

Eastern Illinois University

## The Keep

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The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)

The Post Amerikan Project

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12-1980

## Volume 9, Number 7

Post Amerikan

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BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

# POST-AMERICAN

25¢

Vol. 9 No. 7  
December 1980



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED  
POST-AMERICAN  
PO BOX 3452  
BLOOMINGTON, IL 61701

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BLOOMINGTON, IL 61701

## ABOUT US

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

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

Anybody who reads this paper can tell the type of stuff we print. All worthwhile material is welcome. We try to choose articles that are timely, relevant, informative, and not available in other local media. We will

not print anything racist, sexist, or ageist.

Most of our material and inspiration for material comes from the community. We encourage you, the reader, to become more than a reader. We welcome all stories and tips for stories, which you can mail to our office. The deadline for next issue is Dec. 11.

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

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

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



## NUMBERS

Alcoholics Anonymous--828-5049  
 American Civil Liberties Union--454-1787  
 Clare House (Catholic Workers)--828-4035  
 Community for Social Action--452-4867  
 Connection House--829-5711  
 Countering Domestic Violence (PATH)--827-4005  
 Dept. of Children and Family Services--829-5326  
 Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare (Social Security Administration)--829-9436  
 Dept. of Mental Health--828-4311  
 Draft Counseling--452-5046 or 828-4035  
 Gay Action/Awareness Union of McLean County--452-5852  
 Gay People's Alliance (ISU)--828-8744  
 HELP (Transportation for handicapped and senior citizens)--828-8301  
 Ill. Lawyer Referral Service--800-252-8916  
 Kaleidoscope--828-7346  
 McLean County Health Dept. --829-3363  
 McLean County Mental Health Center--827-5351  
 Mobile Meals (meals for shut-ins)--828-8301  
 National Health Care Services (abortion assistance in Peoria)--691-9073

National Runaway Switchboard--800-621-4000  
 --in Illinois--800-972-6004 (all 800 #s toll free)  
 Occupational Development Center--828-7324  
 PATH (Personal Assistance Telephone Help)--827-4005  
 Parents Anonymous--827-4005 (PATH)  
 Planned Parenthood--827-8025  
 Post-Amerikan--828-7232  
 Prairie State Legal Services--827-5021  
 Project Oz--827-0377  
 Public Aid, McLean County--827-4621  
 Rape Crisis Line--827-4005 (PATH)  
 SAW (Student Association for Women, ISU)--438-7619  
 Small Changes Bookstore--829-6223  
 Sunnyside Neighborhood Center--827-5428  
 Tele Care--828-8301  
 Unemployment Compensation/Job Service--827-6237  
 United Farmworkers Support Group--452-5046  
 Women's Switchboard--800-927-5404

## Post Sellers

### BLOOMINGTON

Eastgate IGA, at parking lot exit  
 Medusa's Adult World, 420 N. Madison  
 The Back Porch, 402½ N. Main  
 SW corner, Main & Front  
 Haag Drugstore, 509 W. Washington  
 Blm. Post Office. E. Empire (at exit)  
 NE corner, Front & Prairie  
 Biasi's Drug Store, 217 N. Main  
 Discount Den, 207 N. Main  
 Blm. Red Fox, 918 W. Market  
 Kroger's, 1110 E. Oakland  
 Bus Depot, 523 N. East  
 Wash House, 609 N. Clinton  
 SE corner, Washington & Clinton  
 The Last Page, 416 N. Main  
 The Park Store, Wood & Allin  
 Common Ground, 516 N. Main  
 Mel-O-Cream Doughnuts, 901 N. Main  
 Mr. Donut, 1310 E. Empire  
 Doug's Motorcycle, 809 S. Morris  
 K-Mart, at parking lot exit  
 Small Changes Bookstore, 409A N. Main  
 Lay-Z-J Saloon, 1401 W. Market  
 Pantagraph Building (in front)  
 NE corner, Main & Washington  
 Salt & Pepper Lounge, 1105 W. Washington  
 Downtown Post Office, Center & Monroe  
 Victory Bi-Rite, 203 E. Locust  
 The Sacred Cat, 312 S. Lee

### NORMAL

Redbird IGA, 301 S. Main  
 Mother Murphy's, 111½ North St.  
 Eisner's, E. College (near sign)  
 Drastic Plastic Records, 115 North St.  
 Bowling & Billiards Center, ISU  
 Cage, ISU University Union  
 Midstate Truck Plaza, Rt. 51 North  
 Upper Cut, 318 Kingsley  
 Old Main Book Store, 207 S. Main  
 White Hen Pantry, (in front)  
 Alamo II, (in front)  
 SE corner, North & Broadway  
 Galery III/Cantina, (in front)

### OUTTA TOWN

Urbana, Horizon Bkstore, 517 S. Goodwin

**828-7232**

Yes, that's our phone number--and now we have an answering machine! So you can call and leave us a message anytime. Be sure to leave your phone number if you want us to call you back.

### Mindless commercialism

## The spirit of McLean County

Bumper Stickers: a very good way to make a statement. Many political bumper stickers inform us of the social issues that surround us.

Boycott Non-union Lettuce (UFW), Stop the War, No Draft, There's No Future in Nuclear Power, Split Wood Not Atoms, Sexism Is a Social Disease: all very beneficial, supporting a good level of consciousness-raising--yet, we have seen the useful bumper sticker turn into a tool of more questionable messages.

Religious groups have adopted many messages, from praising the almighty to condemning those who don't. Some examples: Our God Is Alive, Sorry About Yours. God Said It, I Believe It, So That Settles It. Stop Abortion, God Doesn't Make Junk. Even: Prayer Works, on the rear end of a Cadillac. You bet.

Then there's the commercial aspect of bumper stickers, selling anything and everything.

Recently, a flood of bumper stickers

has emerged in McLean County. WJBC radio has launched a new contest that revolves around bumper stickers. The Spirit of McLean County--It's In The Air--WJBC 1230.

Now picture this scenario: morning business meeting, topic; commercialism, how to sell our station, become a household word, make our station a mainstay of the county.

One member says: We need to get every individual in our county involved personally. Like maybe pasting our logo on everybody's forehead. Let everyone prostitute their bodies to carry our logo.

Member two says: They'll never go for that! Unless maybe we can offer them prizes, yes, give them material gifts: boats, microwave ovens, money, color tv's, individual hot dog cookers. Promise them the world.

Member three: Well, instead of our listeners having to paste our logo on their foreheads, how about bumper stickers? Yes, bumper stickers last

forever; they have a wide audience view. Then we will send a representative out, and when a bumper sticker is spotted, how about a friendly wave and smile?

No, wait, that's too easy; we need to make it a little harder (one can imagine some of the suggestions made). How about if we announce their license number on the radio and say, "Look over here to confirm your winning a prize; give us a wave?" And within the announcement on the radio, we must remind our lucky winner to watch where they're going.

Needless to say, upon looking around, you can see this program has been a success. Many of those tasty WJBC stickers have found their way to a majority of bumpers in McLean County.

So who knows, next time the board meets to discuss future, promotions, they might start mixing the flour and water for their next ad campaign.●

--Michael

**Drug report**

# Bogus speed floods Bloomington-Normal

Speed freaks in Bloomington-Normal are being victimized by a wave of bogus tablets and capsules masquerading as the real stuff. The fake speed actually contains legal stimulants which an aware shopper can buy over the counter at any drug store. But the fraudulent speed is skillfully manufactured to look just like rare pharmaceutical amphetamine available only with a government-monitored prescription.

Some of the bogus speed is designed to copy popular bootleg amphetamines--imitating pills which are still potent uppers even though they are made in underground labs instead of corporate drug companies.

The counterfeit speed is being marketed in over a dozen shapes and styles, including black beauties, white crosses, robin's eggs, Christmas trees, plus imitations of Dexamyl and Dexedrine spansule capsules.

Sales of the bogus speed are booming, and not just from the suggestive effect of its realistic appearance. The stuff actually does work--but not as well as true amphetamines.

### Legal stimulants

Marketed by national distribution companies as "legal stimulants," the fake stuff contains two or three substances which actually will produce a speed-like effect.

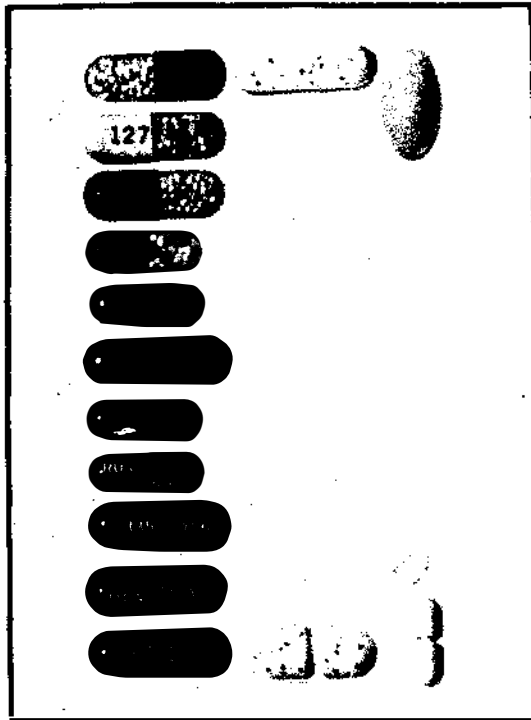
The Post-Amerikan sent for promotional literature from two distributors of the "legal stimulants." One company sent a glossy business card with actual-size color photographs of 17 different varieties of stimulant.

One brochure advertised "Get that natural rush" and offered "Five different capsules with easy to remember names like dexies, yellow jackets, black beauties, Christmas trees, and blue & clears." The capsules contain 200 mg. caffeine--as much

as two cups of coffee. They also contain 30 mg. pseudoephedrine HCL--a mild stimulant and decongestant available at any drugstore as Sudafeds.

### Improved formula

The same company offered a "new improved formula" for other capsules. This new formula contains half as much caffeine, but adds 50 mg. phenylpropanolamine HCL and 25 mg. ephedrine sulphate. Phenylpropanolamine is a common ingredient in over-the-counter nasal decongestants, as well as the primary substance in most of the non-prescription diet pills marketed in drug store stores and groceries. Its value as a legal stimulant was reported in the December '79 Post-Amerikan (vol.8, #7).



ABOVE: This is a reproduction of the full-color glossy business card depicting types of bogus speed available from one company.

The other stimulant in the "new improved formula," ephedrine sulphate, is also available without a prescription. You can get the same quantity by taking two Bronkaid tablets.

A small bottle of samples obtained from a second company also contained imitations of black beauties, robin's



ABOVE: Part of a promo leaflet for dummy speed.

eggs and spansule capsules. Ingredients were basically the same, but the second company packed in more caffeine.

### Big profits

The literature offered most of the fake speed at \$20 per hundred, but prices dropped to as low as \$40 per thousand if one ordered in quantity. The Post-Amerikan has learned they are being sold for \$100 a thousand in Bloomington, leaving a hefty chunk of profit for suppliers.

Possessing the bogus speed is legal. Selling the bogus speed is also legal, as long as you don't represent the product as a controlled substance. But delivery of a substance represented to be a controlled substance is a felony.

One Bloomington dealer of the bogus speed is actually passing them off as genuine amphetamines stolen in a drug store burglary.

The distributors of the bogus pills are becoming more and more bold. Last spring, the Post-Amerikan obtained promotional literature by answering small classified ads which two companies had placed in High Times magazine.

The November 1980 issue contains ads from half a dozen more companies offering the legal speed, including one large full-color display ad from a firm called Phun Pharmaceuticals. All the ads invite "dealer inquiries" and you can bet most of those "dealers" won't be informing their customers about the real contents of the pills.

--Mark Silverstein



### New Post schedule

## Read exciting gorilla news

Always aping our so-called betters, we (the Post staff) are going to have two R&Rs next year--just like Mother Jones.

The Post will still come out 10 times a year like it has the past several years. The machines will still be full and our mechanical answering person will be working full-steam ahead.

The only change will be that twice next year there will be seven weeks between editions of the Post. But, lo and behold, there will be several Posts which will come out only four weeks apart.

With these wonderful new rest periods, we expect the Post to be funnier, livelier and all around better than ever. The schedule of deadlines follows.

- Dec. 11, 1980
- break--
- Jan. 29, 1981
- Feb. 26, 1981
- April 2, 1981
- April 30, 1981
- June 4, 1981
- break--
- July 23, 1981
- Aug. 20, 1981
- Sept. 24, 1981
- Oct. 29, 1981
- Dec. 3, 1981



# Heterosexuality in perspective

With Ronald Reagan in the White House, heterosexuals are likely to become more and more prominent in all walks of Amerikan life. The purpose of this article, then, is to take a frank look at the hidden world of the heterosexual and to answer questions honestly about the problem of heterosexuality without making any moral judgments.

## ARE HETEROSEXUALS SICK?

According to the American Psychiatric Association, four out of every five Amerikans have some sort of heterosexual experience during adolescence. The APA does not consider those who continue such activity as neurotic or psychotic, except those who appear in commercials about the social consciousness of blue jeans.

## WHAT IS THE CAUSE?

While there is insufficient evidence to prove that heterosexuality is inherited, during the course of extensive interviews with one hundred heterosexuals (including the cashier of a religious bookstore, a marketing student, and a pom-pom instructor), most admitted that their parents had been heterosexuals, too.

## WHERE CAN HETEROSEXUALS BE FOUND?

To some degree, everywhere. But they tend to hang around the lawn furniture section of K-Mart stores, at Miss America pageants, and in the studio audience of the Phil Donahue show.

## HOW DO HETEROSEXUALS MEET?

Unlike homosexuals, they do not enjoy the convenience of meeting in public parks after dark or in the stalls of library restrooms where notes written on toilet paper can be easily passed. They are therefore forced to meet at

church socials, appliance fairs, and Norman Rockwell retrospectives.

## HOW DO HETEROSEXUALS MAKE CONTACT?

One of their favorite lines is: "Have you heard the new Debbie Boone album?"

## WHAT DO THEY DO ANYWAY?

It varies, but usually one of them plays the woman and the other plays the man. They're often into breeding.

## *heterosexism can be cured!*

## DO THEY PURPOSELY DRESS THAT WAY OR CAN'T THEY HELP THEMSELVES?

It is too simplistic to say that heterosexual styles of dress are due to bad taste. Their penchant for artificial fabrics and unbecoming designs reflects their need to give "signals" to "tip off" other heterosexuals. When a man sees a woman in a polyester pantsuit in shades of mustard and hunter green, with a matching Avon organizer purse, he knows he will not be wasting his time asking her if she's heard the new Debbie Boone album. Likewise, when a woman sees that a man's socks are color-coordinated with the stitching in the lapels of his leisure suit, she knows he is a member of the heterosexual subculture. Unfortunately, the rest of us have to suffer.

## DO HETEROSEXUALS MAKE BETTER INTERIOR DECORATORS?

Only they know for sure, since heterosexuals never let their guests get

beyond the basement rec room. Reports of their fondness for Congoleum and shag carpeting must certainly be exaggerated.

## DO THEY COOK BETTER?

Actually heterosexuals don't cook in the traditional sense. They heat things up.

## DO HETEROSEXUALS GRAVITATE TO CERTAIN PROFESSIONS?

While they can be found in nearly all professions, the majority of heterosexuals seem attracted to the sciences. They are generally given credit for inventing zip codes, the wire clothes hanger, and hamburger helper.

## DO HETEROSEXUALS MOLEST CHILDREN?

Yes. Even the casual observer will notice that heterosexuals (especially parents) spend a suspiciously large amount of time around children. Most den mothers, little league coaches, and school-crossing guards are thought to be heterosexuals.

## CAN HETEROSEXUALITY BE CURED?

Surprisingly, many heterosexuals claim they are perfectly happy as they are and do not wish to be cured. But until recently heterosexuals had no hope of changing, and instead of seeking help, most dealt with their sexual orientation as something they would have to struggle through life with, like a birthmark or bad sinuses. Today, however, new techniques which have been developed by dedicated and wealthy sexologists make it possible for the heterosexual to become a well-adjusted and happy homosexual.

--Ferdurdurke, with thanks to Richard Friedel of Christopher Street.

## New Right truth squad attacks gay rights

Washington DC--The Free Congress Research and Education Foundation has launched a program that seems primarily aimed at combating lesbian and gay rights.

Their program, called The American Family Truth Squad (TAFTS), will "run an aggressive educational campaign" to "expose taxpayer-financed programs which promote immorality and are anti-family," according to a fundraising letter signed by "Carl T. Curtis, United States Senator, retired."

The letter goes on to warn that passage of the pending lesbian and gay rights bill in Congress would "force heterosexual college students, male and female, to share dorm rooms with openly 'gay' boys and 'lesbian' girls." It also claims that the bill would force schools to hire "openly homosexual" staff members and would qualify "homosexual 'families'" for welfare benefits, food stamps, unemployment benefits, and public housing.

TAFTS also castigates President Carter in its "Executive Report," for allowing "communist dictator Fidel Castro to dump 20,000 homosexual Cubans on the American taxpayers back" [emphasis in the original].

The "Executive Report" lists members of Congress who support the bills pending in both houses to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual

orientation (HR 2074) and to amend the 1952 Immigration and Naturalization Act to allow the entry into the U.S. of lesbian and gay aliens (S 2210).

--Washington Post

## Suit challenges anti-gay teacher law

Oklahoma City--The National Gay Task Force (NGTF), Gay Rights Advocates, the American Civil Liberties Union, and an Oklahoma City University student have filed a suit in federal court to challenge a 1978 Oklahoma state law barring gay men and lesbians from teaching in public schools.

The law, proposed by former State Rep. Mary Helms, also allows school

districts to fire anyone "advocating, soliciting, imposing, encouraging or promoting public or private homosexual activity in a manner which creates a substantial risk that such conduct will come to the attention of school children or school employees."

An earlier challenge to the Helms law was thrown out of court because the plaintiffs were all of the "John Doe-Jane Doe variety." The current suit is a class action, in which NGTF claims to represent "both present and prospective teachers in the Oklahoma City school district," which is named the defendant in the suit. ●

--Tulsa World

## Susie's Cafe

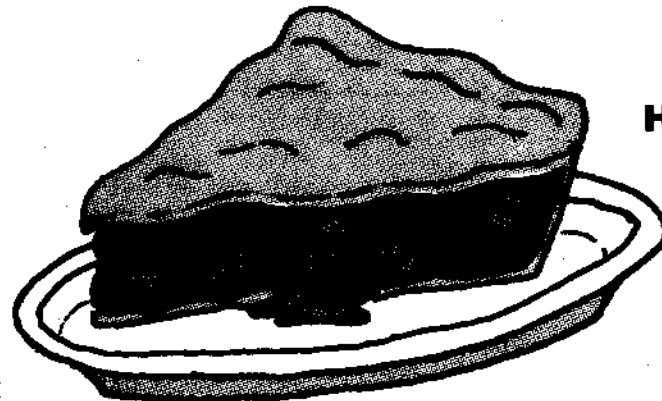
### NEW LOCATION

602 N. Main

Home cooked food

Plate lunch  
& a la carte

6 a.m.-7p.m.



Plenty of free parking at Mulberry & Main

## Gay special 'unfair,' says council

The National News Council decided last month that CBS was unfair in part of the tv documentary "Gay Power, Bay Politics," which aired in April. The action was the result of a 20-page complaint submitted by San Francisco gay journalist Randy Alfred.

The council disagreed with the contention that CBS overstated the importance of an apology made by Mayor Diane Feinstein to the San Francisco gay community, but they did find one instance of clear distortion in presenting this incident: CBS inserted applause in a tape of Feinstein's apology where there had been no applause.

By a 10-to-1 vote, the council also found "unfairness in the presentation of sexual issues. By concentrating on certain flamboyant examples of homosexual behavior, the program tended to reinforce stereotypes. The program also exaggerated political concessions to gays and made those

concessions appear as threats to public public morals and decency."

Specifically, the council pointed out that CBS had used an S&M club owned and frequented by heterosexuals to illustrate its contention that sado-masochism was widespread in the gay community. They also agreed that the Beaux Arts Ball, a charitable event at which straights join gays in wearing drag, had been presented by CBS as a decadent homosexual gathering; that a highly regarded school program to demystify homosexuality had been shown as an attempt to promote gayness; and that CBS suggested gays at a Castro Street Halloween party frightened children with sexually provocative costumes, when in fact the party for the children had been held earlier that evening.

The council also found the program's closing statement, made by Harry Reasoner, that San Francisco lesbians and gay men demanded "absolute sexual

freedom," as inaccurate and unfair. "The reality is that homosexuals are not monolithic in their behavior or their political objectives," the council reported.

Two of the council's members dissented from the finding: Jeffrey Bell of the American Conservative Union, who found the documentary "well within the bounds of permissible journalistic practice," and William A. Rusher, publisher of the National Review, who contended that the show "never pretended to be a balanced presentation of homosexual life."

CBS acknowledged that it had violated journalistic standards by inserting the applause in the apology segment and offered an apology for that violation. The network also aired the council's findings, devoting about a minute of time to the complaint during a CBS Reports, but refused to apologize for its overall presentation of the documentary.

--Village Voice,  
Gay Community News

## Bill passes without anti-gay amendment

The Legal Services Bill has unexpectedly passed the U.S. Senate without the addition of an anti-gay amendment. In July the House passed an amendment to the bill prohibiting Legal Services funding from being used in cases "promoting, defending or protecting homosexuality."

Most observers, including the Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL), expected a similar amendment to be added to the bill when it reached the Senate.

But the Senate passed the bill Sept. 25 without the introduction of such an amendment. The Senate Appropriations Committee had deleted the amendment added by the House, and "all indications were that the amendment would be introduced," said Steve Endean, executive director of GRNL.

Endean said he was "delighted" that no anti-gay amendment was proposed. "I can't say for sure what caused it," he said, "but for the first time the lesbian and gay community generated massive constituent support all over the country." He said a campaign to oppose any anti-gay amendments to the bill had "lighted up switchboards just all over the place" and many senators had received a large amount of mail opposing such amendments.

Endean pointed out that the bill must still go to a conference committee between the House and Senate before it leaves Congress, but he felt there was a good chance that it would pass without any further additions.

--Gay Community News

## Navy can discriminate against gays

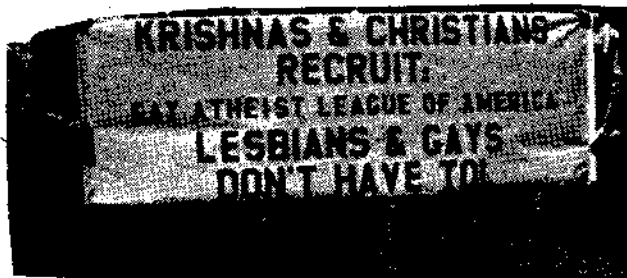
San Francisco--A federal appeals court here has upheld the Navy's policy of mandatory exclusion of lesbians and gay men from the service. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled on Oct. 24 that the Navy had the right "to protect the fabric of military life" by excluding lesbians and gay men without regard for their service

records or their ability to do their jobs.

The ruling was made in a 1975 case involving two men and one woman, who were discharged because of admitted homosexual activity. One of the three had been reinstated by a lower court, but the Navy appealed that ruling.

In the meantime, the Navy has launched an investigation of 14 sailors in the Naval Security Group at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California. Of the 14, one of whom is a woman, seven are awaiting discharge and the other seven are still under investigation for sexual activities. Two of this group told their commanding officers of their "homosexual tendencies" but the other 12 may have come under suspicion because of Navy surveillance of the gay bar in Monterey.

--Gay Community News



## Gay teacher's firing upheld

Paramus, NJ--The New Jersey State Education Commissioner has affirmed the decision to dismiss tenured teacher John Gish as a result of his participation in gay rights activities.

The Commissioner, Fred G. Burke, wrote that "no judgment has been made to respondent's personal behavior, only the determination that his endorsement, with attendant publicity, of a 'gay life-style' had an impact upon his fitness to teach."

This action began in 1972 when Gish, a Paramus High School teacher, assumed the presidency of the Gay Activist Alliance. At the time, the school superintendent warned him not to take such a public stance. When Gish did not step down, the Paramus school board moved to have him transferred out of the school and into administrative work. After a hearing in 1978, administrative law judge Eric Erickson ruled in support of the board's action.

According to Vincent Perna of the New Jersey Education Association, "In the entire six or seven years of the battle, we have heard no concern from parents in the community about John's negative effect in the classroom." Perna called the ruling "horrendous."

--Gay Community News

## THE NEW DEAL

OPEN  
DAILY  
AT NOON

HAPPY  
HOUR  
4-6PM

SPECIALS  
DAILY

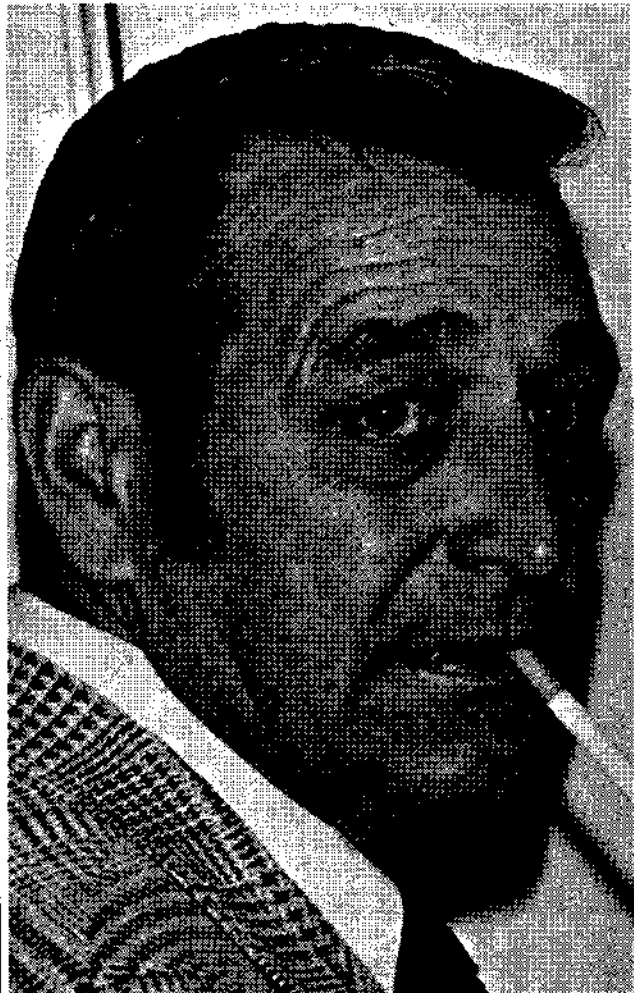


THE  
GOOD  
TIMES  
ROLL

at  
405

N. MORRIS  
BLOOMINGTON

# McGuire quits; good riddance!



Almost as though he were caving in to demands made by protesting students who gathered at City Hall September 29, Normal Police Chief Richard McGuire announced in early November that he would quit. His resignation becomes effective next summer, when McGuire becomes eligible for a pension. The American Cancer Society refused to comment on rumors that McGuire has been selected to pose for a new version of their "Isn't Smoking Glamorous?" poster.

## Officer Tom Sanders

# Forceful cop abuses victims

Bloomington cop Tom Sanders used "excessive force" in arresting Luella Winston, Judge James Knecht ruled Nov. 4. The judge threw out the aggravated battery and resisting arrest charges Sanders had filed against her.

I think Sanders also used excessive force August 23, when he shot and almost killed an innocent man. But Acting Police Chief Lewis DeVault doesn't agree with me.

At the Regal 8 motel August 23, Sanders fired two shotgun blasts at a car he mistakenly believed carried armed men fleeing from a forcible felony. As it turns out, they were not armed. They were not fleeing from a forcible felony, either.

But Sanders' belief that he was shooting at fleeing felons made the shooting

legal, according to State's Attorney Ron Dozier.

Charles Vasquez, the innocent man shot in the neck, spent over two months in St. Francis Hospital.

Even before state police had completed their 200-page report on the shooting, Acting Police Chief Lewis DeVault had nothing but praise for Tom Sanders. "I thought he (Sanders) was totally justified," DeVault told the Pantagraph. "I felt comfortable right from the beginning."

Following a phone tip, Sanders thought he was investigating a kidnapping (a forcible felony) when he pulled up at the Regal 8. But the man eventually charged, Kenneth Heistand, was booked only for illegal restraint and battery, stemming from what State's Attorney Dozier called a "lovers' quarrel." The wounded Vasquez was not even involved in the illegal restraint.

The "lovers' quarrel" was already over when police arrived, and Heistand had already returned his lover's car keys to her. But Heistand ran when he saw the cops, and dove into the back seat of a car Vasquez was pulling out of the motel parking lot.

Although Sanders could see that the supposedly kidnapped woman was already free and safe, he fired at the fleeing car.

After reading the state police's 200-page report, State's Attorney Dozier still defended the legality of Sander's action. But Dozier told the Pantagraph he had "some misgivings" about the patrolman's judgment.

Those misgivings ought to be intensified now that Judge Knecht ruled that Sanders used "excessive force" in arresting Mrs. Winston at Holton Homes last May. Throwing out charges of aggravated battery and resisting arrest, Knecht ruled that Mrs. Winston was legally "entitled to use force to defend herself."

According to the Pantagraph report of the testimony, Sanders cut and bruised Mrs. Winston's wrists after she fell down by pulling her up by the chain of her handcuffs. Knecht ruled Mrs. Winston was justified in biting Sanders to get him to stop hurting her.

The Pantagraph report neglected to mention that this cop found guilty of using excessive force was the same cop who shot an innocent man, putting him in the hospital for two months.

A brief search through the Post-Amerikan's haphazard and incomplete clipping files turned up another report suggesting Sander's malfeasance. In June 1978, Judge DeCardy dismissed an aggravated battery charge Sanders had filed against a Heyworth man. Sanders claimed he was knocked down by the man, but the judge apparently didn't believe Sanders.

These incidents suggest that there is a pattern to Tom Sanders' conduct. It's a pattern that ought to be broken, and soon.

--Mark Silverstein



# Common Ground

## NATURAL FOODS

516 N. Main St. Bloomington, Ill. 61701

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

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

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

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



# Undercover sheriff's employee worked under the covers



When Sheriff Steve Brienon sent jailer Jackie Kloter out to work undercover last year, she apparently took her assignment literally. She actually worked under the covers, sleeping with the man she set up for a marijuana sale. That's what Harold Lynn Mayhugh argued at his trial. In a transaction stimulated by Kloter's undercover persuasion, Mayhugh sold seven pounds of pot and drew a penitentiary sentence.

The Pantagraph reported Mayhugh's contention that the undercover agent slept with him, smoked pot with him and his friends, and bugged him continually for months to make a marijuana sale. But the Pantagraph discreetly kept the woman's name out of the arti-

cle. We found her name in the court file. The telephone book lists a Jackie Kloter at 15 Ryan Drive, 663-2889.

This isn't the first time undercover agents and informers have been used of sleeping with the targets of investigations. Since the Mult. County Enforcement Group (MEG) was formed in 1974, the Post-American has reported four cases of the narc squad's employees adopting such provocative investigative techniques. Sheriff Brienon has said he is thinking of having his department join the MEG unit.

Brienon would fit right in with the MEG boys, judging by the sheriff's lat-

est willingness to push gung-ho undercover operations beyond their legal limits. When the sheriff sent underage teens into county taverns to buy alcohol undercover in October, even members of the County Board were outraged. Brienon has no legal authority to ask non-police personnel to commit crimes (like buying alcohol). Nor can the sheriff legally authorize non-police personnel to solicit others, like tavern owners, to break the law. That's probably why Brienon engineered the undercover alcohol buys to produce only a media splash, with no arrests. •

# Convicted criminal becomes Bloomington police chief

A man convicted in 1973 for illegal wiretapping has been appointed the new Bloomington chief of police. Donald Story, currently chief of the Canton police, takes the new job December 1.

Story was fined \$1,000 for his role in illegally monitoring the conversations of the Peoria mayor. At the time, Story was a Peoria city cop assigned to the Tri-County Intelligence Unit, a now-defunct secret police unit set up to investigate organized crime.

Both City Manager Vail and the Daily Pantagraph have played down the significance of Story's conviction.

"He was carrying out what was then departmental policy," Vail explained to the Pantagraph. As though that makes it OK. The Pantagraph justified Story's wiretapping by ex-

plaining that the illegal action was "ordered by his superiors."

That's what Adolph Eichmann said about his murder of Jews.

(Adolph Eichmann, you remember, defended his murder of millions of Jews in Nazi concentration camps. He said he was just following what was departmental policy at the time, and that the murders were "ordered by his superiors.")

Whenever government officials, police or military honchos defend their crimes on the basis of "following orders," I cringe. I cringe even more when that defense starts becoming acceptable to city managers and newspaper editors.

Ironically, I too am kind of complacent about Story's history of wiretapping the Peoria mayor. But for different reasons. While I am

totally opposed to police eavesdropping on regular citizens, I am really not that upset that the mayor of Peoria was bugged. It probably shouldn't be a crime to tap the mayor's phone. Or the city manager's either. (I'm not sure yet whether wiretapping the office offices of Pantagraph higher-ups should be illegal.) •

## Officer Gary Wroan: eager for action



When Gary Wroan joined the Normal Police force in May 1979, he told the Pantagraph that he'd always wanted to be a cop. He went at it with a vengeance. Even his superior admitted Wroan was "overzealous" for busting a young woman for picking a flower in downtown Normal.

But Wroan's pettiness continued in fall 1979, when he staked out liquor stores trying to catch underage students with beer. He even busted kids for illegal possession when they were only helping a legal buyer carry unopened packages from the store. (Some of these cases were thrown out of court.)

Testimony in a mid-October speeding trial suggested that Wroan is even getting arrogant with respectable middle-class citizens of Normal. Jon Svensson, who ran for State Representative several years ago, testified that Wroan started to pull his gun out when Svensson was stopped for speeding. •

## Daluga suit settled

David Daluga, an ISU student shot by Normal patrolman Mike Ellington in front of dozens of witnesses in April 1979, has accepted a \$80,000 settlement for damages.

Daluga is still partly paralyzed from the shooting.

Daluga had been driving like a maniac through Normal that day, and patrolman Ellington had finally got Daluga's car stopped at School and Mulberry Streets.

Ellington said his gun went off unintentionally. He was using it as a club,

supposedly swinging it to subdue Daluga.

Ordinarily, cops are supposed to use a riot baton in situations where they need more than arms and fists. And many witnesses deny that Daluga needed subduing. But Ellington didn't have his riot baton with him that day.

Oh well, a gun will do just as well. And if it goes off, well, the \$80,000 was all paid for by insurance. And Ellington's superiors backed him up, not bothering to suspend him even for a day. •

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# The sickening story of bendectin

Tell every pregnant woman you know: Bendectin, a widely-prescribed drug for the nausea and vomiting of early pregnancy, may cause serious brain, heart, and limb deformities in your child.

The frightening story of how Bendectin got on the market and stayed there for 23 years, being taken by more than 30 million women worldwide, is detailed in the November issue of Mother Jones magazine. Knowing that many of our readers don't take Mother Jones, I decided to warn people in Post pages as well.

Bendectin is made by a subsidiary of Richardson-Merrell, the same people who brought the world Thalidomide. Thalidomide, a sleep aid, caused millions of deformities in babies in the late '50s and early '60s, and in 1962 the scandal created the Kefauver-Harris amendment, which requires that the safety and efficacy of a drug be proven before official approval be granted by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

## Massive defects

Mother Jones investigators have found that the FDA cleared Bendectin in spite of four medical reviewers' reports that the drug was neither safe nor effective; that both Richardson-Merrell and the FDA hold reports in their files suggesting that the drug may have caused thousands of birth defects; and

that Dr. William McBride, the man who discovered that Thalidomide caused abnormalities, has long maintained that Bendectin is harmful. McBride says that Bendectin may already have caused 140,000 defective babies, with such massive defects as missing hands, feet, legs, arms, as well as brains developed outside their skulls.

One woman took Bendectin during three pregnancies, and all three of the children are deformed. During two other pregnancies, she did not take the drug, and those two children are normal.

Army nurse Louise Koller is preparing a multi-million dollar suit against Merrell. The Dept. of Defense purchased Bendectin; Koller was one recipient. She gave birth to a girl with no arms and only one leg. Bendectin was the only medication she took during her first two months of pregnancy.



World Magazine/cpf

Bendectin got FDA approval in 1953, four years before Thalidomide. After the Thalidomide crisis, when new drugs had to be proved safe and effective, Bendectin was again approved--on the basis of Richardson-Merrell-supplied studies.

## Faulty studies

These studies have since been reviewed and found to be heavily misrepresented and distorted. (For example, one animal test was conducted on a sample group of two--yes, two--rabbits.)

Of course, by 1972 all other anti-nauseants had disappeared from the market due to the time and cost of adequate tests. Merrell had an open market for Bendectin, and did anything to keep it.

Dr. Barbara Manard, a medical sociologist at the U. of California at Riverside, recently reviewed the publicly available research on Bendectin.

(Note that publicly available phrase--Manard didn't even have documents that are hidden in Merrell and FDA files.) She concluded that (1) Bendectin has not been proven safe; (2) There is strong evidence that Bendectin is a teratogenic (meaning that it creates congenital malformations and defects in human and animal fetuses); and (3) Bendectin is not impressively effective in controlling nausea and vomiting.

## Widely prescribed

In spite of all this, a local nurse says that the drug is widely prescribed to pregnant women in Bloomington-Normal. If doctors look up Bendectin in the Physician's Desk Reference (PDR) of 1979, they will find an entry that claims that the drug is safe and effective. PDR entries, though, are submitted and paid for by the company that makes the drug. The PDR, which most people think of as an objective reference book, is actually a massive advertising tool.

Pregnant women obviously cannot depend on the drug companies or their doctors to protect them. They must refuse to take Bendectin. ●

--Phoebe Caulfield

Note: See the November 1980 issue of Mother Jones for more information. Their article details the flawed and manipulated Bendectin research and review projects much more fully than I have here.

## The natural alternatives

Many women will experience nausea and some will have vomiting during the early stages of pregnancy. Midwives believe this is a sign that the body is lacking crucial vitamins and minerals. Good nutrition and vitamin and herb therapies are all alternatives to the use of Bendectin. You can use them individually or together. Use them simultaneously with psychological support and reassurance that nausea and vomiting usually disappear by the end of the fourth month of pregnancy. If nausea and vomiting persist beyond this point or are uncontrollable by the simple methods below, you should consult with a midwife or get a physical examination.

**Nutrition.** Mild nausea associated with occasional vomiting can be easily controlled using the following principles:

\*Avoid all fatty, greasy, fried, or highly spiced foods.

\*Eat something easily digestible every two or three hours. It is especially important to eat something before bedtime and immediately upon rising in the morning. Persistent nausea can sometimes be helped by waking up after three to four hours of sleep and taking a snack.

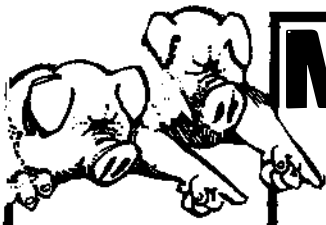
\*Increase fluid intake to at least three to four glasses of liquid an hour while awake; this has the double benefit of avoiding dehydration,

which sometimes accompanies nausea and vomiting, and avoiding constipation, which may occur during pregnancy.

**Vitamins.** The B vitamins have been used to help reduce nausea. Although there are many combinations of these vitamins, a common recommendation is to take 50 mg. or 100 mg. of vitamin B6 (also known as Pyridoxine, an ingredient of Bendectin) two to four times a day. Some people recommend also taking 100 mg. of vitamin B1 (thiamine) once daily, while others suggest a "balanced" B-complex vitamin that includes all the B vitamins.

**Herbs.** Herbs can be very successful in reducing nausea when taken frequently in small amounts. Wild yam root is one of the best. Herbs that are soothing to the digestive tract--raspberry leaf, peppermint, chamomile, lemon balm, catnip and comfrey leaf--are also good for morning sickness. You can find most herbs in local natural food stores or cooperatives. Instruction on herbal preparation is frequently available where you buy herbs or in books on herbal usage. You may want to add some honey to herbal teas, as many of them are quite bitter. Go ahead; you'll also be getting some needed extra calories. ●

--Gary Ritchwald, M.D.: reprinted from Mother Jones magazine.



# Miscellaneous outrages you may have missed



compiled by  
Mark Silverstein

## Chlorine danger pooh-pooed

Heavily chlorinated water has been linked to cancer in a US government study. But even if your tap water has a heavy chlorine smell, there is not a need to worry. That's what the Pantagraph found out from the directors of the twin cities water departments. Joseph Marin, who runs Normal's water dept., said any water with enough chlorine to endanger health would smell so bad no one would drink it. (So how did the cancer victims in the government study consume their chlorinated water?) Bloomington's water man, Don Ferguson, had a more sophisticated, but still not comforting, pooh-pooing of the study. Ferguson said the chlorine is dangerous only when it combines with a certain type of algae over a long time. Lake Bloomington is already fifty years old, and Ferguson didn't even know if that type of algae exists in the lake. If people smell chlorine in their water, Ferguson told the Pantagraph, "there isn't any need to do anything." •

## Cautious gynecologist

"You take a risk crossing the street," was gynecologist George O'Neil's flippant reassurance to a patient hesitant about the dangers of taking birth control pills. But the Food and Drug Administration takes the risks of blood clots and a dozen other potential complications more seriously. Every package of birth control pills sold must contain an FDA-approved pamphlet explaining the pill's dangers to consumers. Birth control pills are the only prescription medication for which the FDA has required such extensive consumer warnings. •

## Landlord neglect leaves tenants homeless

Bloomington's Hamilton Hotel closed its doors Nov. 1, forcing its residents--many of them retired pensioners--out into the streets. Owner Leo Forbes shut down the hotel after reclaiming the building from Fred Hafner, who had been buying the building on contract for two years. Forbes told the Pantagraph that Hafner had done almost no maintenance for the entire two years, allowing the hotel to deteriorate to the point that it must undergo major remodeling or be closed permanently. Hafner's neglect of the property was predictable. In Sept. 1977, the Post-American published a chart listing all the properties Hafner currently owned and detailing his taxes, mortgages, utility expenses, rental incomes, and profits. An accompanying article reported Hafner's stubborn reluctance to do maintenance on his rental units. Because of Hafner's shirking of his landlord responsibilities, Bloomington has lost a landmark, and 30-35 people have lost their homes. •

## Who needs neighborhoods?

Thanks to a decision of the Bloomington City Council, another close-in supermarket serving an older neighborhood will close down, to be replaced by a brand-new supermarket on the far east side of town. The council decided to issue controversial industrial revenue bonds to aid the Kroger company in building its new complex at Oakland and the Beltline. The bonds enable Kroger to finance its construction at a lower interest rate. When the new supermarket opens, the Kroger store at Oakland and Hannah will close its doors. Without the council's help, Kroger would not have built the new store, and the poor and working class people who shop at the near-east-side store would still have a neighborhood supermarket. •

## Sewage cover-up stinks

For years now, homeowners in certain areas of Normal have been raising a stink because the sanitary sewers back up and flood their basements. The problem, we have all read, stems from illegal connections between footing tiles and sanitary sewers, connections which channel rain water into the pipe that's just supposed to be carrying off water from drains and toilets. In a heavy rain, the sanitary sewer becomes overloaded, backing up and depositing dirty dishwater, used toilet paper, bloody tampons, turds, and lots of rain water right into people's nicely carpeted basements. (The reason they call it the sanitary sewer is because it is not sanitary. The sewer that's supposed to be carrying rain water is called a rain sewer.) We have read criticism of the inadequate city inspection system that allowed these illegal hook-ups to pass unnoticed. It's a pity, we have read, that the builders and contractors, the ones who caused all this trouble with their illegal hook-ups, are not flushed out and forced to undo their dirty deed. But with all I have read on the subject, how come I've never read the names of the builders who are responsible? •

## Rad waste routes approved

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission made public its list of approved routes for shipment of radioactive waste last month. Two of the routes pass through Bloomington-Normal. One route, which the Pantagraph had already alerted citizens about last June, allows waste-carrying trucks to travel north on I-55 toward the Morris dump. Another route, previously unknown to the public, authorizes passage of radioactive waste through Illinois from the west. That route takes trucks south on 51 to Bloomington, then west on I-74. Do the trucks go down Main and Center streets through town, or do they pass around town on I-55? The spokesperson for the NRC interviewed by the Pantagraph didn't even know. Meanwhile, accidents in the transportation of such materials increased 23% over the previous year, according to Critical Mass Energy Project. •

## Gen Tel flunkie flunks civics

When the Bloomington City Council was considering whether to officially object to Illinois Power Company's proposed 23% rate hike, council member Donn Pierce should have remained silent. Instead Pierce vigorously opposed the idea of Bloomington getting involved in the Illinois Commerce Commission proceedings on the side of the consumer. Pierce is director of governmental affairs for General Telephone Company, a firm which also must go before the ICC when it wants to raise prices. As an official of the telephone company, Pierce knows that cities, consumer advocates and other do-gooder groups that intervene in rate hike cases just clutter up the proceedings. Pierce got his way, but his vote in the council decision should be considered conflict of interest. •

## Cautious agent

Without even checking her driving record, a State Farm Agent told a Bloomington woman that she couldn't get car insurance because she was only 22 and unmarried. After double checking, the agent said the woman could get insurance if she had a college degree. •

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Prisoners' lawsuits pay off

# Double celling cruel, unusual

In Sept. 1979, Pontiac prisoner Reggie Rucker appeared before the disciplinary committee and was sentenced to 15 days in segregation.

After his sentence was completed, the committee sentenced him to another 15 days.

After that sentence was completed, the committee threw him in segregation for a third 15-day period.

Rucker eventually spent eleven months in segregation, a total of 24 separate 15-day sentences. Each was for "disobeying a direct order."

Rucker has refused to obey prison authorities' orders to accept a 9 x 5 foot cell with another prisoner. Ever since 1976, when Pontiac first started packing two prisoners to a cell, Reggie Rucker has fought for what he believes is his constitutional right to a cell by himself.

On August 14, federal district judge Harold Baker agreed with Rucker. Saying that double celling constituted cruel and unusual punishment, the judge ordered Pontiac to give Rucker a single cell in the prison population, with full privileges restored.\*

\* \* \* \* \*

As a member of the Illinois Prisons and Jails Project, I've visited Reggie Rucker at his cage in segregation. A large solidly-built man, Rucker's physical size proves that his voluntary loss of privileges and isolation from the prison population is based on commitment to a principle--not fear of attack.

Many prison cell walls are plastered with glossy photos of naked women clipped from magazines more explicit than Playboy. Rucker's only wall poster depicts prison walls and a clenched fist, with a call for demonstrators to assemble at San Quentin on the anniversary of the murder of prison revolutionary George Jackson.

Rucker is an active jailhouse lawyer. His cell is full of neat piles of papers from numerous grievances, affidavits, correspondence, petitions, and lawsuits. His typewriter is a tool of resistance, sending out a steady barrage of fire in the struggle for prisoners' rights.

\* \* \* \* \*

Since segregation is the prison's punishment unit, Rucker paid quite a price for sticking to his beliefs. He lost most of the few freedoms that prisoners in population enjoy, including his assignment to the college program. Seg prisoners don't get the monotony-breaking walk to the chow hall; they have their meals, always cold, in their cells. Instead of two hours yard period each day, segregation gets a mere hour a week. Segregation prisoners lose all phone privileges. Rucker was still allowed visits from relatives, but he had to sit in the visiting room with his wrists cuffed to a huge leather belt fastened around his waist.

Every two weeks Rucker had the opportunity to give up, accept a double cell, and leave segregation. He refused.

\* \* \* \* \*

All Pontiac prisoners used to have cells by themselves. But the Illinois prison population was doubling in the mid-1970's.

In Sept., 1976, Pontiac prisoners were instructed to double up. Reggie Rucker and a whole tier of resistance-minded comrades refused. They were sent to segregation.

Rucker argued that a prisoner needed a psychiatric evaluation before being locked up in a small cell with another.

After six months in segregation, Rucker won. After convincing a sympathetic prison psychiatrist that a nervous condition made him unfit for double celling, Rucker got a single cell and returned to his college classes.

Rucker estimates that maybe 50 other prisoners obtained psychologists' recommendations for single cells.

On May 1, 1979, the Pontiac warden abolished all single cell permits "due to the increasing population of Pontiac."

Pontiac warden Fairman then qualified the new policy so that it would not seem that administration was questioning medical judgment. A shrink's order for a single cell would be honored, but a mere recommendation wouldn't. Meanwhile Fairman canned the psychiatrist who'd been handing out single cell recommendations (and Valium) so freely, and sent a carefully worded memo subtly instructing the new psychiatrist not to issue too many single cell orders.

Since the new shrink didn't think Rucker needed a single cell, Rucker was ordered to accept a double cell in Sept. 1979.

Rucker refused, and the fight was on again.

This time, though, Rucker filed not only prison grievances, but also a suit under the U.S. Civil Rights Act. As Rucker's civil rights suit cleared more red-tape hurdles over the course of time, prison officials became nervous about Rucker's continuing obstinate fight for a single cell.

\* \* \* \* \*

The prison's most rebellious inmates are locked up in the segregation unit, and spats between them and the guards break out frequently. Some prisoners' behavior is self-defeating resistance, like the prisoners who get caught with a minor piece of contraband and, rather than surrender it peacefully, insist that guards take it by force (which they gladly do, usually with a few extra blows).

In April 1980, some seg prisoners began setting fires in their cells, forcing guards to put them out. Eventually guards stopped extinguishing the fires. On April 15, Rucker writes, guards closed doors and windows to the galleries, allowing a mattress to burn for five hours. Several prisoners passed out, and Rucker's entire tier--which was several tiers away from the fire--needed medical attention for smoke inhalation.

Four or five times in April, Rucker writes, guards let fires burn. Though only a few start the fires, the guards caused all the prisoners in seg to suffer heavy smoke inhalation while sitting helplessly locked in their cells.

At least twice in April, Rucker turned down chances to leave segregation.

\* \* \* \* \*

Many prisoners own their own TV sets, but beginning in fall 1979, seg prisoners could no longer have TVs. (This was not a new prison policy, not even a new statewide DOC administrative regulation--it was a new law, passed by legislators so bent out of shape by reports of prisoners with color TVs that they interfered in an area normally left to the full-time bureaucrats who deal with the institutions every day.)

Prisoners like Rucker whose seg time started before the end of Sept. 1979 were permitted to keep their TVs for the duration of their seg sentence. Also, the law allowed a prisoner who'd spent 60 days in segregation with no tickets to petition to have his TV

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**ENTERTAINMENT**

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# punishment, judge rules

returned, subject to the warden's approval.

Rucker kept his TV for the first six months of his seg sentence, when guards suddenly seized it.

Warden Fairman refused to consider Rucker's petition to return the TV, nor did Fairman admit that Rucker came under the law's "grandfather clause."

According to Fairman, Rucker began a new segregation sentence every fifteen days, meaning he never spent enough time in the punishment unit to petition for the return of his TV.

If Rucker wanted to watch TV, Fairman said, he could accept a double cell in population.

\* \* \* \* \*

Many lawsuits filed by prisoners get thrown out of court early, when the judge grants the DOC's motion for summary judgment. But Rucker's suit survived this crucial test last spring, meaning that his case could eventually make it to trial.

Rucker writes that he was called into Assistant Warden Wright's office and informed that his refusal to go into a double cell in population posed a threat to the administration. Rucker says he was offered a transfer to another prison or return to population with the cellmate of his choice and expungement of his record. He refused the deal.

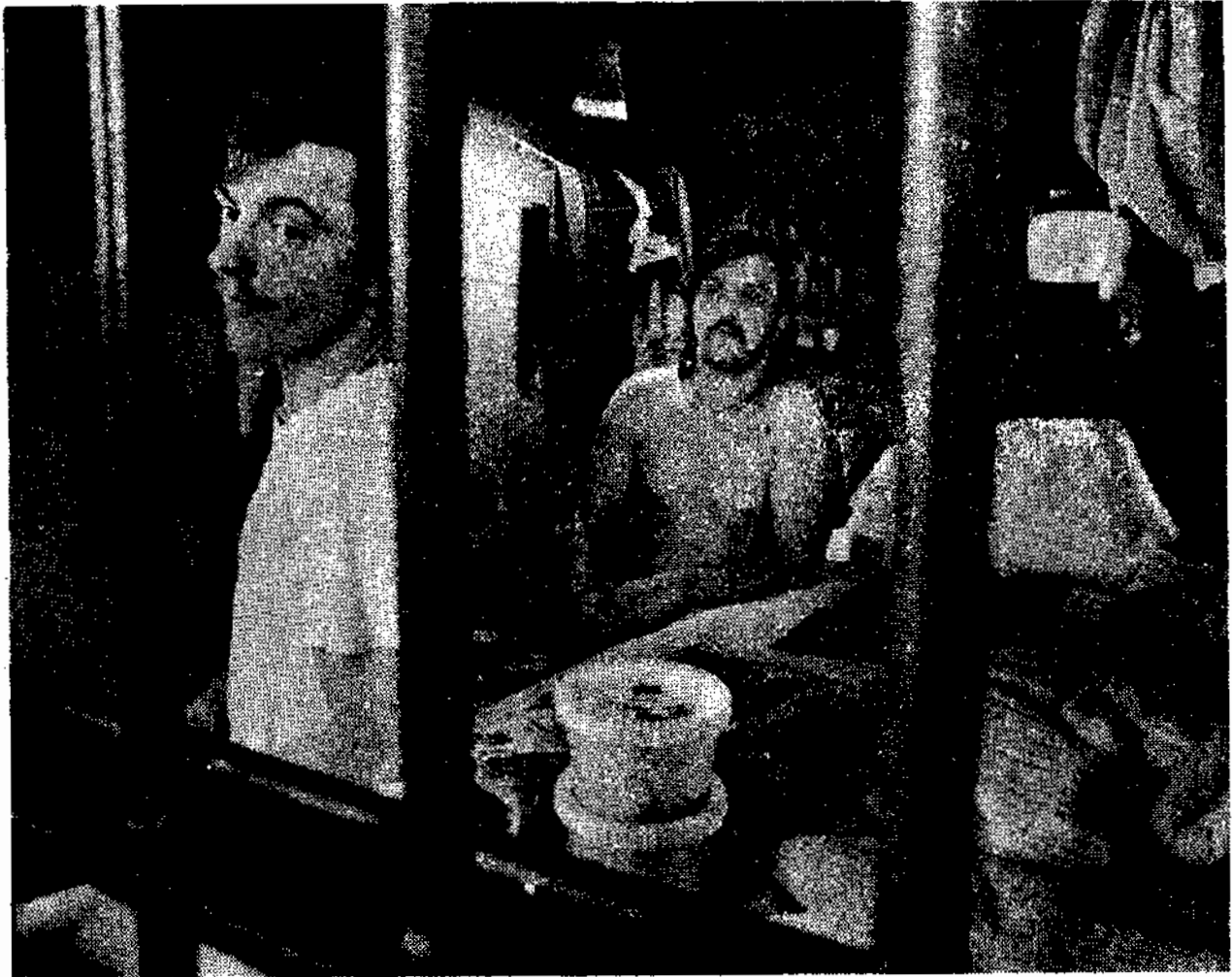
\* \* \* \* \*

In June, Judge Baker heard some evidence on Rucker's motion for a preliminary injunction--a request to put Rucker in a single cell during the time everyone's waiting for the actual trial which would finally determine the issue. Baker heard testimony about prison conditions, prison policy and psychologists' testimony about the debilitating effects resulting from cramping people in too small a space. Baker insisted on touring Pontiac himself the next day.

\* \* \* \* \*

Rucker was still locked in segregation when the Illinois Prisons and Jails Project inspected the unit in July, 1980. They found "a volatile situation," with one committee member describing segregation as "a war zone with escalating tensions and openly expressed hostility," according to the group's report.

"Thirteen cells had heavy wire mesh over the front," the report said. "Most of the inmates in these cells had no beds, several had no mattresses or bedding, with only a blanket to lay on the cement floor. A few cells were completely devoid of furnishings or personal property, the inmates claiming that officers had confis-



ABOVE: Most prisoners at Pontiac are doubled up in small cells originally designed for one. While their ultimately successful suit for single cells was pending, Reggie Rucker and a few others spent a year in segregation for refusing to accept a double cell. This Tribune photo depicts the typical crowding at Pontiac, except that most prisoners, including Rucker, are black.

ticated all of their belongings, and their commissary purchases, including their soap. Some of the men said they had existed like that for nearly a month, charging officers had harassed, provoked and beaten them. Officers said some of the inmates were spoiling for a fight and took every opportunity to create an incident." The report went on to point out that placing prisoners in such stripped cell cells for more than 72 hours violated Department of Corrections regulations.

After the prison monitors witnessed a minor disturbance which included thrown food, an overturned food cart, and plenty of yelling, the committee's report summarized the atmosphere in Pontiac's segregation unit: "It is not uncommon to encounter one or two inmates in seg yelling angrily or throwing things to vent their frustration, but the Citizen's Visitation Committee has never before witnessed such a state of open conflict."

Reggie Rucker had opportunities to accept a double cell and leave segregation that month. He refused.

\* \* \* \* \*

In mid-August Judge Baker agreed that double celling is cruel and inhuman punishment. He granted the preliminary injunction on the grounds that

with the evidence he'd heard so far, the prisoners would probably win the trial.

Before complying with Baker's order to put Rucker in a single cell, the DOC stalled another two weeks, during which time an appellate court upheld Baker's order.

After a year in segregation, Rucker has won. He has a single cell and is back in Pontiac's meager college program. Rucker's claim for \$100 a day damages for his time in segregation will be considered when the case goes to trial. ●

--Mark Silverstein

POST-NOTE: When this article was written in August, Judge Baker's ruling affected only the eight inmates whose individual suits for single cells were before his court. At the end of October, however, Baker agreed to let one of the plaintiffs change his suit into a class action on behalf of all the Pontiac prisoners confined in double cells.

\*Rucker is one of eight prisoners whose suits for a single cell were consolidated for Baker's court. Four of the prisoners remained in double cells in population while their suits were pending. Three others stayed in segregation with Rucker. Because he's the one I've been in communication with, Rucker is the subject of this article. But all the plaintiffs, especially the ones who endured segregation on principle for a year, deserve credit.



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## ELECTION '80

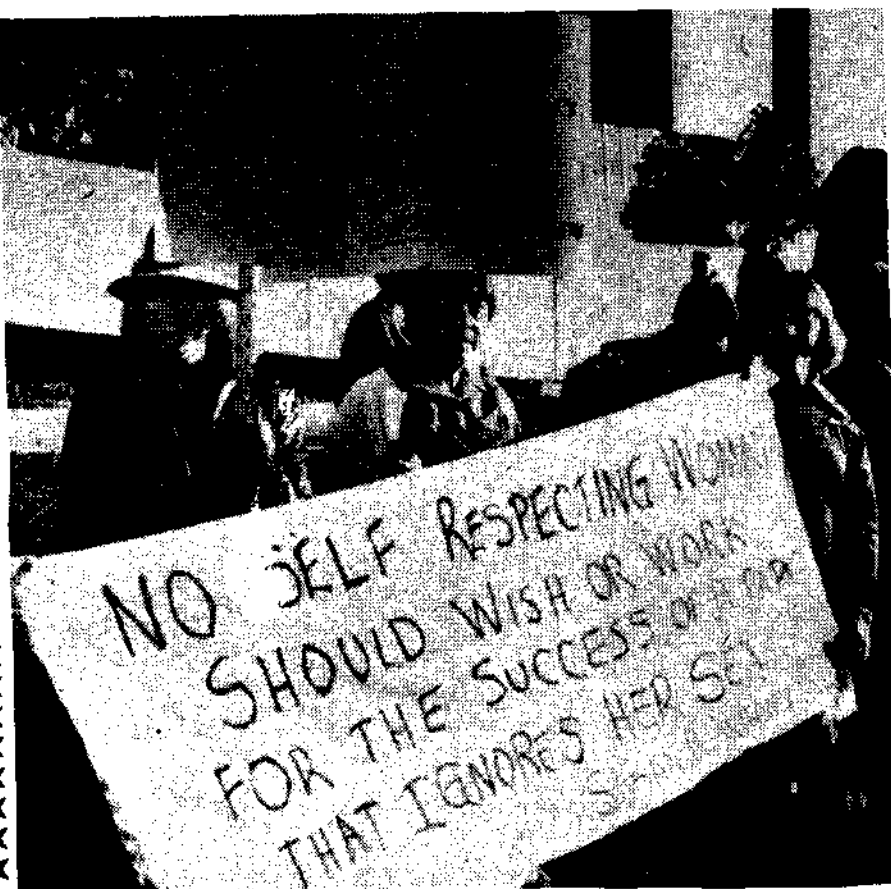
Post-American vol. 9 no. 7 page 12

Flashback: Normal IL--October 18 and Election Eve is still only a Coming Attraction: clips of scenes that remind you of too many other movies, propaganda flicks from a dumber era...

It's early morning and your humble reporter has a hangover. I'm standing in the parking lot of Watterson Place, feeling very journalistic and more than a little martyr-like. All around me, looking more alert than I'll ever feel, are members of a pro-ERA protest that is preparing to move toward College Avenue. Lots of double-knit and makeup: I'm amazed that anybody would willingly wear double-knit on a non-work day. Perhaps it helps keep 'em alert.

### Chapter One--It's all held together with kleenex and baling wire

I'm here with Post writer Deborah, but neither of us is wearing double-knit. (Neither, to be fair, are other scattered members of the group.) I'm the one doing the Post story this time because Deborah is carrying a sign and can't take notes. I like



taking notes at protests--perhaps out of the mistaken belief that carrying a notebook will grant me immunity if the fan gets hit that day. I know carrying a camera doesn't help because I still remember the day the cops ran amuck during an anti-Sheriff King protest. That was in Bloomington and a Post photog was among the six busted.

In any case, I've got my Spell-Write steno notebook and a good pen, so I'm covering the pro-ERA protest. It's Illinois State University's Homecoming and I'm gonna be attending my first parade since high school, when they were mandatory. Six years in college and I never made it up for a parade--but today I get to see one because Republican presidential candidate Ronald Reagan is gonna twist his his gums into that grimace he calls a smile as part of the big parade. Lotsa other elephants are supposed to make an appearance, too--a whole conclave of the ethically bankrupt--and it'll be nice to make hungover faces at 'em. Make your enemies early and often, think I, and hold your steno pad in front of you.

### Sticking with ERA

Deborah and I are sticking with the ERA coterie, but they're not the sole group spurred into skipping Saturday am Roadrunner reruns. Prairie Alliance has also staked out a piece of College Avenue, and, allegedly, a group of Chicago commies (don't ask me what type--does it make a difference?) are also in town for the festivities.

Even the college Democrats are reportedly planning some brand of arcane sabotage, involving some balloons that the collegiate Reps have brought along for the occasion, but I never quite understand what these plans are supposed to be. All I know is the Demos have positioned themselves across the street on College from the pro-ERA people and that one of 'em keeps trying to get us to carry Carter banners. Deborah, who's wearing a third-party t-shirt, keeps getting dirty looks.

She's also been getting some cracks from the rest of the pro-ERA troupe for her placard, a snappy wooden jobber with the succinct message:

"Abort Reagan!" I think it's rather classy myself, a spark of irresponsibility in the midst of the more respectable messages (e.g. "Wake Up GOP!"), but back in the parking lot I seem to be the minority. One of the group even takes issue with the fact that Deborah's placard is made of wood. "They're not gonna let you keep that," she solemnly tells Deborah, without letting on who "they" are. Perhaps that alertness I note is the alertness of the paranoid.

### Chapter Two--

### One more for the Gipper

Not every member of the ERA delegation is as green to protest as they appear --but I still can't shake the feeling that the bulk of 'em would be happier back home waking their children by needlessly vacuuming the living room. Why else would organizers spend so much time assuring the group that they'd "talked to Normal police and received permission to demonstrate"? After all, it is Homecoming: the cops would have a hell of a time making any kind of loitering charge stick on a morning like this and as far as I know "they" ain't repealed the right to peaceably assemble yet. Reagan isn't president already, is he?

Still the fact remains that many of the protesters are new to this. One well-dressed woman, as we march over toward College, tells folks around her that her child is going to be in the parade as a member of the Indian Guides. "He's in the parade and Mother's in a picket line," the woman says, a nervous checkle punctuating the observation. We all chuckle back appreciatively.

We pass one stone-face in an Army uniform and finally position ourselves along College by the viaduct, making sure we stand in the mud instead of actually stepping on the street improperly. That Army type has set some of us wondering about the security arrangements for this bash and we look around inquiringly. I can see somebody with binocs on top of Manchester dorm, and one of the group tells me he saw a batch of guys in beige jumpsuits inspecting all the manholes earlier that morning. A helicopter keeps hovering overhead, but from where I stand it still looks remarkably easy to blow the candidate away. I've no desire to test that observation, however.

More folks keep joining the ERAers over the next hour. A Pantagraph reporter keeps walking along the line counting us, and I ask her each time what number she's gotten. "One hundred," she finally says, and I dutifully add another 25 to my notes. I can't help wondering how that reporter is able to tell the ERA gang from the rest of the crowd milling about the sidewalk. It's easy to tell the reactionary Republicans apart--they all look like they'd accidentally sat on some Mexican food and just discovered it--but the rest of the crowd looks pretty homogenous. (Does everybody wear double-knit to Homecoming? I wonder.) A discomfiting number of ERAers are also holding Carter/Mondale banners by now: the

# ood honky on a homecoming date

college Dems are really doing their job. I put some sort of vague note about "political cooptation" down in my steno pad, but later I'm unable to read it.

Finally somebody brings along a batch of "ERA Yes" balloons to make identification easier. From a distance, the balloons look kinda nice, bobbing above everyone's heads, but I resist the temptation to take one. Mustn't interfere with the notetaking.

## The parade

And then the parade itself begins.

For the first 10 minutes, the Homecoming parade is dull, throbbingly dull. The marching bands are hell on a hangover and the row of "Distinguished Alumnus" cars only lends itself to vile thoughts about long-term glandular effects of a Career in Academia. The first ISU float is composed entirely of beer cans, an appropriate display considering, but the first real life comes with Governor Jim Thompson's appearance. Guvnor Jim is walking ahead of his car, shaking hands with the crowd and sticking to the opposite side of the street.

All the Republican walkers stick to that side, as if afraid of contamination from the sleazy feminists, and the more constipated ones don't even look our way. Each time an elephant appears the ERAers start chanting, "Wake Up, Wake Up GOP!/ Give us our equality!" One of the organizers keeps passing through the group, trying to make sure that protesters don't give more moderate Republicans too hard a time, but only half the group pays her any heed.

Then two blue uniforms with a pair of the grisliest looking guard dogs pass, and we all psyche up for Ronnie's imminent appearance. Eureka High's marching band gets to precede their hometown boy, though, and I get to suffer through more drums. By the time they reach the viaduct, the band is playing "It Hurts So Bad." Definitely an appropriate selection, think I.

And at last the man appears. Surrounded by about 40 definite FBI types, followed by two trucks fulla pressfolk, the candidate and spouse grin and wave into the crowd. For the first time I start to consider the discomfort of campaigning. It's a glary morning and while the cops and agents are decked out in the requisite creepy sunglasses, none of the politicians get to wear any protection from the sun. The people wanna see their eyes, even if them eyes are surrounded with squint and age lines. Both Reagans look definitely uncomfortable and vaguely unreal, smiling through their squints. I forget all about my hangover.

The parade continues after Reagan has passed, and the group sticks it out to the end. Four more buses of pressfolk appear, and some really hard chanting begins. Near the end of the parade the Prairie Alliance folk have managed to slip in. I admire some of their banners (especially "Mutants for Reagan!"--now there's some good irresponsible sloganeering!), but I also want about five cups of coffee. It takes a half hour to drive out of Normal.

## Chapter Three-- kicks just keep getting harder to find

Flashforward: Bloomington IL-- November 13 and Post deadline is looming. The celluloid conservative has been elected to the lowest turnout ever: a grind house audience for an over-hyped box office dud. I've started my ERA protest story three times, each time dragged down by the gruesome reality of President-elect Ronald. It doesn't look like I'm ever gonna get the damn thing done.

"Look," I say to myself the Post reporter. "You gonna do the piece or not?"

"What's the point?" the Post reporter answers. "Reagan in the White House and a reactionary majority in Congress: ERA was borderline with a so-called 'liberal majority.' It doesn't stand

a chance now. Why rub folks' faces in it?"

"That's not your fault. Look how many times it took to get women the right to vote! It takes more than a few token statements from the president's wife, and you know what those old-line liberals were like. I wouldn't trust most of 'em with carrying in the paper from the porch, let alone getting truly humane change through. They were . band-aid types, bunky!"

"Okay, okay," the Post reporter answers. "So I knew the current proposed amendment's chances were slight--for a while they looked good. What does that have to do with my writing the story or not?"

"Well, for one thing: it frees you of the pressure of being too responsible with your story, with worrying about offending all those non-existent moderates. Who are you gonna sway and what does it matter this week? Folks won't remember this story next month: make up something nasty about Reagan! If nuthin' else, you can get your first kicks in early, make the story fun writing."

"Like what?" I ask.

"I dunno. Describe how he slobbered over the seat cushion of his chauffeured vehicle, ruined Nancy's corsage. Talk about him picking his nose in front of a whole crowd of little children. Describe a scene like: the parade is hushed; even the marching bands are silent as the candidate's car passes the college Republican caucus. Everyone is aware that history is passing before 'em. Then, just as the Republicans prepare to release their balloons, a hideous sound comes from the smiling and vacuous former governor: a fart, the grandfather of farts, sounding like everything decaying and gaseous that you always thought stayed hidden. A swamp fart from the biggest swamp of them all."

"That's pretty sophomoric."

"It gotcha to write the story, didn't it?"

--Bill Sherman



# Reagan, the tooth fairy, and me



I believe in the tooth fairy.

Not the real tooth fairy, of course. Not the one who comes and leaves a quarter under your pillow and takes away the nasty old bloody and rotted tooth. But the other ones.

A friend of mine has taken to pointing out all my naive notions (I prefer to think of them as innocent ideals) by telling me that it's "tooth fairy time."

A few examples: Christianity is a tooth fairy. Believing that if you just use the right words everyone will understand and agree with you is a tooth fairy. Every time I get that predictable What-If-They-Gave-A-War-And-Nobody-Came look in my eyes, it's tooth fairy time.

The biggest tooth fairy I have come across recently is electoral politics. I realized while watching the election returns why I had been in partial agony for four months and in complete agony for four days while trying to decide what my conscience was, so I could vote it. I really do believe in electoral politics. It came as quite a shock to me.

"This cannot be happening! I believe in electoral politics!" I shouted as Carter conceded the election before the voters in the West had had a chance to cast their ballots. "Tooth fairy," was the response I got.

I shed a bitter tear when Walter

Cronkite announced that George McGovern had been defeated in his race for senator in South Dakota. (I have had his autograph since 1972 because I thought it would be great to have the autograph of the president. Even then I believed.) "Tooth fairy," came the voice from across the room.

I was genuinely surprised that in the final tally John Anderson did not manage to get 20% of the vote. Tooth fairy.

I was shocked that there was no mention of Barry Commoner on ABC, NBC or CBS. Tooth fairy.

I sat in shocked silence while I listened to the numbers of liberal senators and congresspeople who had been defeated by fundamentalist Christian/neo-Nazi candidates. It could not be happening. Tooth fairy time.

My house was like a funeral scene during the election returns. Most of the people were watching the era of liberalism die. Some were watching what they believe to be the death of this nation.

I was watching the tooth fairy being put on artificial life-support systems.

I don't remember what finally did it, what finally was too much to take. But I think it was the tally one of the networks did of the number of liberals as compared to the number of



conservatives in the new Congress. "I don't believe in electoral politics anymore," I whispered.

As we sat, stunned by what we were hearing, there was much contemplation of the future. As we watched state after state fall to Reagan, the tones got more and more somber.

"There goes the ERA." "There goes abortion." "There goes gay rights." "There goes welfare." "There goes SALT II."

There goes the tooth fairy.

I stopped believing in the tooth fairy in the early morning hours of Nov. 5, 1980. I am bearing up pretty well, I think, under the circumstances. No more tooth fairies for me, thank you. I have become a realist.

I know what is in store for us in next four years. Make that eight years. I'm a realist now.

I know that human rights will go and big business will grow. I know that women and gays will be put back in their place. I know that the CIA and the FBI will be crawling all over our homes and work places.

I know that the steel workers who used to make Buicks will soon be making bombers. I know that the U.S. will go to war in the mid-East to protect "our" oil. I know that two amendments will be adopted: a pro-life one protecting the citizenship and rights of the fetus, and a pro-death one preserving capital punishment.

I know that more land will be stolen from the Native Americans and that the land now protected by the EPA will be converted to industrial use. I know that we have seen the last of the Department of Energy, the Department of Education, OSHA, and the President's Council on the Status of Women.

I know that things look worse now than they have at any point in my memory.

But, you know, we stopped the war in Vietnam. And I think that when people catch on to what's in store for them, we can bring the war back home and stop it here.

We will hit the streets with such force that Reagan and Company will be brought to their knees! All kinds of people will get together. We will do it! We will win!

Because deep in my heart, I do believe that we shall overcome even this latest outrageous attack on the promise of peace and freedom! One person's hands cannot tear this prison down. But a million can. And will!

I have to go now. The tooth fairy is expected for coffee any minute.

--Deborah Wiatt



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Football Special  
1.75 pitchers  
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Bucket Beer Nite  
bucket & beer 2.25  
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Shot nite 75¢ shots  
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Mon-Sat 4-6 pm  
15 oz. drafts 50-55¢  
pitchers 2.00-2.25  
bar drinks 75¢

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& Michelob  
On Tap

# Interview with a president

Due to sheer will and determination, the Post-Amerikan was granted an exclusive interview with President-elect Reagan. What follows is an exact transcript of that interview.

Post-Amerikan: Mr. Reagan...

Ronald Reagan: President Reagan, if you please. You might as well get used to it.

P-A: President Reagan, we would like to ask you about some important issues which we do not feel were adequately covered during the campaign.

RR: (Drawing a snub-nose .38 out of his shoulder holster): Shoot.

P-A: (nervously) Well, we might as well start with gun control.

RR: I believe that guns should be controlled. Right now, only a few people have guns. The criminals. I believe that every red-blooded American should be armed. We should register the guns and give them out at Sunday School and at all Republican Party functions. Then guns would be controlled.

P-A: I see. But what about the danger to non-Christians and members of other political parties?

RR: They do not deserve to live.

P-A: That's very interesting. But the microscopic cells of the fetus should be allowed to live?

RR: Naturally. They could grow up to be another Lincoln, another Billy Graham, another Norman Rockwell.

P-A: And if they grow up to be another Kennedy, Troy Perry, or Picasso?

RR: That's when the system of checks and balances comes in. They would be shot.

P-A: But what about a woman's right to choose, to control her own body?

RR: I believe a woman should control her own body. She should have enough control to say "no." That is the best control she has. If she cannot do that much, she relinquishes control to the state.

P-A: What about the incidences of rape?

RR: There is no such thing.

P-A: Uh huh. Now, what about women's rights in general?

RR: Women have rights. I have always said that. I will always say that. Women have the right to become wives and mothers, to do volunteer work for the PTA and the Red Cross, and, if they are so inclined, they have the right to become grey ladies for their local hospitals.

P-A: But, Mr. Rea--Mr. President, a lot of women are choosing not to become wives and mothers. Many women are choosing to enter the work force.

RR: They are taking jobs away from men. They should be shot.

P-A: What about lesbians?

RR: (turning green): Shoot them.

P-A: (turning green): And gay men?

RR: Shoot them.

P-A: But your own son--

RR: Ronnie is all man. Just because he is a ballerina does not make him a fairy. He is very strong and has a deep voice.

**ELECTION '80**

P-A: Right. I think we should get on to another topic entirely. What about the future of nuclear power?

RR: Nuclear power has a great future. Did you know we can heat all the homes in Atalissa, Iowa on the energy we get from just one teeny little atom? Just one little atom. They take it and smash it and then all the houses in Atalissa are warm. Isn't that amazing? And we've got lots of atoms. The United States has eight times as many atoms as the Soviet Union. We only have three times as many atoms as China, but they don't know what to do with them. So, yes, nuclear power has a great future in my administration.

P-A: But what about the health hazards and the genetic damage?

RR: In my program to put men back to work, I intend to have the homes of all good citizens covered with lead.



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siding. There will be no danger from fall-out.

P-A: How about welfare?

RR: I believe in welfare. I believe in the general welfare of this country. And the general welfare can be best served by cutting all tax funds to the Welfare System as we know it. No American wants to be on welfare, and no American will be.

P-A: It has been said that during your administration, members of the Moral Majority will come to the White House, carrying with them the Ten Commandments to replace the Bill of Rights. Would you care to respond to this?

RR: All I can say to that is "Amen." First in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his countrymen. That's where Jesus was when this country began and, praise God, that's where he'll be again!

P-A: Well, President Reagan, thank you for your time. You have certainly shed some light on what the next four years will be like.

RR: I hope so. I have a mandate from the people for change. I will not disappoint them.

P-A: The times, indeed, are a-changin'.

--Deborah Wiatt,  
special correspondent  
to the new regime.

## S.T.A.R.

### (Strange Truths About Reagan)

Well, gang, it looks like we're going to have Ronald Reagan to kick around for a while. And we probably will (kick him around, that is). I got to thinking, just who is this schmuck who will lead our nation into the depths of degradation and depravity, anyway?

I have uncovered some very interesting facts about our new chief executive. And so, in the traditions of Ripley's Believe It or Not, the National Lampoon's "True Facts," and the Post-Amerikan's own "Miscellaneous Outrages You May Have Missed," I give you "Strange Truths About Reagan."

I have enough strange truths about RR to keep me busy writing and you busy reading for the next four to eight years. I promise everything you will read in this column is true.

1. Ronald Reagan and Adolph Hitler

have the same number of letters in their names, first (6), last (6), and total (12).

2. Abraham Lincoln was a president who lived in Illinois and was assassinated. Ulysses S. Grant was a president who lived in Illinois and was an alcoholic. Ronald Reagan is a president who lived in Illinois.

3. Ronald Reagan is divorced. So is Anita Bryant, Lee Harvey Oswald, and Norman Mailer.

4. Ronald Reagan, John Agar, Hurtz Hall, Lee Van Cleef, and Moe Howard are all movie stars.

5. Both Ronald Reagan and Lynette Fromme have held press conferences.

--Jayne Whyman



# WOMEN

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# Stevens boycott ends in contract victory

After 17 years of organizing efforts, and 4 years of a national boycott campaign, the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union (ACTWU) succeeded in winning their first contract with the J.P. Stevens company, the nation's second largest textile firm.

Stevens won the reputation as the "worst labor law violator in American history" during that period, as it was hauled again and again into court for breaking national labor laws and abusing workers' rights--like firing workers for union activity, spreading rumors and intimidating workers.

This reputation was so strong that the Labor Law Reform Act, which did not pass Congress last year, was popularly known as the "J.P. Stevens Bill"--as Stevens had come to represent the worst possible abuses that a firm could commit.

## Ten plants covered

The contract does not cover all of Stevens' 70-plus plants, scattered throughout small Southern mill towns, just the 10 plants where the union won representational rights.

This includes plants at Roanoke Rapids, N.C., where the union first won recognition in 1974, and also covers plants

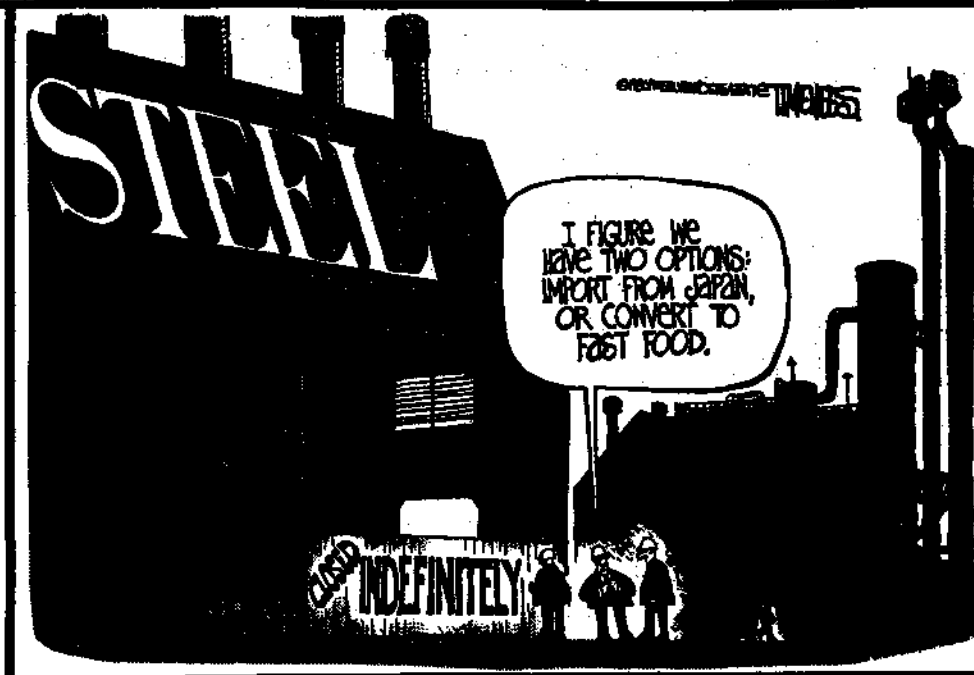


"Smile! You're on Candid Camera!"

in High Point, N.C., Allendale S.C. and West Boylston, Ala. This first contract covers 3600 employees, only a percentage of Stevens' total, but a significant number.

Textile workers, particularly in the South, are the least unionized of all American industrial workers, and a contract at J.P. Stevens shows others that a victory is possible. The South as a whole--the least unionized, lowest-paid part of the country--is bound to see that a union victory can be won.

Organizing in the Stevens' mills began in the 1960's, and any workers who



Don't Mourn. Organize!

showed the least favor toward the union often found themselves fired. Though illegal, the company was able to delay organizing drives through this kind of blatant manipulation, tying the union and the worker up in court for years. Stevens also responded to an early strike, at Statesboro Ga. in the mid-1960's, by simply locking the gate and leaving town, a message that was not lost in other mill towns.

The first important breakthrough came in 1974, when despite company intimidation, workers at Roanoke Rapids voted the union in. Negotiations began there and continued until this recent contract victory.

Important issues, besides the lack of pensions and low wages, were those of health and safety, and racial and sexual discrimination. Stevens was infamous for maintaining a good safety record--on paper--by forcing injured workers back on the job (thus avoiding lost days) or by firing the injured. Another campaign grew around occupational safety, especially lobbying to protect workers from byssinosis--brown lung disease--caused by inhalation of textile fibers. The Southern textile industry was infamous for passing off this disease as "bronchitis" or "too much smoking."

## Boycott hits hard

The national J.P. Stevens boycott began in 1976 and proved to be one of the most effective and sophisticated boycotts ever--hitting not just Stevens' consumer sales and public image, but also their corporate linkages.

The boycott attracted the support of film stars, politicians, sports figures and religious leaders, plus thousands of average consumers and union members, who leafleted, wrote letters and picketed the textile giant.

Only about 30% of Stevens' products show up under their label at the marketplace, so for an effective boycott, Stevens had to be hit at other

levels--and here the ingenious campaign paid off.

## New tactics

Most large corporations, including Stevens, have "interlocking directorates"--the board members sit on each others' corporate boards, thus forming a network of mutual support between manufacturing, banking and insurance giants. The ACTWU, determined to isolate Stevens in the corporate world, devised a new boycott tactic.

By pressuring various giants through bad publicity and possible legal action, Stevens' chairperson James Findley was forced off the board of Manufacturers Hanover Bank and New York Life Insurance, while two other directors resigned from Stevens' board, leaving them isolated in the world of high finance.

Another indirect push came from Hollywood. In 1979 the film "Norma Rae," which won an Oscar for star Sally Fields, portrayed the life of a



Modernization, Perkins, means goodbye to long hours, goodbye to working conditions, goodbye to sweated labor... In short, Perkins, goodbye.

Southern textile worker trying to win union recognition. Although fictional, the film was based on the story of Crystal Lee Sutton, a Stevens' worker who was fired for union activities similar to those in the film. The publicity for the film carried over to the boycott campaign.

## Struggle not over

The victory at Stevens in no way ends the struggle in the Southern mills. The textile industry remains the least unionized, occupational health and safety hazards continue, and millions live in poverty and with little security, as the "mill" continues to dominate so many small towns.

But the first contract with J.P. Stevens is a significant beginning. It proves that a victory can be won, especially over such a giant, blatantly anti-union firm, lodged in Southern right-to-work-for-less states.

Thank you for your support of the Stevens boycott. Please remember that these campaigns will continue, and that organizing is already beginning against other large Southern firms. Continue to stand with your brothers and sisters.

Solidarity Forever. ●  
--MGM

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- And have your guitar checked for
- New Strings
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# City dawdles on job discrimination complaint

Last month the Post-Amerikan detailed the plight of a local woman who was discharged from her job, allegedly because former General Grocer president Tom Vinckner didn't want women working in the company warehouse.

Vinckner is no longer at General Grocer-Bloomington, but Jacqui White has yet to hear about the status of her discrimination complaint. She has been awaiting action on her case since Sept. 1979 when the Bloomington Human Relations Commission agreed to represent her.

From that time, White's case has been in a state of limbo, or as City of Bloomington attorney Paxton Bowers calls it, a "conciliation" period.

Just before this issue of the paper going to press, the Post-Amerikan asked Bowers what, if any, new developments had occurred with White's complaint against General Grocer. Bowers refused comment, saying that the matter



is still in conciliation proceedings awaiting "additional information."

But Jacqui White has no new information to provide the City Legal Dept. So Paul Welch, former McLean County state's attorney and now counsel for General Grocer, must have new information. Or else he's just trying to stall, hoping that Jacqui White will either forget about pressing her complaint or accept a lesser settlement.

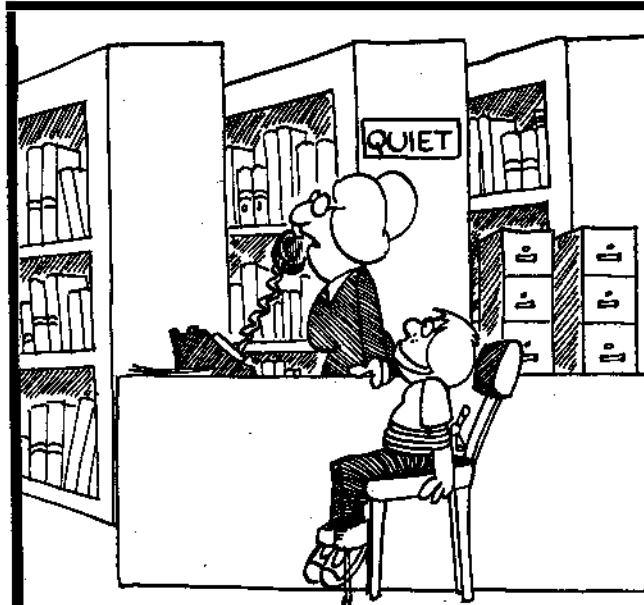
And what about Paxton Bowers? He implies that White's employment discrimination complaint is not clear-cut, but rather complicated by unresolved issues. The case certainly seems clear to Jacqui White, to several of her former co-workers at General Grocer, and to Post-Amerikan interviewers. Is the real complication Bowers' unwillingness to take a stand and tangle with Paul Welch? Would Bowers rather make a deal with Welch, one which avoids openly accusing General Grocer of sexist

practices? Bowers' suspicious inaction for the past year suggests that perhaps he is fence-straddling rather than representing his clients.

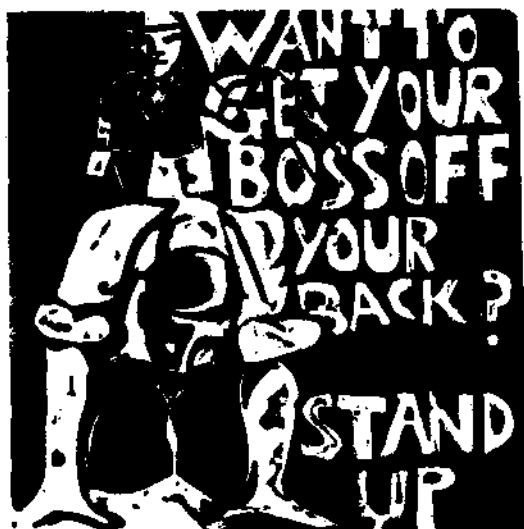
The most frustrating prospect for persons with discrimination complaints is that Human Relations will continue to accept more cases like Jacqui White's. HRC director Tim Walker told the Post-Amerikan that complaints similar to White's occur frequently. However, Walker said the HRC is "not always able to get the job back" for the person with the complaint. With advocates like Paxton Bowers and adversaries like Paul Welch, that's not surprising.

--Jeremy Timmens

Subscribe to the Post!!  
See page 24.



"I'm not kidding around anymore, Mrs. Whitman. You have our book. We have your son."



Industrial Worker/cpf

## Book review

### Through time and space with a bit of Luchs

The Luchs Brothers End of the World Party Book (Prairie Sun Press)

Talk about your basic time warps--this book takes me back to the Post's first years!

It was the Nixon Days, and this paper was still in its infancy; a raggedy collection of hippies, freaks and disaffected political geeks instead of the respected--ahem--alternative organ it is today. Despite an endless series of meetings and tedious Discussions of Principle, the Post was a lot more shitloose with its material back then.

The reason was simple: original written material wasn't all that plentiful. (Some of the earliest Posts, in fact, were composed by staffs so desperately small that the only way workers could hold decent group discussions was by muttering to themselves.) As a result, some pretty weird stuff found its way into the Post.

A bunch of it came from the Mung folks: a threesome of multi-media wibboes who pasted puns, cartoons and indecipherable parables through parts of the paper. Some of it was funny (a one-page cartoon interview with god, sitting in his apartment while Dragnet yabbered on his television, still stands out); a lot of it was nonsense. But it was the paper's own nonsense. And, besides, the stuff really teed off all them serious political folks who thought all that Mung space would be better served by Liberation News Service reprints.

(Mung, for those who were wondering,

was originally the title of a mixed media event that occurred on ISU campus: a chaotic presentation so cacophonous that those who were involved in it still can't recall it without putting fingers in their ears. A lot of the Post Mung matter was written as "publicity" for said event--but not all of it.)

If Mung had any purpose other than slaphappy self-indulgence (not a bad reason in itself, actually), it was this: to act as an antidote to the sometimes grim political realities surrounding it. There, right alongside the Secretary of State's latest stonewall, was this stoned-out collection of bad jokes and bizarre parodies. Who cared if it made sense or not, as long as it made you giggle?

The same premise can be applied to the Luchs Boys, a whacked-out foursome of Wheatonites who've been producing their own brand of weekly mung for Peoria's Prairie Sun. End of the World Party Book tells you all with its Gahan Wilson apocalypse cover. Nuclear disarray, nature gone wild, supernature gone wilder--what can you do but grab a few chortles? (Besides blow something up, that is?) T'ain't much.

That world view's exaggerated, of course, but exaggeration is what humor's all about. Exaggeration and whoopie cushions. The Luchs' special form of antsy paranoia is what gives them propulsion: at their best the boys skitter atop the era's peculiar mix of ban-

al and extravagant violence like mosquitoes. They only hang in one place long enough to produce a quick itch.

Luchs' columns usually go less than half a tabloid page--any longer and they're really apt to get disconnected--and are only as sensible as they need to be. In the Luchs' world innocent children are likely to be stung to death by flying morey eels; that insurance salesman may be a woolly mastodon (and just your luck: Death by Woolly Mammals is not included on your policy). Logic, in a world of Falwell Reagans, is an extravagance and not a very sensible one at that.

I did say the Luchs' world view was exaggerated, didn't I?

Not all the material in this ninety-odd-page collection is Top Luchs, of course. The boys do their PSun column every week, and all deadline humor has its strained moments. The brothers--Kurt, Murph, Helmut and Rolf (their real names, incidentally: is it any wonder they're humorists?)--produce the columns individually, but even with the work divvied up it ain't always easy to come up with snappy jellyfish jokes. Still, a good third of this collection is worth going over more than once. I know because I read them all as columns and I still snickered at their book version.

But what do I know? I still smirk at all that old Mung stuff, too, even the parts I had nothing to do with writing.

--Bill (Objective Critic) Sherman

# LETTERS...LETTERS...LETTERS

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## Reader supports feet

Dear Post-Amerikan:

Hooray for Phoebe Caulfield! Her great article in support of feet stands heel and toe above the usual "fall fashion" reports that attempt to make women slavishly follow stupid, unwholesome, and sometimes just plain unhealthy fads. I do believe, however, that there are more of us who are dressing to please ourselves rather than "fashion" nowadays. Hope so. . . .

Just a "foot-note" to add to your article. High-heeled shoes not only pose the hazards described (immediate hazards), but also present many long-term, permanent hazards. High heels, by putting all of one's body weight on the delicate metatarsal (toe) bones, do irreparable damage to them and also the surrounding tendons, ligaments, etc. They also, by disrupting one's center of gravity, can cause back curvature and pain. And long-term wearing will cause shortening of the Achilles tendon above the heel. (You may check my facts with an orthopedic surgeon if you like.) I don't think it's worth it! Unless one really likes to hurt.

Post-Amerikan, you get better all the time. All of your features reflect the fact that you're a publication for the People.

Your friend,  
Kodachrome



## Ordinances no substitute for respect

Dear Post,

I wonder how many other communities knowingly oppress a substantial part of their population when drafting and passing an anti-discrimination ordinance. Normal Town Council, why stop at only omitting sexual preference as a basis for discrimination? I'm sure there's at least one or two of you who despise blacks as much as you do gays, so why not drop "race" from your little list? And for the one who hates Jews, kill the religion piece. Let's not forget those of you who think the handicapped and aged are just a burden on society (c'mon, I know you're out there). Aw, what the hell, why even bother with the damned thing anyway, right?

I am totally disgusted that we don't seem to deserve equal rights according to the Normal Town Council. To me, the whole idea of an anti-discrimination ordinance which doesn't include everyone is a farce. I guess, though, when you think about it, it seems par for the course. The fact that every state or government official must take a sworn oath to uphold our constitution is also a farce--the scandals, payoffs, and rip-offs uncovered in our local and national government are proof of that. And we only hear about the ones who get caught.

It would be nice if sexual preference were included in the ordinance, but would it do any good? I think many people have realized for a long time that the only thing anti-discrimination ordinances change is the process in which discrimination occurs. No landlords are stupid enough to openly refuse to rent to gays, blacks, etc., but if they don't want to, they won't. And they won't give a damn what any ordinances say--all they have to say is "already rented." The same game is played by many employers.

We are only sugar-coating reality by passing anti-discrimination laws and believing that they work. They'll work only when the people on town councils such as Normal's, and people in general, have a genuine respect for human rights--a respect for an individual's lifestyle. Then we may be able to end these lunacisms like an anti-discrimination ordinance that willfully excludes a substantial portion of the population. Then too, we may be able to have a majority of people live up to our anti-discrimination laws and others like it. And not because they have to, but because they want to.

Eric Guevrekian

## The LAST PAGE

416 N Main  
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## How Slick Are You?

1. In what novel appeared the longest sentence ever written?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. What was Lewis Carroll's real name?

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Answer these questions correctly and receive a \$1<sup>00</sup> discount on a purchase of \$2<sup>00</sup> or more

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### CLIPPING LIBRARY CLOSED TO PUBLIC

In a well-hidden story in the Sunday paper Sept. 21, The Daily Pantagraph announced that their clipping library, formerly open for use by the public in Bloomington-Normal, is now for the exclusive use of Pantagraph writers.

The only person, perhaps, not affected by the recent move by the Bloomington daily is Post-Amerikan reporter Mark Silverstein, who has been banned from using the cross-referenced library for some time. Silverstein, who is currently engaged in hopping freights somewhere on the west coast, was not available for comment.

This policy is common with other daily newspapers in Illinois and the rest of the country. In order to double check on whodunwhat from now on, Pantagraph readers will have to clip their own stories, hoping they can catch everything buried in a thick Pantagraph's recesses. •

--Jeremy Timmens

### Fast to help refugees

Fast for world hunger Nov. 20.

The Peace and Justice Coalition would like to donate the money you save by not eating for one day to Oxfam to aid the Somalia refugees.

Send checks to Peace and Justice Coalition, Newman Center, 501 S. Main, Normal IL 61761. •

### Next recycling date : Nov. 22

Operation Recycle of McLean County will accept newspapers, glass containers, and tin and aluminum cans for recycling Saturday, Nov. 22. Bring your stuff to either of two locations--the southwest corner of Main and College in Normal or the Sears parking lot at Eastland. Volunteers will be on hand to help you unload your junk.

This is the last recycling drive for 1980. An additional drive in December cannot go on due to lack of space at the Eastland location. Watch the Post-Amerikan for an announcement of the next recycling date in 1981. •

### Sale to benefit tenants

The Holton Homes Tenant Council is sponsoring a group sale/ bake sale at John Kane Lounge on Sunday, Nov. 22, from 9 am to 4 pm.

Tables can be purchased at \$1 per table. All proceeds go to establish a social hour for residents twice a month.

Donna Burmaster at 1402 W. Monroe will be collecting donations of any kind. Georgie Brown at 1418 W. Monroe will be collecting baked goods donations. •

Dear Post,

In the interest of promoting peace and sanity in the United States--wherever that is--and in accordance with Mr. Reagan's intentions of "revitalizing the nation," I would like to propose that one day each month be set aside as a moratorium on one or more of the psychological stresses affecting our daily lives.

To give you some random examples: on Jan. 3 we could observe a day in which there would be absolutely no advertising. On Feb. 21, we could spend an entire day with no violation of people's rights. On March 12, no loud noises. On April 30, no utility bills, etc., etc. On Christmas Day we could honor Jesus by completely forgetting about Jerry Falwell.

The only drawback to this plan is that once people are deprived of anxiety for one day, they might decide to be happy 365 days a year; and, as has been historically demonstrated, too much happiness can lead to low Army enlistment. This could create a perilous emotional gap in which the Soviets could stockpile enough unhappiness to suddenly overwhelm Western Europe. Let me do some more research on this and report back to you next Dec. 24.

Your friend,  
James C. Tippett

Post-American vol. 9 no. 7 page 19

## Goes to big city but remembers Post

Folks at the Post,

H-O-W-D-Y! Just thought I'd drop a line to tell you what's happening at this end. I've been working in Chicago. Not being able to cope with the city for an extended period of time, I commute every weekend.

Picked up a paper at the Kroger's on East Oakland before getting on the bus. Just finished reading from cover to cover. I got a chuckle out of Deborah's article.

If I tell you all something, promise not to get egotistical? I thought the articles were pretty good; maybe even excellent. I can see every one of you grinning from ear to ear.

I told some city folks about the Post, and they really seem interested. I've got a copy of course.

Without another Post to read I think I will take a snooze until next month.

Keep up the good work,  
Linda Shiley

## Health department thanks Post

Dear Post,

On behalf of the board and staff of the McLean County Health Department, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your assistance during the Lead Screening Program. Throughout the week of Oct. 20, the Health Department staff were able to screen over 200 children. Your participation in the program was an invaluable asset toward realization of this accomplishment.

Again, our deepest gratitude for your cooperation and concern.

Very truly yours,  
Robert J. Keller  
Executive Assistant

## Prisoner needs good behavior credits

Dear people,

I recently received my first issue to my subscription to your paper, and I really enjoy it. I am a resident of Logan Correctional Center in Lincoln, and I have a problem I am seeking advice on.

Under the new Supreme Court ruling, the Johnson vs. Franzen decision, all residents were to receive day-for-day good time credits effective Feb. 1, 1978. The Department of Corrections refuses to do this. My problem is how to seek help in this matter. To your knowledge, could the American Civil Liberties Union be of any help? If

they could be, will you please send me their address and who to contact?

I was arrested in April 1976, and I legally should have got day-for-day effective Feb. 1, 1978, which would greatly reduce my time; also it should have updated my parole date, but it did not do that either. The Department of Corrections is not complying with the court decision.

I am 57 years old and had two heart attacks in 1978; my stepfather passed away three weeks ago and my mother will be 76 in January. She is in very poor health and has been under doctor's care for heart trouble for

many years. She lives alone as all my brothers and sisters are out of state, and she does need me more than ever now. It is a very serious hardship on her now trying to live alone. I could be of great help to her if I could be released. Any suggestions you could give me will be greatly appreciated. I shall look forward to your reply.

Sincerely yours,  
Rolland L. Shaw  
C-68813  
Box 1000  
Lincoln IL 62656

## Reader likes some stories, questions others

Post:

I really liked the articles on lead poisoning in your last issue. I appreciated the thoroughness of your coverage, which offered some political analysis (talking about lead poisoning as largely a disease of the poor) and some practical suggestions for dealing with the problem. These things, especially the latter, obviously mean some time spent in what can be frustrating research.

The article on pre-natal care for welfare women showed this same care for analysis and listing those limited options that exist. One comment that bothered me, though, was "If you're poor and make the mistake of getting pregnant..." It seems to imply that if you're poor, getting pregnant is automatically a mistake. While I definitely agree that being able to take care of a child financially is one major consideration, it's only one among many that affect all classes of people. And I think a lot of the other considerations, like "should I bring a child into a world in the state it's in," and "can I promise this child years and years of attention and nurturing," are more frequently overlooked because they're more subtle or abstract.

It's like wondering why battered women stay with their lovers when so many other women put up with so much psychic abuse. And, of course, it's desperately unfair that one of the many penalties of poverty is not being able to give a child even a minimum of financial security.

I also liked that you featured so prominently an article on menstrual sponges. It's certainly a timely issue.

I thought Sue Fatten's letter brought up some very good points about the need for all of us to take responsibility for our sexual actions in her letter in response to Deborah's last rape article. However, I agree with Deborah's inclusive definition of rape.

I think S.F.'s objection to some of Deborah's examples being called rape may stem from overlooking the heavy power dynamics present in male-female sexual interactions. I come to this conclusion partly because S.F. makes no distinctions between men and women in

her suggestions for how we need to change.


I agree that both men and women should be honest, sensitive and so forth in sexual interactions, but the current pressures keeping us from that ideal are vastly different for men and for women, and that difference needs to be addressed in any effective appraisal of the problem.

Also, I don't believe, as S.F. seems to suggest, that calling an act rape necessarily rules out any irresponsibility on the part of the woman.

--Andrea Bauer

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# U.S. churches save billions

In a skit on the old "Laugh In" show, the owner of a small grocery store listens to a tax official explain why taxes have risen so much in the area: surrounding land has been exempted for religious purposes. As the official pauses, leaning casually against the cash register, the grocer thinks a moment, then in a flash of inspiration exclaims, "Take your hands off my altar!"

In the United States of Amerika, the distinction between the altar and the cash register is getting harder and harder to make every day.

The subject of tax exemptions (and other governmental subsidies) to churches is intricate and far-ranging. It's also an outrage. Even the most cynical atheist will be startled by the extent of income and property that churches and religious groups don't pay taxes on.

The official theory behind tax preferences for churches in this country is that they're part of the doctrine of separation of church and state: Congress isn't supposed to make laws which deal with an establishment of religion or prohibit the free exercise of religion.

A further justification is that exemptions encourage charitable and social services which churches provide to the community. But churches are no longer small meeting-houses at country crossroads, serving as social centers and needing protection from the intrusions of government. Many of them have become huge corporations with vast assets.

## Returning the favor

Another explanation for religious exemptions--the unofficial one--is that religion in Amerika has always served to promote and support capitalism. Tax exemptions are merely a way of returning the favor.

Although the state and federal regulations about organizations entitled to exemptions are a predictable tangle of exceptions and extensions and jargon-filled definitions, the tax advantages that Amerikan churches enjoy come down to these three:

1. They don't have to pay real estate taxes on their property;
2. They don't have to pay income taxes on their free-will offerings or contributions;
3. They don't have to disclose how

## Evangelists' millions

The Los Angeles Times (Feb. 1980) listed the following estimates of the revenues of top tv evangelists:

Oral Roberts	\$60 million
Pat Robertson (700 Club)	\$58 million
Jim Bakker (PTL Club)	\$51 million
Jerry Falwell	\$50 million
Billy Graham assn.	\$30 million
Rex Humbard	\$25 million
Jimmy Swaggert	\$20 million
Robert Schuler	\$16 million

Keep in mind that these staggering sums go untaxed at both ends: the evangelists don't have to pay taxes on this income, and contributors can deduct their donations from their taxable income. So double the figures and you'll have a more accurate idea of just how much these charlatans are cheating the already overburdened Amerikan taxpayer. ●



"It is a rather unusual design, but I haven't paid any taxes on it yet!"

much property they own or how much they take in in contributions.

This last privilege, not granted to all tax exempt organizations, is a significant advantage. A lot of charitable groups and such have to file "informational" tax forms. But not churches. This means that the public--and the agencies designed to protect the public's interest--don't know for sure just how immense the religious empire is in this country.

Despite the no disclosure privilege, it's still possible to get some idea of how much money U.S. churches have. This is particularly true of property, since it's hard to hide buildings and large parcels of land.

## \$300 billion untaxed

In 1976 Martin Larson and Stanley Lowell did a study of religiously exempt property in 14 Amerikan cities (and projected their findings for the entire country). According to them, the official value of religiously exempt real estate in the U.S. in 1976 was \$118 billion.

But that's undoubtedly undervalued by at least one-third. So the true value, for 1976, was at least \$155 billion. That total, when compared to property which is taxed, represents more than 10% of all taxable real estate in the country in 1976.

As for untaxed income, Carey McWilliams reported in *Nation* magazine that "religious groups financed solely by voluntary donations raked in \$18.5 billion in tax-free public contributions" in 1979.

Larson and Lowell estimated in 1976 that if the value of all religious tax exemptions were added together, the total would be near \$300 billion. That would represent one-fourth (25%) of the value of all taxable property and income in the U.S.

Or, to put it another way, because of exemptions to churches, the Amerikan public realizes only 75% of its possible tax revenues.

## Some specific cases

At this point, I think it would be valuable to take a more detailed look at some specific examples--to show the impact of those large numbers.

In 1975 in the city of Boston there were 56 Protestant churches, 69 Catholic parishes, and 17 Jewish synagogues. Needless to say, there's a lot of untaxed religious property in Boston. The Catholic church, for instance, runs 6 colleges, 60 high schools, and 200 elementary schools in addition to all their cathedrals and parish halls.

According to Larson and Lowell, Boston's taxable assessments in 1915 totalled \$1.5 billion. Assessments on exempt property in the same year came to a little over \$200 million--only 15% of the combined total of taxable and exempt valuations.

But 60 years later, when the taxable assessment had risen by only a few million (to \$1,556,891,700), the exempts had ballooned to an incredible \$2.2 billion. That means that in 1975 exempt property in Boston was worth almost twice as much as the taxable property.

Larson and Lowell also cunningly point out that in 1974 the net debt of the city of Boston was \$364 million. With religious property amounting to 41% of all exempt real estate in Boston, the city might have collected \$480 million in taxes from churches, more than enough to offset their municipal deficit.

So far we've been talking about the more obvious forms of property--sanctuaries, schools, parsonages, and the like. But a church, like any corporation, can diversify its holdings and income in a number of profitable ways--investments, commercial ventures, and so on.

## Religious corporations

Perhaps the most startling example of corporate diversification is the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. The Mormons. This church owns and operates the flourishing Polynesian Culture Center in Hawaii. The Center has 600,000 visitors a year.

The Mormons also own the Deseret Publishing Company, the Orlando stock corporation, the Hotel Utah, a chain of dairy and poultry farms, a chain of TV and radio stations (as many as the FCC allows one owner to have), 135 welfare farms in Utah and Idaho alone, the Utah-Idaho Sugar Co., a large department store, insurance and other related enterprises, and banks and shopping centers.

The church also owns a \$100 million site of 260,000 acres in Florida, as well as a huge cattle ranch in Canada. Other properties include a 31-story office building in Salt Lake City, the Zion Cooperative Mercantile Institution, the Kennecott Office Building, the Zion Securities Corp., which owns and deals in downtown and other real estate investments, plus an incredible vault dug deep in the mountainside, where many could survive a nuclear holocaust.

## "Unrelated business"

Now, not all these properties are tax-exempt, although many are. In 1975 the other capitalists in the country got tired of competing with church-owned businesses that have a tax advantage, so they got Congress to pass the Tax Reform Act which directed churches to dispose of any "unrelated business" or spin it off into a separate taxable corporation.

But which businesses are "unrelated" to the religious activities of the church-owners? The Augsburg Publishing House of the American Lutheran Church isn't. Its reported profits of \$400,000 are tax exempt. The American Bible Institute claimed exemption on 120 acres of timber, cropland, and buildings near Pittsburgh, saying the entire area was used for training missionaries (and thus necessary for "religious activities"). A court held that the buildings were exempt but not the cropland and timber.

And, to get back to the Mormon corporation, their 60 so-called welfare farms in Salt Lake County are tax exempt. The Mormon leaders claim that these vast agricultural operations are devoted to distributions of relief to their needy. If this is true, they must have the

# in unpaid taxes

highest proportion of poor people of any church in Amerika.

## No accounting for funds

When the state of Utah sought to tax these apparently commercial properties, church officials released figures on the relief distribution from the "bishops' storehouses" which they said amounted to \$3.6 million; the Church added another \$5.5 million from its general funds. Yet these officials persisted in refusing to make any general accounting of how and where the money was spent.

Investment in stocks and securities is another leading form of church wealth. Although the income from these investments is taxed, one could argue that the exemptions on property and contributions permit churches to invest more freely and profitably than they otherwise could, and that this increased financial power certainly constitutes an "establishment of religion" by the government that doesn't tax churches the same way it does the rest of us.

In the early 1970s, the National Council of Churches developed a guilty conscience about some of these investments: they were particularly troubled that as stockholders in certain companies, churches were supporting the Vietnam War and the oppressive government of South Africa. A report of a survey made by the Council's Corporate Information Center showed that ten religious denominations had more than \$200 million worth of securities in 29 of the nation's top defense industries. The same was true for the companies that do the most business in South Africa--churches and religious groups had considerable stock holdings in all of them.

## Tax dodges for Christ

Churches and churchpeople have other ways to dodge taxes in addition to outright exemptions. For example, the Internal Revenue Service permits a minister to exclude as reportable income the value of a home furnished to him by his church, so long as he is ordained, licensed, or commissioned.\* This exclusion also includes the value of furniture and furnishings.

An article in a recent issue of Christianity Today advised ministers

## Pope expenses

The visit of Pope John Paul II to the U.S. last year cost the six American cities on his tour an estimated \$7 million.

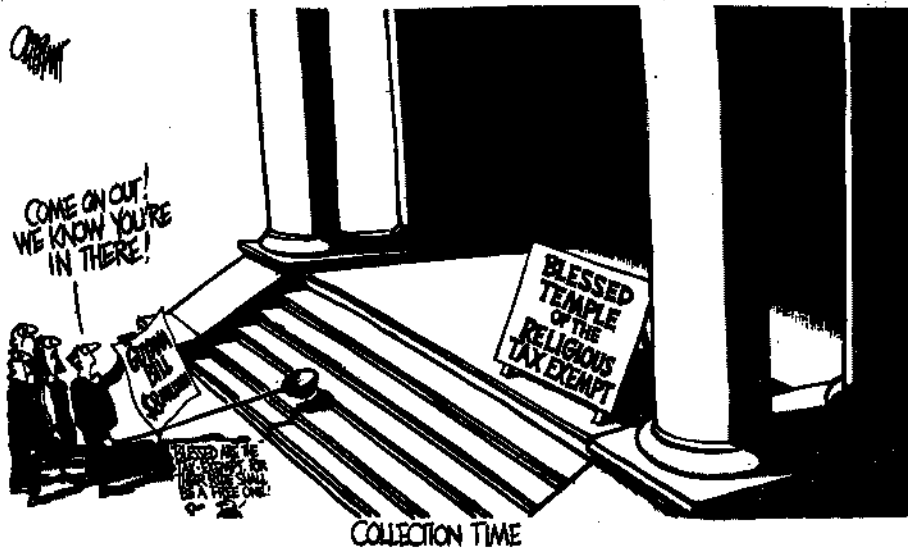
Among local governments, New York City spent slightly more than \$3 million. In Chicago, city officials set the figure at close to \$1 million.

Philadelphia estimated its expenses at \$700,000. That figure did not include \$196,000 for an altar platform that was the subject of a lawsuit by the American Civil Liberties Union.

The city governments of New York and D.C. announced they were seeking federal reimbursement for part of the costs. They maintain that the Pope is a foreign dignitary and the federal government's responsibility.

In any case the taxpayers, including non-Catholics and non-believers, have to foot the bill.●

Source: Facts on File, 1979.



to set up a "housing allowance." The church board pays the minister the same amount, but his "salary" (or taxable income) is reduced by the amount of the allowance for furniture and furnishings, but with depreciation and repair costs and all that, such a claim isn't hard to substantiate.

Another tax ploy to aid the religious in this country is tuition reimbursement for parents of children sent to parochial school. Although such tax credits have been held unconstitutional in the past, bills are regularly introduced in Congress to establish the process. Last year 3 bills were proposed in the Senate; if they had passed, they would have cost a billion dollars in the first year (1980) and \$2.5 billion by 1982.

## Aid to parochial schools

One reason such legislation is repeatedly proposed is that aid to religious education is so extensive that it seems only a matter of time before all constitutional barriers to this form of church financing will be brought down. Here are only the highlights of the many ways that churches and church schools benefit from taxes that we all pay (except, of course, churches):

--The Elementary and Secondary Education Act pours more than \$4 billion into religious and other private institutions through its 20 programs.

--The Higher Education Act has over 100 programs that regularly supply money to church-related colleges (there are about 350 of them in this country). In 1972, for instance, religious institutions received \$276 million under this act.

--Over a 10-year period the federal government supplied \$955 million for construction of academic buildings on the campuses of private colleges, most of them church-related.

--HUD grants and loans for housing go to church-related colleges in the amount of \$81 million annually.

--At least another million a year is channelled via students into religious colleges from the grants and awards of the National Science Foundation.

--35 state governments also subsidize church-related colleges in some form or another, usually through scholarships or tuition grants to students--about \$100 million annually.

## Gov't supports religion

One could go on and on with this sort of thing. Besides aid to education, the government funnels billions of tax dollars annually into church programs and institutions.

For instance, for three decades the Hill-Burton Act (1946) provided federal aid to churches for construction of their hospitals. But try to get an abortion in a Catholic hospital.

And that's what infuriates me most about religious tax exemptions--they're used to support so much

oppression and intolerance. With the recent increase in the political activity of churches and evangelists and religious lobbies, it's time to take Thomas Jefferson seriously and see to it that the First Amendment does indeed interpose a "wall of separation" between church and state.

It's ridiculous to claim that we presently have such a separation in this country. Obviously the government supports religion in a big way. It's time to put an end to that support. Doing away with tax-exempt status for religious organizations would be a good place to start.

If Jerry Falwell wants to campaign against ERA, gay rights, abortion rights, and other issues of individual freedom, then let him do it without my help.●

--Ferdurdurke

\*I used the masculine pronoun in talking about ministers because most of them are men; the few women ministers that there are shouldn't be held accountable for the greed and materialism of an essentially patriarchal institution (religion).

Sources: Martin Larson and Stanley Lowell, The Religious Empire (1976); Alfred Balk, The Free List (1971); Nation, April 12, 1980; Christianity Today, Oct. 8, 1979, Feb. 22, 1980, April 18, 1980; The American Atheist, Sept. 1979.

## Bingo

A 1979 change in federal tax law made bingo games regularly run by paid employees of churches (if operated in accordance with state and local laws) exempt from taxation.●

Taunt  
a  
preacher  
today!

## Mail-order crosses

American Consumer Inc. agreed to refund \$103,000 to customers who had purchased the "Cross of Lourdes" at \$15.95 each. The refund was part of a plea-bargained agreement reached in U.S. District Court in Philadelphia.

American Consumer, one of the country's largest mail-order firms, faced a 1000-count indictment for mail fraud and a possible fine of \$1 million.

The crosses in question were sold as objects that had been dipped in the waters at the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes in France and blessed by Pope Paul VI in Rome. Both claims were false.●

Source: Washington Post

# Honor thy (atheist) mother

A real-life drama, in one appalling act and a dreadful epilogue.

Scene: The state capitol, Lansing, Mich.; a news conference arranged for speakers who are to appear at the Lansing Civic Center in the "Patriotic Panorama 1980," a rally jointly sponsored by Christians in Government and something called the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International. The time is three days before Halloween 1980.



Dramatis personae: William J. Murray--son of the well-known atheist, Madalyn Murray O'Hair; he is now a born-again evangelist and the head of something called the Faith Foundation, Inc. of Houston, Texas.

Rita Warren--an Italian-American woman from Boston, who "with the help of God" has incorporated herself as the Christian Civil Liberties Union, Inc.

State Representative Ethel Terrell--whose bill to permit voluntary prayer in Michigan schools is being used as the excuse for "Patriotic Panorama 1980"; she has arranged the press conference.

The action begins just after Murray has

finished his remarks, attacking his atheist mother (whom he disowned in 1979).

Warren: "I have to make a little bit of a speech for Madalyn Murray O'Hair... because God says honor thy mother and thy father whether they be atheists or not..."

Murray (breaking in): "Rita, why don't you go back to Italy? Why do you put down your ancestors by using an American name?"

Warren (responding angrily): "I don't

put down my ancestors. You got to love your mother..."

Rep. Terrell (as peacemaker): "Now, now. May I say..."

Murray (to Warren): "Don't sit there and insult me..."

Warren (loudly): "I'm sorry but I have to be honest with you..."

Murray (even louder): "Good heavens, woman..."

Terrell (trying for order): "Just a minute, we're not going to..."

Murray (to Warren): "I have never run into anybody as unchristian as you in my entire life..."

Warren (in response): "I would not come here if..."

Murray: "My God, lady, go back to Italy."

Warren: "I will not be a phony for the people and for God. I am sorry..."

Terrell (trying again): "Just a minute. Please, please..."

Murray (referring to Warren's conversion from Catholicism to Baptist faith): "Why did you forsake the pope?"

Warren: "I love your mother very much..."

Terrell (finally succeeding): "We're going to have to cut this, cut the press conference.... And I do have to say that each of us has to die for ourselves (pause), and for others."

Epilogue: The principals adjourn for a private dinner together, where they apparently patch up their differences. Later in the evening they share a stage at Patriotic Panorama 1980, where an "offering" is taken up by passing genuine but unused Col. Sanders Kentucky Fried Chicken buckets instead of collection plates.

They talk about how proud they are to be Christians and about how someone should do something about all the moral rot in America.

Representative Terrell pronounces the benediction, of a sorts: "God moves in mysterious ways."

No shit..

--Ferdurdurke, with thanks to Hugh McDiarmid of the Detroit Free Press

## Leech to do McDonald's ads

Ever notice how the fast food chains choke out the local greasy spoons? Well, McDonald's does another number on the communities it invades, too. (Besides boosting the sales of PeptoBismol.)

A study by the Institute for Local Self-Reliance found that 74% of the revenues of a typical McDonald's store leave the community--for food, paper, rent, advertising, national management (all to the parent corporation). Only 17% of McDonald's revenues remain in the community in the form of wages and local taxes.

This means that a McDonald's that takes in \$750,000 from a town returns only \$127,000 to that town. The effect is something like that of a leech on the bloodstream.

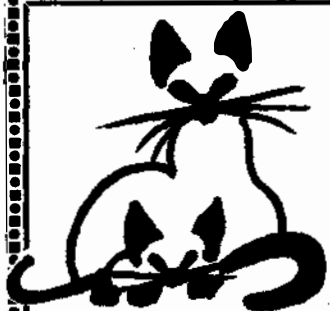


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| 3rd Prize | Steamroller        |
| 4th Prize | Green Plant        |

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# Flagellation, Falwell, and the future

Post-American vol.9 no.7 page 23



Election night I watched Monty Python and the Holy Grail instead of Walter Cronkite. Indeed, at the very moment that Ronald Reagan was declared the winner, the Python's procession of monks were punctuating their Latin chant with rhythmic whacks to the forehead.

Their own foreheads. With boards.

I doubt very much that the monks foresaw Reagan's election. Self-flagellation--beating on oneself with whips and things--was simply a big thing in medieval Europe. Christian pilgrims journeyed all across the continent to Palestine to have themselves whipped at the church on Mount Zion.

## Popular practice

By the 14th century mass flagellation had become a very popular, spontaneous occurrence. Whole villages indulged, and in 1349 Pope Clement VI organized a procession of flagellants in hopes of warding off the Black Death.

Bands of flagellants wandered through Germany and the Low Countries proclaiming that suffering was a short-cut to heaven. With a quarter of the population dead of the plague, frenzied self-mutilation must have seemed less peculiar than it does to us.

Yet, as people are wont to do, the flagellants went too far. Or so thought the pope.

Bands of flagellants, sometimes numbering in the thousands, began to slide from religious frenzy into mass orgies. This, naturally, was more fun even than hula hoops or roller skates.

However, as bad as sex is, it was nothing (in the eyes of the pope) to the idea that a peasant could get to heaven without the officiating of the church. No village priest, no bishop, no cardinal--no pope. A few whacks to the head and an orgy for variety...Pope Clement was positively forced to declare flagellants heretic.

Now I'm not suggesting that Jerry Falwell's next political prayer meeting will conclude with mass copulations on the Capitol lawn. Far from it, for the New Right, and Falwell in particular,

are already zeroing in on TV's sexual titillations. In true Christian fashion, they're trying to bully the sponsors of suggestive shows into line by threatening boycotts.

No, the PTL Club will turn to porno about the same time they have an orgy in the State Farm Insurance accounting department.

## Deeper roots

But Falwell, Reagan and the other New Right moguls have plugged into a strong, if not quite sexual, current. The symbols of the God squad's dissatisfaction may be abortion and morality, but the roots are deeper.

Falwell does not intend to toss furniture polish and oven cleaners and automobile assembly lines into the hellfire reserved for gays, hippies, and books. So even if corporate advertising can do without sex (which is almost unimaginable), the real cause of dissatisfaction--a pointless life--will remain.

So the New Right crusade will have to go further than TV to find satisfaction. Already, some of the really gruesome, slobbery hate-mongers (from National Conservative Political Action Committee, for instance) have publicly warned Reagan that they can do without him if he won't go along.

Go along with censorship, legislated morality, required prayer meetings on Tuesday and Thursday. It's easy to envision a national dress code at the end of this crusade, and, of course, bursting prisons and labor camps run by preachers in training for the TV circuit.

## Hard to control

As any number of popes have learned, people are not easy to control. Look at us--parents, teachers, bosses all tried, and we're still here writing about high heels and flagellation. But

that is the goal of the New Right--control.

The desire to banish gays and women to their closets and kitchens is part of the same spirit that would impose super-censorship on TV. Because the parents at Calvary Baptist are afraid their children may get ideas.

The lovely Catholic Inquisition and the righteous Reagan crusade operate on the same premise: remove the objectionable ideas from public view and they will disappear. Ultimately, force, torture, prison, death will be necessary--which explains the hatred behind Falwell's smirk. He's ready to do violence.

## It won't work

The New Right may succeed in taking the sex out of dishwashing detergent commercials. With enough TV monitors in schoolyards and hidden microphones in shopping malls and midweek church services at the million-dollar God complexes, they may even burn the ideas from their children's heads and keep them out, for a time.

But it didn't work forever even in Queen Vicky's England. Oh, the ideas--and the kinky sex--those outwardly straight-laced Victorians had in private! And what if the mindless kitchens and factories prove to be as awful a prospect as the Black Death?

Human spontaneity, like a smart-alecky kid, is hard to put down.

--D. LeSeure

Has God told you  
any good stories  
lately?

## Oral talks to 900-foot Jesus--Ooh! Ooh!

Oral Roberts has received nearly \$5 million after sending supporters a fund-raising letter for a hospital he is building. In the letter he claimed to have had a talk with a 900-foot tall Jesus Christ.

George Stovall, executive vice president for the Oral Roberts Evangelistic Assn., said about 400,000 to 500,000 people responded to the September letter for the hospital, the tallest building in Tulsa.

--Ann Arbor Daily

PostNote: The Post-American, taking a cue from Oral, has raised 45¢ after Mark Silverstein claimed to have talked to a 950-foot tall penguin. The Post will build a birdhouse.

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# Boycott Red Coach lettuce

It might seem a long way from the fields of California to the grocery shelves of Illinois, but hundreds of our food items, especially fresh fruits and vegetables, are grown in California's central valley, an agribusiness stronghold.

It is also the home of thousands of migrant farmworkers, impoverished Americans eking out a subsistence on the edge of the rich harvest, living in miserable housing, with poor health care and the nation's last bastion of child labor.

But for farmworkers there has been hope in recent years, thanks to the organizing efforts of the United Farm Workers Union of America (UFWA, AFL-CIO).

The farmworkers have won better wages, pesticide control, an end to child labor, and a sense of rights for workers through their long battles and strikes, beginning in the mid-60s.

## Boycott effective

Thanks to these boycotts and the strikes, many battles have been won and con-

tracts signed. Today, there remains only one boycott target--Red Coach Lettuce.

Red Coach is the brand-name of the Bruce Church Company, the nation's third largest lettuce producer. Bruce Church has been blatantly anti-union, and for almost two years now, the workers there have been on strike, attempting to win basic and humane concessions from the company.

## Final holdout

The Bruce Church Co. is the final holdout. The company has gone so far as to not plant its fields in some areas this year, almost seeming to withdraw from the business. Negotiations have been continuous, but without any concessions from the company.

In fact, for the sake of a settlement, the UFW offered to withdraw a number of points in its proposed contract on which the company claimed to be holding out--and again, Bruce Church refused to negotiate.

The only seller of Red Coach lettuce

now in our area is Eagle Stores. Early this year, Eagle had been selling "Red Coach" lettuce exclusively.

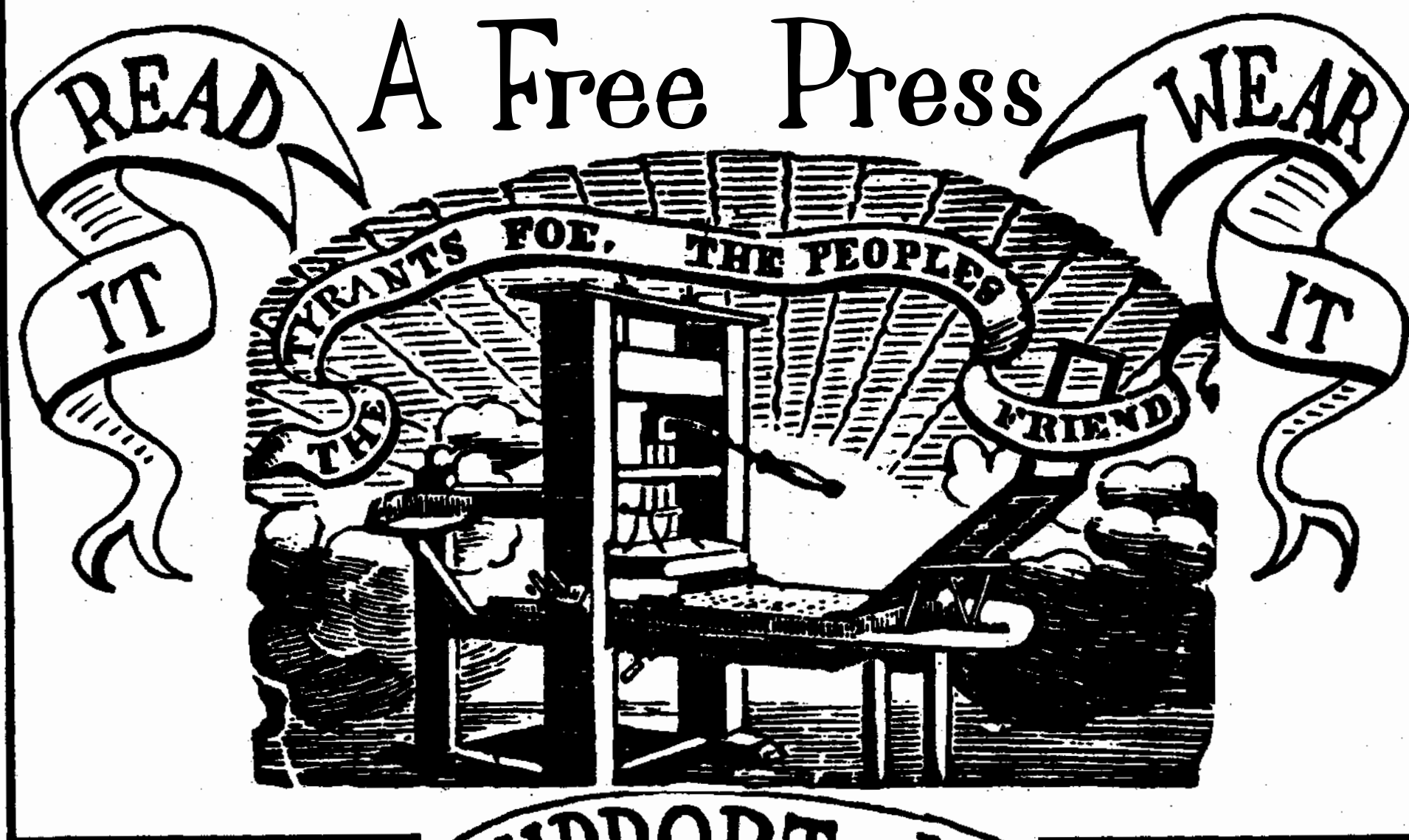
## Pressure Eagle

Thanks to pressure from boycott supporters here and throughout the state, Eagle is now selling only 50% Red Coach lettuce and 50% Bud Lettuce. This is an important concession, but consumers still need to boycott Red Coach. Having the alternative of Bud Lettuce there makes it even easier.

Pressure needs to continue on Eagle. If you are shopping there, buy the Bud, pass up the Red Coach. Mention to the store or produce manager what you are doing and why. The local store has to accept whatever produce is sent them from the regional headquarters, so this constant pressure keeps hammering away at the top.

Thank you for your continued support. Please remember to boycott Red Coach Lettuce. For more information, call the United Farm Workers Support Coalition at 452-5046.

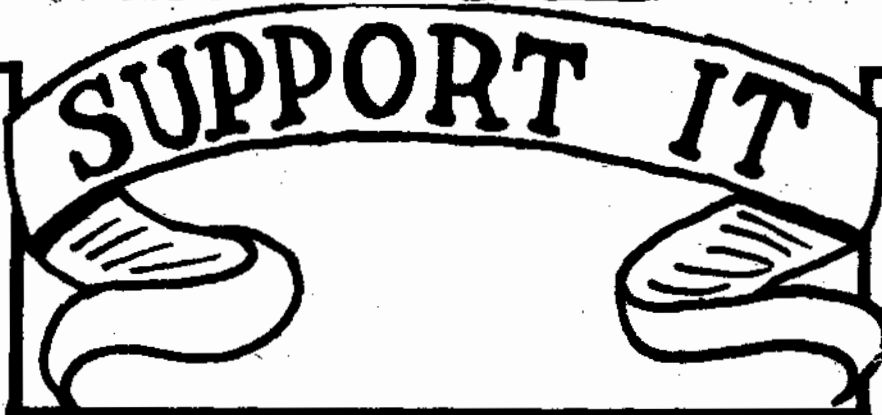
--MgM



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