwork. In it brainy tripper William Hurt undergoes all manner of physical metamorphosis as a result of tampering with Drugs Best Left Untouched. One of the first indications that things have begun to get out of hand occurs after our hero has made love with one of his students. Stepping out of the bathroom, our hero has a vision. What is it?

Rock n roll

7. From drug flicks, it's a short step to rock movies. In the Beatles' Magical Mystery Tour (originally done as a BBC special but vetoed from teevee broadcast for reasons of obvious quality), director Ringo's Auntie Jessie has a(n obviously drug-induced) fantasy about being buried in a restaurant. What is she being buried under? (No, it isn't baked beans. That's question ten's movie!)

8. This 'un is for those who saw Woodstock when it first came out (that's it--don't be embarrassed to show your age). Who sang that bravura stand-up number just before intermission? And (here's an easier one) what was the color of the ba-ad acid passed there?

9. What seventies best-seller schlockmeister had a hand in the screenplay of Yellow Submarine? (Optional question: what brand acid did you take when you first saw it?)

10. In the movie version of Tommy (Ken Russell's joke version of the concept rock's first pretentious moment) a teenybop disciple of the deaf, dumb and blind messiah turns away from his teachings to marry a California rock musician. What is the distinguishing feature of Sally's hubby-to-be?

11. In the ultra-Freudian Pink Floyd The Wall, our musing rock hero takes time off from reflecting about death and mom to watch an animated cartoon. Who stars in the cartoon? (Name all three characters.)

12. On the other side of the modern rockflick spectrum, New York punk heroes the Ramones lent their suave monosyllabic charm to the seventies' classiest parody of high school movie myths, Rock 'N' Roll High School. In the movie's most affecting scene a stoned P.J. Soles imagines that her favorite band has appeared in her house to sing "I Want You Around." Where is bass player Dee Dee Ramone?

General offensiveness

13. Is there anything more counter-cultural than a cult movie? Not to Rocky Horror Picture Show fans! In this musical pastiche of mid-seventies glitter rock and Plan 9 from Outer Space cheapness, macho yelpster Meatloaf made his first appearance before a panting public. What happens to him in the movie? (This is an easy one.) What text is Rocky Horror's narrating professor using during the telling of the picture? (This is a somewhat harder one.)

14. David Lynch's Eraserhead is a piece of somewhat grimmer cult fare, full of disturbing images that a slew of modern horror pictures have since swiped. In one of the movie's early comic sequences, our fear-ridden hero attends dinner at his girlfriend's family's house? (Bonus question: can you name the scenes swiped for Alien and Poltergeist?)

15. Dawn of the Dead, George Romero's ultra-grue satire of shopping mall living, has been a regular on Eastland's midnight movie schedule. In one of the movie's most famous scenes, one of Romero's flesh-chomping zombies dies an eye popping second death on an air field. How does he/it get snuffed?

16. But for sheer cultish grotesquerie, nobody can beat the films of Baltimore's John Waters, director of the scatological Pink Flamingos. In Polyester, the only Waters film to play Twin Cities theaters, transvestite actor Divine plays a housewife with an ultrasensitive schnoz (which the audience experiences thanks to scratch-and-sniff cards). In one scene, both heroine and audience are tricked by a bouquet of roses that is quickly substituted by something rank. What is this nasty smelling item?

Who shot the Met? Bloomington cops SWAT innocent victim

An Aug. 23 shooting into the Metropole Tavern on Main St. sent Bloomington's finest into a frenzied parody of a SWAT team.

Shortly after a bullet soared through the front window of the bar, the police began a wild performance, terrorizing the neighborhood in an inept search for the unknown marksman.

Wendell Fransen, who lives upstairs and across the street from the Met, was sitting on his roof with his date, sharing a bottle of wine and discussing the cloud patterns that night. The couple thought they heard some fire-crackers, but thought nothing of it until they looked over the parapet and saw police with rifles running down Main St.

Their surprise turned to dismay when two cops, then three, swept onto the roof, separated them, searched and handcuffed Wendell, and hustled the couple downstairs.

All the while the cops were firing questions about the shooting and telling Wendell they suspected him of doing it from his front window, giving him various bogus reasons why he was a suspect (that the bullet's trajectory showed it was fired specifically from his upstairs apartment, that someone saw someone standing at his window, and so on.) The same evening the cops told a different neighbor that the angle of entry proved that the shot came from street level.

Handcuffed, Wendell was taken down to the street and put in a squad car, with fifty to seventy-five onlookers.

The cops kicked in the door to Wendell's apartment (though it was unlocked) and collected his temporary roommate, who was drunk and passed out on the bed--hardly in a state to practice his aim. They hauled him in, too, barefoot and shirtless.

Wendell and his date (without handcuffs) were taken separately to the police station and questioned. For Wendell, the interrogation was rude, rough, inept, and humiliating. Detective O'Leary of the Bloomington



Police refused to tell the Post who the interrogator was.

The questioner kept saying, "All right, Wendell, where's the gun?" and other TV-inspired lines. To no avail, Wendell told the investigator that he didn't even believe in guns. Wendell signed a paper to let the cops search his place for the rifle, which of course they didn't find.

Nonetheless, Wendell was interrogated until he persuaded the cop to check his alibi with his date. Since they'd been separated since the roof, they'd had no time to cook up a story, so the cop should believe her corroboration. Sure enough, she said that they were just sitting quietly on the roof talking about clouds. With this clincher, the cops finally believed Wendell and took him home, with no word of apology.

When the cops ambushed Wendell on the roof, supposedly believing him to be a nut with a rifle, they didn't have their guns drawn.

But in their raid of more upstairs apartments on Main St. that night,

they did it in style.

One neighbor was home painting his bathroom when he opened the hall door to find one cop firing questions at him and three more with rifles flowing past him into the hallway.

Quickly satisfied that a person is unlikely to go bonkers, shoot the Metropole, and then calmly be painting his bathroom twenty minutes later, they told him to stay in his apartment while they moved on down the hall.

He peered out his door at a scene straight out of "Kojak": three cops were positioned along the stairway pointing rifles at his neighbor's door; another was positioned with a pistol raised, giving short kicks to the door and saying, "Open up!"

"If she opens up that door and sees you guys with all those guns, she'll flip out," the first neighbor pointed out to the cops. Luckily, she wasn't home.

"We aren't looking for a girl anyway," one cop said. Seemingly, the trajectory of the bullet must've shown that it was fired by someone with a penis, since Wendell's date was never a suspect either.

The cops proceeded to commandeer the man's stepladder, without asking, and take it out so they could climb onto the roof. They didn't even bring it back in when they were through with it.

It was several days before someone was finally charged with the shooting; it wasn't a rifle, after all, but a .45 handgun. Evidently the trajectory didn't show that.

The people who live near the Met often need and appreciate the police, who must deal with the sometimes noisy and often violent customers of the bar. ("Everyone has a reason to shoot the Metropole," one neighbor said.) And of course they agree that the cops should look for whoever wildly shoots guns off.

But they also feel that this search was ill-organized, ineffective, wasteful of time and energy, and that it involved much more bullying than was necessary. It had too much of "Dirty Harry" in it and not enough thoughtful work.

The next time they hear a gun go off, all the males are going to start painting their bathrooms.

--Phoebe Caulfield

Normal Police at it again



On Friday Sept. 17, the Normal PD, in all its glory, again demonstrated that it can indeed turn a small gathering into an angry mob.

There had been an incident in Josie's bar involving a drunken ISU student and a couple of his friends, who were apparently making nasty comments about the sexual preference of the bartenders and patrons of Josie's. So they asked him to leave, and he said no, and they threw him out. All that is hearsay, told to me by one of the guy's friends and the security officer working at the bar.

When a friend and I walked up, there was a small gathering of several irritated, drunken people and one security guard who was trying to calm them down.

Everything seemed to be going pretty well, and the man's friends almost had him talked into going to a different bar.

Enter the cops.

Two squads, four officers. They all seemed to want the junior G-man medal of the month. They came on the scene, thumbs tucked into their pants, chins stuck out, and a swaggering walk.

The guy didn't have a chance.

First they told him to just move along, go someplace else, and start walking-- NOW!

He didn't. He wanted to know why Josie's had kicked him out. The police didn't know, nor did they care. They didn't tell him that. They told him there didn't need to be a reason, and he didn't need to know.

Quite a little crowd had gathered at this point, and the bigger the audience, the more obnoxious the cops

became. One stayed by the guy and the rest mingled around and glared at the crowd.

Finally the guy realized that he was never going to find out what he had done inside the bar, and he asked the cop guarding him if he couldn't just leave. (Remember, that's what the cop had wanted him to do in the first place.) But now, since it was the guy's suggestion and not the cop's, it was no longer a good idea.

"See that car?" the cop yelled, loud enough to be heard in Watterson (two blocks away), "Stand by it! Now!" And when the guy hesitated, "You heard me! I said now!"

His friends started toward him, asking if they could please just take him away. They were immediately shepherded away. Divide and conquer and all that.

The guy moved, of course. The guardian cop started toward him. He walked up to the guy until he was only about six inches from his body. The guy looked up and started to ask a question. "Get outta my face!" the cop screamed.

"But you have to tell me what I did," the guy said.

"I don't have to tell you nothing," yelled the cop, "except get outta my face!"

Another cop rushed up at this point and another squad appeared. You never know when some drunk student is going to pull a bazooka out from underneath his windbreaker and mow down (what seemed like) the entire NPD.

The guy backed up, the cop backed off.

Then, showing more tenacity than even I have, he put a hand on the cop's

shoulder and pleaded, "Just tell me what I did."

The cop looked at the guy's hand, then at his partner. "That's assault," the cop told everyone who was listening. He then jerked the guy's hands behind his back, cuffed him, and carted him off to the NPD to be booked while his friends and other passers-by stood gaping in disbelief.

Duty done, arrest quotas for the week met, and need for student harassment satisfied for the moment, the rest of the police left, too, smiling in satisfaction and advising the rest of us to disperse.

Now, I know the mere act of touching a police officer is felony assault, according to the law. The law is pretty stupid and is open to abuse by insensitive cops. The guy had no more assaulted that cop than I had. And the cop knew it. And so did the crowd.

But the law is the law, especially in Normal, especially if a student is involved.

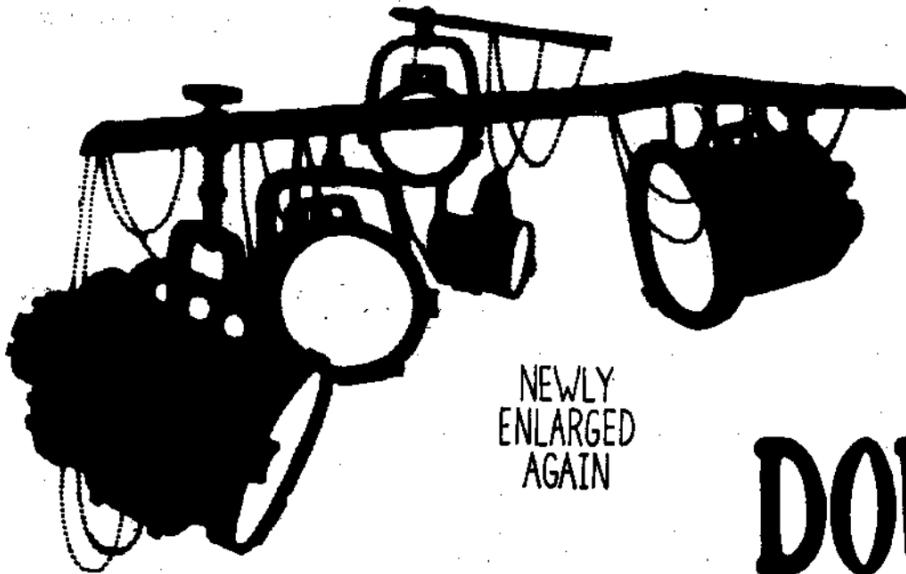
The assault charges against the guy were eventually dropped, proving once again that cops can so be human.

Humane, on the other hand, is apparently too much for them to handle. The whole assault rap was intended to frighten the guy and impress the crowd. I certainly feel safer knowing the NPD is spending its time intimidating the public and bullying students. Don't you?

But that's life in the big city, folks. And the school year has just started.

--Deborah Wiatt

P.S. Normal Police refused to release the name of the arresting officer to an inquiring Post-American reporter.



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Normal mayor accepts bike trail plan

Post-Amerikan:

Your note in the current issue about the proposal for a street down the ICG railroad right of way is quite a bit out of date. For about the past three months, at my suggestion, the Town has filed with the ICG and the Illinois Commerce Commission a request that if the railroad line is abandoned, we be able to acquire it for exactly what



No more Post

To Whom It May Concern:

Please regard this as a request to cancel the Livingston County State's Attorney Office subscription to the Post-Amerikan. No refund is necessary, and I prefer that no further editions be sent to this office.

Very truly yours,

Donald D. Bernardi
State's Attorney
Livingston County

you mentioned in your article: a recreation and nature trail.

I asked the City of Bloomington to join with us in the quest and at the behest of Alderman Hugh Atwood, in particular, Bloomington has taken a similar stance.

Further, I have the city staff working with Bloomington and the Sanitary district on a proposal for a recreation trail which would follow the Sugar Creek rights of way and link with the railroad land. But it will be expensive in a year when we need to trim costs to the bone, in light of the financial problems so many citizens are having.

The street proposal was a quick response to a reporter before I had a chance to look at the right of way for the railroad and realized its potential for a nature and rec trail. The other line of the ICG, out to the GE plant, would add to the trail and people would have few streets to cross.

While finances would be a problem, we're giving some consideration to a

plan whereby we would work with John Penn and the labor unions to put some of the out-of-work construction people into some type of public works program to help them through these rough times and maybe this trail would be one of the projects to develop. It's in its infancy, though, and we haven't met with them yet.

Fly in the ointment, to use a trite phrase, is another railroad filing with the Illinois Commerce Commission to take over the ICG's abandoned line. But we can still proceed on the creek trails in the meantime.

But I did want to let you know that the street idea lasted less than a day and we switched to the rec trail immediately; I'm not sure of the exact timing, but we got our letters in to the railroad and commerce commission within days after the abandonment was announced and Bloomington joined us shortly thereafter.

--Dick Godfrey,
Mayor, Town of Normal



Bravo Post-Amerikan

Post Amerikan vol. 11, no. 6 October 1982 page 6

Dear Post:

Congratulations on a job well done.

I am now a senior at ISU and have been reading and relaying your message for four years now--thank you for the truth.

I just thought I'd drop this little note in with the check. I'll feel proud to display my faith in the Post Amerikan (and wear the shirt everywhere).

Keep tellin' it like it is.

--Jack Stritch

Likes Post, wants letters

Dear Post Amerikan,

I sincerely hope you print this letter. I ran across your paper when I was at Marion Federal Prison. I would like to receive your paper monthly. Your paper does not bite its tongue when it comes to reaching aware people. And I would like to reach out to anyone for the purposes of friendship and companionship.

I am a short timer. I get out in 1984. I was sent to Marion on error. So I hope no one will assume I'm doing a long sentence. I do not have anyone to write to. Because of my political and radical consciousness, my family and girlfriend shied away from me. That's all okay. Yet I'm feeling lonely and I need mail.

I am 26 years old, an avid student of psychology, theology, and racial unity. I have no discriminative eyes when it comes to races, sexual lifestyles, or social views. For my mind is beyond stupidity.

Your paper tells it like it is. Even if you do not print this letter, I would like to get your paper.

Randy Lee Wright #60298-061
P. O. Box W
Lampoc CA 93438

Dear Post Amerikan,

I'm presently here in the Vandalia Correctional Center. I'm writing to see if you can help me out. While I was in McLean County Jail for delivery of Cocaine (the bust on W. Taylor St. Dec. 22nd, 81) I broke my right leg. While I was on the ground, an officer walked up to me and pulled on my broken leg, which was undiagnosed at the time.

I lay in my cell bed for 3 days before I was taken to a doctor, who I asked to see numerous times. I was in great pain during all this. After the doc took x-rays, my leg was put in a cast.

My attorney won't take the case. I've written to the A.C.L.U., and they wrote back and told me they couldn't help. I'd like to file myself, but am confused and would really like to have an attorney to make sure I do it right.

Here at the Law Library, I feel the clerks have been told not to help on

Prisoner needs help with suit

civil suits, because they neglect my requests for help.

Could you refer me to an attorney or have one come see me? The attorney I had at the time told me I had a good case.

I would appreciate it very much. If you can't do anything for me, could you let me know? Thank you!

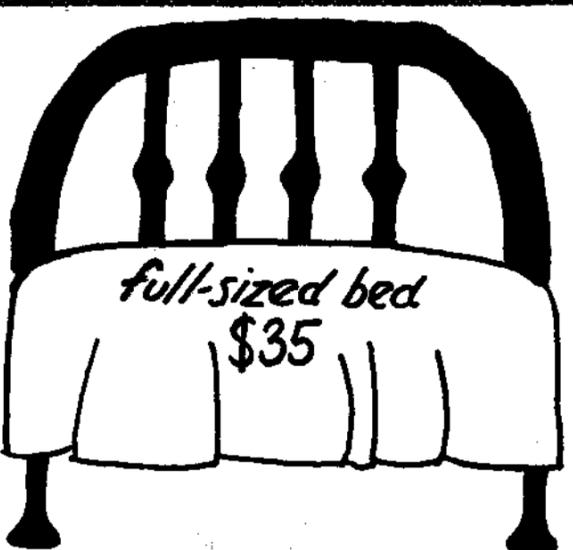
Richard Leyes

P.S. The MEG agent that busted me was introduced to me by a friend who was also busted. The agent's name is Harry Sweet, about 6'3", maybe 125 lbs; brown, long hair, straggly beard. He always wore blue jeans, a black leather Harley cap & boots. He worked on me for a couple months and kept coming back and coming back until I finally sold him some toot, and then busted me like Starsky and Hutch, crashing down the door with ten other cops. Anyway you should put a word of caution out to others that are fooling around so they won't have to end up like I did.

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\$35

announces plans

The Gay People's Alliance of Illinois State University holds informal meetings for interested persons, every Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. in room 112 of Fairchild Hall on the ISU campus. Both campus and community residents are invited to attend.

The line-up for the next several weeks is as follows:

- Sept. 29 Discussion of "how to meet people";
- Oct. 6 Video program: "La Cage aux Folles II";
- Oct. 13 Topic not yet decided;
- Oct. 20 Readings from literature by and about gay people, including some original works by GPA members;
- Oct. 27 Gay-Straight Rap: informal question-answer session for those who want to learn more about gay people and gay lifestyles;
- Nov. 3 Gay health issues: a local physician will present information and answer questions.

The GPA speakers bureau has also been formed and is scheduling speaking engagements for classes and groups in the community. Anyone interested in more information about GPA meetings or the speakers bureau can write to Gay People's Alliance at 225 N. University University, Normal, or call 828-9085.

A gay and lesbian information line has been established in Bloomington-Normal. The number to call for the latest on local gay activities is 829-2719.

The information line is primarily the work of the newly formed Metropolitan Community Church of Bloomington-Normal. MCC continues to hold its weekly worship services at 4 p.m. on Sundays at 601 1/2 N. Lee in Bloomington. You can get more information about MCC by calling 829-2719.

Infertility support group to meet

Bloomington--Planned Parenthood of Mid Central Illinois announces the first meeting of its Infertility Support Group to address the emotional needs of people who have experienced or are experiencing infertility problems. The meeting on Tuesday evening, Oct. 19, at 7 p.m., will be held in the first floor meeting room of the McBarnes Building, 201 E. Grove St. in Bloomington.

Designed to offer information, referrals and emotional support to people

The Tenant and Community Services Office of the housing authority of the city of Bloomington is sponsoring a tutoring program for the fourth year. Volunteers are needed as tutors for school-age youngsters.

Tutoring help is needed in English, math, reading, and spelling. The focus will be on grade school and

junior high school students.

Tutors are needed for one hour each week, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday.

Please contact the housing authority's Tenant and Community Service Office at 829-3360 before 5 p.m. After 5:00 contact Roxanne at 828-1894.



Community News



Rape crisis center holds training

The Rape Crisis Center of McLean County will hold a training session on Saturday, Oct. 2 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 3 from 1 to 6 p.m. It will be held at ISU's Stevenson Hall, rooms 104 and 105, in Normal.

Persons who attend the session will be trained in telephone counseling techniques, laws concerning rape and assault, medical procedures for victims, and the psychological and emotional aspects of sexual assault. Volunteers assist in the operation of the 24-hour telephone service for assault victims and their families and friends. Both men and women are welcome.

In addition to the telephone service, the Center provides an advocate service for rape and assault victims. A volunteer can accompany the victim through the medical, police, and legal procedures if the victim desires.

Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer or learning more about rape is invited to attend the training session. For more information call PATH at 827-4005 and ask for the Rape Crisis Center.

Film series slated

Illinois State University's Student Center Board Film Society has announced its fall schedule.

The films are shown twice on Tuesdays at 6 pm and again at 8:15 pm in the Bone Student Center's Circus Room or Ballroom.

The Student Center Film Society is one of few organizations in the area which brings old American classics, cult, and foreign films to the community for a reasonable admission price, (\$1.00).

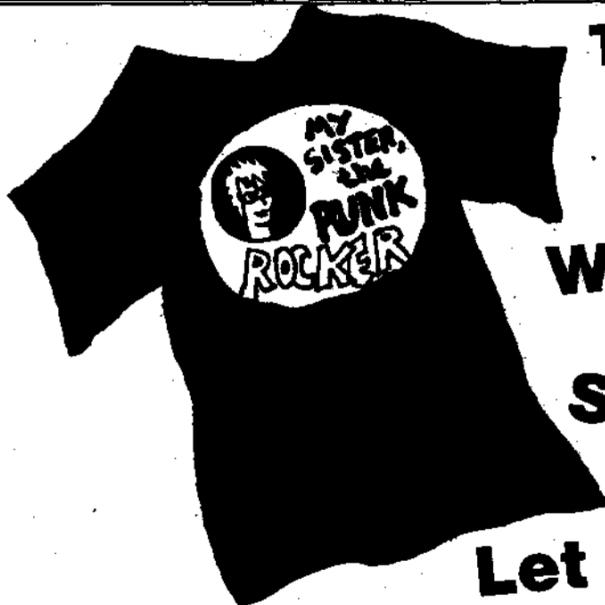
All of the films shown by Film Society are selected by students for the purpose of providing and exposing fellow students and the community to films other than those in first-run theatres.

Just A Gigolo Sept. 28, Ballroom	How I Won The War Nov. 9, Circus Room
White Heat Oct. 12, Circus Room	The Seventh Seal Nov. 16, Circus Room
Slaughter House Five Oct. 19, Circus Room	
Manhattan Oct. 26, Ballroom	Alice's Restaurant Nov. 30, Ballroom
On The Beach Nov. 2, Circus Room	Jules And Jim Dec. 1, Circus Room



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Millionth subscriber noted

Bloomington, IL--Ronald Reagan, 71, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C., recently became the Post-Amerikan's one millionth subscriber.

Claiming that it was not a set-up job, and that none of the staff members of this small alternative central Illinois paper had even ever heard of Mr. Reagan, Subscription Coordinator Mia Culpa explained what happened: "I got the mail, and there were 74 subs in the P.O. box. I opened them in the exact order the PO had put them there. The 57th of the day was Mr. Reagan's. There was a check for the \$4 sub, one P-A t-shirt, 2 Punk Rocker t-shirts, and donation of \$14. The check was signed by an Alex Haig, but the subscription was for Mr. Reagan, making him the millionth.

"We are very, very excited and extremely pleased," said Otto Control, the Post's publicity agent. "Of course it would have been nice for it to have been a local person, but since B-N has already had the millionth Eagle Scout, I guess we can't have this, too."

Mr. Reagan claims he knew nothing about the subscription. "I usually buy the paper from the machine in front of my house, so I didn't know Al had done this. But after weeks and months of having to call the one millionth this and write the one millionth that, it's nice to be in a positive spotlight again."

News editor Gay Ann Prowd could find no verification of these wild claims in any of the files. Mr. Reagan will not be the first subscriber to have delusions of grandeur.

A congratulatory banquet and press conference was held at the Park View Inn on September 16. Mr. Reagan was presented with a Black Label beer bottle with bayberry candle stuck in it, a used Smith-Corona typewriter cartridge, and a non-reproducing blue pencil.

On a tour of Miller Park after the banquet, Mr. Reagan admired the cannons used to keep kids out of the park after ten. He ordered three for his own home. He also commented several times that there were too many trees and that there was probably oil or natural gas underneath them. He said he'd have his friend James look into it. He then hassled four children and demanded they show him their fishing licenses, although they were playing on the swings at the time.

At the airport, an urgent call came for Mr. Reagan. It was from the



Mr. Reagan: first Eagle Scout



Mr. Reagan: millionth Post Subscriber

millionth Eagle Scout. "I just hope this takes the heat off me," the scout told him. "Let's see how you like being ridiculed by your friends, scorned by your brothers and sisters, and hated by the rest of the people who subscribe to the Post. I hope they hound you for the rest of your life and get off my case! My life has been terrible since the award. I hope yours is worse! I hate you! I hate the word million! I hate Scouting! I'd kill myself, but I'd probably be the millionth suicide or the millionth winner of the millionth something and I couldn't even die without press coverage!" he screamed.

Mr. Reagan is a native of Illinois. He was born in Dixon and was graduated from Eureka College, where he was on the football team. He then moved to Hollywood to become a star. After failing as an actor, Mr. Reagan entered politics and told Post reporter Jack Kuese that he used to be the Governor of California and is currently the President of the United States.

Aside from that one black note, the day was a huge success, and Mr. Reagan flew back to Washington to do whatever it is he does, firm in the knowledge that he won't have to buy another Post-Amerikan from the front of his house for a full year.

--Marshall Law,
Washington correspondent

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Plastification Award
On the other hand...

We must admit it. There are days without sunlight, songs without melodies, lives without poetry, trees without flowers.

Can I deplore the beauty of an attempt to make a pitiable twig a blossoming shrub? No. No more than I can deplore my wearing a pink sweatshirt on a gloomy day, a cheerful greeting when the going's rough, a warm smile on the face of despair.

I like the fake flowers wired to the spindly young tree outside Niépagen's. They are a promise of real things to come, a friendly giggle at the slow process of nature.

Some seasons, we all have to make our own flowers up.

--Phoebe Caulfield

Typist's note: Somebody must have flipped Phoebe on her head. I think those fake flowers look silly.

Redefining the family

Sheila Ortiz Taylor, Faultline. Naiad Press, 140 pages, \$6.95.

This must be the world's first comic novel about a lesbian custody case. It paints a warm, funny picture of two lesbians who have six kids, 300 rabbits, and some wonderfully outrageous friends.

At the center of the novel is Arden Benbow, part Chicana, part Indian, and part white. Life swirls around her and her children. She is a housewife, pregnant with her sixth child, when she falls in love with her husband's boss's wife, Alice.

Arden is too shy to act. Instead, she begins "to yearn for travel, for poetry, for chance, for style, for friendship, for a Harley Davidson 350." She enrolls in graduate school and buys a "midnight-blue leather jacket with lots of zippers" at Joseph Magnin's. Thus, she is ready when an earthquake throws her into Alice's arms.

The two women take Arden's six children and go live in a run-down house in the San Fernando Valley, right over the San Andreas faultline. As the children's pet rabbits multiply, the time flashes back to Arden's youthful adventures in Mexico with her ex-bookie Aunt Vi, and bumps back to the present custody fight with Arden's ex-husband, wickedly named Malthus.

Arden's family is warm, sprawling, and messy. A whole cast of adults joins in the adventures. There's Earl, the family friend and rabbit-feed

supplier, and Big Jim Muncey, who raises sheepdogs and takes away some of the rabbits (not mentioning that he stews, fries, and fricassees them).

And there's Topaz Wilson, a gay tap dancer who takes a job doing childcare for Arden because there's no work around: "Especially not for someone black, six foot three in his stocking feet, with an aversion to violence. Without this last qualification, I could have plenty of work."

Sheila Taylor says she included Topaz as a caretaker of children in her novel "because I wanted to invite gay men into the family too." At one point, Topaz bawls Malthus out for feeding the kids junk food during a weekend visit. Malthus questions Topaz's right to say anything. "The novel implies Topaz has every right in the world," says Taylor, "because children belong to the people who care about them, who give their time taking care of them."

Taylor says she wanted to write a comic novel about a lesbian custody case as a way to distance herself from her own anger over the threat of a custody suit that haunted her for many years. "I wanted to talk to women that are still in heterosexual relationships who need very badly to get out of them but feel like they have to stay in them on behalf of the children."

In spite of the novel's verve, it is difficult to see why Arden stayed in her marriage and ended up with six kids. Before the marriage, she is a

zesty, gutsy recent college grad who rescues Aunt Vi from the Thousand Oaks Nursing Home and takes off for adventures in Mexico. After 12 years of marriage, Arden re-emerges, able to raise six kids and ride a Harley and write poetry.

It's hard to believe that she spent the time in between as Malthus' zombielike wife. The explanation that Taylor offers is the Avon lady, that other aspect of women that keeps them bound to men: "This unattractive person in white gloves, dressed like an Avon lady, exists in any woman who did not spring from her mother's loins a fully constituted lesbian."

This image of conditioning may be believable to many readers. At a reading for a mostly lesbian audience in San Francisco, one listener told Taylor that Malthus was a dead ringer for her ex-husband. When Taylor asked, "How many of you used to be married to Malthus?" more than a dozen hands immediately shot up.

Faultline is a honey of a book, no matter how you react to Arden's married relationship. It's a novel that makes you feel good when you read it. And while it is affirming the lives of lesbians and gay men, it's also a book that straight people will enjoy.

--Ferdurdurke, with
thaxn to Judy
MacLean of The
Advocate

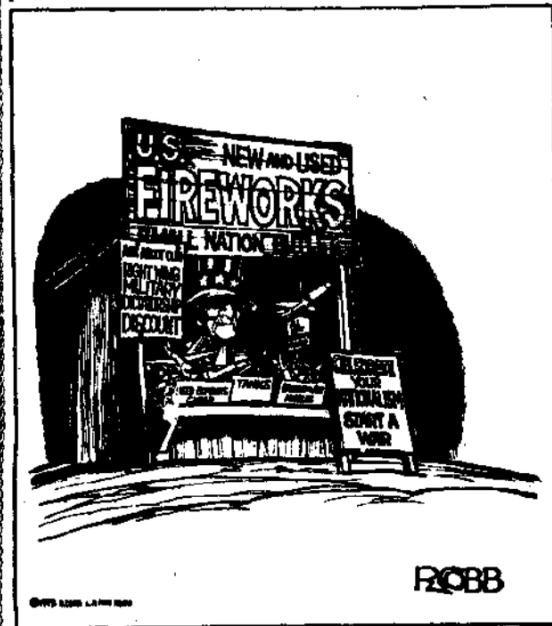


A ruthless general in a small African national has just overthrown a democratic ruler and now leads an international terrorist movement. "He has made his nation a training camp and refuge for the soldiers of tyranny. From this base, they launch their attacks on the free world. The general dreams of spreading tyranny over the entire globe."

The Reagan administration's view of Libya or Angola? No. It's from a comic strip on the package of a new line of paramilitary figures called Eagle Force by Mego Corp., a major toy manufacturer in New York. The "ruthless dictator" is a three-inch die-cast figure named General Mamba, a leader in the Roving International Organization of Tyranny (RIOT). Created to resist Mamba and the other RIOT characters is the Eagle Force--"America's premier strike force to fight world injustice and tyranny."

Between the Eagle Force and RIOT, the new Mego line includes 18 characters that retail for about \$2.00 each. It is recommended by Mego for children five years and up.

The Eagle Force is only one line in a rash of paramilitary toys that made their debut at the annual toy show



Feb. in New York.

During the Vietnam war, retailers and manufacturers quietly disposed of almost all paramilitary toys. G.I. Joe went AWOL. Toy weaponry, war games and military wheel toys disappeared. Today G. I. Joe is back. With him is a host of new or re-introduced paramilitary action figures, war games, gun sets and model kits.

Out of the 67 new or re-introduced kits by international model manufacturer Revell, more than 50% are military aircrafts, compared with 20% last year. Until this year, most of the molds for these models had lain dormant in Revell's factories for a decade.

Big bucks!

Hasbro's G.I. Joe is backed by a \$4 million tv ad campaign, and Hasbro projects 1982 sales in the \$200 million range. The new G.I. Joe is 3 3/4 inches, compared with the original 11-inch doll, and, like the popular Star War figures, much of G.I. Joe's success will rely on sales of its accessories--the tank, attack vehicle, artillery laser, missile system and cannon.

Like the Eagle Force, the 11-figure Hasbro line is positioned as an anti-terrorist team. G.I. Joe will also be showing up on Halloween costumes, walkie-talkies, radios, pajamas, color-forms, puzzles, boys clothing and thermoses.

One of Hasbro's major licenses for the G.I. Joe name is Marvell Comics Group, whose first issue of "G.I. Joe: A Real American Hero" went on sale in April. On its cover, G.I. Joe and members of his "special missions force" are shown leaping ahead of their mammoth tank, brandishing laser weapons and machine guns. Caption: "The ultimate weapon is democracy."

So promising is the paramilitary market that companies that had never produced anything even resembling a toy soldier are suddenly manufacturing

For the little killer GI Joe

things like the Combat Copter, a new item by Blue Box. The Combat Copter, whose most significant selling point is that it "flies up to 50 feet high," was showcased at the toy show among the company's more typical ware: the Magic Coffeemaker and a children's toy bench.

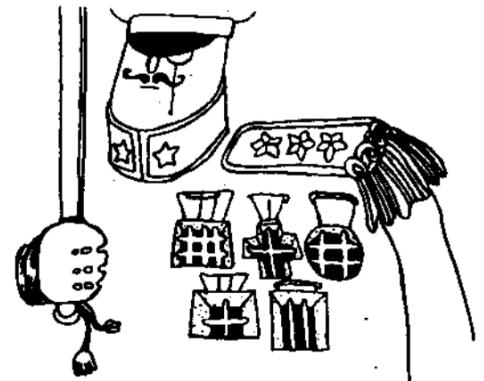
Weapons galore

The Miner Company has come up with a new war "playset" that combines Russian, Japanese, German and U.S. armies. Called World Patrol Forces, the game features the "most up-to-date" weaponry and vehicles, according to a company spokesperson, including surveillance aircraft and patrol vehicles.

As with many other companies reentering paramilitary after a 10 to 12-year hiatus, the Miner Company didn't need to make a huge initial investment. They had all the molds. They've had them for years.

Many retailers welcome the resurgence

Post Amerikan vol. 11, no. 6



October 1982 page 10

Common Ground

NATURAL FOODS

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Come visit our newly remodeled store. We have more of everything, including an expanded produce section, to serve you better.

COMMON GROUND now offers you the opportunity to cut food and vitamin costs by 10%. You may obtain your 10% discount club card in the following two ways:

- (1) You may purchase a discount card for a yearly fee of \$10.
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Our wide selection of wholesome foods now includes gourmet coffee beans fresh produce

WOMEN

If you have been raped, sexually attacked, or assaulted, call us for legal, medical and psychological assistance, referrals and alternatives

Call PATH
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and ask for the
RAPE CRISIS CENTER

comes back

of paramilitary toys. "This country is through taking a back seat to everyone," says a buyer with Oklahoma City-based TG&Y discount stores. "Reagan has made a patriotic, positive stand on defense. The growth in these toys reflects that, and it's about time."

Wary of possible consumer resistance, manufacturers are marketing their lines as heroes in the battle of good against evil, defenders of democracy and the free world.

The force pervades

In the new toy market, the word "force" pervades. There's Strike Force, Attack Force, World Patrol Forces, Special Forces and in comic books, G.I. Joe's Special Missions Forces. "Instead of positioning the line as a military toy, we're marketing it as a strike force, a rescue team," says a marketing executive with Mego Corp. "Eagle Force would have gone to Entebbe. They would have gotten our hostages out of Iran."

But a closer look at the Mego Eagle Force shows that it's a lot more than simply a "rescue team."

Each Eagle Force character is drawn in comic book fashion. Behind each portrait drawing is the American flag. The Eagle Force's symbol is, not surprisingly, a menacing-looking eagle with wings spread, talons poised for the kill. Each RIOT package bears the logo of a dagger piercing a globe. And just in case the kids who receive the toy don't know what to do with it, all Eagle Force and RIOT packages come with their own comic strip printed on the back.



Kids can thus receive a rudimentary education in NATO, Europe, Africa and the Mideast à la Caspar Weinberger. The comic strip scenarios correspond with the Reagan administration's foreign policy, specifically the anti-detente, anti-third world positions.

In one comic strip, a red-garbed Baron Von Chill jumps into a U.S. defense building through a hole in the roof to steal the plans to NATO's latest tank. Von Chill, once a famous scientist, is now "by day, a wealthy European industrialist. By night, the European leader of RIOT."

Saboteur

Nemesis, in traditional Arab garments, is "the saboteur." His comic strip begins, "Through strife torn nations of the Middle East goes Nemesis. Wherever Nemesis goes Bloodshed and chaos soon follow. For Nemesis serves no cause but that of RIOT--and RIOT thrives on turmoil!"

The final panels of both RIOT and Eagle Force comic strips show a drawing of a weapon and give a brief but fairly detailed description. For instance, Nemesis' weapon is the Dragunov Sniper Rifle, "Or SVD rifle which is made in the Soviet Union. It is the sniper version of the AK-47 rifle and comes with a four-power telescopic sight." The description goes on to give the caliber, weight, length, effective range, action and magazine capacity.

Mego tries to appeal to all ethnic groups by including them in the proud Eagle Force team. The problem is that these characters are stereotypical, if not altogether racist.

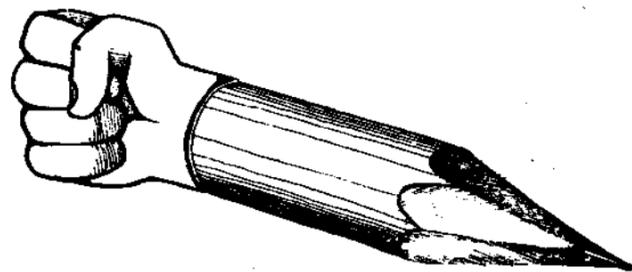
The black figure is called Big Bro'. He uses his skills as a quarterback to throw grenades and dodge the enemy. Kayo is the Oriental Eagle Force member who, as you might guess, uses karate to win his war. An American Indian figure gets along just fine with his bow and arrows. And Wild Bill, the cowboy commando, uses his six-guns.

It's Wild Bill who rides off into the sunset on a camel after shooting the Arab terrorists and saving the world from Communism.

--Shan Takahasi, In These Times



"Well, you can just forget what the dictionary says. From now on the word 'voluntary' means you have to pray when I tell you to."



We now have both of Kristen Lems' albums: *Oh Mama!* & *In the Out Door* - plus - her ERA single - also - 25-cent used books, kids' books, poetry and MORE!

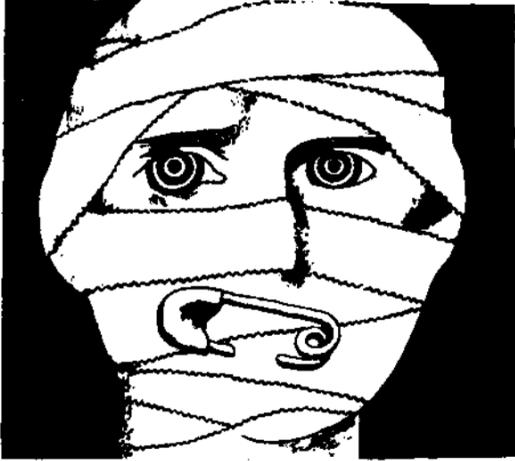
SMALL CHANGES

409A N. Main 829-6223
Bloomington hours posted weekly

Rare diseases continue

An increasing number of cases of diseases related to acquired immune deficiency (AID) are being reported to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta. New cases average 10 to 20 per week. As of late August, CDC had received reports of 517 cases resulting in over 200 deaths.

The two most serious AID-related diseases are a rare type of cancer, Kaposi's sarcoma (KS), and a rare form of pneumonia, *Pneumocystis carinii* (PCP). (See Post, vol. 10 #9.) These two diseases are the primary causes of death so far, but other viral and fungal infections have also been associated with acquired immune



CU DAILY

deficiencies.

Young gay men from New York and San Francisco make up 85% to 90% of AID victims, although the epidemic is spreading throughout the nation with reports of AID-related diseases in northern New Jersey, Dade County, Florida, and Columbus, Ohio.

Dr. Richard Selick, a medical officer on the CDC task force exploring unexplained AID, said that two other groups have now been identified as being at high risk: intravenous drug abusers and Haitians. The CDC has received reports of 34 Haitian residents of the U.S. who have suffered from immunodeficiency; nearly half have died. "Very few, if any" of the Haitians have admitted to homosexual activity or intravenous drug abuse.

Probably a virus

The latest development, according to Selick, "suggests an infectious agent--perhaps a virus--that has not yet been identified." The possibility of an infectious agent had previously been suggested in a CDC report on a cluster of 19 AID cases in Los Angeles and Orange counties.

But whatever causes AID remains unproved and unknown. Informed speculation by CDC officials and gay groups who have been monitoring these



diseases suggests that the most prominent risk factor is frequent sexual encounters with many partners. Other speculations include the possible involvement of sexually transmitted diseases (such as hepatitis) and the use of poppers (amyl and butyl nitrate).

Despite increasing concern about the AID syndrome, gay spokespersons and some legislators have been critical of what they perceive as a sluggish federal response. The shrinking economy and Reagan-backed cuts of important public health agencies have meant that this life-threatening disease is not getting adequate attention.

To date, the CDC has spent only \$950,000 investigating AID syndrome, compared with \$9 million for Legionnaire's disease and \$1.25 million for

The real gay health hazard

Yes, I'm worried about the recent epidemic of immune-deficiency diseases among gay men (see accompanying articles). And I'm also upset with the government's sluggish response to the crisis and troubled by the propaganda heyday the right-wing loonies will probably have with this.

But what really irritates me is that no one--including gay activists and leaders--has related these new afflictions to the old ones that have been plaguing gay people for centuries. I'm talking about guilt, fear, anger, and stress. I'm talking about rejection, hostility, and oppression. I'm talking about a social environment that's downright unhealthy for homosexuals.

As far as I know, nobody has bothered to explore the possible connection between immune dysfunction and the daily stress that gay people endure. Stress has been implicated in the causes of all sorts of illnesses--from heart attacks to the common cold and the heartbreak of psoriasis. But no one, especially the health professionals, seems willing to confront the reality that stress is a common factor in the lives of most gay Americans.

It takes a lot of energy, both psychic and physical, to lead a double life, to hide your sexual and personal identity, to live in fear of losing your job or the love and acceptance of your friends and family. These stressful conditions undoubtedly drain vigor and strength from us. Although more and more gays are managing to integrate their sexual behavior with the rest of their lives, far too many are still prevented by fear and social pressure from living the kind of whole, unshattered existence that makes good health more possible.

The major risk factor in these immunity deficiencies, we're told, appears to be the sexual promiscuity of gay men (see adjoining articles). But has anyone thought to ask why male homosexuals are promiscuous and what can be done to change this supposedly unhealthy lifestyle?

The answers to these questions don't seem all that difficult to me. Gay males, like most men in this culture, have been taught to be sexually active, aggressive, polygamous. We're also told--often and in many ways--that our sexual activities are disgusting, sinful, unmanly, sick, and a threat to the American way of life (if not to all of Western civilization). You try reconciling these attitudes with your biological impulses.

Given this combination of masculine sex ethic and hysteria about doing it with somebody who has matching genitalia, it isn't surprising, is it, that gay-male sexual encounters are often marred by guilt, insecurity, and dissatisfaction? To put it another way: people who have been carefully taught to feel bad about themselves aren't going to have an easy time forming those long-term relationships that the AMA and the Council of Churches say are so healthy and good for us.

Many gay men need to prove themselves sexually. Many gay men need to find the acceptance and validation that society won't supply. Is it any wonder that these unfulfilled needs sometimes lead to a compulsive promiscuity? The wonder is that more of us aren't raving maniacs and hopeless neurotics.

Finding more reasonable ways to meet our sexual and social needs won't be easy, though. Gay men will have to continue to crawl out from under the pile

of macho garbage and anti-gay guilt trips that society dumps on us.

And society has got to quit dumping! As long as government, religion, the media, and the medical pros keep harassing, denigrating, and otherwise denying the value and validity of gay people, out-of-control promiscuity and other potentially destructive behavior will continue to exist in the gay community.

So when our enemies try to blame us for being the victims of these new diseases, we need to quit taking their shit and dump the blame right back on their self-righteous heads. Our new slogan for the 80s should be: "The Moral Majority Makes Me Sick!"

--Ferdydurke



ue to affect gay men

toxic shock syndrome, although the 40% mortality rate of Kaposi's syndrome has already killed more people in the U.S. than Legionnaire's disease and toxic shock syndrome combined.

Rep. Henry A. Waxman (D-CA), chairperson of the House subcommittee on health and the environment, pointed out the reason for this discrepancy: "There is no doubt in my mind that if the disease had appeared among Americans of Norwegian descent or among tennis players, rather than gay men, the response of the government and medical community would be different."

Social acceptability

Waxman emphasized that the "respectability" of the victims of Legionnaire's disease "brought them a degree of attention and funding for research and treatment far greater than that which has been made available so far to the victims of Kaposi's syndrome... What society judged was not the severity of the disease but the social acceptability of the individuals afflicted with it."

Because of the efforts of Waxman and of several gay lobbying organizations, the CDC has agreed to put more time and money into the medical campaign against KS and other AID-related diseases.

The supplemental appropriations bill that Congress sent to President Reagan in late August contained \$500,000 earmarked for the study of the deadly acquired immune deficiency syndrome. Reagan vetoed this bill, but Congress easily overturned the veto.

The \$500,000 supplements the \$1.9 million already set aside in 1982 for CDC research into the mysterious diseases.

In addition, Dr. Edward Brandt, Jr., assistant secretary for health in the Department of Health and Human Services, has directed the CDC and other federal agencies to step up

their efforts to combat AID diseases. Brandt pledged a total of \$2,205,000 to the National Cancer Institute for AID research in fiscal 1983. Brandt's directives grew out of a July meeting between federal health agency officials and private groups, including the National Gay Task Force.

Moral judgments

In addition to concerns about causes and cures for AID-related diseases, gay people are also worried about what "moral" judgments and anti-gay propaganda can be made out of the recent epidemic.

Punitive notions of disease have a long history. Certain illnesses (leprosy, cancer, gout) are tied to notions of "moral pollution" or "spiritual decay." Thus, there is serious concern that these new lethal diseases will somehow be used against gays, against the gay lifestyle and sexual preference.

As a gay doctor in San Francisco points out, "If the Moral Majority or anyone else who doesn't like us can convince people that gays are spreading a deadly disease, we're going to have our backs up against the wall." •

--Ferdydurke

Sources: *In These Times*, 7 Sept. '82; *The Advocate*, 16 Sept. and 30 Sept., 1982; *Gay Community News*, 25 Sept. '82.



AID: Symptoms and treatment

Symptoms of the acquired immune deficiency (AID) diseases are those of the diseases to which the deficiency disposes its victims. The defect is a dysfunction of one branch of the immune system which protects against diseases associated with viruses, fungi, protozoa, and parasites (as opposed to illnesses that are linked with bacteria or allergies).

The most observed diseases in the AID outbreak have been Kaposi's sarcoma and *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia. They are the two primary causes of death. Both of them are rare diseases which affect persons whose immune system is depressed or not working for some reason.

Generally speaking, AID symptoms may include:

1. Profound fatigue that is not transient and not explained by physical activity or by a psychiatric or substance-abuse disorder.
2. Persistent fevers or night sweats.
3. Weight loss of more than ten pounds during a period of less than two months that is not related to diet or activity.
4. Enlarging, hardening, painful, or otherwise prominent lymph nodes. Diseased lymph glands are often found in the neck and armpits.
5. Recently appearing or slowly enlarging purplish or discolored nodules, plaques, or lumps, or other new growths on top of or beneath the

skin or on mucous membranes (inside the mouth, anus, or nasal passages or underneath the eyelids).

6. A heavy, persistent, often dry cough that is not from smoking cigarettes and that has lasted too long to be laid to influenza.
7. Persistent diarrhea.

If you have any of the above symptoms, you should consult a doctor immediately. Sexually active gay men who are without symptoms are currently being advised to see a physician at least once a year for a thorough physical examination and at least twice a year for complete venereal disease (VD) testing.

There is not conclusive evidence that AID is overtly contagious. Informed speculation, however, suggests that an infectious agent, perhaps a virus, is at least a critical factor in the outbreak.

Although no evidence exists to lay direct blame on any drug, activity, or place of residence, there is tentative evidence to suggest that risk factors may include frequent sexual encounters with a variety of partners. A number of physicians, some of them gay, have advised their gay male patients to moderate their sexual activity, to have fewer partners. It is the number of different sexual contacts, not sex itself, that increases the risk. •

--from the newsletter of Gay Man's Health Crisis of New York



Gay man "gets" bigot

San Francisco--One-time California State Senator John Briggs has been ordered to pay \$10,000 in damages to the gay teacher he made an example of during the campaign for passage of Briggs's odious Proposition 6 (see Post, vol. 7 #5).

According to the Bay Area Reporter, a judgment against Briggs was entered on Sept. 2 in the libel suit filed against him by Larry Berner. Berner is the second-grade teacher from Healdsburg, California, who came out publicly in 1978 to work against Proposition 6, an initiative authored by Briggs which would have banned lesbians and gay men and their supporters from teaching school in California. The proposition was later soundly defeated at the polls.

At press conferences and in campaign literature, Briggs described Berner as an example of the evils Prop 6 would eliminate. Briggs said Berner was "the only one who really parades it around and flaunts it and seems proud of it. We're going to get him." •

--Gay Community News

Gay sex now 'legal' in Texas

In 1974 the comprehensive reform of Texas' criminal laws included a statute (article 21.06 of the Texas Penal Code) that made it a misdemeanor for people of the same sex to engage in oral or anal sex and set a fine of up to \$200 for these "crimes." The law did not ban similar acts between adults of opposite sexes.

So in 1979 a 35-year-old schoolteacher and Democratic Party precinct chairperson from Dallas sued the state of Texas, claiming that this so-called "sodomy law" violated his constitutional rights to privacy and equal protection under the law. Don Baker's case did not go to trial until June 15, 1981.

On August 17 of this year a federal judge struck down the Texas law against homosexual conduct. In a detailed 53-page opinion, judge Jerry Buchmeyer of Dallas pointed out that "homosexuals do not have a criminal propensity simply because they are homosexuals, any more than heterosexuals do."

The judge said the Texas law was harmful because "the anxieties caused to homosexuals--fear of arrest, loss of jobs, etc.--can cause severe mental health problems." He also concluded that state officials had been unable to explain their contention that the statute protects "morality, decency, health, welfare, safety, and procreation."

Buchmeyer repeatedly said he believes homosexuals are not a danger to society.

Gay activists are calling the ruling a landmark decision, since it could pave the way to a national gay rights strategy. Texas is now the 26th state where homosexual activity between consenting adults is no longer illegal. In the other 25 states that have decriminalized gay sex, the sodomy laws

were thrown out by state courts or repealed by state legislatures. This is the first time a federal court has overturned a state homosexuality statute on constitutional grounds.

Texas public officials say they have not yet decided whether to appeal the ruling. Legal and legislative challenges to sodomy laws are currently being undertaken in Tennessee, Arkansas, and Michigan.

Don Baker admits he was the "perfect plaintiff" to challenge the Texas law against homosexual behavior. Born and raised in Dallas, Baker is a former boy scout, a one-time cheerleader, an ex-Navy man, an active churchgoer, and an elementary school teacher.

Baker's solid citizen credentials obviously impressed Judge Buchmeyer, who noted that the plaintiff was a "very sincere, very credible witness."

The judge recounted how Baker was transformed--from a confused teen who knew that "queers were bad" but

felt somehow "different," to a young man who came out of the closet. Baker says he stared coming out when he was 27. He eventually got involved in the battle for gay rights because "I wanted to feel good about myself as a homosexual."

"It was for that reason that I agreed to be the plaintiff and challenge Texas' anti-gay law," Baker told The Advocate. "I wanted all homosexuals to be able to feel good about themselves."

"The law made gay men and women see themselves as criminals. With the judge's ruling, that feeling is now lifted. I hope people understand the emotional importance of this. While the decision addresses the sexual aspect, it also affirms that gay people are entitled to the same basic human rights as other American citizens." ●

--Ferdydurke

Sources: The Advocate, 30 Sept. 1982; GCN, 28 Aug. 1982.

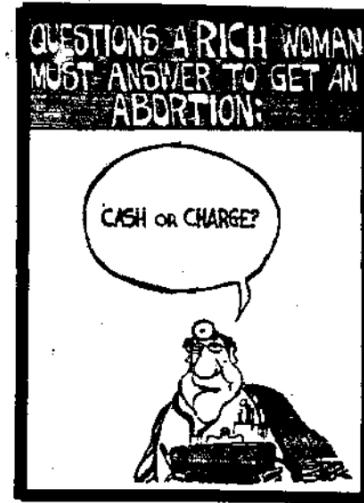
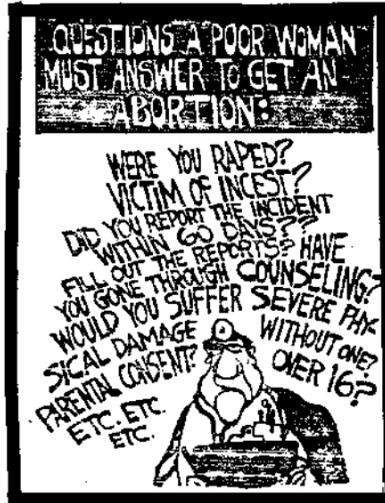
Philly Mayor won't sign gay law

Philadelphia--This city's gay rights bill, passed by the city council on August 5 (see vol. 11 #5 of the Post) became law on Sept. 9 without the signature of Mayor William Green.

The day after the law went into effect Green's aides were quoted in the Philadelphia Inquirer as saying that the mayor was "uncomfortable about appearing to sanction the practice of homosexuality" and that he believes homosexuals should not be given the "same legal status as blacks and women."

The bill was passed by a 13 to 2 vote of the city council after extensive lobbying by gay activists. Those who lobbied for the bill point out that Mayor Green's eroding liberal support may have led him to reassure his Catholic and conservative reporters on this issue, especially since the mayor is expecting a challenge from former mayor Frank Rizzo in the primary.●

--Gay Community News, 25 Sept. 1982



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Selling helium to South Africa

In June the Commerce Department--with the blessing of the Energy and State departments--moved to approve the plan of Isotec Inc. to sell 95 grams of helium-3 to the Atomic Energy Board of South Africa. The helium-3 would be used in South Africa's Safari test reactor at Pelindaba.

Although this facility operates under international safeguards, South Africa has refused to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and is widely believed to have tested nuclear devices.

Even conservative Republican Charles Percy (IL), who is Senate Foreign Relations Committee chair, didn't like the idea. "I can see no justification for providing any thermo-nuclear weapons material to a nation like South Africa," Percy said.

Percy met with top administration officials last month to review nuclear trade with South Africa and to press for a more restrictive U.S. policy. At present the helium deal is still pending.

Helium-3 is a byproduct of nuclear-weapons material, and in theory it can be converted back into use for weapons. Although Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige is confident that the helium will be used only in research, sources familiar with the South African nuclear program point out that it could also be used in a uranium enrichment plant South Africa is building. So far, the country has refused to open up that plant to international inspection.

Several recent nuclear and computer sales to South Africa have caused controversy in the Congress. Earlier

this year 2 U.S.-based brokerage firms, acting as middlemen in obtaining enriched uranium from Europe, arranged the fueling of South Africa's Koeberg reactor near Cape Town.

In a related matter, Congress is questioning the Energy Department's long-standing contracts to enrich uranium for South Africa.

--Business Week, 21 June 1982



Falwell fibs . . . , Belittles Gays

The Rev. Jerry Falwell sent out a letter asking for donations to replace a radio transmitter tower that vandals had knocked over. What Falwell forgot to mention in his letter was that the entire loss was covered by insurance.

Having been found out, Falwell now says he will tell those who sent money that the dollars will go for improved facilities, but that if they misunderstood and want their money back, they can request a refund.

Another report on Falwell comes from a professor of religious studies at UC Santa Barbara, who spent a week in Lynchburg VA to study Falwell's work. Working for the Laucks Foundation, Dr. Walter Capps made a report that contains a revealing description of a Wednesday night service, attended by more than 4,000 people. Here is Capps' account of an episode starring Our Friend Jerry:

"He (Falwell) tells of a gay bar that has just opened in downtown Lynchburg, not far from city hall. He asks the song leader if he knows the address. Startled, his sheepish response 'no' brings laughter from the congregation. Falwell tells about the night he and his wife sat in their car across the street from the bar and watched 'all of the strange people going in and out of there.'

"He tells of the two male associates he had directed to go into a gay bar in Washington, not far from the White House, just to find out what was going on. 'We dressed them up real sweet,' he says, 'got 'em smelling good, had them wear these tight britches, got them sashaying back and forth, and gave them a small camera. Trouble is they got so fascinated with what they saw that they forgot to get any pictures. (Laughter). You know what I should have done that night? I should have telephoned the bar and said, 'Hello, this is Jerry Falwell. Is my photographer there?' That's what I should have done.' (More laughter)."

Yeah, I know a lot of people who have gone to a gay bar "just to see what was going on" and got so fascinated they forgot themselves. We call it coming out.

--Ferdydurke

Source: The Advocate, 2 Sept. 1982.



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No heroes in South Africa

If Winnie and Nelson Mandela had been Polish Solidarity workers or Russian political prisoners, their daring fight against oppression would have made them folk heroes to the Reagan administration, the press, and the American public.

But the Mandelas are South African blacks. As leaders of the African National Congress, they have been battling apartheid for two decades, suffering imprisonment, injury, and banishment.

The South African government has kept Nelson Mandela in prison since 1964. An attorney and president of the banned African National Congress, he was jailed on charges of planning acts of sabotage and preparing for guerrilla warfare against South Africa. Winnie Mandela, banned by the government for nearly two decades, is virtually under house arrest.

The heroic struggles of the Mandelas (and others like them in South Africa) are unsung by the Reagan administration and most of the media. Only a few Americans even know their names.

--Ferdydurke

Source: Essence, July 1982



Let's have revolution in the streets

When semi-trailer trucks deliver merchandise to the Haag Drugstore on Bloomington's west side, they block cars from getting through on the 500 block of West Jefferson Street (above). The city should either ticket the Haag trucks or ban parking on the north side of Jefferson.



Drug combo simulates heroin: worse than the real thing

Many drug users across the country are dosing themselves with a combination of Doriden and Codeine, two prescription drugs. The combination is reported to simulate a heroin high, but in the Abuse Folio of the May issue of High Times, Dr. David Smith warns that the withdrawal from "Loads" can be worse than the withdrawal from the real thing. Dr. Smith is the founder of the Haight Ashbury Free Medical Clinic.

Doriden (glutetimide) is a nonbarbiturate sedative-hypnotic used in treating mild insomnia. Codeine is an opium derivative used as a general painkiller. The combination called Loads is supposed to simulate the effects of heroin.

"This is a particularly dangerous combination for overdosing," says Dr. Smith. "A life support system for both respiration and the cardiovascular system is often necessary for recovery."

Addiction to Loads is a serious problem. If not treated properly it can induce seizure, withdrawal psychosis and even death.●

--High Times

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How to find a good draft counselor

Dear Draft Counselor: I would like to talk with a local draft counselor, but I don't know how to pick out the right one. You see, I don't want to fight in the Middle East for Mobil Oil, and I don't want to fight in Central America for the United Fruit Co. I know that wherever Reagan sends us, it will be to help out the multi-national corporations. I can't go for that! My problem is that I don't want to get involved with a draft counselor who is a religious nut. I am not a pacifist, and I don't want to have a draft counselor try to talk me into being one. Can you give me some guidelines for picking a draft counselor?

--In Opposition to the Imperialist Draft, Marty Silcott, Burlington, Vermont.

Dear Marty: You should not have any problem in picking a draft counselor because you seem to have a good idea of your own political beliefs. A draft counselor is trained to listen to you and then to help you clarify your ideas and the options you have open. But your ideas seem pretty clear already.

Still, every person like you should take some time in picking out the right draft counselor. The first task is to compile a list of draft counselors to choose from. The best place to look is with any local peace organization in your area or with your local branch of the American Friends Service Committee. Find out who they recommend in your neighborhood.

The next place to look is with several organizations that maintain nationwide lists of draft counselors. There are three such organizations: ** CCCO-East, 2208 South Street, Philadelphia, PA 19146 or CCCO-West, 1251 Second Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122. Carol McNeill at CCCO tells me that they have 2,500 counselors nationwide. Their specialty is conscientious objection, but they welcome others who need counseling. ** STP (Stop the Pentagon/Serve the People), P.O. Box 13416, Philadelphia PA 19101. Harold Jordan at STP says they have a list of 2,000 counselors around the country. Their list is subdivided by specialty, and they also have a list of military counselors for people who are trying to get out of the Pentagon's clutches.

** National Resistance Committee, P.O. Box 42488, San Francisco, CA 94142. Fred Moore tells me that The Resistance doesn't do draft counseling because they "advocate and encourage non-registration." So if you want to dodge the draft by not registering in the first place, you will certainly want to talk with one of their 75 counselors around the nation.

Once you have the names of draft counselors in your area, the next step is like buying a car. You have to find out as much about them as possible. The best idea is to spend at least one hour talking with each of the counselors until you find the right one for you. Here's the things you will surely want to know about any draft counselor.

TRAINING: Who trained the counselor? How current was their training? What did they think of the training they received?

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE: How long have they been counseling, and how many people have they counseled? What other peace movement experience do they have?

COUNSELING SPECIALTIES: Most counselors are generalists who work with anyone, but some specialize in counseling gay resisters, conscientious objectors, registrants, Third World resisters, or any number of other specific areas. I know that this doesn't apply to you, Marty, but some people prefer a counselor from their own religious background.

POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Ask about the counselor's political and religious background and present membership. Everyone has political and religious views, but beware of the counselors who are not upfront about where they are coming from.

ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT: There are two broad categories of draft counselors. Some work for an organization, usually out of that organization's office. Other counselors work in the neighborhood, usually out of their home. Each type has positive and negative aspects.

Organizational support can be useful, especially if your counselor moves to another city next year. At least there will still be someone in the office to answer your questions. Also, your records will be maintained and you will be able to get professional help if you have any problems.

On the other hand, the neighborhood counselors are much more convenient for most people. They are the rank-and-file of the anti-draft movement, and they speak your language. For most people, this is the place to start because the neighborhood



"STEP RIGHT UP OR WE'LL HAVE TO FORCE YOU"
"NOX BHOY QI SHH TLEM JO QI LHMN JEM"



counselor will have all the information you need. If you find yourself in trouble when the draft starts up, you can always go to the more professional organization when the time comes.

TRUSTWORTHINESS: This is the most important thing to look for. You will be telling the counselor all kinds of things that you wouldn't even tell your mother. The draft counselor will help you define what course of action is best for you. Hopefully, this will be adequate to keep you out of the military when the draft starts. But what if it doesn't come together for you, and you decide that you have to resist, refuse, or rebel? You will need a counselor who will stand with you and support you in your expression of conscience. Practical experience, training, and organizational support are important, but if you don't trust the counselor, all I can say is to look elsewhere.

These are all things that you will want to find out in advance, Marty. I hope that this gives you some idea of what to look for in a draft counselor. The main message here is SHOP AROUND. There is no counselor who is right for everyone.

One final word: give your counselor a chance. The draft counselor's task is to help you decide what is the right course for you when confronting the draft, but your counselor's personal views may not be the same as your own. Be sure you take the time to listen to your counselor as well. Some counselors are ethical or religious pacifists, while others are anti-imperialists or anarchists. You have something to learn from all of them. ●

Other questions about the draft can be sent to: Draft Counseling, RECON Publications, P.O. Box 14602, Philadelphia, PA 19134.

By Chris Robinson, Draft Counselor and RECON Editor, (215)843-4256

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Abuse, use and change: Having a baby in Bloomington-Normal

Choosing to give birth in a local hospital usually means accepting at least some of the "standard medical birth." But do women know that those standards are not necessarily there for the safety and well-being of the mother and baby? (See comments by reform-minded nurses later on, or read some of the books listed, if you want your eyes opened fast!)

Fear of endangering themselves and their babies by rejecting these supposedly best procedures is undoubtedly what keeps women in line--some resigned to getting what is offered and some accepting things they don't think of questioning. A few--a growing few--rebel.

Those who don't rebel frequently describe the procedures they submit to as annoying, unnecessary, disturbing, demeaning, or even sickening. Very few comment positively on them.

The problem is that women obviously think they have no power or right to change this situation. Not so! We can effectively vote with our voices and vote with our money. We can speak up in the doctor's office, in the hospital, in organizations and groups, in the media, and in doing a lot of reading and thinking and talking to other women.

We also have the "ultimate power." Each of us pregnant women is worth around \$1000 to the local medical establishment. Interview doctors, shop around, negotiate what you want in your birthing, and go elsewhere if you feel it is best to do so.

So what do we continue to get "for our own good"? Here is a sample, and some observations based on reading and interviews:

1. Prep or mini-prep. Having your public hair shaved and getting an enema are distracting (to say the least). Did you know that some local nurses say doctors probably would easily give up ordering these procedures? But will doctors openly tell a woman they think the prep is relatively unimportant and will be deleted if she wishes? Not on your life! Other small town hospitals in central Illinois don't do preps any more, by the way--so there is a trend.

2. No food or drink. A few birthing women undergo anesthesia. Professionals fear complications if such women have eaten and then vomit in the delivery room. So all birthing women in B-N must fast, it seems, "just in case." An IV needle is stuck in their arms to feed them instead. In the less restricted environments of home births and Champaign-Urbana birthing rooms, women eat light, nourishing food during such hard work.

3. Electronic fetal monitor. Some local nurses say these are probably popular because they help protect doctors in case of malpractice suits. EFM's are notoriously inaccurate (one recorded the heart beat of lime gelatine). They restrict a woman's position and are distracting. The Caesarean rate tends to go up where they are used. Having a person stay with the mother and listen to the fetal heart tones frequently is an effective alternative to the EFM.



4. Episiotomy (an operation performed to prevent tearing of the perineum). There are far too many of these done in B-N. Nurses and mothers agree that doctors tend to cut before they find out whether this surgery is needed. In Europe and other parts of the world, the episiotomy rates are comparatively low. Perineal support and massage can be used to ease babies out without surgery or serious tearing. Shame on our doctors for not learning such techniques! Midwives know and could teach them. It is sexual abuse to perform this surgery unnecessarily. Would male MDs willingly have incisions and then stitches in their scrotums? You bet they wouldn't.

5. Drugs. No drug has ever been proven safe for babies being birthed. The American Academy of Pediatrics has printed this statement. So why don't concerned pediatricians (who get to deal with the damage) pressure other physicians who catch babies to use as few drugs as possible? It is obviously up to women to make changes. All women should find out about alternative, less dangerous ways to ease pain, such as medication or acupuncture, and then insist on not using drugs.

Drugs are also routinely given after the birth of the placenta. Nature is not allowed to take her course of shutting off blood flow and contracting the uterus on her own. Drugs speed things up for the doctor and help insure him against malpractice suits (to prevent hemorrhage). Midwives could also teach doctors several non-drug methods of getting the uterus to contract.

I'd like to know what you think on this subject of hospital birth in B-N. Write to me c/o the Post. Next month--Hospital birth and your baby.

--S.F.

Suggested readings:

- Arms. Immaculate Deception.
- Stewart. Five Standards for Safe Childbearing. (NAPSAC)
- Mendelsohn. Confessions of a Medical Heretic.
- Baldwin. Special Delivery.

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Cleansing the body: A naturopath looks at marijuana and meat

One Post reader wrote in to ask how a naturopath feels about the smoking of marijuana. We'll discuss it along with some views of eating meat.

In the last issue the basic philosophy behind naturopathy was presented. Central to this philosophy is the cleansing of the body of putrifactive and toxic materials. When there is a build-up of toxic and foreign matter, a breeding ground for disease and degenerative conditions is present.

In a situation it is too simplistic to assume that just one thing is the source of the problem, although it may well be. A whole range of foods, drugs, drinks, life styles could contribute to the degeneration of one's health. Meat and marijuana consumption might seem an improbable combination for discussion, but they only illustrate the broad range of consumption decisions the individual must make.

One must simply become aware that what one drinks, eats or inhales might add to the toxic condition or set up an imbalance to begin with.

In general, naturopaths consider health to be the individual's responsibility. If a person consumes excessive amounts of meat he or she may well establish a too-acid-condition in the body, creating the potential for imbalance.

Eliminating meat from the diet, at least temporarily, is therefore one of the initial suggestions naturopaths often make when dealing with the toxic person.

In another situation, a person who manifests unclear thinking, fatigue when arising in the morning or problems with ovulation might find elimination of marijuana as key to their health. We often don't know what the source of the problem is until we eliminate many items, sometimes to the point of fasting or following a simple raw fruit and vegetable diet.

To what extent a person remains completely off the meat or the marijuana is something he or she must come to grips with, for only the person knows when true health is present or threatened. Indeed, many people have found that complete vegetarianism is the healthiest thing for them; or complete abstinence from marijuana, or beer, or even cooked and/or processed foods. The naturopath's aim is to assist the person in finding optimal health and equilibrium. Each individual may reach a different conclusion following this same naturopathic philosophy.

Of course, moral and legal considerations must also be taken into account for they also can become pertinent to a person's health. No

matter what the physical needs of the body, a person may decide to refrain from eating meat because of moral reasons. Likewise, the law-conscious person might actually feel healthier by eliminating marijuana. When making a decision about what we eat, drink, smoke, how often and how much, we must remember we are whole persons with physical, emotional, mental, social and spiritual aspects.

We must also remember that as social beings, what we eat, drink, and smoke may well affect those around us sometimes directly, like smoke in the room, and sometimes indirectly, like the example we are expected to set. We might not like having to determine our diet because of others, but sometimes eating the meal served despite personal preferences makes for better social health than pre-conceived notions about what "I know is good for me." Likewise, setting an expected example as in the taking of drugs or marijuana or smoking or even diet can be key to the social, emotional and mental health of others around us.

In the next issue the topic will be breaking addictions.

--Marjorie Kinsella,
Naturopath
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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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THE STORY SO FAR:

SWEET COE'D **JILL BARRINGTON** FINALLY GETS UP THE NERVE TO INVITE CAMPUS DREAMBOAT-AT-LARGE **CHAD STEVENS** TO HER PARTY-AND HE ACCEPTS! SHE ALSO INVITES HER LITTLE SISTER **KATIE**, WHO'S IN HER FIRST YEAR AT THE SAME COLLEGE. IMAGINE **JILL'S** UTTER MORTIFICATION WHEN **KATIE** SHOWS UP AT THE PARTY AND IT'S IMMEDIATELY CLEAR THAT IN A FEW SHORT MONTHS, **KATIE** HAS CHANGED FROM A NICE GIRL TO...

MY SISTER, the PUNK ROCKER

JILL FEARS THAT **CHAD** WILL NEVER SPEAK TO HER AGAIN AFTER FINDING OUT HER SISTER IS A **WEIRDO!** BUT **CHAD** TURNS OUT TO BE MORE THAN UNDERSTANDING! HIS **UNCLE CLIFF** RUNS A FIRM THAT "HELPS" HOPELESSLY DEPRAVED KIDS LIKE **KATIE**. SOON, TWO DEPROGRAMMERS KIDNAP **KATIE** FROM HER PAD AND DRIVE HER TO A DESERTED FARMHOUSE WHERE SHE IS ABOUT TO EXPERIENCE...

PHASE THREE!!!

YES, THAT'S RIGHT! I DID ENGAGE A DEPROGRAMMING FIRM TO KIDNAP MY SISTER... I DID TURN HER OVER TO THEM WITHOUT KNOWING WHAT THEY MIGHT SUBJECT HER TO! BUT I DID IT BECAUSE I LOVED HER, BECAUSE SHE WAS...

HELLO, **KATIE**... YOU CAN CALL ME **UNCLE CLIFF!** WE'RE GOING TO BECOME GREAT FRIENDS IN THE DAYS TO COME! YOU NEEDN'T BE AFRAID OF US! WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU!

NOW **KATIE**, STRUGGLING IS OF NO USE... WE DON'T WANT TO LEAVE YOU TIED UP BUT UNTIL YOU CAN CONTROL YOURSELF, I'M AFRAID WE MUST!

NEVERMIND THAT. A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR RECENT BEHAVIOR... THAT'S WHY YOU'VE BEEN BROUGHT TO US. WE AREN'T GOING TO DO ANYTHING TERRIBLE TO YOU... WE'LL HAVE LONG TALKS, LISTEN TO MUSIC, WATCH SOME MOVIES, ALL THINGS TEEN AGERS LOVE TO DO!! NOW, THAT DOESN'T SOUND SCARY, DOES IT?

MY SISTER, the PUNK ROCKER

FUCK YOU, RATFACE!!

WHO HIRED YOU? MY DAD?! **JILL**?!!

AFTER BEING REMOVED TO THE PROJECTION ROOM AND FIRMLY SECURED TO A VINYL KITCHEN CHAIR...

HOURS MELT INTO DAYS WHILE **UNCLE CLIFF** AND HIS MEN FORCE-FEED **KATIE** AMPHETAMINES AND POWDERED SUGAR DO-NUTS AND FORCE HER TO WATCH COUNTLESS **DORIS DAY** MOVIES, PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHES AND THE **PTL CLUB** STOPPING ONLY FOR **BARRY MANILOW** RECORDS AND INTERROGATION PERIODS!

DRUMMER FOR THE CLASH.

AMIEEE!!

NO! NEVER! TAKE OFF THOSE GLASSES, **PUNK!** YER GONNA WATCH THIS!!

EASY, LUVIE! SHE'LL TAKE THEM OFF IN GOOD TIME... NO MORE MOVIES, PLEASE!! I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE!

THEN ANSWER THIS! WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP? 'PILLOW TALK' TAKE ONE... ROLL'EM, BOYS!

AMIEEE!!

AFTER COUNTLESS HOURS OF RELENTLESS QUESTIONING AND SUGAR-SHOCK THERAPY, MY SISTER WAS SHOWING DEFINITE SIGNS OF WEAR, UNTIL FINALLY...
KATHRYN, WHO AM I, AND WHY ARE YOU HERE?
YOU'RE **UNCLE CLIFF**, MY FAVORITE GROWNUP BESIDES **JIM** AND **TAMMY** **BAKER**

AND I'M HERE BECAUSE I'VE BEEN A VERY SELFISH GIRL.. A MEAN GIRL... A GIRL WHO DIDN'T CARE ABOUT PEOPLE WHO CARE ABOUT HER, A BAD GIRL WHO WOULDN'T FOLLOW RULES, AND RULES ARE VERY, VERY IMPORTANT BECAUSE THEY KEEP US ALL SAFE!
VERY GOOD. NOW... WILL YOU TAKE OFF YOUR GLASSES FOR ME?

YES, **UNCLE CLIFF**.
NEXT: RE-ENTRY

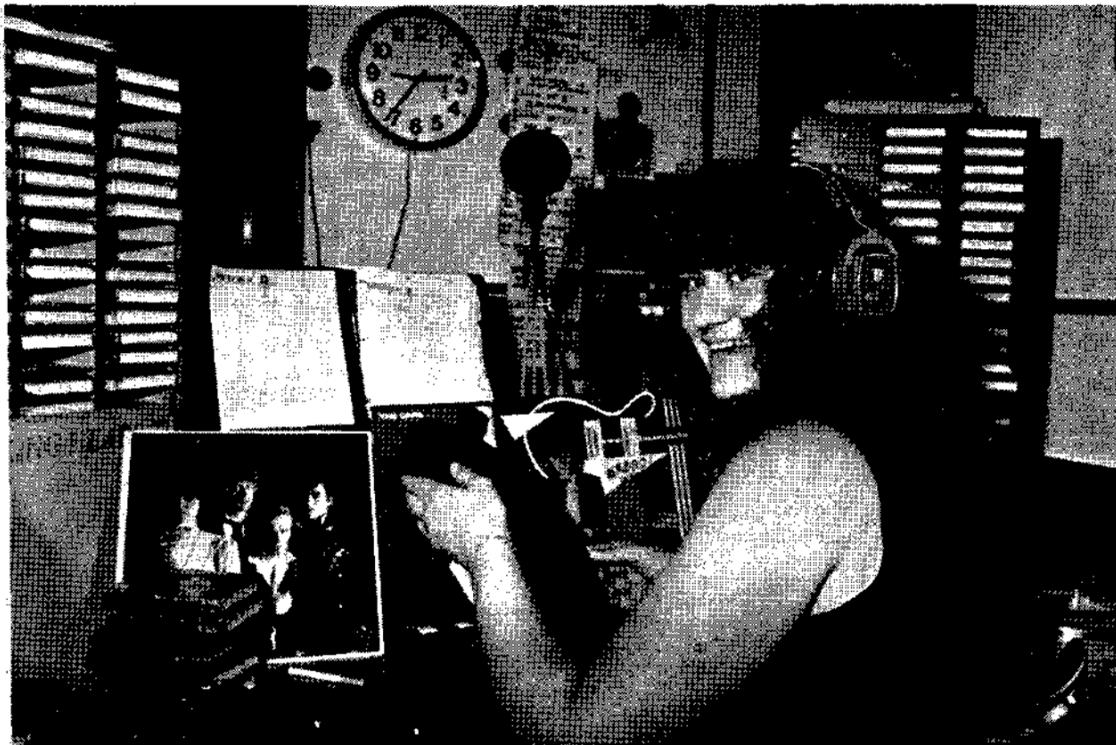
Don't drop the rock

Local AM radio has seldom been the swiftest when it comes to playing and perpetuating new rock 'n' roll: a curious situation when you consider the large youth population in the area (and a failing this paper has bemoaned since its first issue). But the fact is that Bloomington-Normal's pop stations tend toward the heavily tested, "proven" successes on Chicago's WLS (itself one of the most timid major AM rock stations in the country) with little startle factor.

Not all modern pop rock is so timid, as a listen to some of the area's live bands will attest. Check out the Uptown Rulers' current cover list, for example, and you'll see a catalog of songs that we should be hearing on contemporary rock AM but aren't.

Of all the conservative AM locals, probably the most turtlelike has been WRBA 1440, a station that has been unsuccessfully shadowing other formats for over ten years now (one year Top Forty, the next country, another year "Adult Contemporary"). The call letters haven't always been the same, but the standard of mediocrity has been persistent. Among radio listeners, RBA has long been the kind of station you listen to when your car radio can get nothing else.

Until recently, that is. Over the past month afternoon RBAer Robin Plan has taken to broadening the station's playlist by including rock fare that goes a bit beyond the endless replay of Survivor/Billy Joel/Rush. Plan's playlist features (in addition to the basic Top 40 listing) cuts by such new rock artists as the clash, Elvis Costello, Talking Heads, and X. Not



To hear WRBA DJ Robin Plan (above), tune in 1440 between 1 and 6 weekdays.

the most extremist fare possible--all of the above have both strong critical support and good *Billboard* album chart placements--but a far cry from Juice Newton-styled blandness. In more democratic pop rock days (i.e. the late 60s) all of the above would have more than likely found their place on the singles chart, too.

But don't take my word for it. Check out the program for yourself. It's on from 1 to 6 p.m. And if you like what you hear--or at least appreciate rock radio variety--drop a card to WRBA, 1218 S. Main, Normal. With no support even this tiny spot of rock excitement could die off.●

--BS82

The last legs of Drastic Plastic

Drastic Plastic is defunct. The final vestige of a once vital record co-op, the lingering used record store finally closed its door on August 31. The death was long in coming and probably overdue.

A small corner of downtown Normal, the Drastic store grew out of the bankrupt Divinyl Madness (whose demise has been previously chronicled in these pages). The Drastic Plastic group was considerably smaller than the old Divinyl crowd: Sherrin (the store's only manager and paid employee) and a small group of volunteers who for one reason or another felt loyalty to the smaller store.

Drastic's main stock-in-trade was used records, where the much more ambitious Divinyl had trafficked in all forms of recorded stock. In the early months, Drastic people would talk of building their used stock to a point where the store could start buying new releases, but that point would never be reached. A few of the store's sparse volunteers would drop out as the store's shaky state became more apparent. But the core remained.

For me, the biggest draw Drastic held was its fannishness. DP was a center for new rock fans, a place to hear stuff you seldom heard on the radio or even other record stores. Drastic's fan coterie was fanatic and sometimes obnoxious (other customers occasionally were driven out of the store by the sight of them), but they made the place stimulating. More than one used record regular, for example, would bring their own new

platters to play on the store turntable just for the heck of it. You heard lots of instant criticism in Drastic Plastic.

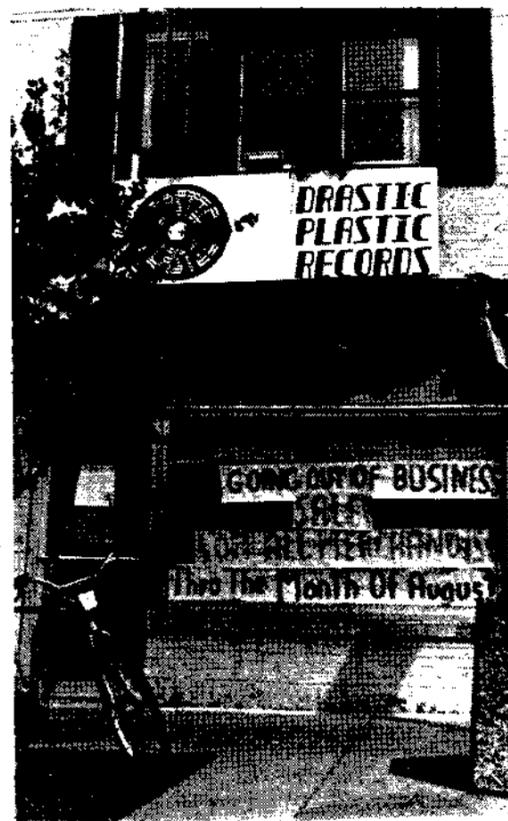
Last year manager Sherrin, in an attempt at perking up business, solicited advice from some ISU students in a Small Business class. The pair stalked in and out of the store all semester and produced a small report with recommendations for improvement. One of the biggest called for greater variety on the store turntable; DP volunteers were playing too much of their own albums and not enough store stock.

This was, after all, a used record store and customers needed to be reassured about the quality of the store's stock--cajoled, if you will. The store took that criticism to heart about a month. Then it was back to the loud and joyfully abrasive new rock that Drastic people largely favored.

By the spring Drastic's fate was clear. Used albums weren't turning over that rapidly, and while bills were being met there were never any extra dollars. Summer, an even tighter time for downtown Normal stores, was the final blow. Stock had diminished desperately and store enthusiasm was low. After months of discussing options, Drastic's manager and volunteers finally decided to close out.

The store already is missed.●

--BS82



Drastic Plastic shut its door Aug. 31



Miscellaneous outrages

Trial by newspaper

For the third time in two years, Sheriff Steve Brienen has launched an offensive against county taverns which serve underage drinkers. And once again, Brienen has chosen to forsake the standard law enforcement procedure of gathering solid evidence for the easier method of trial by newspaper.

According to the Sept. 21 Pantagraph, Brienen named five county establishments which allegedly sold alcohol to two teenagers working with the Sheriff's Department. At the time Brienen named the taverns, no charges had been filed.

Brienen pulled the same publicity stunt a year ago, publicly charging that certain taverns had violated the law without getting enough evidence to take any legal action. (The year before, Brienen didn't actually name the businesses which he claimed were violating the law.)

Brienen has no legal authority to ask teenagers to violate the law by attempting to purchase alcohol.

Last year, the McLean County Board approved procedures for deciding if a tavern had violated its license by serving minors. Sheriff Brienen is supposed to submit his evidence to the state's attorney, who then decides if further action should be taken by the liquor commission.

At the time Brienen named the "guilty" taverns in the newspaper, the state's attorney had not yet decided if Brienen had accumulated enough evidence to pursue action against the taverns.

Bloomington to get marijuana lab

Until recently, suspected marijuana confiscated by local police agencies has been submitted to a state laboratory for testing and identification.

When the state recently decided to phase out such marijuana testing for city police agencies, maybe the Bloomington P.D. should have taken the hint: small possession busts are just not worth the trouble.

Instead, according to a memo obtained by the Post Amerikan, Police Chief Donald Story has already moved to set up his own marijuana identification lab. Sergeant Ernest Mountjoy was rushed through a state-sponsored training program in handling pot ID equipment. According to Story's memo, the department will spend up to \$1,000 for chemicals, scales, weights and a microscope to furnish Bloomington's "Mini-Lab."

State's Attorney Ron Dozier is happy that marijuana will be identified by local officers, as the new procedure will make things easier for Dozier's overworked staff. Court cases have been delayed when the state lab's backlog has slowed identification of suspected pot samples. Problems with scheduling testimony of out-of-town state technicians has also delayed marijuana cases. (And the State's Attorney has to pay mileage for those

City officials show east-side bias

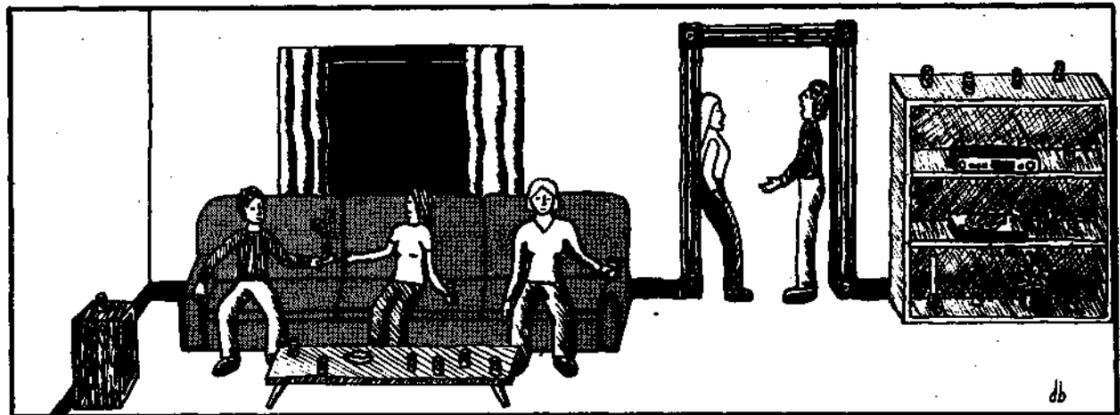
Most city officials wince at charges that they tend to give special deference to the wishes of upper-middle-class east side residents. But further evidence of the Bloomington city administration's bias emerged in mid-September, as the city council considered a plan to widen a beautiful tree-lined section of East Washington Street between Mercer and Vale.

Washington Street neighbors who turned up at the council meeting had received special treatment from the city: each had received hand-delivered notices informing them of the city's proposal. The unprecedented notification procedure had been initiated by City Manager Bill Vail, who told the Pantagraph he decided to

inform neighborhood residents individually because he had "received several telephone calls" objecting to the street widening.

I object to the street widening, too. And the city council, after listening to such neighborhood notables as Elizabeth Ives and Delmar Walker, squashed the street widening and decided to save the trees.

I also support City Manager Vail's conscientious effort to notify residents of a potential city decision affecting their neighborhood. When the city manager starts implementing the same notification procedure for every neighborhood, I'll stop accusing him of bias.



Learning from history

Two years ago, over fifteen hundred outraged ISU students took to the streets to protest the Normal Police Department's heavy-handed tactics against student parties, which included infiltrating the young people's get-togethers with undercover police. Normal Police Chief Richard McGuire

announced his retirement soon after the series of student-police confrontations in the fall of 1980.

Now Normal's new police chief, David Lehr, has announced that his department will resume sending undercover cops to student parties to look for illegal activity.

Morality not useful

"I'm not convinced that morality has much of a role in international relations," declared Hibbert Roberts, chairperson of ISU's Political Science Department at a late August program called Global Review. He was replying to the question: "What moral responsibility does the United States have for its support of Israeli actions in Lebanon?"

Welcome in fall!

105 Broadway • Normal

GUITAR WORLD

We teach you to play, then sell you the right guitar.

you may have missed

by Mark Silverstein

Vote for 'For Sale'

At election time, even the poorest citizens have a chance to promote their candidate or position with a cheap, simple sign posted in their front yard. But Normal citizens will lose even this bit of their freedom of political expression if a proposed revision of the city's sign code is approved.

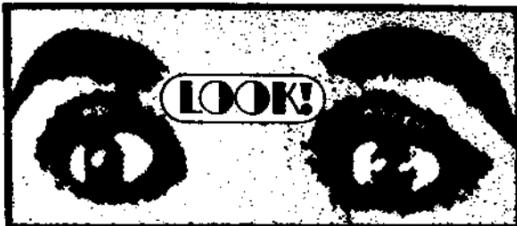
According to a change suggested by the city council, the new sign ordinance will prohibit placing political signs in front yards in residential areas. (If you want to tell everyone who to vote for, put up the money for newspaper or radio ads, or pay to get flyers printed.)

Not all front yard signs would be banned. Real estate brokers would still be permitted to pound their "for sale" notices into the ground.

Ethics, pornography equated

Talking about ethics is "a waste of time," County Board member Bill Lawrence told the board's rules subcommittee on Sept. 2, according to a Pantagraph story. Lawrence was arguing against a proposed ethics code that would have required county board members to obey the law, act fairly and responsibly, and refrain from discrimination.

Echoing a Supreme Court Justice's pronouncement, Lawrence reportedly said "Ethics is like pornography. I don't know how to define it, but I know it when I see it."



No one saw many ethics in Lawrence's behavior at the subcommittee hearing that day, however. Since the ethics code's main sponsor, Barbara Stuart, was forced to arrive a half hour late to argue for her proposal, the subcommittee's chairperson suggested that members wait for her.

But Lawrence insisted on an immediate vote on his motion to reject the ethics code. He won. When board member Stuart arrived to explain her position on the ethics code, she learned that Lawrence had already crushed the measure.

Smoke Videttes, not pot

Don't get your drug information from Illinois State University's Daily Vidette. An Aug. 19 story said "recent research has proved that marijuana can be physiologically addictive."

Not true, says Chris Carlton, Director of the Drug Education Program at Bloomington's Project Oz. While marijuana smokers can become psychologically dependent, Carlton says she's never heard of any study proving that the herb is physically addictive.

(And if any responsible study ever came to such dire conclusions, you can bet plenty of funding would suddenly appear to pay for glossy 4-color reprints of its conclusions to be mailed to every drug education agency and every school in the country.)

Was it really reporting?

When Tommie Berry was jailed in early Sept. in lieu of \$50,000 bond for raping an ISU student, the Pantagraph printed a routine police report.

Almost.

In a questionable departure from its usual police reporting procedure, the Pantagraph added one irrelevant detail: the rape victim and the defendant knew each other.

Sloppy reporting is the most generous explanation for the irrelevant detail's inclusion in the story. A more sinister explanation is that the reporter was editorially and inappropriately raising the tired traditional question of "was it really rape?"-- a question which the Normal police had already adequately answered to the satisfaction of their own scrupulous standards.

Medicaid covers union-busting

While instituting across-the-board cutbacks in Medicaid benefits, the Reagan administration has also generously extended the medical subsidy program to some previously uncovered beneficiaries. According to the Bulletin of the Health Care Policy Advisory Center, the Reagan Administration has decided that Medicaid will pay for hospitals' management costs incurred in trying to prevent union organization. This move is a reversal of policy under the Carter regime. The union-busting law firm



of Seyfarth and Shaw, currently retained by Brokaw Hospital, is a possible beneficiary of the new policy.

Country clubs get tax break

Property taxes for Lakeside Country Club will drop by more than 70% after an early September ruling by the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board.

According to the Pantagraph, taxes for Bloomington Country Club will drop by as much as 85% if the same ruling is applied.

The country clubs have been paying property taxes based on assessments formulated by Bloomington Township Assessor Mike Ireland.

Ireland has been assessing the country clubs' land according to its value if it were sold to private developers. In 1981, the McLean County Board of Review upheld Ireland's method of assessing the country clubs.

Lakeside appealed its assessment further, citing an Illinois law that says land classified as "open space" should be assessed as though it were wasteland "with no alternate productive use."

After the Tax Appeal Board supported Lakeside's interpretation, Bloomington Country Club said it was likely to ask for a similar ruling on its assessment.

According to the Pantagraph, the tax rulings will cost local treasuries about \$30,000, which will be made up by higher taxes paid by non-golfing citizens.

Having A Party?

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Large selection of PG, R, and X-rated gifts

Must be 19 years or older with valid I.D.'s

Cool day doesn't hinder Cultural Fest '82

The Friday storm and the cooler air it brought with it might have cut the size of the afternoon crowds at the Miller Park bandshell Sept. 18, but it in no way deflated the enthusiasm of those attending the 3rd annual Cultural Festival.

The affair, making its second appearance in Miller Park, really began at 10 a.m. with gospel music by the Voices of Revelation, the Sounds of Deliverance, Friends and the Calhoun Singers. All the while the NAACP, under the direction of Merlin Kennedy, was canvassing neighborhoods to register voters. The NAACP provided transportation to the voter registration booth at the park. The NAACP was also conducting a membership drive at the time with its own display in the park.

Jam packed day

By late afternoon the crowd had swelled to nearly 250 people. Those attending early in the afternoon enjoyed poetry readings by Albert Gray and Omen, the jamming sounds of Kriss Kross, a dance contest sponsored by Delta Kappa Delta, an Hispanic fashion show, and a performance by the Ashanti Dance group from Peoria.

Herb Johnson, a local artist whose work is not unknown to previous festival attendees, had a colorful display of oil paintings and wood carvings coated with a substance (his own formula) which gives them a metallic appearance. Author Albert Gray was also on hand with his published and unpublished prose and poetry.

Genesis Sound Productions, comprised of Joe Beck and Andre Howard, provided the amplification for the event and also served as DJ's.

David Neely, attorney and affirmative action officer at ISU, spoke to festival-goers in the early evening. Jazz and funk music followed, spiced with poetry by Sam Lasan and a native costume display by Tom and Doris Adepoju. A musical jam session concluded the evening.



Herb Johnson (left) with his paintings and woodcarvings at the Cultural Festival '82.

Festival coordinators Lee Otis Brewer and Gary Gaston were quick to share their comments about the annual gathering. This year's event, according to Gaston, received more assistance and financing from the community than in the past two years. Brewer noted he was unhappy with the Pantagraph's coverage of the festival. (For some reason the Pantagraph simply wasn't interested in covering one of the biggest minority festivals in Central Illinois. They preferred to focus their attention on the Normalfest, which is tied more heavily to their advertising revenues.)

More education

Gaston noted that this year's event attempted to become more educational and informational. He mentioned not only NAACP's voter registration drive but also the artists' displays at the event. Brewer cited the Quadraphyte demonstration held later in the afternoon. "It's a whole new sport--sort of a fusion of boxing and football." The newly formed team from Chicago, the Shockers, sent Ruell Brown and others to the festival to show how it's done.

Hoping to stress the need for unity in the black and Hispanic communities, Gaston said minority unemployment would be less a crippling problem "if blacks would mobilize more as an economic force. It would provide a more effective way to promote economic security," he said.

Gaston added that "it's too late for economic opportunity generated by wealthy whites--we have to take con-

trol of our own economic future." Stressing support for minority businesses, Gaston said, "We have to be able to turn a dollar over in our community several times to help create wealth--we can't let the dollar out."

No handouts

Bobby L. Brooks, a Vietnam era veteran who sacrificed a leg for his country, echoed Gaston's position: "We don't want or need handouts--they only serve to strengthen the slave mentality. We need easier access to loans to build our own enterprises. We need continuing education for blacks, not cutbacks in education."

"The white sponsored equal opportunity laws opened the door just a crack. Some of us slipped through. The rest of us are like me, just a little too big to get through," Brooks added.

Gaston also noted that the Cultural Festival would not have been the success it was without the help from its sponsors. Alpha Phi Alpha, Bacon's Ace High Lounge, Bloomington Human Relations Commission, Delta Kappa Delta, Elite Men Association, Gaston's Barber Shop, NAACP, Normal Human Relations Commission, Robinson's Painting and Decorating and SAGE, among others, all helped to bring to Bloomington-Normal a festival with different flavor. It was built on pride and love and dedicated to showing the community the best of its black and Hispanic cultures. ●

--Jeremy Timmens



McLean County voters could register at the Cultural Festival. Voter registration drive was co-ordinated by the B-N chapter of NAACP.