

Eastern Illinois University

The Keep

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The Post Amerikan Project

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POST AMERIKAN

Bloomington-Normal

25¢

Vol. 15 No. 1
April-May 1986

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POST AMERIKAN

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've 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 May 8, 1986.

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- ISU University Union, 2nd floor
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 - North & Broadway, southeast corner
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 - White Hen pantry, 207 Broadway (in front)

Thanks

This issue is in your hands thanks to Melissa (coordinator), Chris M., J.T., Val, Dan, Laurie S., Laurie H., Laurie D., Margaret, Dave, Nadene, Lynne, Bob, Bobby, Deborah, Sue, Susie, Susan, Diana, Bonnie, Diane, Ralph, Bumper, Mark, Chris S., Debbie, Mary, Michael, Peg, and probably others we forgot to mention.

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.

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Shuttle safety vs. P.R.: P.R. won

Those of us who are following the ponderous unraveling of what went wrong with the space shuttle Challenger are being rewarded with a wonderful sort of bureaucratic version of a mystery book. Mystery fans know the slow, tantalizing pace of getting closer and closer to the answer, all the while stopping off for frequent digressions concerning the character of the players. In good mysteries, the answer always lies in character.

It is not too soon to leap nimbly to at least one conclusion about the tragedy, and that is that it bears the unmistakable stench of public relations. We got a nearly perfect example of P.R. thinking recently from George Hardy, deputy director of the Marshall Space Flight Center, when he said, "I believe that to suggest that flight safety was disregarded or not properly regarded on the night of Jan. 27, in my opinion, does a disservice to dedicated and committed professionals."

Now that's one of those remarkable statements we got to know so well during Watergate--it not only begs the question, it starts an emotional flare that goes off in another direction entirely. "We are insulted that you have raised the question," becomes the answer.

Morton Thiokol engineers have testified that their opposition to launch was overruled by their company management under pressure from NASA. Rockwell engineers have testified that they were deeply concerned about the "skin" on the rocket boosters because of low temperature. Flight safety was in fact disregarded or not properly regarded, and as a result seven dedicated and committed professionals are dead.

All toilers in large institutions at once recognized the pattern described by the Thiokol engineers--engineers and management, workers and foremen, reporters and editors, field hands and straw bosses, junior members and partners, soldiers and generals. Such an old story. But in this case the mystery isn't why Thiokol's management went against its own engineers; why was there pressure from NASA?

The answer is already visible, floating through all the testimony--it was public relations, P.R.

The flight originally was scheduled for Jan. 22 through the 28th--it would have returned by the night of the President's State of the Union address, in which he had planned to salute the Teacher in Space. In an administration as utterly devoted to public relations as this one, there was nothing coincidental about the scheduling. Failing a returned shuttle crew, a brief live connection to the shuttle in space in mid-speech would have served the purpose as well.

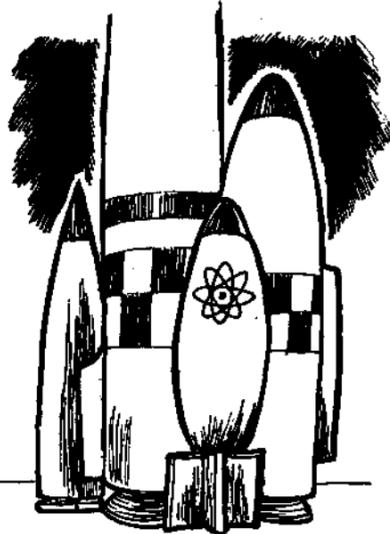
When William P. Rogers, chairman of the presidential commission investigating the disaster, asked Jesse Moore, director of the Johnson Space Center, whether there had been any special pressure to launch on the night of the 27th, Moore's response was fascinating. "On the

WHICH
HEAVY METAL GROUP
represents the greatest
THREAT to American youth?



Garth
Simpson
©1985

A.



B.

night of the 25th," he said, "there were Congressmen who had come to Florida to watch the launch. Why, the Vice President was going to fly in for it. All the media people were there, but we paid no attention--we did not launch."

That Moore would answer concerning the wrong date is telling, but Rogers did not follow up on that answer, and Moore never addressed the question of whether there had been pressure on the 27th.

The failure to launch on the 25th was followed by an episode on the 26th involving the door to the shuttle. With the media looking on, the door was discovered not to work, a drill was sent for. The drill had no battery in it.

Not only were the press and the politicians waiting, but NASA itself needed the P.R. of the Teacher in Space flight to keep up both its Congressional and public support. Manned space flights are not the most cost-effective way to explore space, and NASA is just as apt to get sliced by the Gramm-Ruddman meat ax as anything else. Was there pressure to launch? Guess.

Another aspect of character in this tragedy is the psychological pressure to go along that always plays a role in human affairs and becomes particularly powerful in a team effort like NASA's. No one wants to be the asshole who calls it off, who says, "We can't play." The messenger who brings bad news.

One of the most famous moments in the history of the Vietnam War, that paradigm of folly, came when an impatient briefing officer asked David Halberstam of The New York Times, one of the first American reporters to question the official line in Vietnam, "Halberstam, why don't you get on the team?" None of us wants to be out of step, the odd guy out, the only one who isn't gung-ho.

The engineers were willing to take the heat, up to a point, but everyone else wanted to be on the team. The trouble with the values of P.R. is that the wombats who dwell in that world eventually come to see reality as a stage for their stratagems. They think you can tell rubber O-rings to "Get on the team"--or at least that having "everybody

on board" will make the O-rings work right. Or that no one will be blamed if they don't.

I think Fritz Hollings is right--the Rogers Commission is performing a limited-scope investigation and, as a result, will come up with limited answers. Unless Robert Crippen, Sally Ride and the other astronauts insist on pushing it further, I think the official answer to what went wrong with the shuttle will be cast in engineering terms. They'll say it was the O-rings or the rocket skin or ice in the seams.

And that will be another tragedy, for then we'll miss the opportunity to learn something from this one. They can fix the O-rings or the skin or the seams, but we won't have learned how to deal with the P.R. mentality that so afflicts these times.

And I sit in my prison cell and wonder what's wrong with Amerika. Doesn't anybody care? It's all there, right in front of your eyes. If I can see it from this 6' by 10', I know you can see it.

A long time ago, Kris Kristoferson wrote it in a song. He sang, "You can waste your time a singin', to the people who don't listen to the things that you are sayin', hopin' someone's gonna care,... and you can die explainin' how the things that they complain about are things that they could be changin', while you're hopin' they will care..." c. Kris Kristoferson, To Beat the Devil.

Sure, I'm disgusted with Amerika and Amerikans, but then again, I guess that's to be expected because sociopaths do have trouble socializing, don't they?

I'll remain vigilant, my freak flag will always fly, but from here on out, I'll no longer be: Robert Warren Cassity, 977 Camp Rd., Salisbury, N.C. 28145-6004, but I'll simply remain: the Prisoner in Disguise.

I'm gettin' old, but I'm still strong, and I love the battle.

--The Prisoner

Is there a doctor in the house?

There are plenty of doctors around McLean County for the elderly--if they are willing to pay extra on their bill. But when it comes to doctors who will agree to Medicare Assignment--that is, only billing the average rate set by Medicare--McLean County physicians come up with a meager 17% signed up.

Medicare Assignment means that a doctor will charge no more than the reasonable charge set by Medicare yearly, and also that the doctor agrees to do all the billing, sending the 80% bill directly to Medicare and the 20% to the patient.

Other physicians might accept Medicare payments, but often charge more than Medicare's "reasonable charge," leaving the senior citizen to make up the difference. They also often leave the senior citizen to do all the paperwork and billing to Medicare, an added headache in the day of complicated billing forms and nasty computers.

In that list of 17% for McLean County are all three hospitals, a number of chiropractors and gynecologists, Gailey Eye Clinic and Stroink Labs--but not one family practitioner

Nationally, about 33% of doctors and medical establishments participate in Medicare Assignment, with the lowest percentage in rural areas.

Locally, doctors have little incentive to do so. There is not a glut of doctors in town, and many doctors work part-time for the local insurance giants, State Farm and Country Companies, putting their required M.D. on assorted paperwork, thus profiting from their good old medical degree without ever looking at a patient, or very few patients.

To help increase the percentage of doctors who will commit themselves to 100% Medicare Assignment, the Illinois State Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations (ISCOSCO) has targeted McLean County for a campaign.

Their recent efforts in Winnebago and Madison Counties helped raise the number of participating physicians 40%, thus opening new options in affordable health care for the elderly. They also plan to publish a directory of participating physicians after the campaign is over.

Health care is one of the largest expenses for the elderly, especially since many of them live on fixed incomes. In the mid-1960s, before Medicare was introduced, the elderly paid over 25% of their incomes on health care. Under Medicare that was lowered, but it is now up to 15% again,

because of budget cuts. With the Gramm-Rudman and other cuts on the way, and health care costs continuing to rise, it is predicted that the elderly's health care payments will rise, it is predicted that the elderly's health care payments will rise at a rate about twice as fast as their income between now and 1990.

If you would like to participate in this campaign, call ISCOSCO officer Larry Yeast at 452-4540. The campaign is currently looking for organizational endorsements of its effort.

--MgM

Voters say "no" to middle school

Now that the middle school referendum is behind us and (one hopes) tempers have cooled, we should all pursue the issue that brings us together--an interest in children's education. It was in a spirit of inquiry and concern for education that Citizens for Quality Education took form. This group of parents and residents did not organize itself in opposition to the referendum or to any administrative body, but rather in support of good educational policy. The group felt District #87's middle school plan was not good educational policy, and so we opposed it.

As the administration's campaign to "sell" the middle school concept got underway, some concrete issues were glossed over, minimized, or entirely left out of the debate.

1. How objective was the information provided on the middle school proposal? Upon examination, this information was found to be one-sided. The administration's position would have been stronger had it offered objective, even-handed evaluations of the middle school concept with pros and cons. The idea should have been to inform, not merely to convince.

2. It was not made clear why we

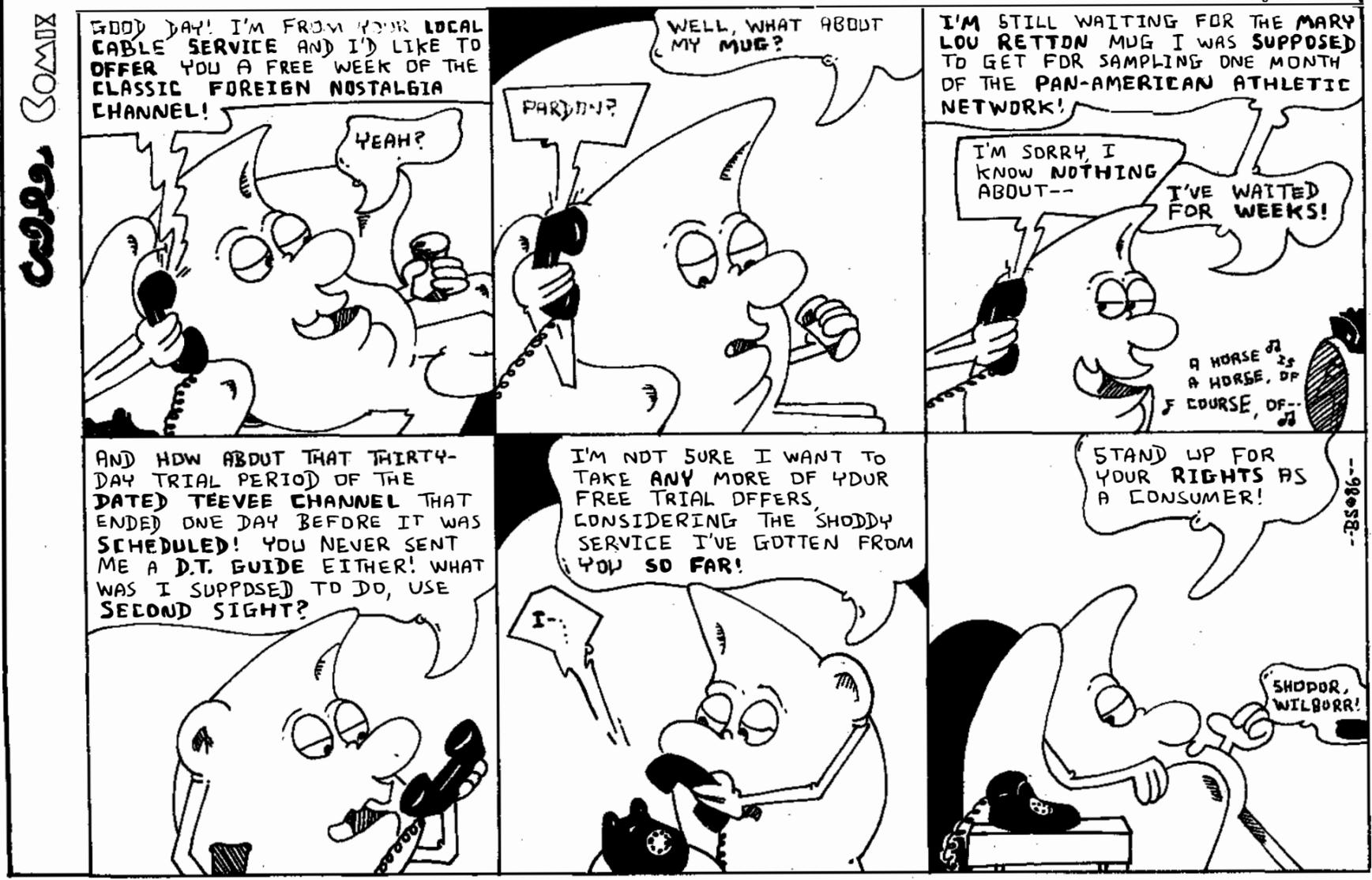
should embark on such a wide-ranging restructuring at a time when the community is obviously in economic and social transition; new industries and new families will be moving in and a new superintendent has been asked to take over this July.

3. It was not made clear why the problems presented by an inadequate junior high school facility should be translated into wholesale reorganization.

Other concerns such as curriculum content, teacher training, placement of fifth graders with eighth graders, and actual costs were expressed by those people who chose to oppose the plan.

Are we satisfied with the status quo? Certainly not. Improvements are needed. Citizens are concerned, they are aware and they want information that they can reflect upon and act upon. They want to work with the board and the administration because their goals are clearly the same. But they want to function as informed citizens. It is the administration's and the board's responsibility to provide rational, concrete, and unbiased research. It is up to the citizens to then act upon it responsibly.

--Lisa Koch Fajardo



Dozier knows best

Parenting prejudices prosecute

In February, I heard the women at the bank talking about Shonda Butcher, whose two-year-old child had just died in a fire while Shonda was out of the house.

The poor woman, they were saying. They went on to talk about how they knew it was "wrong," but they'd left their own children alone, too, and were just lucky that nothing awful had happened. They said that sometimes you just had to do an errand--or visit a neighbor--or even be out in the garden for a while, really too far to prevent every disaster that could happen to a two-year-old.



They talked about how their own mothers had left them alone at early ages. One said something about the loneliness of being housebound with a small child. All of them felt deeply for the woman who'd been gone at exactly the wrong time, whose picture in the paper that day was an image of horror and loss.

They knew, as many of us do, that there's no way to completely child-proof a house. Shonda Butcher knew that her daughter played with the knobs of the stove--what kid doesn't? What kid couldn't find fire, water, sharp objects, poison, things to choke

on, left alone in even the most careful home for even the smallest amount of time?

I wondered about those women at the bank the next day, when state's attorney Ron Dozier said he was considering prosecuting Shonda Butcher for the death of her own daughter.

On Feb. 27, Dozier did take Shonda to the grand jury, and he indicted her for the felony of cruelty to children (see adjoining article) and endangering the life of a child.

Why? When local psychiatrists whose negligence sped the deaths of patients in the past year have never even felt the cold hand of the law (see Post 14:9)? When white-collar men, including Richard Nixon, are set free after gruesome crimes because "they have suffered enough"? When an article in the *Pantagraph* the next month venerated a police officer who rescued a child from a fire at home and only casually mentioned that the parents (a couple) had left the children alone that morning?

Why? We suspect Dozier's class prejudice and sexist puritanism. Shonda Butcher was away from home to make telephone calls (in our society, lack of a phone indicates poor and lonely status) and to see her ex-husband. Dozier told the *Pantagraph* that "one of the central questions the grand jury must decide is whether Mrs. Butcher was away pursuing her own interests or whether she was seeking to improve the well-being of her daughter."

Let's not even argue that in most cases, the well-being of mother and two-year-old daughter are one and the same thing. Let's talk about not-so-blind justice. Are you more at fault, legally, when a tragedy happens in



epf

your absence because you may be having some pleasure? In the court of your own conscience, you will be found guilty, and that court will probably hand you a life sentence of nightmarish remorse.

Ron Dozier should have stayed out of Shonda Butcher's life. His court of law has no jurisdiction in that sad territory.

--Phoebe Caulfield

If she's guilty, everyone is

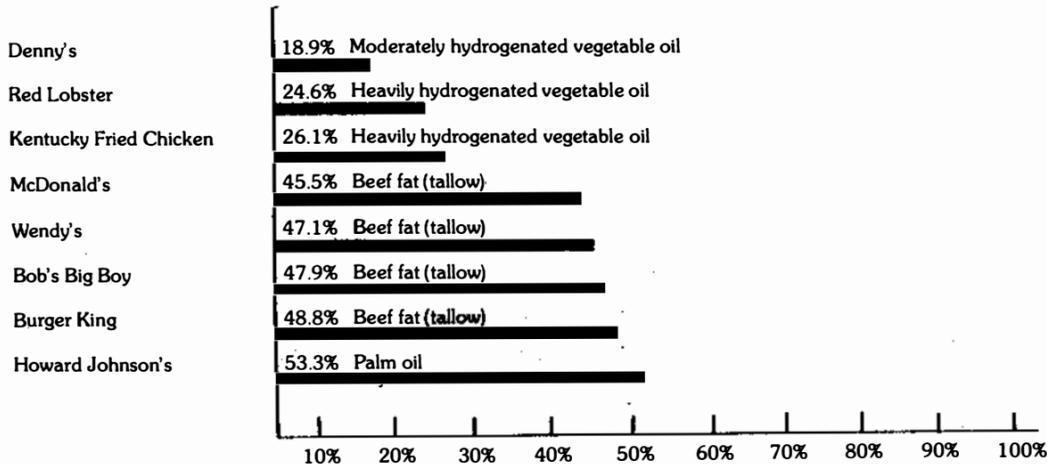
Here are the charges against Shonda Butcher. Do they fit, or is Dozier prosecuting his own prejudices?

Ch. 23 Sec. 2368 Ill. Rev. Statutes Cruelty to Children: Any person who shall wilfully and unnecessarily expose to the inclemency of the weather, or shall in any other manner injure in health or limb, any child, apprentice, or other person under his legal control, shall be guilty of a Class 4 felony.

Ch. 23 Sec. 2354: Endangering life or health of a child: It shall be unlawful for any person having the care or custody of any child, wilfully to cause or permit the life of such child to be endangered, or the health of such child to be injured, or wilfully cause or permit such child to be injured, or wilfully cause or permit such child to be placed in such a situation that its life or health may be endangered.

Vegetarian alert

Levels of Saturated Fats
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(Source: Study by the Center for Science in the Public Interest)



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Primary, Chicago style

While voting in the last primary in the 10th precinct (Bloomington) I observed a startling irregularity. Written directly in the Republican voting booklet was the name of a write-in candidate. I brought this to the attention of the on-duty election judge who assured me that this addition to the ballot was inappropriate. I voted at 9:00 A.M. I expected later to hear or read about how this irregularity was handled, but I haven't. Why?

--Carrie

Letters

Fan Mail

Dear Post Amerikan,

You're quite perceptive about the Challenger tragedy in the March 1986 issue. The constant litany about the meaning of the tragedy voiced by NASA leaders, Senators like John Glenn, Ronald Reagan, and the media has been, "The conquest of space must go on."

I would like to hear public leaders say: "The heart of the tragedy is the belief that the main purpose of technology is for conquest, that the Great Machine is more important than Mother Earth, that fixation with technology is more to be valued than the search for wisdom."

Sincerely,
Joseph L. Grabill

Prisoner needs letters

Dear Post Amerikan,

Would you please put my name in your newspaper and forward me a copy of your newspaper?

My name is Clyde Byerly N26221, and I'm seeking correspondance. I'm incarcerated at the Joliet Correctional Center. Thank you and I'll be waiting to hear from you and your newspaper.

Clyde Byerly
P.O. Box 515
Joliet, IL
60432

George Winston performs

Solo pianist George Winston performs at the Scottish Rite Temple at 8:00 p.m., April 26, 1986.

Winston, born in Michigan in 1949, began listening avidly to music around 1960, especially to pop instrumental acts such as The Ventures, The Chantays ("Pipeline"), Booker T and the MGs, Duane Eddy, Tiajuana Brass and others. In 1971, inspired by Fats Waller, he began working on stride and blues pieces, as well as slower impressionist pieces.

George Winston's performance on April 26th is a benefit concert for Clare House, and all those attending are asked to bring a can of food to donate to Clare's Food Pantry. Clare House is a Catholic Worker House of Hospitality which opened its doors in December of 1978 to provide free shelter, food and clothing to women and families in need in the Bloomington-Normal area.

Clare House also sponsors a free soup kitchen in downtown Bloomington at the Holy Trinity Parish Center. Loaves and Fishes provides a nutritious lunch twice a week for anyone in need and also operates totally by donations and volunteer help.

Support group meeting slated

The Depressive and Manic Depressive Support Group will present a panel discussion, "Is There Life After Affective Disorder?" at the First Presbyterian Church, 108 North Fell, Normal, on Wednesday, April 2, 7:15 p.m. For more information, please call 309/454-2740 or 452-7665.

Community News

Cans good as cash at B/N libraries

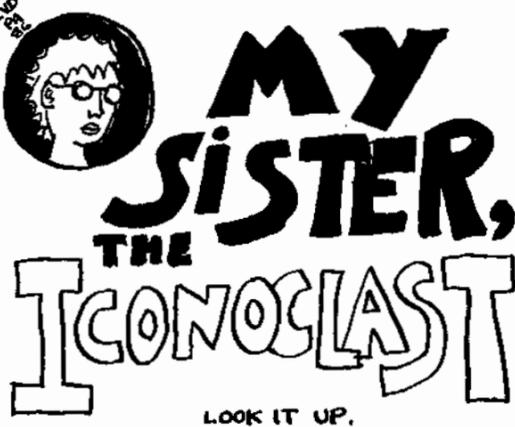
As part of National Library Week, your CANS are as GOOD AS CASH at both Bloomington and Normal Public Libraries during the month of April. The CANS GOOD AS CASH program allows library patrons with overdue library materials to help their needy neighbors by substituting a can of food for the usual fine paid on overdue materials. Library patrons with overdue materials can deposit materials, along with canned good donations, at either the Bookmobile, Bloomington Public Library or Normal Public Library. However, the program is not restricted to library patrons with overdue books; all patrons are encouraged to participate.

All food items will be donated to Clare House, Home Sweet Home Mission, and the Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen.

Clare House distributes food from their "pantry" to 30-40 families daily. The Home Sweet Home Mission will meet the needs of those who come to them for help. Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen provides lunches twice a week to anyone in need. Together, these agencies serve over 500 meals each week to McLean County's hungry.

For more information about CANS GOOD AS CASH and other National Library Week events, call Kathy Carter--828-6091 or Ruth Cobb--452-1757.

WONDER BREAD... GRADE AA GRAIN-FED BEEF... THE BEST SCHOOLS... "SKIPPER" DOLLS... SWIMMING LESSONS... GIRL SCOUTS... QUALITY DENTAL CARE... BOBBY SHERMAN RECORDS... CARTER'S UNDERWEAR... PINK BICYCLE HANDLE GRIP STREAMERS... IT JUST DIDN'T FIGURE. FROM THIS BOSOM SPRUNG...



YES, MY SISTER KATIE WAS CERTAINLY DIFFERENT FROM THE REST OF US. AND THOUGH I RACKED MY BRAIN TO TRY AND DISCOVER HOW SHE HAD GOTTEN THAT 4-LANE KOOKY STREAK, I COULD NEVER COME UP WITH ANY ANSWERS! IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN IN HER UPBRINGING... WHY, AS CHILDREN, MY BABY SISTER AND I WERE CONSTANT COMPANIONS! HOW SHE USED TO ADORE IT WHEN I WOULD DRESS HER UP AND PRETEND THAT SHE WAS MY OWN LITTLE BABY!



THEN THERE WAS OUR SISTER AND BROTHER... THE TWINS - TIMMY AND TAMMY... EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE A FEW YEARS OLDER, THEY ALWAYS TOOK TIME OUT TO PLAY WITH LITTLE KATIE! SHE WAS SPECIAL!



AND WHEN IT CAME TO MOMS, OURS WAS TOPS! WHY, A GIRL COULDN'T ASK FOR A BETTER ROLE MODEL! SHE WAS OUR MOTHER, OUR FRIEND, AND OUR AUNT LADY!

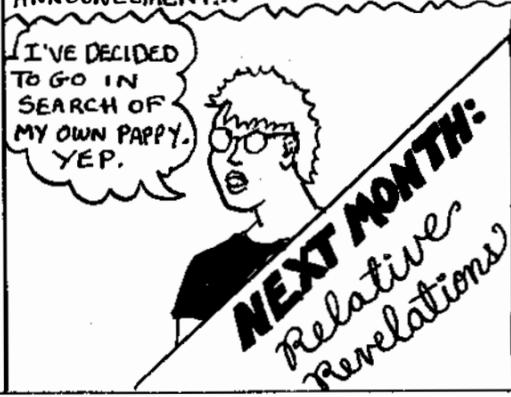
HONEY, DON'T TOUCH MOMMY'S THINGS!! A WOMAN'S MAKE-UP IS HER ONLY INSURANCE! HOWEVER, WE DO HAVE SOME LOVELY LIPSTICK ON SALE THIS MONTH IF YOU'D LIKE TO ORDER!



THEN THERE WAS DAD. AND HE WAS REALLY SWELL... TREATED US LIKE HIS OWN KIDS AND EVERYTHING! SEE, MOM DIVORCED OUR REAL FATHER IN 1960. KATIE WAS ONLY A BABY... THEN MOM MARRIED HER STOCKBROKER, MR. DE PEW! HE WAS DAD TO US RIGHT AWAY! HE WAS REALLY SUPER!!



NONE OF US KIDS REALLY REMEMBERED OUR OWN FATHER... AND MOM NEVER MENTIONED HIM... BUT WE WERE A PERFECTLY ADJUSTED, CLEAN LIVING-AMERICAN FAMILY WITHOUT HIM! AND YEAR AFTER YEAR, SUNRISE LED TO SUNSET UNTIL WE WERE NOT CHILDREN ANYMORE... YET THINGS REMAINED MUCH THE SAME UNTIL ONE DAY WHEN KATIE CAME TO US WITH A STARTLING ANNOUNCEMENT...



Central American benefit

On Friday, June 27, there will be another Central America Benefit. It will feature Dave Lippman, a comedian songwriter from San Francisco. He is very much able to help us laugh at a very painful situation. Please mark this on your calendar as it will be an important event that we should all attend.

--Tom Hensold

Salvadorian, South African speakers

A student representative from the University of El Salvador (UES) and a former student from the Zululand University are visiting cities around the United States between March 9 and April 7. Julio Cesar Sosa Dimas is a member of the General Association of Salvadoran University Students (AGEUS) and a graduate student in psychology. Don Ngubeni, a student activist working with the United Democratic Front (UDF) affiliated student groups was a law student but now lives in exile. They are speaking to university communities about the efforts of students, professors, administrators and workers to guarantee full funding for their universities, an end to repression against it, and to bring peace and justice to their country.

Their visit offers Amerikan students a rare opportunity to meet students from nations in turmoil and share information about higher education in these countries.

They will be presenting a speech in the Center for Visual Arts, room 151 from 7:30 to 9:00 pm, April 5th. This event is sponsored by the EL/N CISPES.

---CISPES

Illinois recycling week

There's a lot of garbage in Bloomington-Normal and chances are there will be a lot more of it with the business and population growth expected in the next few years. Environmental activists and concerned citizens have seen recycling as a way of reducing the garbage problem, saving natural resources and conserving valuable landfill space.

Operation Recycle will celebrate Illinois Recycling Week (April 21-28) with activities designed to encourage more people to recycle: special promotions during buyback days, free trees for kids who tour the recycling center, and presentation of awards to some of the businesses who have provided long-term support for the recycling center.

The volunteer supported center recycles container glass, all beverage cans, food cans, newspapers, corrugated cardboard, and office paper. Recyclers donate the materials by bringing them to recycle drives or by dropping them off anytime at one of five drop boxes located around town. Recyclers can also sell most items during buyback days.

As little as 130 lbs. of newsprint recycled can save a tree from being destroyed and each recycled aluminum can saves enough energy to light a light bulb for 12 hours. The center has a small pamphlet giving simple directions for preparing materials.

Operation Recycle can be reached by calling Community Action at 829-0691.

Guide to Illinois Authors

Bloomington resident, Dr. Robert Bray, will present "Reading A Reader's Guide," April 8, at 7:00 p.m. in the Story Room at Bloomington Public Library, 205 E. Olive St., as part of National Library Week.

Dr. Bray, a member of the "Read Illinois" committee, is the editor of A Reader's Guide to Illinois Literature. He will discuss how and why this guide came to be written, and how it has opened up new areas of exploration and study in both Illinois literature and its authors, including local authors.

Dr. Bray is also a published author, and presently teaches literature and literary criticism at Illinois Wesleyan University.

Whether you are also an "Illinois Author," or have a taste for local history, come join us for this free program.

For more information, call 828-6091.

Summer jobs

600 jobs will be available to economically disadvantaged young people this summer across a 4-county area served by the United Private Industry Council (UPIC).

Young people, ages 14-21, may call for a screening appointment for the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) at any one of the UPIC offices in Fulton, Mason, McLean, or Tazewell Counties. The primary eligibility requirement will be income in relation to family size. Screenings, which begin April 1st and continue through May 30th, will be between 1 and 5 pm. A parent or guardian is required to accompany applicants under 18 during the interview.

SYEP is funded through a federal grant totalling approximately \$800,000. UPIC has awarded contracts to four organizations who will use the money to place youth in temporary summer positions for minimum wage.

All jobs will be at public, non-profit worksites and will range from 15 to 40 hours a week for an eight week period beginning June 9. Workers will do everything from cleaning parks and repairing school buildings to working as interns for various municipalities.

In addition to summer employment, UPIC will serve another 150 young people through special tutoring classes for academic credit and an employability skills training session.

Classy Fried Ads



"Nuke Reagan" Bumper stickers--\$1.00 and stamp. Household Plant Book: 1,000s of plants, care for them all--\$5.00 ppd. Vegetarian recipes, 10 nutritious and delicious--\$1.00 and stamp. And--FREE info on the Rainbow Gathering for '86. Send all orders to: The Source, P.O. Box 152, Dearborn Heights, Michigan, 48127.

ORGANIZER'S HANDBOOK, 63 pages on strategy, tactics, and how to put it together. Send \$4.95 (includes handling) for Plotting Directions: An Activist's Guide to RECON, P.O. Box 14602, Philadelphia, PA 19134.

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306 N. Brooks Madison, WI 53715

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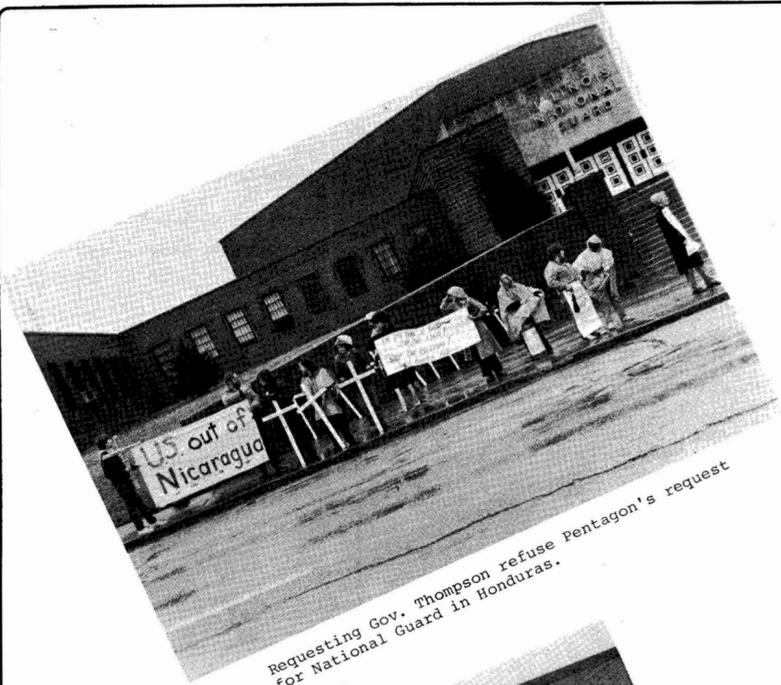
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PO Box 152 - PA Dearborn Heights, MI 48127

GUIDE to FILMS on APARTHEID

An evaluative directory of 45 of the best films on apartheid, with a special section on the Southern African region. Includes tips on how to plan a successful program. Send \$2.50 to Media Network, 208 W. 13th St., New York, NY 10011. Bulk prices available.

ALSO: Contact our computerized INFORMATION CENTER for help in finding films you need on any issue. 212-620-0877.

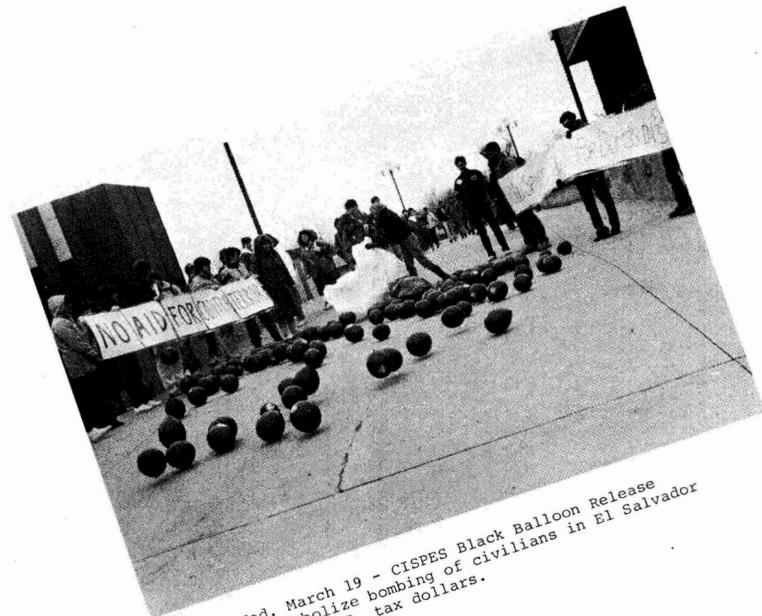
Central America Week activities



Requesting Gov. Thompson refuse Pentagon's request for National Guard in Honduras.



National Guard Armory



Wed. March 19 - CISPEs Black Balloon Release to symbolize bombing of civilians in El Salvador paid by U.S. tax dollars.



After Karen Parker & House vote--spirits high with Association of Latin American Students, CISPEs, Pledge, and Karen.

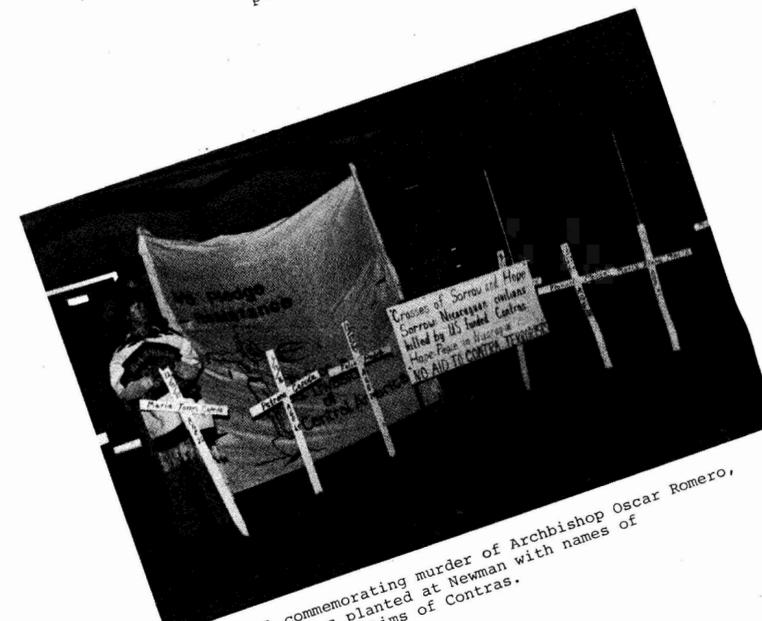
FURTHER U.S. CASUALTIES WILL NOT CHANGE OUR POLICY IN CENTRAL AMERICA



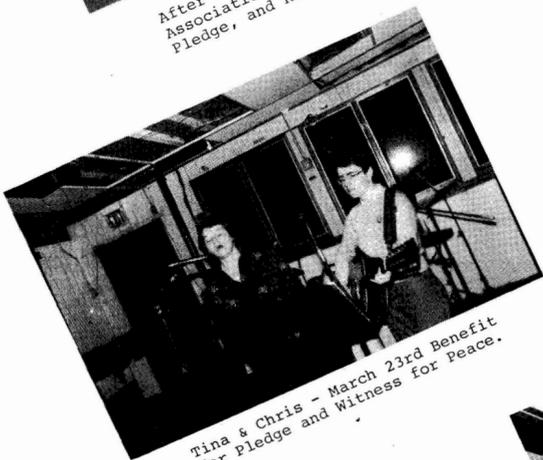
Carol Simpson © 1986



"You don't compromise with a rapist because rape continues, as we can't compromise on international law because noncompliance occurs."



Vigil commemorating murder of Archbishop Oscar Romero, and crosses planted at Newman with names of Nicaraguan victims of Contras.



Tina & Chris - March 23rd Benefit for Pledge and Witness for Peace.

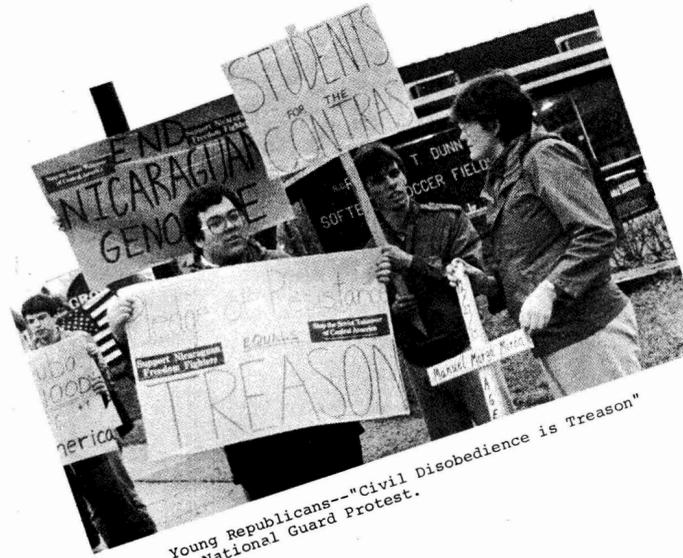


Peg, Laurie, Sue & Laurie - March 23rd Benefit.

viva la democraCIA



"And with a little help from our friends..."



Young Republicans--"Civil Disobedience is Treason" at National Guard Protest.

Lawyer explains U.S. violations

Contrary to what Reagan would have us believe, there are laws regarding human rights and rules of conduct in armed conflict, and these laws have been ratified by Congress. In a speech made Friday, March 21 at the International House of ISU, these laws were defined and interpreted for a gathering of over a hundred people by Karen Parker.

World Court

Ms. Parker is an expert in international law, specializing in human rights. Her presentation was relevant to the controversy of the House/Senate debates over the Contra Aid request Reagan is shoving down the legislators' throats. Nicaragua took the US to court over the mining of their harbors by the CIA, and a decision has not yet been reached. There is a current World Court order forbidding the US from assisting the Contras in any manner, along with an order the US complied with, which is to stop mining the harbors. When both internal and international sources put pressure on Reagan to comply with the injunction, he pulled the US out from the jurisdiction of the World Court. Too bad for Ronnie--the case had begun before his temper tantrum, and the decision is still binding for that particular case. So,

for the duration of the proceedings, no one defending the US is present in court. "If I can't win, I won't play" doesn't cut it in matters as serious as our international responsibilities. Karen Parker feels it is extremely likely that the court will find in favor of Nicaragua. Possible sanctions against the US include enormous fines--both for the mining, the Contra support and contempt of court --and the loss of the veto power in the Security Council of the UN for refusing to negotiate in good faith.

The implications are serious, indeed. Not only could we be stung for the Contra aid charge, US citizens would be paying the bill for fines, awards, and court costs, not to mention the loss of status in the eyes of the world. We would join Iran in being the only country in contempt of court. We challenge our allies to stand by us, even as we abandon rule of law and settlement of dispute through negotiation. The US perpetuates state-sanctioned terrorism through this incident and through the recent violence against Libya.

UN charter

But the World Court was just one aspect of international law that Karen touched on. She described

the UN charter, an agreement all member nations of the UN have reached. It is the document that she believes has prevented a third world war all these years. It basically states that no nation shall interfere with the self-determination of any other nation, that all nations have the right to sovereignty, that all disputes shall be brought before an arbitrating body to reach a peaceful resolution, and that all nations are equal before the law. As you can see, in regards to Libya and Nicaragua, the US ignores the tenets of the charter. Karen presented the audience with this analogy:

Imagine the government of Canada deciding that the US environmental policy is unacceptable. It hires mercenaries from around the world to hop back and forth across our border to rape, torture, murder, and destroy the means of subsistence of civilians in their path. They bomb some hospitals and schools to make sure that Ronnie is listening. Can you picture the reaction of the administration and the world? Lawsuits and bombs of every kind would be flying in response. Speeches made about law and peace. Cries of injustice, retaliation beyond imagination. Why isn't Nicaragua given the same chance for peace, self-determination, and freedom that the US demands for itself?

Contra aid from Illinois

Pres. Reagan is requesting \$100 million in direct military aid to the Contra forces to slaughter civilians and destroy property in Nicaragua. Also, Reagan is not satisfied with just spending our tax dollars (which are taken from the poor in this country), he is now requesting that the governors of 12 states send a total of 5,000 National Guardsmen to Honduras. Some of these Guardsmen will be taking part in joint military exercises less than 50 miles from the Nicaraguan border. This is an action carried through the Pentagon, without congressional oversight. Only Gov. Thompson and other governors can refuse this misuse of the Guard.

In the years between 1981 and 1984, 3,500 civilian children and teenagers in Nicaragua were slaughtered by our tax dollars in the name of 'freedom.' In those years too, contras killed 7,391 Nicaraguans out

of a population of just 3 million. In those three years the U.S. built 11 airfields in Honduras capable of handling C-130 troop transport planes and 6 military camps in that tiny country. The militarization of the region will enable the U.S. to conduct a full-scale war in Central America.

It is our duty to challenge and to stop the actions of our government if it is using our tax dollars to terrorize and slaughter innocent people. In fact, it is our responsibility to challenge such horrors anyplace in the world, be it the Phillipines, South Africa, Haiti, El Salvador, or Chile. To sit back in idle silence in the face of injustice is to contribute to the perpetration of injustice. Call Gov. Thompson, request that he refuse to send the Illinois National Guard to other countries. 217-782-6830

--Tina Sipula



Thanks to all

I think I can use one word to describe my feelings about the Central America Benefit Concert held on March 23--that is "grateful." I am grateful to the people who donated their time and efforts to make it all possible: the coordinators--Diane Perris (who also supplied the P.A.), Greg Coughlin, and Julie McDevitt; to all the musicians who donated their time and talents--Laurie Haag, Laurie Dahlberg, and Peg Wood, comprising Pop Smear, with guest Sue LeSeure; Mark Stairwalt, Mike Hogan, John Konya, and myself, comprising Bridgework; and Greg Coughlin, Chris Lord, Bret Bradley, Steve Remmert, and Tina Sipula, comprising the Re-Sister Singers; to Virginia Pirnat for doing the advertising posters; to Spike for offering the Gallery; and most of all to everyone who came to help support the BL/N Pledge of Resistance and Witness for Peace.

--Tom Hensold

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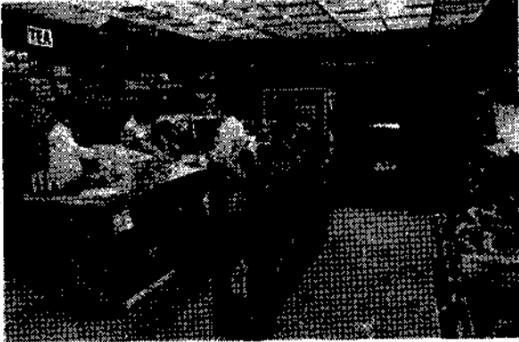
By selling many foods in bulk, Common Ground reduces your costs on nuts, flours, spices, grains, snack mixes and many other items. You may also purchase just the amount you need! Come see the gourmet coffee beans and fresh produce section as well. Experience a new and healthier way of life!

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Soups • Coffees • Breads • Beans

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of international law

Karen made clear to the listeners that it is not illegal to be communist, if that is any justification for attacking a nation. It is not illegal to do business with the Soviet Union or Cuba. It is not illegal to have weapons for national security and defense of territorial integrity. It is not illegal to have designer glasses and visit the cities of the nations of the world. It is not illegal to pursue terrorists across a border after being attacked. She encouraged us to turn to our representatives and our administration and demand compliance with the law, and we need to focus on who the Contras are, what they do, and forget about Ortega for the moment. ORTEGA'S NOT GETTING OUR TAX DOLLARS!

Contras are mercenaries

Just who are the Contras? Because they are based in a country other than Nicaragua, because they are made up of nationalities other than just Nicaraguans, because they are unable to establish ground in Nicaragua for a base due to lack of popular support, because they target civilians and non-military facilities for attack, according to international law as defined in the Geneva conventions, the Contras are mercenary-terrorists. Interestingly, any nation found guilty of supporting terrorists can be held liable for their actions, and like the Nazi war criminals, can be prosecuted indefinitely. Individuals like John Singlaub and Pat Robertson who are involved in channeling money for arms to the Contras could be hunted down in 2001 for the actions they've taken this year.

Human rights

Though Karen spoke authoritatively on the UN, her major focus is humanitarian law. She pointed out that since Carter left office, the term "human rights" has degenerated into a vague accusation thrown around during mud-slinging sessions in the media. She said if activists must take trips to Central America to do fact-finding, they should know the existing laws, and document violations. Otherwise they should donate the money that would have been spent to an organization that will follow up on abuses and take them before the UN Commissioner for Human Rights and Refugees.

Central American rights

Here are some of the laws that she mentioned in the course of her presentation that are crucial in Central America:

1. Civilians are not to be targeted for attack, even if they are suspected to be subversive or sympathetic to rebel forces. The Reagan-speak term "masa" for rebel supporter in El Salvador has no legal standing in international law. The Duarte government has resorted to eliminating civilians in rural villages with air raids and ground attacks.
2. Hospitals, schools, farms, co-ops, and homes are not to be targeted for attack. In the recent bombing of a rebel hospital in El Salvador, our administration along with the Duarte regime justified the assault by saying the hospital wasn't marked. Both those parties incriminated themselves by admitting they knew it was a hospital before the attack occurred, and even so the law protects an unmarked hospital if it is established as such. The rebels have learned not to put red crosses on hospitals, as that is a guarantee for government attack.
3. Captured, armed combatants have a right to be sheltered, free from torture and mental abuse, and have their whereabouts declared to service agencies like the Red Cross. Until the capture of Nedra Diaz before witnesses, in seven years of civil war the El Salvadoran government claimed no prisoners. Karen asked the audience if they believed this was due to incredible ineptitude or that POWs were routinely tortured,

then murdered. Though the term "desaparecido" does not occur in the conventions, there is a provision that states any practice that causes public outcry/moral condemnation is likely to be illegal. Dictators will constantly think up new atrocities like death squads and disappearances to terrorize people into submission, and this provision allows for prosecution for these new atrocities.

4. Civilians have a right to flee flying bullets, even if this requires crossing one or more borders to find safety. Governments and people protecting these refugees cannot be legally attacked or arrested for their efforts. It is even stated that there is an obligation to protect refugees until the bullets stop flying or the threat of bodily harm is past. Reagan's tactic of defining Central Americans as illegal immigrants because they are fleeing his puppet dictators is immoral and illegal.

The prosecution of US citizens for sheltering refugees is another violation of law, and recently a judge in Texas accepted the testimony and arguments of Karen Parker in this matter. The defense has rested in the Stacey Merkt/Jack Elder trial; the decision reached will affect sanctuary workers all over the US. The routine deportation of Central Americans back into imminent danger constitutes a major war crime, especially with the strong evidence of immediate arrest of deportees upon arrival in their countries. Of course we know what occurs once an El Salvadoran is arrested.

What you can do

April 15 marks the yearly report on human rights presented by Reagan's people to Congress to get funds released to the El Salvadoran government for continued war on its people. Letters to Congressional rep's demanding a full, independent, unbiased investigation of adherence to the above rules is something we can do to save lives today. Request that the UN report on El Salvador be presented, and that the Reagan Human Rights Appointee be banned. (Karen has worked with this woman and believes that she will never go against Reagan's wishes.)

Request that international law hearings be held, to explain the law to representatives and senators. Firmly point out that 6,000 deaths/year isn't an improvement, that only a clean record

justifies funding. Quote the El Salvadoran Archbishop, Rivera Damas, who is an eye witness to the bombing of civilians, as well as Archbishop Quinn. Come to the Bloomington town council meeting Tuesday, April 1, 7:30, City Hall Council Chambers, to vote in support of declaring this town a sanctuary for refugees. Write Congressional representatives about the Contras, the plight of refugees, and your desire for peaceful settlement of disputes. Come to meetings to keep informed about developments that affect you and your tax dollar.

A strong stand for the international legal process is a stand for world peace, law and order. We can reverse the trend toward barbarism and return to civilization.

In Peace, Diane Speir
B-N Pledge of Resistance

Here are important addresses:

Sen. Paul Simon
462 Hart Office Building
Wash. DC 20510
(202) 224-2152

Sen. Alan Dixon
316 Hart Office Building
Wash. DC 20510
(202) 224-2854

Rep. Ed Madigan
2312 Rayburn House
Wash. DC 20515
Local Phone - 662-9317

Rep. Michael Barnes
Chair - Appropriations Committee
for requesting full hearing on
human rights in El Salvador
Rayburn House
Wash. DC 20515

B-N CISPES
P.O. Box 4041 Bloomington

B-N Pledge of Resistance
501 S. Main Normal 61761
(we meet 7 pm every other Tuesday)

If you wish to donate funds for Karen Parker's pro bono work, contact Diane Speir at 829-3954 for more information.

Thanks to the folks at the Post-Amerikan for the support!

How do children see themselves?

What is happening when a child who appears to be well-liked doesn't like him or her self?

When are FUZZIES or strokes not enough?

Is there a way to prepare children to deal with life's bad times? Preventively, before they happen?

Why do some adolescents seem so much more fragile than others?

EMPOWERMENT

--A WORKSHOP THAT PRESENTS A THREE-PART MODEL OF THE SELF-CONCEPT THAT PROVIDES ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS ABOVE.

--A WORKSHOP THAT TEACHES CONCRETE APPROACHES TO AND PRACTICAL STRATEGIES FOR ENHANCING EACH COMPONENT IN CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS, AND ADULTS.

Friday, April 18th

10 A.M. to 4 P.M.



At Planned Parenthood/APPLES Conference Room
318 West Washington Street, 3rd floor
Bloomington (request a map if needed)



Pre-register by calling Susan or Cathy at (309)827-4368

What's wrong with this picture?

On Monday March 24, the news was full of an alleged invasion by Sandinista troops into Honduras and the incident in Libya. Before believing everything you hear, ask yourself these questions...

1. Who reported the Sandinista assault?

Work-a-day with the people of El Salvador

On Thursday, March 20, church, labor and peace groups across the country joined to Work-A-Day with the People of El Salvador. Work-A-Day is a program sponsored by NEST (New El Salvador Today). NEST is a non-profit foundation that raises funds for specific projects in the war-torn areas of El Salvador. Groups participating in Work-A-Day ask people to give one day's pay to help the people of El Salvador rebuild and replant in the areas hardest hit by the bombing.

B/N CISPES coordinated the Work-A-Day project locally because we believe that material aid to victims of the bombing in El Salvador is a powerful way to oppose the war our government is waging in our name.

To launch the campaign we sent out press releases, mailings to churches, ISU faculty and our own mailing list, as well as running an ad in the Vidette. We hoped to collect \$500 locally for Work-A-Day. We have collected \$350 so far with about \$100 more pledged.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO DONATE A DAY'S PAY! Readers wishing to contribute should make your check out to NEST and send it to B/N CISPES, P.O. Box 4041, Bloomington, IL 61702.

Contributions are tax-deductible.

--CISPES

2. Where is the film/photo evidence of skirmishes between contras and Sandinistas or Hondurans and Sandinistas? If casualties occurred, where are the bodies?
3. What exactly are the casualties? Contras say 40 Contra casualties compared to 450 Sandinistas or 40 Sandinistas versus 350 Contras.
4. Why did the Honduran president deny the invasion until \$2 million was given to him by Reagan? If it was such an emergency, why was he on his way to the beach for a break?
5. Why would Ortega pull an "enormous" foray into Honduras before a Senate Contra aid vote?
6. If the Contras are all over the border areas, why are Honduran soldiers being ferried in helicopters by American advisors (troops)?
7. Doesn't the thought of a deliberate manipulation of American sentiment by Reagan seem likely to you? After all, he lost in the House vote, the polls were against Contra aid, a Senate loss would tarnish his image even further.

8. Why doesn't the US follow the UN procedure for dispute settlement in Libya?

9. Did you wonder how the first Libyan missiles missed? A reliable source described the missiles used as short range ones, fired as warnings, completely incapable of leaving the 12 mile territorial water to hit US planes or ships. How many miles short did the Libyan missiles fall?

10. Why did the Sandinista government continue to deny the border-crossing? Chasing terrorists across borders after raids is legal and has been done before in Contra clashes, without comment from Honduras.

If you, too, see something funny in this morass, and do not find logical, satisfactory answers to your questions, damn it, DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!! Leave the ranks of the ignorant and the complacent and cause a stink, 'cause you're stuck with the bill and it'll be the average person who'll be the victim of terrorist retaliation for insane US behavior in the world.

--Diane Speir

Stop bombing El Salvador demo

On Wednesday, March 18, B/N CISPES (with a lot of help from the Pledge of Resistance and students from the Latin American Support Committee) sponsored a STOP THE BOMBING OF EL SALVADOR demonstration and balloon release.

150 black balloons emblazoned with orange STOP THE BOMBING stickers were released. The balloons represented the U.S.-supplied bombs that the Duarte government has been using to drive the civilian population out of the rebel controlled areas of El Salvador.

The air war in El Salvador has been going on for over two years. Its results are 1.5 million external refugees; 500,000 internal refugees; over 6,000 dead; and incredible suffering.

Mainstream media coverage of the air war in El Salvador has been minimal. Pantagraph coverage of the demonstration was the first time the bombing in El Salvador has been mentioned in its pages.

--CISPES

Upcoming Events

Saturday April 5 7:30 pm
CVA room 151 ISU
Students Struggling for Justice & Liberation present "From Soweto to San Salvador" (see flyer)

Saturday April 12 8:30 am - noon
1:30 pm -
Newman Center \$3. donation
Non-violence Workshop

Petitions, Presence at B/N Post Offices

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If you feel you have been denied housing or treated unfairly because race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, physical mental handicap, or because you have children under 14 or require the use of a guide dog, contact the

Bloomington Human Relations Commission

at

828-7361, Ext. 218/219

The Bloomington Human Relations Commission is here to assist and to help.



"Now this baby should get you all the way through Central America."

Carol A. Simpson
6/1985

What's the meaning of jeans?

For one day in their complacent lives, they had to make a decision that might affect the way their friends saw them forever. For once, those students and faculty had to decide between comfort and familiarity, and fitting into "normal" society. And I don't think I talked to more than five non-gay students who could see that point at all. All they could see was their fear of being branded different, and they were angry, very angry, at GPA for forcing them to make that decision at all. Between their business classes and their parties and sweethearts, they had enough problems of their own. They just want to be left alone--Why can't those gay folks just be quiet and deal with their problems themselves?

Now, I won't be so unfair as to say that those students' problems aren't deserving of concern. But I'm appalled that they have so little concern for others that they can't be bothered to try to see the point behind such an event. Unless they think that gay people are so bitter that they just want paybacks, and that there is no point.

Sorry, kids, it's not that easy. But it's not that difficult, either, if you look. The kind of decision those students had to make on one Thursday is made by gay people all day every day. Most gays in our society have to regulate not only dress, but language, emotions, points of view, sometimes even strong personal values and morals. All GPA wanted was, for one day, on one tiny issue, that non-gay people see how much it can affect your life to have to bend your view of yourself to fit a public norm.

ISU's Gay People's Alliance decided to try to illustrate the oppression involved in being gay in this

culture, so they planned a "Gay Blue Jeans Day," in which people who supported gays or were gay wore blue jeans to demonstrate the fact. In order to ensure that the event was widely known to enough to make the point, GPA made sure that it got lots of publicity.

Once they got the ball rolling by putting ads in the *Vidette* and a copy of the schedule in the *Post*, the right wing element at ISU helped. The word was spread, like wildfire, that anyone wearing jeans on that particular Thursday was queer or, worse, supported queers. The hecklers were warming up their jeers, and harassment was in the air. Thanks for the assistance, fellas.

Well, with all that publicity, GPA was guaranteed to make the point. The question: who got the right point? The answer: hardly anyone.

The point they got was that for one day they couldn't wear their blue jeans without reprisals. That's as far as they got--most of them, anyway. The folks who wrote the *Vidette*, and the students talking furiously between classes, couldn't seem to get past that inconvenience to the real point. How dare anyone make them uncomfortable

or ask them to think? What nerve! And it certainly was not the point, as one *Vidette* columnist suggested, to use Gay Blue Jeans Day as some kind of survey to determine how many gays and gay supporters wore blue jeans. Too many gay people have too much to lose by coming out in the middle of all that hysteria. I bet more of the people actually wearing blue jeans were gay supporters than gay people. Gay supporters can usually prove they're not gay, so they have a lot less to lose.

Nonetheless, that reporter was right in thinking that the painfully tiny number of students and faculty wearing blue jeans on Thursday, March 20, was significant. He was only wrong about the nature of the significance. The lack of folks in blue jeans that day does not show that there aren't very many gays, or even that there aren't very many folks who have loved ones or friends or family that are gay. What it does show is the depth of paralyzing homophobia on campus and, for that reason, I almost wish GPA hadn't done it. It's just one more depressing thing to learn in a depressing age.

--Chris M.

Surely some revelation is at hand

And what rough beast, its hour come round at last, slouches toward Bloomington to be born.

No, it's not the second coming. It is in fact, the third annual Free-X Avant-Garde Arts Festival (last year's Soiree Da Da Da, 84's Eccentric Rites). This year's offering, the Mantra Mash, will feature performance artists, poets, musicians, visual artists, dramatists, filmmakers, and others from Bloomington-Normal and elsewhere. Special guests Qwa Digs Never Parish. Plan to be there on Saturday, April 26, at the Eddy Building, Penthouse, 427 N. Main, Bloomington. Show begins at 9 p.m., and of course it's totally free. For more information, including the possibility of last-minute contributions, contact MJ at the Eddy Building, suite 312, phone 827-6817 (c/o Larry Sylvester). This event is unique in Bloomington-Normal; you don't want to miss it.

Qwa Digs Never Parish

Intermedia performance collaboration between Meka And Elizabeth Was, recently joined by Milwaukee's drake scott. music, movement, installation, film in improvised & pre-structured forms. tapes available from XOXO 121 editions. great posters.

Qwa Digs Never Parish, a performance collaboration ensemble from Madison, Wis., will present "Avant-Cultural Diplomacy" as part of Bloomington-Normal's multi-media event, Mantra Mash. "Avant-Cultural Diplomacy" is a weekend-long performance and will include a solo music show at "Hell" (427 N. Main, 4th floor) on Friday, April 25 at 9 p.m. as well as a piece presented on Saturday for the Arts Festival. A poetry reading from Qwa Digs has also been tentatively scheduled for Sunday afternoon, April 27. For more information please contact Diane at 828-6885.

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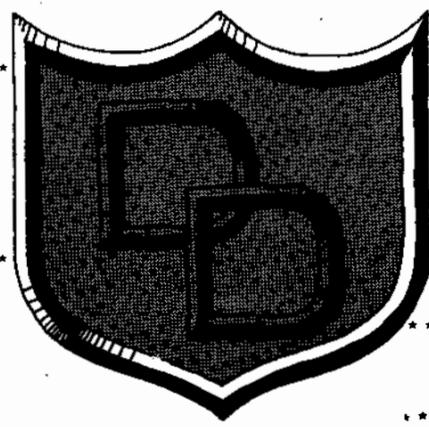
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Remembering

The growth of trade unions in the 1880s led workers to decide to win shorter hours through collective action, forcing the issue by striking.

The predecessor organization of the American Federation of Labor (AFL), the "Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions of the United States and Canada," founded in 1881, passed a resolution at its 1884 convention, led by the Carpenters, that as of May 1, 1886, all workers should stop work and honor the eight-hour day with demonstrations, strikes and other activities.

The nation's largest labor organization, the Knights of Labor, refused to have anything to do with the movement. But workers across the country flocked to the idea and massive demonstrations were planned. On May 1, 1886, 350,000 workers laid down their tools, and almost 185,000 of them actually won a shorter workday.

Chicago probably had the largest demonstrations. On that first May Day, 80,000 workers marched up Michigan Avenue, their union banners and red and black flags flying in the spring wind.

Anarchy in the USA

Chicago was a natural center for this support, as its trade unions were some of the strongest and best organized in the country. There was also a small group of radicals, calling themselves "anarchists," who worked tirelessly for their ideals. With the support of immigrant Czech and German workers, these anarchists had a broad base in the city and could draw large crowds for their picnics and demonstrations.

The "anarchists" defined themselves according to the writings of Karl Marx, Michael Bakunin and Peter Kropotkin. In a later day, they would probably be identified as radical socialists. This philosophical background was tempered by the rough and tumble reality of early industrial capitalism, with its boom and bust cycles, that always left workers teetering on the edge of poverty. Their ideal was the 1871 Paris Commune, when workers took over the city, and they hoped for similar events in America.

Having experienced police brutality and hatred from the city's establishment at every turn, the anarchists came to see violence as the only way to overthrow the capitalist order. They scoffed at trade unionists who ran for political office, as so often they saw elections stolen or their individuals left powerless against entrenched economic power.

So these leaders organized Sunday "rifle societies" which practiced shooting in the country on Sundays while picnicking, and marched with guns in parades. In their newspaper they wrote about the new invention, dynamite, and how it could be the great "social leveller" by giving an individual worker a weapon equal to rows of police. Because of their outspoken stances, these individuals were known and identified by the city's police, establishment and newspapers and were continually watched and condemned.

Strikes and protests

With the May 1 demonstrations, many of these labor leaders (anarchists and others) increased their activity as thousands of workers took to the streets and new unions were being organized.

One of the longest running strikes in Chicago was at McCormick Reaper, where strikebreakers had replaced McCormick's molders. On May 3, August Spies, editor of the German-language anarchist paper *Arbeiter-Zeitung*, spoke at a lumberworkers' rally with 6,000 in attendance. Near-

by was the McCormick plant, and as the scabs left, the crowd began to heckle. Suddenly, the most hated police captain in the city, "Black Jack" John Bonfield appeared with his troops, killing two strikers.

Enraged by this attack, a group of workers called a protest meeting for the following evening, May 4, in Chicago's Haymarket Square, near the city's downtown.

The rally was poorly planned, and when August Spies arrived at 8 p.m.,



one half-hour after it was to have started, he found 2,500 wandering the streets. Spies directed the crowd away from the center of the street, over to an alley entrance, so the police could not claim they were blocking traffic, and he began to speak, sending friends to find other speakers.

Those friends found Albert Parsons, the leading English-speaking anarchist, and Samuel Fielden, a former Methodist lay minister. Spies finished his speech and turned the platform over to Parsons, who then left Fielden to finish the evening.

Massacrin' in the rain

Chicago Mayor Harrison Carter was in the crowd. Seeing that all was peaceful, at 10 p.m., he went around the corner to the Des Plaines Avenue police station, telling "Captain Jack" that all was quiet and to send his men home.

Bonfield waited until the mayor was out of sight, rounded up his men and disobeyed orders by marching on the rally.

By this time a light rain was falling, Fielden was finishing his speech and the crowd had dispersed, with only a few hundred remaining. Bonfield arrived, demanding that the rally disperse. Fielden pleaded, saying that it was almost over anyway. Bonfield ordered again that it disperse.

At that moment, there was a high pitched whine followed by a large explosion. The Haymarket bomb had been thrown into the middle of police ranks. Only one policeman was actually killed by the bomb, but in the resulting melee, 176 police opened fire, killing four workers and six more police and wounding twenty others.

The next day Chicago was shocked and enraged. Labor leaders, agitators and immigrant workers were rounded up by police for interrogation and detention. The newspapers cried for revenge.

Eight Chicago labor leaders, almost all of them from the anarchist sects, were brought to trial. They included Albert Parsons; Samuel Fielden; Albert Spies; two of Spies' employees, Michael Schwab and Adolph Fisher; Oscar Neebe, a tinsmith and yeast company owner; Louis Lingg, a carpenter; and George Engel, who operated a small cigar and toy store.

False accusations

Only one of the group, Adolph Fisher, was present when the rally was planned. Only Fielden was in Haymarket Square, speaking from the platform, when the bomb was thrown; all others had alibis and numerous witnesses, as they were in other parts of town.

On the next day, November 11, 1887, Spies, Fisher, Engel and Parsons were hanged, with Spies crying, "There will come a time when our silence will be more powerful than the voices you strangle today" and Parsons shouting, "Let the voice of the people be heard!"

Illinois Governor Richard Oglesby had been badgered by numerous pardon seekers, including Samuel Gompers of the young AFL, who rushed from New York to Springfield with "only the clothes on his back." Pardon sentiment had grown as the outrageous nature of the trial had become clearer and clearer, but Chicago's establishment refused to speak, as Marshal Field and Samuel Armour both held out for the execution and no one else in the business community dared to speak against them.

In June of 1893, a pardon came from Illinois Governor James Altgeld, a popular Democrat and himself an immigrant. Altgeld condemned the trial as a miscarriage of justice and released



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Haymarket

Neebe, Fielden and Schwab. Altgeld would also later stand against federal troops entering the Pullman strike and these two controversies meant that he would only be a one-term governor.

A monument to workers

The Haymarket legacy lived on, though the agitation for the eight-hour day was stalled by the controversy. At the urging of Gompers and the AFL, May 1, 1980, was set as a day for worldwide agitation for the eight-hour workday. May day, the International Workers' Holiday, is also derived from this American struggle, and in Mexico May 1 is still known as the "Day of the Martyrs of Chicago."

In Spies' newspaper shop, police found flyers telling workers to come armed to Haymarket Square. Spies had ordered the more radical Schwab and Fisher to destroy the flyers and not to distribute them, but in finding them, the police had their basis for a conspiracy trial.

The trial, presided over by Judge Joseph Gary, was a mockery of justice. Gary invited young debutantes to sit around him to watch the trial, which became the social event of Chi-

cago. Over 900 jurists were interviewed, and those who showed the slightest bit of neutrality or sympathy for the accused were passed over. State's Attorney Julius Grinnell told the jury, "Law is upon trial; anarchy is on trial...They are no more guilty than the thousands who follow the them...Convict these men, make examples of them, hang them and you save our institutions."

At one point, Grinnell asked that charges be dropped against Oscar Neebe, who had little connection with the anarchists. It was believed that the city's brewers wanted him on trial because of his organizing of a beer-drivers' union. But Gary refused, sentencing Neebe to 15 years anyway.

Five were sentenced to hang: Spies Fisher, Engel, Parsons and Lingg. Fielden and Schwab were given life imprisonment.

Appeals and pardons

Despite numerous pardon pleas and an attempted Supreme Court appeal, the sentence stood. On November 10, 1887, Lingg may have committed suicide when a dynamite cap planted in a cigar exploded in his face. The cap had probably been passed by a friend, who had

conspired with Lingg to insure that the state would not have the final victory over him.

Haymarket also became an important event in the lives of American radicals. Individuals like Emma Goldman marked their radicalization from watching the miscarriage of justice in Chicago.

Today a monument stands in Forest Home Cemetery in Chicago, erected in 1893 over the graves of the martyrs. Surrounding it are the graves of other American radicals and Haymarket family members, including Lucy Parsons, Albert Parsons' wife; a former slave who continued organizational work in Chicago until the 1930s; Emma Goldman; Elizabeth Gurley Flynn; William Z. Foster; and Ben Reitman. Joe Hill and "Big Bill" Haywood both asked that some of their ashes be scattered there.

The Haymarket tragedy and trial point out that red scares and miscarriages of justice are nothing new in American life; that those who struggle for a different vision of the world do so at risk; and finally that the establishment will never fail to single out the leaders of an emerging social movement and hope to curtail that movement by putting them to death.

--MgM

Haymarket centennial

With the 100th anniversary of the Haymarket Incident this May, a number of events are planned in Chicago to commemorate the event, including conferences, museum exhibits and concerts.

Here is a short schedule of events:

MUSEUM EXHIBITS: On April 20 a Haymarket exhibit opens at the Peace Museum. On April 27 at the Chicago Historical Society, The Historical Society exhibit on Work in America, which has been touring Europe for the past two years, has its American debut.

PARADE: Pilsen, the Hispanic neighborhood on the near west side, will hold a Mayday Parade on May 1.

CONFERENCE: On Saturday, May 3, the Chicago Federation of Labor, the University of Illinois' Labor Education Program and the Illinois Labor History Society will co-sponsor an all-day conference on Haymarket, with talks on its effects on the labor movement today and on civil liberties. The conference, at the U of I Circle Campus, re-

quires a free ticket to get in. For information on car pooling and tickets call Mike Matejka at 309-828-4368 or 309-829-5885, or the ILHS at 312-663-4107.

RALLY: on May 4 at the Haymarket site, the 100th anniversary date.



AUTHOR'S RECEPTION: on May 5 at Guild Books on Ashland Avenue, with Haymarket-related authors Carolyn Ashbaugh, William Adelman and Paul Avrich.

THEATER: A Latino play will be presented on May 11.

WRITERS: On May 15 the National Writers' Union and "Art Meets Labor" will co-sponsor a discussion and reading on "Writers and the Labor Movement."

CONCERT: Pete Seeger and Jane Sapp at the People's Church on May 17.

SLIDE SHOW: on Haymarket on May 22 at the Chicago Cultural Center.

FILM PREMIERE: on Haymarket by the Lucy Parsons Collective on May 25.

For information on these events call the Illinois Labor History Society at 312-663-4017 or Joan at Art Meets Labor at 312-643-3407.

--MgM

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The Underground Barfly



NOTE: Although we visited the Galery for a Barfly review last May, we felt that our space would be appropriately used to bid farewell to our favorite hangout. Look us up next month when we'll be heading for the country bars.

By the time you read this, it will have happened. On March 31, The Galery will have locked its doors, if not permanently, at least until fall. That microcosm of the counter-culture, one foot planted firmly in the past and one toe struggling into the future, will exist no more but for memories and the padlocked door beneath a sign reading, "This building for sale."

But enough of this maudlin crap. Enough waxing nostalgic about how wonderful the Galery was and how sad to see it go. Those of us who have been known to frequent the establishment in the recent and distant past have been performing this ritual for some weeks now, as the news passed from the rumor stage to true fact. Many of us connected with the Post have spent many hours



(and many dollars) within the usually friendly walls of this bar. I personally had my first contact with the Post Amerikan folks at a benefit evening at the Galery (then Fink's) in 1981.

For some, their last experience at the Galery may have been the most recent Post Benefit. But this is slipping back into self-pitying again. Yes, the Galery was often a wonderful place to go. For some of us, the only place to go, and God knows we'll miss it when it's gone. But the Galery is letting us down and laying the guilt on us at the same time. And I for one refuse to accept responsibility for its demise.

What then, or who, is responsible? According to the man known to most

of us only as "Spike" (you know, the guy in the white shirt with rolled up sleeves, brown vest, and silver pompadour; the guy who seemed to be in charge; the guy who never seemed to be in a particularly happy state; the guy who seemed to know it all or think he did; the guy who owned and operated the Galery), it was a number of factors. Primarily, the ISU frat party scene, the drinking age, and, yes, the changing times.

Let's get serious for a minute. Frat parties? For those of you who have frequented the Galery at any



time in the recent or distant past, have you ever seen a Greek scene happening there? The closest most Frat boys probably get to the Galery is about a yard from the front door, trashing the Post Amerikan vending machine. (Mind you, this is just a theory.) And the drinking age has been 21 for a while now--too long to be used as an excuse. As for the changing times, well, there may be something to that.

So what are we talking here? We're talking bitterness, hard feelings, and resentment, at least from the point of view of this loyal Galery customer, this local musician, this member of the counter culture. Bitterness that my favorite hangout is being cruelly stripped away, hard feelings because as a musician I have lost the only bar where I can hear and perform live music in Normal, and resentment because Spike isn't toughing it out.

We toughed it out. In the summer, when soaring temperatures and staggering humidity made the un-air conditioned atmosphere nearly unbearable. In the winter, when it was too cold inside to take off your coat and gloves. We spent our disposable income there, though drink specials were rare and none too special. We sat through countless sets by countless bands, many of which were hideously bad, and we gave Spike credit for at least giving them a chance.

But chance was all it was, because the Galery offered no guarantees,

Goodbye to the Galery



just a couple free beers for the band and a little unsolicited and unavoidable fatherly advice from Spike. The point is this--you were paid from what walked through the door, and if nobody paid, nobody got paid. Not even the doorman, because the band was expected to pay him as well, or provide their own. But still, it was some place to play, and it was better than nothing, and often, it was a far piece better than nothing. For the listener, the Galery offered the best variety in town, from acoustic music to top 40 to noxious noise to Southern rock to jazz to just about anything you could name.

Let's not forget downstairs at the Galery, where a small, cliquish band of regulars hung out nightly to talk, drink, play pool, and watch rented movies on Spike's VCR. If the upstairs housed the counter culture, the downstairs was home to a subculture. You could tell the regulars--they were the ones who knew all of the lines to "History of the World, Part II" but laughed anyway. They were the folks at the bar whose heads turned in unison to stare when you walked in, and who knew everyone in the room but you. But if you wanted to stick it out, you could become one of them. You could, if you could sit through multiple showings of "Beatlemania" (not the real thing, but an incredible simulation).

Not anymore, though. Not after Spike's liquor license runs out on March 31st. Where will we go, what will we do? Frat parties? Rocky's? Rudy's? Think again. A counter culture without a hangout? Where will we discuss revolutionary concepts such as "property is theft" and "should we get another pitcher?" Most importantly, where will we hold our next benefit? C'mon, Spike, the Galery coulda been something, it coulda been a contender. We just want the Galery to love us as much as we love it. Winners never quit and quitters never win. When the going gets tough, the tough go to Frat parties. But we can wait. Some of us remember Galery I, Galery II, Galery III, Fink's, Mickey's, and now, the Galery again. You'll be back. And we'll be waiting.

--Stella & Blanche

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