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Casco Bay Weekly : 7 November 1996

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Casco Bay
Weekly

Greetings from
Portland,
city of the

Nov 7, 1996

'80s

Who cares if we are a little behind the times? Cinch up your skinny tie and grab a glass of bubbly, cuz tonight we're gonna party like it's 1985!

Your guide to the city of the '80s begins on page 8

Spin mistress 3

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Sportland 31

Veteran's Day Weekend Ski & Snowboard Super Sale

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Sunday November 10

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Talk A CONVERSATION WITH DOT GOOGINS



"It's a wonderful break from the
real world."

Gandhi is said to have remarked that everyone should spin for at least two hours a day because it "levels a person out." Dot Googins of Cumberland quite agrees. She is a longtime member of R and R Spinners, who meet on Tuesdays at the West Cumberland Fire Barn. There they sit in a sunny room with great baskets and bags of wool at their feet and spin on small flyer wheels. Dot has been spinning since 1979, when she first saw an exhibition of the craft at the Common Ground Fair.

Spinners to her left and right are working with black bear, coyote, dog and sheep wool. The hum of a flyer wheel and one's foot movement—back and forth, back and forth on the pedal—are gentle sounds. There is a rhythm there, a slowing-down. Conversation here is quiet and easy.

Is spinning relaxing for you?

Yes. This is my time. We've all got something, or we'd never make it—some private relaxing hobby that rejuvenates us for that other life we have to live. It's a good problem-solving time. When I spin, I find the simple and direct approach to anything that needs sorting out.

What are you spinning?

I've been working on a keeshond—a Dutch breed of dog. It will be plied with sheep wool to make a jacket.

Why would anyone want anything made from a dog?

It's a way of immortalizing a pet. This way, you can have moments that outlive the animal. This is the undercoat, collected over a few years' time whenever the animal was groomed. What I'm doing here is actually the [least] palatable part, because at this point, it smells rather like a dirty dog. When it's spun and washed, it will be a superior wool. My first project was a beautiful caramel-colored sweater from a sheltie.

What can you make from a black bear?

Socks, mittens. We use the soft, fluffy undercoat. Cougar also makes a good pair of mittens. Most all animals have wool if they live in a cold climate. There's no hurting the animal. We use what the animal drops when they shed.

Will you spin forever?

Always. In ancient times, women were buried with their drop spindles.

Interview by Deb Dalfonso; photo by Tonce Harbert

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THE BEST BEER IN THE UNIVERSE

The Tiny Rascals Gang got drier Oct. 31. A judge sentenced gang member Bunly J. Phok to two years in prison for a meat-cleaver attack on a teenager in the West End in May. Two other Rascals had earlier been sent to the Maine Youth Center for the same crime. Phok faces



deportation to Cambodia upon completion of his sentence, even though his lawyer claims he'll be killed there because he's an American sympathizer. With sympathizers like Phok, who needs enemies?

The DeCoster "Dream Team" got decreased on Oct. 30 when attorney Harold Pachios quit, citing differences with egg-mag-nate Jack DeCoster. The rest of the business leaders DeCoster hired to mend his evil image are still considering whether to resign. Buzz Fitzgerald, Dana Connors and Alan Caron are said to be concerned DeCoster is not following through on an agreement he made to put new independent management in charge of the Turner farm, which was hit with record OSHA fines for its hellish treatment of workers.

The number of bidders for the Pineland Center in New Gloucester isn't small, it's nonexistent. Nobody tried to buy the former state facility for the mentally retarded by the October deadline, apparently because of environmental problems with the site and conditions the state placed on the how the property could be used. Bidders for the 280 acres and numerous buildings would have to demonstrate how they'd use Pineland to create jobs and how they'd clean up asbestos. Maybe a condo in the West End would be simpler.

The number of kids using health clinics at Portland and Deering high schools was already so small it was hardly worth mentioning. Fortunately, the Portland School Committee was set to vote Nov. 6 on a plan to allow a few more students access to medical and (gasp) birth control services. Until now, only low-income kids with parental permission could use the facilities. The rule change calls for any student with mom or dad's OK to receive aspirins or condoms.

Annette Hoglund's debt to the city of Portland got a little smaller Nov. 1. Hoglund, who was running for the state Legislature, finally paid more than \$2,000 in overdue property tax bills. Hoglund and her husband Peter still owe more than \$25,000 in back taxes, making them one of the city's biggest deadbeats. When CBW ran a story last spring on her debts, Hoglund claimed the unpaid bills were the result of a misunderstanding, and that she no longer owned the properties in question. She offered to provide documentation, but never did. Instead, the Hoglunds agreed to a monthly payment plan to clear up their arrears, but failed to send checks for two months in a row. Just before the Nov. 5 election, they got back on schedule. Probably just a coincidence. CBW

CITY



Here are a few of your favorite things: Winning candidates (clockwise from bottom left): Peter Feeney, Carol Kontos, Jeff Butland, Joel Abromson, Ron Usher, Christopher Muse, Dick Farnsworth, Jean Ginn Marvin, Mike Saxl (center)

Bridge under construction How Greater Portland voted

LAURA CONAWAY

Before democracy in Maine could cross President Clinton's bridge to the 21st century, it first had to leap across the moat of human error.

In Portland's St. Patrick's polling place, an unfortunate ward clerk handed out the wrong ballots to 189 voters in the state Senate District 27 race. That left people who would have been voting for either incumbent Republican Joel Abromson or Democratic challenger Boyd Marley holding ballots intended for another district.

According to City Manager Bob Ganley, the clerk hadn't been able to find the white ballots, so instead she handed out blue ones. "She felt bad," Ganley said. "Next thing you know, everybody's yelling and the lawyers are in it."

Marley got a court order allowing anyone who'd been given the wrong ballot to be called back for a second vote. While Marley eked out a victory in Portland, he lost to Abromson by nearly 2,000 votes in Falmouth. Exhausted at the end of election night, Marley conceded, accepting the clerk's error as "an honest mistake."

Vote counting in Greater Portland was delayed because the fluoride ballots were one-quarter inch too big to fit in the optical scanning machines. Clerks were

forced to count the ballots by hand.

Incumbent state Rep. Mike Saxl, a Democrat, had little reason to fret as results trickled in. He pounded Republican challenger Frank Akers, garnering 80 percent of the West End, Old Port and waterfront vote. Saxl intends to run for assistant majority leader in the House if the Democrats gain control of that body. At press time, the breakdown of Republican and Democratic seats was still not clear.

Democrat Richard Farnsworth scored a 60 percent margin over Republican Dick Harris in the House race to represent the Western Prom, Libbytown and Stroudwater. Democrat Michael Quint inherited Herb Adams' seat, winning 80 percent of the vote against invisible GOP candidate Paul Feldhaus in Parkside.

Democrat Mike Brennan kept his East Deering House seat, defeating Republican Tom Wheatley with 75 percent of the vote.

Republican Tom Gieringer, who won a second term in a close contest against Democrat Annette Hoglund, prevented a Democrat sweep of Portland's state House delegation, where he remains the lone Republican.

Young Peter Feeney, a 22-year-old Democrat, appears to have beaten

Republican incumbent Lyle Cramer in the race for Cumberland County Commissioner. Feeney posted over 1,000 votes in every South Portland district, nearly tripling some of Cramer's scores.

Bob Fisk, a Falmouth Republican, squeaked past Democrat Gerald Davis to win the Cumberland/Falmouth house seat by 28 votes.

Senate President Jeff Butland of Cumberland, a Republican, kept his District 26 seat, but at press time it looked like his party had lost control of the Senate. Butland collected 70 percent of the vote to beat Democrat Frederick Williams. Joe Taylor, a Republican incumbent, won a third term in the state House from the Cumberland/North Yarmouth district, defeating Democrat David Perkins. Yet another GOP incumbent, Republican John Buck of Yarmouth, beat back Democratic challenger Jennifer Willard by a 900-vote margin to retain his District 44 seat.

Despite a 400-vote victory by Democratic opponent John Portela in Brunswick, Republican Philip Harriman kept his state Senate seat by winning big in Freeport and Yarmouth.

Republicans won three of five Cape Elizabeth/South Portland seats. Incumbent GOP Rep. Jean Ginn Marvin

won a second House term, beating Dem Pam McNally by just over 1,000 votes. Newcomer Republican Peter Cianchette defeated Democrat Nadine Byram by 92 votes. Senator Jane Amero, a GOP veteran, sent Democrat Andrew Kosinski packing with a victory of more than 5,000 votes.

Democrats Christopher Muse and Alton Morgan captured the remaining South Portland House slots. Muse defeated GOP tax foe Judy Carpenter, while Morgan overcame James Brewster.

Conservatives on the South Portland City Council appear to be stuck with their 3-4 minority position. City Councilor Susan Avery handily defeated conservative John Low to keep her seat, and was joined in victory by current Mayor Linda Boudreau, who left Ray Lee and Skip Lucarelli in the dust. Boudreau earned at least 1,000 votes in every precinct, while neither Lee nor Lucarelli earned 500 votes in any precinct. Former state Rep. Birger Johnson also defeated his conservative council opponents, Lawrence Albert and Tom Brown.

South Portlanders voted to spend \$520,000 on new snow removal equipment, agreed to shell out \$750,000 on a public safety building and moved to ban new oil tank farms.

Clifton Foster, Republican, took a 62-vote squeaker over Democratic hopeful Ann Thaxter in the Gray/New Gloucester district. Likewise, Republican Joe Bruno won the Raymond/Windham House seat in a close contest with Democrat Tom Tyler.

In Windham's House District 39, Democratic incumbent Carol Kontos won by nearly 2-1 over Republican Ralph Johnston, and said that if the Democrats control the House, she'll run for majority leader.

A strong win in Westbrook padded Democrat Bill O'Gara's close margins in Standish and Gorham to earn him the District 29 House seat. O'Gara defeated GOP challenger Keith Hillock. Ron Usher, a Democrat, crushed independent Richard Eaton to secure Westbrook's other House seat.

Republican incumbent Bob Pendleton beat Democrat Edward Needham by nearly 500 votes to retain his Gorham/Scarborough House seat. GOP incumbent Janice Labrecque kept her Gorham House position despite winning less than half the vote to best Democratic challenger Joseph Shortill and independent Philip Dugas.

A boost from perpetual candidate Plato Truman, who ran as an independent this time, seemed to help Democratic challenger Peggy Pendleton shove heavily favored Republican Joan Pendexter out of her Scarborough-area Senate chair. Pendleton garnered 55 percent of the District 31 vote. Republican incumbent Glenys Lovett held onto her Scarborough House post, scoring a 3-2 win over Democrat Michael Carleton.

Statewide, voters said yes to almost everything. Maine will contend with \$40.5 million in newly bonded debt,

implementing campaign finance reform and possible judicial war over Question 1, which calls for a candidate's opposition to term limits to appear on the ballot.

Option 2B, the so-called forest compact, was the top vote-getter on Question 2, gaining 47 percent. But because it failed to earn a 50 percent majority, 2B will now have to win a straight up-or-down vote in a special election before it can become law. Option 2A, the Ban Clearcutting initiative, proved popular in Portland, but gained only 30 percent of the vote statewide. Option 2C gathered support from 23 percent of voters.

After years of failure, at press time the proposal to add fluoride to Greater Portland's drinking water appeared ready to win voter approval.

Maine voters created a split-personality congressional delegation. Susan Collins, a Republican, defeated Democrat Joe Brennan in a nail-biter race for the Senate. Collins joins fellow Republican Olympia Snowe in the Senate. Meanwhile, voters tossed GOP Rep. Jim Longley out of the U.S. House, replacing him with Democrat Tom Allen. Allen joins fellow Democrat John Baldacci.

School committee Adams vs. Richard Two Portland activists square off in special election

State Rep. Herb Adams and youth and gay activist Erik Richard have filed nominating petitions for a vacant seat on the Portland School Committee. The seat was left empty when committee member Michael Riff resigned to take a job in New Jersey.

The city council originally set a special election for Nov. 5, but failed to attract a qualified candidate. Adams had filed for the November election, but fell short of the required 75 valid voter signatures. The council then set a new election for Dec. 10.

Adams explained some of his rejected signatures came from voters who had once lived in his district, and who traveled back to sign his petition. Those voters thought "they were doing me a favor," Adams said, "but that was no favor. It sort of makes you wring your hands."

Adams said he wants to concentrate on getting more state funding for Portland schools.

Richard said he's busy studying issues in Portland schools, including the "learning results" program, which seeks to set standards for what students should know. Even facing Adams, a four-term legislator who's considered one of Portland's most popular politicians, Richard expressed confidence.

"I think I'm going to win. That's a no-brainer," he said. "My message is going over very big — talking to people about having young people who bring a voice to the committee."

LAURA CONAWAY

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outta my Way

ELIZABETH PEAVEY

Fecal matters

If I leave a few key words out of this week's column (like its point), you'll have to excuse me, but I'm sick.

People have been very sympathetic. Everyone tells me it's "The Cold," but I don't believe them. There's always a "The Cold" around. Can you remember the last time you said that you felt like you were coming down with or had something and someone *didn't* say, "Oh, that's going around," or "I had that"? People get competitive about how bad their The Cold is, was or will be. I don't join their reinder games, though, because I'm a Yankee, and Yankees aren't supposed to get sick — unless it's The Big Cold, and if it's The Big Cold, you might as well not waste your money on Nyquil, if you know what I mean. Besides, I can tell what I have is no ordinary malady.

Truth be told, I think I have contracted poop water disease. (By poop water, I mean drinking water tainted with fecal coliform contaminants, such as was spewing from Greater Portland's pipes Oct. 22-24.) And the worst part of it is, I have no one but myself to blame.

It began on the morning of Oct. 22, the day after the Big Rain. I arose at an early hour, turned on the tap to brush my teeth and was met with a dry hch from the faucet. My first reaction was that the problem was isolated to my water and I was somehow responsible. So I did what I normally do when I break something: I stood and stared. Eventually realizing my concerned look was not effecting any results, I went to the kitchen and tried that faucet. More stares, but still no luck. It then dawned on me I might not be alone in my plight. I consulted the radio, and sure enough — all of Portland was arid. The next course of action was to find a way to get clean. I had meetings to attend. I needed a hair wash. Oh, to be 14 again and have

a can of PSSSSSSST in the medicine cabinet.

Thankfully, because Princess (that would be me) is too good for even fecal-free tap water, I always have plenty of Poland Spring on hand. I also had the good fortune to have a full teapot on the stove, so I put together a Laura Ingall's beauty buffet and performed my morning toilette à la "Little House on the Prairie." I even considered skipping down to the East End Beach with a bucket to fetch water with which to flush, but thought better of it when I considered what foreign agents might be introduced into my home by such an act. At this point, the ordeal was still somewhat entertaining. It was 7:15.

Truth be told, I think I have contracted poop water disease.

By 3 p.m., I thought if I did not have a shower I would go insane. I began to feel my hair crawl around on my scalp. I had sponge-bathed almost all my skin off. The tea kettle water was gone. I actually longed to do my dishes, which had already accumulated prior to the water outage. I thought of packing them and myself up and driving to my mother's house in Bath for a quick wash.

But then the water returned — albeit at a trickle. All right, I confess, I bathed. I couldn't help myself. After all, it's not like I took a bath. It's not like I soaked in it. I had a quick scrub, and, aside from a few splashes, I kept the water away from my face, lest a drop might ricochet off a tooth and down my throat. I felt renewed. I prepared fecal water-free leftovers and went to bed, dreaming of once again laving with impunity.

Wednesday came, but the boil-water order persisted. I ran into a friend at the gym. "Boiled water or not," she said, looking around surreptitiously, "I'm showering when I get home." I had to fess up. "Actually, I showered yesterday." She made an "eww" face, but tried to make me feel better by assuring me others must've washed as well.

Except that I couldn't find any. I was sure I was the only one. Sitting at my desk, mulling all this over, I noticed a small red bump on my wrist. It was teeny, but I began poking at it until it became inflamed. Then I noticed another red spot, which may or may not have been a bump, but I poked at it anyway. "Buboes!" I thought, harking back to the plagues of the Middle Ages. Before long, I was convinced microbes were burrowing their way beneath my skin. I started having combo "The Fly" and "Alien" paranoid fantasies. I paced the room, waiting for body parts to fall off or something unlovely to spring forth from my abdomen. I was not getting a lot of work done.

By Thursday, I was nutty. I called a level-headed friend for comfort. "You what?" he said. "I showered." "When?" "Well, Tuesday. But I feel fine." He paused. "You know, they say it might take up to a week for the symptoms to show." He went on to read me a list of potential ailments published in the *Press Herald*: bad diarrhea (as opposed to good?), vomiting, abdominal cramps, chills and fever. For an entire week, every time my stomach gurgled, I braced myself in a doorjamb.

So, seven days later, evidencing none of the official symptoms but plenty of my own, I must conclude I have contracted a disease of my making. It may be The Big Cold. It may be something equally fatal, but less well known. Whatever it is, I'm sure there'll be someone at the sanatorium who already has my personal disease better than I.

That is, unless I can drop a body part first.

Elizabeth Peavey, whose column runs biweekly, feels funny. Please give her a wide berth.

Casco Bay Weekly

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Some of what the Production Department listened to while getting this week's paper out:
 Utah Phillips, Ani DiFranco, "The Past Didn't Go Anywhere" • Original motion picture soundtrack, "Kansas City" • Gregorianischer Choral, "Gregorian Chant" • Big Head Todd and the Monsters, "Sister Sweetly"

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Lonely sinking feeling

It shouldn't have been a surprise. Back in June, when Joe Brennan won the Democratic U.S. Senate primary, every expert got it right: Brennan, a narrow loser in the last two gubernatorial races, would never convince more than 45 percent of the electorate to support him.

It shouldn't have been a surprise. Maine voters had already made it clear they were no longer interested in having Brennan represent them.

It shouldn't have been a surprise. Brennan, being old, male and from blue-collar roots, was just the kind of candidate guaranteed to turn off young, female and yuppie voters. Brennan, being a clumsy campaigner, was susceptible to sneak attacks, such as the alleged private investigator non-scandal. Brennan, having a tendency to coast for the final two weeks of campaigns, was unlikely to come from behind, which was the position in which he found himself at the start of the campaign.

But campaigns are designed to obscure the obvious. So naturally Brennan's narrow, but decisive, loss to Republican Susan Collins on Tuesday came as a complete shock to his supporters.

Shortly after the polls closed, the Maine chapter of the Sierra Club rushed out a press release headlined, "Environment plays key role in Maine House and Senate races." It quoted the organization's political chair, Nadine Shere, as saying, "Susan Collin's [sic] avoidance of the environment as an important factor might have cost her the victory in this tight contest. Joe Brennan was able to tout his Sierra Club endorsement because of his excellent voting record in Congress."

The Sierra Club, apparently, was fooled into making this premature ejaculation by a Maine Public Radio exit poll that showed Brennan winning the race by five points. Lost in the shuffle were two other exit polls and a WCSH-TV Bullet Poll showing Brennan losing by a similar margin. But that single erroneous indicator was sufficient to lead the Democratic hardcore astray. While the actual tally persisted in showing Collins with a small, but steady, lead, the Brennan faithful found those numbers easy to dismiss. "The Bullet Poll calls up a hundred people who didn't even vote," said one diehard awaiting the victory celebration-that-never-came. "Mal Leary [of Maine Public Radio] talked to 1,700 people who had just voted. Of course, he's right."

No matter how many voters one talked to, it was obvious this Brennan loss was far more decisive than the previous two. Unlike voters in the '90 and '94 elections, Mainers in 1996 were fully prepared to cast ballots for Democrats. Congressman John Baldacci won a landslide victory in the 2nd District. Former Portland city councilor Tom Allen defeated Republican incumbent

Jim Longley by near-landslide totals in the 1st District. Democrats took control of the state Senate by a surprising margin, and were battling for a majority of the state House, a chamber that just a month ago appeared almost certain to fall to the GOP.

In the midst of Democratic triumphs on nearly every front, Joe Brennan spent election night sliding toward a disaster he should have anticipated. He refused to concede until the following day, apparently believing, as he did in '94, that a miracle would occur to salvage his career and the credibility of public radio polling.

During those dark hours, the Brennan loyalists began blaming somebody else for the loss. "Clinton just didn't have any coattails in Maine," said one. "If he'd given Joe another four or five percent, he'd have won."

In fact, Clinton had enormous coattails, helping to lift Baldacci, Allen and legislative candidates to larger-than-expected wins. Polls showed an October presidential visit to Portland buoyed all the major candidates, adding as many as seven points to their standings. What the Brennanites failed to understand is that by the time election day rolled around, their boy had already gotten all the presidential poll padding he was going to get. Without Clinton, Brennan would have had trouble attracting even 40 percent of an electorate that was just plain tired of him.

If the 1990, 1994 and 1996 elections have taught this hard lesson to all but the innermost of the Brennan inner circle, those three defeats should also serve as warnings to anyone who believes they've absolutely, positively seen the last of Candidate Brennan. He was supposed to be washed up after losing to Jock McKernan. He was certainly finished after being defeated by Angus King. He's clearly all done after being left in Susan Collins' red dust.

So it shouldn't be much of a surprise if Brennan — and a fair number of his easily surprised followers — puts us through this same torture again in 1998.

Fashion nugget

When Brennan brought in actress Lauren Hutton in the campaign's final days, his staff put out a release stating Hutton "is best known as a Revlon model... [who] also taken an active role in promoting goo causes."

Politics is a slippery business, but most campaigns aren't quite so willing to admit it.

Oh boy! Fresh meat! Send us the sizzle care of CBW, 561 Congress St., Portland 04101. Trim the fat by faxing 775-1615. Or e-mail ish-maeltia@aol.com and butcher a reputation.

politics and other mistakes



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City of the '80s

A soup-to-nuts survey of our slightly-behind-the-times town, including our very own King of 1980s Portland

■ SCOTT SUTHERLAND

Mark Twain once supposedly said, "If the world was going to end tomorrow I'd move to Cincinnati, because it'd be another 10 years before it happened there." Tempting as it may be to spend a few moments tweaking the city that produced Marge Schott and the Mapplethorpe brouhaha, it's probably just as well to move on to our examination of another safe haven in the event of imminent global extinction — namely our own fair (if somewhat developmentally challenged) burg, our Forest City, our little arts district by the sea, our Portland.

Not so! you cry, livid at the mere suggestion, looking around for the

blissfully wallowing in great beer and fresh lobster while other cities duke it out for bragging rights to the latest fads, fashions and fetishes.

And here's the punchline: *We like it that way.*

Keep your TriBeCa, New York. Don't go waving Newbury Street in our faces, Boston. We Portlanders are quite content to be living in 1985, or thereabouts. The great thing about being a decade off the pace, after all, is that everybody else gets to make the mistakes for us. We'll do the '80s our way, thank you very much.

Herewith, a culture hog's guide to modern-day Portland — stuck in the '80s and lovin' it. Thompson Twins soundtrack not included.

a thriving local corporate culture, which accounts for roughly 80 percent of Custom's business. Weddings and proms account for another 15



Back to the '80s, in style. PHOTO/COLIN MALAKIE

percent of business, with celebrity work and other hires (the occasional pre-Black-Monday-style, all-night joy ride, for example) filling in the remainder. Speaking of joy rides: Custom's hourly rate is \$60, plus a 20 percent gratuity. To do it up in proper 1985 style, it's recommended that you relegate the tab to your gold card.

Every breath you take

Carolyn Cosby is one '80s kind of gal. Cosby, founder and head of the anti-gay rights group Concerned Maine Families (CMF), has proven herself a worthy successor to the zealous spirit that fueled the prince of '80s morality, Jerry Falwell, and his so-called Moral Majority. Swept into prominence on Ronald Reagan's furry coattails, Falwell became the face of right-wing conservatism, '80s style; brash, smug as hell and not afraid to use the Bible to deflect any and all criticism, he delighted in baiting liberals by essentially telling non-WASP America to take a hike.

Cosby, with similar can-do aplomb, got her anti-gay rights initiative on last November's statewide ballot, but lost in a close vote. Cosby promptly charged voter fraud, but after a lot of huffing and puffing failed to produce anything in the way of hard evidence. Now she's back,

fighting to outlaw gay marriage and spearheading CMF's efforts to collect the necessary signatures to put the proposal out to referendum. CMF appears to be having little trouble

collecting enough names, and the measure

seems to have widespread legislative support. After years of ending up on the losing end of the battle, is Cosby — and her peculiar brand of hot-button morality — about to find herself at the front of a victorious majority?

Don't you want me

Radio of the '80s: Bananarama, Flock of Seagulls, Soft Cell, The Human League, Pet Shop Boys. Can radio get any better?

Ron Raymond doesn't think so. As host of "Stuck in the '80s," a weekly

The great thing about being a decade off the pace, after all, is that everybody else gets to make the mistakes for us. We'll do the '80s our way, thank you very much.

two-hour show (Sundays, 7-9 p.m.) on WMPG (90.9), Raymond spins the discs of all your favorite decade-old acts — or at least those that pass for '80s alternative, like New Order, Psychedelic Furs and Cocteau Twins. "I wanted to give listeners something different," Raymond says of his reasons for

There are '80s guys and then there are '80s guys, and then there's Mark McClure. Entrepreneur, high roller, man-about-town, McClure, 28, is a walking compendium of '80s wheeler-dealer ideals. So much so, in fact, that we hereby dub him "King of '80s Portland." To wit, a brief history of the monarch's rise, moment of greatness and subsequent decline:

§ As a kid growing up in Cape Elizabeth, young McClure vows he'll one day make the Forbes' 400 list of America's richest people.

§ As a teenager, McClure "idolized Donald Trump," his mother told the *Portland Press Herald* last year. "And he really liked Michael Milken."

§ Attends junior college in Texas, where he almost makes the basketball team. Studies economics at USM but does not receive a degree.

§ In 1994, McClure buys his first Portland business: Port City Pub on Fore Street, which he turns into a dance club called The Penguin. He sells it a year later, saying he's bored with it.

§ In 1995, McClure and a partner open Shockers, an "upscale" dance club in the basement of



Squire

Morgan's on Market Street. They sign a lease in April, then close the club in July, citing problems with said lease, which includes limits on noise levels. But Thomas Tiberii, McClure's landlord at Squire Morgan's, claims the young clubmeister split owing two months rent. McClure says he wanted to pay it, but that Tiberii had locked him out. The matter ends up in district court, with Tiberii seeking to evict McClure. The judge rules in favor of Tiberii, who considers suing McClure to recover back rent.

§ As his Shockers venture melts down, McClure and two other partners announce their plan to lease the former A.H. Benoit & Co. space on Middle Street and turn it into — what else? — an upscale dance club/function hall called The Pavilion. Not long after, McClure is bought out by his partners.

§ July 1995: McClure, in his biggest gamble yet, announces his intention to bring professional basketball (talk about your sport of the '80s!) to Portland. As part of a group of 10 local investors,

McClure woos the United States Basketball League (USBL) in the hopes of landing a summer-league franchise, provided he and his fellow money men can come up with the \$200,000 franchise fee. The team is to be called the Portland Pioneers, would begin play in May, 1996 and would have to average 3,500 fans per game to break even.

night," he writes, "I will personally do cartwheels at center court the following game, in my boxer shorts."

§ In March of this year, Gorham Savings Bank files a personal foreclosure suit against McClure, four months behind on mortgage payments for a rental property in Westbrook. The bank seeks the remainder of the mortgage, more than \$110,000.

Everybody wants to rule the world

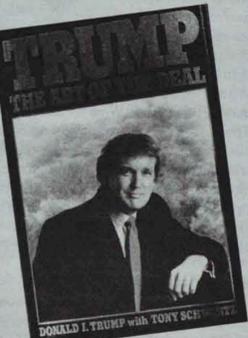
All hail the king: Mark McClure



§ August 1995: Not content to bring hoops to Portland, McClure goes public with his Trump-esque hope of convincing a national hotel chain to open an "entertainment complex" in town. McClure Tower, perhaps? That same month, in what can only be described as damning praise, Old Port landlord Joe Soley tells the *Press Herald*, "[McClure] takes places I've fixed up and makes them look even better."

§ November 1995: McClure's shining moment, when USBL president Dan Meisenheimer arrives in Portland to award him an expansion team, rechristened the Portland Mountain Cats.

§ December 1995: McClure, responding to letters and articles in *CBW* that question his claim that the team will be able to draw 4,000 fans for its first home game, displays his plucky confidence in a letter to the editor. "If the [Cats] fail to draw 4,000 fans or more ... opening



§ Which he proceeds to do, barely. In May, unable to deliver most of the Cats' \$200,000 franchise fee after other investors back out, McClure can do nothing but watch as Meisenheimer purchases a majority stake in the team. McClure is installed as president and general manager.

§ The team's home opener May 20, against the New Hampshire Thunder Loons, draws 3,300 fans (many of whom were there as a result of the team's massive promotional giveaways), but McClure welsches on his promise to drop his drawers at the next home game. "I was going to do it, but [Cats' coach Kevin Mackey] said I'd be making a mockery of the team," he tells *CBW*. "If I did it, he'd quit."

§ The Mountain Cats average about 1,500 fans for home games — only a quarter of whom are paying customers — and end the season owing \$55,000 in expenses. McClure, meanwhile, is sued by a former Cats investor seeking a \$2,000 payment on his buyout, as well as \$10,000 in fraud claims.

§ In early September, the USBL terminates the Mountain Cats, repossessing the franchise rights from McClure because he proved, according to Meisenheimer, incapable of running the team's business. "The financial troubles had a lot more to do with the management than it does with the city itself," Meisenheimer tells the *Press Herald*. "We don't anticipate any team making money the first year. We want them to realize the long effort it takes to make a success. Mark wanted that success overnight."

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City of the '80s



Slippery people: Feeling the burn at the Bay Club. PHOTO/TONEE HARBERT

launching the show. "It's fun to hear this stuff and think, 'Omigod, it's been so long since I've heard that.' Of course, skeptics would say there's a reason for that."

Many of the tunes Raymond plays constitute "the radio equivalent of the Island of Misfit Toys," he says, but they retain a certain happy-go-lucky charm missing from much of today's product. "The '80s was a great time for music — it was before Seattle, there was all this innovation going on and it was just fun. Music was mostly concerned with having a great time."

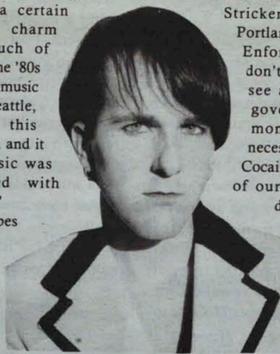
Raymond describes most of his show's listeners as "closet fans of '80s music," furtively dialing in his show in hopes of catching something tasty by Wang Chung, or maybe Bow Wow Wow's "Sexy Eiffel Tower." "They're waiting to come out, but they're intimidated by Portland's [classic rock-dominated] radio scene," he says. "They might listen in secret, but they still need to hear their Duran Duran or their Frankie Goes to Hollywood."

Sign o' the times

It was money that got everybody good and juiced in the Age of Avarice, but if you really wanted to get off you

did it with cocaine. And then, of course, you did a little more.

While the drug world eventually slouched off in search of cheaper, even more potentially addictive highs, Portland maintains a fond regard for coke. "Cocaine in Portland is still as popular as it ever was," says Roger Stricker, director of the Portland-based Maine Drug Enforcement Agency. "I don't think we're going to see a decrease until the government puts in the money and resources necessary to eliminate it." Cocaine, in fact, is just part of our expanding yen for drugs, which also



Two words, Coulter: Phone home!

includes a taste for crack, crystal methamphetamine and heroin. "Overall drug use is definitely on the upswing," Stricker says. "Arrests are up, too — we're already ahead of the numbers of [annual] arrests made over the past few years, and there are still three months left in the year."

Most ominous, Stricker says, is the presence of heroin, which enjoyed a renaissance in the late '80s when it was adopted by the fledgling grunge culture (including, most notably, the joint addictions of Kurt Cobain and Courtney Love) in the Pacific Northwest. "Portland is heavy into heroin right now," he says. "It's been going on for

the last year. I don't expect to see a decline in the foreseeable future."

Road to nowhere

Talk about the sport of the '80s. Basketball was everywhere; Bird, Magic and Jordan all entered the NBA in the '80s, and proceeded to turn it into pro sports' marquee league. Rich Hollywood guys paid mind-boggling sums for teams, then convinced their friends to do the same. Everyone, it seemed, wanted their slice of the hoop dream pie.

And so, naturally, do we. Or at least we were told we did. Our now-defunct Mountain Cats, the local entry in last summer's United States Basketball League (see "Everybody wants to rule the world"), turned out to be a pleasant surprise. The squad went 18-11, finished third in the league, averaged about 500 points a game — and all without the services of Manute Bol, the 7'7" former NBA player who at one point was touted as the team's meal ticket. Sadly, Manute chose not to play with the Cats; when told of his tryout opportunity in Portland, he thought it meant he was trying out for the NBA's Portland (Ore.) Trailblazers. Of more immediate concern: Now that the Cats are history, what will become of the Port City Dancers?



What might have been: Manute Bol

Other '80s-style merger-mad institutions include Fleet and Key banks, which have subsumed countless smaller financial outlets in the city; and Rite Aid, the corporate drugstore juggernaut that crushed LaVerdiere's.

Tainted love

A no-particular-order list of people, places and things around town that have a sort of '80s gestalt to them:

- The Bay Club
- The Pavilion, a.k.a. The Acropolis at The Pavilion, a.k.a. The Pav, a.k.a. "That place Mark McClure owns"
- The ghost of Coulter
- Newbury Comics
- Twisted Roots
- Doc Martens
- Bertini
- Julie N



Alas, we hardly knew ye: The Port City Dancers

Do you really want to hurt me

Hostile takeovers, leveraged buyouts, mega-hyped mega-mergers — such was business as usual in the rock-'em-sock-'em '80s. Not to be outdone, Portland can tout the recent absorption of Westbrook College by the University of New England, or, better yet, the hardball going on between Maine Medical Center and Mercy Hospital. Two years ago, Maine Med tried to absorb both Brighton Medical Center and Mercy through an old-fashioned merger, but Mercy wouldn't play. Now the monolithic Maine Med is seeking state approval for an attractive, comprehensive insurance plan that would only cover customers who use Maine Med and its doctors, except in an emergency. The plan could effectively put a hammerlock on consumer choice, and force the much smaller Mercy out of business.

- One City Center
- The Moon
- Industry
- Stone Coast's faux paint finishes
- Acid/stone-washed jeans
- Cigars
- L.A. Nails
- Dan Harris
- Port City Dancers
- Portland TV news
- Joseph's
- M.D. Harmon
- Pairs of Lycra-clad women power-walking with wrist-weights around Back Cove
- The ghost of Gordy Hersheiser
- Unum
- City council (Whoa — make that Portland, city of the '70s.)

Scott Sutherland, an '80s kind of guy himself, is CBW arts and features editor.

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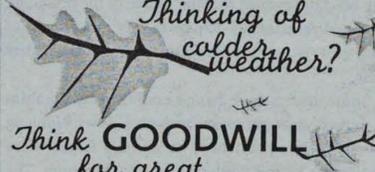
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Comment

Deserving of respect

Back in August, we published a story about the family of a man named Ibrahim Shire Hirsu ("Heavy metal blues," 8.22.96). Ibrahim, a refugee from Somalia who arrived in Portland in January with his wife and nine children, discovered last summer that his two youngest daughters, Hamdi and Sirad, had elevated levels of lead in their bloodstream. An inspection of the family's apartment by city and state officials revealed that the source of the poisoning — which could permanently damage the nervous systems of the young girls — was the very apartment in which they were living.

SO NOTED



Well, some stories have happy endings, and Ibrahim recently showed up at our offices with good news. Not long after our story was published, he and his family were offered a five-bedroom apartment by the Portland Housing Authority. The family, which had been crammed into a small three-bedroom apartment on Cumberland Avenue, now has a decent, lead-free place to live. Already, Hamdi and Sirad's blood lead levels are dropping.

We also got a note from the Portland Public Health Department saying that as a result of our story, there had been an increase in calls from people who wanted to know more about lead poisoning. Many of them had been unaware that lead is a real and present danger in Portland's aging housing stock.

Ibrahim's family is already facing a new round of uncertainty, however. He still has not been able to find a job, despite a good education and fluent English, and he is worried about what welfare reform will mean for his family.

He is being threatened with termination of his AFDC benefits — the only thing that stands between his children and the kind of hunger they never expected to find in America. He also worries he will lose his food stamps.

Ibrahim is careful to make it clear that he doesn't want to accept government aid any longer than he has to. "I appreciate that reform," he said. "I myself don't like to live on permanent welfare. It kills your personal creativity and you are in hibernation from life. You lose your dignity and you become a parasite. What I am speaking for is temporary welfare."

The next few months are a critical time for families like Ibrahim's — legal immigrants who depend on public assistance. The welfare reform act will hit them particularly hard, and there's little question that legal immigrants, who are relatively few in number, are political scapegoats for millions of illegal immigrants.

Refugees like Ibrahim Shire Hirsu and his family deserve a chance. It is people like them who are revitalizing the cultural scene in our city. As the state looks at how to restructure its welfare system, let's make sure families like Ibrahim's don't fall through the cracks. Given the opportunity, they will soon move beyond the need for assistance. "We want to live on our sweat," said Ibrahim. "That is when life tastes good. Welfare does not taste good."

Department of Omission: Stephen Kurth was responsible for the creepy illustrations in last week's Voters Guide.

SARAH GOODYEAR

LETTERS

Remember when?

As I read your article "No Mercy?" (10.10.96), regarding the Maine Medical Center and Mercy Hospital, I wondered how many of the older population of Portland remember the closing of the "old" Children's Hospital at the corner of High and Danforth streets.

This situation was kept very quiet until it was a "done deal." I don't know all the technical details but Maine General needed more "pediatric beds" to qualify for more federal funds.

The last board meeting where Dr. Harold Pingree fought with his last breath was all cut-and-dry, and Dr. Pingree lost. He went back to his Columbia Hotel suite, had a heart attack and died. I always felt he died of a broken heart.

"Children's" was a great place to work, with dedicated R.N.s, M.D.s and employees. The children had excellent care, as did the people of Portland who used the outpatient clinics and physical therapy department.

Peg O'Leary R.N.
Peg O'Leary, R.N.
Portland

I want my choice

In reference to your article "No Mercy?": Although I am a health care professional, I am writing as a concerned subscriber to Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Should the merger between Maine Medical Center and

BCBS take place, subscribers would no longer have the choice of where they go for medical treatment. Having had about 15 horrendous experiences, both personal and familial, at MMC, I do not choose to go there. Nor do I wish to have my insurance company select my physician. I appreciate your publishing the date of the hearing in Augusta to discuss this merger and hope there will be a large turnout of concerned citizens. Kudos to Dr. John Myers (Letters, 10.24.96) for his take on what is really going on with this proposed profit-making "fully integrated system."

Janet Houghton R.N.
Janet Houghton, R.N.
Cape Elizabeth

Reviewing the review

I have been reading your paper now for about three years and I can hardly express my disappointment with the review of Carlo Pittore's latest show, "New Figurative Paintings" ("Different strokes," 10.17.96). Mr. Sutherland gave a very general and surface review of Mr. Pittore's paintings, and it was unfortunate that what depth he did manage to find was deep in his own ambivalent feelings and fears toward the female body (he seemed to revel in the males).

As the model for "Silver Crest," I was both amazed and offended that Mr. Sutherland was allowed to couch his own very personal (and childish) opinions within the safety of an editorial "we" ("Whatever momentary twinge of revulsion we might experience ..."). Exactly

drunkBoy BY KURTH



what "we" is Mr. Sutherland referring to? Fat is not a dirty word, it is an adjective that accurately describes myself; however, it does nothing to describe the painting itself, which should rightly have been the subject of the "review." It was hardly the place for Mr. Sutherland to "marvel at the massive physical fact of her."

It is sad that *CBW*, which tries to be open and supportive of the arts, could have allowed this "art review," which in fact reveals so little to us about Carlo Pittore's paintings, and so much about Mr. Sutherland's difficulty coping with a wider reality. If his appreciation of the human figure is limited to his own prurient sexual interests, perhaps he should have left the art review to someone else, stayed home, and tuned in to "Bay Watch."

Lucy Joya
Lucy Joya
Bowdoinham

They built it

While we were glad to see the coverage of Youth Alternatives' Heritage House opening ("A room of their own," 10.17.96) and the good work being done there with young women in transition out of the Maine Youth Center, we felt that certain parts of the story were left out.

As you point out, Heritage House is the product of three years of collaboration among various state and nonprofit agencies. Unfortunately, you left out the role played by YouthBuild Portland, an alternative vocational education program that is part of Portland West Neighborhood Planning Council.

Each year, in addition to academic preparation, life and job skills development, and vocational training, our trainees undertake a major renovation project of neglected housing stock in Greater Portland. Two years ago, we gutted and renovated what was then an abandoned building in front of the Maine Youth Center. Working throughout the winter in an unheated building, our trainees (most with no previous construction experience) moved structural walls, insulated, hung and finished dry wall, hung and trimmed doors and windows, and built handicapped-accessible entrances, bathrooms and bedrooms. That building, of course, is now Heritage House.

Since completing Heritage House, YouthBuild Portland has completely renovated another building, this one a three-unit apartment building owned by York-Cumberland Housing. The three units are now affordable rentals, designed for low-income young adults like our graduates. This year's project is another three-unit across the street from Reiche School, and is largely a partnership with the City of Portland and Maine State Housing Authority. When completed, this historic building will be sold to a low-income first-time home buyer through the City's PortLenders program, which will guarantee that the rental units are affordable.

YouthBuild Portland and Portland West Neighborhood Planning Council are committed to youth development and empowerment. Among Portland West's other programs that work with at-risk youth is Building Alternatives, erroneously identified in your article as part of Youth Alternatives. Building Alternatives is one of the state's most successful programs working with incarcerated youth.

Thank you for your coverage of Greater Portland's youth programs. As you have pointed out yourselves, funding for these vital community services is shrinking, and a clear understanding of our role is

necessary for the community to judge our worth.

Neal Meltzer

Neal Meltzer
Assistant Director/Vocational Education Director
YouthBuild Portland

What's in a name?

Congratulations on an excellent story on Heritage House, Youth Alternatives' new transition housing program for girls leaving the Maine Youth Center. I was somewhat surprised, however, to learn that Building Alternatives is a program of Youth Alternatives. Upon reading this I called my boss, Peter O'Donnell at Portland West Neighborhood-Planning Council, to see if perhaps we'd been sold to Youth Alternatives. Peter indicated that, as far as he knew Building Alternatives was still a Portland West program. Next I tried sending some of our bills to Mike Tarpinian at Youth Alternatives, but he declined to pay them, so I'm pretty sure we're still part of Portland West.

Building Alternatives is a national model program in community corrections which, for the past four years, has served youth committed to the Maine Youth Center. Our students are picked up daily at the Maine Youth Center to attend classes and to work on construction projects for Portland area nonprofit organizations. We have enjoyed tremendous success in helping prevent further criminal activity and in helping our students return to school and employment upon release from the Maine Youth Center.

We are pleased that two of our students are among the first residents at Heritage House. Funding for the renovation of Heritage House was secured by Portland West and the renovation was completed by YouthBuild, another Portland West program for at-risk youth.

I can understand your reporter's error due to similarity of names — Youth Alternatives and Building Alternatives. I'm used to this. Years ago I directed the Big Brothers Big Sisters program, which was often confused with an organization called "Little Brothers." They eventually changed their name — to Youth Alternatives!

Thomas L. Pearson
Thomas L. Pearson
Program Director
Building Alternatives

Shame on us

What in the world are you people at *CBW* thinking? Selling yourselves out for the stuff that doesn't just talk, it swears — money.

How dare you betray a community that has nurtured, read you and loved you all these years. Beer, cheap sex, cigarettes and a few good columns. Have you folks changed or what?

I have eagerly awaited every issue for years, sent issues in the mail, picked up a bunch for friends weekly. Now along come upsetting issues full of sarcasm, bad ads and glamorization of booze!

I guess you get my point. Do what you think is right and stop selling yourselves for a buck every chance you get, or I'm gone and so will be many others.

Phil (Zot) Cousineau
Phil (Zoo) Cousineau
Portland

CBW

Has anybody ever fallen off a ferry in Casco Bay?

According to Nick Mavodones, a captain at Casco Bay Lines, people don't normally fall off the ferry, but there have been people who jumped. "They act like it was an accident, but other passengers confirm that the act was usually premeditated," Mavodones said. He estimated that at least three people have ended up in the water in the past five years. "Usually, it's off a chartered boat, sometimes with drinking involved," he said. "But one time I can recall it happening on the Peaks Island ferry. It always seems to happen at night and in bad weather. But we have always gotten everyone back on."

Got a burning question about life in Greater Portland? Let *CBW's* crack investigative squad sort it out for you. Those whose questions are selected for publication will receive a complimentary SPAM® refrigerator magnet. *CBW* Q, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101.

edge

PING-PONG MADNESS ... GOOD EATS AT ZYGOT ...
PSC DOES MOULIERE FOR THE '90S ... FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE ...
NEW STUFF AT RAM ISLAND ... THE WIDE WORLD OF PLAYWRIGHTS

... of many points
... attention between State of
the Arts (START), the organization
trying (mostly unsuccessfully) to run the State
Theatre, and the building's owners, Nick and
Lola Kampf, is START's ongoing problem
meeting the monthly \$12,000 rent. Now, it
seems, the Kampfs are having similar difficul-
ties. "They're not paying their bills when they
come due, put it that way," said the Kampfs'
attorney, Tim Kreiter. "Expenses to run the
[State Theatre space] are very high, and
[START] hasn't paid rent for three months. If
you don't have the money necessary to oper-
ate the building, you're in pretty big trouble."

ear to the pavement



Kreiter wouldn't name specific expenses that the Kampfs haven't paid, saying only that "at this point, large bills that would've been paid have not been paid."

The latest round of legal wrangling between START and the Kampfs began in September, after the theater was closed because of holes in its roof. The two sides couldn't agree on who should pay for the necessary repairs, and the Kampfs subsequently sought to evict START, a motion currently tied up in court. Kreiter said the maneuvering could "go on for a very long time if [START] finds the money to do it, which I don't think they have. They told us in August they were out of money ... For [START] to fight this tooth and nail doesn't make any sense, unless they're on a vendetta to see how much damage they can do to the landlord. That's just my opinion, of course." START head Kelly Graves could not be reached for comment.

Meanwhile, Graves' Standing Ovation Deli has moved out of its High Street storefront, and no one's answering the phones at START. A call to the theater, however, is met with a message informing the caller that "all ticket agents are currently busy."

Information gap: As CBW was going to press, rumors were flying up and down Congress Street that **The Gap** was slated to move in next door to L.L. Bean. Not so, said Greg Boulos, a partner at The Boulos Company. "It would be a gift from God, but if it's true I'm unaware of it," said Boulos. "We're talking with a number of interested parties, all of them retailers, and hope to get someone into the space as close to the first of the year as we can." Boulos said the L.L. Bean grand opening bash would be Nov. 19.

Art for sale: The Maine College of Art's 22nd **annual auction** Nov. 2 raised \$33,000 for student scholarships. Scruffy art students rubbed elbows with well-heeled local society types as some 350 participants crowded into a second-floor space (future home of the school's library) to bid on an assortment of art by students, faculty, local artists and friends. "Public Wharf, Stonington," a large watercolor by Harvey Rhys Peterson, topped the bid honors by selling for \$1,850, edging Neil Welliver's lithograph "Bog or Beaver Flowage," which went for \$1,550. **CBW**



Congress Street, with extra olives: the author surveys her realm. PHOTO/COLIN MALAKIE

I, trendspotter

A right-this-very-minute, clogs-to-martinis guide to what's hip and hot in Portland

ELLEN MCALISTER

Do you want to be the hippest, most happening thing cruising the streets of Portland? Do you aspire to know what's going down before it actually happens? Then listen up. There are a host of trends, from footwear to libations to entrepreneurial activity, suddenly bouncing around in our fair city, and we thought it might be a valuable exercise to compile some of the more notable examples. We've no doubt missed a few, but you can still consider this an unabridged primer to what's fashionable right now in Portland.

Going Dutch

Suddenly, clogs aren't for clods. It may be time to nickname our city "Little Amsterdam," not because hash bars have suddenly sprung up on every corner but because every living being — male, female and otherwise — seems to have embraced the clunky clog. Wool clogs, wooden clogs, clogs with stacked heels, clogs with straps, clogs with sproingy rubber bottoms, clogs in brown, green, burgundy and especially black, even clogs with backs, are pounding the pavement like an invading army.

And why not? On a man, clogs say, "I have a sensitive, feminine side." On a woman they say, "Yes, I'm wearing heels, but watch it — these babies are heavy enough to make you a soprano with just one kick."

Street level

The best place to view this clog cornucopia is on Congress Street, Portland's darling and its desperado. Until recently, you could've made a good argument that the street was tackier than Kathie Lee Gifford's clothing line. Still, in the lineup of that which is fashionable in Portland's 1996 fall collection, most of the buzz is focused on the boulevard. Since head cheerleader L.L. Bean decided to move downtown, a flock of other shops, sandwich joints, and restaurants have gobbled up empty storefronts, hoping to cash in on the Bean effect.

Swing shift

Downtown may have more economic promise than it has since the 1940s, but top-notch Portland trendsetters know it all don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing. On street corners, coffee houses, Old Port boutiques and funky restaurants, everyone from grungy high school kids to octogenarians are spinning Ella Fitzgerald, Stan Getz, Benny Goodman, Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong and Billie Holiday CDs. Last week, a young couple actually began to dance when the jazz group Big World launched into one of Benny's standards during a gig at the Free Street Taverna. Which raises an intriguing question: Is it really possible to jitterbug in clogs?

Shaken or stirred?

Answer to intriguing question: Yes, provided you're fueled on Portland's new favorite beverage, the martini. Sophisticated Portlanders drowning in a sea of microbrews have lately found comfort in the martini, preferably with spicy jalapeno olives. There are those who swear by the vodka martini, others who endorse gin. Still, agreement can be found — at least half the pleasure of a martini is in the elegant angles of the glass itself. Note for the amateur martini drinker: Eating the olives immediately not only diminishes the aesthetic appeal of the cocktail, but also deprives the olives of an opportunity to get drunk themselves. Rude, very rude.

The hang of it

After you've had your first martini of the evening at Katahdin, unquestionably the best in town, you can join other fad fiends at the Rec Room, which suddenly seems to be everyone's favorite basement lounge. It's got cheap wooden paneling, couches, easy chairs and bizarre artwork. It's white trash cool, sort of like a Calvin Klein ad.

If white trash cool isn't your cup of joe, head to Top of the East in the Radisson. Top of the East, prized for its mirrored bar and unintentional cheesiness, is a quiet corner that draws business travelers and 20-something bar hoppers in search of a little glamour, '70s-style. As a regular once put it, "If Telly Savalas ever came to Portland, he would hang out at Top of the East."

Used and abused

Speaking of relics, those in the know know that the best places to shop are consignment and thrift stores. They know a piece of furniture is not a find unless it was found in a junk shop, on a street corner or at a flea market. Thrifty, it seems, is nifty. Is it any wonder that Congress Street, hub of all that's hot and happening in town, is also home to the city's thriving secondhand shop scene?

So: You say you're already a clog-clad Congress Street entrepreneur who jives with jazz and mingles with martinis? That you've been living in the Rec Room and know all the bartenders at the Top of the East? That you've already gotten everything you own secondhand? Well, congratulations! You're it, you're now, you're down with what's up and up with what's down! My friend, you're a trendy groovemeister, a totally informed king (or queen) sitting amid the red-brick realm that is Portland.

Still, in the flaky world of local trendspotting, there are only two constants — change and wool socks. So enjoy your reign while it lasts: Rule justly and fairly, but remember that what's hip today will likely be gone tomorrow.

Fortunately, it'll all be back again next week. **CBW**

preview

Piano man



Chef in the jazz kitchen: Muhal Richard Abrams

In a just world, pianist Muhal Richard Abrams' name would roll off the tongues of the general population to the same extent as Wynton Marsalis'. Since the early '60s, the elfin Abrams has influenced an entire segment of the music known as jazz (like many musicians of his generation, Abrams sidesteps the word), not only musically but spiritually.

In the early '60s he organized The Experimental Band, a once-legendary home for wayward musical adventurers. By 1965 he had established the Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians (AACM), an umbrella organization that supported musicians with individual lessons, local concert promotions and tours. As director, Abrams imbued AACM members with a respect for both solo and group improvisation. The roster of members, including Roscoe Mitchell, Anthony Braxton, Leroy Jenkins and Henry Threadgill, indicates the power of Abrams' ideas.

But Abrams didn't so much influence the playing of individual members as much as teach them how to approach music. Where a younger generation of jazz artists now preaches neo-conservatism — a mixture of nine parts be-bop and swing knowledge to one part search for individualism — Abrams has unapologetically remained much more of an inquisitive chef. He tosses all musical ingredients, from the blues to 20th-century classical, into surprising combinations — think pan-blackened tuna with a dollop of fruit salsa, rather than fish sticks with tartar sauce. Abrams learned how to cook decades ago; it's up to the audience to trust his expertise and at least sample a forkful.

■ JIM PINFOLD

Muhal Richard Abrams performs Nov. 9 at State Street Church, 159 State St., at 8 p.m. as part of Portland Performing Arts' Big Sounds From All Over. Tix: \$16. 761-1545.

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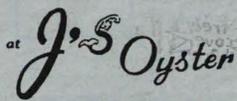
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clubs



Prime cut
Veteran blues guitarist **EDDIE KIRKLAND** has been at the epicenter of so many exciting musical trends over the years — he was playing with John Lee Hooker during the birth of electric blues and R&B and recording with Otis Redding for Stax during the heyday of soul — that you can't help wondering how he musters the energy to keep evolving. But he does. You can catch up with the blues genie and his young, hard-driving band Nov 9 at Raoul's, 865 Forest Ave, Portland, at 9 pm. Tix: \$5. 773-6886.

thursday 7
The Big Easy
The Seth Yacovone Blues Band (blues), 416 Fore St, Portland. 780-1207.

The Comedy Connection
Comedy Showcase starring Mike McDonald, 6 Custom House Wharf, Portland. 774-5554.

Free Street Taverna
The Zefrons, 128 Free St, Portland. 774-1114.

Geno's
Wide Open Mic Night with 37 Smokes, 13 Brown St, Portland. 772-7891.

The Moon
T.G.I. Thursday (DJ Jayce spins top 40 dance), 427 Fore St, Portland. 772-1983.

Old Port Tavern
Ring (classic rock), 11 Moulton St, Portland. 774-0444.

Raoul's
Jimmy Dale Gilmore (folk/country rock), 865 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-6886.

Stone Coast Brewing Company
The Bogmen (goofy funk/rock), 14 York St, Portland. 773-2337.

Tipperary Pub
Greg Powers (karaoke), Sheraton Tara Hotel, Maine Mall Rd, So. Portland. 775-6161.

The Underground
Lisa Gallant Seal Unplugged (acoustic rock), 3 Spring St, Portland. 773-3315.

Uptown Billy's Barbeque
Paul Farrar, 1 Forest Ave, Portland. 780-0141.

Zootz
Funeral (Gothic Industrial Dance Music until 1 am), 31 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-8187.

Friday 8
The Big Easy
The West End Blues Band (blues), 416 Fore St, Portland. 780-1207.

Comedy Connection
Mike McDonald, 6 Custom House Wharf, Portland. 774-5554.

Dark Horse Saloon
Pato Cowboys (country), 145 Kennebec St,

Free Street Taverna
Johnny Welfare & The Doodman (blues), 128 Free St, Portland. 774-1114.

Geno's
Strictly Business (rock), 13 Brown St, Portland. 772-7891.

The Industry
College Night (DJ Mix), 50 Wharf St, Portland. 879-0865.

The Moon
Ladies' Night (DJ Dredd), 427 Fore St, Portland. 772-1983.

Old Port Tavern
Ring (classic rock), 11 Moulton St, Portland. 774-0444.

Raoul's
Reggae Party with Happy Campers, 865 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-6886.

Stone Coast Brewing Company
Groovesaurus and BoogieMan (funk), 14 York St, Portland. 773-2337.

T-Birds
DJ Steve Nason ('70s, '80s and '90s dance music), 126 N. Boyd St, Portland. 773-8040.

Tipperary Pub
Tom Dyhberg, Sheraton Tara Hotel, Maine Mall Rd, So. Portland. 775-6161.

Top of the East
Ken Grimsley (guitar rock), Radisson Eastland Hotel, 157 High St, Portland. 775-5411.

The Underground
Dancing with DJ Andy, 3 Spring St, Portland. 773-3315.

Uptown Billy's Barbeque
Rock-a-Billy, 1 Forest Ave, Portland. 780-0141.

Verrillo's
Shifters (top 40), 155 Riverside St, Portland. 775-6536.

Zootz
Machinery Hall and Sabertooth Nudist (9 pm/21+), Bounce! (DJ Larre Love spins until 3 am), 31 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-8187.

Stone Coast Brewing Company
Twisted Roots (hard rock), 14 York St, Portland. 773-2337.

Tipperary Pub
Alan King Band, Sheraton Tara Hotel, Maine Mall Rd, So. Portland. 775-6161.

Top of the East
Ken Grimsley (guitar rock), Radisson Eastland Hotel, 157 High St, Portland. 775-5411.

The Underground
Dancing with DJ Andy, 3 Spring St, Portland. 773-3315.

Free Street Taverna
The Pontiffs and Jonas Turbine, 128 Free St, Portland. 774-1114.

Geno's
Lucky Gold and Sun Cycle, 13 Brown St, Portland. 772-7891.

The Industry
Dance with DJ Mix, 50 Wharf St, Portland. 879-0865.

The Moon
Portland's Best Dance Party (DJ Dredd), 427 Fore St, Portland. 772-1983.

Old Port Tavern
Ring (classic rock), 11 Moulton St, Portland. 774-0444.

Raoul's
Eddie Kirkland (high energy blues), 865 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-6886.

Stone Coast Brewing Company
Twisted Roots (hard rock), 14 York St, Portland. 773-2337.

Tipperary Pub
Alan King Band, Sheraton Tara Hotel, Maine Mall Rd, So. Portland. 775-6161.

Top of the East
Ken Grimsley (guitar rock), Radisson Eastland Hotel, 157 High St, Portland. 775-5411.

The Underground
Dancing with Bob Look, 3 Spring St, Portland. 772-1983.

Zootz
Rec Room (open 8 pm-1 am), 31 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-8187.

Zootz
War Zone, Front Towards Enemy, Distast and Tok (hardcore — 5:30 pm/all-ages), Decades of Dance ('70s, '80s and '90s dance music), 31 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-8187.

sunday 10
The Big Easy
Red Light Revue (blues/R&B), 416 Fore St, Portland. 780-1207.

Comedy Connection
George Hamm's Comedy Showcase, 6 Custom House Wharf, Portland. 774-5554.

Free Street Taverna
Big World, 128 Free St, Portland. 774-1114.

Gitty McDuff's
Kevin Midgley, 396 Fore St, Portland. 772-2739.

Old Port Tavern
Laser Karaoke with Stormin' Norman, 11 Moulton St, Portland. 774-0444.

Stone Coast Brewing Company
Jazz Brunch with Lex & Joe, 14 York St, Portland. 773-2337.

Top of the East
Jazz Brunch with Richard Taylor (piano), Radisson Eastland Hotel, 157 High St, Portland. 775-5411.

The Underground
Dancing with Jammin' Joe (karaoke in front lounge), 3 Spring St, Portland. 773-3315.

Wharf's End
Open Mic with Ken Grimsley, 52 Wharf St, Portland. 773-0093.

Zootz
Earth Crisis, One King Down and Storm Front (hardcore — 6 pm/all-ages), All Request Night (dance until 3 am), 31 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-8187.

monday 11
The Big Easy
Laser Karaoke with Ray Dog, 416 Fore St, Portland. 780-1207.

Free Street Taverna
Open Mic with Go Button, 128 Free St, Portland. 774-1114.

The Moon
So. Maine College Mixer (DJ Jayce plays alternative dance), 427 Fore St, Portland. 772-1983.

Old Port Tavern
DJ Kilowatt Kevin, 11 Moulton St, Portland. 774-0444.

Raoul's
So. Me. Blues Society Meeting (7 pm), Open Blues Jam (8 pm), 865 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-6886.

Wharf's End
Open Mic with Ken Grimsley, 52 Wharf St, Portland. 773-0093.

Zootz
Rec Room (open 8 pm-1 am), 31 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-8187.

Free Street Taverna
Slack Jaw, 128 Free St, Portland. 774-1114.

Gitty McDuff's
Swinging Blue Matadors (swing blues), 396 Fore St, Portland. 772-2739.

Raoul's
Writers' Open Mic hosted by Anne Clark featuring Curt Bessett with Carl Cacho, 865 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-6886.

Steamers Bar & Grill
The State Street Traditional Jazz Band (jazz), 700 Main St, So. Portland. 780-8434.

Wharf's End
Open Mic with Ken Grimsley, 52 Wharf St, Portland. 773-0093.

Zootz
Rec Room (open 8 pm-1 am), 31 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-8187.

Free Street Taverna
TBA, 128 Free St, Portland. 774-1114.

Geno's
Men's Night, 13 Brown St, Portland. 772-7891.

Gitty McDuff's
Empty Pockets Full of Blues, 396 Fore St, Portland. 772-2739.

The Moon
Generation X (DJ Jayce), 427 Fore St, Portland. 772-1983.

Old Port Tavern
Concert Karaoke with DJ Greg Powers, 11 Moulton St, Portland. 774-0444.

The Underground
Dancing with Bob Look, 3 Spring St, Portland. 772-1983.

Zootz
Rec Room (open 8 pm-1 am), 31 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-8187.

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listings

Casco Bay Weekly listings are a fun and free service to our readers. To have a listing considered for publication, send complete information (including dates, times, costs, complete address, a contact telephone number) by noon on Thursday prior to publication.

stage

"As Is" The Department of Theatre at USM, in collaboration with USM's Department of Social Work, presents a play exploring the inner worlds of Rich, a man living with AIDS, and of the people touched by his life. At the Main Stage in Russell Hall, USM Campus, Gorham. Nov 8-17. Wed-Sat 7:30 pm, Sun 5 pm & 7:30 pm. Tix: \$8 (\$6 seniors/\$4 students). 780-5483.

"Coyote Ugly" The Originals present a play that examines the tragicomic conflicts and passions which beset a rural family in America's southwest. At the Saco River Grange Hall, Bar Mills. Nov 15-23. Thurs-Sat 7:30 pm. Tix: \$9 (\$7 students/seniors — pay-what-you-can-night). 929-5412.

"Dragon's Daughter" The Figures of Speech Theatre, in Freeport, presents an adaption of an Asian folktale about a young girl who saves her village from drought. At the Mad Horse Theatre, 955 Forest Ave, Portland. Nov 7-8, 7 pm, Nov 9-10, 2 pm & 5 pm. Tix: \$12 (\$8 children, \$8 Nov 7 preview). 797-3338.

"The Emperor's New Clothes" The Children's Theatre of Maine presents a classic fairy tale with a new twist. At Nathan Clifford Elementary School, Falmouth St, Portland. Nov 8-10. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 am & 2 pm, Sun 2 pm. Tix: \$5. 874-0371.

"From Away: An Evening of International Playwriting" Nov 11. Portland Stage Company presents an exploration of international voices in the theatre featuring staged readings of new plays from Macedonia, Bolivia and Australia. At PSC, 25A Forest Ave, Portland at 7 pm. Free. Reservations encouraged. 774-1043.

"Intimate Relations" The Theater Project presents Jean Cocteau's play about the loves, jealousies and fears of a fairly typical 19th-century European family. At the Theater Project, 14 School St, Brunswick. Nov 7-24. Thurs-Sat 8 pm, Sun 3 pm. Tix: \$12 (\$10 seniors/students). 729-8584.

"My Mother Said I Never Should" Vintage Repertory Company presents Charlotte Keatley's play about mother-daughter relationships, social change and the desire to love and be loved. At Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak St, Portland. Nov 7-24. Thurs-Sat 8 pm, Sun 5 pm. Tix: \$12 (Thurs is 2-for-1 night). 775-5103.

"Scapin" Portland Stage Company presents a rock 'n' roll musical version of Moliere's classic. At PSC, 25A Forest Ave, Portland. Nov 3-24. Tix: \$18-\$29. 774-1043.

"Twice Told Tales" The Oak Street Theatre presents Odette Bowman's performance of the theatrical re-creation of native American tales. At Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak St, Portland. Nov 9-10, 2 pm. Tix: \$5 (\$15/family of four). 775-5103.

auditions/etc

Acting Classes Basic technique to advanced scene study in a supportive, creative atmosphere. 878-5295.

Auditions Reindeer Theatre Company seeks two male auditions for adults and children for its holiday presentation of "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever." Nov 9 from 4-6 pm. At Reindeer Pointe, 650 Forest Ave, 2nd floor. 874-9002.

Auditions Dark Water Theatre Company seeks two male actors (age 18-35) who will play multiple roles for its upcoming production of "Durang/Durang" by Christopher Durang Jan 1. Auditions consist of reading from the script. For more info or to schedule an appointment, call 892-3728.

Auditions for unique acts to perform in a variety show at The Comedy Connection in Portland. 774-5554.

The Children's Museum of Maine holds auditions for Holiday Carolers Nov 12 & 13 from 3:30-6pm at Deering High School, 370 Stevens Ave, Portland.

Cathedral Chamber Singers A community choir based at St. Luke's Cathedral seeks new members. Auditions by appointment. 772-5434.

Oak Street School for the Performing Arts Offers a variety of areas. 775-5103.

Portland Players holds auditions Nov 12 at 7pm at 420 Cottage Rd, Portland, for "Nine," a musical by Arthur Kopit and Maury Yeston. 6-8 women between ages 20-40 who can sing, act and move well. For more info, call 828-8687.

Reindeer Performing Arts For Kids Offers workshops on singing, acting, movement, songwriting, storytelling, character and scene development for kids ages 5-13 on weekdays and weekends. At the Reindeer Room, 650 Forest Ave, Portland, 2nd floor. 874-9002.

Young Men's Choir holds ongoing auditions by appointment only. 854-0182.

Young People's Theater The Theater Project in Brunswick holds classes for 3rd through 8th graders in Oct and Nov. For information and applications, call The Theater Project at 729-8584.

concerts

thursday 7

Choral Concert Featuring the USM Chorale and Chamber Singers directed by Dr. Eph Ehy, At State Street Church, 159 State St, Portland, at 7 pm. Tix: \$6 (\$3 students/seniors). 772-8630.

Yefim Bronfman Portland Concert Association presents the pianist playing his pre-Lincoln Center program of Schumann and Prokofiev. At Portland High School, 284 Cumberland Ave, Portland, at 7:30 pm. Bronfman gives a pre-curtain talk at 6 pm. Tix: \$28 (discounts available). 772-8630.

Noonday Concert Scott Burditt on horn and Ray Cornils on piano collaborate in a program of works from J.S. Bach to Martin Marais. At First Parish Church, 425 Congress St, Portland from 12:15-12:45 pm. Free. 625-4439.

eats

Not by bread alone

Does Portland really need another café, you may ask yourself? The answer is definitely yes when the new café serves not only coffee and breakfast pastries, but also such delicacies as glass noodles with fresh mango, lime, cilantro, sesame seeds and lotus root.



That's just one of the mind-blowing lunches offered at Zygot, a joint venture between Robert Marchand — he does the noodles — and Scott Mullenberg, a book-binder. At Zygot, located in the Calderwood Building on Pleasant

Street (formerly part of the Maine College of Art campus), you can browse through Mullenberg's elegant handmade blank books, journals, photo albums and paper-covered boxes while Marchand fixes you a sandwich stuffed with anything from artichoke hearts to fresh mozzarella to Virginia ham to black radishes to marinated broccoli.

Along one wall of the bright, sunny space hang colored and textured papers from around the world — water hyacinth paper from Nepal, for instance, and papyrus paper from Egypt. Mullenberg, who teaches workshops in the time-honored art of hand bookbinding, does a lot of custom design work for photographers and artists who want to display their work. He also preserves and restores old leather- and clothbound volumes. He learned the craft, Mullenberg says, because "I wanted to feel good about what I was doing — like I was carrying something on beyond my own generation, preserving something for the future. It also satisfies a creative urge."

Behind the high counter at the other end of the café, Marchand echoes Mullenberg's sentiments. Cooking, he says, "is just something I want to do. It's a way for me to express myself. And we like to encourage customers to be creative with the ingredients we have."

Make that chicken breast with feta, roasted peppers and grilled eggplant on a baguette. Oh yeah, and a cup of coffee.

■ SARAH GOODYEAR

The café at Zygot, 61 Pleasant St., is open Mon-Fri. 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. The bookworks keeps slightly longer hours. 775-4121.

"The Planets" The Portland Symphony Orchestra presents a youth concert of Gustav Holst's "The Planets" accompanied by video images of the Solar System. At the Civic Center, at 9:30 and 11:30 am. Tix: \$4. 773-8191.

friday 8

"The Songs of Julie Andrews" Richard Hayman, chief arranger for the Boston Pops during Arthur Fiedler's tenure guest conducts the Portland Symphony Orchestra. The program includes songs from "Mary Poppins," "My Fair Lady," "The Sound of Music" and "Victor/Victoria." At the Civic Center, at 8 pm. Tix: \$15-\$35. 773-8191.

saturday 9

Muhai Richard Abrams Quartet Portland Performing Arts' Big Sounds From All Over series presents the pioneer of the jazz avant-garde, with Logunov & Yudinov, new improvisations from Russia. At State Street Church, 159 State St, Portland, at 8 pm. Tix: \$16. 761-0591.

Rick Charette A concert for kids sponsored Tuttle Road Methodist Church. At McAuley Performing Arts Center, 631 Stevens Ave, Portland, at 2 pm. Tix: \$6 (\$4 kids). 829-3702.

"Sweet Addie's Place" The 45-member Royal River Chorus of Sweet Adelines presents its annual barbershop variety show, showcasing songs of 1932, arranged in four-part barbershop-style. At Harrison Middle School, McCartney St, Yarmouth, at 2:30 pm and 7:30 pm. Tix: \$10 (\$8 students/seniors — \$5 kids). 846-4331.

sunday 10

Organ Dedication Concert featuring guest artist Douglas Rafter. At Pndr's Corner Church, 235 Pndr St, Westbrook, at 4 pm. Free. 797-4636.

Portland Community Chorus Performs its annual fall concert. At Scarborough High School, Gorham Rd, Scarborough, at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$8 (\$5 students/seniors). 892-9437.

wednesday 13

Orchestra Revelacion Maranatha Concert At Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St, Portland, at 7 pm. Free. Donations benefit the hospital project in La Romana in the Dominican Republic. 797-8719.

upcoming

"Pirates of Penzance" Nov 14. Portland Concert Association presents Opera à la Carte performing teh Gilbert and Sullivan classic. At the Civic Center, Portland, at 7:30 pm. Attend a pre-curtain talk in the Captain's Club, at the Civic Center, at 6 pm. Tix: \$32, \$25 & \$15. 772-8630.

Elliott Schwartz, Matthew Kuhrt & Friends Nov 15. Schubert piano music for four hands. At Portland Conservatory of Music, 44 Oak St, Portland, at 8 pm. Tix: \$10 (\$6 students/seniors). 775-3356.

B.B. King Nov 21. Corey Harris opens. At the Civic Center, Portland, at 8 pm. Tix: \$15-\$25. 775-3458.

dance

events

"Alive and Well: In-House Dance Series" Nov 15. Ram Island Dance presents a studio show featuring works-in-progress, experimental pieces and introducing new artists. At Portland Performing Arts Center, 25A Forest Ave, Portland, at 7:30 pm. Free. 773-2562.

"Near and Far" Nov 8 & 9. Ram Island Dance Company presents an evening of contemporary dance in memory of Harriet Lutes, former company member, dancer, choreographer and guest Artistic Director. Among the pieces to be performed are Kwabena CHAN AnsaphisesehSis' multimedia dance "Between Here and There, (Harken, pt. II)," "Inamarata/Inamarato" by Larry Lee Van Horne and Brian Crabtree's "Tango." At Portland High School Auditorium, 284 Cumberland Ave, Portland, at 8 pm. Tix: \$10 (\$8 students/seniors). 773-2562.

Mainstream Plus Dance Nov 9. Sponsored by the Pine Tree Squares Dance Club at the Congin School, Westbrook, at 7 pm. Caller: Johnny Wedge. Cue: Betty Brown.

Pottuck Dinner & Dance Nov 16. Bring your favorite dish to share, beverages provided. Dance to the music of DJ "Dancing Bear" Holt. Chem-free. At Centre of Movement, School of Performing Arts, 19 State St, Gorham, dinner at 7 pm, dancing from 8-11 pm. Cost: \$5. Free lesson. 839-3267.

Star of Sea Dance Kids learn the basics of tap, jazz and ballet. Wednesdays from 3:30-4:15 pm (4-6 years) and 6:15-7 pm at Riverton Community Center, 1600 Forest Ave, Portland. Cost: \$15 per month. Sponsored by Portland Parks and Recreation. 874-8455.

Swing Dance Nov 9. At Centre of Movement, School of Performing Arts, 19 State St, Gorham, free lesson at 7:30 pm, dancing from 8-11 pm. Cost: \$5. Snacks and beverages provided. 839-3267.

events

Night Under the Harvest Moon Nov 8. The Cumberland County Child Abuse and Neglect Council holds its 2nd annual silent auction featuring packages made up of a variety of items including plants, theatre tix, gourmet coffee. Paul Cousins is auctioneer. Music by the USM Jazz Trio. At the Pavilion, 188 Middle St, Portland, at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$15 (includes dessert, coffee and champagne). 874-1120.

Portland Pirates Games Nov 9: against St. John at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$5-\$13. 775-3458.

Maine Audubon Holiday Bazaar Nov 16. Start your holiday shopping early and support the Maine Audubon Society. Over 100 of New England's best artisans, crafters and merchants will be on hand. At the Portland Expo, from 9 am-5 pm. Free. 781-2330.

art

openings

The Baxter Gallery 619 Congress St, Portland. Opening reception for "Genius Loci: A Sense of Place," an exhibition of works by six painters reflecting the importance of memory and personal connectedness with the world around us, Nov 7 from 5-7 pm. Shows through Dec 15. Hours: Tues-Sun 11 am-4 pm, Thurs 11 am-9 pm. 775-5152.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21



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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

Danforth Gallery 34 Danforth St., Portland. Opening reception for "An American Collection," an exhibition of paintings and other works by artists with disabilities from across the country, Nov 7 from 4-7 pm. Shows through Nov 27. Hours: Wed, Fri, Sat 11 am-5 pm, Thurs 11 am-8 pm, Sun noon-4 pm. 775-6245.

Frost Gully Gallery 411 Congress St., Portland. Opening reception for recent paintings by Dahlov Ipcar, Nov 7 from 4-7:30 pm. Hours: Mon-Fri noon-6 pm. 773-2555.

June Fitzpatrick Gallery 112 High St., Portland. Opening reception for "The Decorated Page," paintings and prints by Grace Tagliabue, Nov 7 from 5-8 pm. Shows Oct 31 through Nov 23. "Twelve Corners," paintings and ceramics by Abby Shah, shows through Nov 23. Hours: Tues-Sat noon-5 pm, Thurs noon-8 pm. 772-1961.

Portland Public Library 5 Monument Square, Portland. "People First," a group show by the Portland Coalition, shows through Nov 30. The Coalition will host a free public symposium on the issue of mental illness Nov 7 from 7-9 pm. Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri 9 am-6 pm, Tues & Thurs 12-9 pm, Sat 9 am-5 pm. 871-1700.

"Storytelling Training For Professionals" A free 3-session training offered through a grant project, "Communicating With Heart: Exploring Our Lives Through Stories." Nov 12 at Day One's Administration and Prevention Office, Fort Williams Park, Cape Elizabeth, from 2-6 pm. Free. Call to register. 767-0991.

volunteer

events

Food Drive Seaside Nursing and Retirement Home together with Seaside Home Care Services will collect non-perishable food for holiday baskets through Nov 25. Donations may be dropped off in the lobby at 850 Baxter Blvd., Portland. If you know a family in need of a holiday basket contact Jacquie Black at 774-7878.

Jobs With Justice A national labor, community and religious coalition dedicated to fighting for the rights of working people, seeks individuals to form a Maine chapter of JWWJ. 761-9221. E-mail at jfchere@wow.com or bddid@biddeford.com.

Toys For Tots Seaside Nursing and Retirement Home together with Seaside Home Care Services will collect unwrapped toys for tots beginning Dec 1. Donations may be dropped off in the lobby at 850 Baxter Blvd., Portland. If you have questions contact Jacquie Black at 774-7878.

YouthBuild Portland Volunteer Orientation Nov 14. Portland youth development/job training program is looking for committed volunteers to serve the program in a variety of capacities: one-on-one classroom tutors, vocational assistants, service project coordinators, fundraising and marketing assistants, service learning assistants, career development assistants and program assistants. Flexible time frame, various levels of commitment and no experience necessary. For more info, contact Sara Mabley at 879-8710.

outdoors

Appalachian Mountain Club Features a variety of trips, workshops and facilities. 799-5312.

Bradbury Mountain Challenge Nov 10. A 5-mile trail run to benefit the Bowdoin College Ski Team. At Bradbury Mt. State Park, Poland, at 11 am. Cost: \$10 (\$5 high school & Bowdoin students). Prizes donated by local businesses. For more info and directions, call Nate at 798-5157.

Casco Bay Bike Club offers many local weekday, evening and weekend rides. For everyone from beginners to the seasoned rider. Wed night rides leave from Shop 'N' Save in Yarmouth at 6 pm. Trip hotline: 828-0918.

European Soccer Tour Tryout Nov 10. The Northeast Soccer Club will hold open tryouts for high school age boys interested in playing soccer in Europe in 1997. At Cape Elizabeth High School, at 10 am. For information concerning this year's tours for boys and its girls program, call 737-2074.

Free Camp for the Blind Blind residents of Maine are encouraged to attend the National Camps for Blind Children program at Camp Lawrovel, Weld. Contact Camps for Blind Children, 743-0818.

H2Ouffers Open pool sessions, fall paddling series and more. Indoor paddling series: Nov 9, 10. A 10-hour comprehensive program covering strokes, rescues and rolling. Participants get a free day trip during the '97 season! Thus evening paddle on Orr's Island. Cost varies. 833-6257.

Maine Accessible Adventures is an adventure group for people with and without disabilities. Activities include kayaking, canoeing, archery, rock climbing, downhill skiing and horseback riding. Most events require advance registration. Membership: \$15/year (\$35/year family). 871-2993.

Maine Audubon Society Gilead Farm Environmental Center 118 U.S. Route 1, Falmouth. "Buzzing Bees" stories and activities for preschoolaged kids, followed by a snack, Weds 10:11-30 am. Cost: \$5 (\$4 members) \$3 each additional child (\$2 members). Volunteer rally 2nd Thurs of each month from noon-1 pm. Reservations required. 781-2330.

Maine Frontrunners is a gay and lesbian running club that sponsors a weekly run in Portland, Sat at 9 am, at the beginning of the Back Cove Walkway. For more info, call 761-2059.

Maine Outdoor Adventure Club meetings are the first Wed of every month at 7 pm at the Unitarian Church, 524 Allen Ave., Portland. MOAC offers hiking, canoeing, backpacking, mountain biking, whitewater rafting, camping and other trips for people of all skill levels. Upcoming events: For updated trip info, call hotline at 828-0918.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30

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November 12 - January 16
5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

AC 102	Elementary Accounting II
AC 204	Intermediate Accounting II
BA 201	Human Resources Management
CC 103	Child Development
CC 113	Administration and Management
CIS 226	Introduction to Telecommunications
FM 106	Visual Merchandising
LA 102	General Business Law
LA 213	Paralegal Practicum
LA 217	Business Organizations Law
TT 103	World Geography
TT 109	International Travel/Geography
	8:05 - 10:35 p.m.
BA 106	Beginning Document Processing (Keyboarding)
EC 202	Microeconomics
EH 121	Composition and Literature
SS 103/6	Beginning Document Processing (Keyboarding)
TT 113X	Travel and Tourism Externship

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calendar

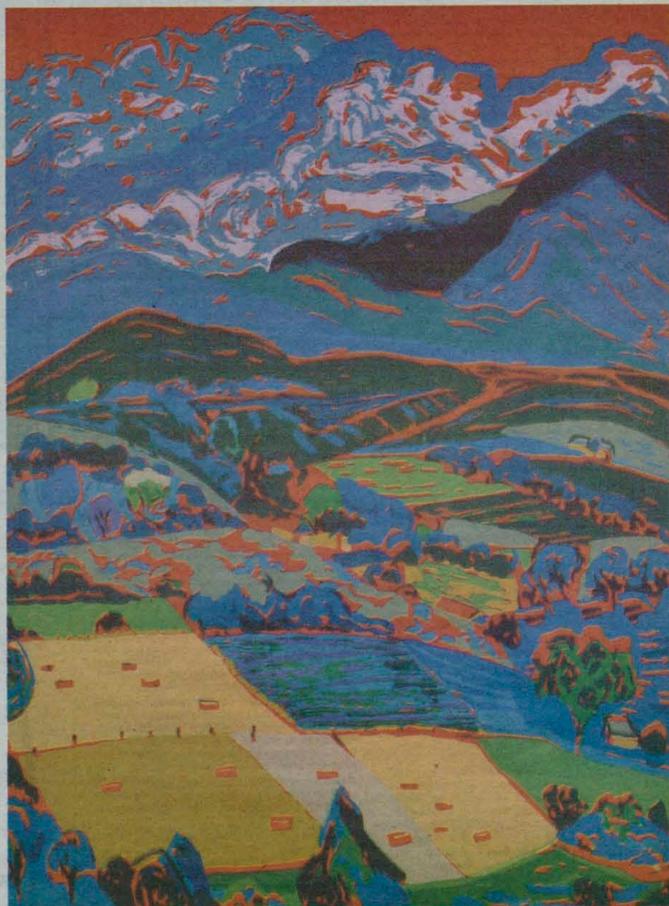
Submissions for the calendar must be received in writing on the Thursday prior to the publication. Send your calendar listings to Zoë Miller, Casco Bay Weekly, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101.

IF thursday 7

you're in the mood for free Brie, veggies and punch, then put on your best duds and check out two new art exhibitions:

the Danforth Gallery's "An American Collection," paintings and other works by artists with disabilities from across the country

and The Baxter Gallery's "Genius Loci: A Sense of Place," works by six painters reflecting the importance of memory and personal connectedness with the world around us. At the Baxter Gallery, 619 Congress St., from 5-7 p.m. (775-5152), and the Danforth Gallery, 34 Danforth St., from 4-7 p.m. (775-6245).



"Hayfields in Arroyo Hondo," Alyce Frank, serigraph

friday 8 The mercury may be dropping outside, but temperatures will be on the rise when Ram Island Dance Company presents "Near and Far," an evening of contemporary dance in memory of Harriet Lutes, former company member, dancer, choreographer and guest artistic director. Among the sizzling pieces to be performed are Kwabena CHAN AnsaPilsqehSis' multimedia dance "Between Here and There (Harken, pt. II)," "Inamarata/Inamarato" by Larry Lee Van Horne and Brian Crabtree's "Tango." At Portland High School Auditorium, 284 Cumberland Ave., at 8 p.m. Also Nov. 9. Tix: \$10 (\$8 students/seniors). 773-2562. **saturday 9** There's been a lot of talk this election year about the impact of the mother's vote. How apropos, then, that Vintage Repertory Company should present Charlotte Keatley's "My Mother Said I Never Should," a play about mother-daughter relationships, social change and the desire to love and be loved. The play follows the lives of four generations of women, charting the mother-daughter bonds of love and jealousy and how they affect women's perception of self. At Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak St., Portland. Nov. 7-24. Thurs-Sat 8 p.m., Sun 5 p.m. Tix \$12 (Thurs is 2-for-1 night). 775-5103. **sunday 10** Singer/storyteller Marcus Gale has plenty of experience at making kids laugh. After all, he's been entertaining for more than 20 years. That's why the Children's Museum recruited him for a special performance of his "Sing Along Laugh Along"



Ram Island, Nov. 8 & 9

in conjunction with the museum's "Ha! Ha! Ha! Laughter Around the World" exhibition. Gale's interactive music concert, combining both songs and stories, will bring out the kid in everyone. Join Gale at the Children's Museum of Maine, 142 Free St., at 2 p.m. Free with admission (\$4). 828-1234. **monday 11** Portland Stage Company unveils new works from its three international playwrights-in-residence — Zanina Mircevska from Macedonia, Juan Carlos Orihuela from Bolivia and Catherine Zimdahl from Australia — with "From Away: An Evening of International Playwriting." This exploration of international voices in the theater marks the kickoff of PSC's collaboration with the celebrated International Writing Program at the University of Iowa. The staged readings will be followed by a discussion between the playwrights and the audience about theater traditions in others countries and the impulse to write for stage outside the U.S. At PSC, 25A Forest Ave., at 7 p.m. Free. Reservations encouraged. 774-1043. **tuesday 12** Have you ever sold something, then decided you wanted it back, but you weren't willing to pay for it? That's the scenario in "American Buffalo," the latest screen adaptation of a David Mamet play. Dustin Hoffman plays a junk shop owner who plots to steal back a coin after he decides its buyer paid too little. The already doomed robbery takes a turn for the worse when his inexperienced teenage protégé (Sean Nelson) and his bungling poker buddy (Dennis Franz of "NYPD Blue") compete to see who can be top dog. At The Movies, 10 Exchange St., at 5 p.m. & 7 p.m. "American Buffalo" shows Nov. 6-12. Tix: \$4.25. 772-9600. **wednesday 13** Before you assume that all church music sounds like what you hear piping out of the organ on Sunday, check out the Orchestra Revelacion Maranatha in concert and enjoy exciting Latin rhythms from the Dominican Republic, Spanish and Haitian melodies and contemporary praise music. Hailing from the Haitian Baptist Church in La Romana, Dominican Republic, the orchestra is a Latin-style musical ensemble with a full complement of musicians, a male quartet and a female soloist. At Immanuel Baptist Church, 156 High St., at 7 p.m. Free. Donations benefit the hospital project in La Romana. 797-8719. **thursday 14** What promises bountiful pirates clad in tights, a bevy of giggling maidens and a bunch of blundering cops? Why, it's Opera a la Carte's "Pirates of Penzance," presented by the Portland Concert Association. Tap your feet and sing along to this charmingly ridiculous Gilbert and Sullivan classic at the Civic Center, at 7:30 p.m. Attend a pre-curtain talk in the Captain's Club, at the Civic Center, at 6 p.m. Tix: \$32, \$25 & \$15. 772-8630. **friday 15** Well-known composer and Bowdoin College professor of music Elliott Schwartz celebrates his 60th birthday by sharing the spotlight with his student, poet and composer Matthew Kuhrt. The two come together over one piano to entertain with compositions by Schwartz. At Portland Conservatory of Music, 44 Oak St., at 8 p.m. Free. Reservations recommended. 775-3356. **saturday 16** If the idea of holiday shopping has you worrying about kids in sweatshops and where your hard-earned money will actually go, then you'll want to stop by the Maine Audubon Holiday Bazaar. The shopping extravaganza will feature over 100 of northern New England's best artisans, crafters and merchants displaying their wares. And the best part is that a portion of the proceeds benefit Maine Audubon Society's efforts to protect Maine. Now that's peace of mind. At the Portland Expo, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. 781-2330.



Solemn High Pontifical Mass of the Octave of All Saints Sung in Latin

The Most Rev. Raymond E. Sawyer, Celebrant with choral offering by the Schola Cantorum of Palestrina's Missa Brevis and traditional Gregorian chant 7 p.m., Friday, November 8

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Saturday November 9 9 - 4pm

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Congress Street Minutes

ANNIE SEIKONIA

From Russia with love

A couple of Sundays ago, my significant other and I were wandering around the Old Port when we came upon two men painting a bright red lobster on foam core in Post Office Park. The work sat on a large blue tarp on the ground, in among the rocks. As we sat on a nearby bench to catch the final rays of lingering sun while we sipped our coffees, I heard one of the men speak fluent Russian.

As it turned out, the men weren't just any painters — they were Dmitri Trubin and Evgeni Novoselov, artists in their 30s from Archangel, Russia, who were part of the ongoing cultural exchange between Portland and its sister city. Abby Huntoon, a Portland artist who works with clay and who visited Archangel last June, handed out cider and some excellent Russian chocolate wafers. Marina Klasavich, a beautiful blonde who is a former Archangel resident but has lived in Portland for the last six years, acted as translator and video camera operator.

Abby and I chatted as we watched the painters add bright acrylic colors to their work, which began to look more and more like a cubist-style interpretation of a lobster. Dmitri, the more garrulous of the two, conversed with Marina in a steady stream of rapid, lyrical Russian as he painted. Congenial and animated, he wore a blue work-shirt and a tiny gold cross around his neck. Evgeni was quieter than Dmitri, but good-natured. He had a merry sparkle in his eye

"People are good everywhere. I enjoy different people," said Dmitri. "But artists are the best people. Therefore, more artists make for a better country."

and a professorial look about him, with his beard, glasses and his handsome green suit jacket.

In Archangel, Dmitri does watercolor illustration for children's books, and makes videos and cards as well as paintings. Evgeni carves wooden birds and paints in oil and oil pastel. In the park, both of them painted with an obvious love for their work, energetically filling in swatches of color by brush as well as creating outlines and shapes directly with the tubes.

The artists were in town for eight days, having arrived at the height of our monsoon season. During their stay, they painted landscapes at Sebago Lake and in the Falmouth woods, toured the Portland Museum of Art and visited local galleries and art studios, among other activities. They were pleased to see the PMA's cubism exhibit, since cubism is a major influence on their art. They also had a chance to visit Boston's Museum of Fine Art, and showed their work to the owner of a gallery on Newbury Street who specializes in Russian art. Despite their hectic schedule, the two managed to create 21 small paintings during their visit.

The work they were doing in Post Office Park (which, incidentally, contains bright orange Japanese mailboxes donated by Portland's other sister city, Shinagawa, Japan) was to be a gift to the city of Portland. Abby wasn't sure exactly where the work would be displayed; Portland City Hall, PMA and the Civic Center were among the possibilities. When asked what they would call the work, Dmitri came up with the appropriate title: "Red Lobster From Portland."

Through Marina, I asked Dmitri what impressed him most about Portland. "Everything is wonderful," he said. "And I would find the lobsters more impressive, except that they are living beings which are cooked alive." He followed that comment up with the advice that "you can't take artists seriously." Regarding the nature of foreigners, he gave a thumbs up. "People are good everywhere. I enjoy different people. In America everyone looks Russian. Americans are very funny people who like to laugh and have lots of hospitality." But, he added, "Artists are the best people, and therefore, more artists make for a better country."

As the sun set, the afternoon grew significantly colder, but Dmitri and Evgeni seemed not to notice. They were busy at work adding black lines to their lobster painting, making it more and more abstract, after commenting that if we could tell it was a lobster, they hadn't done their job well enough. Meanwhile, Abby was concerned with how the approximately 5-by-4-foot painting would fit into her small car. There was also the question of wet paint; acrylics dry fast, but Dmitri and Evgeni were beginning to add ominously thick squiggles of paint. Abby looked doubtful.

The work in progress was truly striking — modern, yet with a traditional, sort of stained-glass effect, characteristic of Russian painting styles. It would make a fine gift indeed for Archangel's sister city.

If you're interested in becoming involved in or making donations to the Archangel Exchange Program, write to: The Archangel Committee, P.O. Box 105, Portland, 04102.

Annie Seikonia is a local writer and Slavophile.

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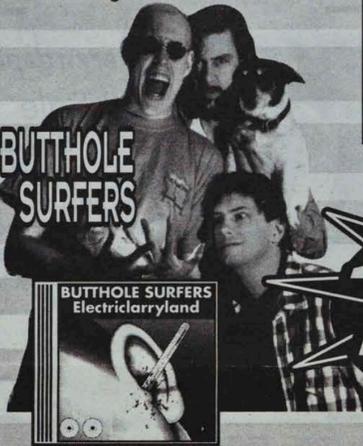
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Rock 'n' farce

Moliere meets East Village youth culture in a "Scapin" for the '90s

■ **MARY STAMATEL**
Portland Stage Company's new artistic directors, Anita Stewart and Christopher Akerlind, can rest easy. The designers-turned-producers' first production, "Scapin," is a solid, entertaining piece of theater.

Curiously, "Scapin" bears more than a little resemblance to Mad Horse's season opener, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum." Both are farces visibly built on the bones of commedia dell'arte (Scapino is a stock servant role therein), and both deal in young love, unapproving and miserly fathers, scheming servants and long-lost kin. "Scapin," while ostensibly by Moliere, has been souped-up to include original pop music and lots of contemporary slang, which makes its resemblance to "Forum" even greater. But while "Forum" draws on a long streak of borscht belt schtick, "Scapin" borrows from East Village youth culture.

The story is classical farce. The servant Scapin (Johnny Garcia) must help Octave (Drew McVety) and Leandre (Mark Fish) persuade their fathers that they should marry as they please. The fathers, Argante (Jordan Lund) and Geronte (Ron Botting), have other, more lucrative unions in mind for their sons, and draw the purse strings shut immediately upon hearing of their sons' disobedience. Scapin enlists another servant (Richard Topol) to trick the old men into approving of the brides the sons have chosen.

Hipness lightly colors the entire play, and works well with the traditional farcical elements of slapstick and buffoonery. The players rely on both physical and verbal humor to buoy the play, and most of the verbal humor is contemporary. At one point, the audience is heckled from the stage as if this were an open mic stand-up comedy night. Mercifully brief, these interludes work because we are in a land of anachronisms, where an aside that recalls a goodfella comes on the heels of a caning, and so hearing a torrent of language usually yelled by an angry driver seems completely natural. At other times, Scapin's scams draw on gurus and Moslem hostage takers.

McVety hits the bullseye as Octave. Hanging on every word gets a reversal onstage to emphasize his lines, as well as the entrances and lines of his fellow actors. It's a delightful and effete sight gag which, when coupled with his faux platinum hair, magenta tailcoat and pink face, is hilarious.

Garcia, meanwhile, makes a slick, high-voltage Scapin. He plays it like the small guy whose best punches come



Sex and the single servant: PSC's "Scapin"

from his brain via his mouth. Scapin is the character that bridges the gap between audience and illusion, the first one to cross the period footlights. His character is so clearly a type, from both Moliere's day and the present one, that he can throw his weight against the role with gusto and have the illusion hold. The liner notes refer to "I Love Lucy" and "All in the Family" as descendants of Moliere; Garcia reminds us that Fonzie merits a seat at the family reunion, too.

review

"SCAPIN" RUNS THROUGH NOV. 24 AT PORTLAND STAGE COMPANY, 25A FOREST AVE. TIX: \$18-\$29. 774-1043.

The mix of neoclassical and postmodern is carried over into the costumes, designed by Stewart, which contain elements such as Louis XIV tailcoats and downtown cocked heel cowboy shoes. The borrowing uniformly draws the sexy and slightly affected from both eras to clothe Scapin and the lovers, who are decked out in boots, bustiers and tight pants.

As racy a spectacle as "Scapin" is, it still packs an ironic punch. The cast finishes with a chorus that "family and money" always save the day — the very things that have thwarted the lovers now sort themselves out, without massaging from Scapin. The mayhem of a servant-driven plot amounts to nothing more than a diverting contretemps in the face of these two important social truths. They destroy and restore the dads' good humor more than Scapin's meddling does, but where's the fun in that? **CBW**

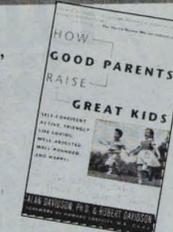
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BELLA BELLA. Now accepting reservations! Specializing in foods from the countryside of Spain, Italy, Greece and Morocco. This month's menu features roast duck, fall vegetable ragout and a traditional Spanish paella. Open for dinner from 5pm seven nights a week. VISA, Mastercard and checks accepted. Validated parking. Located across from the State Theater. 606 Congress St., 780-1260.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

Moxie Outdoor Adventures offers rafting trips in Maine. Discounts to Maine residents. Call for a free brochure, 1-800-866-6943.

Norumbega Outfitters 58 Fore St. Bldg 11, Portland, offers a variety of padding and snow shoeing opportunities for people of all skill levels. 773-0910.

Portland Pacers Portland's non-competitive walking group meets Mon-Fri anytime between 11:30 am-1:30 pm. All routes begin and end in Congress Square. Walk a new route every day with varying lengths. Call Portland Public Health at 874-8784.

So. Me. Sea Kayaking Network People of all skill levels are invited to join the network for some paddling. 874-2640.

Ultimate Frisbee Co-ed Ultimate Frisbee is played 3 days a week in Portland all summer — no experience necessary. 874-2190.

The Windham Recreation Department sponsors safety classes open to the public. At the Windham Town Building, Windham. 892-1905.

Wolfe's Neck State Park 106 Wolfe Neck Rd., Freeport, holds nature programs Sat and Sun from 2-3 p.m. 865-4465.

family

Adoption Search Consultants of Maine A support group for those touched by adoption and/or seeking help around a search or reunion. Meetings held at Luther Bonney Hall, Rm 410, USM Campus, Portland. \$5 donation. 773-3378.

Baxter Memorial Library 71 South St. Gorham, holds "Toddler Time," a program for kids 18-36 months of age. Fridays from 10:15-10:45 am and a sister program, "Parent Share," from 10:30-11:15 am. Saturday story hours for kids ages 3-5, from 10:15-11:15 am. 839-5031.

Child Care Connections holds public referral hours Mon-Fri from 10 am-1 pm, with free information about day-care centers, family child care homes, nursery schools and camps. 871-7449.

Children's Museum of Maine 142 Free St, Portland, offers exhibits, clubs and activities for kids of all ages. Nov 10: "Sing Along Laugh Along" with singer/storyteller Marcus Gale at 2 pm. Nov 13: "Smart, Safe and Secure," learn about home safety with MaineSafe kids from 11-11:30 am. Weekly Fun: "Light and Camera Obscure" Wed and Fri at 11 am and 11:30 am. Sat at 2 pm and 2:30 pm. "Oh! Zones," fun-filled 'make & take' projects, Wed-Sat 11 am-noon and 2-3 pm, Sun 2-3 pm. Pre-registration and additional fees required for some programs. 828-1234.

Children's Story Time Greater Bookland & Cafe at Cook's Corner Brunswick hosts a weekly story time each Wed from 10:30-11 am. 874-2300.

Creative Resource Center 1103 Forest Ave., Portland, hosts free art fun for kids. Oct 31: "Pumpkin Pictures" from 3:30-4 pm. 797-9543.

Dial-a-Story South Portland Public Library offers recorded stories, folk tales and poems, anytime day or night. 767-8162.

Divorce Perspectives A support group for those in the divorce process holds small group discussion at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodford St, Portland, every Wed at 7:30 pm. 774-4357.

Family Night Greater Portland YMCA, 70 Forest Ave, hosts family night every Fri from 6:30-8:30 pm. Activities include swimming, open gym, game room, weight room, wallyball, arts and crafts and refreshments. Free child care the last Fri of each month for kids age 3-5. 874-1111.

Free Parenting Support Group at Mercy Hospital, 144 State St, Portland, the second Tues of every month from 6:30-8 pm. 879-3578.

Friday Night Special Portland Recreation offers organized gym programs for adults and kids at Riverton Community Center, 1600 Forest Ave, Portland. Also, the library holds kids programs: "Toddler Time," Wed from 9:30-10:30 am and Fri at 9:30 am; "Preschool Story Hour," Fri at 10:30 am and "Family Craft Program," the third Thurs of every month from 6:30-7:30 pm. 797-2915.

Gaining Independence, Resiliency and Learning Solutions (GIRLS) is a federally funded program that offers 10 free weekly sessions for girls living in Portland's public housing. The program offers workshops, on such topics as self-esteem and personal health and responsibility, and recreational events, like haunted hayrides, with optional opportunities to volunteer in Portland. Those interested in joining the program, or serving as a long-term volunteer, should call 874-1140. GIRLS is run through the People's Regional Opportunity Program (PROP) at 510 Cumberland Ave, Portland.

Greater Portland Mothers Group meets Tues mornings at the South Portland Congregational Church. Cost: \$2 monthly/\$2 child (\$5 family meal). Child care provided. For more info, call Vicki at 773-6695, or Kelly at 799-1315.

Kennebec Girl Scouts Council offers girls ages five and up the opportunity to experience the wild outdoors and give back to their community. For information about the Girl Scouts' outdoor and community service programs, call 772-1177.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 33

Portland J. BARRY MOTHEs

Up from the basement

It was 6 p.m. on a recent Monday night, and the bright, cavernous back gym at the Portland Athletic Club was filled with the steady, hollow pick-pock of table tennis balls. Eight dark-green championship Stiga rollaway tables stood neatly in two rows of four, where players — men and women, from 30-somethings to 70-somethings — were intent on their matches.

Officially, I was supposed to be checking in on the Maine Table Tennis Association (MTTA) as an observer. But deep down, I wanted a game. I'd stopped at a friend's house on the way to borrow a pair of sneakers and a standard, basement-issue Ping-Pong paddle just in case. I hadn't played much since college, but in high school friends and I spent hours playing in each others' musty cellars, dodging water heaters and clothes dryers in desperate attempts to save points. I thought I still had a decent game. And after all, how good could this assortment of not altogether athletic-looking people be?

The MTTA runs its Monday and Thursday night sessions, which usually attract about 15 regulars with a friendly, but efficient, protocol. All games are to 21. First player to win two games wins the match. Winner stays at the table and awaits the next competitor from the sidelines. Loser heads to the sidelines and waits for a turn at another table. If you win three matches in a row, you sit one out if others are waiting for a game. Everyone pays \$5 to play and ends up playing almost everybody at least once during the night. With little prompting, I jumped in.

My first opponent was Irena Stepan, a social worker from Gray. Stepan, who admits to being "over 40," is the reigning Maine women's table tennis champion. She started playing seriously at Cortland State College in New York. She's been an MTTA regular since the organization moved its weekly games to the Portland Athletic Club from a cramped day care center in Saco five years ago.

"I like all the racket sports," Stepan had told me earlier, "racquetball, tennis. But my favorite has always been table tennis. It's such a tight little game." She dispatched me 21-3, 21-4. It took 15 minutes, tops. She played a patient, defensive game and politely watched me disintegrate.

Kuseski's focused, unhurried presence quickly exposed the frailties of my raw, unstructured approach. His deadly knuckleballs transformed the wobbly trick egg. The match passed like a hallucination.

Next was Roger Kuseski, who turned out to be the second-ranked player in Colorado. Kuseski's been in Maine this fall on a temporary consulting assignment with L.L. Bean. He carries two rackets with him in a zippered protective case wherever he travels, always looking for a game. Kuseski wore tinted glasses, a white headband, a white v-neck t-shirt and black track-suit bottoms. His focused, unhurried presence quickly exposed the frailties of my raw, unstructured approach.

There was also the problem of his deadly knuckleballs. The slow arm movements and looping backhand topspins transformed the yellow ball into a wobbly trick egg. The match passed like a hallucination.

"This is one of the nicest, friendliest clubs I've played with," said the swami-like Kuseski. "I've been to clubs where you walk in and they don't say 'boo.' Here they greet you and make sure you know how they play."

My list of friendly conquerors grew. There was Arthur Lekousi, 69, a Maine table tennis champion at least once in five consecutive decades starting in the 1940s, and Martha Scudder, 61, who drives an hour each way from Damariscotta to play. Last up was Lester Haschey, a decorated World War II veteran who also swept me, though I did manage 10 points off him in our second game, my highest all night.

After shaking hands, Haschey said something I knew was coming. "You've got to get yourself a real racket," he said, grabbing at the rec-room "hard bat" relic in my hand. I'd heard the murmurs of amazement and pity throughout the night.

Making the jump from basement Ping-Pong to serious table tennis is not for the impatient, as Greg Born of Westbrook can tell you. Seven years ago, able to beat everyone he knew in basement matches, Born took out an ad in the paper "looking for somebody to beat me at table tennis." "The first guy came down and destroyed me," Born said. Then he found out about the MTTA, began playing with the club in Saco and went on to become the 1994 state singles champion and part of a five-time state doubles championship team. (Born, along with most of the other MTTA players I met, will compete in the 1996 state table tennis championships Nov. 23 at the Portland Athletic Club.) But none of it happened overnight; the MTTA players gave him all the competition he could handle. As Born wryly admitted, "It was more than a year before I won a game."

J. Barry Mothes is a writer living in Portland.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31

health events

Creating Joyful Holidays Nov 13. Join the Friends of Scarborough Library to learn stress management techniques for the holidays from Debra E. Boxer, MSW, LCSW, at Scarborough Public Library, 48 Gorham Rd, Scarborough, at 7:30 pm. 855-5562.

Flu Shots The City of Portland offers flu shots at various locations. Tuesdays at Riverton Health Station from 2-6 pm. Nov 12, 19. 874-8451. Wednesdays at City Hall Health Station from 7:30-11:30 pm. Nov 6, 13, 20. 874-8300. Thursdays at Reich Health Station from 2-6 pm. Nov 7, 14, 21. Cost: \$8 (Medicare accepted). 874-8499.

Grieving Support Group A holiday session for bereaved persons healing from the death of a loved one. Meets in Portland for 4 weeks beginning Nov 26, from 6:30-8 pm. Call for location, 775-0366.

Insights into Infertility: Being an Informed Consumer Nov 9. The conference will feature medical and mental health specialists discussing the latest developments in diagnosis, treatment and emotional aspects of infertility. At the Dana Center, Maine Med, Portland, from 8:30 am-4 pm. Sponsored by Resolves of Maine. For more info, or to register, call Sandy Duso at 1-800-283-8088.

"Life in Accordance With Natural Law: Perfect Law and the Transcendental Meditation Technique" Nov 13 & 20. A lecture at Maharishi Vedic School, 575 Forest Ave, Portland, at 7 pm. 774-1108.

Look Good... Feel Better A program for women who face changes in their appearance resulting from cancer, who wish to improve their appearance. Offered by the American Cancer Society. Classes meet the last Wed of each month at Mercy Hospital, 144 State St, Portland, from 1-3 pm. 879-3030.

Lupus Group of Maine holds a meeting with a video on "Environment & Drugs" by Evelyn Hess, M.D. followed by a discussion of individual problems and possible solutions. Nov 10, at the Barron Center, 1145 Brighton Ave, Portland, at 3 pm. 878-8104.

Women's Health Series Mercy Hospital offers free weekly programs on women's health issues. Tues at 7 pm through Nov 12. At Mercy Hospital, 144 State St, Portland. 879-3486.

Yoga Class For the timid, the tired, the sore, the totally inexperienced, the stiff, the awkward and the scared. Classes begin Nov 13 and end Dec 18. At Greater Portland YMCA Studio A, 70 Forest Ave, Portland, at 9:15 am. Cost: \$25 for 6 weeks. Pre-registration required. Child care can be arranged (\$2.50 per hour). 874-1111.

events

Baked Bean Supper Nov 9. At Trinity Episcopal Church, corner of Coyle St and Forest Ave, Portland, from 5-6:30 pm. Cost: \$4.50 (\$2.50). 772-4758.

Baked Bean Supper Nov 9. At Westbrook-Warren Congregational Church, 810 Main St, Westbrook, from 5-6 pm. Cost: \$5 (\$1.50 kids). 854-9157.

Bean Supper Nov 9. At Highland Lake Grange, corner of Rt. 302 and Hardy Rd, Westbrook. Seatings at 5 pm & 6 pm. Cost: \$4.50 (\$2 kids). 854-2379.

Christmas Fair At Chestnut Street United Methodist Church, Portland, Nov 8 from 4-8 pm with a baked beans and ham supper. Nov 9 from 9 am-2 pm with chowders. 772-6123.

Christmas Fair Nov 9. At Franklin Towers, 211 Cumberland Ave, Portland, from 9 am-2 pm. 773-4753.

Christmas Fair Nov 10. The volunteers of Saint Joseph's Manor will hold their annual fair at 1133 Washington Ave, Portland, from 10 am-3 pm. 797-0600.

Christmas Fair and Bazaar Nov 9. At Washington Garden, Community Building, corner of Churchill & Pembroke Sts, from 9 am-3 pm. 773-1318.

Fiera di Natale Christmas Fair Nov 9 & 10. At the Italian Heritage Center, 40 Westland Ave, Portland, from 9 am-4 pm. Chicken cacciatore lunch Sun at noon. 828-7634.

Homemade Brown Bread and traditional and vegetarian baked beans. Nov 9 at Allen Avenue UU Church, 524 Allen Ave, Portland, at 5:30 pm. Cost: \$4.50 (\$1/\$2.50 kids — \$14 families). 878-8983.

Holly Berry Fair At Cathedral Guild Hall, 317 Congress St, Portland from 10 am-2 pm.

St. Louis Church Fair and Bazaar Nov 9. At St. Louis Church, 279 Danforth St, Portland, from 9 am-7 pm. 773-4176.

YWCA Fall Lecture Series For and About Women Nov 11: "Massage Therapy," a certified massage therapist will explore the many benefits of massage. All programs begin at 5:30 pm in the Dorothy Hamlin Room at the YWCA, 87 Spring St, Portland.

others
Abuse in Intimate Relationships A support group for women who have previously or are presently experiencing abuse in their intimate relationships. Free and confidential, childcare provided. 874-1973.

Accent Reduction Class for speakers of English as a second language, as well as classes for neutralizing Maine and regional accents, with Jean Armstrong, certified speech and language pathologist. 879-1886.

The Alliance for Transportation Choice, a group dedicated to creating a transportation system that improves the quality of life, protects the environment and promotes economic vitality, meets the 3rd Tues of each month at 5 pm, at 477 Congress St, 8th floor, Portland. 879-1892.

The American Singles Golf Association is forming a Portland chapter. If you would like to help organize or join, call 1-800-599-2815.

Archery as Meditation Explore learning archery from the inside out, beginning with exercises that develop inner concentration, body awareness and a clear image of shooting the bow. Bring equipment if you have it. 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month from 1-3 pm at the Swedenborgian Church, 302 Stevens Ave, Portland. 772-8277.

Authentic Movement Group For Men A group for men who wish to "explore who we are beneath our roles and conditioning," meets the third Thurs of each month from 6:30-9 pm, at Williston West Church, 32 Thomas St, Portland. Facilitated by Jim Davidson. 879-1341.

Casco Bay Culinary Association meets the second Mon of each month. 799-2234 or 774-4308.

Center For Maine History 489 Congress St, Portland. "Homes Away: Victorian Life on the High Seas" a view of what life was like for Maine seafarers who traveled the world aboard trading vessels in the 19th century. Shows through Oct 31. Hours: Wed-Sat noon-4 pm. Cost: \$2 (\$1 kids). 879-0427.

Circle of Hope A Christian group that claims a primary ministry with gay and lesbian people and strives to be inclusive of all, meets Sats at 4 pm at 156 High St, Portland. 773-0119.

COPE Support group for divorcing fathers — explore alternatives to the current divorce process. 874-7448.

Coping With Caregiving A support group for people providing care to chronically/terminally ill or disabled persons meets the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month at noon, at Mercy Hospital, 144 State St, Portland. 879-3486.

Creating Opportunity Through Change Women's group meets Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:30 at 854 Broadway, S. Portland. 767-1315.

Creative Productions Collaborative A group for women survivors of sexual abuse who are interested in furthering their healing journeys through the process of creating and presenting a production in the form of books, videos or performance art. Confidential, facilitated meetings are Wednesdays from 6:30-8 pm. Cost: \$15 per session. 774-2403.

Debtors' Anonymous meets every Tues from 7-8:15 pm at Woodford's Congregational Church, 202 Woodford St, Portland. 774-4357.

Demo Tapes Wanted Robbins Entertainment seeks original rap, dance, R&B and alternative rock bands for a new record label. Send materials to: Robbins Entertainment, Jonathan P. Fine, 30 West 21st St 11th Fl., New York, NY, 10010-6905.

Dharma Study Group Sitting meditation on Sundays from 9 am-noon. At the office of Sandra Bailey, 3rd floor, 60 Forest Ave, Portland. 761-0047.

Donations Needed The Ted Rand Memorial Scholarship Fund, which will be awarded annually to a Casco Bay Island student going on to higher education, seeks contributions to help establish the fund. Send contributions to: 4 Moulton St, Portland, ME 04101. For more info, call Dave Redmond at 871-1001 or 766-4444.

Dream Group Interested in weaving dreams into life myths? Join a group that will feed your imagination, writing skills, storytelling abilities and teach you something about your personal story and journey. Facilitated by a licensed counselor. Schedule will be set by participants at initial meeting. To join, call the Swedenborgian Church at 772-8277 and leave your name, specify "dream group."

Enriched Golden Age Center 297 Cumberland Ave, Portland, invites men and women over 60 to daily luncheons, with special activities featured every Wednesday and line dancing every Monday at 10 am. Donation: \$2.50. 774-6974.

Expose Yourself WBOR 91.1 FM in Brunswick is looking for performers who want to be heard live on the radio. All styles are welcome. "Exposure" broadcasts every Sun from 7-8 pm. 798-5177. **CBW**

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Ram Island Dance

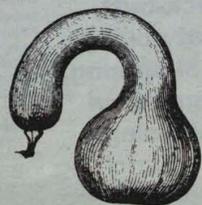
NEAR & far
in memory of Harriet Lutes



four new dances by Chan, Brian Crabtree, Larry Lee Van Horne & Sara Whale

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-Oliver Wendell Holmes



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Convert any space into a serious office with techline's versatile furniture system that answers the need for work surface, storage, filing and computer spaces.



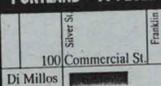
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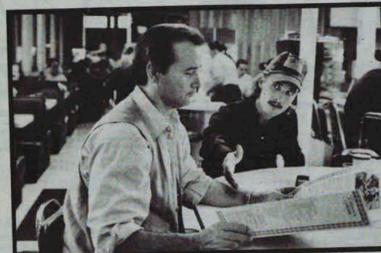


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Factory Store
132 High St.
To Bar Harbor

MAKING COMFORT, QUALITY, AND GOOD DESIGN AFFORDABLE FOR MAINE

movies



Bill Murray and Matthew McConaughey strike a deal in **LARGER THAN LIFE**.

AMERICAN BUFFALO Based on the David Mamet play, "American Buffalo" is the story of a junk shop owner (Dustin Hoffman) who plots to commit a robbery that is doomed from start to finish. Things take a turn for the worse when his inexperienced teenage protégé (Sean Nelson) and his bungling poker buddy (Dennis Franz of "NYPD Blue") compete for top billing.

THE ASSOCIATE Whoopi Goldberg takes on racism and sexism in the business world as she creates a fictitious male executive to give her start-up company some credibility in the white, male power structure.

THE CHAMBER Another of John Grisham's psychological thrillers gone celluloid, Gene Hackman stars as a crusty old Klansman on death row for the bombing murders of two Jewish children, while Chris O'Donnell plays his grandson, who also happens to be the lawyer who's trying to get him off. Also starring Faye Dunaway.

D3: THE MIGHTY DUCKS The Disney machine fires off another action-packed family comedy. The third in the "Mighty Ducks" series, "D3" takes the Ducks to a new school where they have a new coach. What will they do without their beloved coach, Gordon Bombay (Emilio Estevez)? We won't give it away, but we think the ending is a happy one.

DEAR GOD Did you ever wonder where letters to Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny end up? Greg Kinnear finds out as a con man sentenced to work in the U.S. Postal Service's Dead Letter Office who answers letters to God on a whim and winds up warming the hearts of all those around him.

THE FIRST WIVES CLUB Sick and tired of being treated like yesterday's news, three ex-wives join forces to seek revenge on the men who wronged them and the bimbos in the line of fire. With Bette Midler, Goldie Hawn and Diane Keaton.

FLY AWAY HOME A teenager (played by Academy Award Winner Anna Paquin) recovers from the grief of her mother's unexpected death in the company of her estranged father (Jeff Daniels). A diversion appears in the form of a stranded nest of Canada goose eggs. Soon she must teach the gaggle to do goose things. Seems the geese think she's their mama. Also starring Jeff Daniels. Directed by Carroll Ballard ("The Black Stallion").

THE GHOST AND THE DARKNESS A clean-shaven Val Kilmer and grizzled Michael Douglas costume up for this 19th-century period film about an engineer and a big-game hunter trying to build the railroad through the East African wilderness against the will of two ravenous lions. Based on real events in 1896, in which two lions claimed the lives of 130 railroad workers.

HIGH SCHOOL HIGH Jon Lovitz plays an earnest white schoolteacher who tries to bring hope and dreams back to his inner city students. Don't feel bad if you're giggling — the film is a spoof of soulless "White Shadow" imitators like "Dangerous Minds." Expect some great laughs from superdork Lovitz, as well as a killer soundtrack.

THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME Disney sets loose its glossy, distorted movie-making machine on Victor Hugo's famous novel. The result is a rad promotional deal with Burger King. Voices by Demi Moore, Jason Alexander, Kevin Kline and Tom Hulce. A commendable effort. This film should not be seen in place of reading the book.

INDEPENDENCE DAY Lots of aliens. Lots of explosions. A "War of the Worlds" for the '90s.

KANSAS CITY It's 1934, and a night of improvisational jazz and double-crossing is about to transpire at the Hey Hey Club, the setting for the latest offering from Robert Altman. Jennifer Jason Leigh plays a tough Jean Harlow-type trying to bail her small-time crook boyfriend out of trouble. In her desperation, she kidnaps the wife (Miranda Richardson) of a local politician she thinks can help. Harry Belafonte and Dermot Mulrooney costar.

LARGER THAN LIFE Bill Murray plays a cheery motivational speaker who inherits an 8,000 pound elephant he must then transport cross country. Matthew McConaughey is Tip Tucker the loony trucker who Murray cons into helping him. Also starring Janeane Garofalo.

THE LONG KISS GOODNIGHT Geena Davis plays a suburban schoolteacher struggling to remember a life she'll soon wish she never knew about. Samuel L. Jackson is the private investigator who helps her put the pieces together. When he figures out that she's really an operative in one of the government's dirty little secret agencies — and number one on the CIA's hitlist — the job turns from a business deal to a matter of life-and-death.

MICHAEL COLLINS Liam Neeson carries this 1920s biopic about the Irish icon who built the I.R.A. and helped Ireland win its independence. Director Neil Jordan wins the pace brisk, painting the complex political and moral issues surrounding this period in Irish history in black and white. When Neeson and Aidan Quinn are busy undermining British imperialism, this decision makes for an exciting film. But Julia Roberts, unfortunately cast as the pair's love interest, lacks any momentum that Jordan manages to create.

PHENOMENON John Travolta plays a regular Joe who, through a mysterious act of nature (a lightning bolt), contracts incredible amounts of intelligence. Think Vinnie Barbarino turned Einstein. Isn't this just the kind of schlocky stuff that spun Travolta into obscurity a decade ago?

RANSOM Mel Gibson plays Tom Mulien, a super-successful Manhattan businessman who does things his own way. When his only son is abducted by criminals who demand big bucks for his return, Mulien has no intention of letting them get away with it, nor does he plan to do as the feds advise him to. Much to the chagrin of his wife (Rene Russo) and the law (Gary Sinise and Delroy Lindo), Mulien takes to the airwaves, threatening his son's captives.

ROMEO AND JULIET Baz Luhrmann and Craig Pearce's hardcore, gang-banging adaptation of the classic story of starcrossed lovers has all the marks of a Gen X sensation. Starring hip-kid stars Claire Danes and Leonardo DiCaprio as the tragic couple, Luhrmann set the tale in a Florida fantasy-world where haute-style, fancy handbags and gang rivalry are all the rage. It's Shakespearean tragedy à la Quentin Tarantino. Also

movie times

SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE FRIDAY-THURSDAY, NOV 8-14 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

OWING TO SCHEDULING CHANGES AFTER CBW GOES TO PRESS, MOVIEGOERS ARE ADVISED TO CONFIRM TIMES WITH THEATERS.

NICKELODEON, TEMPLE AND MIDDLE STREETS, PORTLAND, 772-9751

A VERY BRADY SEQUEL (PG-13)

1:20 (SAT, SUN & MON ONLY), 4:20, 7:20, 9:20

TIN CUP (R)

12:50 (SAT, SUN & MON ONLY), 3:50, 6:50, 9:50

PHENOMENON (PG)

1 (SAT, SUN & MON ONLY), 4, 7, 10

THE CHAMBER (R)

1:10 (SAT, SUN & MON ONLY), 4:10, 7:10, 10:10

THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME (G)

12:30 (SAT, SUN & MON ONLY), 3:30

A TIME TO KILL (R)

6:30, 9:30

INDEPENDENCE DAY (PG-13)

12:40 (SAT, SUN & MON ONLY), 3:40, 6:40, 9:40

GENERAL CINEMAS, MAINE MALL, MAINE MALL ROAD, SO, PORTLAND, 774-1022

RANSOM (R)

1:15, 1:45, 4, 4:25, 7, 7:20, 9:25, 9:45

SLEEPERS (R)

1, 1:15, 3:55, 4:10, 7, 7:10, 9:50, 10

THINNER (R)

7:30, 9:40

HIGH SCHOOL HIGH (PG-13)

1:10, 3:15, 5:20, 7:30, 9:35

D3: THE MIGHTY DUCKS (PG)

1:45, 4:10

THE FIRST WIVES CLUB (PG)

1:40, 4:15, 7, 9:25

HOYT'S CLARK'S POND, 333 CLARK'S RD., SO, PORTLAND, 879-1511

TO GILLIAN ON HER 37TH BIRTHDAY (PG-13)

1:45, 4:05, 6:50, 8:50

LARGER THAN LIFE (PG)

2, 4:25, 7:30, 9:30

DEAR GOD (PG)

1:50, 4:20, 7:20, 9:40

THE ASSOCIATE (PG-13)

1:40, 4:15, 7:10, 9:35

ROMEO AND JULIET (PG-13)

1:20, 4, 7, 9:45

MICHAEL COLLINS (R)

1:30, 4:30, 9:20

THE GHOST AND THE DARKNESS (R)

1:10, 3:50, 6:45, 9:50

FLY AWAY HOME (PG)

1:30, 4:10

THE LONG KISS GOODNIGHT (R)

6:40, 9:05

THE MOVIES, 10 EXCHANGE ST., PORTLAND, 772-9600

STEALING BEAUTY (R)

NOV 7-12*THURS-TUES 9* SAT-SUN 12:45, 2:45

AMERICAN BUFFALO (R)

NOV 7-12*THURS-TUES 5, 7* SAT-SUN 1

KANSAS CITY (R)

NOV 13-19*WED-TUES 5, 7:15, 9:30* SAT-SUN 12:45, 2:45

FLAGSHIP CINEMAS, 206 U.S. ROUTE 1, FALMOUTH, 781-5616

RANSOM (R)

1, 1:35, 3:35, 4:05, 6:50, 7:20, 9:20, 9:45

LARGER THAN LIFE (PG)

1:05, 3, 4:55

ROMEO AND JULIET (PG-13)

1:45, 4:25, 7:15, 9:40

DEAR GOD (PG)

1:25, 4:20, 7:10

TO GILLIAN ON HER 37TH BIRTHDAY (PG-13)

7:25, 9:30

MICHAEL COLLINS (R)

1:15, 4:15, 7, 9:45

THINNER (R)

9:30

HIGH SCHOOL HIGH (PG-13)

1:40, 4, 7:20, 9:15

FLY AWAY HOME (PG)

12:55, 3:05, 5:15

THE FIRST WIVES CLUB (PG)

1:20, 3:55, 7:15, 9:25

SLEEPERS (R)

1, 3:50, 6:45, 9:35

THE ASSOCIATE (PG-13)

6:55, 9:20

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The Movies
NOV. 6-12
WED - TUES 9,
SAT - SUN MAT 2:45
Stealing Beauty
A film by Bernardo Bertolucci
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art studios/rent
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rentals wanted
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condos for sale
land for sale
mobile homes
real estate wanted
auctions
body and soul
fitness
instruction
education
professional services
business services
computers
financial
items for sale
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antiques
give away (free)
wanted
arts
holiday gifts
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Nov. 15th, 7:30 pm
\$10 • information
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Shalom House, Inc.

Position responsibilities include: providing direct
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residential, in-home, crisis respite, adolescent crisis and
residential, as well as geriatric residential.

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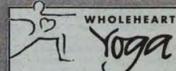
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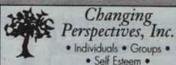


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ADVENTUROUS, PASSIONATE, active, cuddly, outdoorsy, horse-woman, teacher, heart on sleeve. 38. Seeking N/S companion for outdoor activities, movies, dinner, intelligent conversation, loving, fun and adventure. #9154 (11/20)

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PERSONALITY PLUS PACKAGING. Attractive blue eyed brunette, 38, smart, caring, playful & sweet. Seeking attractive, secure, confident man with a kind heart, employed, great SOH. So what does it take to get you to call? Call me and tell me, who is already? N/D, N/S, please! #9330 (12/18)

AND GOD CREATED WOMAN. You may be the one he created for me. I'll keep searching. I know you're worth it. Me. DWP/M, 47, 5'10", 180lb, N/S, ND, 9259 (12/11)

ARE MAINE'S MOST TRINGUING WOMEN ALL MARRIED? Attractive, articulate, intuitive Portland professional SWF 42, seeks attractive, trim SF 32-45 who is creative, confident man with sense of humor and adventure. Prefer down-to-earth, intelligent, sensual, independent woman with a little craziness and time for friendship or romance. Extra points for sparkling eyes! I possess and value reliability, honesty, confidence, quick wit, easy smile and ability to communicate and not be boring. Enjoy the Arts, movies, dining, reading, hiking, bicycling, traveling and intellectual conversation. Am emotionally and physically healthy with no major veins and desire same. I don't talk sports, you don't talk astrology. Otherwise it's endless possibilities. Personal Advertiser # 9266/842, P.O. Box 1238, Portland, ME 04104

ATTRACTIVE AND FIT- SWM, 46, 6'2", 192lbs, great shape, secure, like dining, dancing, traveling outdoors. Seeking S/DWF, attractive, 40-45, similar interests. #9313 (12/18)

ATTRACTIVE DWM PORTLAND- Zero fluffing skills, so I'll try the personals. I'm told I'm extremely attractive inside and out. 42, 6'1", 195lbs, soft BR/brnd BL, N/S, ND, with phenomenal SOH, deep integrity, easygoing, delightfully playful and warmly affectionate. One of the remaining good-natured guys with a kind heart. I enjoy sports, kisses, warm conversation, mountain tops, film, able to meet a reasonably attractive, fairly intelligent woman of any age with a sense of delight who enjoys spirit, affection, and truth. Your photo gets mine. Friends First. Personal Advertiser #835, P.O. Box 1238, Portland, ME 04104

CURIOUS, CREATIVE, COMPASSIONATE DWM, 45, intuitive, spiritual, good sense of humor, self-aware, enjoys activities from skiing, sailing, hiking, to the arts, and candlelight dinners. Looking for equal partner able to share some interests, as well as joy, joy and dreams. Be daring, call. #9336 (12/18)

SEEKING STRONG, SINCERE, SENSUAL MALE to enjoy and share life with pretty Pines, 43yr, old, BR/bl lady. Must be handsome, romantic gentleman. I have no baggage, great sense of humor, am honest, kind, passionate, creatively and emotionally secure. Portland area only, please. #9286 (12/11)

SLEEPLESS ON THE SEACOST- Attractive, intelligent, dynamic, emotionally accomplished DPF, 40, tallish, BR/BL, with great SOH, wit and presence seeks similar S/DFM for enlightening and entertaining conversations over dinner, dancing, laughter, long walks and companionship. Must be go-getters. #9227 (12/4)

SPENDING TIME TOGETHER with someone special! DWF, 44, interested in a relationship where both parties can be themselves (more or less), financially and emotionally very secure man who has a strong, athletic body and wide range of outdoor and indoor interests. Independent, healthy, friendly, socially responsible, and equally a must. #9318 (12/18)

SPRITED AND PROFESSIONAL- Blondie, petite, attractive, young 49, independent, fun, warm, smart, fit, grounded. Loves water, sun, nature, active outdoor activities. Reading, theater, arts, films, dancing, gardening, travel. Adventurous, intuitive, realistic. Seeks man, 45-55, with similar interests, financially/emotionally secure, competent, expressive, no dependent children. Greater Bangor area. #9229 (12/4)

A POET, HEART OF GOLD. This sensitive man, 35, seeks a sensitive, intelligent woman with an open mind and a big heart. I believe every relationship should start with friendship. #9287 (12/11)

AAR TRATED HONEST & TRULY SWM, 40, tried these B4 with little or no response. I'm really nice guy, settled (with cat), employed, great SOH. So what does it take to get you to call? Call me and tell me, who is already? N/D, N/S, please! #9330 (12/18)

VERY CHARMING, 31, SWF seeks mature, stable, professional SWM, 30ish. You are active, attractive and caring with a good SOH. I'm down to earth and look for the same in others. #9298 (12/11)

ISLAND ADVENTURES AWAIT. 24, short, dark, handsome, mature SWM, seeks 27-32, blonde, fit, intelligent, active, adventurous, fun-loving, intelligent female seeking same. 18 to 35, for fun, fantasy, and friendship. Loves D&D and other fantasy, travel, cats, pools, beer, and dancing. Come play with me! #9320 (12/18)

LONEWOLF SEEKS WOLFMAIDEN- SWM, 37, seeks a lover, soulmate, best friend, guiding angel, witty, witty, cool, prefer a full-figured, single, age 40, who loves being drowned in TLC, being admired, appreciated, a respected leader. Drives a GMC truck, enjoys Celine Dion, Steve Perry, Bobby Vinton tunes. Mary! #9310 (12/18)

LOOKING FOR INTELLIGENCE- SWM, 31, attractive, fit, affable, would like to share the outdoors, sports, intelligent conversation. #9322 (12/18)

ME & YOU- SWM, 39, 5'9", 170lbs, N/S, ND, understanding, fun, likes walks, movies, bowling, pool, quiet times. Seeks S/DWF, 35+ for friendship, possible LTR. #9326 (12/18)

NEW TO BRUNSWICK AREA- Good looking, financially very secure, 43yo, adventurous professional 5'10", 165lbs, fit, in good shape. Live in ocean. Enjoy skiing, boating, dancing, exploring, and sharing. Divorced, no children. Please be attractive, fit, 30's, shapely and fun. This could be the beginning of something great. #9327 (12/18)

ORDER NOW FOR CHRISTMAS- Warm, cuddly, affectionate, 40ish, has lots of love to give. Plays inside or out. Good with children and females over 25. Comes with a world music, passion and tenderness, travel, wilderness camping and canoeing, peaches, flying, hot sauces, thunder and lightning, skinny dipping, ethnic foods, 3rd world cultures, wind, laughter, animals, cuddling, naps. I'd like to meet a reasonably attractive, fairly intelligent woman of any age with a sense of delight who enjoys spirit, affection, and truth. Your photo gets mine. Friends First. Personal Advertiser #835, P.O. Box 1238, Portland, ME 04104

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PLAYFUL, YET SOPHISTICATED, independent but affectionate, tall, attractive DWF, seeks attractive N/S, S/DWM, 39-49, 5'11", for companionship and fun. I value integrity, SOH, fitness, intelligence, and financial success. Enjoy the arts, recreational athletics, good conversation, intimate dining in or out. Do you cook? Great! #9339 (12/18)

WOMEN & MEN

WANNA BE SAILER/SKIER in Southern Maine. Desire LTR & life of sailing, family and learning to enjoy Maine winters. With 50-55yo, N/S, fit, communicative partner with S.O.H. and ability to smell the roses. #9281 (12/11)

WOMAN WHO RUNS WITH THE DOGS- Loves the dog, the cats, the garden, the home, good friends, dancing, laughter. Life is good and I'd love to share it with a fit, attractive man, circa 1946-1961, who has loves and a good life of his own. #9221 (12/4)

ZERO GRAVITY- If the chemistry's right! Looking for "sparkle" for my "stars." Me: Attractive, petite, slim, 35, and full of spunk! You: 35-45, attractive, healthy, secure and ready to enjoy "No trash" from our pasts, just a releasee for the future! Do you have time for us? #9225 (12/4)

LOOKING FOR LOVE- Smart, pretty SWF, 18, seeks SM, 19-25, who is caring and witty and enjoys dancing and spending time together. Non-smoker preferred. #9181 (11/27)

MEN WHO LOVE WOMEN- Southeastern personality submissive lass seeks that which becomes secret and entwining synergistic interests with forthright N/S dominant lad. Aw c'mon! #9343 (12/18)

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MEN & WOMEN

ELLSWORTH AREA SWM, 31, seeks attractive, N/S, woman of substance. I enjoy movies, cooking, music, and life markets. Looking for friendship and romance ASAP. #9346 (12/18)

EXLEND IN AROOSTOOK, DWM, 45, Renaissance man, sensitive, romantic, tall, fit, healthy, professional, enjoys candlelight dinners, bicycling, antiques, X/C skiing, romantic get aways, caring, intelligence, articulate, active, interesting with a sense of adventure and zest for life. #9285 (12/11)

FLYBOY TOM CRUISE RESEMBLER is looking to accompany an attractive, established woman on the town or even just a romantic quiet evening. I am fit, intelligent, and can talk as well as I can listen. I know we will look good together. #9340 (12/18)

FREE-SPIRITED SWM SEEKING SF, 18-50 (I'm 40+) who knows how to let the good times roll. No fitness freaks, anti-smokers, or therapy addicts. Interests include playing the blues, cooking and taking life easy. #9277 (12/11)

HAPPY GO LUCKY, FINANCIALLY secure SWM, age 61, 175lbs, 5'10", considering good-looking, semi-retired. Enjoy dancing, fishing, cooking, museums, swimming. Would like woman, 45+, who can cook, for romance and serious lasting relationship. #9348 (12/18)

HONESTY FROM THE START! Well, I've got what I want. I'm searching for a S/DWF who is not intimidated or threatened by cross-dressing. I'm honest, sensitive, perceptive, compassionate, kind, nice guy. W/PH, late 30's DWM. You: 29-42, liberal, open-minded, open heart, honest, compassionate, comfortable in your sexuality. LTR. #9318 (12/18)

I AM A GENTLEMAN WHO is not afraid of letting you know who I am, how I am feeling, and what I would like. I can offer you honesty, respect, and acceptance for who you are and appreciate you as you are. I am tall, good looking and very successful. I am interested in meeting a 45 year old woman who would enjoy a comfortable life style, a life of enjoyment, being a sincere friend, and having a partner who is there for her. Personal Advertiser #844, P.O. Box 1238, Portland, ME 04104

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MEN & WOMEN

SEEKING SHY ASIAN FEMALE. You: 20-35, fit, healthy, intelligent, able to have fun without partying. Me: WM, 30, shy type, likes outdoors, movies, quiet evenings. Brunswick area. #9275 (12/11)

SINGLE WHY? SWM, 30, handsome, tall, athletic, down-to-earth guy with good sense of humor who's not really into the bar scene, nor am I into big cliques. Need to get to know you, maybe I'll start at the donut shop. Coffee and tea anyone? #9333 (12/18)

SOME MEN HAVE MORE to offer. Good-looking, WM, 32, professional, 5'11", slim, fit, with uncommon gift, seeks cute, trim, erotically minded, WF, 18-42, to escape for occasional but memorable evenings of sensuous fun. Call or write in confidence. 9267 Personal Advertiser #843, P.O. Box 1238, Portland, ME 04104 (12/11)

TRIED OF GAME PLAYING? Then let's play for real. Seeking S/DFP, 40+, N/S, who is selfless, thoughtful, sharp thinking, and vibrant with inner sunshine. Friendship. #7,777. Call for details. #9262 (12/11)

TRY SOMETHING DIFFERENT. Very good looking SWM searching for SF interested in LTR and lifestyles '97 convention in SD. At least call and let me explain. #9293 (12/11)

WANTS A LIFE PARTNER. I've got what I want. I'm searching for a S/DWF who is not intimidated or threatened by cross-dressing. I'm honest, sensitive, perceptive, compassionate, kind, nice guy. W/PH, late 30's DWM. You: 29-42, liberal, open-minded, open heart, honest, compassionate, comfortable in your sexuality. LTR. #9318 (12/18)

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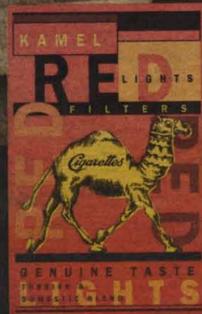
ONLY ONE MAN KNEW ABOUT HER TATTOO.
SMOKED KAMELS.



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**BACK FOR NO GOOD REASON
EXCEPT THEY TASTE GOOD**

**SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Quitting Smoking
Now Greatly Reduces Serious Risks to Your Health.**



RED KAMEL ORIGINALS: 17 mg. "tar", 1.3 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette by FTC method.
RED KAMEL LIGHTS: 11 mg. "tar", .8 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette by FTC method.

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