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Hospitals; plastic; lobsters; weapons; flags; phone books

Bloomington-Normal

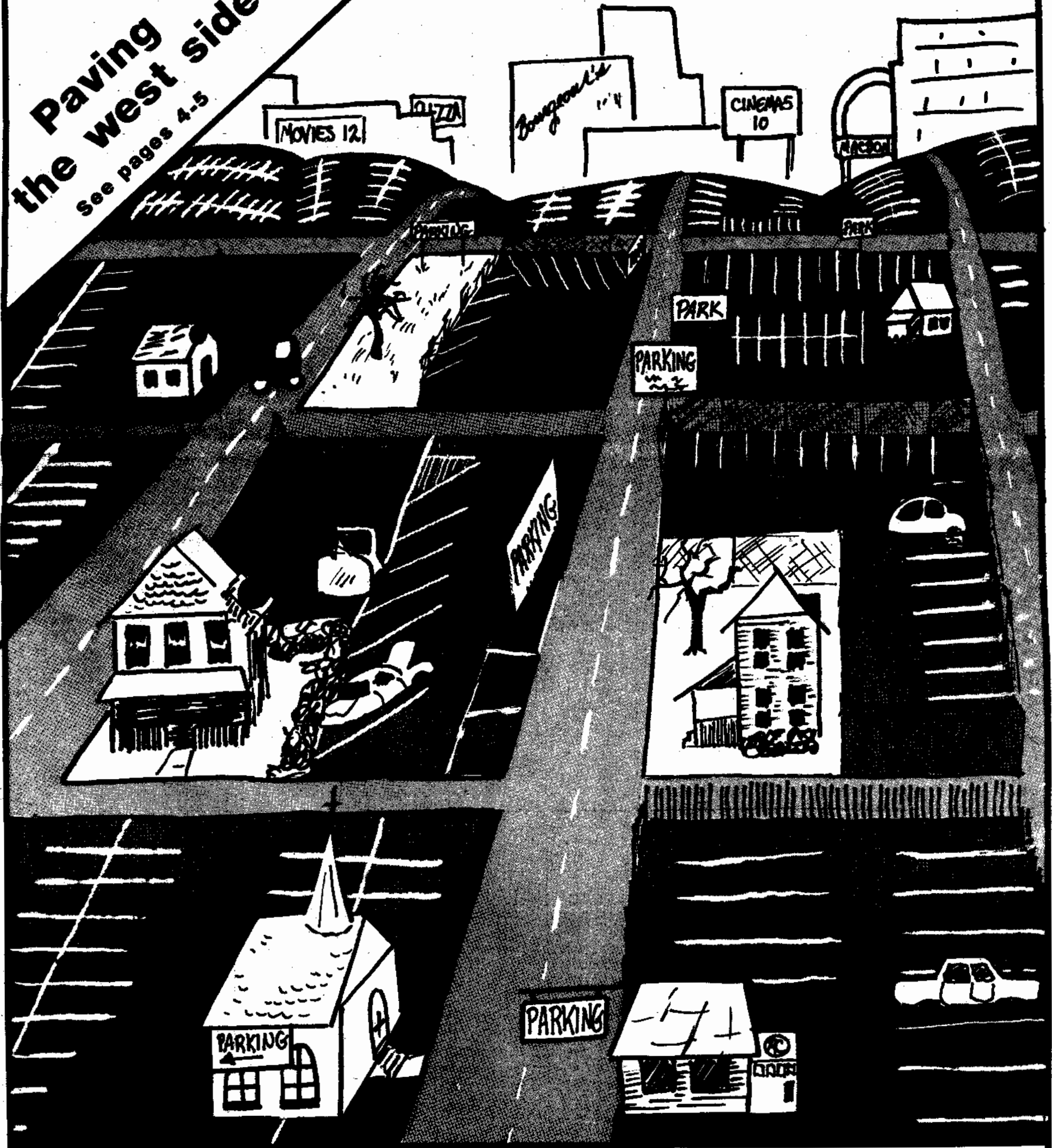
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POST AMERICAN

Vol. 10 No. 9

Feb. 1982

Paving
the west side
See pages 4-5



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

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

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

Most of our material and inspiration for material comes from the community. We encourage you, the reader, to become more than a reader. We welcome

all stories and tips for stories, which you can mail to our office. The deadline for the next issue is Feb. 18.

We like to print your letters. Try to be brief. If you write a short abusive letter, it's likely to get in print. But long abusive letters, especially ones that set forth ideas you can read in Time magazine every week, are not likely to get printed. Long, brilliantly written, non-abusive letters may, if we see fit, be printed as articles.

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

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

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

Post Sellers

BLOOMINGTON

That Other Gift Store, 111 W. Front
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Biasi's Drugstore, 217 N. Main
Bus Depot, 523 N. East
Common Ground, 516 N. Main
Discount Den, 207 N. Main
Gene's Drive-in, 1019 S. Main
Haag Drugstore, 509 W. Washington
K-Mart, at parking lot entrance off
of Empire
Kroger's, 1110 E. Oakland
Last Page, 416 N. Main
Law & Justice Center, West Front
Main and Front, southwest corner
Main and Washington, northeast corner
Medusa's Adult World, 420 N. Madison
Mel-O-Cream Doughnuts, 901 N. Main
Mike's Market, 1013 N. Park
Mr. Donut, 1310 E. Empire
My Place, 424 N. Main
Pantagraph (in front of building),
301 W. Washington
The Park Store, Wood and Allin
Red Fox, 918 W. Market
Small Changes Bookstore, 409A N. Main
Steak n Shake, Locust and Clinton
U.S. Post Office, 1511 E. Empire (at
exit)
U.S. Post Office, Center and Monroe
Wash House, 609 N. Clinton
Washington & Clinton, southeast corner

NORMAL

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

OUTTA TOWN

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

good numbers

Alcoholics Anonymous 828-5049
American Civil Liberties Union 454-1787
CETA 827-4026
Clare House (Catholic Workers) 828-4035
Community for Social Action 452-4867
Connection House 829-5711
Countering Domestic Violence (PATH)
827-4005
Dept. of Children and Family Services
828-0022
Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare
(Social Security Admin.) 829-9436
Dept. of Mental Health 828-4311
Draft counseling 452-5046, 828-4035
Gay Action/Awareness Union of McLean
County 452-5852
Gay People's Alliance (ISU) 828-9085
HELP (transportation for handicapped &
senior citizens) 828-8301
Illinois Lawyer Referral Service
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Kaleidoscope 828-7346
McLean County Health Dept 829-3363
Mobile Meals (for shut-ins) 828-8301

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in New Jersey)
National Health Care Services (abortion
assistance in Peoria) 691-9073
National Runaway Switchboard 800-621-
4000; in Illinois 800-972-6004
Occupational Development Center
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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)
Small Changes Bookstore 829-6223
Sunnyside Neighborhood Center 827-5428
TeleCare 828-8301
Unemployment Compensation/ Job Service
827-6237
United Farmworkers Support Group
452-5046
Women's Switchboard 800-927-5404

Are you a workaholic?

We've all heard of it: the perverse and damaging high regard for the satisfaction, security, money, joy, skill, and achievement that come from hard work. It's called workaholism, and it strikes an astonishing one person per ten thousand on this planet.

Like similar diseases--materialism, patriotism, cynicism, naturalism, and astigmatism--workaholism can be cured if caught in its early stages.

Are you on the brink of workaholism? Following are the ten warning signs of the disease. To find out whether you should seek professional help, write yes if the statement applies to your lifestyle and no if it does not.

- ___ 1. Sometimes I find myself thinking about work in my leisure time.
- ___ 2. I work before noon.
- ___ 3. I sometimes work alone.

___ 4. My work sometimes interferes with my drinking.

___ 5. I am nervous when people talk about workaholism.

___ 6. I hide work around the house and secretly do it in my spare time.

___ 7. More than once, I have worked until I passed out.

___ 8. I have awakened not knowing where I was after working hard the night before.

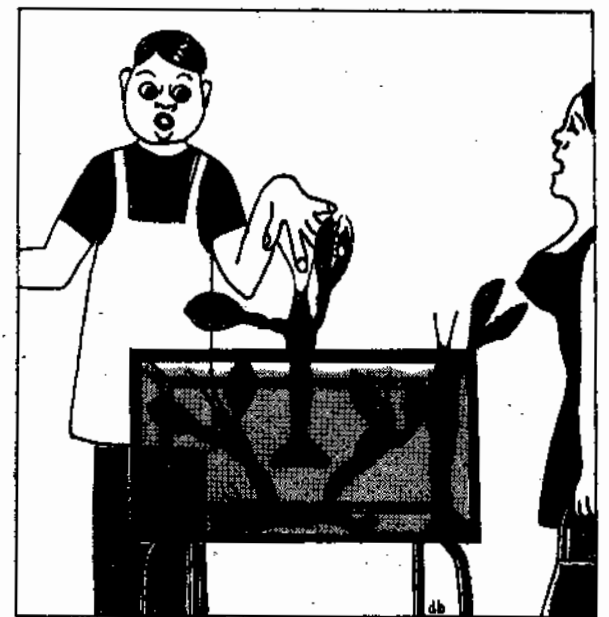
___ 9. I have lost track of what happened while I was working.

___ 10. Sometimes I get up in the middle of the night and work.

If you answered yes to one--yes, even one--of the ten warning signs, you are dangerously near to workaholism. Do something about it now! Get advice from a local barfly if possible. Many near-workaholics have been completely cured with the consistent use of drugs

(avoid speed, though) and liquor. You, too, can become a strung-out, good-for-nothing burden on your family and friends.●

--Phoebe Caulfield



Read the story on page 23 to find out why these lobsters are angry.

Take the nuclear family... please!

So: the Congress of the United States may indeed pass the Family Protection Act, now that the Reagan bunch has given its support.

Well: let me state here and now that I'm all in favor of protecting the Amerikan family. As we've been told again and again, it is our major bulwark against the collapse of Western Civilization, the destruction of the Amerikan Way of Life, and the spread of awful godless ring-around-the-collar.

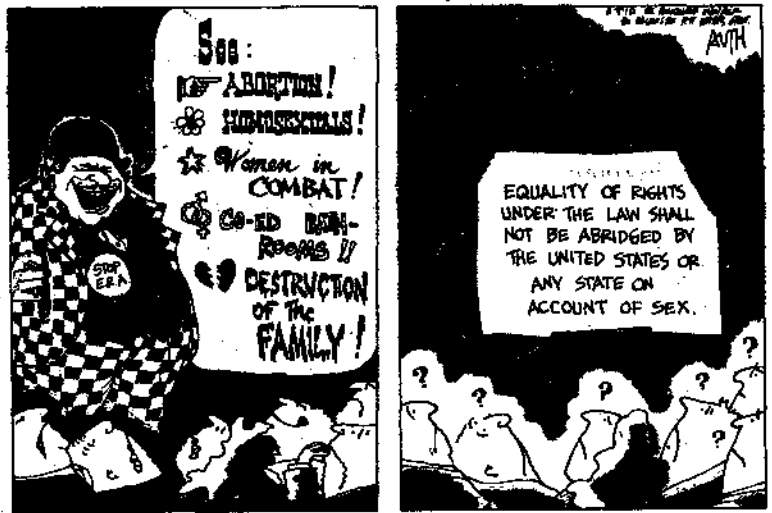
Yes: the Amerikan family may be a hotbed of child abuse, wife-beating, alcoholism, nagging, teenage suicide, pill popping, and living up to the eyeballs in hock. But that's a small price to pay for keeping the street signs in Bloomington from being translated into Russian.

However: the main problem with protecting the family is that the government seems totally incapable of protecting us citizens from any number of terrible afflictions: rape, corporate crime, nuclear waste, Charmin bathroom tissue, punk rock, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Alexander Haig, acid rain, award programs on tv, killer tampons, the Lawrence Welk Show, Donnie and Marie--to name but a few. If Washington can't protect us from the blatherings of Mr.

Whipple, how is it ever going to protect the Amerikan family against... whatever it's to be protected against?

And: that brings up another problem. Just what or who(m) is the family being protected against? As I see it, the people responsible for all that child abuse, wife-beating, nagging, alcoholism, etc. are... well, the Amerikan family members themselves. If the family unit has gone to the dogs, they have nobody to blame but themselves.

Besides: at last count there were only 836 All-Amerikan families left in the country. I mean families in which the father smokes a pipe and says things like "You look swell in that dress, dear" (and he's talking to his wife, not his son); in which the mother spends her days sterilizing the toilet bowl and baking cakes and says things like "Please whip it harder" (and she's talking about the cake batter her husband is helping with); in which the son is a local football hero who says things like "Dad, I'm going out to smoke some grass" (and he's talking about burning weeds in the lawn); in which the daughter is a pompon girl who says things like



"I don't do it on the first date" (and she's talking about kissing).

So: instead of protecting the family, Congress may have to declare it an endangered species (or a disaster area) and take some emergency measures. For instance, they could construct an All-Amerikan Family Preserve, modeled after the set of the Donna Reed Show, where the survivors could pray and eat Stove-Top Stuffing together. Or they could have the entire Nelson family stuffed and placed in the Smithsonian for study by future generations.

Anyway: if Congress does pass the Family Protection Act, then they should also pass an Alternative Lifestyle Protection Act--to protect singles, divorced people, lesbians, gay men, transvestites, transsexuals, celibates, and others against the tyranny of nuclear family-isms.

Or: Congress could stay out of the lifestyle business altogether and let people decide for themselves how to arrange their lives. But that would make this a free country, and Congress isn't about to do that.

--Ferdurdurke

White House may endorse Family Protection Act

According to the office of U.S. Sen. Roger Jepsen (R-IA), the White House is mulling over a possible endorsement of the Family Protection Act. This new development may be the result of a trade-off on the AWACS vote.

When the bill was introduced for the second time last June, Jepsen and Sen. Paul Laxalt (R-NV) predicted a briefing on the bill's merits at the White House within a week. But no such briefing took place, and sources indicated that Reagan wanted to keep such issues at arm's length.

The door opened a little on Oct. 7 when Jepsen and Rep. Albert Lee Smith (R-AL), the House sponsor and John Birch Society national board member, trekked to the White House to deliver their briefing to the Reagan staff. But weeks passed before Advisor Elizabeth Dole did anything to bring the measure before Reagan.

In the meantime, the Senate was facing the AWACS battle, and Jepsen was not on Reagan's side. Finally, the Iowa senator switched sides, and supported the sale of the advanced AWACS reconnaissance planes to Saudi Arabia. A week later he was escorted to the Oval Office for a half-hour private meeting with the president. Morton Blackwell, former editor of "New Right Report" and now an aide to Dole at the White House, said he personally arranged both meetings and that he thinks a Reagan endorsement of the Family Protection Act (FPA) will result.

The FPA was originally introduced in September of 1979 by Laxalt. Its 35 major provisions are aimed at a variety of causes that Laxalt and his cronies (including the Rev. Jerry Falwell) see as "threats" to the American family. For instance, no federal funds to states that don't allow voluntary prayer in the schools,

no funds to any program "that teaches children values that contradict demonstrated community beliefs," no money for textbooks that "denigrate, diminish or deny the historically understood role differences between the sexes."

FPA gives the right to states to "limit or prohibit intermingling of the sexes in sports or other school-related activities." The bill would exempt private schools from National Labor Relations Board supervision, and would prohibit the Internal Revenue Service from "being arbitrary and capricious in granting or withdrawing tax-exempt and tax-deductible status of these schools."

FPA would also limit federal agency regulations of religious organizations and groups, would establish a "legal presumption in the Federal Code in favor of the parents' role in supervising and determining the religious or moral formation of their children," and would prohibit "voluntarily unemployed students from receiving food stamps."

FPA would also prohibit federal funding for contraception, VD treatment or abortion services to an unmarried minor unless there is an attempt to notify the parents, and would restrict the activities of the Legal Services Corporation in areas of divorce, abortion, gay rights, and school desegregation.

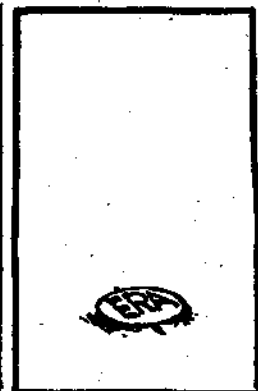
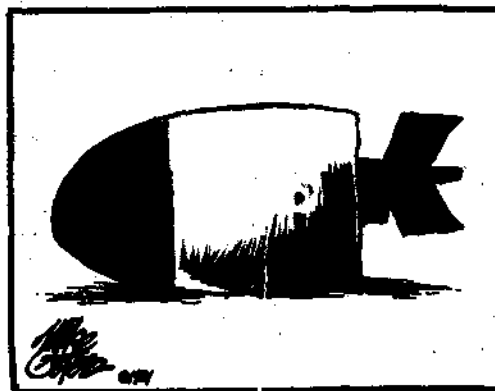
--Ferdurdurke

Sources: The Advocate, Dec. 24, 1981; Congressional Record, Sept. 27, 1979.

11/13/79, New York City. If elected, says candidate Reagan, he will determine if oil companies are unfairly exploiting consumers, and if so, take immediate action.

10/24/80. "We should encourage the development of alternative fuels, such as solar and bio-mass," Mr. Reagan tells a TV audience.

WHICH DOES THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION SEE AS THE GREATEST THREAT TO MANKIND?



FINK'S

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4 Mannassas Junction

6 Drönz

7 Neutron Blues

8 John Novotny

9 Urban Development

10 Dr. Butcher & the MDs

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13 Food & Money

15 Patty & the Panic

16 Sangamon River Bandits

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22 John Novotny

24 Vertabrals

25 Manassas Junction

26 Uptown Rulers

27 Uptown Rulers

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City mismanager's

Bloomington City Mismanager Bill Vail is promoting a new parking ordinance which would devastate dozens of west side residences, dislodge families, and seriously inconvenience thousands of residents in Bloomington's older neighborhoods.

East side residents would hardly be bothered at all.

Vail has proposed permitting parking on only one side of a street during any given day. He proposes allowing parking on odd-numbered sides of the street on odd-numbered days and allowing parking on even-numbered sides of a street on even-numbered days.

Every day residents who park on the street would have to move their cars to the other side. (Except for the first days of months which follow a month with an odd number of days.) Residents would have to know what day of the month it is and how the house numbering system works everywhere they go.

The main goal of the ordinance is easier, more complete snow plowing. By alternating parking each day, streets could be cleared curb to curb within 48 hours. Plows wouldn't have to zig-zag around parked cars.

Vail thinks it would be too difficult for Bloomington's feeble-minded citizens to remember alternate-side parking only during snowstorms, or only during the winter. That's why he wants his ordinance to apply all year round seven days a week.

As further justification for year-round alternate parking, Vail argues that the ordinance would make it easier for leaf pick-up and street sweeping.

The ordinance would have minimal impact in newer areas of town. On the east side, homes have two or even three-car garages, with expansive driveways. Apartments have parking lots. People don't need to park in the street.

Older sections of Bloomington have little or no off-street parking. The ordinance would dramatically affect the residents of these areas, especially neighborhoods where a lot of



older homes have been converted into apartments.

In these more congested areas, residents depend on the current practice of parking on both sides of the street. Vail's plan would cut the available parking in half.

Tear down west side

But City Mismanager Vail has a solution to the parking shortage his plan would create: tear down a house on every block.

As Vail put it in his memo:

"In neighborhoods where this would create serious parking shortages, I would suggest that it might be possible through our Community Development Program to find within that square block a sub-standard house that could be removed and a parking lot created."

Only one paragraph later, Vail's Dec. 30 memo says his plan "would cost nothing in taxpayer's funds." Is the city mismanager consciously devious, or is he simply oblivious to the implications of his own proposal?

How can Vail maintain that buying up a house on every block, demolishing

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Bloomington loses police brutality suit

A 65-year-old local woman has won \$25,000 in a police brutality suit she filed against Bloomington cop Edward Moser.

Moser broke the woman's wrist in two places in March, 1980, when he "put" her against a downtown building during her arrest for alleged prowling. The woman, Dorothy Harrison, suffered further injuries during the arrest when patrolman Moser "put her down" on the pavement to subdue her.

Patrolman Moser thought he was arresting a "bag lady" who lived off salvage from trashcans. Ms. Harrison vehemently denied that description and said she lived off savings.

She was acquitted of both the prowling and resisting arrest charges in summer, 1980.

Ms. Harrison resisted arrest because she did not know that her assailant was a policeman. She said she was walking downtown when an unmarked

parking plan: an impractical joke

them, relocating the residents, and building and maintaining dozens of parking lots would cost nothing?

Vail's plan would start whittling away at west side and near east side neighborhoods which so far have escaped the bulldozers. How long before some of these older areas become as gutted and pitted as downtown?

No money

Bad enough that Vail wants the Community Development program insincerely labeling houses substandard based on their location instead of their condition. The program doesn't even have the money to buy up genuinely decrepit buildings anymore. And if Community Development did have the money, it should be used as intended: for replacing substandard dwellings with decent housing, not parking lots.

And how many families would Vail's plan uproot? Where would they live, and how much extra rent would they be forced to pay?

An ordinance that requires cars to be moved every 24 hours hits especially hard at citizens who are handicapped, sick, or elderly. Those who work unusual shifts at their job might wind up having to get up in the middle of their sleep to move their car, depending on what time the ordinance directed that parking shift from one side of the street to the others.

Car breakdowns would have to be dealt with in a day--a near impossibility in sub-zero weather.

More problems

Although some residents in older areas would probably appreciate a small city parking lot on every block, many would still prefer to park right in front of their houses. A one-block walk on slippery unshoveled sidewalks could be too much for lots of people. Fear of rape keeps many women terrified during the short walk to their cars out front: a one-block walk to a parking lot would be even worse.

Vail's plan is fortunately encountering some opposition, mostly on the

grounds that requiring people to alternate parking every day is either inconvenient or unenforceable. But no one has yet spoken out against Vail's plan to bulldoze the older neighborhoods, except on grounds of expense.

Vail's proposal has been sent to city staff for further study. If a concrete proposal emerges, the Bloomington Planning Commission will hold a public hearing. Let's hope they hold it at a time when working people can attend. ●

--Mark Silverstein



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Parking lots increase flooding

Vail's contradictory statements overflow

Everyone studying the flooding Bloomington suffered last spring and fall agree that land development over the years has contributed heavily to the problem.

Rainwater which used to soak slowly through undeveloped farmland now falls on streets, parking lots and roofs--all of which conduct the water quickly into the city's drainage system. In heavy rains, the system becomes overloaded.

City manager Bill Vail agrees. In a Nov. 23, 1981, memo, the city manager said, "I believe it is the responsibility of the two cities not to add to the flooding problem through development within their corporate boundaries."

Only a month later, Vail forgot that responsibility when he conjured up his new parking plan. His proposal

includes razing dozens of homes in older neighborhoods, and paving over the land.

These parking lots will only add to Bloomington's flooding problem, as all the water falling on them will be carried quickly into the city's sewers.

Vail knows this, too. When advocating detention basins in his Nov. 23 memo, Vail said, "Every gallon of water which is delayed entering that drainage system at this time will help the downstream situation."

Perhaps Vail could build some detention basins in his head for his brainstormers to sit in awhile before he passes them on. Every muddle-headed plan which is delayed exiting the city manager's mouth ought to help our downstream situation. ●

--M.S.

car stopped near her. Strange men, who she did not know were cops, asked her what she was doing.

Ms. Harrison ran, and then struggled, because she feared she would be robbed.

Her broken wrist shows that it is indeed dangerous for women to walk Bloomington's streets at night--and the police are part of the danger.

--M.S.



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Cold comfort comes naturally

What do warm socks, chicken soup, and \$500 million a year have in common? They are all part of the witches' brew that we stuffy-nosed consumers use to prevent and heal the common cold.

Since our health is controlled by physicians whose answer to any illness is to pop a pill, little wonder that we have no idea of the nature of the cold, let alone how to prevent or heal it. In our naivete, the myths get murkier, the cough suppressant manufacturers get richer, and we sit at home three weeks each year with our box of Puffs.

In order to clear the air (and our sinuses), we need some information on colds.

Although scientists are rather baffled by the beast, they do attribute the cold to a type of virus. These viruses are always found in our throats but are usually swallowed and destroyed by stomach acid before they reproduce enough to harm us. Unfortunately, we tend to live stressful, sleepless, overworked lives that occasionally knock our bodies off balance. If the throat becomes dry, which causes difficulty in swallowing, the virus has enough time to multiply before it is destroyed. This results in the virus growing wild in the body. Better grab your tissues because the battle is on!

Sniffle, sniffle

The unpleasant symptoms of a cold--runny nose, coughing, drowsiness--are actually the body's natural healing tactics.

The fluids that stop up our heads or drain from our noses are helping to flush the infection out of the body. Coughing is the body's way of expelling mucous that is cluttering up the lungs and causing breathing difficulty. Drowsiness, faintness, and headaches result from the increased amount of blood circulating throughout the head and neck. The blood is concentrated there, bringing antibodies to kill the virus. Although runny noses, coughing and aching are not pleasant, the body needs to function in these ways in order to heal itself.

Most cold-cure drugs, however, fight against the body's natural healing methods. Cough suppressants thicken the mucous in the lungs so that it stays where it is, rather than removing itself. The mucous remains until your next cold, or your next, until it is allowed to be coughed up.

Many cold pills contain antihistamines. The fluids that cleanse our bodies by draining from the nose are caused by the throat's cells natural production of histamines. Antihistamines work against the body's natural healing medicine by drying up the mucous. The bothersome draining may be stopped but so is the cleansing process.

Mouthwashes are equally harmful. They temporarily remove pain by shrinking the throat's blood vessels. Less blood

in the area results in less pain, but it also means less antibodies to kill the virus.

The list goes on and on, and there are over 600 over-the-counter cough medicines alone! All of these medicines attempt to relieve the suffering of the cold victim but impede the body's ability to stop the cold at the same time. Remember the \$500 million I mentioned in the first paragraph? That's how much Americans spend annually on these wonderless drugs.

Warm and horizontal

Now that I have told you of the so-called "healing practices" that harm the cold, I'll mention some positive cold practices. First, don't let yourself catch a cold! Keep healthy, well nourished, relaxed and in positive spirits!

Okay, I realize that these are unrealistic goals, so when you do feel that you are coming down with a cold, start caring for yourself immediately. Stay warm, in bed, and drink hot liquids. The warmth and the horizontal position of the body increases

healing blood flow to the infected areas. Warm drinks keep the throat in an optimal environment to kill infection and relaxed to allow, again, for maximum blood flow. Steam inhalation will also do the trick.

Vitamin C, although it is still a bit controversial, is believed by many to be quite helpful. If you are a believer, then by all means take it.

Try getting the vitamin C fresh. Studies have recently shown that this vitamin can't be reproduced as it appears naturally, and there is much doubt that chemical vitamins contain the life that our bodies need. Also,

vitamin C is not stable and is destroyed by freezing or boiling. So, forget about drinking orange juice unless it is from fresh fruit, and drink some herbal teas instead.

Tea and sympathy

Many herbs, available at health food stores, have gentle healing properties as well as a pleasant taste. A tea made from horehound, hyssop, comfrey, rosehips and honey is said to work as an expectorant to help clear out mucous. Rosehips are a source of natural vitamin C, and the honey will soften a scratchy throat. Wild cherry bark, slippery elm bark, fennel seeds, licorice root, cinnamon, and honey will also soothe a sore throat.

Teas made from hops, chamomile, lavender flowers or any of the mints will help with relaxation. Try adding a little lemon to these. Lemon will make the throat acidic, an environment that the cold virus cannot live in.

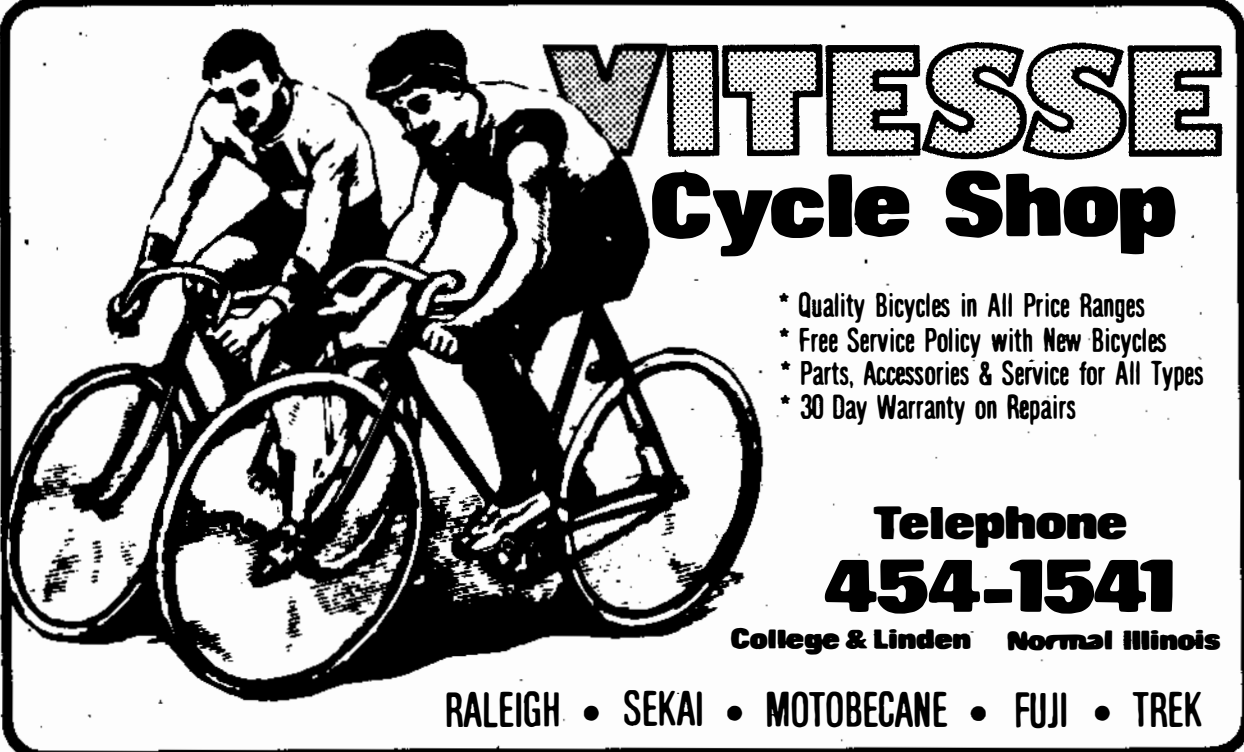
If you must take an aspirin to relieve some discomfort, crush it into a powder before swallowing it. This will allow the aspirin to enter the blood stream more quickly and will cut down on the stomach bleeding that occurs with aspirin consumption. Aspirin also depletes the body's supply of vitamin A. Since colds use up a great deal of A anyway, it might be a good idea to pop some vitamin A or eat some carrots or green leafy vegetables during and after a cold.

Colds might be a drag, but think of the good points. You automatically get permission to crawl into bed, turn up the heat, and be pampered for a few days. You can catch up on old issues of the Post Amerikan, play with your Rubik's cube, or invite an adventurous buddy over to keep you company. Whatever the case, take it easy and help your body heal itself naturally.●

--Holly

Sources: The People's Pharmacy, by Joe Graedon; The Medicine Show, by the editors of Consumer Reports; Medical Self-Care, issue #9, Summer 1980; Cold Comfort: Everybody's Guide to Self-Treatment of Colds and

Flu, by Hal Z. Bennett. These are available at the Normal Public Library. Thanks also to the Wednesday night health care group for support, information, and inspiration.



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Black-white alliance fights South African detention

A rare alliance has formed in South Africa to combat the sweeping powers given to the police under the country's "security laws." The new group is unusual because it contains both blacks and whites.

Organized by families of recently detained citizens, the Parents Support Committee (PSC) is attempting to secure more information about detainees and to lobby for improved prison conditions. After only 3 months, this small movement now has chapters in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban.

Under South Africa's harsh laws against political dissent, security police are not required to divulge information about where prisoners are being held or even to acknowledge who they are detaining.

Detention without trial has become common in South Africa. As far as the PSC can determine, 620 people were detained for political reasons in 1981, and about 180 are still being held without charge.

Waves of detention

The detentions this past year came in waves, and each of them included small numbers of politically active whites. Most South African blacks assume--on the basis of experience--that they have no rights when they are arrested by security police. White parents have not been taught that lesson--yet.

The Parents Support Committee started by negotiating with authorities on the conditions under which their children were being held. After a meeting with the local security police in Johannesburg, the PSC declared it had won a few concessions: they would be allowed to see their children and to send them clean clothes, books, and food.

But it soon became apparent that the agreements in Johannesburg did not apply in Cape Town or Durban. And security police outside Soweto, where blacks are often interrogated, simply ignored the concessions.

When the support committee protested on behalf of detainees who were still not being allowed visits or food packages, they discovered that the list of permitted items for prisoners in Johannesburg had suddenly been reduced.

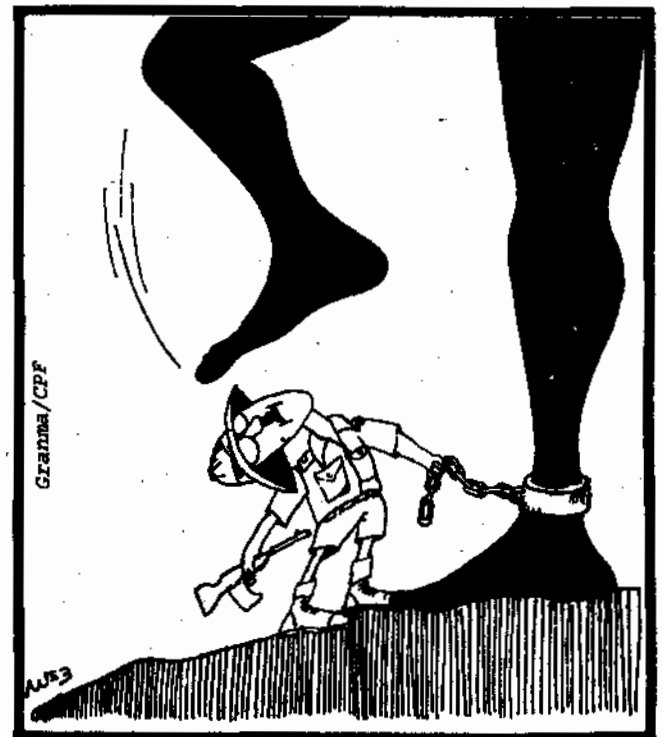
Protest strategy

At a recent meeting, the Johannesburg PSC had to decide whether they should concentrate on violations of their earlier understandings about food and visits or protest the practice of detention without trial itself.

They decided to do both: to seek an appointment with the head of the security police to talk about conditions, and to circulate an open letter to 100 of the country's business leaders urging them to demand "the unconditional release of all political detainees."

They also discussed how to organize support committees in black communities. Many whites, who were in a majority at the meeting, seemed to fear that they would jeopardize their ability to intercede for their own children if they also spoke up for blacks.

But by the end of the meeting, an Afrikaner (white) professor volunteered to call the attorney general's office on behalf of a black housewife from Soweto. The professor, whose daughter is in jail, pointed out that an Afrikaner might have the best chance of reaching the public prosecutor--also an Afrikaner--and persuading him to consider an appeal for the black woman to see her husband, who has been denied any contact with his family or even a lawyer since he was arrested in June.



Famous names

The white professor and the black woman have two of South Africa's best-known political names. Prof. Hendrick Koornhofer is the brother of Pieter Koornhofer, the South African cabinet minister in charge of administering laws affecting blacks. The woman is Zowda Sisulu, whose father-in-law, W.M. Sisulu, was secretary general of the outlawed African National Congress before being jailed for life 18 years ago.

Mrs. Sisulu's husband, Zwelakhe, was the head of a black journalists' union and an emerging leader of the anti-apartheid movement before he was put under house arrest and then jailed.

By the time Prof. Koornhofer volunteered to speak on behalf of the Sisulus, the PSC had also agreed that they needed to prepare for protests of future detentions.

While the Reagan administration has made much of its "economic sanctions" against the military government in Poland, it has done nothing to check the economic activity between the U.S. and the police state of South Africa.

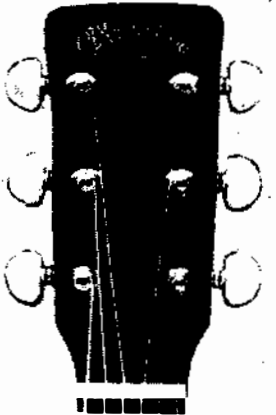
In 1980, the U.S. was South Africa's largest export market and its leading source of imports. The volume of trade shows no signs of slowing down: for the first 9 months of 1981, U.S. imports of steel from South Africa were up 25% from the same period a year earlier.

Washington also continues to resist international pressure to condemn South African politics and to invoke economic sanctions against the country. Several months ago, the United Nations general assembly passed a resolution, 117-0, to "isolate" South Africa politically, economically, and militarily. The U.S. was one of 25 nations who abstained. ●

--Ferdydurke

Sources: New York Times, 3 Jan. 1982; Facts on File, Oct., Nov., 1981.


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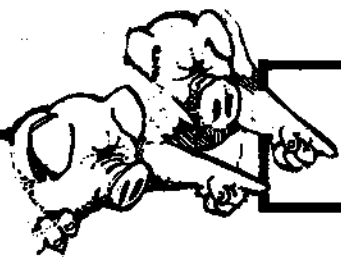
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Miscellaneous outrages

Sheriff wants blood from turnips

County jail prisoners can be forced to pay for their room and board while locked up, according to a ruling by Illinois Attorney General Tyrone Fahner. It's a change that "all of us were hoping would come about," according to McLean County Sheriff Steve Brien, who's had trouble running the county jail on his existing budget.

"The money we receive from this is

bound to help," the Pantagraph quoted Brien.

Trouble is, the people the criminal "justice" system selects for imprisonment are, coincidentally, the ones who have no money in the first place. Most prisoners sentenced to serve time never had enough to post bond, let alone hire an adequate lawyer.

LaGrow talks, thousands laugh

MEG Chief Jerry LaGrow cracked what he labelled a "major drug operation" with the arrests of 3 people for delivery of cocaine and possession of marijuana in late December.

Of the contraband seized, though, the largest quantity of anything that LaGrow mentioned was a piddly 3-4 pounds of marijuana. So what makes the unfortunate victims of LaGrow's dragnet a "major drug operation"? "Because the agents learned during the investigation that the drug source

was from out of state," the Pantagraph quoted LaGrow, "indicating the arrests may slow delivery into Central Illinois."

All cocaine comes from out of state. So by LaGrow's self-glorifying logic, every cocaine bust his agents make, no matter how tiny, shuts down a "major drug operation."

The major operation that ought to be shut down is LaGrow's mouth.

O say you can't

Some debates the Pantagraph letters-to-the-editor page can't handle. In late December, a community controversy began when an east-side gas station started flying a giant 30 by 50 foot plastic American flag as part of the company's trademark. But the Pantagraph shut off discussion on its letters page after only three letters--two in support and one criticizing the gas station.

Lies

News media continue to report gross misinformation about look-alike drugs, which Senator Maitland is seeking to outlaw with a new bill introduced in Springfield. WJBC reported that the look-alikes contain "very large quantities of caffeine." Actually, most look-alikes contain about as much caffeine as 1½ to two cups of coffee--the same as a couple of NoDoz tablets.

The Pantagraph really went off the deep end. "A look-alike drug usually contains a non-controlled substance, such as caffeine, which, taken in large doses, can produce effects similar to illegal drugs such as mescaline."

First, caffeine is the mildest of the stimulants contained in the look-alikes. (They also contain the common drug store remedies phenylpropanolamine and ephedrine.)

Second, the look-alikes are stimulants which attempt to imitate the effects of illegal amphetamines. They do not produce effects similar to mescaline, which is the psychedelic ingredient of the peyote cactus.

Candid comment

"Unquestionably, when you go to work for any state agency, it's helpful to know the people in power at the time."

--ISU Legal Counsel Joe Goleash, quoted in the Pantagraph Dec. 20

C'mon, Nic

"There is no overcrowding in the Illinois Department of Corrections."

--Nic Howell, spokesperson for the Department of Corrections, quoted in the Pantagraph Jan 23.



Military 'science' at ISU

Illinois State University is on its way to establishing a new academic department: the Department of Military Science.

The university's academic senate has already OK'd the plan, which will be financed by the Department of Defense. Military officers will be assigned as faculty.

If ISU higher-ups and the Board of Regents also approve the scheme, the military "science" department could be operating by this fall.

The creeping military presence of the ISU campus goes back two years, when a Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) program was started in cooperation with the University of Illinois. Enrollment has already doubled to 60 students, with another doubling expected by this fall.

Establishment of the military "science" department will accelerate this disturbing trend.

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Welfare cheats get off easy

The biggest case of welfare fraud ever prosecuted in McLean County ended with a gentle slap on the wrist in early December.

In exchange for returning \$10,000 to the Illinois Department of Public Aid, the former owners of Hawthorne Lodge Nursing Home got all their charges of vendor fraud dropped by State's Attorney Ron Dozier.

The nursing home owners were indicted for falsifying the records of public aid patients to indicate that they received services that were actually never provided. The nursing home owners then received payments they were not entitled to receive.

The negotiated settlement ended a saga which began more than three years

ago, when some courageous employees of the nursing home began gathering the evidence against their employers.

The Department of Public Aid then investigated for 20 months, subpoenaing the records of 143 patients. The nursing home owners tried to jump ship during the investigation, selling the facility in May of 1980. They were indicted 6 months later.

The \$10,000 settlement represents about \$70 for each of the home's 143 public aid patients. The nursing home owners probably ripped off far more from the state, but they will get away it.

Most of it anyway. Their lawyer will get a sizable chunk.

Midnight mass next

While opposing the granting of a new liquor license to Off Center, a downtown live-music bar, Bloomington Mayor and Liquor Commissioner Richard Buchanan explained the criteria for his unprecedented decision.

"Any time you get large numbers of people congregating at those late hours, you are going to have problems," the Mayor was quoted in the Pantagraph. "It's not only the alcohol,

it's a combination of many factors."

With Holy Trinity Church only a few blocks from Off Center, the mayor is expected to request a rescheduling of next Christmas Eve's midnight mass to an earlier hour--since the large numbers of devotees congregating in front of the church at that late hour always cause so many problems.

Religious teaching at U-High

A wandering ex-rock band drummer turned preacher named Steve Timmons has been making a lot of noise lately, denouncing rock 'n' roll as Satan's plot to ruin American youth with sex and drugs. He finds his "evidence" by playing rock songs backwards and hallucinating satanic messages. For most of his stay in town, Timmons has

been peddling his garbage at Bloomington's Pentecostal Church. But as second semester began in January, a young reader informed the Post-American, Timmons has found a new forum. The preacher accepted an invite to strut his stuff in Peter Parmantie's English class at University High School.

Jaycees subvert American energy independence

Once again, the Bloomington Jaycees have rewarded the unpatriotic and unnecessary depletion of our country's natural resources with their annual contest for Christmas lighting. This time the Jaycees chose to honor a man who wasted electricity for 1800 lights to decorate his home for the holidays.

According to the Jaycees' press release, the lighting contest has been

an annual event since 1953 "except for several years when it was called off because of energy shortages."

Actually, the lighting contest is always wasteful, and always causes more valuable fossil fuels to be consumed. Apparently, the Jaycees have called off their contest only in years when there was a lot of public propaganda about an energy shortage.

Wife beating not violent, A. G. says

A man beating his wife is not necessarily displaying violent tendencies, according to Illinois Assistant Attorney General William Webber.

The state official offered that opinion while contesting an Illinois Court of Claims ruling which awarded over \$50,000 to the estate of a woman murdered by Jesse Sumner while he was on parole in 1972.

Lawyers for the dead woman's estate argued that Sumner's parole officer should have revoked the ex-con's parole before the murders were committed. The lawyers said the parole officer had evidence of Sumner's violent tendencies, but ignored them.

But Asst. Attorney General Webber said the parole officer's evidence consisted of anonymous letters and an unproven charge of criminal damage to property.

As for the reports that Sumner was beating his wife, the Asst. Attorney General said that this was not uncommon behavior.

Time flies

In only 3½ years, toxic wastes buried at a controversial landfill in Wilsonville, Illinois, have filtered as far as 9 feet away--a distance that landfill owners and state EPA officials claimed wouldn't be reached for 500 to 900 years.

The dump attracted national publicity in early 1978 when townspeople blocked trucks attempting to deposit PCB's in the landfill. Claiming that the site was a perfect spot for safe disposal of toxic wastes, the Illinois EPA worked hand in glove with landfill owners to keep the dump site open. But after a 4-year court battle, a judge ruled in favor of Wilsonville residents and ordered the dump shut down and cleaned up.

The latest findings on waste migration show that the testimony of EPA scientists was about as valuable as their commitment to protect the environment.

Nuke inspector fakes reports

Inspection reports of certain safety-related electrical work at the Clinton nuclear power plant were fabricated, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission learned Jan. 13. The NRC ordered certain electrical work stopped pending an investigation.

Illinois Power Company VP William Gerstner told the Pantagraph he was "astonished" to learn of the phony inspection reports. According to the Pantagraph, the power company executive maintained that the NRC had discovered "an isolated incident, the first case of fraudulent inspections" at the plant. (The first case to come to public attention, anyway.)

If the work stoppage last more than 2 weeks, final completion date of the nuke--already far behind schedule--will be further postponed. Each day the plant's opening is delayed costs IPC (and its customers) \$750,000 in increased interest charges.

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Felonious flag

Normal cop suffers patriotic fit

The latest victim of the recent epidemic of mindless patriotism is Normal police officer Tom Spratt. On Jan. 12, seized by an uncontrollable fit of the disorder, Spratt made a warrantless midnight raid on the home of Mike Olivero, whose bedroom window sported an American flag. Spratt bravely took photos of this crime, a Class IV felony, right as it was occurring, and insisted that Olivero take down the flag or be put under arrest.

Spratt also rehabilitated Olivero with a 5-minute speech on patriotism. Olivero did not reveal whether Spratt's lower lip quivered or whether his voice trembled (common symptoms of the disorder, often displayed while singing the last line of the national anthem), but both Olivero and his roommate mentioned that the cop's eyes took on an unnatural glitter during the lecture.

Olivero points out that the felonious flag was not mutilated, defaced, defiled, defied, trampled, or cast contempt upon--misdeeds under the flag code. It was just hanging there.

Though Spratt had an underlined copy of the flag code with him, he was not armed with a search warrant. Now, a warrantless entry is legal, if the officer has reason to believe that a crime is going on in the house at the moment. But this exception is obviously designed for situations in which violence is occurring or may occur in the house, and the officer has no time to run and ask a judge for a search warrant to enter. It could also apply if the criminal was known to be in the house ready to flee or to destroy evidence.

But Spratt followed the letter of the law rather than its spirit when he entered Olivero's home at 12:30 at night on Jan. 12. The flag had been hanging there, menacing no one, day and night, since September, and Olivero hadn't split town in a panic.

One must suspect not only the sinister hour of the raid but also why Spratt xeroxed and underlined the flag code ahead of time but didn't ask a judge for a search warrant.

Probably because the judge wouldn't have given him one.

Olivero got in touch with ISU Student Legal Services Lawyer George Tassef after the raid. Tassef advised him to leave the flag down to avoid a night in jail. The next day, both Normal police chief Lehr and City Attorney Novick admitted that they didn't see Olivero's flag display as illegal under the statute Spratt turned up. In fact, Lehr assured Tassef that he would speak to Spratt about his overenthusiastic enforcement. Lehr also said that he had a flag covering a table himself, with books piled on it.

Tassef said that the state's interest in the details of flag display are based on the likelihood of breach of peace: Olivero's flag has created no street riots in the four months it's been displayed.

I suppose that as children we all had a season or two when raising the flag, saying the pledge, folding the

flag--the whole ritual--made us feel kinda mushy and star-spangled inside. The same way we felt about Mary Poppins and Lassie.

But you gotta grow up, and it seems that right-minded adults are a lot crazier about Mary Poppins and Lassie than they are about the flag.

They see the American flag of today

for what it is. Just another piece of vinyl.

--Phoebe Caulfield

...

Post Note: See the Letters page for news on a Bloomington flag bust.

What if the cash register is short?

If the cash register comes up short at the end of the working day, does the boss take the difference out of your wages? If so, the boss is breaking the law, according to the Illinois Labor Law Handbook, published by the Illinois Department of Labor.

An employer may not deduct the cost of shortages, breakage, or spoilage of materials from a worker's wages without approval from the Department of Labor. An employer may not make

wage deductions in any indirect manner, such as by requiring a worker to reimburse him or her for shortages in a cash register or in stock.

If you feel your boss has illegally withheld or deducted a portion of your wages, write the Illinois Department of Labor Wage Claims Division, 910 S. Michigan, Room 1808, Chicago 60605. Or phone (312) 793-2808.

--M.S.

Phonebook delivery ripoff

It's the time of year when new telephone books come out in Bloomington-Normal, which means it's the time of year that the desperately unemployed get ripped off by the phone company. People hired to deliver phone books get paid by the book--not by the hour.

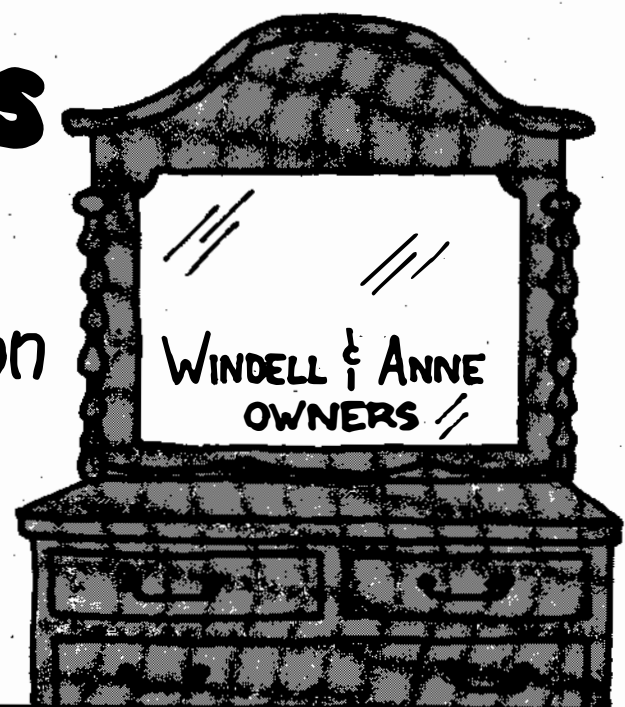
Last year, the Pantagraph carried a letter-to-the-editor from a recently retired man who delivered phone books. He said he worked diligently, carrying 20 books at a time in a newsboy's shoulder sack. The man calculated he made only \$2.27 an hour.

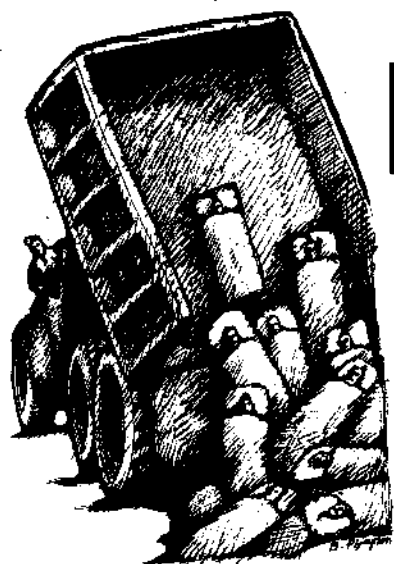
By the time most book deliverers realize they are making less than minimum wage, it's too late to do anything about it. The company actually hiring delivery people isn't General Telephone--it's an outfit out of St. Louis called Directory Distributing Associates. They work all over. As soon as the books are delivered, they move on to the next town.

So think twice before you take on that phone book delivery job. It's a rip-off.

--M.S.

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Hospital Briefs

Last hold-out sells to Brokaw

"I am not interested now or ever in selling my property to Brokaw Hospital," Mrs. Dorothy Robison emphatically declared to a packed city council chamber in Normal in mid-September. Living across the street from the hospital, Mrs. Robison was the lone hold-out standing in the way of Brokaw's lot-by-lot acquisition of all the land facing the hospital on Franklin Avenue. Although her neighbors gave in, Mrs. Robison resisted several years of what she termed Brokaw's "pressure and harassment" to get her

to sell. She urged the city council to keep her neighborhood zoned residential.

But the city council gave in to Brokaw, paving the way for the hospital to build a parking lot which would surround Mrs. Robison's house with asphalt on three sides.

A couple of months later, the city council rezoned Mrs. Robison's property too. Faced with living in a sea of asphalt, Mrs. Robison sold her home to the hospital too.

Hypocritic oath

Hospitals are not supposed to turn poor people away from their doors. But at least one executive of the American Hospital Assn. is suggesting ploys to discourage the indigent from knocking in the first place.

According to a Chicago Sun-Times story summarized in a Pantagraph editorial, the hospital group honcho suggested these methods to "de-market" emergency care to poor people:

- Permit long waiting lines to develop.
- Provide almost no parking.
- Obtain an unlisted phone number.
- Divide waiting rooms into areas for paying and non-paying patients, with the areas for poor people maintained as uncomfortably and unattractively as possible.

Maybe the medical industry should rename its traditional Hippocratic Oath to something more apt: like maybe the Hypocritical Oath.

Hospitals whine: "I want one, too"

Like Kremlin leaders and Pentagon hard-liners locked in an arms race, the three Bloomington-Normal hospitals have stepped up their costly competition for expensive and unnecessary equipment. And just as the public foots the bill for an overbuilt military, so will we pay the price for overbuilt, duplicated hospital services.

Mennonite and St. Joseph's hospitals have applied for permission to each purchase their own CT scanner, a million-dollar, fancy x-ray machine that Brokaw has had for two years.

Although Brokaw charges patients \$300 a shot for a CT scan, its 2500 scans a year still aren't quite making the machine pay for itself. That means Brokaw's losses on the device are being carried by all of the hospital's patients.

Now that two more local hospitals will have this toy, the number of CT scans performed in Bloomington-Normal will have to more than triple --whether the patients need the tests or not. Otherwise, the hospitals will take a loss, which will be passed on to guess who.

Killing the elderly

Termination sounds better than murder

The patient's pulse was irregular and weak. Blood pressure was dropping, and the skin turned blue. Although the patient gasped for breath and went into cardiac arrest, stillness dominated the room. There were no running footsteps of nurses or consultations by doctors. The patient had been terminated. No life saving measures were started.

A fictitious example, but an occurrence that actually happens often. When a patient is dying and the life is to be saved, a message "Code Blue" blares over hospital intercoms. Nurses and doctors rush to the dying patient's room in an effort to save the life. But for many reasons, a "No Code Blue" is sometimes decided on and the patient is allowed to die. Some doctors write the order on the patient's report. Other doctors are more cautious and issue the order verbally or by suggestion.

On Sunday, July 12, 1981, Secretary of the Treasury Donald Regan, on the CBS program "Face the Nation," was asked by George Herman about solutions for Social Security. The answer was startling. Secretary Regan did not suggest a financial solution. Instead he replied: "We are not going to let the Social Security Program go broke. If we have a good economy, that's one scenario. If we're going to have a very bad economy, that's the other.

And that's what the debate about is (sic) now. It's a short-term problem for the most part. The long-term solution has to do with population, and population control, so we don't have to worry too much about social security, just the methods."

Population control, of course, is not a new idea, but when a high government official suggests applying population control to the elderly, as a solution to social security, it is frightening. As the man who has charge of the U.S. Treasury and the Secret Service, Secretary Regan has enormous power.

The U. S. News and World Report (December 21, 1981) carried the following paragraph: "Death termination interface. That's the federal bureaucrats' ominous term for a new system to remove people's names from Social Security and Medicare computers when they die, in order to keep payments from going on indefinitely."

The December 1981 issue of The Readers Digest carries the article "Who Lives, Who Dies--Should Doctors Decide?" With terminally ill patients, nurses are sometimes instructed to walk, not run, to the patient's room. In the article Dr. Arnold S. Relman, editor of The New England Journal of Medicine, says, "The question comes down to deciding what is the most responsible way to spend limited

dollars. Should we spend the money on an 85-year-old patient who is barely surviving, or research into kidney disease?"

The article also states that the same kind of question could be raised about heart transplantation, artificial hearts, and a host of other costly innovations.

The trend of the thinking in Washington is of grave concern. To anyone who thinks it cannot happen here, remember the administration is asking for reduced medicare and medicaid benefits. When an 85-year-old patient is permitted to die because of limited funds and billions will be spent on the military, it is time to question the priorities given to those funds.

The "Council for a Liveable World" says the United States already has 26,000 nuclear warheads. With people living much longer, and with the baby boom of the 1940s and 1950s now becoming adults, an older population for the U.S. in the next decades is assured. A new value of life will have to be emphasized, rather than the current one of providing productivity for the consumer society and the military. ●

--Independent News Service

Two steps forward, one step back

Trying to win gay rights in this country is a little like playing chess: lose a pawn here, knock out a bishop there, and, above all, protect your queen. Recently the stalemate in the gay rights struggle has been broken by some victories in such surprising places as Texas, Oklahoma, and Missouri; this progress has been accompanied by only a few losses.

Here's a rundown of recent gains and setbacks:

★Last December the Oklahoma State Supreme Court ordered the regents of the University of Oklahoma (OU) to recognize the Gay Activists Alliance (GAA) as an official student organization on the Norman campus. This decision ended a 5-year battle by GAA to win recognition and get access to campus facilities and advertisements in the school newspaper.

The Oklahoma struggle was a tough one: the OU student congress denied recognition 3 times; when the congress did go along, the university president had the rules rewritten to give him final say-so in the decision-making process, and of course he vetoed the recognition; the student newspaper joined fundamentalist groups and fraternities in opposing the gay organization; a photo of OU students wearing t-shirts with such slogans as "Bury a Fairy" and "Do the World a Favor--Shoot a Faggot" made the national news; one GAA member was shot at by a fraternity member wielding a BB gun in broad daylight.

★On Jan. 16, the voters of Austin, Texas, overwhelmingly rejected a proposal to legalize discrimination in housing on the basis of sexual orientation. The proposed amendment to the housing code, which was defeated by a 2 to 1 margin, was forced by a conservative, anti-gay group which formed last year when a housing rights ordinance protecting homosexuals was brought before the Austin City Council. The group called themselves Austin Citizens for Decency in the Community (ACDC) and circulated a petition to put their plan for the religious oppression of gays on the ballot.

ACDC kept searching for pretexts for its action: initially it was protecting the "right" of property owners to choose their tenants; then it was that old stand-by "protect our children"; finally it became a concern for the "moral climate of the city." This last smokescreen included predictions of Austin becoming another San Francisco and was abetted by showing the 1980 CBS-TV special "Gay Power, Gay Politics" in local churches. (This "documentary" of gay life in San Francisco was slapped by the National News Council last year for unfairness, exaggeration, and reinforcement of gay stereotypes--see Post, vol. 9, nos. 2 & 7.)

While the vote in Austin is encouraging, it can't be seen as an unqualified endorsement of gay



Oh yeah? Well, when I grow up my boyfriend is gonna be a girl! So there!

people. The main strategy in opposing the ordinance was to point out that the proposal was vague and would permit discrimination against anyone. As one of the leaders of the opposition coalition said, "This is not purely a homosexual issue. Everyone has a sexual orientation."

★Activists in Pittsburg are optimistic about the chances for passage of a lesbian and gay rights ordinance they intend to introduce in the city council late in January. The ordinance would prohibit discrimination in housing, employment, and services provided by the city or by businesses receiving city funds.

Leaders of the coalition of organizations proposing the ordinance predict that at least five of the nine city council members will cosponsor the measure, thus insuring its passage. But they also admit that a public hearing could bring out strong

fundamentalist opposition and force some councilors to withdraw support.

★The student senate of the University of Missouri overwhelmingly approved the appointment of an openly gay man as vice president of the student government. The university's student newspaper reports that the nomination of gay activist Michael Lipsitz was passed "with little real Senate opposition" at a meeting in December.

Lipsitz has been active in campus politics for two years. He is also a member of the board of the Gay People's Alliance (GPA). In a statement to Gay Community News, Stephen Clayton of GPA commented, "We see this as a very positive development for gay rights in Missouri. . . . Only four years ago our group had to go all the way to the Supreme Court in order to be recognized as a legitimate campus organization."

★The French National Assembly voted on Dec. 20 to lower the age of consent for homosexual acts from 18 to 15. Heterosexual acts were already legal at age 15. The vote was 327 to 155, with the Socialists and Communists voting in favor, and the right-wing bourgeois parties voting against. The measure now goes to the French Senate, which is expected to approve it.

★A committee of administrators has refused to grant official campus status to a lesbian and gay student

group recently formed at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. The student government had ruled in November that the proposed constitution of Students for Gay Awareness (SGA) was valid, although student representatives voted to oppose campus status for SGA.

★Another new-right attack group is focusing on proposed reform of U.S. immigration policy. Calling itself "Public Advocate," this direct-mailing group has attacked Congressman Barney Frank (D-MA), one of the co-sponsors of a bill that would eliminate anti-gay provisions of the immigration laws. According to Public Advocate, this bill would allow "alien homosexuals to flood America." PA also attacks the Gay Rights National Lobby, wildly claiming that "with a massive budget and homosexual pressure groups in almost every city in America, the Gay Rights National Lobby has declared war against your family."

★After a lobbying effort by Jerry Falwell, the Senate Judiciary Committee wrote a 6-year prison term for "sodomy" into the reform of the Federal Criminal Code. The provision would apply to "sodomy" on federal property, such as Indian reservations, national parks, and, perhaps, federal office buildings--even if the sex act is private, with consent, and between adults. If the provision becomes law, "sodomy" will be a federal crime for the first time in U.S. history.

★U.S. Attorney General William



French Smith told a gathering of federal government lawyers that the courts in this country have gone "far enough" in granting personal rights. Smith attacked a number of "so-called fundamental rights . . . including the right to sexual privacy." His remarks were aimed primarily at the abortion issue, but he also understands how the right to privacy affects gay issues--his law firm defended Pacific Telephone in the landmark case that found the company had discriminated against gay employees. ●

--Ferdurke

Sources: Gay Community News, Jan. 2-9 and Jan. 16, 1982; The Advocate, Dec. 24, 1981.

'gay diseases': media hype or real concern?

The media have focused much attention recently on the new "gay diseases." Newspapers across the country have published stories based on three articles and an editorial in the December issue of the New England Journal of Medicine on Kaposi's Sarcoma (KS) and Pneumocystis Carinii pneumonia (PCP) in gay men.

Since late 1980 more than 169 cases of KS and PCP have been reported to the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta. More than one third of the people diagnosed have died. About 90% of the cases have occurred in gay men who come mainly from New York, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. An average of 5 new cases a week are being reported throughout the nation.

Kaposi's Sarcoma is a type of cancer which is usually found in elderly men in the U.S. and among young children near the equator in Africa. It accounts for only .02% of all cancers in the country. It is usually found in people whose immune system is not working properly. Pneumocystis Carinii pneumonia usually also occurs in people whose immune systems are depleted, making the disease difficult to handle.

An epidemic?

Some newspaper accounts have referred to an "epidemic" of the diseases among gay men, a description that is hardly justified when we estimate the country's gay male population. 169 cases out of how many?



"What do you say you and me pool our viruses?"

Nevertheless there is cause for serious concern.

Why are these diseases attacking gay men? Many theories have been devised to explain the causes, but no conclusions have been reached.

Most of the men afflicted have been sexually active with several partners. Many have had other underlying viral infections which are sexually transmissible. Recent research is also attempting to correlate the diseases with the use of drugs, including amyl and butal nitrite ("poppers"). But no one factor has been identified as the culprit.

Symptoms

Gay men who experience any or all of the symptoms for several weeks should seek medical attention. Both

diseases seem to cause weight loss, fatigue, and enlarged lymph glands. Loss of appetite may accompany these symptoms.

Specifically, KS may appear as purplish or brownish raised or flat spots on any part of the body, although 20% of the cases had no visible skin lesions. PCP may cause difficulty in breathing and swallowing and a cough that does not produce much phlegm.

At first the symptoms may resemble a typical virus infection. But they persist for weeks or even months, accompanied by weight loss and fatigue, before a severe infection develops. Because these secondary infections are rare, they may go unrecognized by a physician.

The attention and media hype given these new "gay diseases" is disturbing in a number of ways. I can't help wondering why the medical profession has suddenly discovered the gay community. To date, the most interest doctors have shown in gay men and lesbians is in turning us into decent, upright heterosexuals.

As far as I'm concerned, the medical profession has done little to help gay people fight the real causes of our problems: guilt, hostility, rejection, fear, and prejudice. In my opinion, psychiatric professionals have played a major role in supporting our culture's fear of homosexuality and

giving "scientific" justifications for persecuting and harassing gays.

Medical ignorance

A couple of years ago Deborah Wiatt and I spoke to a group of third-year medical students in Peoria. Most of them didn't know diddly-squat about lesbians and gay men. They seemed preoccupied with what "caused" us to be homosexual (if you can figure out the cause, maybe you can cure or prevent it), and little interested in our oppression and human needs.

So I'm very dubious about the medical profession's role in this new phenomenon of "gay diseases." Are they just once again enforcing cultural bias (see, gay people really are sick)? Will they be as interested in curing these illnesses as they have been in fixing up our sexuality? Or will they use this discovery as one more reason to stamp out gayness and keep Amerika straight?

So far, no explicit connections have been made between this "epidemic" and social politics. But if the history of thinking about the whys and wherefores of disease is any indication, moral judgments can be anticipated. The "gay cancer" in the land has now been identified by "medical science," and who knows what the new "treatment" will be. ●

--Ferdurke

Sources: Christopher Street (Sept/Oct 1981), GayLife (Dec. 18, 1981), Gay Community News (Jan. 2, 1982).

Q. What country, besides South Africa, treats the majority of its population as second class citizens? ★★★★★

A. ★★★★★

THE EXPERT ON GAY PHENOMENA NEWS

Whacko right-winger of the month

Right-wing California state Sen. John Schmitz has been stripped of his committee chairpersonship and removed from the state's Commission on the Status of Women because of outrageous statements he made about a recent committee hearing. Schmitz called abortion supporters "bull dykes" and characterized the audience at the hearing as "hard, Jewish, and (arguably) female."

In a two-page statement issued on official state letterhead, Schmitz also referred to NOW attorney Gloria Alfred as a "slick butch lawyeress." Alfred had angered Schmitz at a recent Los Angeles hearing by presenting him with a chastity belt, which she said represented the kind of birth control that would be available if legislation proposed by Schmitz should pass. The senator has introduced a state constitutional

amendment which would define human life as beginning at conception.

Senate President Pro-Tem David Roberti met with reporters after the closed-door session of the Rules Committee which stripped Schmitz of his committee posts. "Anti-Semitism has no place in the state Senate," said Roberti. He also said that Schmitz's "sexual stereotyping of an entire audience is as offensive as his characterization of Alfred."

Schmitz was the 1972 presidential nominee of the American Independent Party and a member of the John Birch Society National Council. How he ever got on the Commission on the Status of Women is a mystery. ●

--Gay Community News

OURS WAS A CLOSE FAMILY. WE LOOKED OUT FOR EACH OTHER, CARED FOR EACH OTHER. HOW WAS I TO KNOW MY HOPES FOR HAPPINESS WERE TO BE DASHED BY...

MY SISTER, the PUNK ROCKER

SAY JILL, LINDA AND I ARE THINKING ABOUT THROWING A PARTY SATURDAY!! HOW ABOUT IT?



LEAD 1983 THANKS TO BS

WHEN MY LITTLE SISTER KATIE GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL AND DECIDED TO ATTEND THE SAME UNIVERSITY AS I, MY FAMILY WAS RELIEVED... THAT WAY, KATIE WOULDN'T BE ALONE IN A STRANGE TOWN, I COULD KEEP AN EYE ON HER, AND INTRODUCE HER TO A SWELL BUNCH OF KIDS—
MY GRAND...



I THINK A PARTY IS A SWELL IDEA... MY SISTER'S BEEN IN TOWN NEARLY SIX MONTHS NOW AND I'VE BARELY SEEN HER... THIS WILL BE A GOOD CHANCE FOR HER TO MEET SOME OF THE KIDS!

SURE JILL, I'D LOVE TO COME TO YOUR PARTY... CAN I BRING A COUPLE OF FRIENDS?



WHY, OF COURSE YOU CAN, KATIE!! WE AREN'T SNOBS, YOU KNOW!!

AS SATURDAY DREW NEAR, THE GIRLS WERE ALL TALKING ABOUT THE SPECIAL BOYS THEY WERE GOING TO INVITE— BUT I WAS RELUCTANT TO TELL THEM WHO I WANTED TO INVITE... AFTER ALL, WHY WOULD THE NICEST, HANDSOMEST, BOY ON CAMPUS WANT TO GO ANYWHERE WITH ME? OH, SURE, I HAD MY SHARE OF BOYFRIENDS, BUT... CHAD STEVENS?! WHY, HE WAS **CLOUD NINE!!**



OK, JILL... WHO ARE YOU BRINGING TO THE PARTY? WE TOLD YOU, NOW IT'S YOUR TURN! WE'RE GOING TO FIND OUT SOONER OR LATER!

YEAH, WHAT'S THE BIG SECRET, ANYWAY?!!

IT WAS TRUE... EITHER I COULD ADMIT TO THEM I DIDN'T HAVE A DATE AND SUFFER THE EMBARRASSMENT, OR I COULD TELL THEM OF MY **SECRET HOPES FOR CHAD!!**



WELL, I'D LIKE TO ASK CHAD STEVENS, BUT I'M AFRAID TO— HE PROBABLY WOULDN'T ACCEPT ANYWAY!!

OH COME ON, JILL, LET'S NOT HEAR ANY NEGATIVE THINKING!! YOU'RE A BIG GIRL NOW!! BESIDES, HE CAN'T ACCEPT UNLESS YOU INVITE HIM!!



MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT...

THE NEXT DAY I HAD A CHEMISTRY CLASS WITH HIM... THE HOUR SEEMED LIKE AN ETERNITY... BUT I WAS TERRIFIED AS THAT HOUR DREW TO A CLOSE BECAUSE I KNEW I WOULD HAVE TO APPROACH HIM AFTER CLASS— OR FORGET ABOUT CHAD STEVENS! MY HEART WAS RACING AS THE BELL RANG... BUT I TRIED TO ACT CASUAL!



I HOPE YOU DON'T THINK ME FORWARD, CHAD... BUT... WELL— WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME TO A PARTY AT MY HOUSE TOMORROW NIGHT?

GEE, JILL, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY...

MY HEART ALMOST STOPPED IN THAT ONE MOMENT THAT SEPARATED JOY AND DESPAIR... OR POSSIBLY DESPAIR AND JOY... A THOUSAND THOUGHTS WERE RUSHING THROUGH MY MIND, A JUMBLE OF EMOTIONS WHICH ALMOST KEPT ME FROM HEARING HIS ANSWER.



WHAT COULD I POSSIBLY SAY BUT **YES?!!**

MY HEART WAS SOARING!!

SATURDAY FINALLY CAME!! I FELT LIKE I WAS LOST IN A DELICIOUS DREAM WITH CHAD BY MY SIDE... AND, JUST AS I HAD KNOWN, HE WAS AN IMMEDIATE SPLASH WITH ALL MY FRIENDS... NO GIRL COULD EVER HAVE BEEN MORE PROUD THAN I WAS THAT FATEFUL EVENING...



GOSH, IN ALL THIS EXCITEMENT I FORGOT ABOUT KATIE... WONDER WHY SHE ISN'T HERE YET...?



WHEN SUDDENLY...

OH, THERE SHE IS! HI SIS!!

WHO INVITED THOSE GOONS?!

WHAA...?? KATIE?!

BEFORE I EVER HAD A CHANCE TO EXPLAIN, CHAD HAD STORMED OUT THE DOOR... HE'D HEARD ABOUT THOSE PEOPLE WHO LISTEN TO THAT MUSIC, AND NOW MY OWN SISTER WAS ONE OF THEM!!



MY LIFE IS RUINED!! CHAD, OH, CHAD!!

NEXT MONTH:
CAN CHAD FORGIVE JILL?
AND CAN KATIE CLEAN UP HER LIFE??

Bankers shuffle papers, customers lose money

Woody Guthrie used to sing that a banker could steal you blind with the stroke of a pen. Lincoln Savings and Loan does it by reprogramming their computer.

On Jan. 1, Lincoln suddenly switched the rules in the middle of the game, pulling a fast one on all its home loan customers. Using the modern equivalent of a banker's pen, Lincoln simply changed a few settings on its computer. The new pattern of electronic bleeps will add thousands to the institution's coffers, all at the expense of its mortgage customers.

For over six years, my roommates and I have been buying our house through a mortgage financed by Lincoln Savings and Loan. Our monthly payment includes interest on the loan, plus a partial payment on the balance of the loan itself.

Our monthly payment also includes an additional fifty-five dollars a month which goes for our insurance

and property taxes. This escrow payment accumulates over six hundred dollars in the course of a year--enough for Lincoln to pay our taxes and insurance when the bills come due.

For over six years, Lincoln has, for accounting purposes, treated our escrow payments as though they were payments on the principal of the loan. Each month's escrow payment reduced the amount we owed on the house,

which subsequently reduced the amount of interest we owed on our loan.

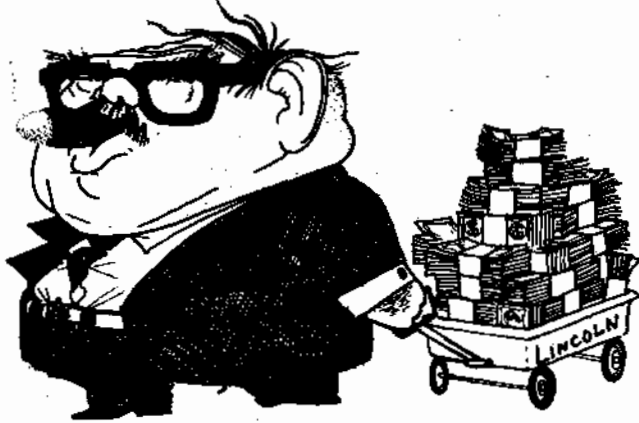
For over six years, then, Lincoln's accounting procedures were equivalent to paying us interest on the money held in escrow for our taxes and insurance. Since we had a 9% loan, our escrow payments were "working" for us the same as if we had them in a savings account drawing 9% interest.

Not any more.

As of Jan. 1, escrow payments for all of Lincoln's mortgage customers will be held in interest-free accounts. Pooling together the escrow accounts of all its mortgage customers, Lincoln will have quite a large sum of free money to play with. While paying out nothing for the use of this money, Lincoln will make 17% interest loaning it out to new customers.

Not a bad haul for a few minutes at the computer. ●

--Mark Silverstein



Book Review

Molly Bolt rides again... almost

Who Was That Masked Woman? by Noretta Koertge. St. Martin's Press, 1981. \$6.95, a paperback original.

You remember Molly Bolt: that down-home, spunky, sexy lesbian who outwits the rest of the world and never once peeps about suicide. Well, Who Was That Masked Woman? isn't Rubyfruit Jungle, but there's enough of Molly's vigor and survival instinct in this new novel's lesbian heroine to make it well worth the read.

Masked Woman's protagonist is Tertona Getroek (her name, as you can see, is an anagram of the author's, suggesting, along with several other features, that the book is highly autobiographical). Tretona grows up on a farm in a small midwestern town, goes to college to study chemistry and works toward a Ph.D., but drops out of graduate school and indulges in a bit of Chicago

dyke-bar debauchery.

Quickly disillusioned, she takes a teaching job at a religious college, then travels to Turkey to teach, gets thrown out of the school there, and ends up in England studying philosophy of science. The time of this story is the 50s and early 60s.

Tretona's journey toward her lesbian identity also includes stopovers with a shrink and a serious affair with a man. But the "true story" elements often lift this typical tale above the predictable and give strength and originality to many of the encounters.

The novel is much livelier, in my opinion, when covering the childhood and teen years of the main character. As the autobiographical material gets closer to the author's

present life, it seems the writing gets less candid and more abstract.

But Masked Woman gives an extremely engaging picture of a young woman who never heard of the "crime against nature" until she had two passionate affairs to her credit--one with her best friend and one with a Christian camp counselor.

Much of the book's fun and insight comes from setting the emerging lesbianism against a background of fundamentalist religion. The author gives us real youngsters who evade, ignore, and rationalize their way out from under the "shall nots" and have a good time expressing their healthy natures. Some give in, of course, but they first give the church a good run for its money in back seats of cars, in camp bunks, and even right in the church or revival tent itself.

It's good to be reminded that not all fundamentalists' kids let the church run their lives. And some, like Tertona, get out entirely.

The book also abounds in graphic, hot sexual descriptions. If you have ever gone through a lesbian novel wondering "what do they do?" in those love scenes, wonder no more.

Who Was That Masked Woman? has its flaws--a very episodic plot, suddenly dropped characters, offhand treatment of crucial events--but it also has spirit and good humor and no shame about its sexuality.

Since the story ends in Tretona's early adulthood, there's the prospect of more to come. If the sequel takes its heroine into the exciting, up-front 60s, as it should, then I'm eagerly looking forward for another ride across the range with Noretta Koertge. ●

--Ferdydurke

ALTERNATIVE BOOKSTORE

NON-PROFIT



SMALL CHANGES

Women's Books, Health Care, Non-sexist Children's Literature, 25-cent Used Books and MORE

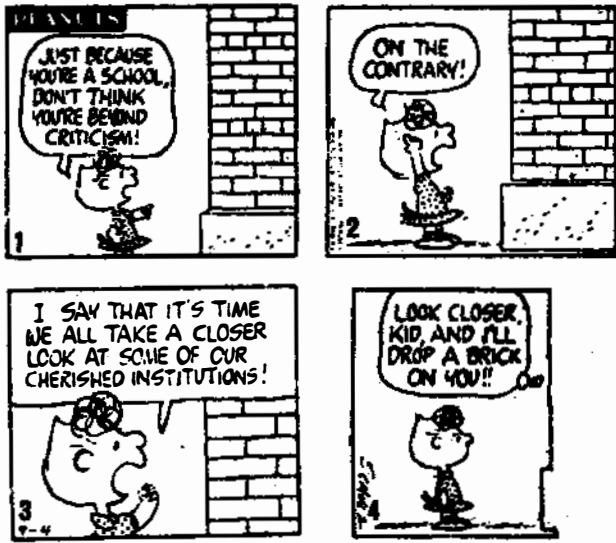
409A N. MAIN
BLOOMINGTON

829-6223 12-7 T-F 12-5 Sat.

Good news, disaster freaks! Bourgeois Bloomington and Stifflingly Normal are on the verge of crumbling into bits. Some real estate people are so hard up that they're trying to sell the houses where they live in order to get money to keep their offices open. A major portion of the fast food places are either closed or up for sale--Burger Chef, Arthur Treacher's, Pizza Inn, Brown's Chicken. And what has been more characteristic of the Norm Bloom (and America) of the past decade than real estate and fast food?

But seriously, folks, even institutions looking back to the 1850s rather than the 1950s are considerably strained. Consider Illinois Wesleyan University and its President Robert S. Eckley, for example.

Many younger Wesleyland faculty, and a few older ones, are near the end of their financial rope. As students in the 60s and early 70s, they were taught by corporate America that even men and women of ideas should express and fulfill themselves through the private acquisition of material goods. At IWU, they found they were expected to conduct themselves as restrained and proper members of an east-side bourgeoisie. Meanwhile, Dr. Eckley has kept the dorms and coffers full at IWU during the past decade of higher educational decline, by a series of disguised cuts in tuition



and faculty salaries.

Many professors, whom the State Farm types and the Wesleyland administrators expect to meet at Bergner's, can scarcely afford K-Mart. Some struggle in vain to buy houses, cars, or even the kind of clothes considered decent in this community, while administrators have the grounds landscaped to perfection. Tension. Resentment. Despair.

Enter Bob Lee. This young man of modest qualifications was accepted as a faculty member at IWU by an administration which chose not to pay the money necessary for a more experienced business teacher. Relations between the independent-minded Lee and a conformity-minded administrative hierarchy began badly and then rapidly declined. Lee had his revenge against IWU in May, 1980, by turning in A's for every member of one of his classes. What happened next so upset the appletart that the faculty and Pres. Eckley are still fighting.

The Dean and one or two yesmen changed the grades to what they decided individual students had probably earned, based on their performances in other classes. The Argus, the student newspaper, learned that the grades had been changed. Somehow, amid the pizza ads and reports of Greek activities, the Argus found room for some copy on the Lee affair.

When faculty members learned that faculty grades had been changed by an arbitrary administrative act, many were mortified. Interfering with the grades assigned by a faculty member added professional insult to economic injury. Clearly, like Rodney Dangerfield, the faculty had gotten no respect.

Faculty members were so upset that despite having to work by means of a constitution designed to convert energetic drive into meaningless twaddle, they firmly but politely requested the administration to turn all the grades back to A.

Faculty had counted on the Pres. Eckley of earlier years who had an uncanny instinct for making the right political decision. Yet, they got the current Eckley who is beginning to lose his touch. Either because Eckley seems to be experiencing intensified macho, or because he felt in order to maintain discipline he had to support an authoritarian and graceless dean, Eckley acted. He took the matter to the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees, who overruled the faculty request. The Committee also issued a hazy threat concerning "an appropriate procedure" for cases of "dereliction of responsibility by individual faculty."

This little bomb of bureaucratic doubletalk was dropped on the faculty at its Dec. 7th meeting. But it was a Pearl Harbor for the administration and for the entire college as much as for the faculty.

In a neo-Victorian social environment like IWU with its official culture of "evasive Banality," it is just as much in bad taste to show any hostile emotion as it is to recognize unpleasant truth. And it seemed to one observer that during the meeting, when the president and the faculty stood eyeball to eyeball the president blinked by showing emotion. Faculty members seemed to do an adequate job of stifling their real feelings. But, the president, for one brief moment, appeared to one observer to be so angry that he could not continue speaking. More importantly, IWU is left with a dean who has proven his lack of cool diplomacy and a faculty growing more alienated by the month.

The absurd little scene at IWU is typical of many that will be played out all over Norm Bloom and America as corporate capitalism, a system whose only real justification has been that it delivers the goods, fails to deliver the goods. Disaster fans and those who like theatre of the absurd are in for a lot of fun in the 80s. ●

--Veritas

Thou shalt not discriminate

A Los Angeles Superior Court ruled that the "Christian Yellow Pages" could not limit its advertisements to those placed by "born-again Christians." The ruling came in a suit filed in 1977 by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, on behalf of two Jewish businessmen who contended that their exclusion from the directory violated state discrimination laws.

The court ordered the publisher of the directory to discontinue the practices of requiring advertisers to swear they are "born-again Christians," urging readers to limit their patronage to other Christians, and identifying the religious beliefs of advertisers in the directory.

David Llewellyn defended the directory and said the ruling violated First Amendment freedoms of press and religion. Llewellyn said the purpose of the Christian Yellow Pages was to "permit born-again Christians to associate with other born-again Christians" in such things as the hiring of a lawyer or accountant. He claimed that some people believe such an association is required by scripture.

Without limiting advertisers to Christians, Llewellyn maintained, "it would be false advertising to call something the Christian Yellow Pages." ●

--Facts on File
20 Nov. 1981



BUT REMEMBER, CINDERELLA...

IF YOU'RE NOT RATIFIED BY THE
STROKE OF MIDNIGHT, YOU'LL GO BACK TO

WASHING CLOTHES

AND SCRUBBING FLOORS...

Compliments of

David's Pizza

312 W. Willow, Normal

452-3434

FREE Delivery to Normal

Public housing, public hassle

I really don't know how to start this, except I do have sort of a gripe, as do several other tenants.

When I first moved into public housing there was a \$25 deposit, which I paid, gladly. Six years later here comes a notice that the rent deposit is going up to \$50. That too is fine, very reasonable. But I had already lived here six years, and there were several who were here longer, but everyone who had already lived in the housing was required to pay \$25 more, too.

Why? Why should the people who already lived in their apartments and had paid their deposit pay more when the deposit went up?

I also don't see how some people get in housing right away, and others get put off and put off. I know of a person right now who really needs a place to live, is qualified, and is still being put off. What is it with the law and the system?

Why do poor people, middle class, or whatever, have to bow down and beg, kiss ass, and still not get anywhere? Why is it right for one person commit murder and receive a gold medal and another person does the same thing and gets a life sentence?

Why! Because you have a fancy name, live in a fancy house, drive a brand new fancy car--why does this make you any better than anyone else?

If the people in office had to live in housing, they'd know what we go through. If some of these high muckety-mucks had to dig for their last penny, they'd get a taste of what it feels like.

What is justice? Or where is it? •

--Sharon Hamilton



Dates to remember February, 1982

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>Feb. 1 U.S. Ambassador to El Salvador, Robert White, fired because he supported social reforms rather than increased U.S. military aid. 1981</p> <p>Feb. 2 Three nuclear scientists resign from General Electric to protest dangers of nuclear power. 1978</p> <p>Feb. 7 U.S. Army begins use of Agent Orange in VietNam. 1965</p> <p>Feb. 12 First draft card burning to protest imminent "peace time" draft. 1947</p> <p>Feb. 14 Birth of anti-slavery activist Frederick Douglass. 1817</p> <p>Feb. 15 Women's right activist, Susan B. Anthony, born. 1820</p> | <p>Feb. 18 Japanese-Americans ordered to detention camps for duration of war. 1943</p> <p>Feb. 19 Year of oil shortages. Exxon announces \$2,500,000,000 in profits. 1974</p> <p>Feb. 21 Black leader, Malcolm X, assassinated. 1965</p> <p>Feb. 22 Farmer Sam Lovejoy topples weather tower for impending nukes. 1st direct action against nuclear power in No. America. Montague, MA, 1974</p> <p>Feb. 27 Native Americans occupy Wounded Knee, historic site of massacre of hundreds of Sioux by U.S. Cavalry. 1973</p> |
|---|--|

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Drastic Plastic

We sell, buy, and trade used albums and cassettes.
102 North St., Normal
10-6 (T,W,F,Sat)
10-9 (M,Th)

Guitar Lessons

by Marita

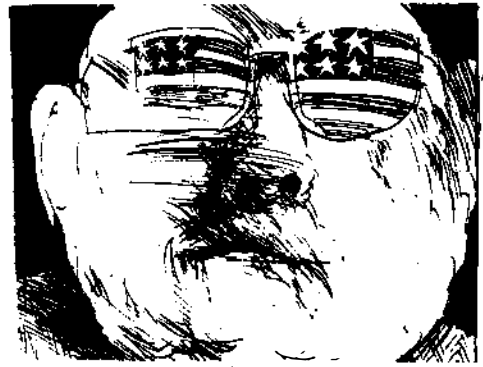
Music for the mind, body and soul

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MEET PEOPLE
P.O. Box 704,
Rock Island, Illinois 61201

BOB AND LOU
NEW AND USED
FURNITURE

Store #1 812 W. Market (309) 827-6621
Store #2 1116 S. Main (309) 829-3122
Bloomington, Illinois 61701



Right-winger sued for slander

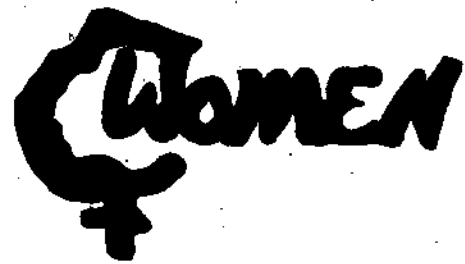
A trial has been scheduled for late January in a lawsuit filed against California State Senator John Briggs by a teacher who claims Briggs and his organization singled him out for vilification.

Larry Berner of Healdsburg, California, says that Briggs and the Save Our Children Committee attempted repeatedly to portray him as a child molester during the 1978 campaign for Proposition 6, an initiative sponsored by Briggs to keep gay teachers out of public schools (see Post, vol. 7, #5).

Briggs began his campaign for Proposition 6 in Healdsburg and used Berner, who is openly gay, as an example of the "evils" of homosexual teachers. "Libels like this cannot go unchallenged by the gay community," said Jean O'Leary, executive director of Gay Rights Advocates (GRA), the public interest law firm representing Berner.

GRA legal counsel Don Knutson commented that the case "should serve notice that lesbians and gay men can no longer be slandered with impunity. The day is gone when gay people will forego their legal rights and slink back into the closet." •

--Gay Community News



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

Call PATH

827-4005

and ask for the

RAPE CRISIS CENTER

Religious music reveals messages

Post Amerikan vol. 10, #9

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Dear Post-Amerikan,

My associates and I have been playing religious record albums backwards, and we have come up with some interesting results.

The first recording to yield a backwards message was one by Jerry Falwell's Young American Singers. The 2nd and 4th cuts on side A, when played in reverse, contain the strange refrains "Madam I'm Adam" and "Able was I ere I saw Elba." More astounding was side B, on which the hidden message "Send money, send money" was repeated in every cut.

When we first played an Anita Bryant album, entitled "Juiced for Jesus" or something like that, the sound was so ear-splitting and garbled that we could hardly stand to listen to it. Then we played the record backwards.

While the reverse playing improved the musical quality, the lyrics didn't make much more sense than they did on the forward spin. But some of our team insist they can discern Ms. Bryant quietly saying "Jesse Helms wears pantyhose" in the last song on both sides. This is not confirmed by all listeners, however.

The one record that contained a reverse message upon which all auditors could agree was the Barking Dogs rendition of "Jingle Bells." When played in reverse, we could clearly hear the sentence "God is dog spelled backwards" several times.

We will continue our experiments as soon as we receive a new shipment of styluses. Thank you.

Sincerely,
L. N. Keller, Ph.D.

Loves Post

Dear Post Amerikan Staff,

Thanks for continuing to publish the Post. Of all places, Bloomington-Normal needs it. The humor that you can bring to the news is one of my favorite particulars--specifically this month's "Masturbation--You Don't Have to Look Your Best," and last month's ex-sheriff probing his nose in a pictorial essay. This praise doesn't even mention that your editorials pay heed to subjects often forgotten too easily by others (the draft, the poor, religious bigots).

Thanks again,
Pamela J. Fink

Community

Financial help for energy costs

McLean County Economic Opportunity Corporation has \$358,197 to distribute in McLean and Livingston counties under the 1982 Illinois Home Energy Assistance Program.

MCEOC, 102 North Center St., 2nd floor, Bloomington, and 220 North Plum St., Pontiac, will begin accepting applications for the IHEAP program on Jan. 28.



"Sorry, buster -- fixed income, you know."
What She Wants/CPF

The Ill. Home Energy Assistance Program will provide eligible households with financial assistance to help them meet the rising costs of home energy.

The amount of assistance per household will vary by the household's income and the type of heating fuel used. Grants will range from \$95 to \$360, and are paid directly to the utility company as a credit to the eligible household's account.

Households that indirectly purchase fuel as part of their rent will be eligible to receive assistance in the form of a one-time payment made directly to the household.

The income guidelines are:

Family size	Annual income
1	\$5,388.00
2	\$7,133.00
3	\$8,748.00
4	\$10,674.00
5	\$11,826.00
6	\$12,924.00

At the time of application the following information is needed:

- 1) All income received by all members of the household during the past 90 days. Examples: wages--pay check stubs, statement from employ-

er; Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, Veterans, pensions --copy of check, award letter, or direct deposit slip.

- 2) Most current main heat source bill.
- 3) Head of household's social security number.

Applications will be taken by appointment only at the Bloomington or Pontiac office. Persons residing in McLean Co. should call 829-1921 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Persons residing in Livingston Co. should call (after Jan. 31) 844-3201 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday for an appointment.

Vocational Center open house

Sunday, January 31, 1982, from 1 to 3 p.m., is the date of the Area Vocational Center Open House . . . a time when students from 17 area schools, AVC instructors, and staff will be on hand to explain and show you a typical day in the shops, laboratories, and classrooms. You will have a chance to see vocational knowledge and skills as they are taught, learned, and used.

Stop by the Bloomington Area Vocational Center at the east end of Bloomington High School off Empire Street.

For further information call Dan Swanson at (309) 827-6124.

Women's potluck

The next women's potluck will be on February 28 at 3:00 pm at 210 W. Graham, Bloomington. For those of you who missed January's potluck: your absences were recorded. Please do not miss this one. One more absence and your grade will be lowered one letter.

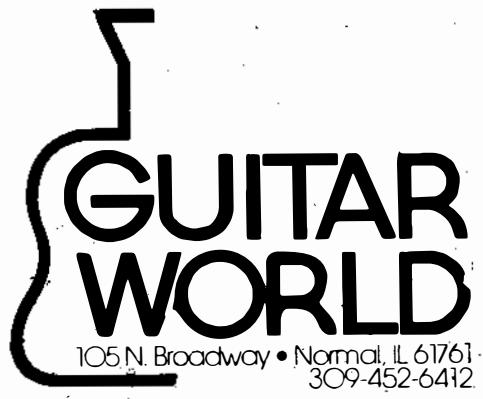
For those of you who have never attended a potluck before and were thinking about doing so, do not be scared off by the above threat. Women's potluck may also be taken on a pass/fail basis or even audited.

And having a women's potluck audited is a lot more fun than having your taxes audited. (Wha, wha, wha.)

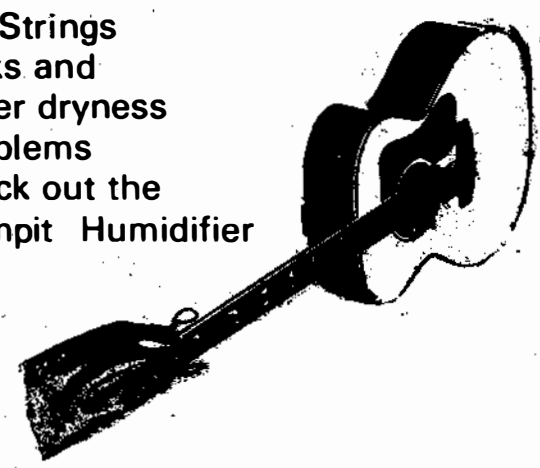
See you there.

WINTERIZE YOUR GUITAR

STOP IN AT



- And have your guitar checked for
- New Strings
 - Cracks and other dryness problems
 - Check out the Dampit Humidifier



Open letter

Employee burns Pizza World

POST-NOTE: The following letter, dated Jan. 17, 1982, was written by a resigning Pizza World employee to her employers. She also sent a copy to the Post-Amerikan for publication.

To Thomas Ahlers, Ed Green, Jack Hubble, James Whitehurst, and Steve Ahlers:

After four years of dedicated service with your company I am extending to you the gesture of giving you my keys as the only kind gesture a severely disgruntled former employee can bring herself to give you.

I am purposely not giving any notice of quitting (and doing so on Sunday) to give you a small idea of what I (along with many other former employees) have had to put up with over the years we have faithfully busted our butts to keep an under-

staffed store running to the best of our ability.

Not only did we "bust our butts" for no extra reward or incentive (other than a misguided sense of loyalty and desire to make Pizza World a profitable and well run business), but we were constantly abused for doing so.

Misinformation, downright lies and contradictions from our "superiors" helped us to make the stores we worked for veritable slave pits from which we emerged nightly with a huge desire to forget the work night and have a good time--for which we were eventually verbally censured. Since our private out-of-business-hours lives have no connection with how well our stores were run, it is entirely unsupportable that you should use this difference of lifestyle in a judgement against us.

However, I digress. Back to the point of my discontinued service with your company. I wish to express my extreme displeasure with your unbusiness-like handling of the firing of Mark Thomason (as well as about ten other managers and assistant managers in the past). Whatever the real reasons were for your wanting to terminate one of the best managers you have ever had (and you seem to have a knack for firing the good ones and keeping the complete idiots and incapable, unmotivated people), you seem to do it in the most unprofessional and crudest way possible for someone who wants to be the "McDonald's of the pizza industry" someday. I'm not sure how you think you can expand with the incredibly high turnover rate of your management teams.

I have worked for Pizza World for four years in several different capacities, including management, and in that time have worked at four different stores and for about 15 managers and assistant managers--all of whom are no longer with the company. Some admittedly were bad enough to fire--but they were the ones who were promoted against the



"We're not seeing ourselves as the workers see us..."

better judgement of the good ones and who later quit. They were not fired.

The policy you have followed in the last few years of firing someone without warning, negotiation, and for spurious, trumped-up charges, has left everyone who still works for you with a distinct fear for their jobs. No warning notes are ever sounded. No one ever says "if you don't stop doing this thing we don't like, or if you can't better your performance by doing such and such, you will have to look for another job."

The ax just falls, and it often falls for truly inexplicable reasons. At least, they are not easily understood by the observer. This policy has confused and frightened many of us who thought Pizza World had potential as a modern, profitable, growing company. We were very wrong.

We will anxiously wait to see your names in the bankruptcy notices when an inferior but better run business like Domino's puts you out of business. They will not do you in as quickly as they claim, but they will do it, if you don't straighten up your act and start running the business as if you had a normal amount of human intelligence and compassion instead of the capacity of a moray eel. If strike to kill is the only answer you have to solve your problems, I hope someone puts you out of your misery soon.

Be assured, I am not alone in my feelings of anger, disappointment and frustration with the company in which I have invested four years of my life.

--Rebecca L. Hanson

News

Support groups starting

YWCA Countering Domestic and Sexual Violence is offering support groups for victims of violent relationships. Members will meet once a week to share ideas in a safe and confidential environment. Meetings will begin the week of February 8. For further information call 662-0461.

Wholistic living group

Interested in knowing more about food combining and healthful food? Join us in a discussion of these topics, Wednesday, Feb. 3, 7 p.m., at 507 W. Locust, Bloomington.

We are a casual group of enthusiastic learners and sharers, who focus on different aspects of wholistic living. Call Nancy at 828-8249 for more details. All are welcome.

Sun awards for regional music

Peoria, IL--Prairie SUN, the Midwest's weekly periodical of music and current events, will hold its 5th annual "Sunbird Awards" presentation and anniversary party on Saturday, Feb. 6, at the Second Chance, 3300 Willow Knolls Rd., on Peoria's north side. Live music begins promptly at 7 p.m.

Providing live entertainment for the event will be Pink recording artists Phil 'n the Blanks from Chicago, who just recorded their "Multiple Choice" album; Champaign rockabilly artists Big Daddy Sun & the Outer Planets, who just released their first LP on the Jazzbo label; and Mackinaw, featuring vocalist Crow Carroll, making a farewell appearance before becoming a solo artist.

Additionally, SUN staff and assorted Midwest rock'n roll VIPs will present 1982's "Sunbird Awards" in the following categories: Best Midwest bands/artists in rock, pop, r&b, country, and jazz; and best Midwest-originated LP, single, and performer. Ballots have been made available in the SUN for several weeks.

This year's ceremony will be filmed by Peoria PBS affiliate WTVP for a forthcoming 60-minute television special.

Sunday Nite Specials

Specials

Dancing



Tues. 7-9 VODKA & GIN NITE 65c

Wed. & Thurs. 7-9 DRAFT NITE 40c Draft \$2.00 Pitcher

Happy Hour 7-8 p.m.

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And more letters.. letters...

Combatting sexism a full time job

Dear Post:

I am writing to respond to the letter from "A Man." He criticizes Deborah's articles about the "rape culture that we live in."

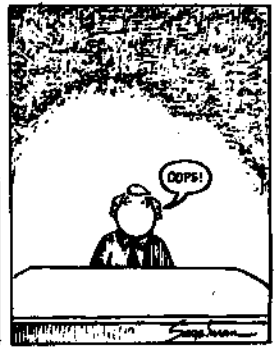
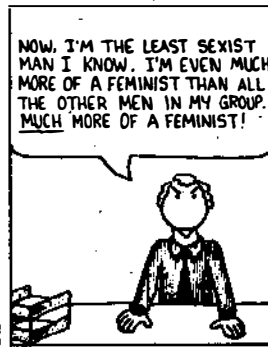
He should stop being so defensive and elitist and start looking at his own sexism. All men in this culture have been conditioned to be potential rapists. If he thinks that he has overcome this conditioning, I am wondering why he has to let us know that he is different. And why is he attempting to identify with other "educated intelligent men"?

He says, "I learned what sexism is and how to avoid it." Too bad he doesn't realize that sexism is not a class to be taken at a university to pass or fail. Sexism is an issue that requires constant work; a man's anti-sexist credentials should always be in question and should frequently be reviewed. (It's also too bad that he hasn't learned the same lesson about classism and intellectual elitism-- "educated intelligent men" indeed!)

To be a little more direct. I say that criticizing a woman's article about rape based on her own experience with words like "amused" and "impotent" is sexist. I say that making a statement like "men in general need to wake up, women need to be tolerant," referring to sexism and rape culture, is sexist.

"In general men need to wake up"--hell! Men need to work. They need to work

M.-BRIOS



By MARK SEGELMAN

on issues of sexism, class, intellectual snobbery, (and the fear of homosexuals, or homophobia, but I'll get to that later). And men need to work with other men, not criticize women.

"Women need to be tolerant" is just another example of a man telling women what to do. This is so glaringly bigoted, I can't believe this "educated" man wrote it.

But I must say that what outraged me the most was the line "It is pathetic that she feels the need to fear strange men." I am a gay man. I fear strange men also. Don't trust 'em either, nor do I trust most straight men. I've been physically threatened by strange men. When I'm out alone at night, I fear strange men. But for me it is not a constant thing, because I'm a man, I'm large and it's not always easy to tell that I am gay. So I don't have to live with a constant threat of rape the way women do.

This guy, A Man, doesn't live with the constant threat of rape either. Maybe he needs some on-the-job-training in learning about sexism and rape culture. Let him walk down the street while strange men yell "Chickie" and "Hey, Girlie" and "Faggot" at him. Maybe then he would look at his own sexism and talk to other men about sexism and rape culture. And get off Deborah's case.

And another thing. I'm tired of bonzo men talking about how they aren't sexist and how it's not easy for men in this world. If they're really working on sexism, they don't whine about how hard it is or how they're exceptional, or continue to identify with other men and defend them. I'm tired of so-called liberated men, or enlightened men, or men of conscience trying to get sympathy from other people, and particularly from women. It's all a lot of crap.

--Jack Davis

Happy anniversary, Ronnie

Dear Post readers,

This month marks the first anniversary of our beloved leader, Ronald Wilson Reagan. Has it only been one year? Time passes so quickly when you're having fun.

Although I know a lot of you did not vote for Mr. Reagan, I hope you now know that you were wrong, that you were led astray by all the pre-election hype from the lesser candidates and your wrong-minded friends, not to mention prejudiced press reports. Yes, you were wrong. I am very glad that Mr. Reagan is our

President, and I know that you are, too.

I must admit I knew you were skeptical. How can this conservative jerk-faced actor turn this country around, you used to think. And that was the nicest thing you ever said.

But he did it! Yessireebob, he did it. In only one year he did it. Or should I say, He did it? More accurately, they did it. RR teamed with JC to turn the tide and put the good old U. S. of A. back in the ballgame.

In only 12 short months RR has done

what he promised he would do. Consider his accomplishments:

--He has balanced the budget.

--He has reduced unemployment to an acceptable level of 1.4% (and if those lazy welfare cheaters would get off their dead bums and look for work, the unemployment level would be even lower).

--He has established programs funded by private industry to stimulate the economy by creating new jobs and holding training sessions to teach people those jobs.

--The tax cuts he gave to the upper brackets have, just like he said, been put back into the general economy to fund social services and the arts.

--As the ex-president of a union himself, he has become a beacon of union support both at home (with PATCO) and abroad (with Solidarity).

He has given us all a role model. A God-fearin' family man, a man fiercely loyal to his friends (even though those nasty liberals keep trying to make innuendos about most all of them), a man who keeps his cool in matters of national security (even when he doesn't know about it until later), a man who keeps his sense of humor (even though those around him are losing theirs), a man who can spit in the face of death, laugh in the face of insubordination, look in the face of hard times and stare them down.

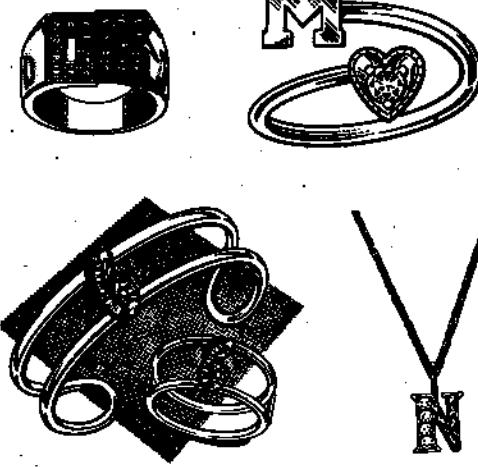
I thank you, Ronnie. And my country thanks you. Keep up all the good works.

All my love and respect,
Nancy

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FINE JEWELRY REPAIR

Keep your hands off the grand old flag

To the Post Amerikan and its readers:

Did you know that it's against the law to display a U.S. flag in your homes and autos? In fact, you can be arrested and fined for it! I found out the hard way. It happened to a neighbor and friend and myself.

The part that angered me was the way they went about arresting us. I mean; I've been arrested before but the excuse they gave this time wins the prize.

They (the police) came by on Dec. 27, somewhere around 7 a.m., before anyone in the building was awake. They started banging on the door as if the building was on fire and they had to evacuate everyone in seconds.

I opened my door and saw an officer escorting Bob (my neighbor) down the stairs with his flags in their hands. Three others stood at my door.

One of them asked me if I had a flag in my house and I said yes. He asked, "Can we see it?" Not wanting to start anything, I told them yes, but realized what I was doing and asked them to wait.

I told them, "By my rights I don't have to let you in." They had no

U.S. supports Poland, ignores Philippines

Post note: This letter originally appeared in the Jan. 20-26, 1982, edition of In These Times.

When martial law was imposed by a U.S.-backed dictatorship on 50 million Filipinos in September 1972, few in this country knew about it, and no one seemed to care. In contrast, martial law in Poland has become an instant cause celebre.

Up to now, strikes are outlawed and independent unions banned in the Philippines. The May First Movement, local counterpart to Solidarity, spearheads the growing resistance, but scarcely anyone, least of all the AFL-CIO, shows interest in the plight of millions of Filipino workers.

The Reagan administration unblushingly acclaims the dictator Marcos as a model democrat despite 70,000 political prisoners held since 1972 and several hundreds killed. Because Washington supports Marcos with \$200 million tax dollars annually, the American public can more effectively demand from the Marcos regime guarantees to protect workers' rights--more urgently, restore the civil liberties of 50 million Filipinos--than it can pressure Warsaw and Moscow to relent. But why is there no widespread clamor for freedom and justice in the Philippines?

Because of public apathy and official callousness to the brutalities of the U.S.-supported Marcos regime, millions of Filipinos are now beginning to see that those responsible for the loss of their freedoms and their misery are not the Soviet Union or communists anywhere, but those in Washington who loudly decry tyranny in Poland but not in the third world countries where American business and military interests predominate.

Prof. E. San Juan, Jr.
University of Connecticut, Storrs

warrants or anything. When I said that, one officer pushed me into the apartment, one officer went into my bathroom for my flag, and the third officer stood in the door looking into my bedroom.

We were both arrested and had to post bond. Keep in mind that it was the biggest holiday of the year (as if they cared).

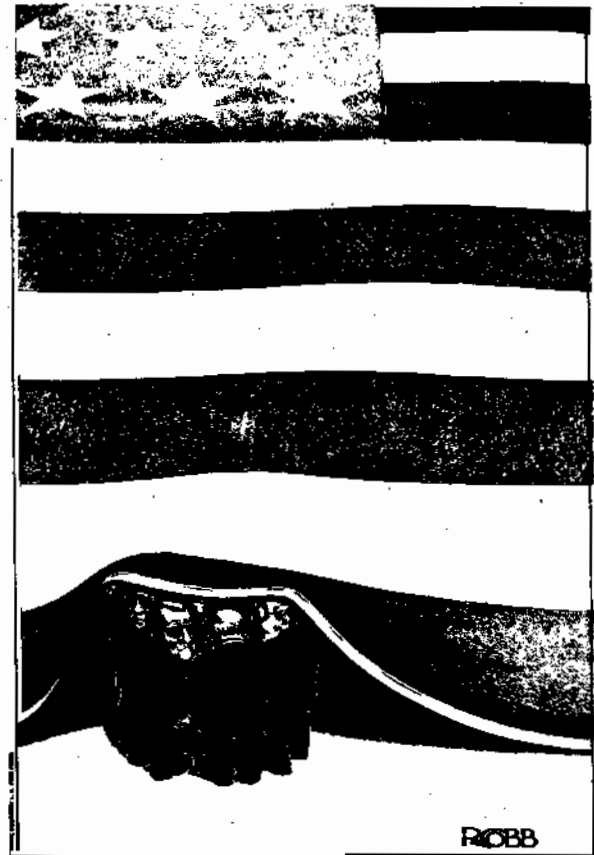
We were both charged with--get this--mutilation and desecration the U.S. flag by decorating our apartments with them. So what?! They can even tell us how to decorate our house and what we can put in it?? Next they'll tell us what color to paint them! Besides, if we thought enough of our country to show or hang its colors, I'd say that we're patriots.

I could understand it if we were sporting Iranian or Soviet flags, or even a swastika. At one time I was glad to be a resident in America. Now I'm giving it second and third thoughts. Now it seems like you can't breathe hard without having some employee of the government hassling you about breathing too much.

I'm not a Communist or anyone trying to get people to turn against the government, but let's face it, that's where all our troubles or most of them start. And if the government is for the people, why are we (the people) being harassed and coming up on the bottom of a totem pole? It makes you want to change the song from "My country 'tis of thee" to their country . . .

What I really would like is for someone who's arrested for a stupid and dumb reason to stick the police to the point where they would think before doing it again or stopping altogether.

We were arraigned today (Jan. 11) and were told that we could be fined up to \$500 or jailed up to 30 days, or both. That's not fair. To me, mutilating



means to chop or tear up. Correct me if I'm wrong.

Even when the judge read the arrest report, he had a puzzled look on his face, a "what the hell is this" look. To make it even better, he then reached for his books to see what to do with case. He didn't even know!

I don't know why they decided to arrest us for it or why they waited so long. The flags have been up nearly a year. My guess is that they didn't have anything else to do. One officer admitted that in a semi-humorous way.

What about the flags in the windows of vans and trucks? All I can say is be careful who you let see them or get a Red China flag! As the old saying goes, "You can't fight City Hall." But I'm going to give it one hell of a try. Wish me luck!!

Sincerely unhappy,

Robert E. Wilson

Tuesday 50¢ beer night

MY PLACE

424 N. Main 9-1 T-Th, 9-2 F-S

Turkey day at the Pentagon

Great, you say. Reagan's finally putting some muscle (in the form of lots and lots and lots of our money) into the military so we won't have to take any more guff from those swarthy wimps overseas. Like to find out what our tax dollars for Defense are buying these days (besides inflation)? Here are samples of the Pentagon's latest recipe for roast turkey.

Probably the military's biggest losers, dollar-wise, are the F-14 and F-15 jet fighters. These birds presently cost \$30 million apiece to build compared to \$4 million for the F-4s and F-5s they are supposed to replace. The F-14s and F-15s are highly sophisticated, all-electronic planes with the latest in radar, computer display screens, and Atari games. Built to fly at 2½ times the speed of sound, they are supposed to be the hottest thing on wheels ... er ... wings. Instead, they turned out to be the world's fastest Thanksgiving dinner.

According to the computer, the F-14s and F-15s should have been able to shoot down 50 to 75 of the older planes before they were shot down themselves. In fact, they could barely get two before they went down in flames in the Air Force's mock battles.

How come? Well, it seems that any time there were more than two planes involved in a mock battle, the display on the fancy new radar screens became so confusing that the F-15 pilots had to resort to looking out the window to spot the enemy planes. Ten million dollars worth of the most technologically advanced radar thus turned into a side order of turkey dressing. When the F-15 pilots were reduced to using guts and glory to fly their planes, they couldn't do any better than the guys flying the \$4 million blue-plate specials.



The new planes also have a couple of other problems. The hot rod engines smoked so much that enemy pilots can see them coming and fire missiles before our pilots even know they're under attack. Also, the F-14s and F-15s are fat gas guzzlers.

"We already had a plane they said would exceed Mach 2 (twice the speed of sound) just in time to run out of fuel..." said one pilot who understandably wanted to remain anonymous.

So much for air superiority.

How about the rest of our arsenal? Here are some more examples of the military's latest projects that you and I are financing, including the hottest thing on treads (and I do mean hot), the XM-1 tank.

***The XM-1 Battle Tank:

--Breaks down every 43 miles and requires 3 hours to fix when it does;

--Uses 3.8 gallons of gas to the mile (that's gpm, not mpg);

--Has an exhaust so hot (900 degrees) that it sets nearby trees on fire and attracts heat-seeking missiles, and soldiers can't walk behind the tank;

--Is so heavy and wide that it can't cross most of the bridges in Europe;

--Is so big that our biggest transport plane, the C5-A can carry only two at a time;

--Likes to drop its treads in the middle of maneuvers and break its gun mounts when the cannon is fired;

--Pops hydraulic hoses which spray fluid on the engine, setting the tank on fire;

--Was supposed to cost \$1 million per tank, but now runs \$3 million per tank with more increases expected.

***The C5-A Transport Plane is now notorious for its \$4 billion in cost overruns caused largely by the fact that its wings started falling off. (The C5-A is also the only American plane large enough to carry the XM-1 tank.)

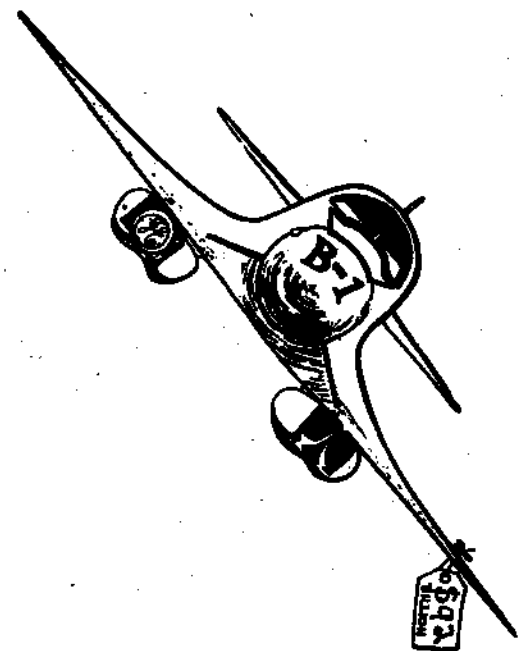
***One new armored personnel carrier named for the late Army General Omar Bradley is several inches too wide to fit through the cargo doors of the C-141 cargo plane assigned to carry it to a war zone.

***The new-fangled DIVAD anti-aircraft gun (which costs \$10 million as opposed to \$350,000 for a standard anti-aircraft gun) couldn't hit doodly-squat when they tested it.

Well, I don't know about you, but I sure feel safer. And when our president announced the new civil defense program, I decided that I should be prepared too. So I've packed my picnic lunch of canned corned beef and dehydrated peas, and when I hear the sirens go off I plan to go straight down to Franklin Park, spread out my blanket, and watch the mushrooms grow. ●

--Mr. Peabody

Note: Information for this article came from the Chicago Tribune's series "Rearming America."



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Pro-choice groups to fight

With the threat to reproductive rights greater now than ever, representatives of five local groups joined together to rally pro-choice forces to defend legal abortions and the freedom of choice about birth control methods.

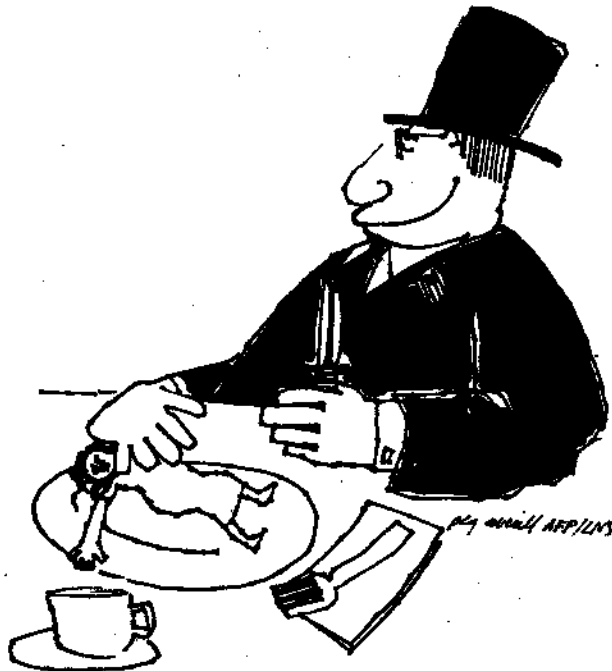
"National polls have consistently shown that a clear majority of Americans oppose any attempts to outlaw abortion in this country," said Dixie Axley, of Planned Parenthood of Mid-Central Illinois, at the January 22 news conference. "We plan to let our Senators and Representatives understand that the same holds true in central Illinois. We must not let a vocal and persistent minority impose their restrictive beliefs on us all."

Axley was joined by Scott Eatherly of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Bonnie Holtz of the National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL), Luellen Laurenti of the Bloomington-Normal National Organization for Women (NOW) chapter, and Carl Eesenwein of the Illinois Religious Coalition on the anniversary of the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision in favor of abortion rights.

Together those five issued the strongest call to action by local mainstream lefties that I've ever heard.

"Before the (Supreme Court) decision in 1973, women had no control over what happened to their own bodies: victims of rape and incest were often forced to bear their attacker's children, and millions of women died or suffered from infections that resulted from illegal abortions," said Holtz. "In this age of progressive attitudes and modern medicine there is no reason why we should slip back into those tragic days."

"I strongly urge all people who believe in personal freedom to get involved now to insure that freedom of choice will remain open to us all."



Both Eatherly (ACLU) and Eesenwein (Religious Coalition) called for the reinstatement of Medicaid payments for abortions--a position supported by their organizations.

"We believe it is wrong to deny Medicaid assistance to poor women seeking abortions," Eesenwein said. "This denial makes it difficult for those who need it most to exercise a legal right, and it implies public censure of a form of medical service which in fact has the moral support of major religious groups."

Several of the news conference participants also focused on the two most dangerous attempts by the right wing and the Catholic Church--both dominated by men who will never have to seek an illegal abortion--to deny women the right to control their own reproductive lives.

The first of these attempts to impose restrictive religious beliefs on everyone is the Human Life Federalism amendment to the Constitution. Sponsored U.S. Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), this amendment would subvert the 1973 Supreme Court decision by explicitly giving both the states and the Congress the right to restrict or outlaw abortion.

Many anti-choice activists have switched their support from the Human Life Amendment (which would immediately outlaw abortion) to the federalism amendment because they no longer think they can pass the HLA. The federalism amendment is thus a back-door attempt to get what they can't get by a straight, up-front vote.

The second of the anti-choice crowd's sleazy endrums is the Human Life Amendment (Senate Bill 1741), which is sponsored by the notorious Jesse Helms (R-NC) and Rep. Henry Hyde (R-IL), the author of the law that took away poor women's right to have an abortion.

Among other things, this bill would redefine "person" to include fetuses. It raises the specter of doctors deliberately endangering a woman's life in order to protect a fetus.

The Jan. 22 news conference was a prelude to a day-long, NOW-sponsored seminar on reproductive rights at the Bloomington Public Library, Jan. 23.

People who missed that seminar, but who want to work to save our reproductive rights, should contact one of the news conference participants (or their organizations). Get to work now!

--D. LeSeure

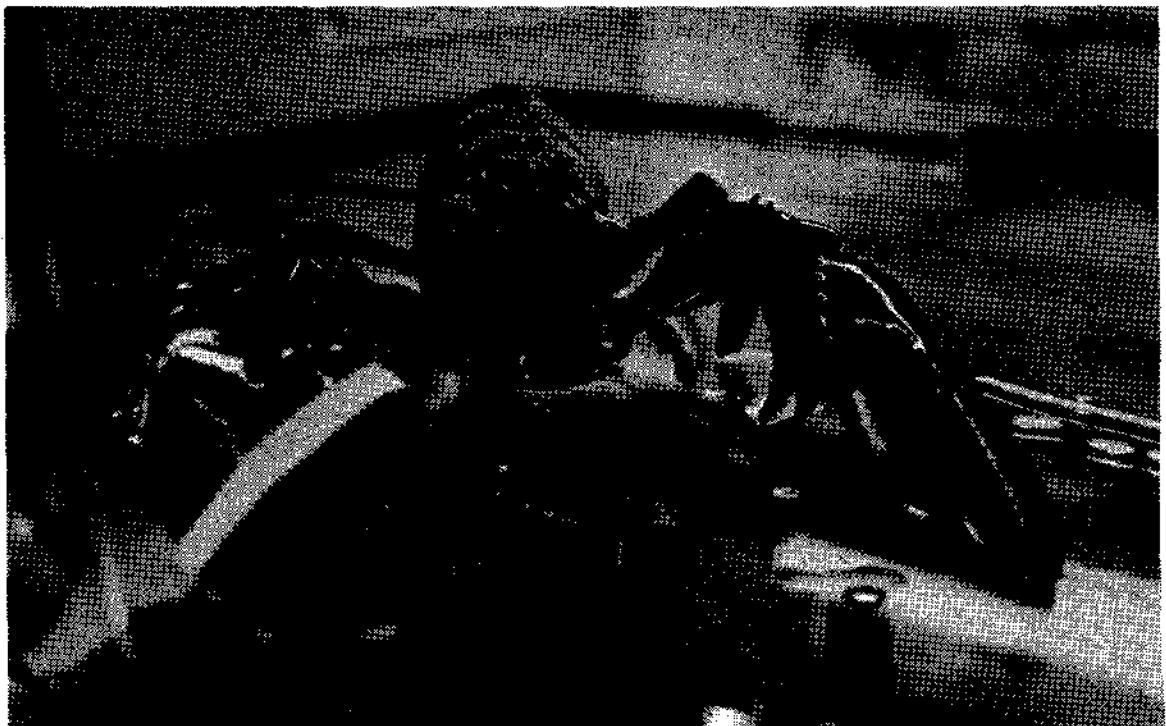
Beat the the meat at Apocalypse Kroger

On my premiere visit to the new Apocalypse Kroger off Oakland Avenue in Bloomington, I was taken aback by the sight of a crowded tank of lobsters, squirming and making futile help-help gestures in the murky water.

The jolly delicatessen manager seemed to mistake my shock for awe: "Yep," he said, "this way you can take 'em home still kicking and throw them in the boiling water alive. I hear they scream."

"But we've got bigger plans than that. See those lots out back? We're putting up pens for little baby calves. You'll be able to pick out your veal on the hoof. Then we've got these big sledgehammers and you get to bean 'em between the eyes yourself. A little narrow stall will make them stand still for it."

"We're hustling this project to be ready for Easter, so we can move the baby lambs and piglets in. Ya know how to kill a pig? We recommend slitting its throat, but not enough to kill it. You want the heart to keep going long enough to pump most of the blood out. We're going to have these really sharp knives and shiny Krogerbuckets. For a dollar extra you can take your Bucket-o-Blood home."



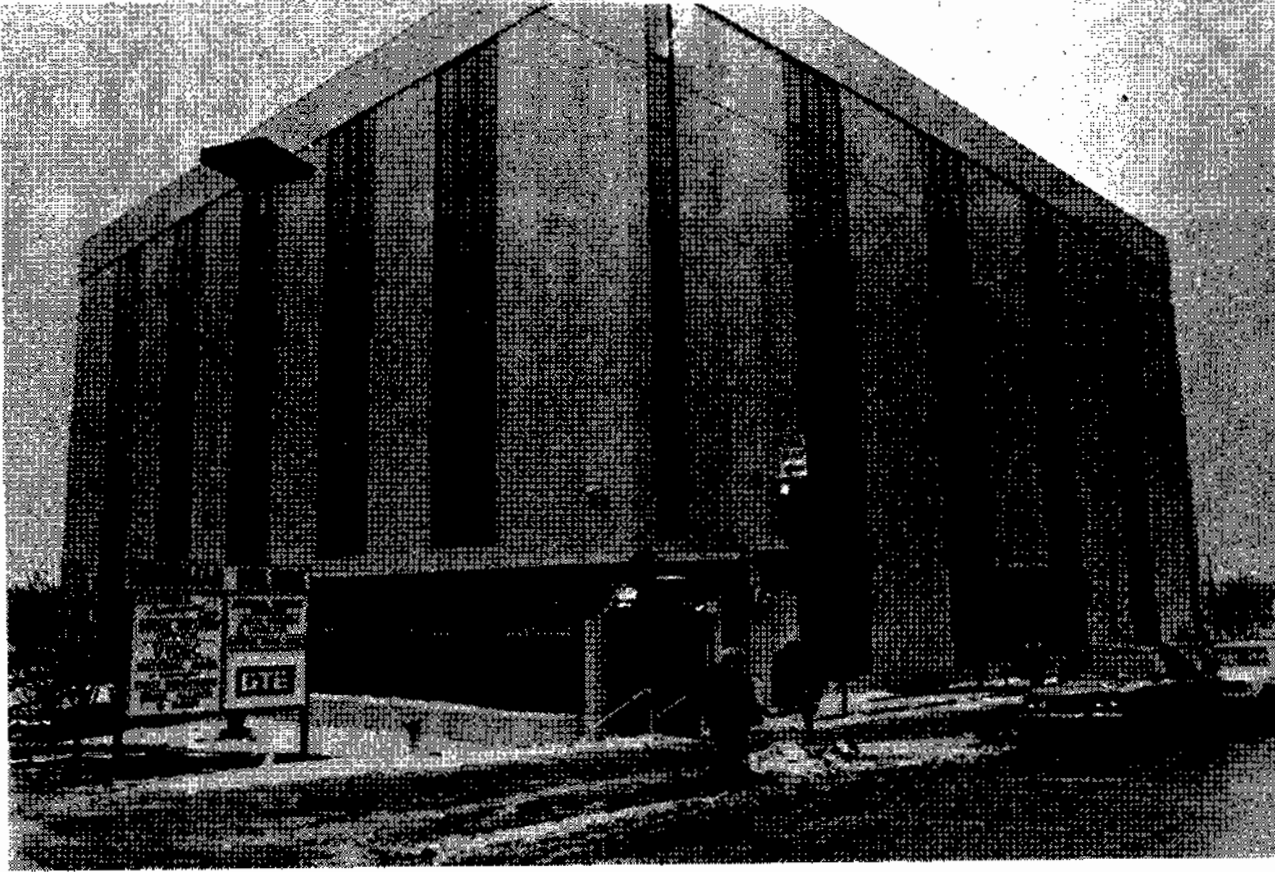
"We think this thing is really going to take off. Eventually we'll have facilities so you can come out after a bad day and wring your supper chicken's neck. With the success of the Kroger You-Kill Lobsters, we realized that people really like to get in touch with the carnivore in them."

"Besides, if the customers didn't kill these animals for themselves, someone else would have to do it for them."

--Phoebe Caulfield

Post-Amerikan Plastification Award

Plastic slabs drape Hundman Building



At 200 W. Front St. in Bloomington, the Hundman Building rises in dignified drabness, its plain and conservative style standing in harmony with the Law Center next door, with a glimpse of the posh hot-tubby decor of Maxwell's Restaurant reminding us of the three-piece-suit crowd moving briskly between the structures.

The Hundman Building looks like Important Business goes on there, conducted by Substantial People. The solid blankness of its face is broken only by rectangular slabs of discreetly pebbled . . .

plastic. Yes, one of our readers noticed after a harsh windstorm last spring that one of these slabs had been damaged. Upon inspection, it was not at all the heavy, impressive, unshakeable granite chunk of dependability it seemed. It was a frothy pieced of molded plastic, much like the fiberglass used to make custom cars look like Big Macs, Schlitz cans, or giant pickles.

Versatile stuff, but hardly majestic.

Maybe the builders hope that the facade will eventually, like the ideas of judges and lawyers, petrify.

--Phoebe Caulfield

Is something phony getting you down? Wouldn't you like to see it ridiculed in next month's Post-Amerikan? Call 828-7232 with your suggestion for the plastification award.

looks like a sleepy, serene community.



look again.

If you listen to the city fathers, the Pantagraph, the civic boosters and the phony speechmakers, you would think we lived in a 1930's Hollywood set. But let's look behind the scenes. Each month since April 1972, the Post-Amerikan has been denting that serene facade, printing the embarrassing truths the city fathers would rather overlook. Take another look at Bloomington-Normal. Subscribe to the Post-Amerikan.

For the next 12 issues, send \$4 to Post-Amerikan, PO Box 3452, Bloomington IL 61701.

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