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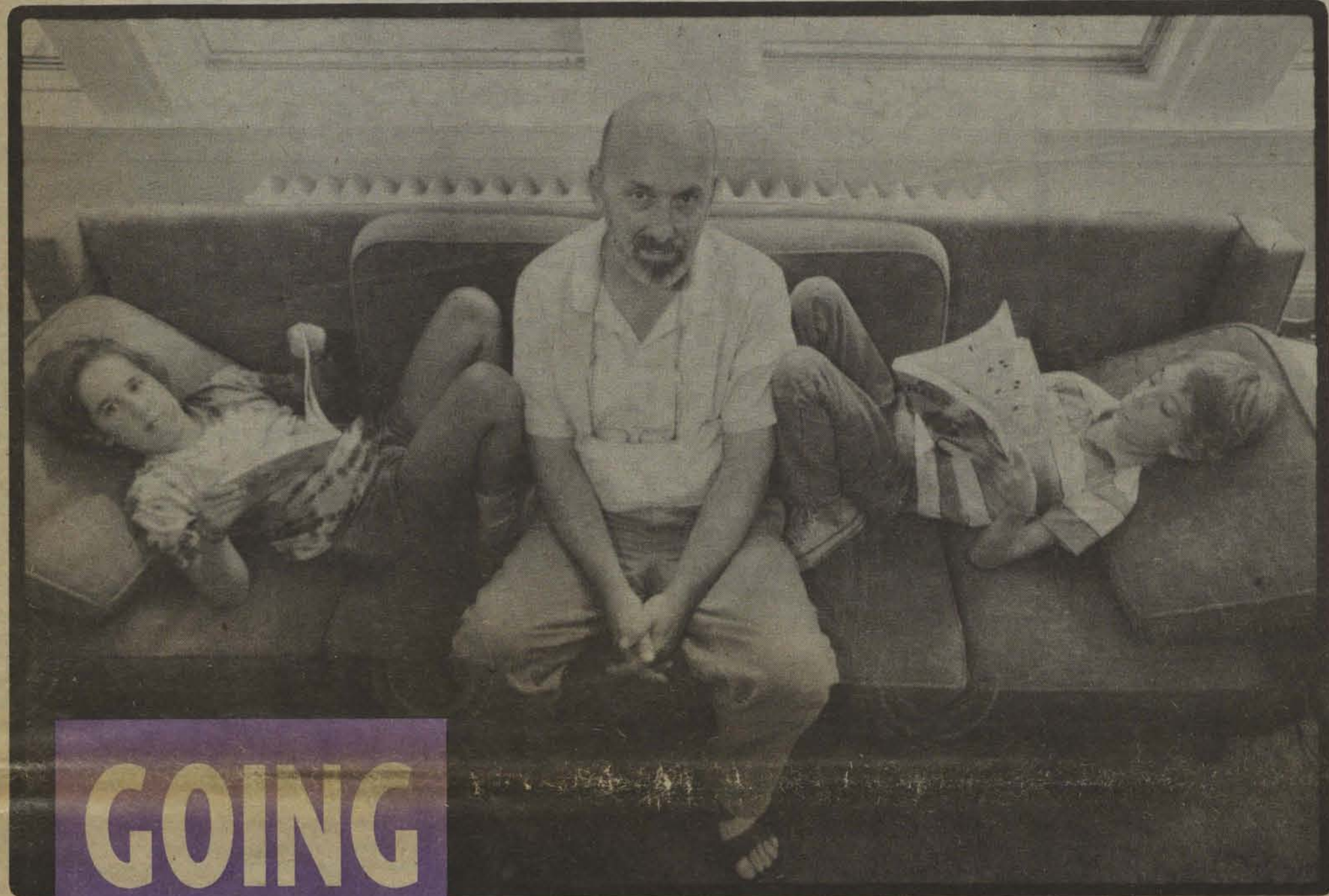
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Casco Bay WEEKLY

Greater Portland's news and arts weekly
SEPTEMBER 7, 1989 FREE

SEPTEMBER 7, 1989.



Earl Stevens with son Jamie, right, and homeschool neighbor Jocelyn Kahn.

GOING to SCHOOL by STAYING at HOME

COVER STORY by Kelly Nelson
PHOTOGRAPHS by Toney Harbert

For most kids, summer vacation is over. Each weekday morning, while the day is still cool and the ground still damp, Maine's school children stand by the road and wait for a yellow bus to sweep them off to school. But some 700 of Maine's school-aged children aren't standing by the road this year. They're staying home: not because they have the

sniffles, not because they got in trouble. They're staying home because they're studying at home. Against the tide of women entering the workforce and giving their kids over to daycare, more and more parents are staying home to teach their children themselves. Seven years ago there were only three approved homeschoolers in Maine. Now there are more than 700.

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Dog catchers snatch Dogman's pack. See page 2.



Sporting with the deadly sins. See page 18.

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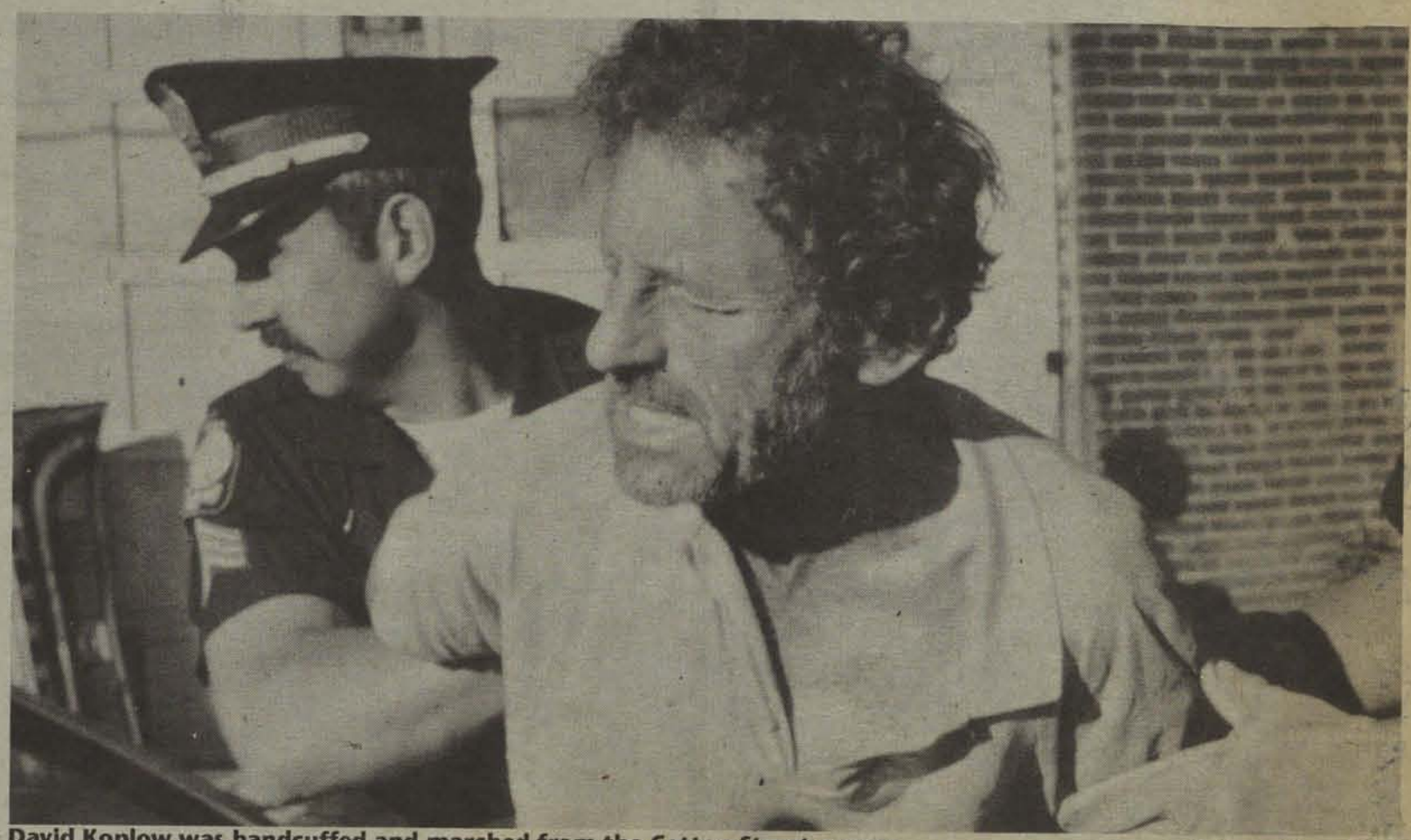


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UPDATES



David Koplow was handcuffed and marched from the Cotton Street garage. CBW photos/Monte Paulsen

Press kept at bay while cops cuff Koplow in the dark Dogman busted, dogs locked up

The Dogman was busted and the Portland Police are being chewed out for it.

Police Chief Michael Chitwood has tried to explain that the bust was ordered by the court, but on T-shirts, television and radio shows, police are being blasted by Portland citizens who think there are bigger threats to society than David Koplow - known as the Dogman - and his six bouncing dogs.

Koplow bailed himself out of jail the day of the bust, but the dogs are still in the pen. And Portlanders are howling mad.

"It's been incredible. Dave gives off an aura that people really like," said Sarah Johns, manager of the Soho boutique on Exchange Street. In three days Soho sold 150 "Leave the Dogman Alone" T-shirts that feature six stick-figure dogs and a stick-figure man. Johns, like Ann Sachs who has sold 100 "Hands Off the Dogman" T-shirts, hopes to convince Koplow to accept the proceeds.

Since August 26 there has been a court order for the seizure of Koplow's dogs, but police had to get Koplow out of the way first. And they didn't have a warrant to arrest him.

So on Aug. 31, after chasing Koplow to a taxi garage on Cotton Street, police arrested him for shoving a cop. Because police pulled shut the overhead door between themselves and the reporters and onlookers outside, no one but the four hefty police officers and one thin David Koplow knew what actually led up to the arrest.

But when the door was raised, an alleged shove had allegedly taken place and the four cops were handcuffing the allegedly violent Koplow. Koplow was shouting at one of the officers, "Bullsh— I hit you!"

"It certainly made coverage more difficult," said WMTW-TV reporter Bob Dyke, who sat outside the closed door as Koplow screamed inside.

It made public relations for the police more difficult, too. Deputy Chief John Brennan, who was not at the scene, called Casco Bay Weekly immediately after the arrest to explain that the closing of the door had not been intended to bar the press.

Speaking for Cmdr. Douglas Cole, who was at the scene, Brennan said, "His biggest concern was that those dogs might be out in the open during the arrest." Police didn't know what the dogs might do, he said.

However, if Koplow hadn't sought refuge in the garage, the seizure of the dogs would have taken place out in the open.

Portland attorney Tom Connolly said police often charge a person with assault or obstruction of government administration if they have no grounds to make an arrest. "Welcome to the real world," he said. "That happens all the time. It protects the officer later."

With about 850 citations and about 50 convictions for leash-law and registration violations on file at the Cumberland County Courthouse, Koplow is one of the city's most prolific scoff-laws.

The court order was issued August 16 at the end of a two-year court fight over the city's right to seize the dogs. The order gave Koplow 10 days to register his dogs, display dog tags on them and leash them.

A few days after the order was issued Koplow registered all but one of the dogs with the city. But Koplow, as he has for years, refused to leash Clarabelle, Granola, Miss Punch, Mr. Hocus Focus, Sammy and You Too. In a 1987 court debate, Koplow said leashing the dogs "would kill them and would kill me."

Chitwood said he will return Koplow's dogs if he will promise to leash them while he appeals the Cumberland County Superior Court ruling. So far Koplow has refused the offer. Police will not be permitted to move or destroy the dogs without further orders from the court. Meanwhile, they have been examined by a vet, and are in "excellent condition," according to Chitwood.

The bust began at 7:30 a.m. on Aug. 31 when four Portland Police cars, an animal control van and seven police and dog officers closed in on Koplow as he walked with his dogs on Fore Street. Two cops on foot chased Koplow for a block, one grabbed at Koplow's neck, pulled his coat off, dropped it on the tar. Bouncing around Koplow, the dogs yapped in their usual style.

As the four officers swarmed around the bellowing Koplow in the garage, his dogs began fighting on the floor. Two dogs set their teeth in the neck of a third, growling and thrashing. A dog stood snarling over another that lay with its feet in the air. Clarabelle, a sleek old dog with gold fur, wandered alone outside.

Dog officers began noosing the dogs as Koplow was handcuffed. The dogs were packed in cages in the van, and Koplow, shirt torn across his back, was forced into a police car.

Koplow bailed himself out of jail the same morning he was arrested. But the dogs weren't so lucky. At the city pound they're racking up a bill of \$11 each for impoundment, plus \$6 each per day for their keep.



Koplow was surrounded by cops and dogs in the garage.

THE WEEK IN BRIEF:

MERC asks for more bucks

Officials from Biddeford's Maine Energy Recovery Co. (MERC), a plant that accepts trash from 27 Maine towns and burns it to produce energy, met with officials from area towns Aug. 31. MERC pitched ideas to get it out of financial trouble, specifically raising the "tipping fee" - the money a town pays to dump each ton of trash - and changing from a private to quasi-public operation. "I think MERC is looking for a bailout," said George Christie, executive director of the Maine People's Alliance. "They talked about having a commitment to the solid waste problem, but their commitment is to the bottom line." Christie said that he is "leery" of communities taking over a plant that has been poorly managed, but added that community involvement with the plant could make it more accountable for the ash, noise, and odor which come from it.

Waterfront report makes waves

A draft of a marketing study of Portland's port has angered the Waterfront Task Force, who commissioned the \$26,000 study. "We wanted some concrete strategies and got a piece of fluff," said Karen Sanford, a member of the Waterfront Task Force. Sanford said that Massachusetts consultant James O'Connell was asked to come up with "nuts and bolts action plans" to attract industry to the port but instead made academic and "wimpy" suggestions. Sanford thinks O'Connell "slashed" the 1987 referendum that said the waterfront should be used exclusively for marine business by suggesting that non-marine businesses should be considered when other businesses cannot be found. O'Connell's final draft of the study is due this fall, but Sanford suggests "throwing the thing out and throwing him out."

Council retreats for quality time

The Portland City Council held a six-hour retreat last Thursday at Portland's Regency Inn. In the hope that getting out of the public spotlight would encourage a free flow of ideas from council members, Mayor Esther B. Glenott asked that the press and public not attend. Some media representatives and council watchers showed anyway. Also attending was a facilitator, who pocketed \$1,200 for prodding the councilors. The council held the retreat at the Regency Inn even though that establishment owes the city of Portland \$235,000 in back taxes. "We're concerned about anybody that owes us that kind of money," said City Manager Robert B. Ganley, "but they're in Chapter 11 (bankruptcy), so we hope to help them continue to be in business, not drive them out of business."

Faster Portland roads en route

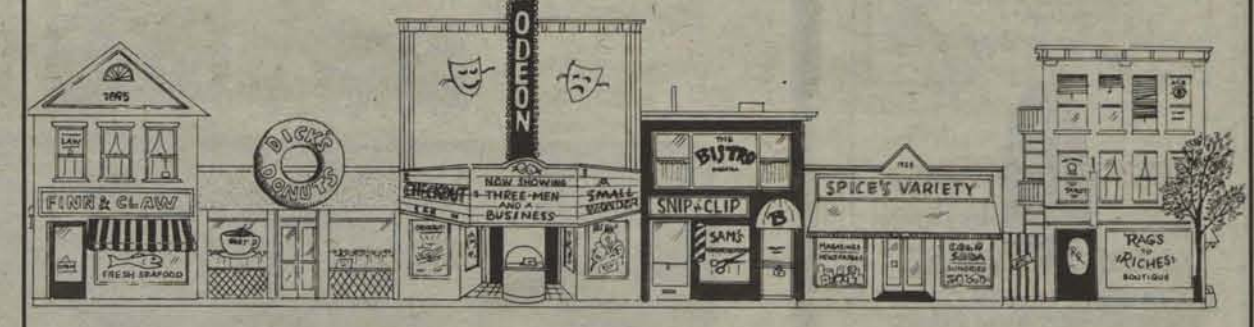
A study begun in June aims to improve traffic flow over the next 20 years on 12 Portland roads. The Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation Study (PACTS), funded by the Maine Department of Transportation, has hit the road in Portland and by April will identify Portland's worst bottlenecks and develop plans to speed them up. John Duncan, executive director of PACTS, says that looking at peak traffic volume, recent accident histories and forecasting how many cars will be cruising Portland in the year 2010 help him to formulate recommendations. Duncan expects his recommendations to include redesigning ramps on I-295 as well as eliminating parking on parts of Forest Avenue where that road can't be widened - a suggestion businesses which benefit from store-front parking will probably put the brakes on, Duncan said.

WEIRD NEWS:

• The bright side of the rising homicide rate in Washington, D.C., is the dramatic increase in the number of organs available for transplants. Of the 27 bodies made available to the area's chief transplant agency in February, six were murder victims. Dr. John Macoviak, who handles heart transplants at Washington Hospital Center, calls the situation unpleasant but "absolutely essential."

• A Japanese manufacturer of plastics and synthetic rubber has created the world's first shape-memory bra. When the bra loses its lift, dropping it in hot water restores the original form. Toyota, Nissan and Honda may research cars with shape-memory panels and bumpers - dents could be styled back into shape with a blow-dryer.

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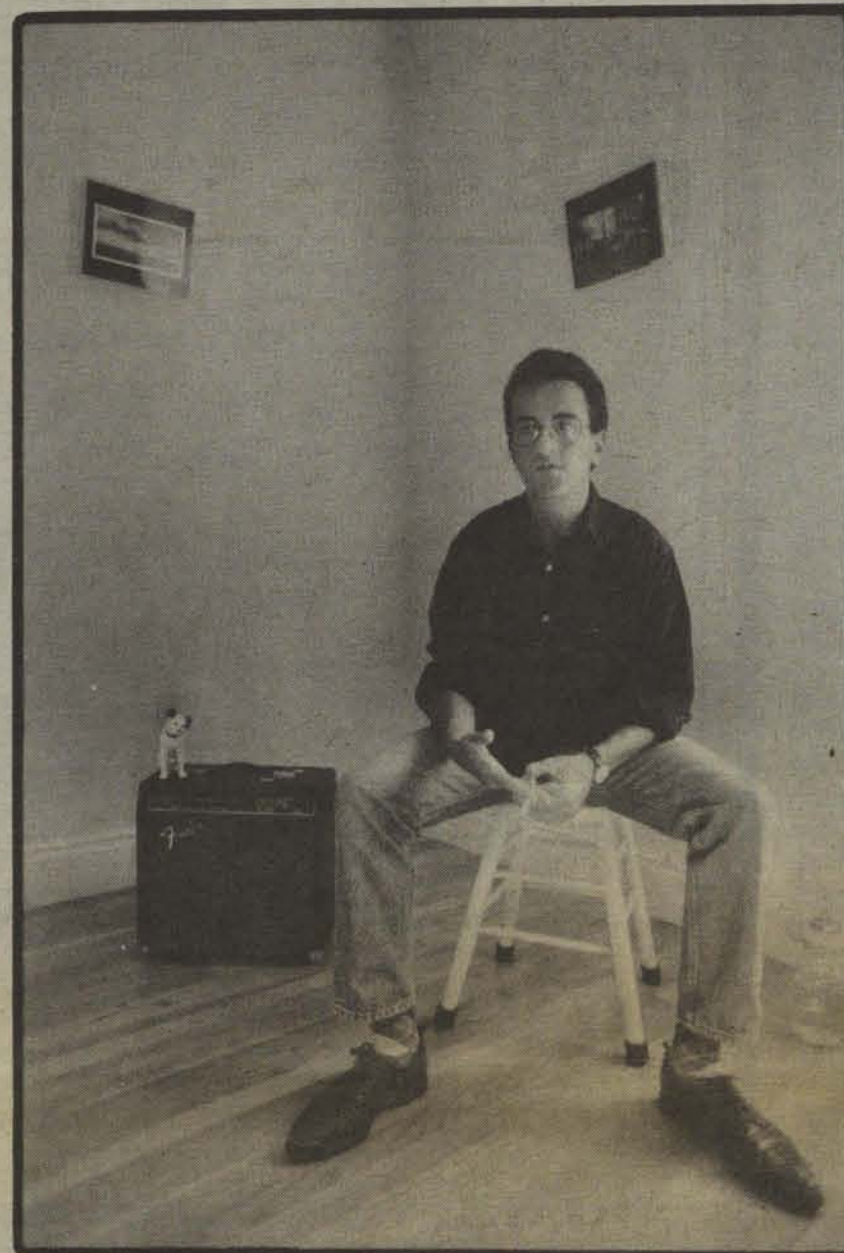
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TALK

by Andy Newman



CBW/Andy Newman

A conversation with Tim Ferrell

For Tim Ferrell, a funny thing happened on the way to a career in acting. Ferrell was working as an actor in New York City when he took friends' suggestions that he give stand-up comedy a shot. Ferrell did stand-up for a while, then assembled a group whose focus was improvisational comedy. "Improv" relies not on written material but on random things an audience shouts out. Now living on the Portland peninsula, Ferrell plans to teach improv to neophytes here this fall.

How'd you end up improvising?

I'd gone from being an actor to being a stand-up comedian. The thing about stand-up is that you're by yourself. You do find friends but there isn't a whole lot of camaraderie among stand-ups. People are very paranoid that you're funnier than they are, or you may end up taking some of their material. It's a very lonely business, especially on the road. But with improv you work with a group and there is a lot of camaraderie.

What are improv comedy's origins?

It grew out of theater games. Actors having problems with a certain section or scene say, let's put the script down and just talk to each other and try to work the scene out that way.

When you played army or put on a show in your garage you were improvising. All improvising is playing kids' games with a lot more structure and a few more rules. And then you invite an audience and ask them to pay money to see you.

What can an audience take from a good improv performance that they might not take from stand-up?

The best stand-ups make it seem like they're doing their material for the first time, that it's fresh, that it's happening right there before them. The thing about improv is there's no denying that. The minute you start the audience know this was not rehearsed, this was not planned. It happens with their input. A guy suggests a scene with an Arab in K Mart and then he sees it happen.

Do you make an effort while improvising to "keep it clean?"

A lot of us pride ourselves on working at what we call "the upper register." If you get dirty, you can't lose. The audience will laugh, but it's easy to work at that level. It's a struggle sometimes. There was one guy in an improv group I was a part of in New York who constantly was, well, working some problems out. And he did it through us and the audience and we finally had to give him the heave-hoe because he just couldn't work at the upper register.

What happens when someone shouts out an obscene suggestion?

You take it and twist it and work at another level. There are two things that are happening there: you're saying screw you to the guy who suggested it and you're saying look what we can do. Look at how smart, how clever, how professional we are. Because we took something that you thought was going to hurt us and we took it to the upper register.

Is someone who is funny at a party cut out to be a comedian?

Some people are very funny in normal life - but they just can't make the transition to standing in front of the microphone with a bunch of strangers sitting there who've paid the cover charge and who know you owe them something.

Other people you'd meet in an everyday situation and you wouldn't say this person is funny. Yet the minute they hit the stage something happens. They have strong point of view or something to say about themselves and that's the only place that they can do it. That's the only time that it works. They're not on in real life, but when they hit that stage, it clicks in. That's when they're on, and that's when they want to deliver the goods. They're money players.

Is it true that you want to start a comedy club here in Portland?

I'd like to work with some people to open a comedy club here in the spring. When I was working with Abrams and Anderson at their Portland show a couple months ago, I asked "How many people would like to see a comedy club here?" They all said yes. When I asked who wanted to finance it, nobody wanted to have any part of that.

Andy Newman is on in real life, but we're not sure what he's on.

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VIEWS

THEIRS:

Public affairs television: More and more of less and less

As public affairs programming withers across the country, Portland's locally-programmed UHF station, WZ4AR (channel 24), is preparing for battle with Public Cable for access to the "cablewaves." Claiming that Public Cable has unfairly denied access to the cable system, channel 24 has asked Portland's Broadband Telecommunications Network Regulatory Board to decide whether or not Public Cable must put channel 24 on cable.

The board will conduct a hearing on Wednesday, September 13, at 7 p.m. in room 209 of Portland City Hall. To put what channel 24 is trying to do in context, here's a report by television critic Pat Aufderheide about what is happening to public affairs broadcasting elsewhere:

Don't worry, the Federal Communications Commission has calmly assured the public for years. Broadcasters - who use public spectrum to sell audiences to advertisers - don't need regulation to make them serve the public interest. (That's the quid pro quo for getting access to public spectrum for free.)

Who needs it, when you have the marketplace? But according to a just-released study by the Nader group Essential Information, "Shortchanging the Viewers," the market stall for public affairs programming is ever more bare. Author Jim Donahue, comparing FCC reports from 1979 with local TV Guide reports for a sample of 217 TV stations from 1988, found that local public affairs programming has decreased 39 percent.

More ominous, the newer entrants to the TV marketplace are the worst offenders. Some 63 percent of Fox Broadcasting affiliates air no locally produced public affairs programs at all, and a whopping 87 percent of Fox stations air no local news. (UHF channel 51 is Greater Portland's Fox station.) Indeed, 15 percent of all stations had no news on the air at all in 1988.

Interestingly, Donahue also found that total news programming is up substantially - 74 percent - since 1975. Of course, the terms on which it is produced have changed a lot. Reality programming and tabloid TV are erasing the distinction between gossip, titillation and news. And the trend, even in network news, is heralded in an April 5 Variety, whose headline reads, "Introspection at NBC: Is No News Good News?"

At NBC, ex-GE exec and network president Bob Wright has shaken up the money-losing news department by setting profit-making goals. There's been talking of charging guests on the "Today" show for their appearances, and Wright has even raised the specter of abolishing the "Nightly News."

But in the crucial areas of local news and public affairs - the areas where, unlike reality programming and tabloid TV, citizens can participate in debate over issues they have an immediate stake in - the decline is impressive.

Why has the broadcast menu changed so much? It's simple. Broadcasters can make more money running other programs, including sensationalist reality shows and infotainment. Of course, that's always been true. The difference now is that they don't have to air public affairs any more. In the old days, before 1984, FCC set minimum guidelines for broadcasters: 5 percent of their time to air informational (public affairs plus news) programming, 5 percent to locally produced programs and 10 percent to non-entertainment programs. To safeguard renewal of their licenses, stations mostly met those standards, although often with super-low-budget shows early in the morning or late at night.

Nowadays, with cutbacks in news staff and bottom-line pressures stemming from mergers and

quick turnover sales (also fostered by deregulation), broadcasters do without the public affairs frills. As a CBS affiliate public affairs director in North Carolina told Donahue, "You can sell commercials on an hour of Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous a whole lot better than on an hour of a public affairs show."

It's not only the content that's gone. So is accountability. In the old days, the FCC required broadcasters to make their program logs (the daily record of programming) open to the public. No longer. And when Donahue asked stations and networks for their program logs, he got stonewalled. A shocking 97 percent of the 1,017 stations he contacted refused to give him logs, although most stations still keep them. One Fox affiliate news and public affairs director simply said, "What's in it for me besides wasting my time?"

The Essential Information report also traces the decline in public affairs programs to the FCC's abandonment of the Fairness Doctrine since 1987. The Doctrine required broadcasters to air controversial programming, and to air it fairly. Since the study compares 1988 with FCC studies from the 1970s, it's difficult to trace the changes directly to the end of the Doctrine (which Congress may reinstate this session). But the data do suggest a powerful link between deregulation and changes both in programming and in broadcasters' attitudes toward public scrutiny.

The broadcast industry is not taking the charges lying down. The Radio-TV News Directors Association denies that the end of the Doctrine - which it and the National Association of Broadcasters claim "chilled" airing of controversy because broadcasters feared accusations of unfair coverage - has anything to do with declining public affairs programming. RTNDA accuses Essential Information of ignoring "the enormous changes in the marketplace since 1975" - as if those changes were not made possible by deregulation. RTNDA cites the growth in the number of broadcast stations (many of them, of course, with no local news or public affairs), and the growth in cable news shows (although broadcast TV is still the most-watched medium, and only half of American TV homes get cable). It faults the study for using percentages rather than total hours, since more stations came on the air in the period studied. However, the percentages mark a proportional decline in such programming, even if more stations are on the air. Finally, RTNDA damns the study for depending on not-fully-accurate TV Guide listings - although station managers left Donahue with no alternative.

"Shortchanging the Viewers" (available from Essential Information, PO Box 19405, Washington DC 20036) is the first quantitative study to show what many public interest producers, religious organizations, unions and issue groups have been saying for years: The new media marketplace is bad for public debate of public issues. It is bolstered by other studies. For instance, U.S. Public Interest Research Group recently showed that during the 1988 election, many stations refused to provide time to air controversy on ballot issues - even though by law they are still required to. Like the elegant argument Jay Blumler put forward in his recent Benton Foundation study on communications policy options, it makes the case for developing a regulatory framework that frees broadcasters to do programming that's not just focussed on the highest rate of return.

The danger is that the longer we wait, the more the evolving landscape comes to look normal to the next generation of viewers. American TV viewers will feed on an electronic information diet high in junk-food news, and low in the essential vitamins and minerals for a healthy democracy - vigorous and controversial public affairs reporting.

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This space is for opinions. Your views are here, and sometimes ours. Please be brief when you write, and please include a phone number (which will not be published) so that we can verify your letter. Send your VIEWS to: VIEWS, Casco Bay Weekly, 187 Clark St., Portland, ME. 04102.

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HOME-SCHOOLING

CONTINUED from page one

Back when the "settlers" first invaded Maine, homeschooling was the primary form of education - for both the Europeans and the Indians. By the 19th century it had nearly vanished. But now homeschooling has re-emerged.

Playful learning

"Years ago people said the schools know best," says parent Earl Stevens. "I think that's happening less. I hope so." A high school drop out, Earl knows that public school doesn't work for everyone.

"If a child is obedience-oriented he'll do great in school. But there will be real problems if he wants to think on his own." And so Earl lets his nine-year-old son Jamie think and learn on his own in their rambling white house behind Portland's Back Cove.

When Jamie was small, Earl started reading and researching elementary education and returned to public school. "How can these kids stand being here all day long?" he wondered, observing from the back of a classroom. He says the philosophy of school is that a child won't learn unless forced to: "No matter how much we smile, how many gerbils we buy for the classroom, or how cute the bulletin board is - kids are being forced to do things they may not want to do."

Earl and Jamie's days at home together are unstructured. "I don't know what we're going to do a day or two ahead," Earl says. Similarly, there is no first or last day of Jamie's school year.

Basically, Jamie plays. When he becomes interested in something, his father explains, they follow up on it. For example, one night father and son took a walk and Jamie gazed up at the full moon and started asking questions. That walk led to buying some astronomy books and learning about planets. Earl says that this sort of learning is academics stemming from something unacademic. "If I said to him, 'Jamie, this week we're going to learn about the planets' he'd say, 'Give me a break Dad.'"

Jamie learned to read by being read to - mostly comic books. He doesn't know phonics and he can't diagram a sentence, but at age nine he's reading at a junior high school level. He learned to add and subtract by having his own savings account. He's had no tests, no homework, no required book reports. He goes from opening birthday presents to watching television to playing with their terrier Molly to trying to talk his dad into letting him walk to CVS.

When asked what he's learned since last year, Jamie thinks a moment and says he now knows why there is a designated hitter on American League teams. And he adds that he's seen the craters on the moon. He can't think of what else he's learned, saying it's hard to put things into subject categories: "It all seems the same to me."

His dad thinks Jamie has learned thousands of things about the world, nature and people but that in Jamie's world they all blend into life. Jamie shows no interest in going to school. He calls it "stupid stuff" that a friend of his is doing in school. "If I was in school I'd get a Z in everything. I'd be throwing spitballs a lot," Jamie says.

Earl and his wife Linda, a systems analyst at UNUM, have made the commitment to homeschool Jamie until he goes to college or gets a job. Earl notes though that homeschooling doesn't have to be an 18-year commitment: a family can homeschool in the early years to "delay the impact" of entering an educational institution.

But the Stevens are willing to go the distance with homeschooling. As Earl sees it, "It's another way of making life a little more sane for your child."

Homeschoolers constitution

There were no specific rules for homeschooling in Maine until 1984. Homes with kids studying in them were treated like private schools.

In 1984, four high school superintendents got together and wrote up homeschool regulations

after catching wind of unproven cases of abuse and neglect in homeschool situations. When these regulations were opened up to a public hearing, several hundred people showed up and "raised hell" according to Steve Moitzo, president and founder of the Maine Home-school Association. The main gripe, he says, was "how dare you regulate without asking the regulated?"

A new committee was formed of superintendents, department of education folk and homeschoolers - including Moitzo. The committee met 19 times during the summer of 1984 and hammered out Chapter 130 of the department of education's regulations: a homeschoolers' constitution. This uproar publicized homeschooling and the number of homeschoolers jumped from 25 in 1983-84 to 120 in 1984-85 and nearly doubled the following year.

The four main items Chapter 130 specified are: 175 days of instruction per year; curriculum must include language arts, math, science, social studies and physical education; if the home schooling parent is not certified as a teacher, she must meet with a support group four times a year; and a method of annual assessment chosen by the parent must be given once a year to measure the student's progress.

Things were quiet on the home front after Chapter 130 went into effect, and more and more homeschooled children sprouted up each year. But things heated up again last May when the legislature's education committee considered creating a 10-member panel to study whether educational alternatives such as homeschooling need more explicit state guidelines.

Again, 200 people showed up for the public hearing in Augusta. "You could not move in the hall outside the meeting room," relates Moitzo. It was a hot day. Tempers flared. Proponents of the bill said homeschooling is unsupervised and needs more state requirements. Opponents said leave us alone. "It was not pretty at all," Moitzo adds. The committee killed the bill 13-0, but they weren't done with homeschooling yet.

Christian learning

"There were a lot of conflicting values, says Bonnie Mikoski. "We couldn't see eye to eye with the school."

Bonnie saw her two sons' values becoming diluted during their years in public school. She didn't want them exposed to things that she and her husband - both of whom are born-again Christians - didn't approve of: rock music, profanity, pro-choice attitudes.

Bonnie also saw that although her sons got good grades, they were not enthused about learning. She wanted something different for them, but she didn't jump right into homeschooling.

"I had my doubts as to whether I could do it," says Bonnie, who calls herself a homemaker and has a high school degree. She researched homeschooling for a year and read about childhood development. Then she asked her two sons if they wanted to stay home and learn, asking for only a one-year commitment to start.

Thomas was intrigued by the novelty and adventure of it and said yes. Nathan, one year older, said no and went off to junior high school. But he only stayed there two weeks before he decided he wanted to join them at home. Now Nathan, 13, and Thomas, 12, are entering their third year of homeschooling.

Days at the Mikoski house, a tidy, square house within walking distance of the public elementary school in Westbrook, are structured. Days begin at 7 a.m. with household chores that Bonnie says teaches them dependability and consistency. After breakfast there are two hours of rote learning using math and English workbooks.

In the afternoon, with history and science, there is more leeway. "As long as they're learning and as long as they're progressing," says Bonnie. "They know they're expected to learn. They can't be slouches." Thomas has branched off into reading Bible history novels and studying marine biology while Nathan is more interested in the forest and its creatures.

There are various projects such as building a model of the human ear and turning a beach ball into a globe. Nathan corresponded with school children on a South Pacific island to learn more about their country. Thomas wrote to stamp clearing houses and has received more



Thomas Mikoski's schooling includes volunteering at a Jewish rest home.

than 4,000 stamps in the mail. "Boredom had not been one of our problems," says Bonnie. "They rarely, I mean rarely, complain that they're bored."

Bonnie buys textbooks from a Christian-based child development center in Washington that also gives Bonnie pointers along the way. Money's tight at times. Bonnie says they spend several hundred dollars a year on books and supplies. And each year they make a big investment: a set of encyclopedias the first year, a computer the next.

Nathan and Thomas take tests twice a year that are supplied and graded by the same Washington company. The test results assess the students' skills and offer suggestions for Bonnie. "It shows me where I need to help them."

Bonnie keeps a file of each son's paperwork, files thick after two years. She tries to keep a daily journal of activities. One day's entry included math problems, a trip to the dentist, volunteer work at a Munjoy Hill nursing home and Bible readings as that day's learning.

Their learning also involves going through a book about Christian values every week with their father. Bonnie and Kevin want their kids to have a personal relationship with Christ and to weave Christ into every avenue of their lives. In fact, Bonnie sees the bottom line of education as helping children to live for Christ.

As Bonnie scans through a Bible searching for a line about preparing for eternal life, Nathan comes in from the paper route he shares with Thomas. Shily, he says it was a slow day because of the thunder shower. In the next room, two-year-old Andrew stirs in his crib. Bonnie is excited about homeschooling Andrew from the start. "If I could go back, that's how I'd do it."

No more local review

In July of this year, another homeschool bill was up to bat and the state legislature's education committee made changes to Chapter 130 that affect the homeschool application process.

As it was, homeschoolers had to submit their applications to their local school board and superintendent for approval. Although Chapter 130 clearly states that each local school board is required to adopt homeschool rules by July 1, 1985, that conform to Chapter 130 requirements, some school boards were taking liberties: the policy at SAD 17 in Oxford read "all homeschool applications will be disapproved"; the Yarmouth school board takes the stance that homeschooling doesn't offer proper socialization and thus turned down applications.

In March, Moitzo collected homeschool policies from 70 different school boards, about a third of those in the state. Moitzo found that 18 school boards, including Portland and Freeport, had no written policy. Another 48 boards, including Westbrook and Gorham, had policies contrary to Chapter 130. Thus 94 percent of these school boards' policies were not in compliance with the 1984 law.

Seeing the range of local policies, the education committee voted to change the law so that homeschool applications now bypass local school boards. The local superintendent will receive a copy of the application, but the commissioner will make the decisions. Since

this change in law was tagged emergency legislation, it went into effect the minute Gov. McKernan signed the bill on July 7. Moitzo calls the immediacy "the cherry on top of the frosting on top of the cake."

Still, homeschooled children are under the auspices of the school district they live in and each local school sets the tone for its relationship with its homeschoolers. Some schools such as Portland, South Portland and Falmouth have supportive, positive relationships with their homeschoolers. They share their text books and resources, allow them to attend classes such as computers, art or gym, if desired and open extra-curricular activities to them. (No homeschooler, however, can compete on a high school sports team because of a ruling by the Maine Secondary Schools Principal Association.)

"I don't see it as a threat to the public school system or the quality of education offered to children," says Don Clerico, deputy superintendent in South Portland who handles the three to four homeschool families there.

Other schools wash their hands of homeschoolers. "Once someone made a conscious effort to remove a youngster from the school we thought that break should be as clean as possible," says superintendent Edward Connolly explaining why Westbrook offers nothing to homeschool kids. The school board there adopted this no-involvement policy in the summer of 1987 to avoid what Connolly calls the "antithetical situation" created by homeschoolers.

By law, school systems can count a homeschooler as a half-attende and thus receive half of the normal state subsidy. The average subsidy received for homeschoolers is \$1,200. In towns like Portland, South Portland and Falmouth, homeschoolers there can see some of that money by having access to school facilities, resources and activities. But in towns like Westbrook, home schoolers see none of the \$1,200 the school system receives just because they live in that district.

Diverse learning

"One system isn't right for everyone. We're all individuals," says Theresa Luce whose three children have all homeschooled at one point or another.

Tara, 18, homeschooled her eighth grade year and took her junior year off from Catherine McCauley High School. She went in one Friday and told them she wouldn't be in on Monday. They tried to talk her out of it but she had made up her mind.

The summer before Tara had been one of the 11 United States delegates to attend an international peace camp in Russia. She spent six weeks there. She learned bits of Russian, Polish and other languages. She met Nicaraguan orphans. She says that after that experience she had a hard time going back to a school where kids worry about their hair styles.

Although some of her friends teased her about coping out, she had more things going that year than during regular school years. In addition to reading and writing, she was tutored in calculus and French, took voice

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lessons, worked 20 hours a week, coached girls basketball at a local elementary school, competed on the school debate team and volunteered with the Maine Peace Campaign.

When Tara returned to school her senior year she was bored by the third week and felt ready to leave - but stuck around because she liked her English teacher and because of non-academics such as soccer and the debate team.

Tara, wearing a religious medallion, a new age crystal and a pin of the earth, is off to Hampshire College this fall, an alternative college with no tests and where the professors go by their first names.

Jeffery, two years younger than Tara, homeschooled during his sixth and eighth grade years but wasn't crazy about it. He tarted ninth grade at Chevrus High School because he wanted more of a social life and intends to finish out his schooling there and go on to college to study engineering. He prefers the structure of school: "I'm bright and I like being told what to do. It's easier for me."

Joshua, 11, has been homeschooled since half way through first grade. Theresa had watched Joshua go from being bubbly and sweet to angry and troubled. The school suggested testing and medication. Theresa chose to take him home.

Joshua nods that he feels like he's different from school kids but that seems to be okay with him. He's into bikes - taking them apart and putting them back together. He still gets hassled about homeschooling. An old man at the Shop 'n Save always harps on him about not being in school. His grandparents ask him if he's in real school yet.

Although they all homeschooled, the three Luce children have different views of home schooling.

"At school you get so much handed to you. When you're homeschooled you have to go get it," says Tara, who's not so sure she'd attend school as much if she did it over again.

Jeffery says he won't go back to homeschooling nor will he consider it for his own kids.

Joshua shakes his head that he doesn't want to go back to public school.

Theresa, their mother, is encouraged that her three kids don't all think alike about homeschooling: "That's a sign I'm doing it right."

Homeschool boom

Maine is not unique in its homeschool boom; other states are bursting with homeschoolers too. Colorado, for example, went from 54 approved homeschoolers in 1980-81 to 835 in 1987-88.

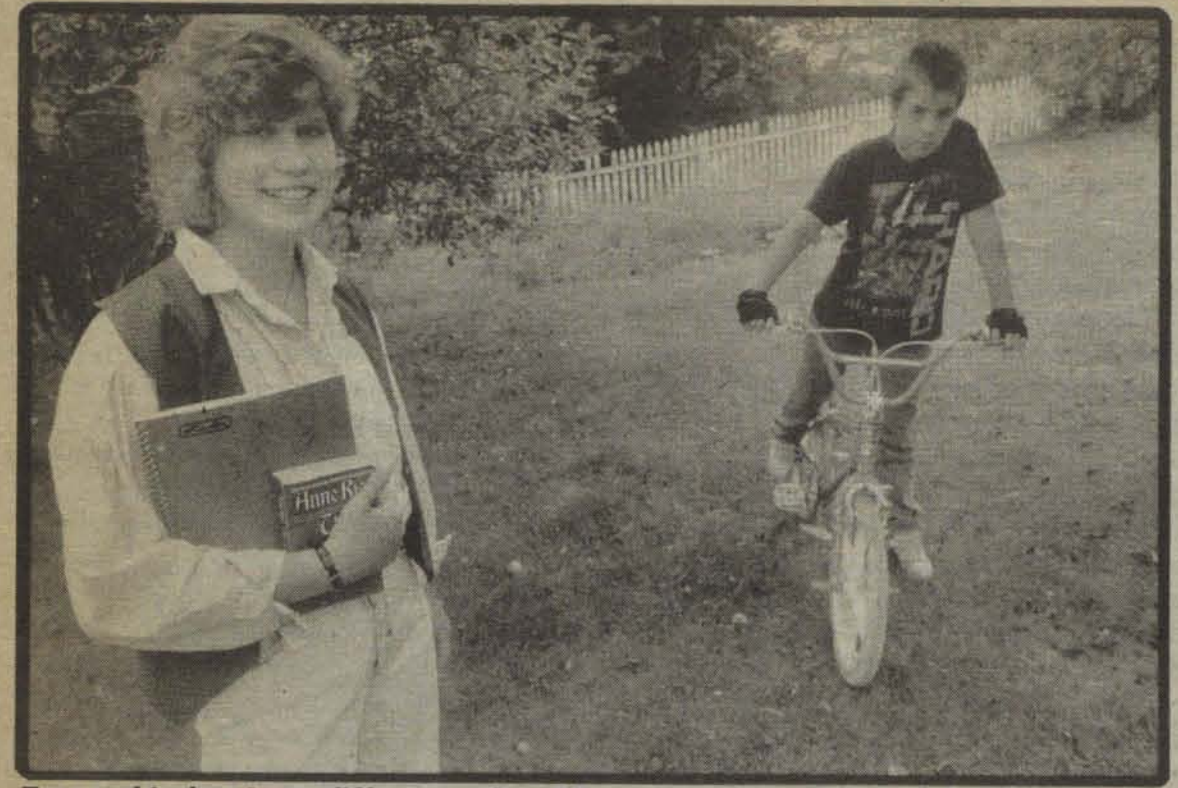
Estimates of the number of homeschooled children nationwide range between half a million and a million. There's no way to get an exact head count since some states lump their homeschoolers in with all other non-public school attendees and because of those homeschoolers who go unrecorded.

Moitzo estimates that in Maine there are around 350 unapproved homeschoolers. He says children under the compulsory school age of seven account for the bulk of these unknowns. The others, he explains, "would rather not have anybody know about them because they fear interference."

The homeschool movement though is not an underground movement. There are books on it and more than 25 curricula available specifically designed for homeschool use. There are home school support groups and newsletters springing up across the country. Maine has ten support groups and a statewide association for homeschoolers (see sidebar).

Arnold Johnson, the approval consultant at the Department of Educational and Cultural Services (DECS), who in late August was swamped with a backlog of 400 homeschool applications, says the main factor behind the growth is simply that more people are becoming aware that it's possible.

Every state allows homeschooling, but the restrictions vary. Maine is among the 32 states that have adopted specific homeschool regulations ranging from restrictive to lenient. Twelve states treat homeschoolers like private or church schools. The remaining eight require local school approval for all homeschool applications (as Maine did up until July). Only two states - Michigan and Iowa - require that the tutor/parent have a teaching certificate.



Tara and Joshua Luce: different styles of homeschooling within one family.

Geographically, the south and west tend to be more lenient, the north and east more restrictive.

After the handful of studies done about homeschoolers there is still no indication that children suffer academically or socially in any way from homeschooling. Still there are opponents. "There are those special instances where youngsters bloom in that kind of setting," concedes Superintendent Frank Harrison of Yarmouth, "but I think that's the exception not the rule."

Most of the opposition comes from people working in the public school system. "It's always a threat to school officials as it calls the professionalism of education into question because there are people without educational degrees or teaching experience saying they can do better than the schools can," homeschool parent Earl Stevens offers as an explanation.

While the decision to homeschool may be based on a better environment or a better way of learning, getting and keeping homeschool rights isn't based on home schooling being better than other schooling. "Parents ought to have choices," says Moitzo, "just choices on how their kids are taught."

"Just doing stuff" learning

"I think that if you don't fit the system, don't fit the mold, it (homeschooling) can be a good way around it. The system can crush a child," says Tim Holt, 30, who was 11 when he and his three brothers started homeschooling at their home in Bath back in 1970.

Maria Holt, his mother and now a state representative for the Bath area, says that they were having increasing difficulty with the public schools. "It is very, very hard to see children coming home from school discouraged," she says of their years at public schools in New Hampshire and Princeton, New Jersey.

The last straw came when the family moved to Maine and the four Holt boys were told by the school that they had to cut the ear-length hair that the boys wore to emulate the Beatles. "They looked fine to me," Maria says. The school didn't think so.

All four were expelled. "And I said, 'Well, good,'" relates Maria. She started homeschooling them.

It wasn't easy to be home school pioneers in the 1970s. The school hassled them, calling the boys truant even though they had been expelled. The state insisted that Maria get certified as a teacher. They were alone. Tim says they knew of only one other family in Maine that was home schooling at the time. Tim remembers feeling isolated in a way, as if they had been banished from the community.

Tim's years from age 11 until age 19 when he went to UMO were totally unstructured. He says there was a lot of bike riding and television watching. He says his parents supplied stuff but didn't tell them to use it. But Tim ultimately picked up a cursive writing book and gave some slant to his handwriting. For about half a year he looked at things under a microscope. He did a lot of bird watching.

When he was 19 he picked up SAT prep books and studied for four months, scoring a combined 1350 and then going to UMO. "I thought I was going to flunk out," Tim says of

Marilyn Blinkhorn

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that all children of the light will gather on these full mooned evenings to focus, to visualize the healing energies of love/light into those areas within ourselves and our planet that have become darkened, influenced by the powerful illusion of separation, that we may together welcome with open hearts the higher, loving vibrations of the fourth dimension, hence, heaven on earth.

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THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

PORTLAND

◆ The last of the "After Dark Against AIDS" series to raise money for the AIDS Project and educate the public about AIDS takes place tonight at Moose Alley, 46 Market St., Portland. Many local night clubs have hosted entertainment for the successful series. Tonight's show features the local rock & roll band Split 50. For more information, call 774-5246.

◆ Portland's first photo gallery opens today with an exhibit of prints by Eliot Porter. Two portfolios of dye transfer photographs "Trees" and "Certain Passages" contain some of Porter's most famous images of landscapes and flora. The Evans Gallery is located at 7 Pleasant St., Portland. The exhibit continues through Oct. 7. Hours are Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Thursday until 9 p.m. For more information, call 879-0042.

◆ The band 'Til Tuesday went from Kenmore Square to MTV with their art-pop hit "Voices Carry." Members of 'Til Tuesday and another Boston group New Man have regrouped to form Ultra Blue in town for a gig at the Tree Cafe, 45 Danforth St., Portland.

◆ Maine's historic religious architecture is the topic of a lecture being given this afternoon by Earle G. Shettleworth, director of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission. The lecture is part of a series of events organized by the New Gloucester Historical Society to raise money for the restoration of the Universalist Meeting House. Today's event is at 3 p.m. at the Meeting House, Rt. 231, New Gloucester. Admission is free, but donations are accepted. For more information, call 926-4469 or 926-4021.

◆ Anni Clark, a Portland-based folk/rock songwriter, is having a record release party for her new album "Shoulda Coulda." The album, recorded locally at Studio 3 and in Nashville, Tenn., is hitting the stores this week. The party is at Raoul's, 865 Forest Ave., Portland. Tickets are \$4 in advance, \$5 at the door. For more information, call 773-6886.

◆ Steven Sondhein's musical "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" is being presented at the Ogunquit Square Theatre, where Bette Davis made her stage debut, filling in for an ailing actress. The musical opens tonight at the Ogunquit Square Theater and continues through October 23. Showtime is 8 p.m. For more information, call 646-5151.

◆ USM's Dance Week, a week-long residency by the Boston-based Portland Arts Ensemble, begins today and concludes with a performance Friday. During the week there will be public workshops in modern and jazz dance technique as well as self-defense as a form of dance. Today's activities include a self-defense workshop at 9 a.m. at the Campus Center in Portland, movement improvisation for actors at 2 p.m. at Russell Square Theater and intermediate modern dance technique at 4 p.m. in the small gym on the Gorham campus. The cost for each class is \$3 for the public. For a complete schedule of workshops see the Listings.

◆ Who knows who will stop by to jam when the members of the Southern Maine Blues Society meet tonight at Raoul's? The society formed to promote the blues in southern Maine and it welcomes new members to stop by, stick



Karla Bonoff plays September 14.

around for a jam session (John Hammond showed up last month). The meeting is at 7 p.m., the jam follows. Raoul's is located at 865 Forest Ave., Portland. For more information, call 871-0425.

offerings on college campuses this fall. Violinist Sandra Goldberg and pianist and composer Elliott Schwarz perform works by Tom Johnson, Morton Feldman, Joan Tower and Cornelius Cardew at 3:15 p.m. in Daggett Lounge, Wentworth Hall, Bowdoin College, Brunswick. For more information, call 725-3321.

◆ The season ends at SeaPAC when Jerry Garcia and Bob Weir of the Grateful Dead take the stage for a concert of their acoustic music at 7 p.m. There are still tickets available at the box office at SeaPAC in Old Orchard Beach and at the Record Exchange in Portland: \$20 on advance, \$21 the day of the show.

Mamma Tongue play African-American sounds. See September 16...



◆ The Riverwatch Association, which monitors the Presumpscot River for pollutants, meets tonight at 7 p.m. in 310 Luther Bonney Hall on the USM Portland campus. Anyone interested in the fate of the river is welcome to attend. For more information, call 774-9891.

◆ Working globally, the local chapter of Amnesty International meets the second Thursday of each month 7 p.m. at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodfords St., Portland. The chapter works on letter writing to free political prisoners around the world. Anyone interested in working with Amnesty International is welcome to attend.

◆ Karla Bonoff returns to Portland for a show at Raoul's. The singer/songwriter packed the City Hall Auditorium twice at the New Years Portland festivities last year. Tonight's show is selling out fast. For ticket information, call 773-6886.

◆ Oboist Neil Boyer performs Poulenc's "Trio for Oboe, Bassoon and Horn," Herzogenberg's "Trio for Oboe, Horn and Piano" and Mozart's "Concerto for Oboe in C Major" at the first in the Faculty Concert Series at USM. Boyer, who is the principal oboist for the PSO, will be joined by three members of the successful Block Ensemble for tonight's concert is at 8 p.m. in Corthell Concert Hall on the Gorham campus. Tickets are \$7/\$4. For reservations, call 780-5555.

◆ The Performing Arts Ensemble concludes their week at USM (see Monday) with a performance of dance works by Pooh Kaye, Danny Costa, and David Dorfman, whose work "Elemental Hunch" was performed this year at the Maine Festival. Dancers Art Bridgeman and Myrna Packer join the ensemble for the 8 p.m. show at Russell Square Theatre at the USM Gorham campus. Tickets are \$8/\$5. For more information, call 874-6590.

◆ The Chinese American Friendship Association is celebrating the Chinese Lunar Festival with poetry and Chinese mooncakes. Professor Lin Yu of Bowdoin College will read moon poems by Chinese poets and speak about Chinese poetry. A mooncake reception follows the reading. The festival takes place at 7 p.m. in 311 Luther Bonney Hall, USM Portland. For more information, call 773-3192.

◆ Mamma Tongue fuses African drumming and rhythms with American jazz melodies in a show that guarantees the audience will be on their feet moving to the rhythms. The six-member band includes John McDowell on piano and drums, Stan Strickland on sax, Karam Sabally and Clifton Robinson playing traditional drums, Michael Rivard on bass and the dancer Amaneyea Payne. Mamma Tongue plays tonight at Raoul's, 865 Forest Ave., Portland. 773-6886.

Moon poetry... The Chinese Lunar Festival is celebrated September 15.



Economics and China See September 12.

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 *Maine Sunday Telegram, July 30, 1989

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SPORT

by Mike Quinn



Sporting with the deadly sins Glory in gluttony

Life is more than football, basketball and sometimes hockey. There are many lesser known sports, which if given a chance, could become classic forums for the average person. Heretofore nobodies can become superstars overnight.

Take gluttony. If it isn't a sport yet, it should be soon. Don't confuse these words with CBW's regular EATS column. Anyone can cook up a storm or order in a fancy restaurant. The real talent lies in eating tremendous quantities of food in a short time, metabolism permitting.

Consider last weekend. At my sister's wedding reception, I ate 12 pieces of chicken, nine large Italian sausages, eight helpings of lasagne, a ton of scalloped potatoes, a separate plate of salad, two bowls of fruit Jello, 11 dinner rolls and the entire second tier of the wedding cake. Some say there is no glory in gluttony. Hogwash!

Pigging out requires mental determination and singleness of purpose. A bottomless pit doesn't hurt either. The great ones in the sport of gluttony eat all the food because it's there, kind of like climbing a mountain of calories.

What is the social redeeming value of eating half the menu, half the house, or half the city? First there is the feeling of accomplishment. Then follows the sensation of being truly full - like a bear who has just eaten a thousand berries before hibernating in peace. Finally there is the road back to normalcy, requiring regular eating and serious exercise.

Gluttony is not a sport that should be played every day. Becoming 400 pounds and exploding tends to permanently take a player off the active roster. One has to pick and choose key spots to glutton. As in any sport or activity, a measuring stick for success is required. For instance, how many pancakes, how many pies, how many whatever must be looked at. In the movie "Cool Hand Luke" Paul Newman, on a bet, ate 50 hard boiled eggs. (Do not try this one at home.)

A personal favorite of mine for eating contests is the Big Mac. While a midshipman in the Navy during an ROTC summer, I ran into another midshipman from the University of Illinois who was bragging about how much he could eat. I chose the Big Mac (which by the way was bigger in 1974 than it is today) to settle the issue. The deal was, loser pays for all the Big Macs.

I thought this would be a private thing but it

OFF THE WALL

Sculptor Michael Singer talks about his work, which uses bent wood, raw stones, granite and reeds to create delicate structures Sep 12, 4 pm in Hastings Lounge, USM Gorham. Free and open to the public. For more information, call 780-5460.

Bowdoin's Outdoor Gallery: A Walking Tour of the Quad Patricia McGraw Anderson, author of "The Architecture of Bowdoin College," speaks Sep 13, 1 pm and Sep 17, 3 pm. Meet in front of the Walker Art Building, Bowdoin College, Brunswick. For more information, call 725-3275.

Maine Arts Commission Institutional Support Program gives grants to fund arts programs and projects in non-profit organizations statewide. Deadline is Oct 2. Guidelines and application forms are available by contacting the Maine Arts Commission, State House Station #25, Augusta, 04333 289-2724.

Wildlife Art Contest sponsored by the Maine Arts Commission and the Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is open to Maine resident artists, amateur and professional. Each entrant may submit up to two sides of paintings portraying live wildlife, fish and other fauna native to Maine. Winning paintings will be displayed in the Governor's Gallery in the State House in Augusta from mid-December through the end of February 1990. For more information, call 289-2871.

Danforth Street Gallery in Portland, a non-profit alternative gallery, invites artists 60 and over to submit work for a juried thematic exhibition titled "The Essence of Maine." Juror Martin Dibner will select winners for both professional and amateur categories. Work must be delivered by Nov 3. For details send self-addressed stamped envelope to "Essence of Maine" c/o Danforth Street Gallery, 84 Danforth St., Portland, 04101, Attention Helen Rivas.

The Common Ground Fair is looking for a design to become the 1990 poster. Artists may submit one or two designs by Nov. 1 on any theme relating to agriculture. The selected design will be used for the 1990 fair poster and t-shirt. It's important that the style be appropriate for silk-screening, which requires a minimum of blending and/or shading. Pastels and water-colors are not appropriate. Submissions will be judged and the selected artist will receive a \$500 honorarium. For more information, contact the Common Ground Fair, PO Box 2176, Augusta, ME 04338 or phone 623-5115.

turned into caloric warfare. He had all his Navy friends show up, I had mine, and both of us took on a manager to officially sanction this epicurean epic. In addition, there were maybe another 30 unfortunate customers at the McDonald's in Little Creek, Va., who had to watch this craziness.

Fifteen years ago I had about two dollars spending money per week so my motivation was that I could not afford to lose. Being broke is not a pre-requisite of winning at gluttony, but in contest situations it certainly doesn't hurt.

Returning to the action, Henry (Illinois glutton) and I (Holy Cross challenger) were tied at six Big Macs each. A hush fell over Ronald McDonald's dining room. This could go on forever, or it could be called a tie with many disappointed fans. A principle of gluttony I espouse is that in a contest environment one should win by a lot, not a little. I ordered *two* more Big Macs right in front of fat Henry who dropped his jaw in disbelief and then quit after I finished the second one, a dramatic 8-6 final.

Is there a future in this sort of thing? My manager Vince thought there was because he continued to train me until I could eat 10 Big Macs in 12 minutes. We reached this dubious plateau late in the summer of '74. Our requests to appear on the "Tonight Show" were incredulously never answered by Mr. Carson, and Vince and I ended our partnership when his hamburger fund ran out.

As in any sport, the possibility for injury exists. In football, the knee is usually first to go. Basketball players pull hamstring. Baseball pitchers often contract tendonitis after a few years. In gluttony, watch out for ulcers, colitis, or the ever popular veritable bowel syndrome. It is imperative to have an internal specialist on your team if you're going to go gluttony, big time. Strip away all the trophies, glory, adulation and attention that accompany this sport and believe it's important to remain a "regular person."

Gluttony definitely isn't for everyone. It's a sport that requires delicate hand-eye-stomach coordination. "Try it, you'll like it." That's the old slogan for Alka Seltzer. I haven't forgotten it, even after all these years.

Mike Quinn, staff writer, is required to pay all his food expenses - for obvious reasons.

David Brower, the first executive director of the Sierra Club and founder of Friends of the Earth, will speak after the workshops, and in the afternoon participants will take a boat tour of the bay. The cost of the conference, including lunch at SMVTI in South Portland, is \$15 for adults and \$10 for students and elders. Call 774-4627 for registration information.

Hannah Holmes

Painting and Possession: Poussin's Painting of Chantelou and the Essais of Montaigne Lecture given by Elizabeth Cropper, professor of the history of art at Johns Hopkins. Sep 7, 7:30 pm in Kresge Auditorium, Visual Arts Center, Bowdoin College, Brunswick. For more information, call 725-3151.

The Challenge of Being a Women Business Owner Roundtable discussion led by Pat Fritts, Ph.D. at the monthly meeting of the Women Business Owners of Greater Portland Sep 7, 6 pm at the offices of the Maine Management Group, Royal River Center, Rt. 1 in Yarmouth. Fee is \$6.50. For more information or reservations, call Becky Erickson at 761-0041.

Oxford County: A Tour of its Villages Greater Portland Landmarks offers a tour of some of the county's most significant buildings and architecturally intact villages: Freiberg, Sweden, Waterford Flat and Bethel. Sep 9, 9 am-4:30 pm. Cost is \$35 per person, which includes transportation and lunch. For reservations, call 774-5561.

Public Speaking and Performance Workshop for people who give oral presentations, focusing on preparation, breathing, voice projection and timing Sep 9, 10 am-3 pm at the Maine Writers Center, 19 Mason St., Brunswick. Cost is \$25 for members of the Maine Writers and Publishers alliance, \$30 for non-members. For more information, call 729-6333.

Kennebunk Writing Group resumes meetings at the Kennebunk Library on the second Sat and fourth Wed each month, beginning Sep 9 at 9:30 am. All writers interested in fiction, non-fiction or poetry are welcome to attend and read from their works. For more information, call 985-4343.

Yarmouth Historical Society Tour of the Maine Maritime Museum Sep 9, 10 am. Reduced admission to the 10-acre working shipyard. For reservations, call 846-6259.

Maine's Historic Religious Architecture Earl G. Shettleworth, director of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, speaks Sep 10, 3 pm at the University Meeting House, Rt. 231, New Gloucester. Admission is free, but donations for the Meeting House restoration fund are accepted. For more information, call 926-4469 or 926-6292.

The Birthplace, Mercy Hospital's maternity unit, presents a free tour for prospective parents Sep 11, 7 pm. Prospective parents are invited to meet at the State Street lobby of the hospital. For more information, call 879-3550.

From Elders to Ideas: The Bowdoin Scientific Station in Kent Lecture given by the director of the Bowdoin Scientific Station Sep 12, 8 pm in Kresge Auditorium, Visual Arts Center, Bowdoin College, Brunswick. For more information, call 725-3151.

The Political and Economic Future of Hong Kong Kerry McGlynn speaks about the Sino-British Joint Declaration restoring Hong Kong to the People's Republic of China and its impact on world economy Sep 12, 12 noon at the First Parish Church, 425 Congress St., Portland. Admission is \$3. For more information, call 780-4551.

Estate Planning Seminar Series of five non-technical discussions, designed for the general public, will focus on minimizing tax bills, maximizing effect of income, and protecting estates. Sessions will be held Tuesday mornings, Sep 12-Oct 10, 9:30-11 am in the auditorium at the Helfferan Center, St. Joseph's College in Standish. There are no fees involved, but pre-registration is required. For more information, call 892-6766 x. 791.

Women and Self Esteem Six-week experimental workshop presented by Crescent Moon Workshops beginning Sep 12, 6:30-8:30 pm. Fee is \$80. For more information, call Karen Repasky at 773-7117.

Maine DOS Users' Group meets Sep 13, 7 pm at the S.M.V.T.I., Machine Tool Tech Building, Fort Rd., S. Portland. Basic DOS commands are the subject of this month's meeting.

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Maine Outdoor Adventure Club
MOAC welcomes people of all skill levels for year-round outings. Upcoming trips: Whale Watch Sep 9, departs from Long Wharf at 7:30 am, 773-7099; Mountain Bike Ride on Mount Desert Sep 16, moderate level ride, 871-0264; Bald Face Mountain Hike Sep 24, moderate level hike, 772-9831.

Wild Mushroom Hunting Appalachian Mountain Club offers a weekend workshop with two experts in the field of mushrooms, covering the basics of mushroom hunting Sep 9-10 at the AMC's Pinkham Notch Camp in N.H. For more information, call 603-466-2727.

Pizza Rides Casco Bay Bicycle Club is sponsoring Thursday night bicycle rides. Meet at 6 pm at Pat's Pizza, Rt. 1, Oak Hill, Scarborough. Rides are 10-20 miles; pizza after. For more information call Keith at 799-1085.

Maine Audubon Society Upcoming field trips: Isle of Shoals and Appledore Island Sep 8-10; Boat trip from Boothbay Harbor to view migrating waterfowl Sep 16, 9:30 am-4:30 pm; Pilgrimage to Concord, Massachusetts Sep 23, 7:30 am-6 pm; Monhegan Island trip Sep 29-Oct 1. For more information on any of these trips, call 781-2330.

Wildlife of Northern New Hampshire - Naturalist Adventure Three-day course Sep 15-17 offered by the Appalachian Mountain Club at their Pinkham Notch Camp in New Hampshire. For more information, call 603-466-2727.

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LIFE *in* BLACK *and* WHITE

A competition seeking contemporary black and white photography about modern life in Southern Maine.

CRITERIA

The judges will be looking for pictures that have something to say. Technical quality is important, but among equally excellent photographs the one with the strongest message will be chosen. Pictures that depict modern life in Southern Maine will do better than cliché shots of sailboats, lighthouses, barns and such.

JUDGES

A panel of three judges will choose the winners. The judges are: Bill Curtsinger, a Portland-based freelance photographer and regular contributor to National Geographic Magazine; Betsy Evans, founder of Portland's only photo gallery, the Evans Gallery on Pleasant Street; and Rose Marasco, photographer and photo instructor at University of Southern Maine. The decisions of the judges are final.

ELIGIBILITY

Anyone may enter except employees of Casco Bay Weekly and Just Black & White. Professional photographers may enter "personal work" — work which has not been made on assignment.

Photos entered may not have been published elsewhere prior to this competition and photographers must be able to grant one-time publication rights to Casco Bay Weekly in order for their entry(s) to be eligible.

DEADLINE

Entries must be at Just Black and White, 54 York St., by 5 p.m. Wednesday, November 1.

ENTRIES

Prints may be any size up to 11x14" but must be mounted on 11x14 mat board. No oversized, undersized, or framed will be accepted.

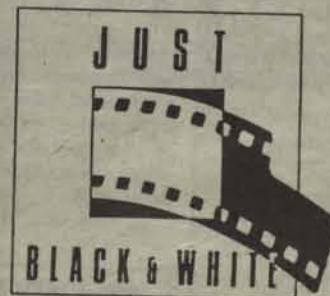
There is no entry fee, but entrants must limit themselves to two entries. The entrants name, address and phone number as well as the title of the work (if any) must appear on the BACK of the mounting board. (Any identification on the front of the board will disqualify the entry.)

Photographs not selected may be picked up at Just Black & White until the end of December, 1989. Although care will be taken with all entries, neither Casco Bay Weekly or Just Black & White will be responsible for loss or damage of any entry.

AWARDS

Three winners will be chosen. The winning photos will be published in the November 22 issue of Casco Bay Weekly and will be on display at Just Black & White through the end of the year. Each winning photographer will receive \$50 in processing from Just Black & White and \$50 in cash.

Casco Bay
WEEKLY



QUESTIONS? Call Just Black & White at 761-5861
DEADLINE: Wednesday, November 1.