

Eastern Illinois University

## The Keep

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The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)

The Post Amerikan Project

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2-1986

## Volume 14, Number 8

Post Amerikan

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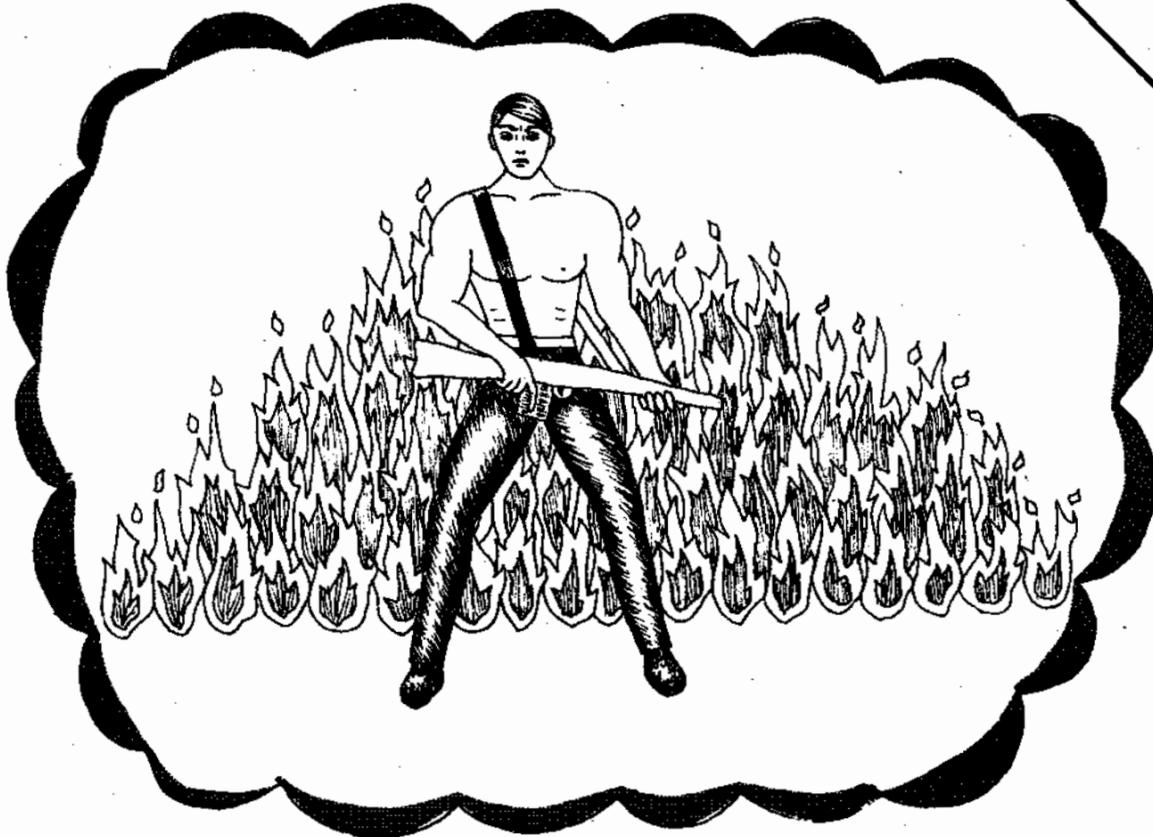
Post benefit & auction, Sat., Feb. 1, the Galery ...Come!

Bloomington-Normal

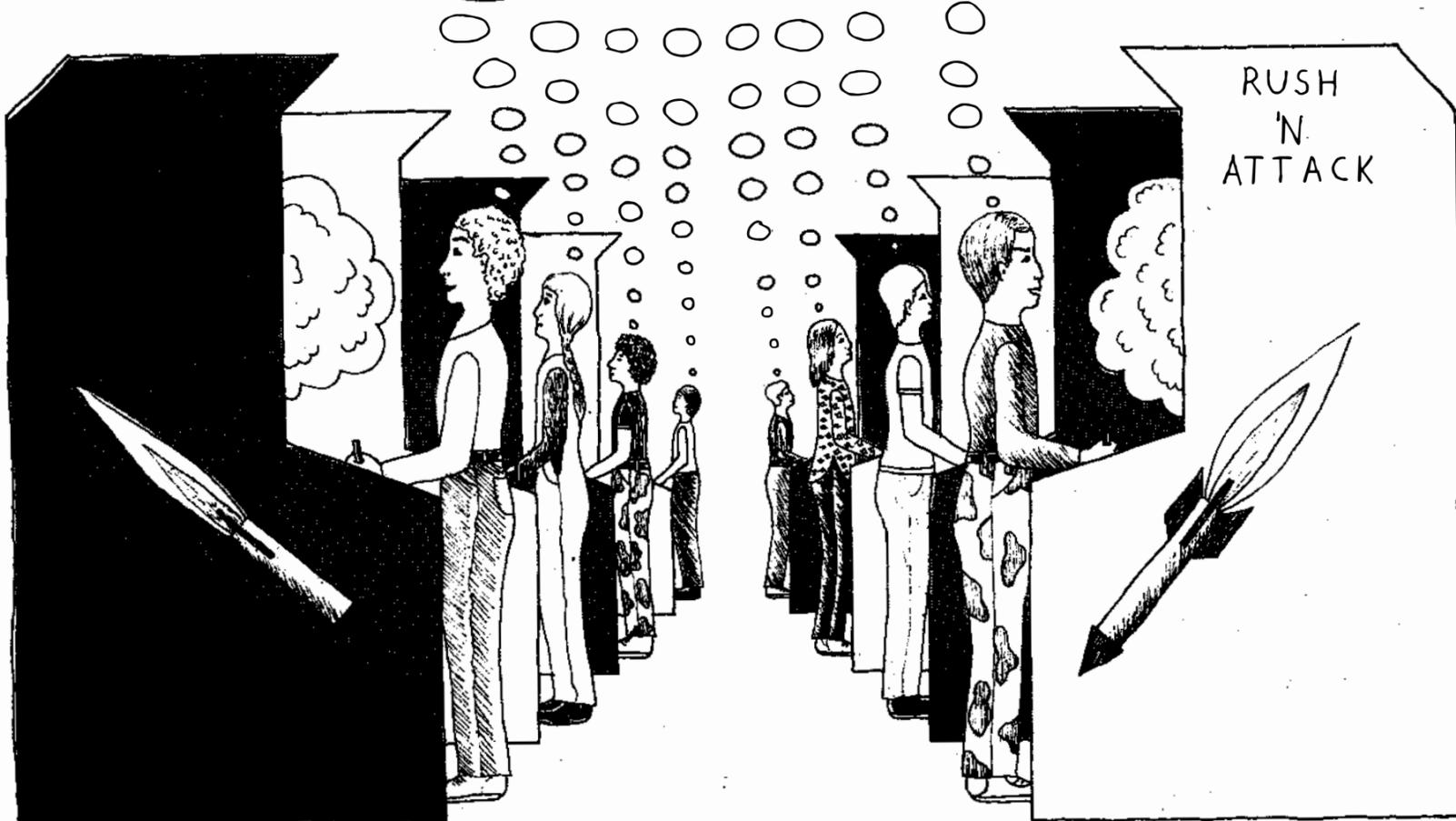
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# POST AMERIKAN

Vol. 14 No. 8  
February 1986



Ramboism  
rubs writer  
wrong way...  
See page 4.



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED  
POST AMERIKAN  
POST OFFICE BOX 3452  
BLOOMINGTON, IL 61702

BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 168  
BLOOMINGTON, IL 61702



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## About us

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 nine issues a year. Staff members take turns as "coordinator." All writing, typing, editing, photography, graphics, pasteup, 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 will get back to you as soon as we can.

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 letters 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 next deadline for submitting Post material is February 20, 1986.

## Good numbers

- Alcoholics Anonymous.....828-5049
- American Civil Liberties Union..663-6065
- Bloomington Housing Authority..829-3360
- CAPIE/Childbirth & Parenting  
Information Exchange..... 452-0310
- Clare House (Catholic Workers).828-4035
- Community for Social Action....452-4867
- Connection House.....829-5711
- Countering Domestic Violence...827-4005
- Dept. Children/Family Services.828-0022
- Draft Counseling.....452-5046
- HELP (transportation for senior  
citizens, handicapped).....828-8301
- Ill. Dept of Public Aid.....827-4621
- Ill. Lawyer Referral.....800-252-8916
- Kaleidoscope.....828-7346
- McLean Co. Health Dept.....454-1161
- Mid Central Community Action...829-0691
- Mobile Meals.....828-8301
- McLean County Center for  
Human Services.....827-5351
- National Health Care Services--  
abortion assistance, Peoria..691-9073
- Nuclear Freeze Coalition.....828-4195
- Occupational Development  
Center.....828-7324
- Operation Recycle.....829-0691
- Parents Anonymous.....827-4005
- PATH: Personal Assistance Telephone  
Help.....827-4005  
Or.....800-322-5015
- Phone Friends.....827-4008
- Planned Parenthood....medical..827-4014  
bus/couns/educ..827-4368
- Post Amerikan.....828-7232
- Prairie State Legal Service...827-5021
- Prairie Alliance.....828-8249
- Project Oz.....827-0377
- Rape Crisis Center.....827-4005
- Sunnyside Neighborhood Center..827-5428
- TeleCare (senior citizens)....828-8301
- Unemployment comp/job service..827-6237
- United Farmworkers support....452-5046
- UPIC.....827-4026

## Post Sellers

### BLOOMINGTON

- Amtrack Station, 1200 W. Front
- The Back Porch, 402 N. Main
- Bloomington Public Library (in front)
- Bus Depot, 533 N. East
- Common Ground, 516 N. Main
- Front and Center Building
- Hit Shed, 103 E. Mulberry
- Law and Justice Center, W. Front St.
- Lee Street (100 N.)
- Main and Miller streets
- Medusa's Adult World, 420 N. Madison
- Mike's Market, 1013 N. Park
- Mr. Donut, 1310 E. Empire
- Nierstheimer Drugs, 1302 N. Main
- Pantagraph (front of building),  
301 W. Washington
- The Park Store, Wood & Allin
- People's Drugs, Oakland & Morrisey
- Red Fox, 918 W. Market
- Susie's Cafe, 602 N. Main
- U. S. Post Office, 1511 E. Empire  
(at exit)
- U. S. Post Office, Center & Monroe
- Upper Cut, 409 N. Main
- Wash House, 609 N. Clinton
- Washington and Clinton streets

### NORMAL

- Blue Dahlia Bookstore, 124 E. Beaufort
- ISU University Union, 2nd floor
- ISU University Union, parking lot  
entrance
- The Galery, 111 E. Beaufort (in front)
- Midstate Truck Plaza, U.S. 51 north
- Mother Murphy's, 111 North St.
- North & Broadway, southeast corner
- Stan's Super Valu, 310 N. Main
- White Hen Pantry, 207 Broadway  
(in front)

## Thanks

This issue is in your hands thanks to Mark, Chris, Diana, Susie, J.T., Bob, Nadene, Ralph, Bumper, Melissa, Sue, Val, Deborah, the Three Lauries (D., H., & L.), Clarence, Linc, Bobby, Spot, and Dave (coordinator)--and others we probably forgot.

## 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 this handy form with your new address and return it to us, P.O. Box 3452, Bloomington, IL 61702.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/state/zip \_\_\_\_\_

# Normal backs down; anti-militarism sign can stay

Last issue, the Post Amerikan reported that Normal city inspector Howard Cotton had ordered the removal of Bob and Marilyn Sutherland's front-yard sign opposing U.S. military activity in Central America.

Cotton's order violated a January 1984 federal court order, which prohibited the Town of Normal from enforcing its unconstitutionally restrictive sign code.

The American Civil Liberties Union initiated the 1983-1984 battle over Normal's sign ordinance, which prohibited residential display of political opinions. When the Normal Town Council refused to amend its ordinance, ACLU filed suit. After its humiliating defeat in federal court, Normal endured the further indignity of being forced to pay the ACLU's attorneys' fees.

After losing its court fight, Normal finally changed its sign code. The Sutherlands' sign complies with the new ordinance.

Last November, after he ordered the Sutherlands to remove their sign from their front yard, Inspector Cotton received a letter from George Taseff, the attorney who handled ACLU's original challenge to Normal's sign code. Taseff offered to meet with Normal officials in federal court.

Normal officials declined the invitation. They said the

Sutherlands' sign could stay.

Cotton told the Post Amerikan that he's driven by the Sutherlands' sign hundreds of times without considering any action. "There's probably several hundred signs that violate the sign code," Cotton said. "But I'm not going to go looking for problems."

Before his short-lived attempt to prosecute the Sutherlands, Cotton's most recent sign code enforcement has targeted two student houses. One had an electric beer sign in their window and the other had a large sign which read "Bushwood." Cotton says he believes the latter sign "is a reference to Busch beer." Cotton suspects that a student living in one of these houses may have called in the complaint against the Sutherlands' sign, in order to test Cotton's willingness to enforce the law equally.

Inspector Cotton was working for the Town of Normal when the 1983-1984 court fight over the sign code was making headlines. But he says that either he was not notified of the court order or he forgot about it. Cotton says he based his letter to the Sutherlands on the old ordinance. Wasn't Cotton given a copy of the amended ordinance when it was passed?

"We get a lot of paperwork here,"



ABOVE: Last November, the Town of Normal ordered Bob and Marilyn Sutherland to take down their front-yard sign. After the Sutherlands' attorney threatened to fight the matter in federal court, Normal backed down.

Cotton told the Post Amerikan.

He has a copy of the new ordinance now.

--Mark Silverstein

## New Pete Seeger song book

# "Carry It On" with a song in your heart

**Carry It On** by Pete Seeger and Bob Reiser, Simon and Schuster, N.Y., Nov. 1985.

A few years back, lots of folks were rockin' to Dolly Parton singing "9 to 5" on the radio, listening to some music that talked about everyday life, instead of the usual sex fantasies and pouty love songs that fill the airwaves.

Few people realized it, but Parton's song about the office work grind is only one of many written over the years to tell the story of working life in Amerika.

All those musical pieces have now been compiled into one fine volume, "Carry It On" by Pete Seeger and Bob Reiser. Starting with the Revolutionary War and continuing through today's VDT operator, this book captures the experience of working life in Amerika in song, word, and photo.

Pete Seeger is one of this country's foremost reservoirs of music and lore. Beginning in the late 1930s with Woodie Guthrie (Arlo's dad) and the Almanac Singer, continuing with the Weavers in the 1950s, and then black-listed by the government, Pete Seeger always remained true to the songs in his heart, which are the folk songs he's written and collected all around the globe.

1986 gave Seeger the impetus to collect these tunes of working life, as this is the centennial of Chicago's Haymarket Massacre. In 1886, workers across this nation went on strike on May 1, trying to win an eight-hour workday. In Chicago, striking workers at McCormick Reaper were attacked by police, and a protest rally was called for May 4 at Haymarket Square.

Police also attacked this rally, but someone in the crowd fought back, throwing a dynamite bomb into police ranks. Over 20 workers and police were killed in the resulting melee. Eight Chicago activists were tried for the bombing. The State of Illinois never could prove that any of them had actually thrown the bomb; instead they were convicted for their ideas and their leadership. Four were hanged in the Cook County jail, one committed suicide, and three were sent to prison, later pardoned in 1893 by Gov. Peter Altgeld for what he considered a grave miscarriage of justice.

The Haymarket Martyrs, and the agitation for the eight-hour workday, were not forgotten, and in 1890 at the International Workingmen's Congress in Paris, Amerikan AFL leader Samuel Gompers asked that workers agitate on May 1 for the shorter workday. Workers around the world picked up the theme, and so May 1 became International Workers' Day, except in the U.S., where September's Labor Day was already common. Gompers tried to have Amerika's holiday changed to May 1, but with no success.

Seeger feared that this important anniversary, recognized by workers around the world, would be forgotten in its place of origin. As a musician, he began encouraging others to use May 1, 1986 to present programs about Amerikan working history, using more than a century of accumulated music.

To make that process easier, Seeger, Reiser, and other performers collaborated on "Carry It On," hoping it would spark performances and a renewed interest in workers' musical heritage.

But this book is more than a songbook. With some well-chosen quotations and fine illustrations, it is a great armchair guide to labor's forgotten story. The music, complete with notations and guitar chords, adds a poetic spice.

The songs anyone familiar with labor would expect to find are here: "Solidarity Forever," "Union Maid," "Joe Hill." But Seeger does not stay to the expected, and amongst the 85 tunes are women's laments, blues, and bi-lingual music. From immigrant steelworkers to Southern sharecroppers to today's plant closings, all aspects of people's working lives are covered in "Carry It On."

For anyone involved in politics and change, frustrated by Reagan and our current condition, "Carry It On" can renew your hope. Just realizing how long workers struggled to win their basic rights in this country can help us all remember the dedication and commitment it takes to make significant change. The eight-hour workday struggle that triggered Haymarket in 1886 did not find its fulfillment until the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1937--51 years later.

Music can inspire and carry us on to see our dreams to reality. Add "Carry It On" to your library, and pull it from the shelf every time you need a little perspective and inspiration--and a song to lighten your heart.

--MgM

# Video mind games

In the tradition of "Invasion U.S.A.," "Red Dawn," and "Commando," your local video game parlour is proud to present "Rush n' Attack," the latest entry the "Better Dead than Red" contest. Now little Amerikan kids can not only watch dreamboats like Sly Stallone and Chuck Norris kick some red butt--they can do it themselves.

I came across this new toy at a recent visit to Eastland Mall's Fun Factory. As I walked by the more conventional destructo games like "Knock Out" and "Galaxia," I noticed a bunch of sweaty red-faced kids around the latest attraction. When I saw the words "Rush n' Attack" I thought, "Hmm...must be a video triathlon." It wasn't. A teen-aged boy was living out his First Blood

fantasies by stabbing, kicking, mortaring, machine-gunning and missile-firing at an infinite number of red-helmeted, parka-wearing soldiers. What fun. The object of this game is to break through these troops in search of MIA's (MIA's in Siberia?).

Based on its popularity, it's fairly safe to assume that a good number of children are getting a large dosage of anti-Soviet philosophy. "Rush n' Attack," along with the U.S.A. VS. U.S.S.R. hockey game a few yards away, makes for the best one-two-punch since "Rambo" and "Rocky IV." If sales continue, there will no doubt be a video game in which a Black Amerikan and a Soviet Defector tap dance their way to the U.S. Embassy in Moscow.

--Clarence Goodman



## King's birthday

# The Dream lives on

January 20 will be celebrated as a holiday in this country, with offices and schools closing, all to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Politicians will make speeches, programs will be held, and this brave American, once scorned by so many in this country, will be honored as a brave and good leader in the fight for equality.

As the honorable statements are pouring out, civil rights activists and lots of plain folks will be looking around and remembering the "dream" that Dr. King so eloquently laid out, and asking themselves if that dream is any closer to reality.

And many will wonder if the dream has been squashed and hindered in this age of Reagan, lost in the doublespeak of Edward Meese's Justice Dept., forgotten and disillusioned in the welfare and unemployment lines.

At the national level, we have a president who has equalled Dwight Eisenhower in his record of black appointments to the courts--zero. We have a civil rights commission that has been purged of sympathizers, restocked by conservative ideologues. We have an administration that fought passage of the renewed Voting Rights Act, then took credit for its renewal, and now is trying to use that law to

harass civil rights activists in Alabama, putting a chill on voter registration efforts across the south.

Black unemployment, especially among young people, continues at record levels. The response from Washington is a sub-minimum wage bill, euphemistically called the "Youth Employment Opportunity Act," saying this will allow poor youth a competitive edge in the sacred marketplace. Education, always lagging, is sidetracked with issues of school prayer. Low income housing is no longer being built, forcing more and more poor people to the streets and the shelters, as this has also been turned over to the "invisible hand" of free enterprise.

Before his death, Dr. King had started his "Poor Peoples' Campaign," hoping to unite blacks, whites, hispanics, and native Americans, not according to their color, but according to their shared economic reality. Jesse Jackson has tried to revive that principle in his "Rainbow Coalition" and is struggling on, despite the harassment he received from the mainstream media during the last election. Did you ever stop to wonder why the media hung on every word from Jackson, searching it for a mistake and blunder, while Reagan could sail through the campaign, full of illusions, doublespeak, and outright

lies, without ever raising Dan Rather's eyebrows?

All is not completely hopeless in this age of Reagan. Jackson's campaign did show that the dream is not beyond resuscitation, and the continuing anti-apartheid effort has breathed new life into the struggle for human justice.

As the politicians start pumping rhetoric on January 20, one always has to pause and proceed with caution. Anytime a freedom fighter like Dr. King becomes institutionalized in a holiday, he is open game to be twisted and torn by news commentators and politicians seeking to use the dead hero to preserve the status quo. At the same time, this is the time for people who have heard his call, echoing through the years, to renew their commitment to equality and justice.

Under Reagan, we are fast returning to plantation times. "Benign neglect" was a phrase used then, meaning that although we whites didn't treat black Americans well, at least we weren't too overly malicious, and permitted them survival in their shanties and ghettos.

"Benign neglect" is back again, and this time with a vengeance.

But the signs point out that not all Black Americans are ready to return to the turn of the century. A Louis Farrakan can preach race division and win standing-room-only audiences, frightening whites, because blacks have heard a similar message of race hatred from whites. That message has not been told in the outwardly bold rhetoric of Farrakan, but the message has come to black American all the same from white America--you are still not wanted, you are still not accepted, you are still neglected.

And so Affirmative Action will fall by the wayside. And then we will wonder why there are more blacks in prison than in college today. Food stamps will be cut again, and we will wonder about the rise in infant mortality. The Klan is marching again, and whites will wonder why Farrakan can pack the house. Teachers will complain that ghetto youth speak a different language, unintelligible to white America. And as always, white America will scratch its head, wondering what is wrong with those blacks.

In January cold, next to the birthday of Robert E. Lee, we will honor the birthday of a southern black preacher. Let us use this day not for empty speeches, but to remember again the famous "dream" that spoke so eloquently to our hearts and called us to be the best people we can be. And let us renew our efforts to break that sad chain of events that has so far marked the 1980's.

--MGM

**If you know a young mother, show her this ad...**

Young mother--if you're under 21,

# APPLES

can pay for childcare so you can  
go back to school  
stay in school  
or get your G.E.D.

call Susan or Cathy  
**827-4368**

# Post-Amerikan benefit and auction slated

Oh boyoboyoboy! It's time once again for the Post Amerikan Benefit! February 1 is the day and the Gallery is the place--be there or be square.

Those of you who have been around for a few years are familiar with the format--the raucous music, wild dancing and frantic pleas for money. But this year we've made some exciting changes. For the first time in its eight year history, the Post Amerikan Benefit will take place on a Saturday night! Yay! No more fighting the Monday morning hangover. Sunday morning hangovers are so much more pleasant, what with the comics section and all.

And here's the really exciting news. This year we're adding a fantastic Post Amerikan memorabilia auction to the evening's activities. Double Yay!! Boy, am I excited about this! See, we figure we can cash in big on this wave of nostalgia for the 60's by auctioning off some of our own possessions from that era.

Not to be elitist pigs or anything, but you know some of us Post staffers were the original hippie stock of Bloomington-Normal. And do you know what we have to show for it? Lava Lamps. Leather miniskirts. Peace rings. Moby Grape albums. All gathering dust behind our computers and Nautilus machines.

In addition to this type of materialistic shit, we also have some

rare items of sociological, historical and political import. We'll be selling off authentic early issues of the Post, original signed cartoons by Bill Sherman(Cable Comix) and LVD (My Sister the Punk Rocker), favorite posters from the paper and--get this--one of the authentic used typewriter ribbons from the MEG



garbage raid that helped us shut down their narc operations in '79.

And here's a real treat for fans of Deborah Wiatt: to the highest bidder goes "Breakfast with Deborah," where you can match wits one-on-one with the authoress of those incredibly long winded, highly personal, deeply opinionated articles which appear regularly in the Post. A delicious breakfast will be served to you in

the lovely Versailles Room at the home of LVD---hey wait a minute, that's me!

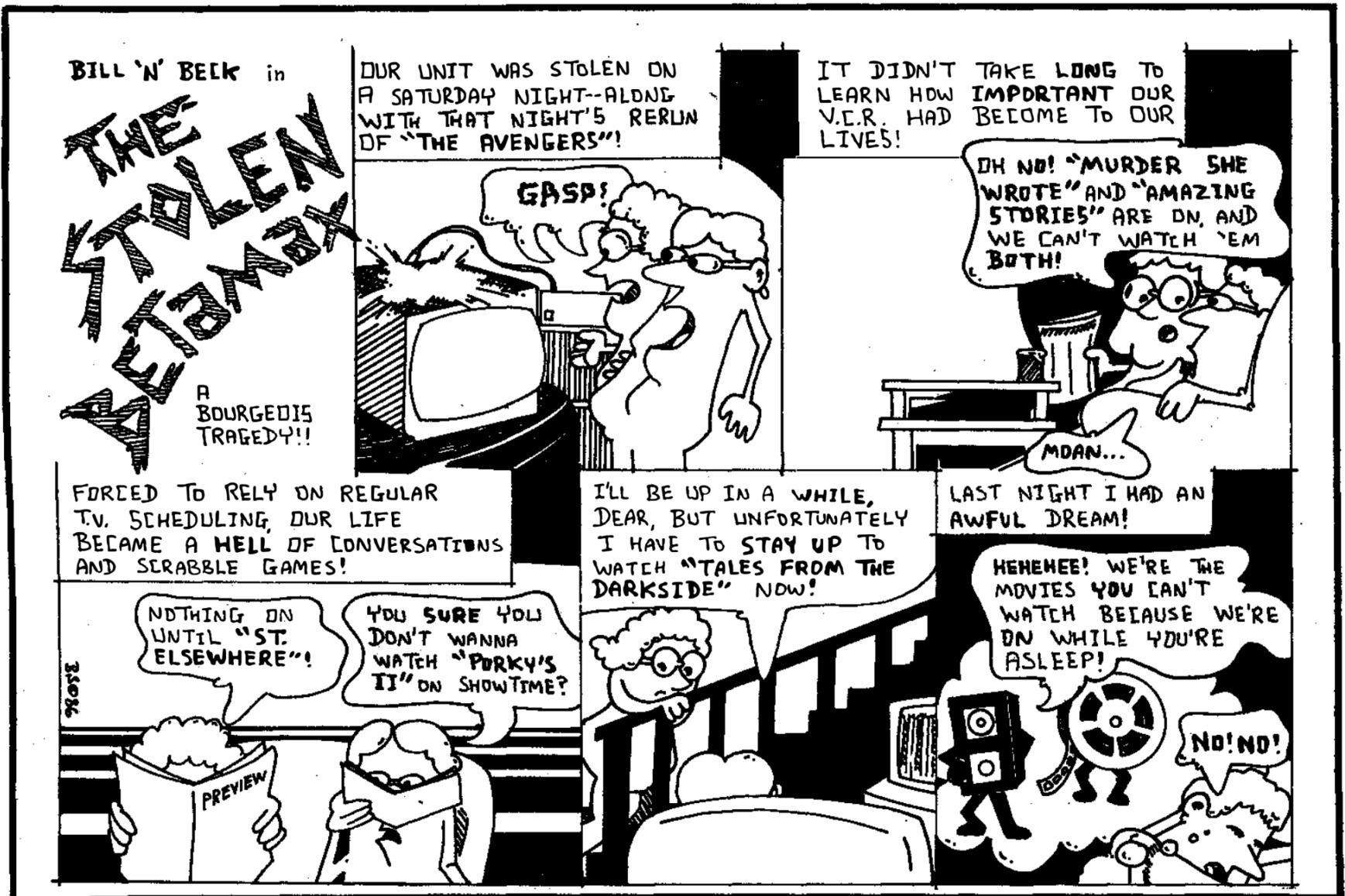
On the subject of fans, we are also in possession of Post staffer and musician Laurie Haag's coveted pink drumsticks---autographed, of course. Here's a real rarity: a one-of-a-kind, never before and never again released tape of my favorite defunct all-female band, Toxic Shock. We're also negotiating for an autographed copy of That Hope's new album, "Eight Dollar Hat." How about it, guys? And Spike, the munificent owner of The Gallery has donated some vintage Gallery beer lights and a genuine autographed Gallery pizza pan.

And finally, in one mad cap, what-the-hell flash of inspiration, we wrote to Abbie Hoffman for his autograph! And guess what? We haven't heard from him yet, but we're hoping!

As usual, the evening will be filled with great music. Around 8:00 p.m., various and assorted Post Toasties (staffers or supporters with their own musical "thang") will take the stage. The auction will continue throughout the evening during the musical breaks. This year, the main musical event will be supplied by Bloomington-Normal's own all-original power pop group Action Potential (see pages 12 and 13).

So if you, like many others, are looking for a good time and/or wondering "Just who are these Post Amerikan people? And why do they want my money?", you simply must come to the Post Amerikan benefit.

## Saturday, Feb. 1 at the Gallery in Normal



# Community News

## Women's Potluck II: The fun resumes

Join in the hilarity and feasting! The Women's Potluck is back for a return engagement. Women everywhere are invited to bring their favorite dish to 1311 W. Market on Sunday, January 19th. The fun starts at 3:00 in the afternoon, and both new faces and regulars are welcome.

The tradition was reinstated last December, with unrivaled success. The food was unparalleled, the atmosphere comfortable and the conversation scintillating.

So pull out your favorite recipe, whether it's tofu and spinach, macaroni and Velveeta cheese, brownies, or steak Tartar, and whip it together for what is guaranteed to be an appreciative audience.

If you have any questions, or want encouragement, call Terri after 5:00 pm at 829-9667.

## Learn to help the disabled

The Personal Care Assistant Orientation Program will be held from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on January 21, 23, 28, and 30. The program will be conducted at LIFE-Center for Independent Living, 1544 E. College Ave. (Landmark Mall) in Normal.

Personal Care Assistants aid persons with disabilities to carry out essential day to day activities. Responsibilities might include bathing, dressing, food preparation, light housekeeping, and sanitary help.

LIFE-Center is a nonprofit, consumer-based, non-residential organization designed to serve the needs of persons with disabilities. The PCA orientation class is limited to twelve. Applications are available at the center Monday through Friday from 8:00 to 5:00 p.m. For more information, phone 452-5433.

## Help stop the bombing

CISPES (Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador) chapters nationwide are carrying out Stop the Bombing Campaigns, whose goals are to stop the air war in El Salvador and to reduce U.S. aid in that war.

BL/N CISPES is taking the Stop-the-Bombing campaign to ISU dorms. They plan to show If You Could Just Stop the Bombing (a slide show) in every dorm on campus and get congressional action cards signed at tables during the dinner hour.

Money for a campaign of this nature is a problem. The group would be grateful for any contributions you can make to the campaign. The next CISPES meeting will be held Tuesday, January 28 at 7:30 p.m. in Prairie Room E of the Bone Student Center.

--from the CISPES Newsletter

## Operation Recycle

Operation Recycle will hold recycling drives on March 8, April 19, and May 31. All recycling drives are held from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Sears, Eastland parking lot, and the ISU lot at College and Main (SW corner).

Container glass, beverage cans, newspapers, tin cans, corrugated cardboard, and office paper are accepted for recycling at the drives. Volunteers are at both sites to assist recyclers in unloading materials.

Volunteers are needed for the drives and for other Operation Recycle activities. Call Myra Gordon at Community Action, 829-0691, to volunteer or to get more information on preparing materials.

## Recycle glass too

The push is on at Operation Recycle to increase the amounts of container glass and aluminum and bimetal cans recycled. "Our newspaper volume is good," said coordinator Myra Gordon, "but the glass and beverage cans come in at a slower rate."

"Saving glass and beverage cans saves energy consumption, landfill space and natural resources," said Gordon, "and it lessens the abuses of cheap foreign labor sources."

The United States has no aluminum sources of its own except what is recycled.

Operation Recycle is also looking for more container glass and beverage cans because those items produce income needed to keep the community recycling center going.

The beverage cans should be sorted into aluminum ones and bimetal ones. The recycling center buys both at its buyback on Wednesday and Saturday mornings from 9 a.m.-noon. In this area, most bimetal cans are those containing Pepsi products.

Glass should be rinsed and have the metal lids removed. These materials and newspapers, aluminum foil, office paper, corrugated cardboard and grocery sacks are recycled at the center and can be donated at the five OR drop-off locations:

1100 W. Market, Bloomington  
K-Mart parking lot, Bloomington  
501 E. Stewart, Bloomington  
Hoose School, Grandview Dr., Normal  
ISU parking lot, northwest corner of College and Main.

MASCULINITY FATHERING
MILITARISM MEN'S HEALTH
MEN & VIOLENCE SPORTS POETRY
ANTI-SEXIST POLITICS
MALE SEXUALITY GAY ISSUES
FEMINIST ANALYSIS SPIRITUALITY
GAY/STRAIGHT INTERACTIONS
ANTI-SEXIST MEN'S HISTORY

Interested?  
Read all about it in *Changing Men*—  
a nationwide journal of the anti-sexist  
men's movement.  
Regular subscription \$12 (4 issues)  
Sample copy of current issue \$3.50

*Changing Men*  
Issues in Gender, Sex & Politics  
306 N. Brooks Madison, WI 53715

Classy Fried Ads

Free. Well used, and in the state "Garage of Correction" for repairs. One 1953 Texas "criminos convictus" looking for something to drive me away. How does one with a 140 IQ wind up broken down on the side of the road? Write and find out. Equal opportunity employer and I promise you that there are no towing charges. Inquiries should be addressed to: Robert Cassity, the Crazy Texan, 977 Camp Road, Salisbury, N.C. 28145-6004.

Central American Activists--send \$4.95 (includes handling) for Witness to War: An American Doctor in El Salvador to RECON, P.O. Box 14602, Philadelphia, PA 19134

Herbs · Spices · Fruits · Vegetables · Nuts

Common Ground  
NATURAL FOODS  
516 N. Main St.  
Bloomington, Ill. 61701



Common Ground has a wide selection of wholesome foods, natural body care products, vitamin and mineral supplements, and books for organic cooking and healthy living.

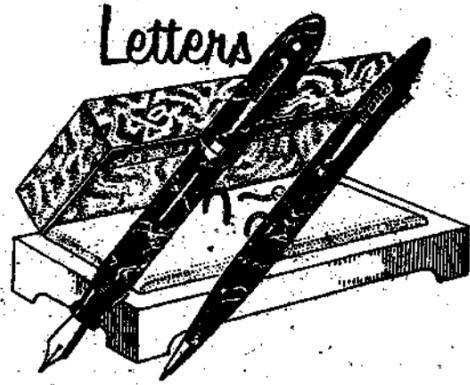
By selling many foods in bulk, Common Ground reduces your costs on nuts, flours, spices, grains, snack mixes and many other items. You may also purchase just the amount you need! Come see the gourmet coffee beans and fresh produce section as well. Experience a new and healthier way of life!

For an additional savings of 10% on all purchases, you may purchase a discount card for an annual fee of \$10.00.

Vitamins · Grains · Flours · Shampoos

Soaps · Coffees · Breads · Beans

Juices · Books · Snacks · Teas



## Prisoners need letters

Two lonely hostages in Idaho would like for someone to write to them:

Darrell Wright  
P. O. Box 14 #16951  
Boise, Idaho 83707

Mark H. Madsen  
Box 14  
Boise, Idaho 83707

## Redi-Med pain reliever becomes brain reliever

Dear Post Amerikan,

When was the last time that YOU had a good hallucination? Do you miss that crazy old feelin' of disorientation? Yeah? Well, hey, no problem! Just slip a disk in your back and visit Redi-Med for a quick fix. That's what my housemate did. Lacking the funds for a legitimate doctor, she chose to visit Redi-Med.

The doctor sized her up: short on funds and a first-time user. He could tell from the way that she limped along that she was in one hell of a hurry. So, he fixed-up her back just lickety-split and prescribed some pain relievers . . . VOILA! Another medical miracle! It wasn't until she dropped the second dosage, however, that, lo and behold, them thar pain relievers turned out to be BRAIN relievers as well . . . Another medical mishap!

For the next twelve hours, my house mate needed constant reassurance that the phone receiver would not bite her face. She cried uncontrollably for two hours while she pondered my plaid shirt--lamenting that it was not color-coordinated. She revealed her latent hatred for her hands and feet, and she had me call everyone we knew to inform THEM. I even called the nurse and she said (with a touch of Reaganesque-inflection) "Well . . . that just happens when SOME people take those drugs." "Now don't feel bad, honey." OH HELL NO! Why should I let it bother ME?!

O.K. Our first mistake was to take her disk to Moto-Medic. Sure, they're cheaper. But in order to save time and money, they all but slap a prescription sticker on your ass! But all hindsight aside, why in the hell couldn't Dr. Do-Little tell her that SOME people react badly to those particular pain-killers? Perhaps HE didn't know? Well . . . next time she slips a disk, I'll take her to the dude on the corner: he's cheaper, and his results are more predictable.

Of course, I jest. Oh, as comical as it all seems now, I wonder if it would have been so comical had I not been home to keep her from taking that Drano-Daiquiri or prevent her from shaving her eyelids with our cutlery? AND I am confident the McLean County's fine staff of expert medical examiners would have expertly deemed the entire incident "a ploy to obtain the drugs which resulted in suicide." Am I sounding a bit paranoid? Or am I feeling all of those heavy "what-ifs" that come from my imagination? Believe me, I am not hallucinating.

You may ask yourself: "Now why did the doctor attempt to entertain my housemate without even TRYING to offer us any real answers?" "Did he think we wouldn't understand?" "Why did he involve us in this whole ordeal without bothering to tell us what to expect?!" WELL . . . that's what we'd like to know.

--OCCUPANT

### We need writers!

Send your main pains to the Post, P.O. Box 3452, Bloomington, IL, 61702.



## Prisoner asks for legal help

Dear Post,

From deep within the depths of what lies beyond hell, I present this plea for help from any who may read this and be able to respond.

I am incarcerated in what I feel is the unconstitutional cesspool of the world: New Hampshire. In particular, it's one and only state prison which is still in many ways embedded in the "dark ages."

For almost three years now, I have been trying to fight and fight for my rights in reference to matters which placed me here. I have been sold out by Public Defenders...been the brunt of prejudice and hate campaigns...had my rights constantly and continuously violated by the court and judicial system with an arrogant attitude of thumbing its nose at the Constitution, their own laws and statutes and me!

I have had the pigs beat up friends and get away with it, simply because they visited and knew me...had my family placed in jeopardy...and so much more.

Currently, I am desperately fighting to regain my property that was seized from me. It is about all I have left. Some was seized without any warrant and permission (in another state)...and the remainder seized with what I feel was illegal search warrants.

Only a small portion of this evidence ever was used in any trial against me --and in that trial, I was found unanimously NOT GUILTY by jury. I must be stupid or something, as I thought that under those circumstances ALL of my property had to be returned to me. The Court refuses to do so, and has ordered to give me back a small portion (after almost a year on that) of same and keep and destroy whatever they decide to.

They have illegally kept my property from me for over 2 1/2 years now.

Then there is the matter of some 434 plus 43 days pre-trial time which was NOT credited to my one and only felony conviction (to which I stupidly pled guilty, since I was worn out and sold out and couldn't fight any more).

The judge did what she wanted to do... ignoring statutes and more.

Often, I feel what's the use? and I just want to die...

It seems that I must fight this all on my own. I have nobody. I find that any attorneys in the state lack integrity... I need legal counsel that is unbiased, unprejudiced and cares. Is there such a one left???

As for legal research...well, the archaic law library they have here is RARELY open...and then not even for an hour...hardly time to look up anything much. Most of the cites that I'd like I can't seem to get...there is no Inmate Attorney here. I've written many times to the Franklin Pierce Law Library and school for help, but they have ignored every letter so far.

I need legal research.

HELP...

My first, fourth, sixth, fourteenth, etc. Amendment Rights have been and are being violated...BUT, WHO CARES anymore???

Do you?

Please write.

Sincerely,

Robert Decker  
Box 14 A40B  
Concord, NH 03301

## Writer seeking descendants

Post Amerikan:

I am looking for the descendants of a Jonathan Hill who moved to the Bloomington, Illinois, area some time in the 1860's or 1870's. He was born in either Foster or North Scituate, Rhode Island, probably in 1843 or 1844.

His parents were Betsey Smith, born in 1812 and died, 1892, and Jonathan Hill, died 1894. They were married in 1842.

There were two other children, Joshua, born 1845, who was an Advent Christian minister, and Rhoda Eliza, born 1852, who was my great grandmother.

I am interested in geneology, and I would like to find out what has happened to that line of the family. We believe Jonathan married a girl from Illinois.

I would like to hear from any descendants of the said Jonathan Hill. In return for your family information, I can perhaps give you details of your ancestors that you do not know.

Yours Truly,

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# Abortion: The right to choose

Rosie Jimenez was too poor to afford a private clinic or hospital abortion. So Senator Henry Hyde chose for her. Jimenez risked a back alley abortion --and hemorrhaged to death.

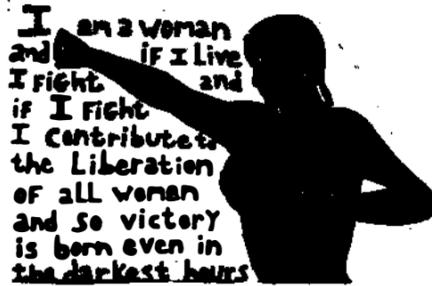
At El Centro de la Raza in Seattle 45 people attended a Reproductive and Abortion Rights Conference on October 5, 1985, an event sponsored by the Seattle Reproductive Rights Alliance (SRRRA) and the Women's Committee to Commemorate Rosie Jimenez. Jimenez, a 27-year-old Latina, was the first documented victim of the Hyde Amendment which restricted federal Medicaid funds for abortion to women who were victims of incest or rape, or whose lives were in extreme physical danger. The Hyde Amendment effectively denied Jimenez any choice.

The Medicaid program began in 1965 under the newly passed Social Security Act. "Medicaid was set up to provide health care service--and abortion is a health care service, up to a woman and her doctor," said Curly Lieberman, a conference panelist representing the National Campaign to Restore Abortion Funding (NCRAF). But immediately after the Supreme Court Roe vs. Wade decision that legalized abortion, anti-abortionists went into action. "Their attack was aimed at women with the least power in our society--poor women and women of color," said Lieberman.

## Hyde Amendment

The Hyde Amendment passed in 1976 as a rider to the Senate appropriations bill. It has been reintroduced and passed each year, with increasingly restrictive language on who is eligible for Medicaid. As of 1983, Medicaid funded abortion is only possible for women whose life is immediately endangered. Except in those states that have retained their own funding regulations, funds to abort pregnancies caused by rape or incest no longer exist.

Reproductive rights means the right to choose--abortion, birth control, sterilization, or children. But how can one realistically choose not to have a child if abortion is



*opf/women: a journal of liberation*

unavailable--the cost is out of reach or out of state? "We're talking about women needing to 'scrape together' \$280 for an abortion while they're living on \$270 per month income," said Lieberman.

"The trend since 1974 has been support for low-income women's right to abortion losing ground. The government does not see abortion as a basic health care need, or that federal support for health care is necessary," she stated. Also, Lieberman pointed out, increasingly "poor women receive the 'option' of abortion only if they say, 'Okay, I'll never have any kids.'" There has been a significant rise in sterilization of women; and the federal government still pays 90% of the costs. Today, 43% of Native American women and 45% of all Puerto Rican women have been sterilized. The charge of genocide has been leveled against a society that causes such 'statistics.'

According to Lieberman, one study has found that 5000 to 23,000 illegal abortions are performed per year in the U.S. Women of color take the larger share of these dangerous abortions. Ninety-four percent of the deaths related to illegal abortions in New York City for one year were Puerto Rican and Black women.

## Illegal abortion

A "typical" woman resorting to illegal abortion is "black, induces her own abortion, and is more than 12 weeks pregnant," said Julie Komarow, another panelist and a physician with the Washington State

National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL). "Eighty percent of all deaths due to illegal abortions occur to women of color," said Komarow.

How can a woman choose children when there are no jobs, no food, no prospects--and no assistance forthcoming from the state? Cuts to Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and cuts in food, family planning, and other health and human services multiply each year Reagan is in office. According to the federal Office of Management and Budget's own figures, Lieberman noted, 70% of budget cuts have been absorbed by families with incomes of \$10,000 per year.

Today, attacks on women's reproductive rights are pervasive, from top governmental policy language--Reagan has likened abortion to slavery and the Holocaust--to specific economic cuts, such as in pre-natal care for poor women. Blacks and Native Americans now have an infant mortality rate of 19 and 19.5, respectively, per 1000 live births, almost twice that for Whites at 11.4.

That abortion is legal is not enough. Abortion services must be accessible. This is the crux of the issue for SRRRA and NCRAF. Accessible, quality health care service for low-income women is increasingly limited in the U.S. "As of 1983, out of 325 major metropolitan areas, 59 had no recognized facility performing abortions," according to Komarow.

Fifteen states still provide Medicaid funds for abortion. Washington is one. Illinois is not. But even within those states who do, access to an abortion is often limited. In the state of Washington, for example, only half of the state's counties provide abortion services. And those clinics are often harassed by right-wing groups.

## Everett clinic

In 1982, the Feminist Women's Health Center of Yakima, WA decided to establish a clinic in Everett, WA. The clinic was continually harassed. Protesters set up "sidewalk counseling" stations, showing full color photos of dismembered babies to women trying to enter the center; formed gauntlet lines to bar women entry; videotaped women and recorded license plate numbers; and sent threatening letters and phone calls to the center, as many as 700 on one day. The complication rate of women who received abortions increased four to five percent.

The center was granted an injunction against picketers, but three major arson fires, the most recent in April 1984, closed the clinic. Curtis Beseda was eventually convicted of the arsons and received a 20-year prison sentence. The center lost its lease and is in the midst of financial crisis.

The Everett clinic was only one of many clinics targeted by the right wing. "Clinic violence has been up since 1982," said Terri Valadez, a former clinic administrator at the Everett Women's Health Center, speaking on the panel. "Since 1982, clinics have suffered \$2 million in damage. In 1984, 24 clinics nationally were victim to violence," said Valadez. When clinics close or are intimidated, abortion becomes less accessible.

## New attacks

During one of the three workshops following the panel presentation, "Organizing in the Health Care Sector," Stacie Bering, an ob-gyn physician in private practice in Spokane explained that anti-abortionists are now focusing their

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# Illegal abortion had steep price

January 22nd marks the anniversary of the Roe versus Wade decision, in which the Supreme Court recognized women's right to have abortions legally. The following excerpts from Issues in Brief emphasize how important this right is.

## THE EFFECTS OF LEGAL ABORTION

A large majority of the legal abortions obtained in the United States after the 1973 Supreme Court decisions on abortion replaced procedures that had been performed legally prior to 1973. American women and their families paid a steep price for those illegal procedures, many of which were carried out by nonmedical personnel or the woman herself in unsanitary surroundings with no facilities for dealing with emergencies. In the 1960's, complications from abortions accounted for almost 20 percent of all pregnancy-related admissions to municipal hospitals in New York and California. In 1965, 235 deaths, or 20 percent of all deaths related to pregnancy and childbirth, were attributed to abortion.

This toll dropped steadily during the 1960's as a result of advances in contraception and medical care and the

increased availability of legal abortion after 1967 when states began to relax their stringent antiabortion laws. By 1972, when 587,000 legal abortions were reported nationally, only 39 women died from illegal or self-induced procedures. In 1973, the year of the Supreme Court decisions, illegal abortion deaths fell to 19; in 1977 to four. In 1978, the number of deaths from illegal abortions rose slightly to seven, partially because restrictions on the use of public funds for abortions for indigent women on welfare forced some women who would have obtained publicly funded abortions to resort to self-administered or illegal procedures instead.

Thousands of teenagers have been able to prevent the frequently adverse health, social and economic consequences of teenage births because of legal abortion.

Babies born to teenage mothers are more likely to die in the first year of life than those born to mothers over age 20. The risks of medical complications and of having a low-birth-weight infant are also considerably greater among teenage mothers.

The most far-reaching consequence of

teenage childbearing is the limitation of education among the young parents, and the resulting limitation of opportunities to gain skills necessary to compete effectively in a modern highly technical society. Largely because of educational deficits, teenage parents are frequently unable to get decent jobs, and their family incomes tend to be much lower than those earned by other families. Whether or not the young parents marry, most of the youngsters born to teenage mothers tend to end up in single female-headed households. And when they grow up, they are more likely than others to become teenage parents themselves.

It is impossible to measure what society or individuals must pay in terms of the lost potential of young women who suffer educational, economic, social and health deprivation because they must carry unwanted pregnancies to term at a time when they are unprepared physically, socially or financially to take care of the child. What can be measured are some of the medical and social welfare costs that must be borne by government to pay for those unwanted births that women would otherwise have averted through abortion.

Post-Amerikan January 1986 Page 9

## In the Dark Ages: Before abortion



Sometimes when I'm telling one of my grimly humorous yarns about being an unwed pregnant teen in 1969, one of the younger listeners will ask, "If you don't mind my asking, why didn't you get an abortion?"

This pains me. It makes me feel kind of old and tired, like when my young friends can't quite believe that we had to wear skirts to high school.

"We didn't have abortion," I say calmly. Let me tell you, if we had, I would've been flat on my back in Peoria before you could say Margaret Sanger; moral dilemmas would just have to wait their turn.

Since this month is the anniversary of the blessed Roe versus Wade decision, I thought it'd be good to remind you what it was like before we had legal abortion. In 1981, I wrote an article describing the state of pregnant girls in my time. I was griping about a Pantagraph series that was subtly and overtly anti-abortion. I said:

To give it perspective, the series needs a few more columns, columns that describe the harrowing things that girls like me saw and experienced in the dark ages before legalized abortion, in 1968-1969.

Young women then were getting pregnant partly because there was no Planned Parenthood (at least here) and partly because of other standard reasons, fear of parents finding out you're having sex and fear of admitting to yourself you're having sex. These factors kept us from seeking out one of the doctors who might--if you told a good enough lie about getting married in two months--push a pill prescription on you, usually with no medical history taken and no physical examination. As we know now, that's scary in itself.

But once pregnant, our options were so much grimmer.

We could collect \$600 or so and get a St. Louis illegal abortion: this is the one I was aware of. It was a "packing" abortion, in which the abortionist packs your uterus with wads of cotton and then leaves you in your anonymous motel room. Soon you go into contractions and miscarry there in a few hours, and call an ambulance for yourself if you

hemorrhage. Friends aren't allowed to come with.

Other illegal abortion procedures, just as grisly and expensive, were rumored to be available in Iowa City, Indianapolis, Chicago, and even your own home. I remember helping a girlfriend's friend by repeatedly adding boiling water to a hot bath spiked with dry mustard (??) in which she sat and swallowed a fifth of straight gin. This procedure, which she had on good faith was effective, peeled off a layer of her skin and gave her a 36 hour puking hangover, but seven months later she was the mother of a large healthy baby nonetheless. Teenagers are crazy, remember.

Or we could be terrified and rational, like I was, and go sign up at the Baby Fold (which did give some really fine counseling), and try to live a life of some kind in the midst of unbelievably heavy social disapproval. (I called 24 local doctors, all but one of whom refused to take me because I was single.)

Or we could disrupt our lives and go hide in shame at the Florence Crittendon Home in Peoria, an option so resembling incarceration at the time that by 1968 not many teens were choosing it for themselves. (Parents

who wanted to hide their daughters loved it.)

We needed cheap, safe, legal, private abortions. Women I know who were pregnant then have had lives unalterably twisted by the fact that they had children as teenagers, whether they kept their babies or not. The psychological and physical trauma, the guilt, the uncertainty, the disruption of life, the loss of family and lover, the forced "maturity": these things affect you the rest of your life in a manner not even touched on in the Pantagraph series, which interviews mothers who are still very young.

Teenage women today, although unwed pregnancy is not such a stigma now, still need cheap, safe, legal private abortions.

What I said in 1981 still holds true today. Losing our right to abortion is probably the worst thing that could happen to women. Even in a world where good contraception was available, there would still be birth control failure, rape, incest, and misinformed, shy, careless, fearful teenagers who deserve another chance to finish their own childhood.

--Phoebe Caulfield



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## Rape Crisis Center

# Forum to explain pro-choice position

January 22, 1986 marks the 13th anniversary of the Supreme Court's landmark decision legalizing abortion. The McLean County Pro-Choice Coalition is sponsoring a noontime forum exploring the Roe vs. Wade decision.

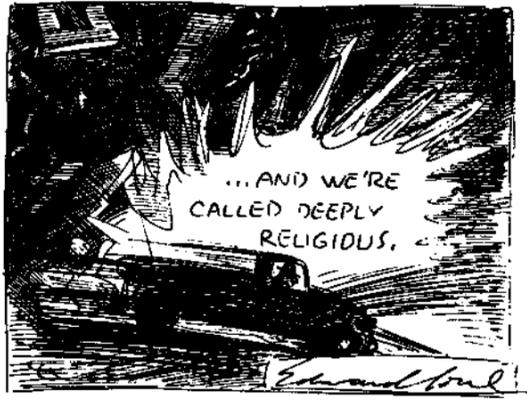
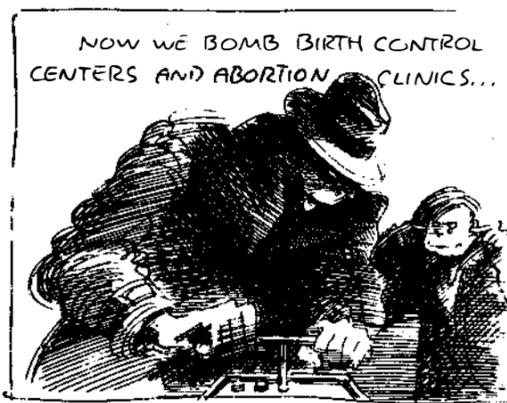
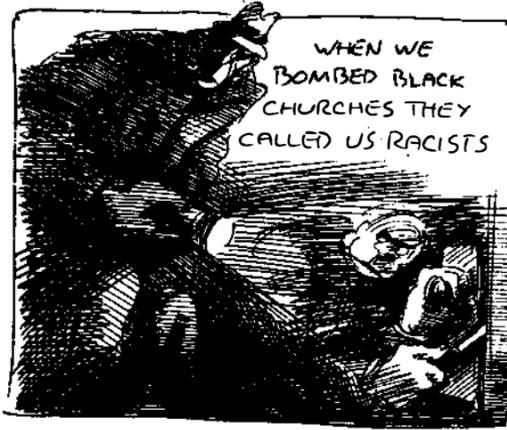
The coalition includes Planned Parenthood of Mid Central Illinois, the Bloomington-Normal National Organization for Women, and the American Civil Liberties Union of Central Illinois. Planned Parenthood's Executive Director Dixie Axley says the forum will offer the community a full understanding of the pro-choice position, counter the distortions and lies of anti-abortion propaganda, and alert the community of the possible impact of efforts to outlaw abortion.

The forum will include Dixie Axley speaking on the current status of the abortion law and introducing the speakers. Dr. Bruce Criley, Embryologist and Chair of the Biology Department at Illinois Wesleyan University will focus on the distortions of the anti-abortion film, "Silent Scream," and other anti-abortion propaganda.

The Reverend Sharon Neuffer Emswiler, campus minister of the Wesley Foundation at Illinois State University, will explore the question, "Can abortion ever be a moral choice?" Dr. George Batsche, Psychologist, will talk about the impact on families and society if abortion were made illegal again. Professor Mary Campbell, Sociologist/Social Worker at Illinois State University, will ask whether people who oppose abortion must necessarily support making abortion illegal.

The forum will be Wednesday, January 22nd at the Community Room of the Bloomington Public Library, 205 East Olive, from noon to 1:00 p.m. The forum is open to the public. Coffee and tea will be provided. Questions can be asked at the end of the speeches. Speakers will be available to reporters after the forum. For more information call Dixie Axley at 827-4368.

## In a Good Cause



## Abortion: The right to choose

Continued from page 8

attack on individual providers, and not just free-standing clinics.

Bering and her partner were successful in obtaining a permanent injunction against picketing in front of the medical building where their office is located. The injunction also specifically bars individuals from calling any people in the building "baby killers." There have been several contempt hearings so far for anti-abortionists who have disobeyed the injunction. Activists have also begun targeting the doctors' homes and home lives.

Abortion is a morally and emotionally-loaded social question. The statement, "I believe every woman has the right to choose abortion," can as easily be countered with, "And I do not." Enter the growing tendency to rely on "objective" evidence of fetal viability and fetal development from the medical sector.

Such subjective issues as when is a fetus a human being and when is killing something living allowable have always been at issue. But should such factors ultimately determine when and whether abortion is allowable; or should the right to choose abortion be, unequivocable, every woman's right? Surveys of Americans have consistently shown that a large majority believes the ultimate decision rests with the individual, not with the state or special interest groups.

### National support

As for the future of the abortion-rights struggle: "The scope of the attack on abortion rights by the right wing is national. Therefore, our movement-building must be national, too," said Lieberman. NCRAF's goals are to "overturn all restrictions on abortion funding and re-energize the women's movement with a focus on abortion rights."

Reproductive rights for all women

pivot upon re-establishing access for low-income women. Referring to recent human life marches on Washington, D.C. Lieberman said, "They've co-opted our day (January 22). We have to be more on the offensive and recognize there is a difference between campaign issues and movement building."

Activists must find their allies and support them, and support physicians and clinics that provide abortion services. And physicians need to show more concern for their patients. A speakers' bureau from the medical community would make their knowledge available to political action, help educate the public, and demystify the abortion procedure.

Tragically, when safe, legal abortions are inaccessible, women will turn to back alley abortionists. As did Rosie Jimenez.

--Erin Moore, from Northwest Passage, November, 1985

## Whacko feminism theory of the month

"I listen to the feminists and all these radical gals--most of them are failures. They've blown it...These women just need a man in the house. That's all they need. Most of these feminists need a man to tell them what time of day it is and to lead them home. And they blew it and they're mad at all men. Feminists hate men. They're sexist. They hate men--that's their problem."

--Rev. Jerry Falwell  
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# McHeartattacks: Fast food fryout

Arby's and Wendy's, Burger King and McDonald's. The largest fast-food chains spend millions to create consumer preference for Whoppers over Quarter-Pounders. But in one crucial respect, seven of the largest chains are all alike. They fry their food in shortening that's largely beef tallow.

Considering that heart disease is the nation's number-one killer, the chains could not have made a worse choice. "Given the role of saturated fats in raising (blood) cholesterol levels, the use of beef fat and other saturated fats in the fast-food industry is extremely disturbing" said William Castelli, M.D., medical director of the Framingham Heart study at a Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) press conference held November 14 in Washington.

And Castelli should know. About 5,200 men and women from Framingham, Massachusetts--roughly half of the community's population--joined the government sponsored study when it began in 1949. Castelli and his associates are now seeing heart attacks in the people who entered the study more than 35 years ago, as well as in their children. In Castelli's opinion, the high fat, high-cholesterol American diet has a great deal to do with our staggering prevalence of heart attacks.

"One man out of every eight in Framingham between the ages of 40 and 44 develops coronary heart disease. These aren't old men. And one-fourth of the men aged 55 and over in Framingham develop heart disease," Castelli stressed. "When we released these mortality rates," he quipped, "the first thing people said was, 'Well, if I were you, I'd get out of Framingham.'"

There's nowhere else to go, Castelli noted soberly. He points out that the death rate from heart disease is just



as high in other American cities. The problem, too, is not restricted to Americans.

"The Japanese traditionally had a very low-fat diet, consuming only about 30 grams a day," he said. "Now that we're sending the Japanese our beef in return for cars, urban Japanese are now eating about 60 grams of fat a day--Americans get about 90--and the heart-disease rate for city-dwelling Japanese is about four times higher than it was 35 years ago.

With proper diet and exercise, heart disease can be reversed, said Castelli. But some people don't even find that a coronary bypass operation motivates them sufficiently to change their ways. Castelli cites a recent study in Montreal that demonstrated that 80 percent

of bypass patients got worse after their operations. The 20 percent of patients that improved had lowered their total cholesterol levels through diet. "I'd advise people to look at their bypass as a financial investment they need to protect," he noted.

Even hospitals often don't provide cholesterol-lowering diets, said Tazewell Banks, M.D., a cardiologist who supervises the heart station at District of Columbia General Hospital. "One of the hardest places to get a good meal is in our hospitals," said Banks at the November 14 press conference. "Until recently, a few days after a heart attack, hospitals would feed bacon and eggs to the patients in intensive care."

One of the best ways to maintain a healthy heart, said the cardiologists, is to eliminate fast foods from one's diet--or at the very least, to avoid those cooked in beef fat. Spokespersons for Arby's, Big Boy, McDonald's, and Wendy's have all stated that they use beef fat because of "customer preference" expressed during taste tests, not because tallow is cheaper than vegetable oil, by about five cents a pound.



## ISU metalsmiths exhibit work

The McLean County Arts Center is sponsoring the exhibit "ISU Metalsmiths: Past and Present," which will open January 12, and continue through February 14.

Under the direction of ISU metals professor Dennis French, the show will bring recent works by 16 ISU alumni and faculty together with outstanding works by current students.

In addition to presenting a wide range of contemporary jewelry, tableware and sculpture, the exhibit is also designed to explain some modern and traditional metalworking techniques.

The show is also intended to underscore the commercial possibilities of metalsmithing as a profession. Each of the featured artists makes their livelihood in metalsmithing. Artists include former faculty members Richard Mawdsley and Jay H. Adams, along with 14 other metalsmiths from around the country.

The Arts Center, 601 N. East Street, Bloomington, is open 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and Saturday 12 - 4 p.m. The Art Center is funded in part by the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.



Sue Unzicker  
"Never Knowing Why"  
electroformed copper, niobium

Fast-food companies certainly don't need beef fat to stay competitive. For example, Kentucky Fried Chicken, the nation's third-largest fast-food chain, fries its foods in vegetable oil, said CSPI Executive Director Michael F. Jacobson. "Most consumers probably would be perfectly satisfied with foods fried in vegetable oil," he said at the press conference. Considering the health risks, "hardly anyone would opt for the beef tallow, if they were given a choice," he added.

Many consumers are unaware that some of the chains use beef fat, since none of the restaurants lists the ingredients of its products on food packages. In June, CSPI, the American College of Allergists, and the New York State Consumer Protection Board petitioned the Food and Drug Administration and the Department of Agriculture to require fast-food companies to list their ingredients on the label. The USDA rejected the petition in December, but FDA has not yet responded.

Thousands of citizens have signed CSPI's petitions to the FDA and USDA. Joining them were more than 100 scientists.

--from Nutrition Action Health Letter, Jan. 86

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# Action Potential: A stimulus for change



For four years one of the most prominent members of the Bloomington/Normal music scene was a four piece band known as the Saints.

After their sudden demise a year ago, members Mike Ward, John Griffin and Joe Beck reemerged with a new sound and a new name, Action Potential. Recently, keyboardist Duke Ferguson left the group. The current line-up finds Ward on bass and most of the vocal chores, Griffin on guitar, Beck on percussion, Dave Campbell on keyboards and Todd Peden on saxophone. This interview took place in the office of Midwest Concert Systems, which is immediately adjacent to their rehearsal space and is co-owned by Ward and Griffin.

**Post:** Tell me something about your short-term and long-range goals for the band.

**MW:** Working in Dave Campbell.

**Post:** The new keyboardist?

**AW:** He's hot.

**JB:** We gotta work in a few new clubs, too.

**Post:** Like . . .

**JB:** Mabel's. Work Mosey's more.

**Post:** I understand that you're opening at both clubs for Combo Audio soon.

## Recording

**JG:** We have a possible deal to press some records. Maybe something out of that.

**MW:** I'm saying a lot as usual. As soon as the tape goes on, Mike goes off.

**Post:** When you guys play, which is better: having a blast, or having a big crowd?

**JB:** It's nice to have both.

**Post:** Given the choice . . .

**JB:** I'd rather have a blast because if you've got two or three people there and you're having fun, they're gonna be in awe.

**JG:** If you're having a blast, it keeps your interest up.

**MW:** It's easier to have a blast with a lot of people there.

**Post:** Let's talk about the departure of Duke Ferguson, your original keyboardist.

**MW:** Sure. We came to a crossroads with him. He's going away to school. He just got accepted to Northwestern University and wouldn't be able to deal with a lot of gigs.

**JG:** He helped us out a lot . . . Did a lot of work.

**Post:** I understand that he was writing more.

**JG:** Yeah. He did all our promo.

## What's in a name?

**Post:** What about your name, Action Potential? I've been meaning to ask you about that for almost a year.

**JG:** That's Mike's name.

**MW:** John originally wanted to call us Digital Dash.

**JB:** I like that.

**MW:** John and I were watching a car commercial . . .

**JG:** We didn't want to spend a lot of time coming up with a name. I like Action Potential.

**MW:** I had a Physiological Psych class. All action potential is the ultimate stimulation of a nerve.

**Post:** So it's actually something.

**MW:** Yes. So, if you touch something, the action potential is the ultimate chemical stimulation of a neuron, which creates a chain reaction of action potentials all the way to a brain.

**Post:** And you hope the music does the same.

**JB:** (Smiles) At least to your feet. We were trying for a name that would lend itself to some particular type of music, but then we thought about it and it was okay. Digital Dash would have suggested music like " . . . di-di-Di. Du-Di . . ."

**Post:** Technopop, you mean?

**JB:** Exactly. And that's not what we are.

## Gearheads

**Post:** I find it almost soulful. I find some gearhead quality to it because you're all gearheads. You're into the latest technology and how to use it. At the same time, you're all very good at funk and soul. Mike in particular brings a soulful sound with the bass. Then there's John's 22nd century guitar sound underneath it as opposed to the surface work he did with the Saints. Then, the sound was built around the vocals and the guitar sound.

**JG:** With Dave Campbell, we're going to get more keyboards into the sound.

**Post:** Then you're going to get even more into your supportive role, your filling role?

**JG:** Right.

**MW:** That will lend itself very well to occasionally having a straight guitar sound after so much keyboards. Every now and then the basic rock sound comes out.

**Post:** A break.

**MW:** Right.

## "New Americans"

**Post:** In your song "New Americans," after three minutes of pulse and vocals, John opens up for 16 bars. That song begins to sound like a dirge.

**MW:** That's a weird song.

**Post:** It's very deceiving.

**JB:** That song doesn't start out like Technopop. It's just the drums-- doof . . . do, do, do, DAT . . . doof . . . do, do, do, DAT.

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Post: Do you know how much trouble I have typing to begin with? Let alone "doof . . .do, do, do, DAT"?

JG: We'll never really sound like technopop, because of Mike's voice. We try to create an atmosphere.

Post: A sound?

JG: Yeah. We have a song called "Progress" and we wanted to get the sound of machinery . . .

Post: Which is a sound you personally have been trying to get for a few years.

JG: Yeah. Duke came up with a good part that sounded like machinery.

Post: The first time I saw Action Potential, I immediately thought that you'd finally found your machinery guitar sound.

JG: I'm trying.

**Apres-Saints**

Post: Let's go to a touchy subject. When the Saints ended, when you first met after the last performance, what did you discuss?

MW: Well, I immediately expressed a desire to take the ball, singing more and playing bass.

JG: Mike and I had decided the day of the last gig that we wanted Joe to remain, but we weren't sure he'd be hip to being the only black guy in the band.

JB: I've been the only black guy my whole life.

JG: You also had a million other things going on.

JB: We had to push Mike into it, though.

MW: Yeah, they did. Singing and playing bass, as you know, is tough. In the Saints almost none of the attention was focused on me, so I was passive and didn't contribute much. I stayed in the background and had no input and no interest, really. Now I'm developing faster. I'm getting better.

JG: One thing that I was really proud of is that at the beginning we sat down and made a list of what we wanted our songs to be like. By the end of the summer, I looked at the list and we'd stuck to it. It's weird--now, some of our songs are almost like the blues.

JB: Not THE BLUES, but . . .

Post: More traditional?

JB: Well, yeah . . . not I-IV-V, but in the blues modulation.

JG: We use a lot of minor chords and melodies.

**Long range goals**

JB: You asked a bit ago about our long range goals. John mentioned getting a recording contract. That really is only halfway there. We'd like to eventually invent our own form of music. Right now, nobody can really call us pop or rock. No one can name us readily.

Post: I know people who have. Some people are of the opinion that all your songs sound the same.

JB: Yeah, but do they categorize us?

Post: I've heard the word "artsy" used.

JG: I disagree.

MW: We only do what we're best at.

JG: If it sounds commercial, too bad.

MW: Some musicians might have a hard time with us because we have this thing (Midwest Concert Systems) and Joe has the Music Machine. We come together and I don't think people take us seriously because it might appear that we don't take it seriously. That's not true.

JB: They can't really doubt us, though. When we're playing we're really going for it. We're structured, sure, but not to the point of making a blueprint. We want to have fun, too.

Post: The music sounds complicated, but it's still open and simple?

MW: It's very simple. I think John's parts are less complicated now. I look at my bass playing as rhythm-oriented.

JB: And that's why we click.

**Lead licks**

Post: In my opinion, all three of you play your instruments like lead instruments. I listen to each part individually and Mike and Joe, you definitely supply the rhythm, but you both add tasty fills that suggest lead

licks. Maybe that's why it clicks, because you all are taking turns with leads, in support of each other.

MW: Our band is strange; I feel that it appeals to some people in a party sense, but John and I aren't party people. We don't go out much, we don't go to bars much. I think that sort of hurts us at times. Y'know all the musicians in the area support each other and the musicians who support us are more sociable. They know what's going on. We don't. We should hang out more. People are funny. They see us for 5 minutes and say that we sound the same. They don't say this to us, but to other people. What do you think about that?

Post: Going back to what you said about the music community here, it's a supportive community, but mostly it's an egocentric one. I notice often that many local musicians solicit you or expect you to see them perform and are surprised when you don't and then don't come to see you play or if they do, they're bad audiences, rude or unattentive.

**Starving artists?**

JG: I think the problem there is that we're a pretty easy-to-deal-with sound. Some people around here look down on that. Our sound is not dissonant enough or antiestablishment enough. Maybe like Mike said, we're fairly stable. We've got this business and we're kinda dug into that. We've got jobs. Mike's got two. So does Joe. Maybe that hurts our credibility as "starving artists" or something.

MW: People tend to knock your average band that you hear on the radio. Sure it's generic and maybe it's not too interesting. But if you compare them to a band that hasn't made it, there is a difference. People say, "Oh, that band sucks" or "This band is awful," but for them to be successful they must be doing something right. They lose their credibility by being successful. It's easy to criticize them. That bums me out. People bad-rapping things because they're popular. I think it's a form of peer pressure. People think that they have such independent thoughts. Sure, they're independent, from the mainstream, but not from their clique. I think that there is room to appreciate things that you don't necessarily dig. I hope we do that. I hope other people try.

**Post benefit**

Post: Your next performance at the Galery is for the Post Amerikan benefit on February 1st. Any comments?

JG: Yeah. It should be fun.

MW: I'm looking forward to it. All the people are cool.

JG: I don't know if we're their type of band, but we'd like to be.

MW: Please like us.

JG: If they listen to our words, they'll like us.

--Clarence Goodman

**GTE's USS**

**Phoebe quibbles about fairness**

Well, they said they were going to do it, and they did. The telephone company has switched us to USS (Unbelievably Stupid System) (Usage Sensitive Service, they claim it is) as of Jan.1.

Under this plan, we will pay a flat \$7.56 a month, and then pay for each local call we make: 3 cents for calling and 1/2 cent for each minute. You can call between 9 p.m. and 8 a.m. for half price.

GTE keeps claiming that many, many people will be tickled to death with this system, saving so much money that they'll finally put a down payment on that little cabin in the Rockies. The company also claims that the USS is fairer than the old system, because people who use their phones more will bear more of the burden of keeping GTE execs in Jacuzzi's.

Who are the people who'll save under USS? Well, people who have the kind of jobs where they can make their business-hours calls from work. People who have a lot of mobility, therefore not needing to "let their fingers do the walking" very much. People who have a lot of human face-to-face contact. People who do not have teenagers in the house.

In other words, the privileged.

Who won't benefit from USS? Well, people who don't have the kind of job where you can use the telephone at work...or have no job at all...or are looking for a job, which requires a lot of daytime phoning. People who don't have cars, parents who are housebound with infants, handicapped people. People who are lonely. People who have teenagers in the house.

And this is what GTE calls fair?

Now, I call it fair when those of us who lead more comfortable lives chip in to make sure that those who lead less comfortable lives can have basic things like heat and telephones.

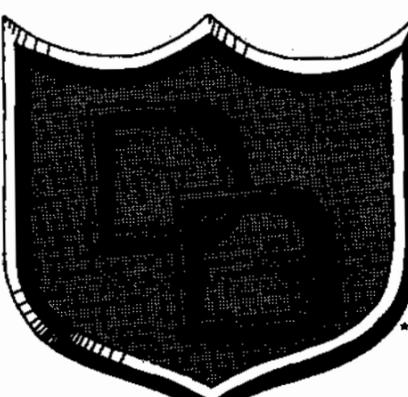
Just old-fashioned, I guess.

--Phoebe Caulfield

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# That Hope's "Eight Dollar Hat" sneaks up on listeners

That Hope's debut album "Eight Dollar Hat" doesn't go for the throat; instead, it sneaks up and becomes implanted in the listener's ear. That is not to say that the record is not dynamic. It is . . . but in its own subtle way.

The basic formula here is: Dean Carlson crooning, Edwin Pierce playing rock guitar, George Ludwig laying down funky/jazz bass lines and Scott Lucas pulling everything together with his versatile drumming. Monotonous? No. Repetitive? Hell no! What makes the album interesting is the way That Hope manipulates the components to make almost each of the 10 songs sound unique.

One tune that jumps at the listener is "Useless Advice," which is about a phony sort of person that they don't particularly care for. The band is at its best on this "I've got a bone to pick" funk/rocker. Carlson finds a great deal of range as he wails out "You are nothing special . . . just gives you useless advice." And when he's not there, the others surely are, as Pierce plucks and flanges his guitar, Ludwig picks his bass strings and Lucas' drums hold it all in place.

That Hope discovers another niche on "Life of Antics" which presumably deals with their "life on the road" crazy world of rock experiences. The story is put to a free flowing rockabilly sound which allows the lyrics to float along. The subject may be well-worn but it's easy to digest this way as opposed to, say, Bob Seeger's cruel-to-the-senses "Turn the Page."

"Power of Speech" is a prime candidate for radio airplay. The chorus sounds a lot like the one on R.E.M.'s "Pilgrimage," although not as expansive (they even do some harmonizing on this one). If there was any tune on



this album that had to be labeled "pop," this would be the one. "John's Got the Goods" is another catchy number that doesn't seem to leave the brain. Both of these pretty much rely on basic and pleasant-sounding melodies.

The title cut, "Eight Dollar Hat," is a short rockabilly free-for-all which was improvised in the studio (along with "Synchronicity III"). While the guys were probably just having some fun here, it displays raw creative ability.

"Move By Me," "Hoist It Up," and at times, "Heart Against Elvis" sound more like the trashy That Hope of old, only much more refined. While listening to the album for the first time, though, it's easy to mistake "Move By Me" for "Hoist It Up." Or "Heart Against Elvis" for "Thinner With Time." Not to say that these songs are lacking, but the similarity detracts a little from the quality of each, and makes all of the other cuts stand out.

A lot of times Carlson's lyrics are skeptical and sarcastic. There's the not-to-be-trusted man in "Useless Advice," or being "trapped in my upbringing" from "Hoist It Up," or the "so predictable" cities he travels through in "Life of Antics." The words fall far short of being bitter or pretentious, though, and kind of say "this is what draws our music out."

Nobody said that songs have to be about steel mills or little towns.

The recent wave of independently produced records has earmarked success for groups like The Replacements, Jason and the Scorchers, R.E.M. and The Violent Femmes by leading them to record deals with major labels and national press exposure. That Hope's "Eight Dollar Hat" shows that they have that potential. They've grown a lot in the past year and a half, and there's no reason to believe that they'll stop.

--Leroy Thomas

## Jewel of the Nile

# Not tit for tat

Question: When is a breast not a breast? Answer: When the breast in question is black. This is not a sick racist joke being circulated by the KKK, but the apparent attitude of both Twentieth Century Fox and Walt Disney Productions.

Both of these major studios (with Walt Disney Productions hiding under the pseudonym of Touchstone Films--the name it uses when it doesn't want to besmirch the precious Disney name with anything but a G rating) have released

films--Jewel of the Nile for Twentieth Century Fox, and Baby . . . The Secret of the Lost Legend for the Disney gang --in which it is perfectly fine for the black actresses (in, of course, minor yet highly visible roles) to be shown with their breasts in full view of the audience during ritual dance scenes; yet the white actresses, both leads (and well paid ones) Kathleen Turner and Sean Young respectively, were not shown in any form of nudity --full or partial, during the supposed "love scenes."

Just what kind of double standard do we have here? Wait, wait, before anyone starts screaming about the different social contexts let me ask this--do you really believe that black folk are the only people who have females going around topless (in which case take a look around at most topless beaches and count the number of blacks there) and are you going to try and convince me that white people make love fully clothed? C'mon. Hell, this is so blatant that even Dan Craft of the Pantagraph has noted it and commented on it.

What seems to be present here is an attitude that it's okay for blacks to be nude because they're just blacks that couldn't in any way, shape, or form be viewed as attractive or sexually exciting or desirable. Haven't they heard that black is beautiful?

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# The Underground Barfly



Y yucky  
 YY so-so  
 YYY some fun  
 YYYY groovy  
 YYYYY pure alpha

## Mini-review

YY C II East  
 Kinda' pleasant.

YY Falcon Eddie's  
 Doesn't suck.

Well, we've made the college scene at Rocky's, Rudy's, and the Galery. We've made the seamy underside scene at the Sport N Bait and the Metropole. We even went underground to the Cave, so we knew eventually we would have to make the latest scene--yes, the yuppie scene.

There's that word again--yuppies, that over-discussed cross-section of young Amerikans whose notoriety is based primarily on their level of disposable income. We won't launch into a long ideological treatise on the pros and cons of the yuppie stereotype--you know who you are and so do we--but watch this space. Anyway, we thought we were in for just that type of an evening when we ventured into downtown Bloomington's own C II East and Falcon Eddie's Roost.

First we stalked the C II East, which we suspected to be a lawyer's lair. We were expecting an evening of suit 'n'tie cruising, so we recruited a small group of friends to come along for insulation. (We hit the place on a Thursday night, so our experience may not be typical of weekends.) We were in for a pleasant surprise.

Even though all the eyes in the small bar were glued to the door and the patrons scanned our group with varying degrees of "I'm interested" glances, we found C II to be a very comfortable bar to spend the evening talking with friends.

The pleasant waitress made an immediate hit by carding us. Perhaps it was the mood lighting, or perhaps simply our remarkable state of preservation, but she did not recognize that we were on the downward slide to the big 3-0. Certainly no offense was taken, since we are all as vain as the next guy (though the amount of money spent on hair stylings in these bars could do away with the national debt). We immediately took note that our needlessly apologetic waitress was comfortably attired in pants and sensible shoes (as well as an equally sensible sweater, lest you think this is a topless bar), unlike many upper-crusty bars which seem to insist that waitresses look as foolish as they are uncomfortable in skimpy sexist costumes. She was efficient, friendly, unobtrusive, and not the least bit snotty that we were all females.

The set-up of the C II is like this: to enter you must run a tunnelesque gauntlet area which contains the bar and (on this particular evening) the majority of its gawking male patrons. No fools, we headed straight for a comfortable looking pit area in the back, where all of the women had gathered (you know, just like jr. high sock hops--boys on this side of the gym, girls on the other). Everyone was fashionably but casually attired, keeping all but their eyes to themselves. The ambiance was purely "fern bar"--except that the ferns were mysteriously missing from the hanging containers of dirt. A photomural of the Manhattan skyline adorned one entire wall--in fact, they liked it so much that they repeated it twice on the same wall. New York, New York, we theorized. Christmas decor was prominently featured in every available space, though several weeks had passed since the holiday.

The New York skyline also inspired our drink choices--Manhattans and Coke (a-colas), as well as the decidedly un-metropolitan but delicious Blackberry Sour. They were excellent--nice and stiff, with average prices: \$1.75 for the hard stuff and \$.50 for the soft.

Seating in the pit was really comfortable and the music, a nice safe mix of 60's, 70's and 80's rock and wave, was not too loud. At best, C II is a nice intimate bar for cocktails and converstaion. At worst, its close quarters could make it hard to avoid overly friendly folks on the make.

Speaking of close quarters, we then walked (some might suggest stumbled) down to Falcon Eddie's Roost. Our yuppie preconception of this bar was immediately dispelled--exit: plush carpeting, the scent of Pierre Cardin cologne and tinkling ice-cubes; enter: sticky floors, a thick blue haze of too many Marlboros, and the clanking of beer glasses.

We ran our second gauntlet of the evening from the front of the narrow bar to the back, where we thought we saw a small opening in the crowd. We sucked in and squished between back slapping boys and cigarette machines to a corner area equipped with little shelf units for our elbows. Quite a switch from the rich Corinthian leather of the C II but...

The noise level in Falcon Eddie's was intense and the behavior of the mostly male patrons was a sort of controlled rowdiness--high-fiving, shot-drinking, guys-being-guys, male-bonding, same-sex fun type of stuff. Frankly, in spite of our general smugness about the whole scene, everyone seemed to be having if not the time of their lives at least something akin to it. And at no one else's expense, though we might add that there were only a handful of women and no minorities present, a definite trend for the evening. A

sports motif permeated the whole scene, from the patron's attire to softball trophies to strains of "The Super Bowl Shuffle" emanating from the juke box. And how about that juke box! Everything from top hits by Aretha and Bruce to oldies by the Supremes, Otis Redding, and, of course, Pure Prairie League ("Aimie" was the second most played tune). Where else have you seen "Goodtime Charlie's Got the Blues" for public consumption in the last fifteen years?

Beers were a generous 16 oz. for 75 cents, but, what with the lack of seating and all, it was frankly uncomfortable to stand and sip such a large glass at a leisurely pace. Getting the attention of the bartender was also no easy task.

The women's bathroom--a one-seater--was clean, well-stocked, and free of graffiti. However, the men's room featured a few interesting notes, primarily "I Love Cocks" and its footnote, "We are everywhere," as well as "Women--You can't live with them and you can't shoot them," and its footnote, "Legally."

As we tried to leave after that one long 16 ounce, we were detained at the juke box by Greg, the evening's only character study. We don't think it would be an injustice to the clientele of Falcon Eddie's to say that Greg was pretty representative of the regular patrons. A fun-loving guy. Wanted to live his life without hurting anybody else. Wanted to see the Bears win. Wanted to have a meaningful relationship. Wanted to get laid. Not necessarily in that order.

All in all, could've been worse. Could've been Rocky's.

--Blanche and Stella

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