

Eastern Illinois University

The Keep

The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)

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10-1983

Volume 12, Number 6

Post Amerikan

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gay fathers; old buildings; comix; art; Japan

Bloomington-Normal

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POST AMERICAN

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Oct. 1983



CUT ON THE DOTTED LINE
ANNUAL
COVER
(see pg 13)

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Blue Dahlia, 121 E. Beaufort
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ISU University Union, parking lot
entrance
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Midstate Truck Plaza, U.S. 51 north
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POST A·M·E·R·I·K·A·N

THE POST AMERIKAN--BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL'S
ALTERNATIVE SINCE 1972

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Member Alternative Press Syndicate

to you, usually within a week.

The Post Amerikan is an independent community newspaper providing information and analysis that is screened out of or downplayed by establishment news sources. We are a non-profit, worker-run collective that exists as an alternative to the corporate media. Decisions are made collectively by staff members at our regular meetings.

We put out ten issues a year. Staff members take turns as "Coordinator." All writing, typing, editing, photography, graphics, paste-up, and distribution are done on a volunteer basis. You are invited to volunteer your talents.

Most of our material and inspiration for material comes from the community. The Post Amerikan welcomes stories, graphics, photos, and news tips from our readers. If you'd like to join us call 828-7232 and leave a message on our answering machine. We'll get back

We like to print your letters. Try to limit yourself to the equivalent of two double-spaced typewritten pages. If you write a short, abusive letter, it's likely to get in print. Long, abusive letters, however, are not likely to get printed. Long, brilliantly written, non-abusive letters may, if we see fit, be printed as articles. Be sure to tell us if you don't want your letter printed.

An alternative newspaper depends very directly on a community of concerned people for existence. We believe that it is very important to keep a paper like this around. If you think so too, then support us through contributions and by letting our advertisers know you saw their ads in the Post Amerikan.

The deadline for submitting material for the next issue is October 27.

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Thank you

This issue is in your hands thank to: Melissa, Dave, Mark, J.T., Susie, Bobby, Sue, BUMPER, Robin, Jeff, Danny, Laurie, Diana, Ralph, Kathy, Bill, Holly, Stan, Michael, and Deborah (coordinator)--and others we probably forgot to mention.

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'Give Peace a Chance' exhibit opens in Chicago



A unique show, "Give Peace a Chance," opened Sept. 11 at the Peace Museum Annex in Chicago. The show continues through Jan. 31.

The Peace Museum was founded two years ago to serve as a resource center on questions of war and peace. Its growth has been phenomenal, and the show marks the museum truly establishing itself as a respected institution, with national recognition.

"Give Peace a Chance" is a John Lennon song, and Lennon's fans won't be disappointed with this show. The whole effort began when the Peace Museum first contacted Yoko Ono, and she pledged her full cooperation for the show. Lennon fans will find his guitar, gold records, artwork and even copies of his FBI files in the show.

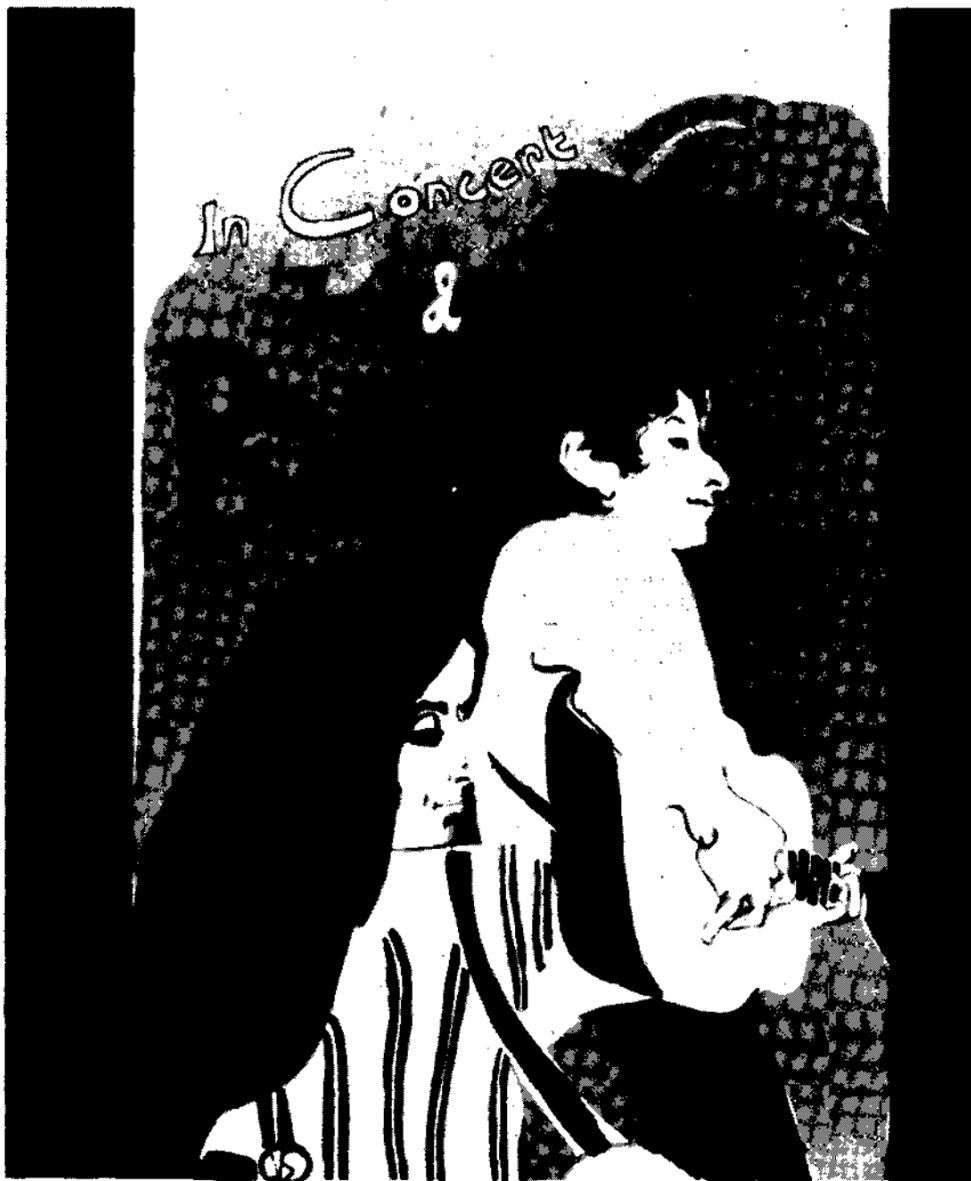
But John Lennon's isn't the only story told here. Beginning with the roots of protest music, the show reaches back before World War II and looks at early folk singer Woody Guthrie and blues artist Big Bill Broonzy, both active in the 1930s.

A huge gallery is devoted to those forceful young people who sparked rebellion in the 1960s. From Peter, Paul, and Mary through more recent stars like the late Harry Chapin, everyone is represented, including Bob Dylan, Arlo Guthrie, Phil Ochs, Holly Near, Country, and perennial folkie Pete Seeger, who bridged 1960s folk musicians with their earlier versions.

A transitional gallery honors great rock concerts, from Woodstock to the Concert for Bangladesh. A special feature of this gallery is occasional slide shows, set to music, which reflect the spectrum of the entire show.

The hard realism and cutting satire of today's music, whether reggae, with the late Bob Marley, or punk, gets full treatment. Disconcertingly bold, punk and new wave art work, posters, banners, and albums delight and surprise with their crude cartoons and paste-up collages. Military power, whether of the American or Soviet variety, gets full mockery from the latest in music, represented by U2, the Clash, and others.

The final gallery and the largest is the one devoted to John Lennon. The only problem with this gallery is that it seems to separate Lennon from the other Beatles and takes on the aura of a shrine, with its pristine white walls and soft treatment. In the other galleries, one senses musicians, politics, and innovations all feeding and growing from each other, yet Lennon is made to stand alone, and we think this breaks the contin-



This rare handbill from a series of concerts given in 1965 by Bob Dylan and Joan Baez is one of hundreds of items on display at Give Peace A Chance, a major exhibition on music and peace running from Sep. 11 thru Jan. 31 at The Peace Museum in Chicago.

uity of the show.

Nevertheless, the final feeling is one of connection. All of us probably have a song that stands out, when we think of our own political consciousness. Whether we were first jarred by "Blowin' in the Wind" or "The Times They Are A-Changin'" in the 1960s or found our feelings reflected in the biting questions of the Clash, music can confirm and deepen our commitments and assure us that "we are not alone" in questioning war and hatred--our poets and our dreamers are asking the same questions, too.

"Give Peace a Chance" will be shown through January 31, 1984. The Peace Museum Annex is located at 341 W. Superior, Chicago (the regular gallery is at 364 W. Erie, two blocks south), and the show is open Tuesday-Sunday, noon-5 pm, and until 8 pm on Thursdays. Some special films and programs are planned through Jan. 31; call 312-440-1860 for information on them. If you are driving, take I-90/94 and exit at Ohio Street. Turn north at the first stoplight, Orleans, and in four blocks you'll cross Superior, and find the exhibit. ●

--Mike Matejka, Kari Sandhaas

--on display--

A few of the items you'll find in the exhibit:

Stevie Wonder--Copy of House Resolution 800, seeking a national holiday for Martin Luther King, Jr.

U2--Original manuscript, "Sunday Bloody Sunday," 1983.

Joan Baez--original manuscript, typed and handwritten notes, on reaction to President Kennedy's assassination, Nov. 22, 1963.

George Harrison--Book, *I Me Mine*, special, limited edition, published by Genesis Publications, 1979.

The Beatles--original manuscript,

"The Word," John Lennon, Paul McCartney.

Harry Chapin--certificate from President Jimmy Carter, appointing Chapin to the World Hunger Commission.

Pete Seeger--the Pete Seeger "Peace Quilt."

Malvina Reynolds--original manuscript, "The Plutonium Song," 1975.

Tom Lehrer--original drawing by George Woodbridge, for a Mad magazine spread on Lehrer, 1957.

Bob Marley--stamps issued by the Jamaican government in 1981.

Country Joe McDonald--Navy Training Course Certificate, Airman's qualification, Dec. 1960.

Holly Near--original manuscript, "No More Genocide" 1982.

Laura Nyro--original manuscript, ink on construction paper, "Child of the Universe," 1978.

Phil Ochs--news release regarding the first "War is Over" celebration, Nov. 16, 1967.

Woodstock--Japanese "Woodstock" tickets, printed for a Japanese version of the concert which never took place, 1969.

Pantagraph reinforces racism

A seemingly routine Pantagraph police beat story Sept. 19 goes out of its way to reinforce anti-black sentiment in the community.

The article is a short account of an armed robbery of some ISU students.

In its routine crime stories, Pantagraph reporters very seldom mention the race of either the victims or the assailants.

But after briefly recounting the incident and the amount of money stolen, the Pantagraph reporter said "The students are white; their assailants are black."

The reporter did not mention what color hair the victims had. He didn't mention whether they had attached or unattached ear lobes. He didn't mention their majors or their home towns.

Why mention race, unless the reporter is maintaining that race is a relevant detail?

The Pantagraph should examine whether some consciously or unconsciously-held racist attitudes are affecting their reporters' selection of details.

Black radio program gone

The only locally-produced radio program catering to blacks will no longer be heard.

"Ebony Affair," which had been aired four nights a week on ISU's public radio station WGLT (89.1 FM), was the victim of format changes in early September.

The original changes retained "Ebony Affair" while drastically reducing its airtime to only once a week.

According to a story in ISU's Daily Vidette, "Ebony Affair" producer Dwight Brooks and his staff resigned in protest of the program change.

Are poor people just plane dumb?

It's bad enough that Bloomington-Normal residents are forced to pay property taxes to fund the local airport, a facility that most poor and middle-class folks will never use.

It's even worse that over 500 east-side properties have somehow escaped being incorporated into the Bloomington-Normal Airport Authority, the taxing district which funds the airport.

As a taxing district, the Airport Authority levies an assessment which property owners pay as part of their property tax.

According to a Pantagraph story, the 500 parcels of land which have escaped the Airport Authority's clutches include Stahly Truck City, whose owner keeps a plane at the airport and often uses the airport's services.

By refusing to annex his land to the Airport Authority, Stahly evades about \$232 in annual taxes, the Pantagraph said.

Meanwhile, although the concept of public funds subsidizing air travel for the rich is firmly established, the city councils seem to apply a different standard when they are asked to help pay for transportation for the poor. Although the airport is never asked to "pay its own way," we hear such requests of the bus system as city officials gripe about the relatively small subsidies they so grudgingly give to keep up the busses' already less-than-adequate level of service.

Miscellaneous Outrages

you may have missed

Compiled by Mark Silverstein



State protects dorm food

The principle that punishment should fit the severity of the crime got a real boost in August, when Judge Dearborn sentenced William B. Jackson to 2 1/2 years in prison.

Jackson's crime was trying to sneak a free meal at an ISU dormitory food service.

According to the Pantagraph, Jackson was convicted of "exerting control over" an ISU student ID that had been stolen.

Mayor seeks defense dept. facilities

As Chairman of the McLean County Economic Development Council, Normal Mayor Richard Godfrey is seeking contacts with certain federal agencies, encouraging them to locate facilities in the Bloomington-Normal area.

The purpose is to create jobs, thus helping the county's economy.

According to a Pantagraph article, Godfrey specifically mentioned "technical and research installations for the Defense Department" as potentially beneficial additions to local economic life.

He also suggested offices for the State Department and Department of the Interior.

Local political activists will be happy with the additions. There's nothing like a locally accessible office of the state department or the military to focus on when it comes to pickets, demonstrations, and even politically-motivated vandalism.

God denied bowling alley

A proposal to build a divinely-inspired bowling alley on the 800 block of East Lafayette St. caused a neighborhood-wide protest in the spring of 1982. Residents of the Julie Drive area (who presumably are respectable church-goers themselves) organized to stop the development, which had been planned by Maxine and Harvel Darnall.

Mrs. Darnall was quoted in the Pantagraph that April as saying, "The Lord came to me and said 'Why don't you build a 40-lane bowling alley?'"

Although never told just why God needed exactly 40 lanes, city council members chose not to buck the man with the ultimate veto power. The alley plans were approved; the neighbors were overruled.

But God didn't get his 40 lanes. The Darnalls were back before the city council in August, requesting permission to build a sporting goods store and gun shop instead.

Did God change his mind? Or did the Darnalls refuse to carry out his wishes?

Perhaps with all the wars and killings carried out in his name, God won't mind a gun shop instead--it's right up his alley.

Chief Lehr is your friend

Large student parties will be infiltrated by a combination of plainclothes and uniformed police and city administration staff, Normal Asst. City Manager Tom Degiulo told the Pantagraph.

The purpose of monitoring the parties, the official said, was to stop illegal alcohol sales and underage drinking.

"We will not be there to make arrests or promote a confrontation," Police Chief David Lehr was quoted in the

Pantagraph Sept. 14. "We will be there to help and I hope the responsible students understand that."

Party hosts often need help, so it's good that the Chief has embarked on such a constructive community relations program. He and his people can get the taper working properly, make sure that enough munchies are laid out, watch the cup supply situation, maybe even help with the next beer run.

The Chief is there to help. He said so.



Rape Crisis Center
of McLean County

Volunteer Training Session

Sat. Oct. 22, 9-5 and Sun. Oct. 23, 11-6

ISU, Stevenson Hall, Room 401

Women and men needed

Call 827-4005 & ask for RCC for more info
Help others; help yourself

Sheriff wants "ladylike" officials

In the last days of the controversy about overtime pay for deputies, Sheriff Brienen revealed a new criterion he apparently applies in evaluating female employees: they must be "ladylike." In political and bureaucratic maneuvering, the Sheriff apparently believes it's OK for men to get angry, but not for women. The Sheriff revealed his attitude in a Sept. 14 letter he wrote to the Chairperson of the County Board's Justice and Public Safety Committee. Complaining about County Personnel Director Sally Roderick, the Sheriff wrote: "Her language and unladylike demeanor were very unbecoming a person of her position in County Government."

Long-range plan too long ago

In arguing against licensing more taverns in downtown Bloomington, city council member Walt Bittner apparently argued on the basis of an alleged long-range plan that he knew very little about.

According to the Pantagraph, Bittner said the long-range plan didn't include a lot of taverns downtown, but the former mayor was not sure what the plan did call for.

"We'll have to take it out and look at it," Bittner said, according to the Pantagraph.

Discrimination at Schenk's tap

According to a suit filed in federal court, Schenk's Tavern on N. Morrissey refused to sell lottery tickets to a Bloomington woman because she is black.

According to the suit, the woman, Barbara S. Malone, was denied the chance to play \$15 on a series of numbers she had selected for two Illinois Lottery games.

Two of her numbers would have won, the suit says.

Although Schenk's employees deny Malone's version of the incident, the tavern does have a history of discrimination. When Schenk's Tavern was located in downtown Bloomington, the owner followed an explicit policy of forbidding women in the establishment.

Sandinistas defended at ISU

A top Sandinista diplomat came to Bloomington-Normal September 15 to defend the Nicaraguan revolution and offer rebuttal to Ronald Reagan's lies and misinformation.

Francisco Campbell, first secretary for political affairs at the Nicaraguan embassy in Washington, spoke on a variety of topics. They included:

Elections: Reagan claims the Sandinistas are commie aggressors attempting to establish a totalitarian state. Campbell noted that a wide assortment of grassroot organizations--women's organizations, church groups, unions, peasant organizations, representatives from the literacy campaign are directly represented in the Council of State. Careful planning and designing of election laws have paved the way for the 1985 general elections.

The "Threat": Reagan has become the laughingstock of the world by claiming the Nicaraguan revolution is a threat to U.S. security. It's hard to imagine 2.5 million Nicaraguans threatening a country of over 220 million. Campbell said, "The Nicaraguan revolution is conceived to be a threat, because of the good example we represent. People will see an alternative to dictatorship and an alternative to exploitation."

Threat to Mexico: According to the Reagan administration's Domino Theory for Central America, Nicaragua is communist, and soon El Salvador could be communist, then Guatemala, and soon Mexico could fall to Cuban and Nicaraguan "exported revolution."

Because of the pluralism in Nicaragua, Campbell said, it is totally inaccurate to label the government as "Marxist led," as the American press consistently does. Concerning Mexican-Nicaraguan relations, said Campbell, "If there is any government in

the world that has been openly supportive of the Nicaraguan revolution, it is Mexico. They do not feel threatened."

Arms to El Salvador: For three years, the Reagan administration has insisted that the Sandinistas are sending arms to Salvadoran rebels. It has used this claim as justification for aiding Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries. Campbell said the Sandinistas would like to send arms to the rebels, but denied they are doing so, because Reagan would use the aid to justify further escalation.

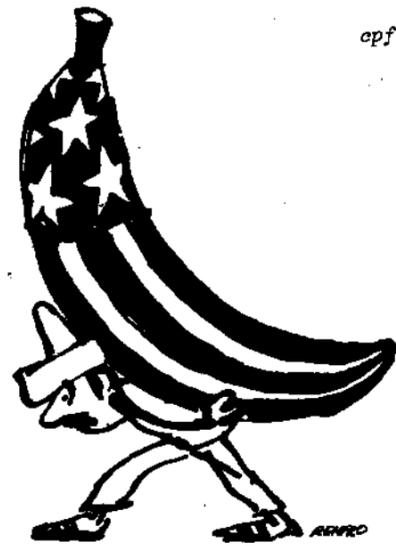
"The best way we can help the Salvadoran people is by not sending arms," he said.

It seems hard to believe that Nicaragua is sending no aid, but even more unbelievable is that the U.S., with all its fancy radar and satellites, can't collect valid, conclusive evidence to support its claim. Even if the Sandinistas are helping the rebels, isn't it justified in light of the huge gifts the United States has given to the brutal Salvadoran regime?

Importing revolution: Despite Reagan's claims of "Cuban exported revolution" in Central America, revolution cannot be exported like bananas. Nicaraguan and Salvadoran revolutionary movements date back to before Castro was born and an East-West struggle existed. The U.S. interventionist policy in Central America is nothing new, rather a continuing epic of Yankee imperialism.

The United States is arming the remnants of Somoza's National Guard in an attempt to overthrow the government of Nicaragua--a government with popular backing of its people. Now who is importing violence?

Repression: The Reagan administration accuses Nicaragua of using "systematic repression," noting some press



editorship and limits to opposition. "We are virtually in a state of war," Campbell rebuked. Once the "state of emergency" is lifted (when U.S.-backed aggression subsides) full freedom of the press will exist, he said. The U.S. has used similar restrictions during wartime; and who can forget the police riots during anti-Vietnam demonstrations?

Peace: Nicaragua has proposed a "Six-Point Peace Proposal" and has agreed to negotiate through the Contadora Group. Reagan's response was "Big Pine II," military exercises in Honduras with 5,000 U.S. personnel taking part (Reagan called them routine), and placing a large Naval presence on both coasts of Nicaragua. "Clearly, the Reagan administration is not interested in peace," Campbell said.

Considering the United States' 40-year support of Somoza rule in Nicaragua--Ike called Somoza "our son of a bitch in Central America"--it would have been perfectly understandable for the Sandinistas to tell the U.S. to go to hell. They didn't. Jimmy Carter was the first head of state to visit New Nicaragua. "We were even prepared to forget and say 'let's turn a new page'," said Campbell.

It's hard to tell what Ronnie Reagan means when he says the U.S. show of force around the world is needed "when freedom is on the line." The Sandinistas have made great strides and promoted more freedoms than Somoza ever imagined. "Our job is trying to prevent war wherever it may come in the world," Reagan said recently. But he has spurned every attempt at making peace with Nicaragua.

"Never again will we get down on our knees," Campbell said. "We do not want to fight, but we will fight no matter what." If the U.S. is thinking of invading Nicaragua again, they will find a countryside full of armed militias and a people who would rather die standing than live on their knees.

--Jose Victoria

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ON THE MUSIC SCENE P-A benefit music keeps 'em jumpin'

--on the music scene
Red Newton

Benefit big bash

This band is comprised of 5 very serious, very able young men, who together produce a richly electronic, wildly expressionistic, and nonetheless danceable good music which is attractive to those with ears. By the end of their set, diaTribe had the majority of the house bopping along to their incredibly tight, compactly manic song-list of originals. If only their vocals had been distinguishable.

The Post-Amerikan held a benefit concert/dance/party at Central Station on September 11, featuring all-girl rockola Toxic Shock, avant-wave Diatribe, and cheap drug-crazed ungrammatical Citizen Square. The evening was punctuated by wild dancing, hilarity, reckless abandon, and sleazy liaisons. The Post staff wants to thank the great bands, the luxurious and accomodating tavern, and the generous patrons, all of which netted us about \$400, all of which got us enuf dough to put out this issue. Any extra bucks, supplies, and so forth to sustain the next issue should be sent right along. Also, people who still owe me money for T-shirts I so trustingly let them take while I was drunk should give it to me. ●

Phoebe Caulfield

For those who were wise enough to be there, the Sept. 11 Post Amerikan benefit at Central Station turned out to be a very good musical time, in addition to being an incredible bargain for the \$2.50 cover. Three local bands, all of them deserving of the discerning listener's notice, entertained for a warmly receptive audience that included many interesting types (of humanity).

Toxic Shock, the Bloomington-based, 4-piece female band with a vengeance, opened up the evening with a positively bodacious set that showcased the group's uniquely gynocentric approach to rock 'n' roll. Toxic Shock has become a much tighter combo since they played their first gig little more than a year ago. The members are all more proficient on their instruments, and it showed favorably on numbers like their reggae-hued rendition of the 60s standard "Stepping Stone," or as they jumped with alacrity all over Iggy Pop's "Lust for Life." These women are serious rock 'n' rollers--really!

Now Toxic Shock had left the place smiling (leaving the stage after an embroiling version of Patti Smith's "Pissing in the River"), people were getting loose, and after a short break lo and behold! There was this perfectly co-ordinated, well-tempered, and ineluctably interesting thing happening of a sudden on stage. Engaging dissonances began throbbing out the PA into the smoky air, and you just knew--this was diaTribe! And, Red might add, a diaTribe sounding better than it ever has.

The final act for that indulgent evening was the world premiere of a recently-formed outfit calling themselves Citizen Square. None of their faces are new to progressive-thinking twin-cityites, tho. The band is made up by ex-members of the old Bite on all the essential instruments, and by ex-Spinal Tappist Jeff Warren on vocals and guitar. Warren is a younger, less proficient Charles Manson in many respects, and fronting the Spinal Tap, he always seemed a bit abstruse--either above or behind his fellows on stage, Red was never quite sure. In any case, Warren seems to have finally found his proper vehicle.

The innocuous power-pop backgrounds that the Bite was always most proficient in creating serve in Citizen Square as a welcome balance to the often excessive punk mannerisms of erstwhile bad-boy Warren, and the result is really satisfying. The songs, which included pumped-up renditions of Neil Young's "Needle and the Damage Done" and "Tonight's the Night," as well as several Jeff Warren-penned Spinal Tap oldies that made the transition well, filled out the evening with energized waves of authentic rock 'n' roll.

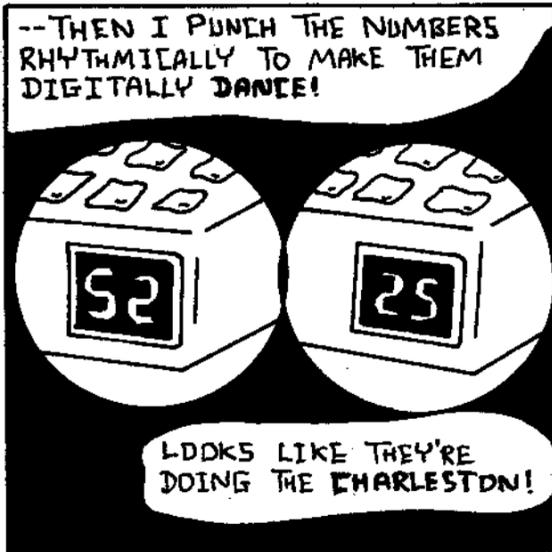
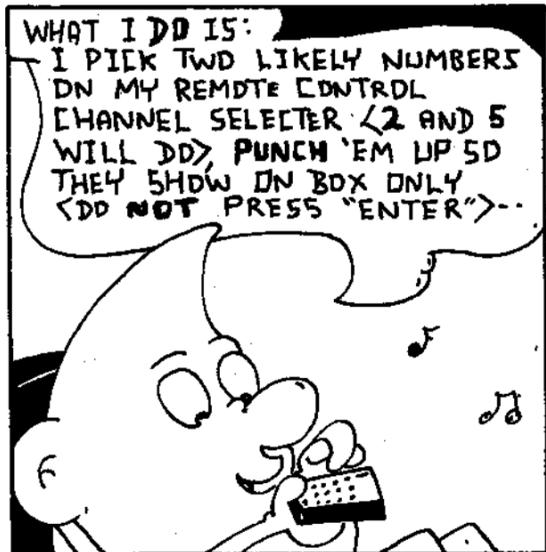
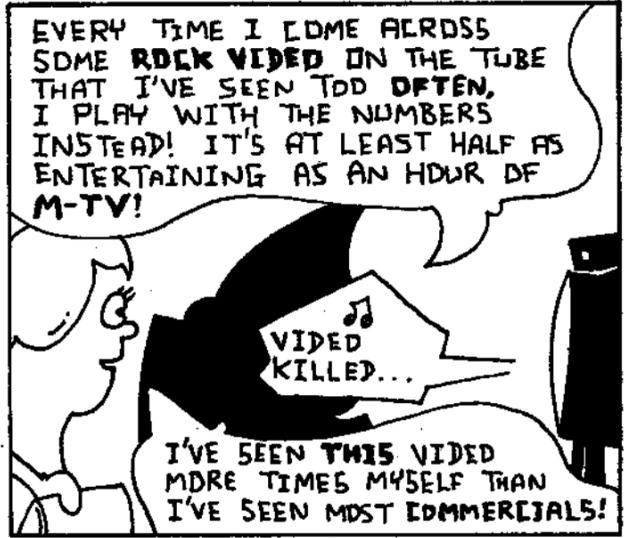
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--Red Newton



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COMIX





VISUAL ARTS



Lynn Webster show stuns IWU

As long as human life has existed, there has been conflict. This conflict is taken as an apparent theme in the work of Lynn Webster, a Chicago artist who is having a show at IWU in the Wakely Gallery. After examining her works, one sees that a possible conflict between emotionalism and intellectualism has been resolved within them--making them accessible, yet challenging and worthwhile. The fact that the work can be appreciated not only on an emotional but also artistic and intellectual level is what makes them compelling.

The group begins with one example of the stuff she was doing before the series that makes up the majority of the show. This early sequence is a combination drawing, paper casting with interesting textural effects complementing a narrative of small frames of action. The vocabulary of symbolism used in these frames is consistent with that in the rest of the drawings, and the piece serves as a kind of background to the rest of her works. In it we can see what elements she chose to pursue and develop further, as well as those others that she didn't, for whatever reason.

The symbol narratives, then, are visually consistent with the wraparound planes and streams of color, in that they seem to curve somewhat around the shapes behind them and to match them in color. In some of the drawings, the symbols are green when they are placed on the caption where it passes over grass instead of figures, implying perhaps the neutrality of both weapons and environments without figures to define their roles, or perhaps even the capacity for violence of any environment, in a purely abstract sense. Since these are drawings, they are on the paper itself and are integrated fully with the other elements, as opposed to a typewritten and detached tag on the wall. With these, she adds another level of "literal definition," actually verbalizing the implications of the symbols.

Of the rest of the drawings, there are small graphite ones without titles and larger colored pencil ones with titles. Since the basic imagery of the graphite drawings is the same as that in the colored ones, much is to be revealed in the examination of her use of color, both formalistically and symbolically. One interesting thing in one of the graphite works, though, was the use of a speech symbol, kind of a primitive style bubble with marks in it. As part of the theme of communication and conflict, this is another investigation into the portrayal and relates well to the formal references to mass media in the colored pieces.

A linking idea in all the titles is that of communication--such as "Bucolic Discussions" or "Destructive Dialogue." Even in "Love Silenced," the theme is still that of relations and actions between forces embodied in 'characters.' Through the use of these different levels, figurative symbolism and subjectively influential colors, semi-literal symbol captions and then literal titles, the artist achieves a very strong statement. Ambiguously, the images reflect the basic actions and reactions going on to nearly any two forces that the viewer cares about and sees conflict between (Evil vs. Good, Big vs. Little, Reagan vs. the poor, bigots vs. minorities, etc.). To use a cliché, it's stuff that can be called universal.

In confronting the colored drawings, one first notices the soft optically blending color produced with "pretty" shades of prismcolor pencil used. Linear streams are used to define planes and forms, seeming to wrap around the figures and scapes like webs or veils of energy and movement.

Green sloping landscapes cut through the compositions, creating a backdrop for a cast of brightly colored figures.

Upon closer inspection, the literal subject, a narrative of violence between red/female/rabbit/Indian characters and the aggressor blue/male/hat & suit characters comes into jolting opposition to the style of drawing. The colorful scapes and childlike (symbolic) representations of figures, especially the rabbits and Indians and "Men" (personified by silhouettes) in suits, put the works in an unthreatening, children's book frame of reference.

Another element adding to this effect is the use of "symbol captions" running across the bottom of the picture frame much as a literal one would on a foreign film or in a comic book. The symbols used are a vocabulary of hearts, guns and bullets, and in two cases snakes and anchors. The colors correspond with the figures whose ideas symbolize a second time on a somewhat more literal or specific level. Since the red/female figures are playing, if not a submissive then a protagonistic role, the red hearts link that role to a more concrete symbolic connotation in our culture. Similarly, the blue guns and bullets are linked in color to the male/suited figures, asserting their role as definite antagonist.

The problems with communication and other resolutions of conflict are ideas that all people can identify with.

The use of these basic, inherently human and emotionally arousing subjects is only the underlying framework, though. For artwork to be any more captivating than a sign saying "heavy message: There's bad stuff going on," there must be more to it. The "subject" or whatever any artist chooses to use as a comprehensible idea is really just an excuse to make art. The artfulness, then, lies in the manner in which this is built up--in this case by touching on a number of levels--giving us the pleasure of seeking out signs of cleverness and subtlety. The work of Lynn Webster is strong in this way because it is both sensitive and clever, and personal in that general sense that only good art can be.

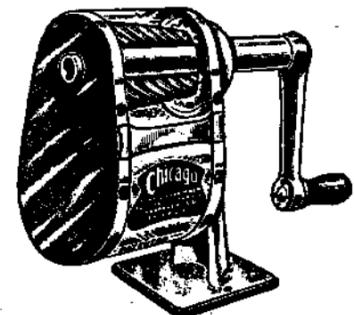
--Siobhan McKennah

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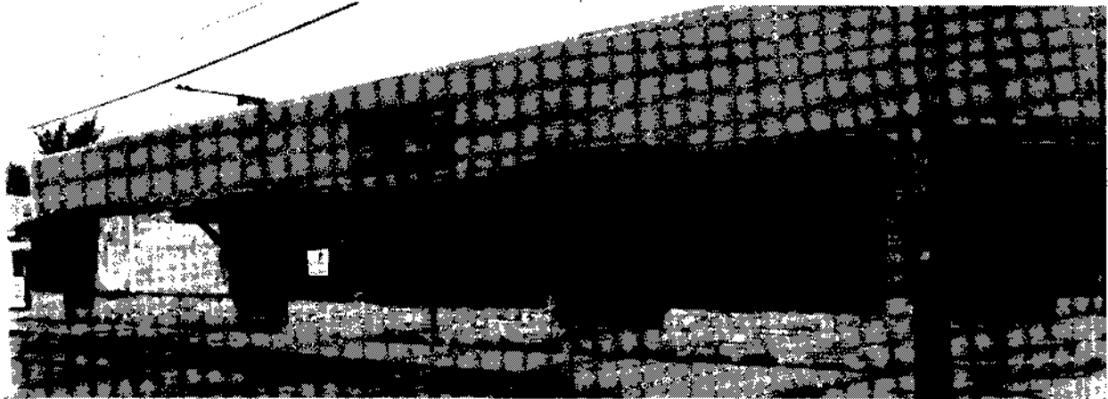
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City to remove old Lay-Z-J Saloon



Just when a Bloomington businessperson was about to buy the building and re-open the old Lay-Z-J Saloon, the City of Bloomington's urban renewal department announced it wanted to buy the building and demolish it.

After hearing the city's plans, William Peden and Lee Marburger withdrew their application for a liquor license for the site.

Although the urban renewal department is supposed to buy only blighted and deteriorated buildings that are beyond repair, they also demolish structurally sound buildings when it suits their purposes.

The old Lay-Z-J Saloon had produced complaints from neighbors who didn't like free-spirited crowds attracted by rock 'n' roll.

"I just don't think a residential neighborhood is a good place for a tavern," City Manager Bill Vail told the Post Amerikan.

Vail said he hoped the city would find someone able to put the property to a "more compatible use" after the building is torn down.

--M.S.

City buys west-side property and...

The rich get richer

It seems capitalists don't even have to take risks any more to make piles of money.

That seems to be the message from the City of Bloomington's recently-revealed plans to bail out the owners of the old St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing building.

The old nursing school building, including another building and five acres of land at the corner of Oakland and Morris, has often been mentioned as the west side's most troublesome blighted area.

The owners--a land trust including the Tinervin family (Tinervin Student Rentals) and Edward Clothier--have done nothing with the property since they purchased it from the estate of Jacob Grossman in 1976.

Grossman had planned to build a small shopping center on the site. That idea was tossed around, along with a later plan for a medical center, but nothing happened.

The Tinervins failed to maintain the property, producing frequent complaints from neighbors. Broken glass and open windows posed a danger to children. The long-vacant building attracted shelter-seeking transients, who neighbors viewed suspiciously. City crews sometimes had to mow the weeds and bill the owners.

In the summer of 1982, city officials forced the Tinervins to board the windows and secure the building.

Capitalists who make lots of money in their speculative ventures justify their immense returns by pointing out the risks they took: if they failed in their endeavor, they would have lost huge sums. But although the Tinervins obviously failed as land developers, they will still make lots of money, thanks to the city's generosity.

According to the Pantagraph, Bloomington has budgeted \$336,000 to buy the Tinervins' decrepit property. That's \$111,000 more than they paid for it in 1976, according to the city assessor.

The assessor also said that the Tinervins have been paying property tax on an estimated market value of \$255,000.

Bloomington is not only insulating the Tinervins from the financial disaster which supposedly accompanies failure:



Owners will make a 50% profit when the city buys this long-vacant building.

the city is paying them a large premium for their efforts (or lack of effort).

By deliberately neglecting their property to the point where the city buys it as a blighted area requiring

improvement, the Tinervins will have been rewarded with a profit of \$111,000.

Not bad for doing nothing. ●

--Mark Silverstein

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GUITAR WORLD

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Vet fleeces people, animals, ex-employee says

Dr. Phillip Curry of Animal Care Clinic and Hospital, 1501 S. Main, Bloomington, is, in my opinion, exploiting both animals and the unemployed.

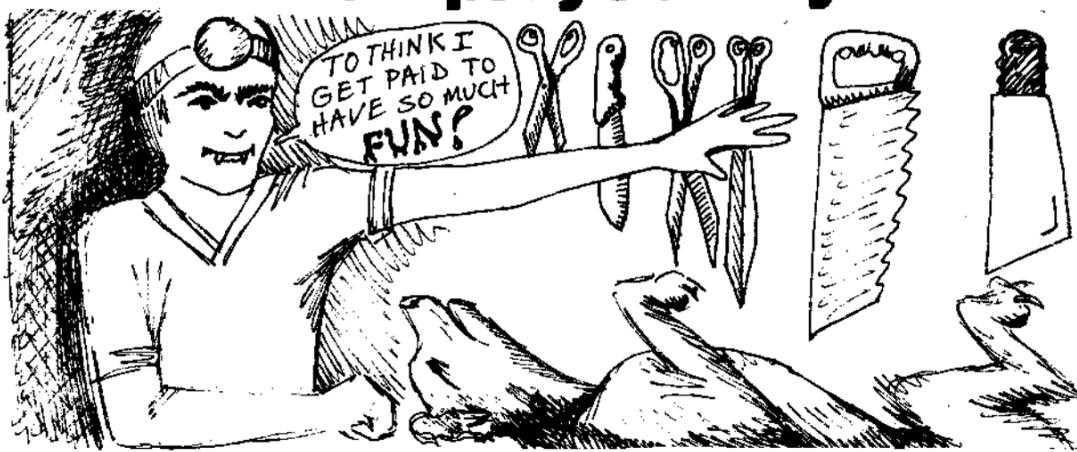
Having been raised on a dairy farm, I have had some experience caring for animals--flea baths for cats and dogs helping with sheep shearing and calf dehorning, lamb detailing, chicken chores, barn cleaning (shoveling manure), etc. I was interviewed for a job by a pregnant veterinarian who said she was Dr. Curry's partner. But later Curry said that he had no partner or employees while complaining about being overworked with 3 office locations. I don't know if the pregnancy explained her absence of if there were other reasons. She told me that the pay was \$3.50 an hour and I was high on the list of prospective employees.

Three weeks later I got a call from Dr. Curry. He gave me the impression that I was hired for four hours to get what he said was "a feeling for what the work entailed and whether I could handle it or not." He said that another "girl" was coming in to try it out in the afternoon and that he would decide between the 2 of us that evening and let us know.

The day in question was my birthday, and I would never agree to work for nothing from 8 a.m. to 12 noon on that day. I arrived on time and assisted in 3 surgeries and one clipping, cleaning, sweeping and disinfecting after each.

I also listened attentively. The dogs obviously were housebroken and begging to be taken out to do their "business." I kept awaiting the instruction to take them out as the barking dogs were indicating a desire not to mess their cages.

One particularly broke my heart. An alert 15-yr.-old bull dog was really voicing his complaint about being forced to foul his own nest. I was told he was in to be put to sleep, "but he didn't know it yet." This last quip must be Dr. Curry's idea of humor because it's the only time I



saw him smile and laugh except when he was trying to snow customers. The dog was friendly and would wag his tail at the least friendly word. I was told he hadn't been put to sleep yet because of the problem of disposing of the body. I could see nothing wrong with the dog and would have taken him home with me if I'd been sure I had a job so I could support him. Such a shame that the poor guy couldn't have the simple pleasure of doing his last bit of "business" outdoors in the fresh air and sunshine, as he'd been taught.

There were animals there being boarded and for observation who needed exercise, but I was given no instruction about this. At Town and Country Animal Hospital where I take my cat, there is regular daily exercise scheduled for every animal who is strong enough. I realize now that I should have posed the question, but the doctor was talking at me in such an authoritative manner that I hesitated to say anything.

The bull dog stopped barking after he'd relieved himself in the cage. Then Dr. Curry made a big fuss about cleaning the cage out while the dog waited in a clean cage looking very contrite and sad, as if to say, "I didn't want to do it there!"

The poodle who was clipped was completely anesthetized, but the

doctor still made numerous nicks between the claws and even on the back and around the head, causing blood to flow. And this poodle under medication was not moving at all. Dr. Curry mentioned that the dog had once bitten him, but I can still see no excuse for nicking a completely still dog so many times.

I wasn't eager to work for this guy after all this, but I did want to be paid for those 4 miserable hours. After two weeks I phoned Dr. Curry. He claimed that he'd informed me beforehand that I would not be paid anything, and he also said that I hadn't done anything any way. Then he added that he hadn't hired anyone yet and that I was still in the running. After I reported my desire to be paid for the 4 hours, he said that with my attitude, maybe I was getting out of the running. He said that he always told everyone who worked for him that the first 4 hours of orientation were not paid. I then said that that was probably why he had no other people working for him--no one could get along with him. He then hung up on me.

What a racket! With the number of unemployed people in this area, just imagine the number of free 4-hour clean-ups he can get out of people in the name of orientation.

--Rose

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Gay fathers shatter ster



"She sees there's lots of love in our house--she sees love between Jon and me. She's experienced all kinds of wonderful things."

The speaker is a young man in his early 20s. He's talking about his 4-year-old daughter, who lives with him. Jon is his male lover. Gary is a gay father. He lives in Bloomington, Illinois.

"I think I'm a good adult role model--I have something to offer them. They're my kids but they're not a piece of property. I'm important and can contribute to their lives; that's why I'm going through this struggle."

That's Paul. He's also a gay father who lives in Bloomington. The struggle he's talking about is the legal battle over visiting rights. Paul wants to be sure he can see his three children on a regular basis without a lot of hassles and restrictions.

According to a recent survey of the gay subculture in this country (The Mendola Report), one fifth of the gay men questioned said they or their partners have children. With the estimated gay population of the U.S. around 20 million, that means there may be as many as 1½ million gay fathers in Amerika.

Most of these men still live hidden in the "nuptial closet," never telling wives, children, friends that they have sexual encounters with men. Some others tell their wives and remain with them in supportive (but often sexually unfulfilling) marriages.

Only a small minority have come out as gay and have told their kids that daddy is still their daddy and also a homosexual.

A shock

Gay dads shatter stereotypes. The fact that they exist at all--and especially in Bloomington--comes as a shock to many people, gay and nongay alike.

Unfortunately many people still hold the totally erroneous prejudice that gay men are child molesters and dangerous to children (see adjoining story). Others, including some gay people, divide the sexual world into mutually exclusive preferences and can't accept baby-making and child-raising as acceptable--or even possible--homosexual activities.

Gary and Paul are living examples of the diversity and individuality that make mincemeat out of such fatuous assumptions.

Gary: "I've always loved children. Even as a kid I loved younger children. My biggest worry when I left my wife was I'd be a part-time father."

Paul: Men can be parents, can be nurturing and play a part in raising the children. It's certainly rewarding and gives kids a wider idea of what roles men and women can undertake. It's good for them."

These two men, who have lived in Bloomington for a number of years but met for the first time only a few weeks ago, couldn't be more different in background and experience. Paul came from a large family (7 brothers and sisters) and didn't really confront his gay feelings until his marriage of 11 years began to break up. Gary, who has only one brother and one sister, says he's been gay all his life and was having sex with both men and women when he got married.

Paul had no gay experiences until he was in his 30s. Gary says, "I've always been sexually active."

Paul had homosexual feelings but never talked to anyone about them; he assumed they'd "go away" when he got married. He went through the whole guilt-denial-avoidance scene, and didn't really come out until after his divorce.

Gary says he can't "relate to coming out"--he's never done it. "I'm just the way I am; I don't worry about it."

A conventional marriage

Paul's marriage was conventional, at least outwardly. He dated his wife in high school, and they had the usual expectations about raising a family. Paul says he was attracted to Evelyn because she paid attention to him and accepted him as he was. "She needed someone who was sensitive, not a typical macho man," he adds. Paul's wife was extroverted, popular, in control: she filled a need in his life.

"Nobody does these things on purpose," says Paul, as he begins to discuss the break-up of his marriage and the emergence of his gay feelings. "They just happen."

At first Evelyn didn't have a negative reaction; in fact, it was she who asked Paul if perhaps he was gay. She said she'd accept him--she had gay friends--and he was going to stay with her. But that didn't work.

"After spending years being what others wanted me to be, I wanted to be myself," says Paul. "It was important." He adds: "I intend to be myself, too. That's what freedom is." His voice was quiet, definite, sure.

A big change

As it became clear that Paul was really going to leave, Evelyn changed her tune. She began to express anger, to speak of insult and betrayal, to use words like "sin" and "immoral" in reference to the gay people she'd once accepted.

For his part, Paul did not act on his homosexual feelings for several months after he left. He even talked to Evelyn about coming back. "I was trying to learn what was going on," he says, "learning what it meant to be gay. It was a period of re-definition of myself." He avoided Evelyn and the kids for a while.

When he re-established contact, Paul found his wife's bitterness had increased: she didn't want Paul to have the children overnight, didn't want his weekly visits to be more than a few hours, didn't want him to tell the kids about his gayness. Paul and

Evelyn had to go to court to settle their differences about the children, and even now their disagreement is strong, still troubling for Paul. "I want more," he says. "I'd like the arrangement to be more open and natural."

Quite a contrast

Gary's story is quite a contrast.

He and Cindy lived together quite a while before they got married. At the time Gary was also having sex with men and other women. He assumed Cindy was "safe" (i.e., wouldn't get pregnant). Their daughter was 1½ years old when they got married.

Gary says his father talked him into getting married for the legal protec-



tion it would give Terri, their daughter. "I'm glad, in a way," says Gary, "because I now have Terri legally."

A friend told Cindy about Gary's homosexual activity. Cindy was crushed. Her reaction: "Aren't I good enough in bed for you?"

"It's just not something you can help," says Gary. "She would notice my moods and feelings."

Gary and Cindy stayed together for almost 2 years after she found out. There were more incidents, more tension, more problems. Cindy felt inadequate, Gary felt guilty. Every time they talked of separating, says Gary, Cindy ended up in the hospital.

He finally decided to leave one night after a fight at a party. He moved out the next day. He had also met Jon, his present lover.

"I was miserable," says Gary. "The end of any relationship is difficult. The kids kept us together much of the time." (Cindy had a son from a previous marriage.)

There was little money. Cindy wasn't working. One day she disappeared, leaving the kids alone. She was gone for two days. The police were called, the Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS) came, Gary was summoned from work. DCFS took Cindy's son ("That's the last time I saw him") and Gary took Terri.

Gary then moved in with his father and stepmother. He stayed at home and had no sex life at all. "I was totally confused about the whole scene," he says. "Especially about my wife's

stereotypes in Bloomington

Post-American
Oct. 1983 11

behavior. She wasn't the same woman."

Eventually Gary began to get out. But his father discovered Gary's gayness, and they had to deal with that. "He still doesn't believe I'm gay," says Gary. "I gave him the bisexual bit."

Gary then moved into his own apartment. He's seen Cindy only one time after that.

Gary's had Terri for about 11 months now, and things are going well: "Terri's so well adjusted. I have a steady lover, close friends, my own place. I feel much better about myself."

similar views

Despite their contrasting experiences and widely differing views of sexual development, Gary and Paul share a lot of attitudes and feelings about kids and their own roles as parents.

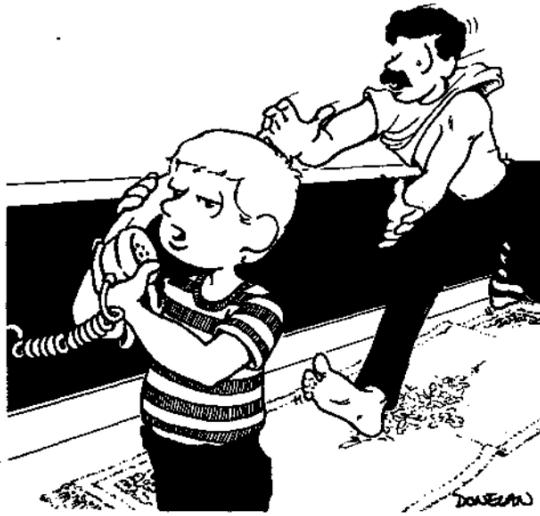
"I have typical parental worries," says Gary. "Is she dressed right? Is she eating right? I'm worried about the women at the day care center think."

"Being gay is irrelevant to being a good parent," says Paul. "As long as there's love between parent and child, that's more important than other elements of lifestyle." His kids' biggest complaint about spending time with dad is that Paul doesn't have a tv or stereo.

For Terri and Gary, of course, the gay issue isn't really an issue yet. For Paul, telling his children the truth about himself was a big step. He told them at Christmas, about a year after the divorce, at a time when Paul was feeling good about himself.

"I wanted to be positive. I tried to be calm and prepare them carefully. I talked about relationships and tried to get them to see how it's all a part of human loving and caring."

Paul feels his two younger children were somewhat puzzled and are only beginning to understand. His oldest child said one time, "Dad, I wish you weren't that way." But when Paul



If you're Uncle Ted, he's getting dressed. If you're Uncle Bob, he's sick and can't go out tonight, I think.

asked his son to stop using the word "faggot," he did. He now says "gay" and "lesbian." Paul knows that his son has read some articles on gay people and has watched the clips of the gay pride parade on tv. "I think it's good to expose kids to lots of different people," Paul concludes.

Gary thinks he's an excellent parent -- "I don't mind saying that. Terri is well adjusted, well behaved, very bright. I think it will be very good for her, the variety of people she's met."

Mixed reactions

Both men have experienced some mixed reactions from other gay people.

Paul says "a lot of people don't say anything" about his parent status. "I'm kind of on the fringe of the gay social scene." But he also adds that most of his gay friends have been supportive--"They think it's great."

"Some gay men don't talk to me," says Gary. "A lot of gay men don't like kids. I take Terri a lot of places I go. A lot of lesbians dearly love her. But some resent me--they don't like a gay man having a daughter. They're condescending."

Whatever the reactions of society, straight and gay, Paul and Gary seem

remarkably stable and unruffled about the tough times they've had and the unusual situation they're in.

"I've got lots of friends who support me," Gary points out. "My father and stepmother love me and help me out a lot."

"I don't want to spend all my time dwelling on my gayness," says Paul. "I just want to be gay; like heterosexuals, let it be a natural part of me."

One really gets the feeling that these men have done more than just cope with the double bind of being a parent and being gay. They're handling it--in a way that many of us would envy.

Gary: "It's terrible the way it happened, but it's wonderful the way things turned out."

Paul: "I'm not intending to shock or offend people, but if they have a problem, that's their problem."

Indeed. ●

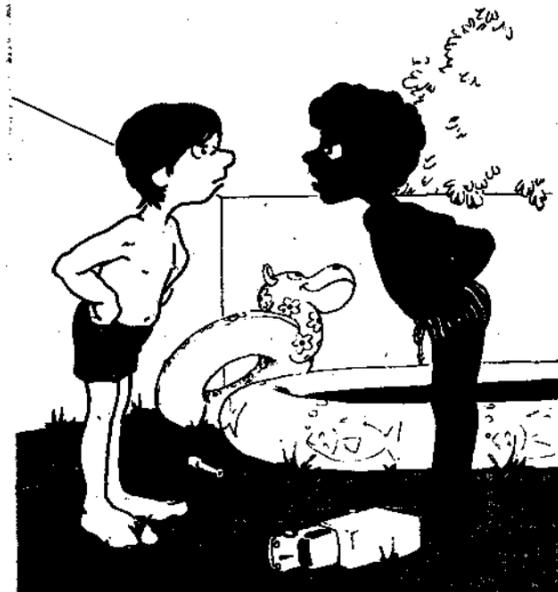
--Ferdydurke, with lots o' thanks and appreciation to Paul and Gary.
Other sources: Life, May 1983; The Advocate, 6 Jan. 1983.



Rachel Berger/cpt

More about gay dads on page 12.

They're everywhere, they're everywhere



Oh yeah! Well, my father's lover is hotter than your father's lover!

More than 25 cities in the U.S. and Canada have local chapters of the Gay Fathers Coalition, a Washington-based network of support groups which held its 6th annual convention in Denver last May. Some of the larger chapters, such as the Gay Fathers Forum in New York and the Bay Area Gay Fathers in San Francisco, have over 300 members at their weekly meetings.

Some men in these groups are divorced, some still married, some considering separation, some still so closeted they introduce themselves by first names only. At their meetings, diapers and the PTA are acceptable topics of conversation. So are such questions as how do you tell your wife? How and when do you tell your children? How can you avoid alienating your adolescent son? Should your lover play the role of stepparent?

The Gay Fathers of New York is a 6-year-old network of small, more intimate groups. About 250 men make up five "daddies groups" in Manhattan, one in Brooklyn, and one in Westchester.

Gay Fathers of Toronto has put out a book on the subject. It's called Gay Fathers and is available for \$4.95 plus \$1 for postage (Box 187, Station F, Toronto, Canada M4Y 2L5). The address of the Gay Fathers Coalition is Box 50360, Washington, D.C. 20004; their phone number is (703) 548-3238. Nurturing News has devoted a special issue to gay fathers: vol. 4, no. 3. Send \$.50 and a 9-inch self-addressed stamped envelope to 187 Caselli Ave., San Francisco, CA 94114. ●

--F. Durke



Gay dads in court

Gay fathers don't fare well in court. If a custody battle is waged and the mother is alive, straight, and not grievously unfit, the father's chances of obtaining full custody are practically nil. In some cases he is denied all visitation.

The courts still treat homosexuality like a crime, without calling it one. One Pennsylvania judge ruled that a father and a son must both leave their homes and travel to a county prison in order to visit each other.

Phrases like "insufficient moral character" and even references to Sodom and Gomorrah regularly turn up in texts of decisions. In one New Jersey case, the judge reasoned that since sodomy is illegal in his state, a father who exposed his child to homosexuality would be analogous to a bank robber who exposed his child to his "unacceptable line of endeavor."

In *Gottlieb v. Gottlieb*, a recent New York case, the judge made the father promise he would never introduce his daughter, age 4, to any of his gay friends or take her "anyplace where known homosexuals are present." Another common stipulation is that the father attempt to "cure" his homosexuality.

Those few fathers who are granted custody or generous visitation rights are generally "discreet" (the more closeted the better); they are "balanced in their sexual attitudes" (they want their children to be straight); and they do not "flaunt their sexuality" (they don't belong to any gay organizations). ●

--Ferdydurke

Sources: *Life*, May 1983; *The Advocate*, 6 Jan. 1983.

The big lie

The myth of child molestation by gays is one of those prejudices so fundamentally and dangerously flawed that you want to punch people out when they bring it up.

The truth is that it's a Big Lie--more than just a convenient premise for scapegoating, but a sick cover for the real culprits.

In fact, according to a study by the American Humane Association, a national anticruelty agency, 11 out of 12 pedophile arrests are heterosexual men molesting little girls. Heterosexual men also tend to victimize younger children and are more likely to use violence. In the course of a 1975 study of sex crimes, the Institute for Sex Research ended up excluding "homosexual aggressors" from the list of sex offenses against children because they were so rare. The Institute kept the amply documented category of "heterosexual aggressors." ●

--Ferdydurke

Source: *Life*, May 1983

Conservatives to dump Bauman

Robert Bauman, the former far-right, anti-gay congressman from Maryland, who recently owned up to his homosexuality, now believes that gay rights activism is consistent with conservative political principles. His former right-wing colleagues apparently do not agree.

According to the *New York Native*, the American Conservative Union (ACU) is planning to expel Bauman from its board of directors when the board meets in late September. ACU officials say their decision to seek Bauman's ouster was prompted by the former congressman's recent announcement before the American Bar Association that he is gay and plans to work as an unpaid consultant for the Gay Rights National

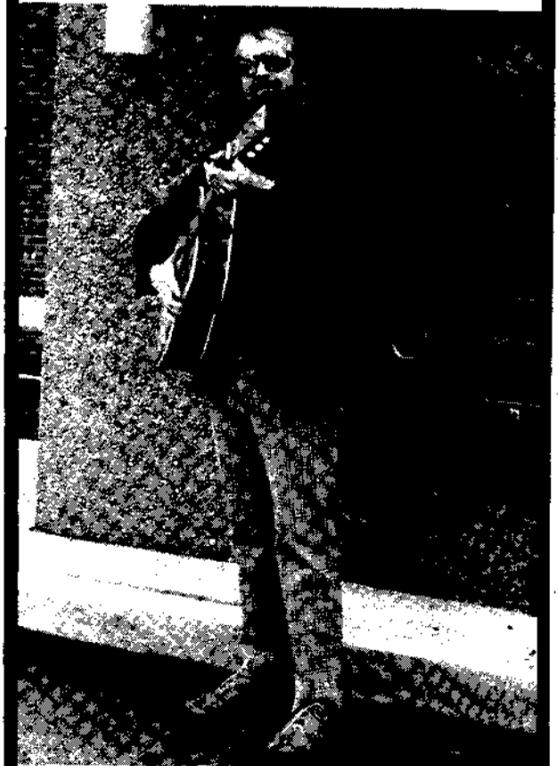
Lobby.

David Keene, an ACU official who is leading the drive to expel Bauman, said the ex-congressman "seems to embrace more of the agenda of his new-found friends than of his old friends." Bauman was asked to resign his board position by ACU executive committee member Thomas Winter, editor of the right-wing magazine *Human Events*, but Bauman refused.

Bauman helped to found the 350,000-member American Conservative Union in 1964 and has served on the organization's board since then.

--*New York Native*, Sept. 12-25, 1983

Singers read the Post



Why does well-known capitalist folk-singer Georgie Glop read the *Post-Amerikan*? "For the bank ads," says Glop, 36. "Great inspiration, and I can use a lot of the interest rates in my lyrics."

Rape Crisis Center of McLean County

WE'RE A NON-PROFIT VOLUNTEER GROUP WHOSE MAIN PURPOSE IS TO OFFER ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT TO VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AND THEIR FRIENDS AND FAMILIES. FEMALE VOLUNTEERS ANSWER OUR CALLS, BUT BOTH MALE AND FEMALE VOLUNTEERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR CRISIS ASSISTANCE, INFORMATION AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS.

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Rape Crisis Center

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Community News

Post-Amerikan Oct. 1983 13

Revolving loan program

Mid Central Economic Opportunity Corp. (MCEOC) has been awarded a \$5000 grant through the Federal Jobs Bill to establish a revolving loan program. The goal of the program will be to assist three presently unemployed persons whose income is below 125% of the poverty level in establishing their own small businesses.

The loan can be used for the purchase of necessary equipment such as hand tools for a home repair business, cleaning supplies for a house-cleaning business, a typewriter for a typing service, or other small business needs.

The loan will be scheduled for repayment 39 months after it is received and will be charged at an interest rate of 6% the first year, 8% the second year, and 10% the third year, with no payment due the first 3 months after the loan is made.

MCEOC will be working closely with SCORE, ACE, and the Minority Entrepreneurship Program to insure that those who receive the loans have the technical assistance necessary to establish a successful small business.

Anyone interested in receiving a small business loan can make an appointment to obtain an application package at MCEOC. The application must be completed and returned, along with a non-refundable \$5 credit check fee, by Oct. 1, 1983.

For further information or an appointment, call MCEOC at 829-0691.

Party at Sunnyside

Sunnyside Center will host a "Back-to-School" party for grade school children on Friday, Sept. 30, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Admission is free.

Music, a dance contest with prizes, games, and refreshments will be provided.

For more information, please call the Center at 827-5428.

Nuke Freeze Conference

The Bloomington-Normal Nuke Freeze Coalition will sponsor a conference, "The people can end the arms race," on Nov. 5 at the Campus Religious Center, 210 W. Mulberry, Normal, Illinois.

Speakers will include Rev. Anne Burger (First Presbyterian Church of Urbana), Abigail Salyers from U of I's College of Medicine, Ray Wilson of Illinois Wesleyan, and Paul Buckley of the Friends Committee on National Legislation. Workshops, a slide show, caucuses, and baked goods will move the day right along.

Send your name, address, and two bucks to BNNFC Conference, 304 S. Evans, Bloomington, Ill. 61701, by Oct. 29. Otherwise you'll have to pay \$3 at the door.

Gay group announces programs

The Gay People's Alliance of Illinois State University has set its schedule of meetings for the fall semester. Regular weekly meetings are held on Wednesday evenings, at 8 p.m. Most of them will be in room 112 of Fairchild Hall; the few exceptions are to be announced in the school newspaper.

GPA meetings are open to any interested persons, males and females, gay and straight, students and nonstudents. Most of the programs are informal and involve discussion and a question-answer period.

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

Sept. 28--"Living Together vs. Living Apart"; a discussion of gay relationships.

Oct. 5--Part II of Gay Relationships

Oct. 12--Gay Parents. This meeting will be held in the Lounge (room 401) of Stevenson Hall.

Oct. 19--"Lesbian Status in Society"

Oct. 26--Legal issues pertaining to gay people.

Nov. 2--A gay-straight rap.

Future meetings will deal with medical subjects, history, and religion. There will also be some social events and fund-raising activities. For more information about GPA, you can call the Gay and Lesbian Information Line, 829-2719.

Workshops on aging slated

Changes with Aging is a series of workshops which will explore the physical, social, and emotional aspects of the aging process. The workshops will cover a variety of subjects and will be valuable to older adults, families, caregivers of older adults, and human service professionals. No registration is required and there is no fee for attending.

The schedule for the 1½-hour workshops is:

Oct. 12, 1:30 p.m.--Alternatives and Assistance for Older Adults

Nov. 9, 1:30 p.m.--Legal Issues and the Older Adult

Dec. 14, 1:30 p.m.--Physical Aspects of Aging

Jan. 11, 1:30 p.m.--Nutrition, Exercise and the Older Adult

Feb. 8, 1:30 p.m.--Psycho-Social Aspects of Aging

The workshops are sponsored by the McLean County Health Department and St. Joseph's Medical Center.

All sessions will be held at the health department, 905 N. Main St., in Normal. For more information, phone Ann Charleston, R.N., 454-1161 or Karen Reeter, social worker, St. Joseph's Hospital, 662-3311, ext. 221.

Post refreshing

Dear Post,

Your paper is definitely refreshing. I wish I could afford to send you a larger donation. I've never read anything quite like the Post. Keep up the good work!

Barb Pearson
ISU Student

Moving?

When you move, be sure to send us your new address so your subscription gets to you. Your Post-Amerikan will not be forwarded. (It's like junk mail--no kidding!) Fill out the handy form below and return it to us.

Name _____

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

Vaccinations and blood pressure tests

The McLean County Health Department will be offering influenza vaccinations free of charge to senior citizens over 60 years of age at the following locations:

Sept. 26--LeRoy Community Center, 10 a.m. to noon; 1 to 3 p.m.

Sept. 27--Miller Park Pavillion, 10 a.m. to noon

Sept. 30--McLean County Health Department, 905 N. Main, Normal, 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; 1 to 3 p.m.

Oct. 3--Chenoa American Legion Hall, 10:30 a.m. to noon

Oct. 4--Neuman Center, 10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Oct. 4--St. Patrick's Parish Hall,

12:15 to 1:15 p.m.

In addition to influenza vaccinations, the health department will provide blood pressure screening.

Some senior citizens should consult a physician before being administered influenza vaccine: for example, those who have a fever or feel ill; those who have received another type of vaccine in the past 14 days; those with allergies to eggs; and those with multiple sclerosis, previous attack of Guillain Barre Syndrome, or other recurring or persistent neurological illnesses.

For more information on influenza or influenza vaccination, contact a physician or the health department, 454-1161.

The Post's 1st Annual COLORING BOOK COVER Contest!



In response to all you out there who keep saying that we at the Post see everything in black and white--have we got a surprise for you! The Post-Amerikan proudly announces its first annual coloring book cover contest. It's so simple even the staff has figured it out. Just take your favorite medium (crayons, pencils, oils) and color the cover of this issue. Then, if you want to enter the contest, cut the colored cover out and send it to us, P.O. Box 3452, Bloomington. We'll judge the entries and pick the best one. Our pick will receive a free subscription to the Post. If you don't want to enter the contest, you'll still end up with a pretty picture all your own. Happy coloring!



(ALL ENTRIES BECOME POST PROPERTY.)

Storm troopers on Highway 51

Last month, a friend and I decided to make a night-time drive to Decatur. As we headed out of Bloomington on 51, we came over a hill in the road, and there before us appeared to be a horrible accident. About six cars, including two marked state police cars, were surrounded by flames, and most of the cars had their hoods up.

Upon approaching this very ominous scene we found that it was not what it appeared to be: the cars with their hoods up were unmarked police cars, and there were five state troopers stopping people as they drove by.

As we pulled up, we were ushered past by four of the storm troopers, but Nazi number five was not so easily put off. The cop asked, with a heavy German accent, "Papers, please." Not really--he just asked for my driver's license, but the intent was the same. As I fumbled for my wallet, the pig proceeded to scan the whole interior of my car, including the eyes of my companion, with his flashlight. I

finally came up with my papers, er.... license.

The officer stepped to the rear of my car and went through a turn signal check. He then returned to the window and asked in an intimidating tone, "How many tickets do you have?" I should have told him that it was none of his business and he had no right to ask. However, who knows what my friend was carrying or what a complete search of my car would reveal. The cop asked me to pull off the road while he ran a check on me. Even more interesting was the ranks of those I joined along the side of the road, two Black men and two rust plagued cars with younger people (18-25 yrs.) in them. People in nice cars, with WJBC bumper stickers, were being let by after showing their licenses. This "license check" was nothing but a police facade, in efforts to monitor what the police probably consider members of a dangerous class. I was released, but this practice is atrocious.

The American Constitution in its pure, unadulterated form forbids this kind of unreasonable interaction between police and citizens. Clearly, according to the judicial interpretation, the police need reasonable cause to stop someone and ask an explanation for their behavior. However, recent fascist slants placed on the constitutionality of road blocks has legalized their use, provided everyone is uniformly stopped.

This has by-passed the reasonable cause involved in a legal stop, and in this case the police use their discretion for further involvement. As we all know, another word for discretion is discrimination. If we allow this kind of erosion of our constitutional liberties to continue, someday we may need to show (German accent dubbed in), "Papers, please." Someday we may need to escape from Bloomington. ●

Michael T. Schroeder

Korean Airlines Flight 007

The sane response

The shooting down of a Korean Airlines jetliner on Aug. 31 is a profound human tragedy; we are deeply grieved for the victims and by the suffering of their families and friends.

We strongly protest and condemn the Soviet attack on a civilian plane, which the Soviets knew must result in the deaths of innocents.

Although the incident is technically a matter between the USSR and the Korean nation, the background of cold war confrontation between the USSR and the US was undoubtedly a factor in the Soviet decision to attack the aircraft.

While we are grateful for the appar-

anti-American rhetoric, nor more arms nor the deployment of more missiles.

We need more dialogue and understanding, a reduction in tension between the governments and peoples of East and West.

Without the threat or perceived threat from the other side, without the practice of testing the other side's defenses by close approaches or actual airspace violations, without a continuous build-up of offensive arms, a nation might be able rationally to conclude that a civilian aircraft entering its airspace was nothing more than a plane off course, which should be assisted safely to its destination.

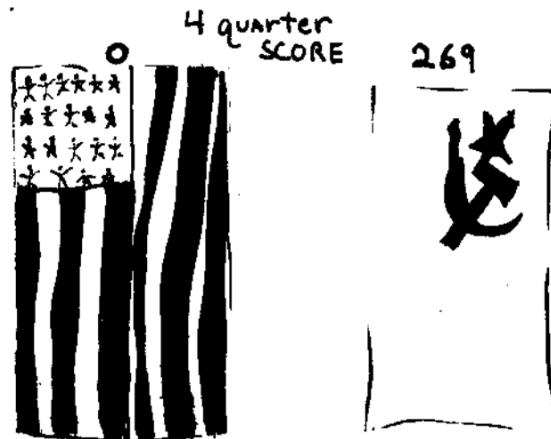
and lost opportunities for growth.

The shooting down of the Korean airliner underscores the importance of the movements for peace and disarmament being undertaken around the world. By demonstrating the inevitable consequences of militarization and extreme nationalism, the incident must give new determination to those concerned for the lives of all people, to those concerned with giving governments a new vision of security through a nuclear freeze and arms reduction.

We mourn for the victims of flight 007. We mourn for all the victims of a world divided by two superpowers. We have a vision of a day when military competition, domination, and threat will be discarded in favor of mutual understanding, peaceful cooperation, and the pursuit of justice. ●

--American Friends Service Committee

Q. IN NATIONAL INTERESTS, WHAT HAS BEEN THE MOST BENEFICIAL EFFECT OF THE DOWNING OF KOREAN FLIGHT 007?
A. OLD McDONALD BOUGHT THE FARM ...



ent moderation of the US government's response, we fear President Reagan's use of the incident in hate-mongering against the Soviet Union and in pushing for a greater increase in US arms production.

The United States has charged the Soviets with untruth in its declarations on the incident. Yet the US has also occasionally been caught lying about facts of international import. For example, the US was caught lying to the United Nations about both the Bay of Pigs attack on Cuba and the US deployment of U-2 spy planes over Russia.

The US has charged the Soviets with a barbaric disregard for human life in the jetliner attack. Yet the US has been able to call a reduction to 5,000 civilian deaths at the hands of government forces in Guatemala a significant improvement in human rights.

We do not need more anti-Soviet or

The tension between the US and the USSR has cost the passengers of flight 007 their lives. But there are costs to others as well.

One cost is the security of each of the world's inhabitants: the next incident could well provoke a response vastly destructive of an entire city or nation, with further retaliation inevitable.

The incident also affects people struggling for change in their own societies all over the world, as their struggles almost routinely become identified and intensified as elements in the East-West competition.

The growth and development of communities around the world suffers as priorities and resources are devoted to military spending and harsh repression to prevent dissent.

Poor people in both the USSR and the US suffer as their governments' competition results in lost services



A hilarious cartoon history of the good old U.S.A. By Estelle Carol, Rhoda Grossman and Bob Simpson

...presented in a well-researched narrative and with a good strong dose of Mad magazine humor and graphic style." --In These Times

...combines humorous cartoons with witty "with it" commentary in contemporary slang with a class conscious interpretation." --Work and People

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Mon. Sept. 26
Wake up humming Bright Morning Star songs after last night's concert.

Tues. Sept. 27
Film, "The Persecution and Assassination of Jean-Paul Marat as Performed by the Inmates of the Asylum of Charenton under the Direction of the Marquis de Sade," 6 and 8:15, ISU Circus Room, \$1.

Weds. Sept. 28
ISU Symphony, 8 pm, ISU Braden Auditorium.
Gay People's Alliance meeting, 8 pm, ISU Fairchild Hall, room 112, Topic: Living Together vs. Living Apart.

Thurs. Sept. 29
Film, Led Zeppelin, ISU's Capen Theater, 7 and 10 pm, \$1.75.
Play, "Awake and Sing," ISU Westhoff Theater, 8 pm; call 438-2535 for ticket info.
ISU Jazz Band, ISU Recital Hall, 8 pm, free.

Fri. Sept. 30
Film, 48 Hours, ISU Capen Auditorium 7 and 10 pm, \$1.75.

Sat. Oct. 1
Film, 48 Hours, ISU Capen Theater, 7 and 10, \$1.75.
Play, "Awake and Sing," ISU Westhoff Theater, 8 pm, \$5.

Sun. Oct. 2
Film, 48 Hours, ISU Capen Theater, 4 and 7 pm, \$1.75.
Music, Martha Burwell, Harp, free, 8 pm, IWU Kemp Recital Hall.
Only 84 shopping days left until Christmas. Buy subscriptions to the Post-Amerikan for all of your friends.

Tues. Oct. 4
Film, "Stardust Memories," ISU Ballroom, 6 and 8 pm, \$1.
Play, "Awake and Sing," ISU Westhoff Theater, 8 pm, \$5.
Film, 1983 Ann Arbor Film Festival Roadshow, free, 12 films, 100 min., ISU CVA Gallery, 7:30 pm.

Weds. Oct. 5
Play, "Awake and Sing," ISU Westhoff Theater, 8 pm, \$5.
Film, 1983 Ann Arbor Film Festival Roadshow, free, 12 films, 100 min., ISU CVA Gallery, 2pm.
Gay People's Alliance meeting, 8 pm, ISU Fairchild Hall, room 112, Topic: Relationships.

Thurs. Oct. 6
Film, Man from Snowy River, ISU's Capen Cinema, 7 and 10 pm, \$1.75.

Fri. Oct. 7
Film, Year of Living Dangerously, ISU Capen Cinema, 7 and 10 pm, \$1.75.

Sat. Oct. 8
Group Sale, Fundraiser for Trades and Labor Assoc., 8-5, Machinists Hall.
Twin City Ballet presents "Dancers and Friends," Mixed Dimensions in the Performing Arts, 8 pm, ISU's Braden Auditorium, \$4.50.
Film, Year of Living Dangerously, ISU Capen Cinema, 4 and 7 pm, \$1.75.

Sun. Oct. 9
Film, Year of Living Dangerously, ISU Capen Cinema, 4 and 7 pm, \$1.75.

Mon. Oct. 10
No thrills in Normal-Bloomington today. Why not take this time to write an article for the next Post-Amerikan?

Tues. Oct. 11
Film, The Bride Wore Black, ISU Circus Room, 6 and 8 pm, \$1.

Weds. Oct. 12
Columbus, in the name of Spain's royalty, claims land already occupied, 1492; native Americans discover Columbus.
Gay People's Alliance meeting, 8 pm, ISU Stevenson Hall lounge, room 401, topic: Gay Parents.

GEE... I DUNNO...
WHADDA YOU WANNA
DO TONITE?



Sat. Oct. 22
Film, Officer and a Gentleman, ISU Capen Cinema, 7 and 10 pm.

Rape Crisis Training Session, 9-5, for more info call Path, 827-4005, and ask for Rape Crisis Center.

Sun. Oct. 23
Bloomington-Normal Symphony, ISU Braden Auditorium, 8 pm.
Film, Officer and a Gentleman, ISU Capen Cinema, 4 and 7 pm, \$1.75.
Rape Crisis Training Session, 11-6, Call Path, 827-4005, for more info.

Tues. Oct. 25
Film, Live for Life, ISU Circus Room, 6 and 8:30 pm, \$1.

Weds. Oct. 26
Theater, "The Roar of Greasepaint, The Smell of the Crowd," ISU Allen Theater, 8 pm, 438-2535 for ticket info.
Gay People's Alliance meeting, 8 pm, ISU Fairchild Hall, room 112, Topic: Legal Aspects of Gayness.

Thurs. Oct. 27
Film, Rocky Horror Picture Show, ISU Capen Cinema, 7 and 10, tickets, \$1.75.
Theater, "The Roar of the Greasepaint, the Smell of the Crowd," ISU Allen Theater, 8 pm, ticket info 438-2535

Deadline for letters, stories and ads for the next issue of the Post-Amerikan.

Fri. Oct. 28
Film, Poltergeist, ISU Capen Theater, 7 and 10 pm, \$1.75.
Theater, "The Roar of the Greasepaint, The Smell of the Crowd," ISU Allen Theater, 8 pm, ticket info 438-2535.

Sat. Oct. 29
Film, Poltergeist, ISU Capen Theater, 7 and 10 pm, \$1.75.
Theater, "The Roar of the Greasepaint, the Smell of the Crowd," ISU Allen Theater, 8 pm, ticket info 438-2535.
Last day to preregister for the "Conference for CD 15 Freeze Supporters: The People Can End the Arms Race." Send two bucks, name, address to 304 S. Evans, Bloomington, IL 61701. 828-4195 for info.

Sun. Oct. 30
Film, Poltergeist, ISU Capen Cinema, 4 and 7 pm, \$1.75.

Mon. Oct. 31
A Halloween treat--The new issue of the Post Amerikan hits the streets.

Fri. Oct. 14
Mixed media, Liberace live at ISU's Braden Auditorium!

Sat. Oct. 15
2 million Americans participate in moratorium against the war in Vietnam, 1969.

Mon. Oct. 17
A perfect day to enhance your fall wardrobe by ordering a "My Sister the Punk Rocker" T-shirt.

Tues. Oct. 18
Film, Key Largo, ISU Circus Room, 6 and 8 pm, \$1.

Weds. Oct. 19
Gay People's Alliance Meeting, 8 pm, ISU Fairchild Hall, room 112, Topic: Lesbian Status in Society.

Thurs. Oct. 20
Film, Gone With the Wind, ISU's Capen Cinema, 7 and 10 pm, \$1.75.

Fri. Oct. 21
Film, Officer and a Gentleman, ISU Capen Cinema, 7 and 10 pm, \$1.75.

LINUS TYPE HERE! WITH A CALL TO ARMS FOR ALL YOU MODERNE MUSIC LOVERS OUT THERE!

AS YOU MAY RECALL LAST ISSUE NEW WAVE DISC SPINNER **ROBIN PLAN** RETURNED FROM VACATION TO FIND HER DEEJAY JOB AT WRBA THREATENED BY SHORTSIGHTED STATION MANAGEMENT! SINCE THAT 5TDRY APPEARED, **SUPPORT FOR ROBIN'S "NEW WAVELENGTH" HAS GRDWN IN THE FORM OF PETITIONS PASSED OUT AT CONCERTS AND ON COLLEGE CAMPUS! IF YOU'VE BEEN TO NEITHER LATELY AND WANT TO SUPPORT NEW RADIO, WHY NOT PHONE ROBIN DURING HER SHDW <WEEKDAYS 1-6:00 DN 1440 A.M.> AND ASK FOR DETAILS DN HDW YOU CAN HELP?**

AND NOW FOR "NOXIOUS NOISE" WHERE DERANGED DEVIANTS DABBLE IN DADAISM WITH A DELIBERATE DISPLAY...

AIDS, God, and the fear of death

If AIDS is going to be called an Act of God, I want the phrase interpreted as it is in some insurance policies. I collected 100% instead of paying the usual \$50 deductible when my car was damaged by a fire in the engine.

For an insurance agent, Acts of God relieve the victim of any responsibility and therefore require total compensation. For god is one of those wanton boys Shakespeare told us about who kill us for their sport. His other names are accident, disease, natural disaster, death.

We live in a country which aspires to universal health care, which declares disaster areas for victims of earthquake and flood, which maintains rescue crews for people stranded in storms at sea, trapped in wrecked aircraft, lost on a mountain. For anybody.

Yet when something terrible happens, particularly something before which we are helpless, the greatest temptation is to judge the victim. Victims, too, can seek defense against the irrational by looking for something or someone to blame, even themselves. For whatever cold comfort that is, it can seem preferable to facing the fact of random, morally purposeless disaster.

Not divine

Illness, accident, and death are not punishments for anything but being born. All our defenses, personal and social, are temporary. All that lives dies. Whatever justice and mercy there are are not divine at all but human, and however faulty and frail they are, however finally defeated, they are the only tools we have in the face of crisis.

A morality based on a fear of death is so ridiculous it should be the source of comedy. All sins are mortal. All virtues are, too. Equally are youth and beauty, age and pain.

Neither is it true that only the good die young nor that only the wicked are punished. Morality has nothing to do with death. It has to do with living.

All active gay men and lesbians are risk-takers, even those in the closet, because we don't have equal



protection under the law. It is worthwhile to work for the time when we do.

There is also reason to believe that we often don't have equal treatment in medicine. It is important for us to report doctors who treat us unequally or not at all, to support our own doctors, to put pressure on research funding agencies, and to raise funds ourselves so that our needs are not neglected.

Don't waste time

When we confront a new threat to us like AIDS, we must not waste time either fearing or loving god, nor must we listen to anyone else doing it for us.

It is not difficult to behave responsibly with those already ill. We can insist on the best medical treatment available and can learn (those of us who don't know already) how to participate in the life of someone who is dying.

For those who may be in danger, it is more difficult. We haven't much to go on but educated guesses about cause and treatment, and mild to wild predictions about the numbers involved. The baths, like swimming pools during polio epidemics, are suspected as places of contagion; and since they are used by transients as well as residents of any city, they may be, until the disease is better understood, places of high risk.

We are all concerned that health authorities might use the excuse of AIDS to close down the baths and must resist those attempts unless evidence justifies them. Defiant denial of any risk would be irresponsible.

Certain diseases

It has always been true that certain kinds of diseases are more prevalent among certain groups of people. One of every four women will have breast cancer, and though the mortality rate isn't nearly as high as it presently is for AIDS, it kills many more women than AIDS will kill men. Women who have had children are at a higher risk. Nowhere have I seen it suggested that women should stop having children.

Cancer of the cervix, on the other hand, is more common among heterosexual women who have had more than one sexual partner, and doctors have frequently blamed women for a disease they might have avoided, making them feel morally responsible for their illness.

Illness is given moral stigma only when it is related to an activity or a group of people disapproved of.

My niece has five stress fractures in one leg from playing basketball. I wouldn't play. I wouldn't climb a mountain either or try to cross an ocean alone in a small boat or do a lot of other death-defying things so much admired as human achievements, simply for their own sake.

View at the top

For some men, the baths may be what mountains are for others, worth the risk for the view at the top. Both the experience and the freedom it symbolizes may be as good as anything to die for--or of.

Many more people die of pleasure, even of the sort reserved for procreation, than is ever reported in the newspapers. Why should it be less admirable than falling in battle, where people are actually trying to kill each other?

It is not the length but the quality of life that matters to me, more easily said now that I am over fifty. But it has always been important to me to write one sentence at a time, to live every day as if it were my last and judge it in those terms.

It is love, very ordinary human love, and not fear, which is the good teacher and the wisest judge.

--Jane Rule, abridged and reprinted from the Toronto Body Politic

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(2) You may earn a free discount card by accumulating \$50 worth of COMMON GROUND sales receipts. Simply save your receipts until you have a total of \$50, at which time we will present you with a FREE 10% discount card good for one year.

Once you have your discount card, simply present it at the checkout counter for a 10% discount on every purchase.

Our wide selection of wholesome foods now includes gourmet coffee beans fresh produce

AIDS may be linked to virus

A virus found in the blood of AIDS patients and considered a possible candidate for the cause of the illness has been detected in the blood of healthy hemophiliacs, according to a study published in the Sept. 9 issue of *Science* magazine.

Dr. Myron Essex of the Harvard School of Public Health has reported that 12% of a group of 172 healthy hemophiliacs showed evidence of exposure

to human T-cell leukemia virus (HTLV), in contrast to an incidence of only 1% in a control group of laboratory workers, blood donors, and others. Essex had previously reported that 19 persons from a group of 75 people with AIDS had evidence of HTLV exposure. In that study, only 2 of 336 control subjects showed signs of the virus.

Essex said that, so far, no causal relation between HTLV and AIDS had been demonstrated. The next stage in his research will be to investigate whether hemophiliacs who have been exposed to HTLV actually face higher risk of contracting AIDS. He also plans to attempt to trace the HTLV from specific donors to recipients (hemophiliacs receive frequent blood transfusions prepared from plasma from thousands of donors).

"Our working hypothesis," Essex explained, "is that there's a mutant strain, a slight variant of the human T-cell leukemia virus that might be uniquely able to cause AIDS, that it originated by a minor genetic change which had major disease effects, and

that it originated somewhere in the Caribbean, probably in Haiti."

"I think within 6 months to a year we'll know a lot more," Essex added.

In another AIDS development, two doctors have reported a possible lead in finding a test to help diagnose the disease. Dr. Elaine Eyster, of the Pennsylvania State University Medical School, and Dr. James Goedert of the National Cancer Institute report that some people with AIDS exhibit high blood levels of a protein called acid-labile alpha interferon, before the onset of AIDS symptoms.

"We do not have a test for AIDS," explained Dr. Eyster. "What we have is something with a potential for screening individuals in high-risk groups. We need a lot more work to know how good it is." ●

--Ferdydurke

Source: *Gay Community News*, Sept. 17, 1983.

No AIDS in Central Illinois

According to the McLean County Health Dept., there are no confirmed cases of AIDS in this county. There is one case for which some testing has been done, but the results are not in yet. The Peoria County Health Dept. said virtually the same thing: no reported cases of AIDS in the Peoria area. They had no information about suspected cases in Peoria.

Nationwide the number of cases of AIDS reported to the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta had risen to 2,224 as of Aug. 29, 1983. Of this number, 891 (40.0%) have died.

By far the largest number of cases comes from the New York area--1,182 cases (935 in New York City, 94 in the rest of the state, and 143 in New Jersey, most in Newark). California has reported 476 cases, with 267 of those in San Francisco and another 154 in Los Angeles.

There are only 40 reported cases of AIDS in Illinois--that's up from 38 last month. As far as I can determine, all of those are in the Chicago area.

The total number of cases nationwide rose 5.8% (an additional 130 cases) from last month's figures. In 1982, the average number of cases in New York was 42 per month. In 1983, the aver-

age number of cases per month is 50 (for the first 6 months).

There is some small hope in that last statistic. First of all, doctors were predicting at one time that the number of cases would double each month. That has obviously not happened. And secondly, increased awareness has probably resulted in better reporting and may account for some of the increase in the numbers. Thus, the epidemic is not as bad as originally thought and appears to be slowing down a bit.

Breaking down the AIDS cases by patient characteristics shows that gay or bisexual men account for 71.2% of the total. Other groups include IV drug users (16.7%), people of Haitian origin (5.1%), hemophiliacs (0.8%), and unknown (6.2%). About 150 women are in the last 4 categories. ●

--Ferdydurke

Source: *New York Native*, Sept. 12-25, 1983

Making the most of "Leper-hood"

I began to feel uneasy when I heard that New York undertakers refused to touch the bodies of gay men who had died of AIDS. I felt really bad about the three nurses in San Jose who quit their jobs rather than take care of AIDS patients. And depression turned to despair when I read that some San Francisco garbage collectors refused to pick up the trash from the annual Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade until they were given hermetically sealed space suits. "Jeeze," I thought, "even our garbage isn't good enough for them!"

But when I heard that officials in Tulsa, Oklahoma, ordered a city park swimming pool drained and disinfected the day after it had been used by a local gay rights group for a private party, I lost my patience. As far as I'm concerned, the entire city of Tulsa needs to be drained and disinfected, but that has nothing to do with its gay residents.

What do these cretins think is going to happen? One day a homosexual walks by, gives them the evil eye, and-- presto!--two years later they're having an intimate affair with a bunch of worms? Well, if they want to play

that way, who am I to sit on the sidelines?

So the day I flew back from San Francisco, as I was scrunched in the center coach seat between a portly businessman punching numbers into his calculator and a hefty housefrau knitting something in a particularly unpleasant shade of green, I thought: I really ought to protect the health of my fellow travelers.

I turned to the calculator puncher and asked in a high-pitched flutter, "Did you know that the Gay Freedom Day Parade draws more visitors to California than the Rose Bowl?" Then I gushed to the colorblind knitter, "I had such an exhausting time on Castro Street last night I'll probably sleep all the way to Chicago!" And I gracefully nestled my head on her ample shoulder.

Two minutes later a stewardperson came up and informed me that the airline so valued my business that I'd been bumped up to first class. Oddly enough, the two first-class passengers decided it would be cozier back in coach. "Please help yourself to whatever you want," said the flight attendant, as she

tightly snapped the curtain between first class and coach.

The next day, back in Chicago, Craig and I went to a supermarket to pick up some groceries. When we pushed the cart to the checkout lanes, we saw that the shortest line had 25 people in it. "Don't worry," I said. "We'll be out of here in a flash. We just need to do our civic duty."

Then in a stage whisper that carried all the way to Skokie I announced, "I HAD A TERRIFIC TIME AT THE BATHS LAST NIGHT, DIDN'T YOU?" Before Craig could object that we hadn't been to the baths, a crowd scene reminiscent of "The Giant Cockroach That Ate Tokyo" took place: 200 screaming shoppers scurried out of the Jewel.

Moving straight--oops!--directly to the front of the line, I ostentatiously put three \$10 bills between my teeth and searched my pockets for my "Gay Is Good" button, which I carefully pinned to the front of my San Francisco T-shirt. "It's probably terribly unsanitary for me to put my money in my mouth, isn't it?" I said to the checker before I held out the bills to him.

"Oh, that's all right," he replied as he reached for the cash.

"Well, it's probably got my saliva on it," I hurriedly added. "Saliva's a bodily fluid, you know."

"Nice try, sweetheart," he said with a twinkle, as he lifted his lapel to reveal a "Gay Is Good" button. "Nice try."

Oh well, you win some, you lose some. But by and large protecting the heterosexual world from gay infection has worked out splendidly. After all, if you're going to be a leper, you might as well make the most of it. ●

--Ferdydurke



McApartheid: activists score victory

The present "Strike It Rich at McDonald's" giveaway struck a sour note with local activists when they discovered the grand prize was a one-ounce Krugerrand, a gold coin from apartheid South Africa. Mobilization for a boycott began and plans were made to set up pickets at participating stores.

However, McDonald's restaurants averted the boycott and negative press by promptly changing the prize from South African to Amerikan gold.

The \$440 gold piece was donated by Matt Ondrey, a Peoria gold and silver dealer who could care less about the oppressed majority in South Africa. His store, M. L. Ondrey and Co., buys the Krugerrands from larger dealers who purchase the gold directly from the South African government.

By giving away the gold piece, McDonald's was indirectly supporting and promoting the most blatantly racist country in the world.

Steve Leroy, manager of Media Relations at McDonald's world headquarters,

said the fast food chain was unaware of the South African connection until contacted by a "concerned customer" and a Daily Vidette reporter. "We had no idea of the political implications," Leroy said.

G. M. Feldman, the advertising and promotion agency handling the giveaway which included Peoria and Bloomington-Normal stores, also pleaded ignorance. "When the promotion was put together, we didn't even consider it. We certainly don't support apartheid," a spokesperson said.

Changes were made almost overnight: McDonald's arranged for Ondrey to donate Amerikan instead of Krugerrand gold, radio advertisements were altered, and tape was placed over the "Krugerrand" on store posters advertising the giveaway. A formal apology was made.

Meanwhile, Matt Ondrey will continue to sell Krugerrands while "not losing any sleep" in the process. He reminds us that thousands of gold dealers and many U.S. banks sell the gold, and

says, "I'm not going to be the guy to say 'I'm not going to sell Krugerrands' and let them go somewhere else and buy them."

Ondrey denies any responsibility for the criminal activities of the South African government. "Don't blame me. Blame South Africa. Blame Kruger," he says.

While the larger targets remain--banks, gold dealers, and other companies investing in South Africa--pressuring McDonald's into changing its contest constitutes both a symbolic and concrete victory for anti-apartheid forces.

Progressive forces are now pressuring Springfield to pass divestment legislation which would ban the state government from investing pension funds into companies doing business with South Africa. A local group, Bloomington and Normal Against Apartheid (BANAA), is taking part in the effort. For more information, call BANAA at 452-6180 or 436-0452. ●

--Jack Reed, Jr.

Fighting Reagan's pro-Apartheid policy

The Reagan administration's policy of "constructive engagement" with South Africa has shielded that apartheid regime from international isolation. But it has also generated a growing backlash in the United States.

With greater frequency and mounting success, opponents of apartheid have been introducing legislation at the local, state and congressional levels calling for economic sanctions against South Africa. Laws mandating the divestment of public funds from corporations with holdings in South Africa have passed in the Philadelphia city council, and the Massachusetts, Michigan, and Connecticut state legislatures.

A measure now before the Congress to ban U.S. support for loans from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to South Africa has a good chance of passage. Attached to the \$8.4 billion IMF appropriations bill, the anti-apartheid amendment was originally introduced by Rep. Julian Dixon (D-CA), chairperson of the Congressional Black Caucus. Although strongly opposed by the Reagan administration, the Dixon

amendment has picked up support from representatives who feel that the IMF acted out of political bias when it agreed to provide South Africa with a \$1.1 billion loan last December. The loan was made despite an IMF staff study which said that South Africa's labor policies restrict blacks to largely menial, low-paying jobs.

In addition to the IMF amendment, several other measures are before Congress to curtail U.S. ties with South Africa. The most important is a bill introduced by Rep. Stephen S. Solarz (D-NY) that would deny U.S. loans to South Africa, cut off the sale of South African Krugerrand gold coins in the U.S., and require U.S. corporations to abide by a mandatory set of principles prohibiting racially discriminating labor practices.

Another indication of the effectiveness of anti-apartheid forces in this country is the survey conducted of 5 of the 6 Democratic Party presidential candidates. All 5 denounced the Reagan administration's policy toward South Africa and said they would consider imposing economic sanctions against Pretoria. Sens. Alan Cranston, Gary Hart, and John Glenn called for U.S. diplomatic recognition of Angola.

The Reagan administration recently sought to defend its pro-South Africa policies. Undersecretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger criticized the Solarz bill and complained about the efforts to pressure Western multinationals to divest their holdings in South Africa. He also called on South Africans to reject violence in opposing white minority rule and praised South Africa's all-white judiciary for upholding "democratic traditions."

But the executive director of the American Committee on Africa called Eagleburger's speech "nothing more than a sophisticated apologia for continuing U.S. economic, military and diplomatic support for South Africa's white minority regime.

"The issue before Americans," Davis added, "is not whether we will allow U.S. dollars and expertise to be used to prolong the violence and perpetuate racism. Apartheid is not a system that can be patched up or reformed into acceptability." ●

--Ferdydurke, with thanks to James Khatami of the Guardian (10 Aug. 1983).



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Japan : Industrial Utopia or Sweatshop?

Post-American Oct. 1983 19

Employers, with the help of media like tv and Newsweek, spread the idea that imported goods flooding our market are the result of sloppy work and negative work attitudes of American workers. The industrious Japanese are cited as positive role models, and the structure of Japanese industries is held up as a possible solution if American firms would imitate it.

Emphasizing the poor quality of American workers' output takes the blame off management, whose penny-pinching practices may be producing faulty and dangerous products. The American workers are not responsible for the basic product design or for the cheap

The pattern is exemplified by Nissan, 2nd largest car manufacturer in Japan. Their company unions, acting as labor spies giving weekly reports to management, exercise rigid control over employees. Reduced pay, ostracism, physical assault or firings are the lot of those suspected of wanting an independent union.

Five and a half to six day work weeks are the norm, with fewer holidays and shorter vacations than those of American or European workers. High pressure, speed-up, prolonged hours and work loads lead to a high incidence of industrial accidents and suicides.

During a 6-month probationary period,

obliging her to return to work on a 10-hour day at half her former wage.

Three quarters of the Japanese work force, considered "temporary," has no benefits or security, though they may toil alongside permanent employees all their working lives. The impressive Japanese labor productivity figures are arrived at by not counting temporary and subcontract workers in the factory.

So instead of being a real alternative to the structure of American industries, the Japanese model seems to be a return to the pre-union days when workers were "owned" by the company and had no control over their lives or



materials they are given to assemble or for speed-up quotas and poor quality control. General Motors, for example, knew before their X-cars went into production that the brakes would be hazardous, but rushed to introduce the cars in the spring of 1979, resulting in numerous deaths, injuries, and lawsuits. The disastrous decision was not made by GM workers.

Japan has plowed money into civilian production rather than its military. It has also adapted U.S. military production technology, received through U.S. multinational co-production agreements, to civilian production.

American industrialists, enraptured by the example of the Japanese feudal work system, have begun to import their paternalistic blessings. Ichiro Saga, sociologist at Tokyo University, says: "The mere thought of Japanese labor relations being copied in other countries is enough to fill us all with horror."

Immigration must admit gay visitors

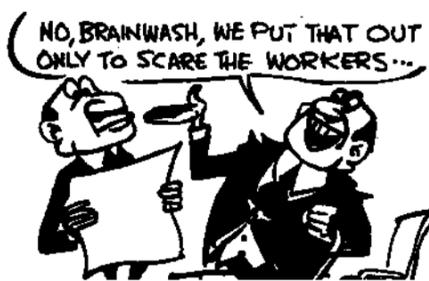
A federal appeals court in San Francisco upheld a lower court ruling that denied the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) the power to bar gay and lesbian visitors from this country.

The court did not affirm the right of lesbians and gay men from other countries to visit the US, but it did bind the INS to the letter of the law. The Sept. 7 opinion of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals said that the INS is expressly required by Congress to obtain Public Health Service (PHS) certificates verifying that gay tourists are "sexual deviants" before they can be denied entry.

But in 1979 the PHS stopped issuing such certificates, on order of the surgeon general, who pointed out that homosexuality is no longer considered "deviant" by the American Psychiatric Association. Thus, the INS was left without the prescribed mechanism to enforce the regulation.

Since 1979 the INS has attempted to exclude gays without obtaining the certificate, simply using a person's admission of homosexuality as proof of "deviance." The court outlawed this practice, saying "immigration officers are not to perform physical and mental examinations by obtaining admissions; doctors are to perform the mental and physical examinations."

An INS spokesperson said the ruling



the company screens each new employee with police state methods: visits to relatives, friends, old schools, etc. After passing muster, the new workers go through basic training, indoctrinated in the fiction that workers and employers are "partners" in the same "family" and that loyalty to the company surpasses family or other ties. They are told whom to vote for. What emerges is a submissive drone.

Japanese firms are extolled for providing lifetime jobs, no layoffs, housing, holidays. The realities translate into factory dormitory housing for single employees, 6 squeezed into each 12 sq. meter room. Married workers, after 5 years, may request a loan to buy an apartment--which remains the property of the firm for 30 years. Quitting the job forfeits the apartment, plus a penalty for breaking the contract. At retirement age of 55, a worker discovers that "creative" annuity calculation reduces her pension to practically nothing.

would not change the service's written policy until a decision about an appeal has been made. He pointed out, however, that the regulation had been enforced only when gay or lesbian visitors identified themselves as such, and any change in written policy would have little noticeable effect. The spokesperson also said that it is unlikely the INS will enact any other policy to exclude gay tourists. ●

--Ferdydurke

Source: Gay Community News (24 Sept. 1983)

Eatin' like a £!?!&?

Maxwell's Restaurant, in downtown Bloomington, likes to put big numbers on their menu--but now, at lunch, they have a Secretaries' Special addition that lists not only lower-priced dishes, but also the number of calories in each. It's disconcerting to find out how many calories and cents your lunch costs, and it's maddening to think that your significantly more well-paid boss is not officially reminded that he's significantly more portly too. ●



their jobs. ●

--adapted from Florence Fox in The New Indicator, 8:18, June 14-Sept. 26, 1983.

When the Right calls, answer

The National Right to Life Committee has a new hobby, it seems. You know who they are--the every life is beautiful, every sperm is sacred, every fetus should frisk on the green green grass folks.

Well, they've finally discovered the telephone and are invading homes in the B-N area with more regularity



than the Lion's Club. "Hello," a pleasant, polyester voice tells you when you pick up your phone, "I'm a volunteer for the National Right to Life Committee, and I was wondering if you could take some time to help me conduct our nation-wide survey."

Now I, to my knowledge, have never

helped the NRTLTC do anything. But, I thought, hey, I can waste a few minutes skewing their survey. So I did. It was great fun.

First she told me that abortion had been in the news a lot lately (I guess in case I'd been hiding under a rock for 10 years or something) and would I say I was opposed to or in favor of abortion (and it was not my imagination, she did too almost gag at the word)? I told her I was in favor of it.

She then wanted to know if I was opposed to or in favor of abortion on demand, up to the ninth month of pregnancy.

Of course, I told her.

Then (and I think she thought she had me on this one) she wanted to know if I thought my tax dollars should be used to pay for those (she was getting more snitty at this point) abortions. You betcha! I said, grinning across the wires.

I swear she sighed audibly at that point. And how many registered voters in your household agree with you? she asked, obviously anxious to get off the phone. I looked around the dining room table, where three friends were waiting for a meeting to start, added my roommate, and told her "Four." She didn't ask how many of them lived there, actually.

She pursed her lips (I know she did), thanked me for my time (I told her she could feel free to call back if the survey weren't going well), and hung up.

Right to Life may be calling you, too. Talk to them. It's fun. And it could be profitable, too. The right of abortion that you save may be your own. ●

--Deborah Wiatt

'How We Got Here,' by Brad Holland



Right



Wrong

MY DAYS OF CRISIS HAD PASSED, THANKS TO KAT, AND WE SETTLED BACK INTO OUR COZY LIVES, ONE DAY LEADING TO THE NEXT— BUT SUDDENLY WE WERE SHAKEN FROM OUR SLEEPY SPELL WHEN DANGER CAME CALLING FOR...

NATURE VS. NURTURE? THIS WAS A VERY DEBATABLE QUESTION WHEN IT CAME TO ANGINA SPITZ... SOME SAY SHE WAS BORN MEAN AS A SNAKE...

OTHERS SAY HER FAMILY WAS RESPONSIBLE!!

CAN I HAVE SOME MORE PEAS, PLEASE?

QUIT 'YER WHININ' YA SNOT-FACED BRAT!!

WHADDAYA THINK THIS IS? A FUCKIN' CHARITY?

SHE ALWAYS WANTS EVERYTHING AND I HATE HER!! AND SHE'S UGLY AND STUPID!

ONE THING WAS CERTAIN... ANGINA WASN'T HAPPY UNLESS SHE HAD SOMEONE TO PICK ON...

AND THE WORD WAS OUT THAT HER NEXT VICTIM WAS KAT!

SO WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT THIS PSYCH? WHO'S AFTER YA, KAT?

OH, CIMON! THAT'S JUST SOME SILLY RUMOR! I GOT NO ENEMIES! WHY SHOULD I? I'M A GOOD EGG!!

BESIDES! I DON'T KNOW ANYONE NAMED ANGINA SPITZ! I WOULDN'T KNOW HER IF I SAW HER FACE TO FACE!!

WELL, YA GOT ME AND FRANKIE TO PROTECT YOU!

GET READY!! HERE THEY COME!!

MY SISTER, the PUNK ROCKER

LVD PAB 83