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Casco Bay Weekly : 14 November 1996

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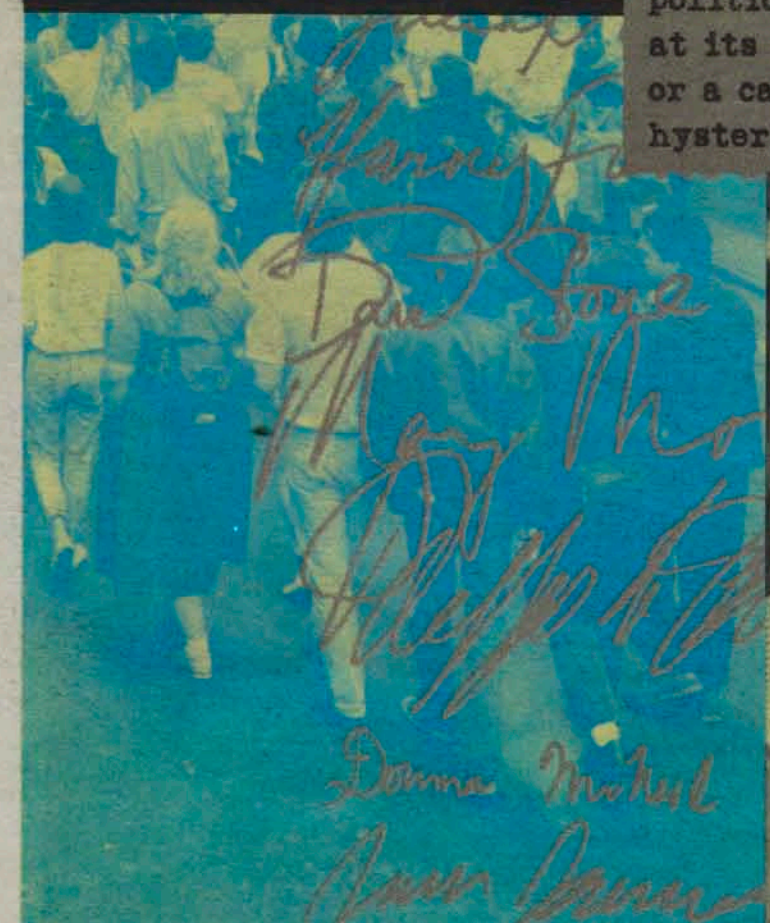
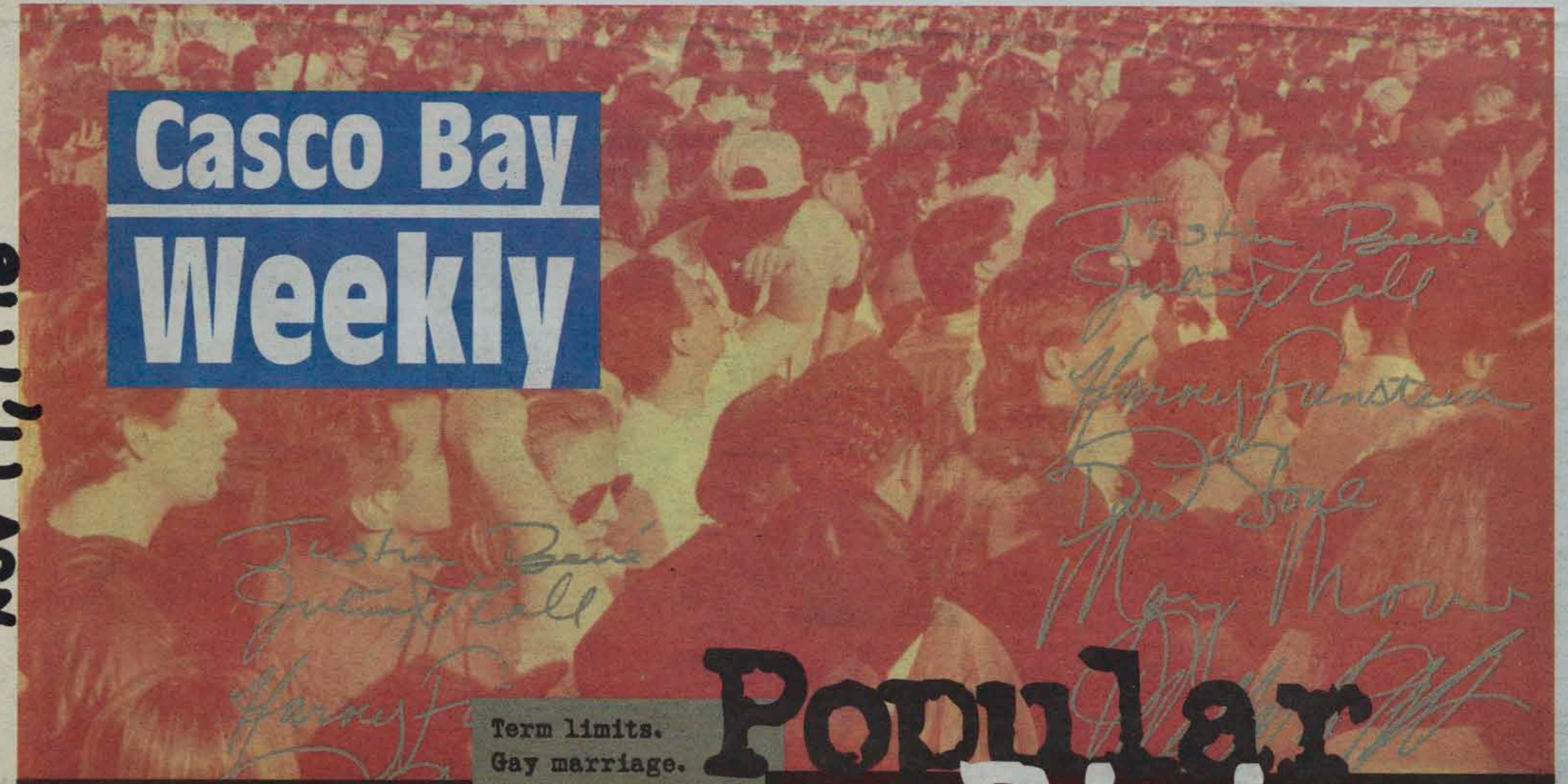
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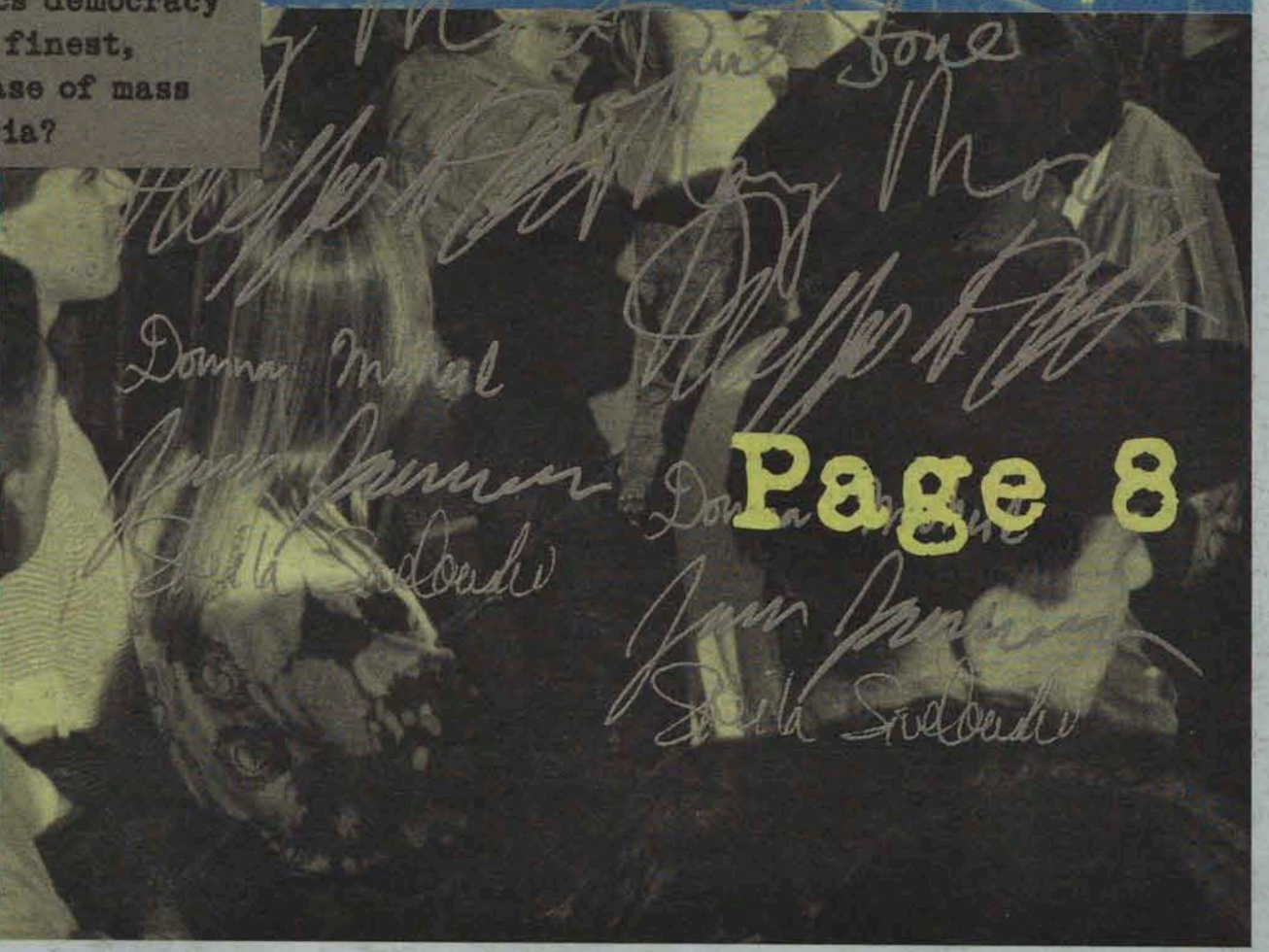
NOV 14, 1996

Casco Bay Weekly



Term limits.
Gay marriage.
Clear-cutting.
Mainers are taking the law into their own hands, signing petitions for citizen ballot initiatives in record numbers. Is referendum politics democracy at its finest, or a case of mass hysteria?

Popular upRising



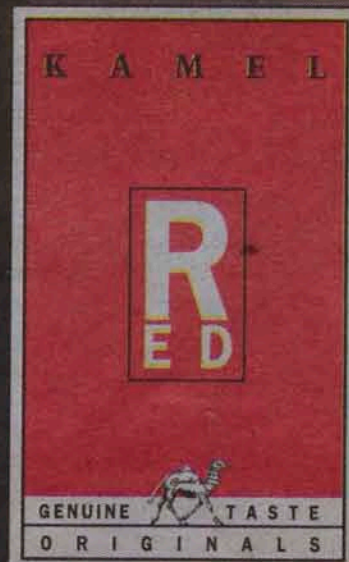
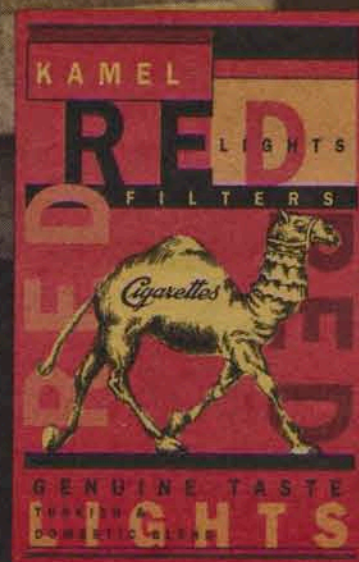
Page 8

ONLY ONE MAN KNEW ABOUT HER TATTOO.
SMOKED KAMELS.



EST.
1913

BACK FOR NO GOOD REASON
EXCEPT THEY TASTE GOOD

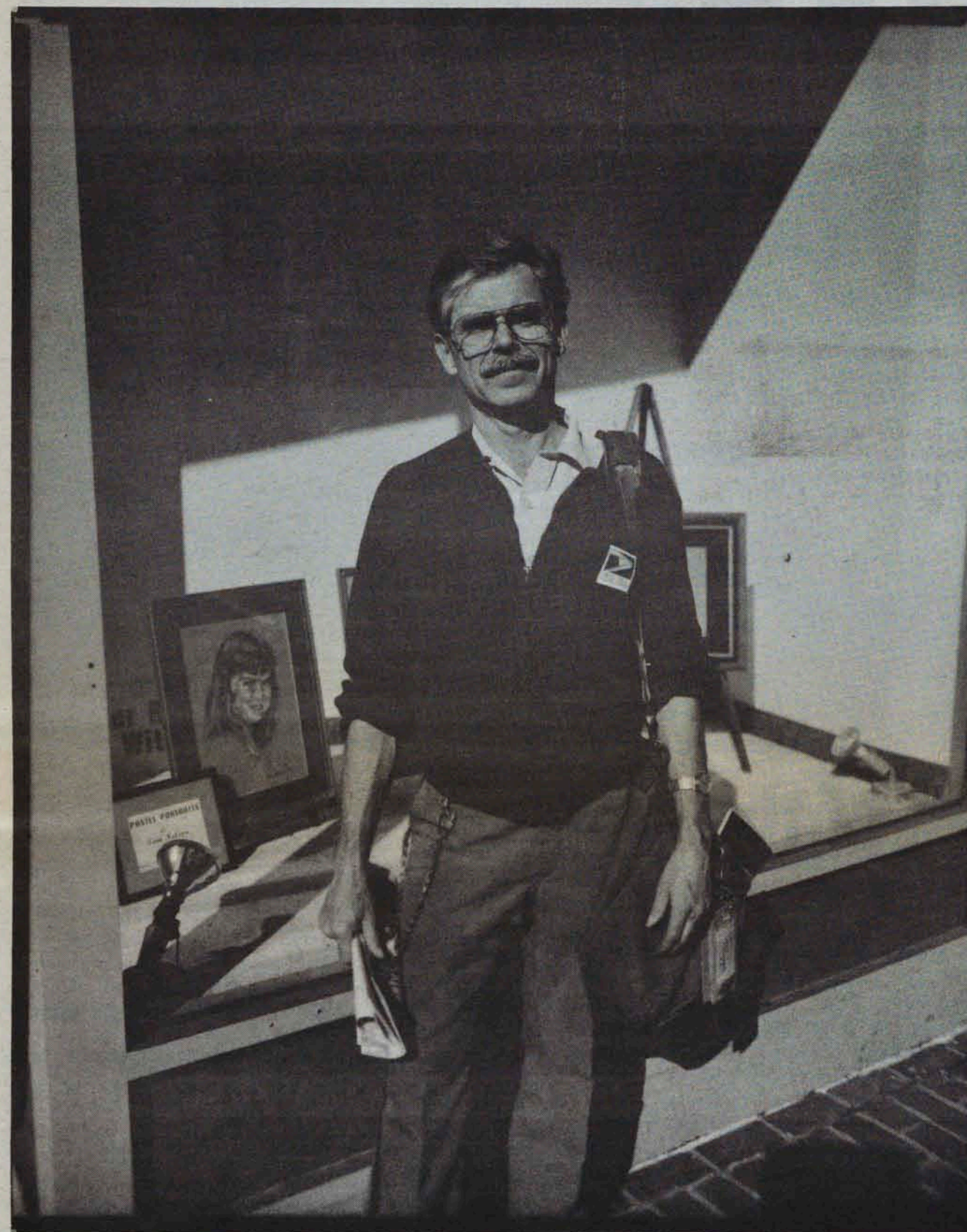


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Talk A CONVERSATION WITH TOM NELSON



"The reason I've kept this route is because I like the people."

Everyone knows that Congress Street and the area around it has been christened Portland's arts district. What everyone might not know is that it's also Tom Nelson's mail route. He's the cheerful mailman who makes sure all those artists, and everyone else, get their bills, as well as their fan mail. He's an awfully nice guy, he's good at his job, and it just so happens he's an artist himself.

How did you become a mailman? Was it a question of 'I've got to eat'?

Prior to coming into the post office, I was a salesman for a steel company. I was not doing very well, and they had an opening for a mailman. I did a lot of different routes, throughout the city. I got this route almost three years ago.

What's your favorite stop?

My favorite building is 655 Congress and my favorite stop is 10 Congress Square Plaza. I have a wonderful mix of companies, businesses, from jewelers to tattoo parlors, bars, restaurants — everything. This is a nice part of Congress Street.

Do you get an option in terms of where you get to go or do they just assign you something?

When a route comes up, whoever wants to own that route — that's what we call it, I own Congress Street — you bid on a route and it's

awarded to a carrier by seniority. **Let's talk about your artwork a little.**

I showed in a gallery down in Ogunquit about six years ago. One of the owners of the gallery did portraits in pastels and I used to watch him. After that season at the gallery, I started to teach myself to do pastel portraits. Which is another reason doing the mail is so great — I can go home at night and paint. I don't take my job home with me. Being in the arts district, amongst the people who live on my route, I have a lot of subjects I can contemplate doing. I've actually painted some of them.

What the craziest thing you've ever encountered on this route?

I've seen a lot of crazy things — I've seen too many. A lot of fires, a lot of police activity, and a lot of very colorful people. Some of them live on my route and I've gotten to know them. I just lost my favorite customer, she died not long ago. She was someone I saw all the time, passed all the time. I really feel that loss. That's one of the drawbacks to getting close to your customers but, still, it's fun. It's rewarding.

Interview by Ellen McAlister, photo by Eugene Cole

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See Club Page For
Entertainment Listings

■ The judges judged the judge and found him innocent: More or less. A panel of judges ruled **Federal Judge Gene Carter** didn't do anything illegal in handling a 1993 case in which he appeared to make prejudicial comments about why he dismissed a lawsuit.

news-orama



But the panel criticized Carter for "extremely poor judgment" and implied he had been less than forthcoming about whether he called an attorney in the case. The decision means Carter will not face disciplinary action, but will have to deal with some damage to his reputation.

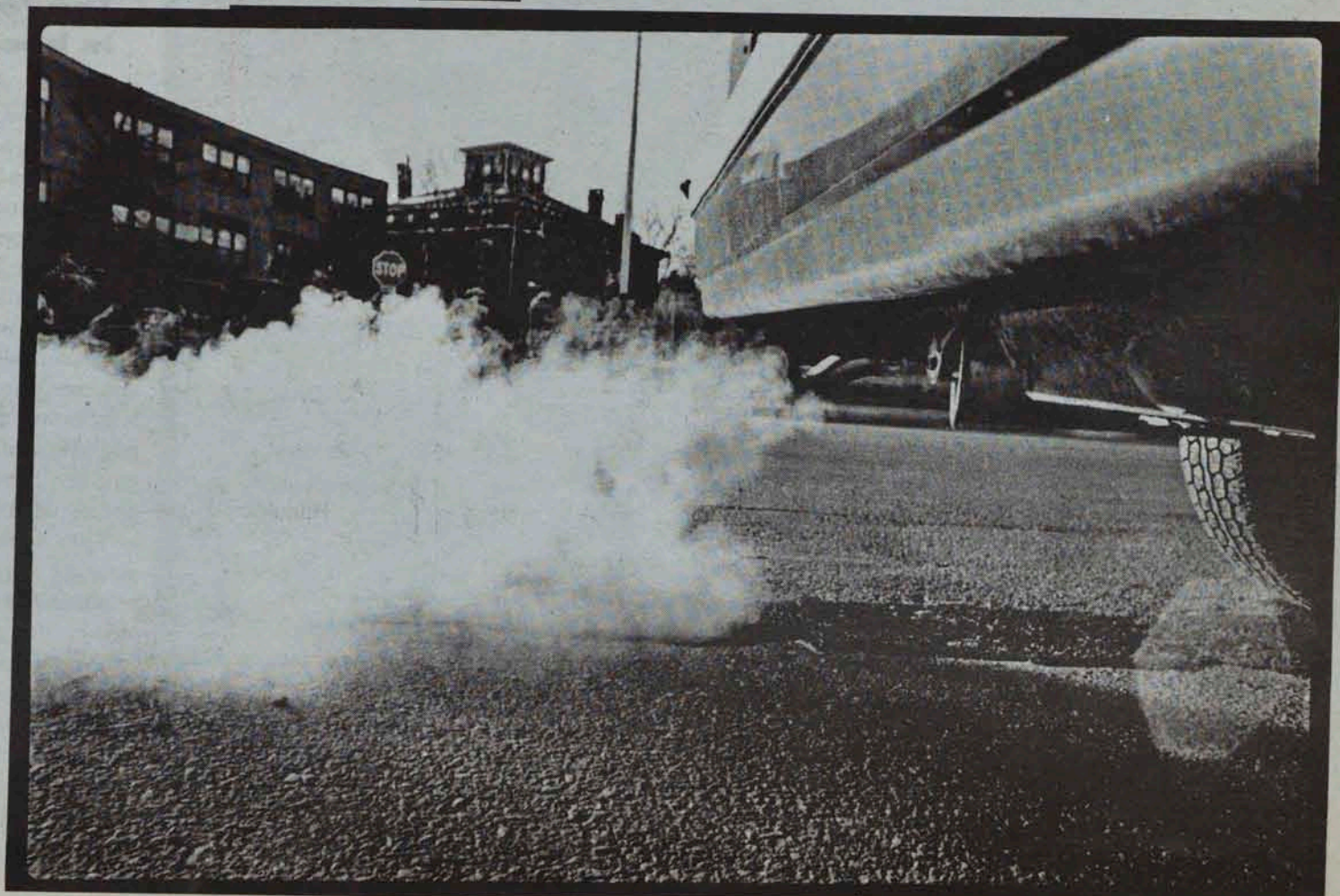
■ The public judged the Green Party on Nov. 5 and found it wanting. Green presidential candidate Ralph Nader got just 2 percent of the vote, far less than the 5 percent needed to maintain the party's **ballot status for 1998**. The Greens plan to go to court to challenge state law kicking them off the ballot. Meanwhile, the Republicans didn't fare much better. The GOP lost control of the state House, the state Senate, its car and its bowels. On the bright side, Bob Dole finished ahead of Ross Perot, giving both the Republicans and the Reformers enough votes to ensure their spots on the '98 ballot.

■ Portland is again judging halfway houses. The city has developed new guidelines **limiting homes for prisoners** to business and industrial zones on the fringes of the municipality. Portland's previous rule — no halfway houses at all — was judged by a judge to be unconstitutional. The new rule, to be voted on by the planning board Nov. 12 (after CBW's deadline), has already been criticized by officials at Pharos House, which operates a halfway house in Parkside, as too restrictive and expensive.

■ Jack DeCoster's advisers judged him and found him wanting. The top executives the egg baron brought in to save his Turner egg farm (and migrant worker hellhole) quit on Nov. 7, citing DeCoster's unwillingness to change his management style. One reason **DeCoster is resisting changes** is because he's still selling all the eggs he can produce. The *Maine Sunday Telegram* reported Nov. 10 that DeCoster was shipping more eggs to Asia to make up for the boycott of his product by local grocery chains.

■ A small church is judging Portland Police Chief Mike Chitwood's efforts to alert the public to sex offenders living in the community. A bishop of the Christian Catholic Church (no relation to that other Catholic Church), Raymond Sawyer, said calling in the media and distributing flyers in neighborhoods where **convicted sex offenders** live encourages vigilantism. Sawyer wants the chief to tone it down by instead quietly informing immediate neighbors of the situation. In response, Chitwood didn't exactly turn the other cheek, saying Sawyer didn't have a prayer of stopping his crusade. **CBW**

CITY



PHOTO/COLIN MALAKIE

Return of the test? State officials are trying to come up with a new plan to measure car emissions

■ **JOSH WILLIAMSON**

If you thought car emissions testing was dead in Maine, guess again. If you live in Cumberland County, it'll probably be back in 1998. The new tests will likely be cheaper and more user-friendly than the CarTest computerized tail pipe checks eliminated by the Legislature in 1995. But the next round of testing may also be a lot less effective in cleaning up the air.

Gov. Angus King has formed a group to decide what kind of testing the state needs to do in its most populous county in order to comply with the Federal Clean Air Act. A panel composed of environmentalists, auto mechanics and officials from the Department of Environmental Protection is expected to recommend a "low enhanced" testing program. That's bureaucratic jargon for a test that consists of nothing more than having a mechanic look over an engine during regular auto inspections to see if there are any visible leaks. No centralized facilities like CarTest. No "sniffers" hooked to the tail pipe to feed information on what's coming out into a computer. No big fees.

While that plan is politically acceptable to even the most ardent foes of the old CarTest system, its environmental

impact may be minimal. Terry McKenney owns a service station in South Portland and is a member of the governor's group. McKenney predicted the committee will recommend the less stringent, decentralized testing program. "It's not effective at all," he said. "It's a feel-good thing. It's easy for the consumer to say they've done something ... whether it works or not."

Peter Brown, owner of Intown Tune Up in Portland, is one of the few holdouts for the old CarTest system. Brown charged that a "Mickey Mouse" visual scan of the engine will do nothing to clean the air. "I defy you to find even 10 percent of the automotive industry who can just look under the hood and know what parts are missing," he said.

Instead, Brown supports testing all cars in southern Maine at sophisticated central facilities, while requiring only visual inspections by local garages in the rest of the state. Southern Maine, he said, is home to 80 percent of the state's "mobile pollution sources." For the rest of the state, use of the visual check would keep down costs and help extreme emissions violations. "It would be the best thing for the air," Brown said, "and the

fairest thing for people to get consistent service."

Brown demonstrated the shortcomings of a visual scan in his garage. He attached a sniffer to a shiny white '95 Honda. The readings showed relatively healthy emission levels. Brown then adjusted the fuel injection. With no change to the sound or appearance of the engine, the exhaust's nitrous oxide emissions tripled in seconds, far exceeding federal standards. "You won't catch half the violations without actually testing the exhaust," he said.

Maine currently meets federal clean air guidelines by requiring reformulated gasoline in five southern counties and by ordering large-volume gas stations to use vapor recovery systems. But within two years, more steps will be needed.

Roger Compagna of Saco, the former service station owner who spearheaded the drive to repeal the CarTest system, readily conceded the visual check program won't be as environmentally effective as central testing stations across the state. "But you have to remember," Compagna said, "the state of Maine is not the problem to begin with."

Compagna blames winds from the

west for bringing in pollutants from Midwestern states that lower the local air quality. He supports testing only in Cumberland County, which produces most of the state's homegrown pollution, and then only using the least intrusive — and least thorough — test allowed under federal law.

Brown calls the visual check "emissions testing without the emissions testing." He said there are a number of alternatives besides a return to a CarTest-style system. The state, he said, should be encouraging smaller, more efficient cars, more car pooling and passenger trains. "Morally, if we think we are an environmentally based vacationland, why aren't we concerned about how nasty our cars are?" he said. "In Japan and Europe, they make smaller cars with three-cylinder engines. They burn less gas and run cleaner, but we don't bother to import them here. If we are going to drive these pigs," he said, pointing to a brown Plymouth, "we at least ought to make sure they are running as cleanly as possible."

He said the state should also do more to inform car owners of the advantages of being tested. According to Brown, bringing a car in line with stringent emissions standards improves its performance and gas mileage. "The car will run well, and efficiently," he said, "and, oh, by the way, it will run cleanly, too ... For 24 bucks every two years [CarTest] was a wonderful test to find out if your car is running efficiently or not."

Regardless of what testing — or lack of testing — the state decides on this time around, the whole issue will eventually fade away. Federal law requires all cars built after 1996 to have onboard computers that monitor exhaust gasses. An emissions test for these machines will require nothing more than a quick hookup to a service station's computer.

But political pressure seems to be pushing today's computerless crates away from comprehensive testing. Brown believes that will lead to a big fudge factor in visual inspections. "If you come in and your car doesn't pass the inspection, but you're my brother-in-law," he said, "does the air get cleaner or not?"

Ouch!

Heads up

Access TV Portland to air anti-circumcision film

Access TV's viewers may feel cut to the quick after watching the Portland premiere of a graphic anti-circumcision documentary, "Whose Body, Whose Rights?: Examining the Ethical and Human Rights Issues of Infant Male Circumcision," Friday at 11 p.m. on Cable Channel 2.

At least that's what Suzanne Cook hopes.

Cook, founder and only member of the Maine chapter of the anti-circumcision group National Organization of

Circumcision Information Resource Centers (NOCIRC), is on a one-woman crusade to prevent Maine parents from circumcising their sons. To that end, she is publicizing the screening of "Whose Body, Whose Rights?" which disputes the health benefits often associated with the procedure and shows a circumcision of a baby boy.

"You have to look at all the issues involved: why the foreskin is there, what its function is and the permanent harm that cannot be reversed," said Cook, who became Maine's only anti-circumcision activist after researching the procedure while she was pregnant with her second child and first son, Cody. "I would have killed to have this information when I was [first] pregnant," she said.

Some doctors are less sure that the case against circumcision is airtight. "I'm very cautious about informa-

"I would have killed to have this information when I was [first] pregnant."

— Suzanne Cook

tion from groups for or against something," said Dr. Paul Stern, chief of pediatrics at Maine Medical Center. "So far I don't think the information is conclusive." Stern is also neutral about the alleged health benefits that circumcision advocates claim — better hygiene and a reduced risk of cancer.

Circumcision is the surgical removal of the foreskin, a fold of skin covering the head of the penis. During the surgery, the infant is strapped to a board. Then the foreskin is torn from the head of the penis, slit lengthwise and removed. Cook said most circumcisions are performed without anesthetic, but Stern said doctors at Maine Medical Center use a local anesthetic for the procedure, a practice he said is almost universal.

The film comes to Portland TV at a time when circumcision has become increasingly unpopular nationally. Only 59.8 percent of men born in this country are circumcised today, down from nearly 90 percent in the early 1980s. American men only began to be routinely snipped in the late 1800s, when the practice was thought to prevent diseases caused by masturbation. The United States is the only nation where baby boys are routinely circumcised for nonreligious reasons.

Parents can agonize over circumcision when their religious and political beliefs clash. Reza Jalali, a practicing Muslim who served on the national board of Amnesty International until stepping down in October, faced that conflict when it came time to decide whether to circumcise his son, Azad. After Jalali discussed the decision with his family, Azad was circumcised under a local anesthetic.

"We [at Amnesty International] look at [circumcision] as really a form of torture," Jalali said. "At the same time, as a practicing Muslim, that part of me wants the practice to continue."

DAVID KOEIMBA

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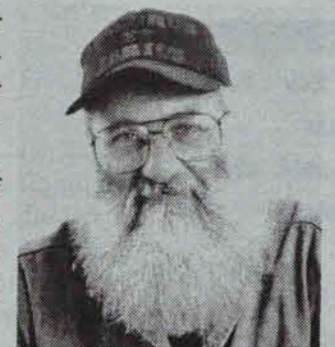
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Test for echo

The next campaign starts now. Never mind that Democratic Congressman-elect Tom Allen hasn't actually been sworn into office. Waiting for that technicality to be corrected could prove fatal to Republican hopes of recapturing the 1st District seat in 1998. Even though the GOP has made much of its contempt for the long, expensive campaign run by organized labor against Newtron congresspersons such as Jim Longley, it's probably only a matter of months before the first spots detailing Allen's unabashed tax-and-spend liberalism hit the airwaves.

politics and other mistakes



AL DIAMON

According to Republicans, the AFL-CIO campaign was a failure because, although it worked against bumblers like Longley, it failed to displace a majority of the freshman conservatives against whom it was employed. But with increasing public pressure for candidates to hold down campaign spending, unregulated independent expenditures by special interests will be even more important in 1998 than they were this year. The most important time for making those kinds of outside investments in forming the next Congress is early in the process. So don't be too surprised if the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Rifle Association, the Republican Party, anti-abortionists, anti-flag burners, and any other catch-basin where sufficient disgruntlement and money can be pooled adopt the strategy pioneered by their enemies on the left, and begin running ads criticizing Allen's fledgling voting record.

(Except, of course, the right-wingers won't be able to use the poetic slogan, "Longley Votes Wrongly." The catchiest alternative, "Tom's A Bomb," suffers from the drawback that conservatives adore bombs. Other possibilities, such as "Allen's Beyond Ken" and "Allen's No Magellan," are a little obscure. They may be forced to go infantile with "Tommy Needs a Mommy.")

Attacking the new representative early and often is essential for the GOP because the party has no rising star ready to run for the 1st District seat in '98. The likely contenders include Longley, who indicated during his concession speech that he believed his loss was in no way a result of voter dissatisfaction with either him or his policies (So what does that leave? Space aliens? The Curse of the Bambino?); John Hathaway, the failed U.S. Senate candidate, who can afford to sink another million or two into denying allegations of child sexual abuse; and Phil Harriman, the overly ambitious state senator from Yarmouth who considered a primary challenge against Longley, but dropped it in favor of a singularly unsuccessful bid for the Senate presidency.

Fortunately for the Republicans, a weak field of candidates is not necessarily a serious obstacle to running a winning congressional campaign. As the Democrats demonstrated with Allen, almost any alternative — including a boring policy wonk — can be made to look acceptable, so long as the incumbent has been thoroughly demonized. The key is getting an early start on the devilry designed to soften up the officeholder's base of support.

Allen piously maintained throughout 1996 that he wished the AFL-CIO ads would go away, leaving the campaign to the candidates. Of course, there's no record of him calling up union boss John Sweeney to ask him to knock it off. In 1997, when it's likely independent expenditures will become the weapon of choice of Allen's opponents, he may regret not taking a stronger stand against the tool that, until now, has been mainly responsible for his political success.

In the pines, in the pines, where the sun never shines...

Rumors are circulating Gov. Angus King will soon dump Bucky Owen, his inept commissioner of inland fisheries and wildlife, and replace him with retiring House Democratic leader Paul Jacques of Waterville. The rumors got a boost in August when Jacques did a 180-degree turn on the governor's forest compact bill. Not only did Jacques become an overnight supporter of the proposal, but he also was said to have been a key figure in gaining the backing of the influential Sportsman's Alliance of Maine for the bill.

Jacques lists his occupation in the House Register as "self-employed carpenter," but makes virtually all his income from his legislative duties. He's been uncharacteristically closemouthed about his plans once his current term ends in December.

Undisputed attitude

Politicians traditionally are into self-promotion on a scale that makes Hollywood stars seem self-effacing. Even so, Republican state Senate candidate Tom Sawyer of Bangor set a new standard for personal adulation when he ran a newspaper ad informing voters he was giving them the opportunity to elect "one of the most influential people in Maine."

Modesty appears to have prevailed. Sawyer lost the election.

Before your politician crawls in bed with special interests, apply the prophylactic device of writing to this column, care of CBW, 561 Congress (!) St., Portland, ME 04101. Forge the new spirit of cooperation. E-mail ish-maelia@aol.com if you catch your pol in a compromising position.

INTERESTING FACTS
 by Frank Gaziano

The largest denomination of money now printed by the U.S. are \$100 bills. The U.S. once printed \$500, \$1000, \$5000 and \$10,000 bills, but doesn't print them anymore.

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■ LAURA CONAWAY

Voting in Maine used to be easy in, easy out, but that was before activists rediscovered the power of the citizen-initiated referendum.

Following a national trend, use of the citizen initiative in Maine has exploded over the last 15 years. Though Maine voters won the right to pass laws by referendum in 1911, they had used the process only seven times by 1970. Yet in the two decades between 1976 and the

popular upRising



Nov. 5 election, citizens placed 24 referenda on the statewide ballot.

During the early days of the referendum wave, initiatives were the tool of grass-roots organizers, who used them for purposes like trying to shut down Maine Yankee. Then homegrown activists started soliciting expertise, money and strategic help from national groups to advance their agendas — such as enacting term limits, banning clear-cutting and limiting gay rights. Maine proved friendly to referendum politics, and even losing causes retained power in shaping public policy. One year's failed anti-gay referendum became the next year's anti-gay marriage legislation.

In the last few years, the referenda have come thick and fast, and the media campaigns have become increasingly slick and expensive. Maine voters have faced nine statewide citizen initiatives since 1990, and the pace is quickening — currently, 11 petitions are gearing up for a spot on the 1997 ballot — while the questions are becoming more ambitious.

"My concern is that some day we're going to have so many citizen initiatives, so many petitions out there, that people are going to say enough is enough," said state Rep. Marge Kilkelly of Wiscasset. "I think the petition process is important, and we should treat it with the seriousness and respect it deserves."

Even those who use referenda to pursue their own goals are concerned about the effect on policy. "The reason we have this initiative process is because the Legislature won't often deal with issues that are too touchy, so [they have]

to be thrown back in the public arena," said Raymond Shadis, an anti-nuclear activist who tried to have Maine Yankee shut down by a popular vote. "Unfortunately, in the public arena, very few things get clearly debated."

On Nov. 5, a group of voters freshly inundated with TV ads, spun every which way by pundits and preached to by newspaper editorials, stood inside the curtained booths at Small School in South Portland. Whether the public debate had been clear and truthful or not, these citizens were now facing the responsibility of voting on three citizen-initiated referenda: one on term limits (the third since 1993), one on clear-cutting (in which voters had three ways to vote) and one on campaign finance reform. Voters passed the first and the third questions comfortably, despite the fact that laws they created likely won't stand up in court.

And no sooner did citizens exit the booths than petitioners hit them with a fresh round of requests to sign petitions for next year's referenda.

The Lord fulfill all thy petitions (Psalms 20:5)

"Do I have to sign these?" asked one woman, approaching the table where three petitioners sat netting signatures with varying degrees of success. "It's my first time voting here."

Michael Schools, who was racking up sheets of names for a proposal to ban gay marriage, explained the petitions were voluntary. Still, voters queued up to sign.

Terrence Carpenter, a Scarborough

"When you get to the point where your government won't do anything anymore, you take the situation into your own hands. That's why you're seeing more and more of these referendums. Government's not working anymore."
— Roger Compagna, organizer of anti-emissions testing referendum

Downs employee volunteering on his day off, fared less well with his petition to allow slot machines at race tracks. Carpenter, reserved and polite, seemed embarrassed to be sitting beside the zealous Schools.

"What, you don't want to ban it or you don't want to sign it?" Schools badgered a woman in her 60s. He explained his technique: "There's actually no rules, as long as you don't get to the people before they vote. You can't harass people, but what's harassment? What's harassment to you might not be harassment to me."

At 9:30, a blurry-headed voter emerged from her booth and charged toward the petitioners. "Where's the one for 2B?" she asked, aware the forest compact was some kind of referendum, but not knowing she'd just voted on it.

The third petitioner, a South Portland woman who refused to give her name, was working on Carol Palesky's property tax cap petition. She said she'd never heard of Palesky, but was collecting signatures because she'd been hired through a help wanted ad, and was earning 50¢ per name.

Getting paid by the hour to petition is legal; getting paid on a per-signature basis is not. But never mind the law — state officials have decided not to enforce it. They say the ban on pay-per-name signature-gathering, passed in 1994 by legislators who worried the referendum process was becoming corrupt, is worthless because its wording prohibits receiving money per signature, not paying it. Thus the South Portland worker was

committing a crime, but her employer was not. (Palesky denied paying per signature, but said one of her coalition's member groups might have done so.)

Because the political operatives who pay per signature aren't themselves breaking the law, and because state officials are loath to charge the underemployed people who get hired to do the work, paying per name has become accepted strategy among many referendum campaigners. Some allegedly use the law's flawed wording to cheat their employees. In May, workers for William Danton's petition on video poker said they were promised 75¢ a name, but never paid. The workers, who have filed a complaint with the Bureau of Labor Standards, said their boss later explained that if he paid them, the workers would be committing a crime.

Danton, an Old Orchard Beach businessman, denied offering any such deal, though associate John Michael said Danton's just afraid of telling the truth about paying per name. Michael, for his part, has decided to ignore the pay-per-signature law. His repeated efforts to pass term limits referenda, including this year's Question 1, have been backed by money from national organizations, and carried out by professional signature collectors at the rate of 60-70¢ per name.

Michael's Question 1 has been widely panned as unconstitutional. But never mind the constitution — any proposition, even if it's illegal or unconstitutional, can become a referendum. Want all the houses in Maine painted blue? Have the Secretary of State draw up a question, get 51,131 signatures, and your political chariot has arrived. Want to make kids smoke pot before school? Go for it — it's your right as a citizen to petition.

But never mind the citizens either. Increasingly, campaigns are run by national groups with an ax to grind. Of the issues most commonly decided across the country through citizen referenda — term limits, tax reform, gay rights and campaign financing — all have either appeared on recent Maine ballots, are currently circulating petitions, or both. A profession has grown up around many frequently appearing referendum issues, a profession complete with seminars and a trade magazine. "You kind of have a permanent job if you do this kind of thing," said Bob Schiff, a Washington D.C. attorney specializing in campaign finance reform. This year Schiff spent part of his time working on behalf of Maine Citizens for Clean Elections, which sponsored Question 3.

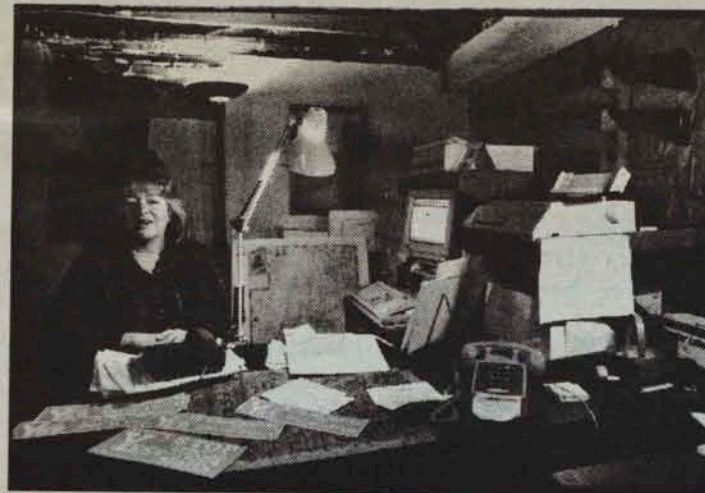
In addition to pros like Schiff, who is employed by Public Citizen, the referendum industry includes national firms such as Winner/Wagner & Mandabach. Based in Los Angeles, Winner/Wagner offers "[c]ampaigns that bring victory and enhance the client's credibility." They also tout a 90 percent success rate, a record bolstered by their high-powered routing of Ban Clear-cutting's Question 2A.

Such political machines, said historian

and state Rep. Herb Adams of Portland, would have been unimaginable to the reform-minded activists who fought for the citizen initiative in the early 1900s. "They never, ever imagined \$6 million would be spent ... to influence votes," said Adams, for whom the 1993 term limits referendum spelled the end of his stint in the Legislature. "They just didn't foresee big money, or big media."

But big media — and big money — saw them. With a few noteworthy exceptions, referenda campaigns in Maine have been won by the side that poured the most bucks into the battle. (Unlike campaigns for elected office, no laws govern who may give what in a referendum war.) Groups that lack significant funding make up for it with emotion-driven volunteer armies. Once that funding or volunteer organization is in place, the groups can run as many referenda, year after year, as they can beg or buy signatures for.

For the average citizen, with no supporting organization, it's hard to run a referendum campaign, said Secretary of State Bill Diamond. But for a national group like U.S. Term Limits, the citizen initiative is a cinch. "They've got it down pat, they've done it before, and they know how to do it," Diamond said. "That's probably the antithesis of the citizen initiative. It flies in the face of what was originally intended."



Carolyn Cosby put Question 1 on the 1995 ballot, and looks like she'll easily put gay marriage before the state's voters in 1997. "I've heard a lot of people say it's too easy for someone like Carolyn Cosby to put something on the ballot in this state," said gay rights activist Betsy Smith. FILE PHOTO/CHRISTOPHER AYRES

Lather, rinse, repeat

Emotional issues have a way of repeating themselves on the ballot in Maine. Their encore performances act as a people's filibuster, tying up the public debate.

In the 1980s, the anti-nuclear power movement dominated referendum politics. Activists placed questions targeting Maine Yankee on the ballot in 1980, 1982, 1985 and 1987. Vastly outspent by Central Maine Power, which operates the Wiscasset reactor, they lost all but one of those campaigns. The day after the first defeat, said anti-nuke leader Shadis, "I bounced back up there first thing in the morning and filed a new initiative. That was to forestall all the bullshit from our people, and put the utility company on notice."

In the 1990s, sexual minorities have been put on notice as the featured referendum target, first on the local level, then statewide. In 1992, Equal Protection

Portland defended the city's newly passed gay rights ordinance from a citizen veto led by Carolyn Cosby. In 1993, Equal Protection Lewiston watched a similar veto grind that city's ordinance into the dirt. In 1995, Cosby went proactive, pushing an initiative that would have barred municipalities from passing gay rights laws. Cosby came within inches of winning, but was turned back by a barrage of TV, print and radio ads paid for by Maine Won't Discriminate, which attracted financing from around the country.

Now Cosby is stirring her troops again, this time in support of a petition drive to ban same-sex marriage. Some wonder if Cosby will ever stop running anti-gay referenda. She wonders if gay rights supporters will ever stop trying to pass legislation that protects gay men and lesbians. "I guess you have to have faith in the people, and I do," said Cosby. "The people will eventually solve an issue ... Are [gay rights activists] going to come back to the Legislature with more legislation, or are we going to have to fight them the rest of our lives?"

Cosby's perseverance is no surprise to Pat Peard, who led Maine Won't Discriminate. "We can keep going through this over and over because this is the issue that allows the conservative right to inflame their followers and raise money," Peard said. "Until they find a

attacks from Cosby on gay "lifestyle" and "special rights" go unanswered so that less morally charged themes could sway a majority of voters. As the campaign wore on, the message of stopping discrimination received little exposure beyond early bumper stickers reading, "Maine Won't Discriminate." Those were replaced by stickers that read simply, "No on 1."

"Referendum campaigns are like war," Campbell said. "People in the gay community were looking to the campaign for affirmation, and that affirmation was more important to them than winning. But the people in control of this campaign said, 'Look, this is about winning.' Local control, a confusing and flawed referendum — those issues were totally hollow for gay people."

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

You say you want a referendum?

Here's how to run your very own citizen initiative:

- 1) Write a draft of the legislation you want to pass or repeal.
- 2) Submit the draft to the Secretary of State. The Secretary will formulate a ballot question based on your draft.
- 3) Once you have a ballot question, you're free to seek voter signatures. You have three years to collect signatures from 51,131 registered Maine voters, but you can't file any signature that's more than one year old.
- 4) Submit your signatures to the clerks in each town or city where you petitioned. The clerks will verify the names and report back with a tally of valid signatures.
- 5) Give all your petitions to the Secretary for final approval by the deadline in January, which is determined by the date the Legislature convenes. (In 1997, it's Jan. 23.)

L.C.

The sad, sorry saga of Question 2

The way state Rep. Herb Adams saw it, Ban Clearcutting's Option 2A never had a chance. The citizen initiative would have outlawed clear-cutting in the unorganized territories, and rewritten the rules of forestry in northern Maine. It would have, that is, if the paper companies that depend on wood from the north hadn't had the money to slit 2A's throat. The paper companies were backing a competing initiative, put on the ballot by a special session of the Legislature and supported by Gov. Angus King — Option 2B, the so-called forest compact. The compact ended up with 47 percent of the vote — not enough to carry the election, but enough to qualify for a special election and to sink Ban Clearcutting.

Only twice before, in 1948 and 1984, have Maine citizen initiatives faced competing measures. Both times the citizen referendum prevailed. But in 1996, many voters who'd signed the Ban Clearcutting petition turned their backs on its referendum, some feeling they'd been duped into supporting a measure much stricter than Ban Clearcutting advertised.

Even Ban Clearcutting's members backpedaled, admitting the referendum was flawed, claiming they never expected it to become law exactly as they had written it. "My understanding is that once the bill passes, then it goes through the rules and modification process," said Carole Haas. "If we can't make the statement that we want to protect the natural resource, then we can't negotiate from a position of strength. You can't get bowled over when you try to negotiate with people. You have to have something behind you."

STATEMENT OF FACT

This initiated bill sets standards for timber harvesting activities within the jurisdiction of the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission. These standards include the elimination of clearcutting; limits on the amount of timber that may be harvested in a specified period of time, and minimum tree stand volume following harvesting operations.

REMEMBER THE SPOTTED OWL? VOTE 2C

Don't let it happen to Maine

It turned out Ban Clearcutting got bowled over anyway, in part by supporters of Option 2C, the "do nothing" choice. Ironically, 2C's leader Mary Adams said she wanted to defend Ban Clearcutting's right to have its referendum without interference from the Legislature.

The introduction of 2B also turned anti-gay activist Carolyn Cosby into a strange bedfellow of the clear-cutting foes. "The whole intent of the 2B compact was to just run roughshod over the rules, which in my view was an abuse of Jonathan Carter's right," Cosby said. Now Option 2B will be presented to the voters on its own for a straight up-or-down vote, leaving Ban Clearcutting leader Jonathan Carter in the background considering another referendum.

"Under the circumstances, we feel strongly, at least I do, that we may need to come back," Carter said as his defeat loomed a few days before the election. "Starting this from scratch a year ago was tough. Now we have people supporting us in almost every town. I would wager we could collect the 50,000 signatures in very short order."

L.C.

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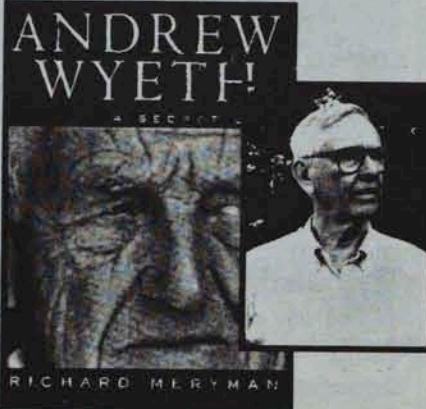
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CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Larry Lockman, a gay rights foe, relishes the wounds his team inflicted. "We learned that we can win, and that we are winning," Lockman said, a year after his side lost by 6 percentage points. If the state Legislature were to pass a gay rights bill, Lockman said, Concerned Maine Families would mobilize quickly for a citizen veto. Last year's close election suggests his side could overturn the law. "They have been stopped," he said. "The gay rights movement in Maine is on the decline."

Peard objects to the idea gay people are too tired to fight. As the referendum target of the 1990s, Peard said, gay activists are having to pick their battles.

Witness the struggle for support of their latest trial balloon, Decline to Sign.

Some activists sought to prevent Cosby from getting enough signatures to qualify her same-sex marriage ban for the ballot. The idea was for protesters to stand as near petitioners as possible, and ask any potential signers to reconsider. While Decline to Sign campaigns have worked in other places, in Maine the concept fluttered and sputtered, then died.

"We started too late," said Betsy Smith, head of Decline to Sign, a couple of weeks before the November elections. "I started this summer doing it 20 hours a week, and then I had to go back to work because I'm a teacher. So basically the coordinator of this campaign is working one hour a day. We didn't have anyone at the top providing leadership."

Many potential volunteers also believed Cosby could gather her

signatures in a heartbeat, simply by posting the petition in the state's fundamentalist churches.

"I've heard a lot of people say it's too easy for someone like Carolyn Cosby to put something on the ballot in this state," Smith said.

Yet among the 24 states that allow citizen initiatives, the percentage of voter signatures required to get an issue on the ballot in Maine is higher than most. Here, petitioners must get signatures from 10 percent of the turnout in the last gubernatorial vote. In California, that number is 5 percent. In Massachusetts, it's 3.

Still, the actual number of signatures — 51,131 — is low enough to make some like Peard yearn for a significant increase. Critics of an increase say requiring more names would make it difficult for true grass-roots petitioners to get their issues on the ballot. Requiring more signatures, they say, would cut off access to all but the best-funded professionals willing to pay per name.

Presented with that criticism, Peard pointed to the wildfire 1994 petition drive to repeal the auto emissions testing mandated by the state Legislature. "People were bullshit about CarTest," she said. "It pretty much organized itself, people were so angry about it."

Backfire

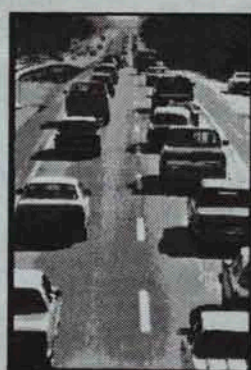
"Democracy is the theory that the common people know what they want," quipped H.L. Mencken, "and deserve to get it good and hard." In the case of Roger Compagna versus auto emissions

You asked for it,
you got it

In the 1970s, referendum politics in Maine woke up from a 23-year sleep. Gov. Ken Curtis had created the state's income tax, only to get knocked by a 1971 citizen initiative to overturn it. Surprisingly, voters upheld the tax. "It wouldn't happen today, but it happened then," said historian and state Rep. Herb Adams of Portland.

Here's a look at how a few other referendum questions have helped shaped life in Maine.

- 1973, public power: A referendum that would have created a public power authority in Maine is defeated.
- 1976, public land: A successful referendum establishes the Bigelow Preserve.
- 1979, solid waste: Voters reject a citizen initiative to repeal the bottle bill.
- 1981, public utilities: A referendum to elect public utilities commissioners fails.
- 1982, taxes: A citizen initiative indexes the income tax to inflation.



- 1980, 1982, 1987, Maine Yankee: Anti-nuclear referenda get trounced, and Maine Yankee stays in business.
- 1985, nuclear waste: Score one for the anti-nukes. Citizens give themselves the right to veto local radioactive waste dumpsites.
- 1986, phone bills: Citizens repeal the system of charging customers for each local call, and replace it with flat-rate billing.
- 1989, campaign finance: Voters object to paying for the governor's race. In 1996 they reconsider, passing a campaign finance reform question by a 12 percent margin.
- 1990, shopping: Voters approve Sunday sales.
- 1991, Maine Turnpike: Voters stop the widening.
- 1993, term limits: A citizen referendum limits the number of consecutive terms state legislators and other officials can serve.
- 1995, gay rights: An anti-gay rights referendum loses by a 6 percent margin.

L.C.

testing in Maine, the people got it all.

Implemented in July 1994 and repealed by the Legislature nine months later, the car-testing law required drivers in southern Maine to have their automobile emission systems tested every two years, and repaired if necessary.

CarTest's demise began in the form of a referendum introduced by Compagna, a former mechanic from Saco. Emissions testing, he thought, was a shady scheme pushed by the Environmental Protection Agency.

"It was a scam to reduce our pollution and give our emissions credits to

With a few noteworthy exceptions, referendum campaigns in Maine have been won by the side that poured the most bucks into the battle.

subsidize industry up north," he said. "We spend millions of dollars cleaning up our air and the EPA gives those credits to industry. It wasn't hard to get people irritated about."

Working mostly on weekends and taking two weeks off from campaigning around Thanksgiving, referendum volunteers collected 70,000 signatures in 14 weeks. "Most of the time, before we could get the tables set up, people were trying to sign the petition," Compagna said. "It was like a mob in most places."

The public anger forced legislators to act. First, they made the tests voluntary. Then they repealed the law altogether.

Mechanic Peter Brown, a car-test supporter who owns Intown Tune Up in Portland, had welcomed emissions testing. Now that testing has been repealed, he said, the state will have to start all over devising a plan to meet environmental standards by 1999. (See CITY, page 4.)

"This idiot Roger [Compagna] decided he knew everything there is to know about car testing — which he does not — and decided he would start a petition to overturn testing," Brown said. "I went to some of the hearings with him and his followers and was appalled by the ignorance. People at the meetings were hooting and hollering, saying, 'You legislators are flammers!' The goddamned fools didn't know any better, and Roger's on that level."

Brown and some of his fellow garage owners watched the petition process wipe out years of planning and negotiation. "Roger proved to me that any fool could get a lot of signatures because there are people out there who'll listen to anything anybody says," Brown said. "I watched him come out of nowhere, midstream, and change the direction of the process."

Compagna stands by the research that led him to object to emissions testing through a citizen petition. He said his group had asked the Legislature to hold a

special session for reconsidering CarTest, but the lawmakers wouldn't listen. "When you get to the point where your government won't do anything anymore, you take the situation into your own hands," he said. "That's why you're seeing more and more of these referendums. Government's not working anymore. You're going to keep seeing referendums — although I won't be one of them because my wife told me she'd kill me if I ever did another one of these."

Long arm of the law

"Once people discover how much fun referendum politics are, it's going to be tough to keep them from coming back with referendums," said Bowdoin College political science professor, Christian Potholm. "People want that opportunity to go out and challenge the law in their own way."

Direct democracy, regardless of how good it makes voters feel, appears to render often questionable policy.

Two of this year's citizen initiatives will almost certainly face challenges in court. The Maine Civil Liberties Union has announced it will contest the clean elections referendum. And the "scarlet letter" term limits issue is expected by most political observers to be pulverized on the bench.

As the referendum drive to overturn emissions testing showed, running an unpopular issue out of town doesn't prevent it from wandering back in. Southern Maine will still have to solve its air-quality problems eventually. And how many voters who chose in 1991 to prevent widening of the Maine Turnpike had any idea that five years later Portland would still have no Amtrak service, and that traffic would be as bad as ever?

Across the country, the citizen initiative is taking on the role of a fourth branch of government — the referendum lynch mob. Yet as fevered as Maine's referendum politics may seem, the Pine Tree State is cucumber-cool compared to places like Idaho, California and Oregon.

According to *TIPS*, the referendum trade journal, 72 petitions circulated in Oregon this year, though only 17 made it to the ballot. *TIPS* shows an issue circulating in Arizona called "No lawyers in Congress." California offers the "Anti-hate anti-violence initiative." Idaho has "Late term abortion/penalty: capital punish." Somewhere in South Dakota waits this trend-bucking sentiment: "Allow homosexual marriages."

Pat Peard, of Maine Won't Discriminate, said she's never heard of a pro-gay rights referendum, and she wouldn't expect one to pass.

"I don't think basic civil rights for people is an issue that even belongs in the referendum process," she said. "We all know that if someone had said, 'Let's vote on basic civil rights for African-Americans in the 1960s,' there wouldn't be any civil rights for black people. Most people would have voted no."

Laura Conaway is CBW's reporter.

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comment

Hit the road, Gene

Federal Judge Gene Carter should resign.

A panel of federal judges released a report Nov. 6, finding Carter had made "inappropriate" statements, "created an appearance of partiality," demonstrated "extremely poor judgment" and conducted himself in a "highly inadvisable" manner.



About the only thing Carter didn't do was break the law, although the tortured reasoning used to reach that conclusion leaves important questions unanswered. It's difficult to believe this decision will end speculation about Carter's ethical standards or that the public will buy the convoluted process by which he was cleared.

Carter's problems arose out of a complex case involving food distributors Gilbert and Harvey Prawer, Fleet Bank and the law firm of Verrill & Dana (see *CBW*, "Nailing 'The Hammer,'" 12.14.95). During a November 1993 meeting between Carter and attorneys for the bank and law firm, the judge appeared to say he had dismissed a lawsuit filed by the Prawers because he knew the Verrill & Dana attorneys. The judges accepted Carter's claim he was referring not to the lawsuit, but to a motion attacking the behavior of the lawyers.

This explanation requires an interpretation of the meeting transcript that could be politely characterized as far-fetched. As the decision acknowledges, Carter and the lawyers were discussing the lawsuit. Nobody had mentioned the motion for some time. Several participants in the meeting thought Carter

was talking about the lawsuit when he made the remark.

Somehow, the judges concluded Carter dismissed the suit on "purely legal grounds." They neglect to mention those grounds were deemed insufficient by an appeals court, which reinstated the suit months later.

Carter's actions following the meeting are even more serious. He immediately sealed the transcript. When a lawyer for the bank asked for a copy, he got a call from someone identifying himself as Carter asking him to withdraw the request. The caller said if the transcript were released to the bank, it would have to be given to the Prawers as well.

Carter has alternately denied making the call and claimed to have no memory of it. The decision concluded it was "more likely than not" he phoned the lawyer (apparently no one checked phone records), but decided the action involved "no improper conduct." Lawyers for the Prawers have contended Carter wanted the transcript kept secret to keep them from learning of his allegedly prejudicial remarks. Since the judges don't offer any alternative explanation for the call, the public can only speculate. If the stench of a cover-up arises out of that speculation, blame those who failed to address the issue.

If this ruling is correct, Carter possesses far too little ethical insight to be deciding on other people's guilt or innocence. If the ruling is wrong, Carter fails to meet the job's minimum moral standards. Either way, it's past time for the judge to retire and start collecting his federal pension check. It's a small price to pay to be rid of him.

AL DIAMON



LETTERS



Casco Bay Weekly welcomes your letters. Please keep your thoughts to less than 300 words (longer letters may be edited for space reasons), and include your address and daytime phone number. Letters, Casco Bay Weekly, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101 or via e-mail: editor@cbw.maine.com.

Endorsement gripes

I am hard-pressed to express my disgust with your feeble endorsements ("So noted," 10.31.96). Number one, part of the reason John Rensenbrink has been unable to "create the grassroots excitement a third party must" is because the so-called "liberal press" has failed to give him the attention he needs and deserves.

Number two, your ridiculous reasoning for 2B, the great corporate-government snow job, is beyond belief. The "unrealistic" decision to let towns govern themselves in the organized parts of Maine is based upon the fact that in these areas the most responsible forestry has been practiced. By endorsing 2B, you allow the corporations to govern themselves — pure brilliance. They, who have done such a splendid job of forest stewardship up to now, deserve our trust? Have you read 2B? Do you understand that the corporations have only a voluntary audit in three years? Do you realize that the sellout environmental groups who have signed on have paper company people on their boards? Do you know that the average clearcut in Maine is 33 acres and the compact will allow that to increase to 75?

It is the duty of papers like *CBW* to look deeply into these issues and counter what the too-easily-bought big media espouses. Instead, you take the easy road and disappoint those of us who do their homework but need a mouthpiece to reach the public. Your lack of vision and mainstream malleability is disheartening.

Gregg W. Marsano
Gregg W. Marsano
Portland

Who says smoking is bad?

Just to satisfy my curiosity, how many letters were received concerning the advertisement of cigarettes, both pro and con?

The writer of "Stinky cigarettes" (10.31.96) was "shocked" to see the full-page, full-color ad on the back cover. I wonder which issue she saw, 10.10.96 or 10.24.96. If she saw issue 10.17.96 she probably would have had a heart attack, (sorry, I forgot only smokers suffer heart attacks) if she noticed the back cover ad for E-Z Wider cigarette rolling papers.

But without any pictures of animals or cowboys, only healthy young people, she probably didn't realize that the ad was for a cigarette-making product.

By deduction, the issue she had to have read was 10.24.96 because there was an E-Z Wider ad in the 10.10.96 issue and she missed the small tobacco ad inside. It was only the large full-color one she complains about. I wonder what would have happened if there hadn't been a picture of a camel or if the word "cigarette" hadn't been imposed. Would she still have complained?

It is sad when an image or a single word can bring such recrimination. But such is the power of the propaganda and half-truths that have been propagated against the tobacco industry. Witness the power that propaganda had in Germany under the Nazis. Propaganda works exceedingly well and is a powerful force.

Observe how the smoker has been reduced to a low-life killer of the innocent! Is smoking good for you? Probably not, but is it the cause of all the heart attacks and cancers blamed on it, all of the so-called 500,000-plus deaths assumed to be smoking-related? I believe not, and with time, the truth will emerge.

The government has lied to the American people on many issues. Why not smoking? Just think what the FDA can do with the money and power it will receive as "custodian" over the tobacco industry.

Robert N. Davis
Robert N. Davis
Falmouth

Laying down the law

A story in your 10.17.96 issue described instances in which Mark's Showplace turned away unaccompanied women, apparently to discourage prostitution and to avoid confrontations between husbands and "angry wives." We have also heard reports of lesbians being told they are unwelcome at Mark's.

On Oct. 31, the Maine Civil Liberties Union conferred with the lawyer for Mark's Showplace about these reports. Discrimination by a public accommodation on the basis of gender violated state and federal statutes. Discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation violates the Portland ordinance. We were assured that Mark's will not turn away customers on either of these bases.

Should any of *CBW's* readers encounter discrimination on the basis of gender or sexual orientation at Mark's Showplace, we would like to hear from you. We can be reached at 774-5444.

William H. Coogan
William H. Coogan
President, Maine Civil Liberties Union

Advice from away

By this time your readers have probably reacted to the 10.3.96 issue, but in case they haven't...

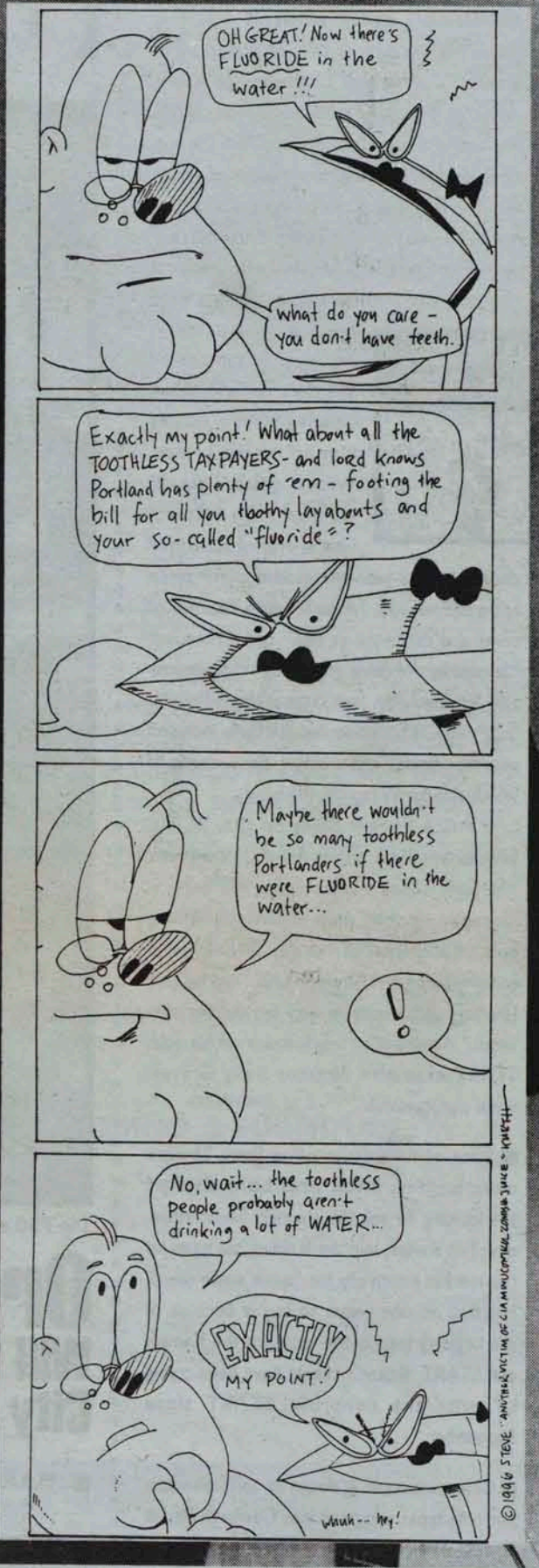
The treatment given to the oil spill in "News-orama" is far less vitriolic than in your editorial. I am comfortable with terms like "overconfident" or "optimistic" applied to Coast Guard officials, especially in light of recent events. But were the experts lying, as you contend? Perhaps you've come up with some solid evidence since I passed through town.

As for "Media Schmedia" (10.3.96), local broadcast and print news is pathetic enough without one more attempt at journalism-by-ethnic/racial/gender-mix. Can a story about the Franco-American community only be covered by someone who speaks French? And is of French heritage? And is from Maine? I live in a city where many ethnic groups have their own radio programming, even if it is only once a week. Presumably if Maine journalists are indeed not sensitive to the needs of Francos, such a sizable community could come up with the support (i.e., advertising dollars) for their own shows.

I appreciate living in a country and a city that is home to many cultures. We must continually ask ourselves how we can capitalize on this diversity and not slip into the chaos of the Balkan republics. Or, dare I say, the separatist mentality of the Quebecois?

Charles H. Kidder
Charles H. Kidder
Baltimore

drunkBoy BY KURTH



CBW Q

Does Portland have a theme song?

Portland will have its very own jingle by January, and the song will be featured in a 30-second TV spot titled, "It's a lot of fun for a little city." The music sounds a bit like Broadway on Prozac; the visuals include shots of such local attractions as Casco Bay, the Old Port and The Moon. Inspired by the success of Lewiston-Auburn's "Cities of the Androscoggin" campaign, Portland's Downtown District (PDD) and WCSH-TV decided earlier this year to come up with a musical promotional campaign. "The timing is right," said Susan Cooper, PDD deputy director. "Good things are happening. Art is doing wonderful things and the business space is filling up."

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, or by fax: 775-1615.

State of arrest: Steve Bailey, programming director for State of the Arts (START), the organization trying to run the State Theatre, has become one of **Portland's most wanted** — his mug shot airs several times daily on a local public access TV show that catalogues an assortment of Portland's criminals—at-large. According to Portland Police Chief Michael Chitwood, Bailey faces two charges of simple assault stemming from an Aug. 7 shouting match he started with South Portland resident Sherry Wilcox. Bailey, who had just crossed the Million Dollar Bridge into

Portland on his motorcycle, allegedly approached Wilcox's car and began berating her for cutting him off on the bridge. Wilcox, who had her car window rolled down, was traveling with her daughter and 3-year-old grandson. "For some apparent reason, he pulls out a handful of coins and throws it at her," said Chitwood. "Several of the coins go through the window and hit the baby, causing a welt above the baby's eye." Chitwood said the coins included pennies, nickels and a single dime, some of which also hit Wilcox in the head.

Police charged Bailey on Oct. 24, but have been unable to net the elusive suspect. The State closed in late August, and Bailey is currently working on a commercial fishing boat off the coast of Florida. "We've talked to his attorney," Chitwood said, "and he says [Bailey] will come in and surrender this week." Attempts to reach Bailey or his wife, START executive director Kelly Graves, were unsuccessful.

■ **State of the sale:** In other State Theatre news, landlords **Nick and Lola Kampf** are looking to sell the theater. Their attorney, Tim Keiter, said the building has been on the market informally for "quite some time," but that no one wants to buy it because of the ongoing legal battle between the Kamfs and START. Keiter's clients have been trying to evict the nonprofit START since September.

■ **Cinematic state:** A dozen or so local media and arts types straggled into Danforth Bed & Breakfast last week to attend a press screening of "**Reindeer Games**," which the film's young makers — Dirigo Productions, headquartered in Portland — are touting as the first independent feature film made in Maine. The two-hour movie, about a disaffected dishwasher who kidnaps a comely co-worker, drew mixed reviews from its audience. One thing just about everybody was agreed upon, though, was New York actress Mary Skinner, who plays the kidnap, a waitress named Kate. Skinner is marvelously expressive as Kate, who manages to get the better of her tormenter in spite of being tied to a chair for days. "Reindeer Games" premieres Nov. 24 at the Portland Museum of Art. For info call 879-1090. **CBW**

edge

VINTAGE Matriarchy ... Designer Cyberhandles ... Rustic Overtones Update ... Ezra's Not Good Enough ... The Return of '80s Rock 'n' Roll ... Tuck & Patti's Lovey-Dovey



The PSO's Toshiyuki Shimada and Jane Hunter in City Hall Auditorium. PHOTO/EUGENE COLE

Orchestral maneuvers

Will the PSO's impending move back to City Hall be the cure for what ails it?

■ **MARY BETH LAPIN**

Nearly 10 years ago, before her interview for the position of executive director with the Portland Symphony Orchestra, Jane Hunter attended a Sunday afternoon pops concert at City Hall Auditorium. As she sat in the balcony enjoying the performance, she wondered where the "real" concert hall was. "I couldn't believe it was the only hall in Portland," she recalled. "I had no concept that that's what was here."

Hunter spent her second day on the job in one of the ongoing committee meetings to plan improvements to the auditorium; eight years later, in February 1995, when the \$7.2 million overhaul project finally began, the PSO and the Portland Concert Association — the organizations most dependent upon the auditorium — were forced to seek new venues in a city decidedly lacking in large

performance spaces. Despite extensive planning and preparation, exile has been hard for the PSO; the past couple of seasons have brought lower concert subscription sales, wavering audience support and higher production costs. Now, the PSO is counting on its return to the auditorium in early March to both rebuild its audience and stabilize its budget.

The PSO's problems began when the State Theatre, where the orchestra planned to hold most of its concerts, unexpectedly closed last January. Concerts were rescheduled for the cavernous Civic Center, but it all made for some shaky weeks. Lawrence Golan, the PSO's principal violinist, said musicians would leave rehearsal on a Monday unsure where that weekend's concert would be held. "It was too precarious and unstable," said Golan. "When you've got an entire orchestra, stage

hands, equipment and you're building the stage, you kind of need to know where it's going to be."

An elaborate setup helped the Civic Center approximate an intimate concert hall. For each concert, the PSO used half the huge space, covered the ice with flooring and carpet and erected a stage with a proscenium and curtains. They even brought in a professional company to reinforce the sound. "We worried about how [performing in the Civic Center] would sound and it didn't turn out too bad," Golan said. "As far as classical concerts in a hockey rink go, it's good." Hunter added that the space "works well, but does not replace an acoustic environment."

Despite the PSO's efforts, a chunk of its audience decided not to follow the symphony to the Civic Center, a space usually associated with truck pulls, wrestling matches and concerts by the likes of Garth Brooks and Smashing Pumpkins. Season subscriptions to the PSO's main series, which run from about \$50-\$200 apiece, dropped from 1,700 before leaving City Hall to the current level of 1,400. Ticket sales for last year's "Magic of Christmas," traditionally the PSO's most lucrative event, dropped almost 20 percent from the previous year, from 24,000 to 19,000.

"We can't chain them and bring them to the Civic Center," said Toshiyuki Shimada, PSO music director and conductor, of the PSO's lagging attendance. "All we can do is say, 'please come back when we return [to City Hall].'" To make the best of the vast space, this season Shimada chose what he described as "some gigantic pieces which create a big noise," like Holst's "The Planets" and Strauss' "Also Sprach Zarathustra" (the theme from "2001: A Space Odyssey"). He also scheduled popular contemporary works to tempt reluctant music lovers, such as Polish composer Henryk Gorecki's Symphony No. 3, a top-selling CD in local music stores.

Big noises aside, the budget shows the strain of a few tough seasons, with a \$140,000 budget shortfall in 1994-95 and a projected shortfall of \$200,000 this year. Unavoidably high production costs at the Civic Center are partly to blame. Staging the seven concerts in its main series costs well over \$30,000, compared to about \$7,600 at City Hall. Rather than performing fewer concerts or increasing ticket prices, the PSO instead elected to tap its \$1.5 million endowment. While siphoning from its reserve is risky, Hunter said it would have been unfair to ask PSO musicians, some of whom have been with the orchestra for 20 years, to work less during the renovations. "If we were to do that, we would have destroyed the ensemble," Hunter said.

"It's taken years to get to this level of performance."

Sometimes risky moves pay off. A few years ago, the Bangor Symphony Orchestra moved from the high school auditorium to the Bangor Opera House downtown, only to watch ticket sales steadily decline over the next three years. Bob Bahr, general manager of the symphony, said they took a chance and moved again, to the new 1,600-seat Maine Center for the Arts at the University of Maine in Orono. The symphony had no real financial reserve, no guarantee patrons would follow the symphony from downtown and twice as many seats to fill. Six seasons later, though, Bahr said concerts are selling out. "You take your risk based on what you consider to be the upside," he said. "I don't think [the PSO] would renovate the hall if there wasn't a benefit in the end. A renovated facility will draw more people to concerts and allow the symphony to continue to develop."

The PSO is counting on exactly that.

This season's program cover, with its theme of "sailing into home port," features an artist's rendering of the renovated auditorium's interior — complete with 1,900 new seats, cleaner acoustics and unobstructed views of the stage — and urges people to subscribe early for the best seats. A new "Anytime Music Pass" lets concert-goers choose from an assortment of shows without locking into a series subscription. New and old subscribers regularly receive update calls and mailings.

So far, ticket sales for this season have been brisk; about 100 subscriptions were sold for the main series, though subscriptions to the pops series are still down. Chamber concerts at Portland High School auditorium have also been increasingly popular, drawing audiences of up to 700 people. "Now that the end is in sight and we're going back into the hall, we're focused on what's going to happen and bringing people along with that," Hunter said. "It's going to be different, but great all the same." **CBW**

preview

(Not so) plain folk



Understated and lovin' it: John Gorka

Ever since the release of his first album, "I Know," in 1987, John Gorka has been at the forefront of the multifaceted scene that passes for contemporary folk music. *Rolling Stone* called him "the preeminent male singer/songwriter of the new folk movement," and countless critics and musicians have hailed the understated power of his writing and singing.

And what's not to like? The guy has a baritone voice to die for, is a

skilled, subtly humorous songwriter, and manages to imbue his material with a rock-solid foundation of personal conviction that never comes across as preachy or precious. In a word, Gorka's stuff makes him seem like someone you can trust — he's the guy you'd give a key to your apartment to when you went on vacation, and when you came back your plants would be healthier, your kitty would be happier and your guitar would be in tune.

His sixth and latest album, "Between Five and Seven," is part of a uniformly strong body of work that includes albums like "Jack's Crows" and "Temporary Road," albums stocked with songs that address concerns public and private. If you're a fan of his drollly comic song "I'm From New Jersey," take heart; a New Jersey native and a longtime resident of Bethlehem, Penn., Gorka recently relocated to Minnesota, of all places. Perhaps he'll roll into Portland with a sheaf of fresh tunes on what it's like to live in the land of 10,000 lakes and 2,000,000 Lutherans.

■ **SCOTT SUTHERLAND**

John Gorka performs Nov. 15 at Raoul's, 865 Forest Ave., at 9 p.m. Tix: \$10, \$12 at the door. 773-6886.

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clubs



Prime cut
For the past few months, **BETTER THAN EZRA's** song "King of New Orleans," from the alterna-rock trio's second release, "Friction Baby," has been in heavy rotation on 'CYY. It's perfect for cranking up and singing along with when you're alone in your car. The catchy hook and dense melody are exactly what makes Better Than Ezra's music so darn likable. Then there's lead singer Kevin Griffin's emotional and versatile vocals. And we can't forget the boy-next-door good looks of its band members. You can catch up with them Nov 17 at Stone Coast Brewing Company, 14 York St, Portland. Chalk Farm and Fulfeigh open. Tix: \$15 (\$12 advance). 773-2337.

- thursday 14**
The Big Easy
Young Neal & the Vipers (blues), 416 Fore St, Portland. 780-1207.
- Friday 15**
The Big Easy
Undaunted: Professor Harp (blues), 416 Fore St, Portland. 780-1207.
- Tipperary Pub**
Lee Sykes, Sheraton Tara Hotel, Maine Mall Rd, So. Portland. 775-6161.
- Geno's**
Spirit Varnish and Benna Cohen, 13 Brown St, Portland. 773-7891.
- Hedgehog Pub**
Benefit to Feed the Hungry (5 bands), 35 India St, Portland. 871-9124.
- 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.
- Wharf's End**
Open Mic with Ken Grimsley, 52 Wharf St, Portland. 773-0093.
- Zootz**
All Request Night (dance until 3 am), 31 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-8187.
- monday 18**
Free Street Taverna
Open Mic with Prairie Dogs, 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**
Concert Karaoke with DJ Greg Powers, 11 Moulton St, Portland. 774-0444.
- Stone Coast Brewing Company**
From Good Homes (rock), 14 York St, Portland. 773-2337.
- The Underground**
Dancing with Bob Look, 3 Spring St, Portland. 773-3315.
- Zootz**
Rec. Room (open 8 pm-1 am), 31 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-8187.
- thursday 14**
The Big Easy
D.J. & the Road Kings (blues), 416 Fore St, Portland. 780-1207.
- Clyde's Pub**
Karaoke, 173 Ocean Ave, So. Portland. 799-4473.
- Comedy Connection**
Jim Luletta, 6 Custom House Wharf, Portland. 774-5554.
- Dark Horse Saloon**
Cheyenne (country), 145 Kennebec St, Portland. 773-7791.
- Free Street Taverna**
Boom Shenka and The Whigs (reunited), 128 Free St, Portland. 774-1114.
- Friday 15**
Borders Books & Music
Rees Shad (folk), Gorham Rd, So. Portland. 775-6110.
- Comedy Connection**
Jim Luletta, 6 Custom House Wharf, Portland. 774-5554.
- Dark Horse Saloon**
Cheyenne (country), 145 Kennebec St, Portland. 773-7791.
- Stone Coast Brewing Company**
Gov't Mule, 14 York St, Portland. 773-2337.
- T-Birds**
DJ Steve Nason (70s, '80s and '90s dance music), 126 N. Boyd St, Portland. 773-8040.
- Geno's**
Spirit Varnish and Benna Cohen, 13 Brown St, Portland. 773-7891.
- Hedgehog Pub**
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- Stone Coast Brewing Company**
Gov't Mule, 14 York St, Portland. 773-2337.
- T-Birds**
DJ Steve Nason (70s, '80s and '90s dance music), 126 N. Boyd St, Portland. 773-8040.

tuesday 19
The Big Easy
Mike Hayward's All Star Revue (blues), 416 Fore St, Portland. 780-1207.

sunday 17
Comedy Connection
George Hamm's Comedy Showcase, 6 Custom House Wharf, Portland. 774-5554.

Free Street Taverna
Bartender's Choice, 128 Free St, Portland. 774-1114.

Gritty McDuff's
Ario West, 396 Fore St, Portland. 772-7379.

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

Raoul's
Cradle II Grave (rock), 865 Forest Ave, Portland. 773-6886.

Stone Coast Brewing Company
Jazz Brunch with Lex & Joe, evening, Better Than Ezra, Chalk Farm and Fulfeigh, 14 York St, Portland. 775-6411.

Top of the East
Jazz Brunch with Bobby Lane (piano), 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
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Fri. 22 FAT BAG

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Nov. 26 YEP!
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Nov. 30 Rustic Overtones
Dec. 31 Chucklehead
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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 14-17. Wed-Sat 7:30 pm, Sun 5 pm & 7:30 pm. Tix: \$8 (\$6 seniors/\$4 students). 780-5483.

"China Doll" The Bowdoin College Department of Theater and Dance presents a theatrical imagining of the life of the first Chinese-American Hollywood star by playwright-in-residence Elizabeth Wong. At Pickard Theater, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Nov 14-16, 8 pm. Tix: \$5. 725-3375.

"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.

"Here's Love" The Portland Lyric Theater presents a musical remake of "Miracle on 34th Street" with music by Meredith Willson. At Portland Lyric Theater, 176 Sawyer St. So. Portland, Nov 22-Dec 8. Fri-Sat 8 pm, Sun 2:30 pm. Tix: \$11-\$13. 799-1421.

"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 14-24. 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 14-24. Thurs-Sat 8 pm, Sun 5 pm. Tix: \$12 (Thurs is 2-for-1 night). 775-5103.

"Sagehen" Portland Stage Company presents a rock-'n'-roll musical version of Moliere's classic. At PSC, 25A Forest Ave, Portland, Nov 14-24. Tix: \$18-\$29. 774-1043.

auditions/etc

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

Auditions Acorn Productions holds open auditions for the upcoming production of Peter Shaffer's "Lettice and Lovage" Nov 21 from 5-9 pm. At Oak Street Theatre Studio Space, 496 Congress St, 3rd floor, Portland. Auditions are for supporting roles only. Call Michael Levine to schedule an appointment. 892-3728.

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

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.

The Portland Lyric Theater holds auditions for its upcoming production of "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas." Nov 24 & 25 at Portland Lyric Theater, 176 Sawyer St. So. Portland, at 6:30 pm. 799-6509.

Reindeer Performing Arts For Kids Offers workshops on singing, acting, movement, songwriting, story-telling, 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.

Volunteers Needed Oak Street Theatre Company has volunteer opportunities in a variety of areas, from set construction and painting to poster distribution and front of house. Volunteers receive complimentary tickets. For more info, call Michael Levine between 2-5 pm. 775-5103.

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

concerts

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 14

"Pirates of Penzance" Portland Concert Association presents Opera à la Carte performing the 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.

preview

Just what I needed



'80s incarnate: The Kopterz. PHOTO/ FACE MAGAZINE

Sooner or later, when pop culture's '80s revival is going full blast, you'll be able to say you were there at the start. But only if you show up for Free Street Taverna's mini-revival of local '80s rock, slated for this weekend: The Kopterz Nov. 15, followed by The Whigs (with Boom Shanka) Nov. 16.

The Kopterz — guitarist Paul French, bassist Lance Bell and drummer Dave Fields — enjoyed their heyday six, seven years ago, trafficking in a slightly harder sound than The Kopterz, more along the lines of Hüsker Dü and The Replacements. Like The Kopterz, The Whigs aren't doing this reunion thing on a regular basis; they're getting together for a couple of shows, French says, and leaving it that. Fun seems to be the operative word.

SCOTT SUTHERLAND
The Kopterz perform Nov. 15; The Whigs, with Boom Shanka, perform Nov. 16. Both shows begin at 10 p.m. at Free Street Taverna, 128 Free St. \$2 cover. 774-1114.

Michelle Vigneau, Anthony Allen and Kurt Kaufman Portland Conservatory of Music presents a noontime concert. At the First Parish Church, 425 Congress St, Portland, from 12:15-12:45 pm. 775-3356.

friday 15
Elliott Schwartz, Matthew Kubrt & Friends 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.

sunday 17
Choral Concert The choir of Gorham's First Parish Congregational Church thanks the community for its support with a free concert directed by Ann Mason-Osann and accompanied by Beth Barefoot-Jones. At First Parish Congregational Church, 1 Church St, Gorham, at 4 pm. 839-6751.

"The Magic Flute" USM Opera Workshop presents the well-known Mozart opera directed by Bruce Filthian. At Corthell Concert Hall, Gorham, at 3 pm. Tix: \$4 (\$2 students/seniors). 780-5555.

upcoming

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

The Magic of Christmas Dec 12-15. Portland Symphony Orchestra presents its annual program of holiday music featuring husband and wife team of lyric soprano Sherry Overholt and baritone Lee Vetta, the Windham Chamber Singers, the Magic of Christmas Chorus and organist Ray Cornils. At the Civic Center, Portland, Dec 12 at 7:30 pm, Dec 13-15 at 2 pm and 7:30 pm. 773-8191.

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.

"About Love and Other Mysteries" Nov 23. A performance by Eduardo Mariscal Dance-Theater to benefit the Maine SpeakOut Project. At Portland High School, 284 Cumberland Ave, Portland, at 8 pm. Tix: \$10. 879-0480.

Harvest Dance Nov 23. Featuring live music by Two Bass Jon. At Charlie Beigg's Conference Center, Route 302, Windham, from 8:30 pm-12:30 am. Tix: \$9. Cash bar. 892-6142.

Momix Nov 16. L.A. Arts presents this company of dancer-illusionists under the direction of Moses Pendleton. At Lewiston Middle School Auditorium, Lewiston, at 8 pm. Tix: \$14-\$20. 1-800-639-2919.

Plus Dance Nov 23. The Round Squares Square Dance Club holds a Plus dance with caller Dennis Reardon and cuer Kathy Reardon. At Wentworth Middle School, Scarborough, at 7:30 pm. 797-3757.

Potluck 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.

events

Benefit Gala Nov 16. Dance to the music of Papa Loves Mumbo at a benefit for Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America. At the Portland Club, 156 State St, Portland. Cocktail hour with hors d'oeuvres from 7-8 pm, music and dancing from 8 pm-midnight. Tix: \$25. 761-8035.

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.

Portland Pirates Games Nov 22: Pirates vs. Springfield at 7:30 pm. Nov 23: Pirates vs. Providence at 7:30 pm. At the Civic Center, Portland. Tix: \$5-\$13. 775-3458.

Charity Night 1996 Nov 24. The Maine Mall presents a special night of holiday shopping to benefit local non-profits. The night features: live entertainment, free holiday gift wrapping, discounts from participating stores and a buffalo wing contest. At the Maine Mall, So. Portland, from 6-9 pm. Admission: \$5. 775-7297.

art

openings

Art & Artifacts Gallery Route 1, Freeport. Opening reception for "Explorations East," photographs by Barbara Goodbody, Nov 14 from 6-8 pm. Shows through Dec 7. Hours: Tues-Sun 10 am-6 pm. 855-1921.

Hole in the Wall Studios 1544 Roosevelt Trail, Raymond. "Art for the Holidays," a group show and sale of work by gallery artists, shows Nov 22 through Jan 30. Work by Lori Austill, Randy Fein, Linda J. Zehler and Dave Hall, shows through Nov 19. Hours: 9:30 am-5:30 pm daily (closed Tues). 655-4952.

Maine Writers Center 12 Pleasant St, Brunswick. Illustrations and prints by Dahlov Ipcar show through Dec 31. Artist's reception Nov 21 from 5-7 pm. Hours: Mon-Fri 9-5. 729-6333.


Portland Public Library 5 Monument Square, Portland. "People First," a group show by the Portland Coalition, shows through Nov 30. The coalition hosts a free public symposium on the issue of mental illness Nov 26 from 7-9 pm. Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri 9 am-6 pm, Tues & Thurs 12-9 pm, Sat 9 am-5 pm. 871-1700.

now showing


Agape Center 657 Congress St, Portland. "Papers of the Spirit," works by Richard Lee. Hours: Mon-Fri 10-2 pm and by appt. 780-1500.

African Imports and New England Arts 28 Milk St, Portland. "Hidden Treasures," traditional African arts, rare carvings and works by modern artists from Nigeria to New England, ongoing. Hours: 10:30 am-9 pm Mon-Sat, 12-6 pm Sun. 772-9505.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20




Newbury Comics



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To set up an appointment and to see if you qualify for a free mammogram, call LHP/SM at (207) 657-5864.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

Area Gallery USM Campus Center, Portland. "Being Heard: The Strength, Courage and AIDS of Winnie MacDonald" photographs by Jim Daniels shows through Dec 13. Reception with the artist Dec 1 from 5-6 pm. 780-5409.

Art Gallery at Six Deering Street, 6 Deering St., Portland. Hours: Tues-Sat 11 am-5 pm. 772-9605.

Barbara's Kitchen 2 Cottage Lane, Cape Elizabeth. Small paintings by Marilyn Blinkhorn show through Dec 20. 767-6313.

The Baxter Gallery 619 Congress St., Portland. "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 shows through Dec 15. Hours: Tues-Sun 11 am-4 pm, Thurs 11 am-9 pm. 775-5152.

Bowdoin College Museum of Art Walker Art Building, Brunswick. The museum is open to the public free of charge. Hours: Tues-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Mon-Sun 2-5 pm. 725-3275.

* "Art & Life in the Ancient Mediterranean" An installation of Assyrian, Egyptian, Cypriot, Greek and Roman art, ongoing.

* "Crosscurrents 1997" Art from Africa, Asia and the Americas, as well as contemporary objects from the permanent collection, ongoing.

* "Exploring Extremes of Style and Story: Mannerism in Sixteenth Century Europe." Shows through Dec 8.

* "Twenty-Five Years of African-American Art from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston." Shows through Dec 1.

Chocolate Church Arts Center 804 Washington St., Bath. Members exhibition shows Nov 22 through Dec 20. 442-8455.

Coffee By Design 620 Congress St., Portland. "Impressions of Maine," works by Brian Currier, show through Nov 17. Hours: Mon-Thurs 7 am-9 pm, Fri 7 am-10 pm, Sat 8 am-10 pm, Sun 8 am-6 pm. 772-5533.

Connections 56 Main St., Brunswick. "Into the Myth" by Susan Mills and "Doors" by Joy Vaughn shows through Nov 23. Hours: Mon-Thurs 10 am-6 pm, Fri 10 am-8 pm, Sat 10 am-6 pm. 725-1399.

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

Davidson & Daughters 148 High St., Portland. "Waterworks," oils by Bonnie Spigel, shows through Nov 16. Hours: Tues-Sat 11 am-6 pm, Fri 11 am-8 pm (first Thurs of the month 11 am-8 pm). 780-0766.

Delliah Pottery 132 Spring St., Portland. Paintings by Aaron Burns show through Nov 16. Hours: Mon-Fri 11 am-6 pm, Sat noon-4 pm. 871-1594.

Falmouth Memorial Library 5 Lunt Rd., Falmouth. Work by Vi Eastman shows through Nov 30. Hours: Tues & Thurs 9:30 am-8 pm, Wed, Fri & Sat 9:30 am-5 pm. 781-2351.

The Family Kitchen Restaurant 4 Pleasant St., Brunswick. "People to Think About," paintings by Marilyn Blinkhorn, shows through Jan 1. 729-5526.

Fibula Gallery 50 Exchange St., Portland. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. 761-4432.

Foghorn Gallery 4 Clinton St., Portland. International folk art, Oaxacary wood carvings, black pottery and crafts of indigenous peoples. By appointment. 781-2563.

Foreaside Cafe 201 U.S. Route 1, Falmouth. Paintings by Kate Merrick. Ongoing. Hours: Sun-Thurs 7 am-3 pm, Fri-Sat 7 am-7 pm. 781-4931.

* "Forest City Annual: 1996 Wood Sculpture Exhibition" The Maine Artists' Space and 35 organizations and individuals present the first annual outdoor exhibition of large wood-based public works of art on display throughout Portland's Arts District from six nationally recognized sculptors, including two from Maine. The sculptures show through Nov 30. 775-2708.

Free Street Taverna 128 Free St., Portland. Mixed media Greek collages by Richard Lee. Hours: Mon 11 am-4 pm, Tues-Sat 11 am-10 pm. 774-1114.

Frost Gully Gallery 411 Congress St., Portland. Recent paintings by Dahlov Ipcar. Hours: Mon-Fri noon-6 pm. 773-2555.

Galeryie Custom Framing 190 U.S. Route One, Falmouth. First anniversary exhibition with oils by Lori Tremblay, weavings by Cindy Davis, bronze masks by B.J. Abrahamson, landscapes by Charlotte Spencer and Karen Gimis, shows through Nov 16. 781-3555.

Gallery 7 164 Middle St., Portland. Hours: Mon-Sat 11 am-6 pm, open Fri until 8 pm. 761-7007.

Greenhut Gallery 146 Middle St., Portland. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm. 772-2693.

Icon 19 Mason St., Brunswick. New paintings by Martha Groome show through Nov 28. A group exhibition of work by Katherine Bradford, Fred Lynch, Duane Paluska, Claire Seidli and Alice Steinhart shows in the upstairs gallery also through Nov 28. Hours: Mon-Fri 1-5 pm, Sat 1-4 pm. 725-8157.

Jameson Gallery 217 Commercial St., Portland. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5:30 pm. 772-5522.

Java Joe's 13 Exchange St., Portland. Photographs by Peter Demen show through Oct 31. Hours: Mon-Thurs 7:30 am-11 pm, Fri 7:30 am-midnight, Sat 9 am-midnight, Sun 9 am-10 pm. 761-5637.

The Jones Museum of Glass and Ceramics Douglas Hill, Sebago. Cost: \$25. Reservations suggested. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. Cost: \$5 (\$3 students). 787-3370.

June Fitzpatrick Gallery 112 High St., Portland. "The Decorated Page," paintings and prints by Grace Tagliabue shows through Nov 23. "Twelve Corners," paintings and ceramics by Abby Shahn, shows through Nov 23. Hours: Tues-Sat noon-5 pm, Thurs noon-8 pm. 772-1961.

June Fitzpatrick Gallery, Downtown 20-30 Danforth St #304, Portland. "It's All Negotiable" (a new Genre Art Bar), an installation by Wolcott Dodge, shows through Nov 14. Hours: by appointment. 772-3182 or 772-1961.

Kaleidoscope Gallery Route 25, Gorham. Fine art, pottery, sculpture, jewelry and crafts by local artists. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-5 pm, Sat 10 am-4 pm. 839-6926.

Katadin Restaurant 106 High St., Portland. Etchings by Ron Slater show through Nov 15. 774-1740.

Kutz 86 Middle St., Portland. "No Escape," mirrors by Duane Patricio shows through Nov 23. 773-9717.

L. Murray Jamison Photography 22 Monument Sq, #604, Portland. "Martinique: A Journey to the French West Indies," photographs by L. Murray Jamison, shows through Dec 31. Hours: by appointment only. 871-8244.

Lakes Gallery & Sculpture Garden Rt. 302, South Casco. Hours: 10 am-5 pm daily. 655-0666.

Maine Audubon Society Gililand Farm Environmental Center, 118 U.S. Route One, Falmouth. Artwork by Andrea Sulzer shows through mid-December. 781-2330.

Maine Potters Market 376 Fore St., Portland. Hours: 10 am-6 pm daily. 774-1633.

Margarita's Restaurant 242 St. John St., Portland. Original watercolors by Bonnie Brown. Ongoing. Hours: 4-11 pm daily. 874-6444.

Meander Gallery 40 Pleasant St., Portland. Hours: Tues-Sat, 12-6 pm. 871-1078.

Nancy Margolis Gallery 367 Fore St., Portland. Jewelry by John Casner shows through Jan 1. The fifth annual Menorah exhibit, featuring hand-crafted Hanukkah Menorahs by over 20 glass, ceramic and metal artists, shows through Jan 1. Hours: Mon-Wed 10 am-6 pm, Thurs 10 am-8 pm, Fri-Sat 10 am-9 pm and Sun 11 am-6 pm. 775-3822.

O'Farrell Gallery 58 Maine St., Brunswick. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm. 729-8228.

* "The Paintings of Eric Hopkins" By appointment only, call 871-7916.

Perfetto's Restaurant 28 Exchange St., Portland. "Almost Edible," paintings by Kate Merrick, ongoing. Hours: Mon-Sun 11 am-11 pm. 828-0001.

Pilgrimage 441 Congress St., Portland. Recent paintings and monotypes by Tony Montanaro show through Nov 15. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-5 pm, Sat 10 am-4 pm. 772-1508.

Pine Tree Shop and Bayview Gallery 75 Market St., Portland. Hours: Mon-Tues 9:30 am-5:30 pm, Wed-Sat 9:30 am-8 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. 773-3007.

Portland Chamber of Commerce 145 Middle St., Portland. Work by Russian artists participating in the Archangel exchange shows through Oct 31. 854-1466.

Portland Museum of Art 7 Congress Sq., Portland. Hours: Tues, Wed, Sat 10 am-5 pm, Thurs-Fri 10 am-9 pm, Sun noon-5 pm. Admission: \$6 adults, \$5 students/seniors, \$1 youth 6-12 years. Museum admission is free 5-9 pm every Friday evening. The last Thursday of every month seniors only pay \$3. 775-6148 or 1-800-639-4067.

* "The Scott M. Black Collection A sampling from Scott Black's 19th- and 20th-century paintings and sculptures.

* "19th and 20th-Century European and American Art Paintings, sculptures and works on paper by Monet, Renoir, Picasso, Matisse and other masters of the past two centuries. Ongoing.

* "From Monet to Matisse: The Origins of Modernism" A complete overview of French art from early Impressionism through Neo-Impressionism to Fauvism. Ongoing.

* "Phillipe Halsman: A Gallery of Stars" Documenting twenty years of Halsman's ability to capture "star quality" of some of America's favorite entertainers. Featuring Lucille Ball, Milton Berle and Dinah Shore. Ongoing.

* "Tom Asunder: Collage in Twentieth-Century Art," including work by Kurt Schwitters, Jean Arp, Robert Rauschenberg, William Manning and Katarina Weslien. Shows through Dec 15.

* "A Collective Vision: A Decade of Patronage from the Friends of the Collection," including works by Rockwell Kent, Marsden Hartley, Andy Warhol and Marguerite Zorach. Shows through Dec 9.

* "Elizabeth B. Noyce Collection," including works by Fitz Hugh Lane, Albert Bierstadt, Child Hassam, George Bellows, Rockwell Kent and Andrew Wyeth from the recently deceased philanthropist's bequest to the museum. Ongoing.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30

PIRATES OF PENZANCE


OPERA A LA CARTE

Thursday, November 14, 7:30 p.m., \$35, \$25, \$15 • Cumberland County Civic Center PerformanceXtra: Pre-Curtain Talk, 6:00 p.m.

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calendar



September 67

The sweet harmonies on "Lucky Shoe," the debut release from the Charlottesville, Va., duo **September 67**, are enough to transport you straight to heaven. Songs like "Don't Break" and "Busy Building" make it easy to forget yourself completely, while the pleasingly heavy guitar riffs from Shannon Worrell will keep your feet firmly on the ground. At times Worrell and her partner in crime, Kristin Ashbury, conjure the spirit of the Indigo Girls ("Setting the Old House on Fire") or borrow a hook from somebody unexpected like Counting Crows ("Fire Engine Red"), but what's most striking about their sound is, well, their sound. And that's because it's totally new. Ashbury changes instruments like she's changing shoes, from Wuritzer electric piano to accordion to harp. With Worrell's guitar, the concoction is divine. They call it southern gothic pop. Whatever you want to call it, it's completely addictive. Feed your vice at Stone Coast Brewing Company, 14 York St., at 9 p.m. Tix: \$3. 773-2337.

thursday 14

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.

friday 15 Any band that chooses a name synonymous with "daze," "rapture" and "ecstasy" better have music that at least gets people out of their chairs. Fortunately, **Swoon's** ethereal Lush-like sounds justify its choice of appellation. Be sure to bring smelling salts when you visit Swoon at Geno's, 13 Brown St., at 9 p.m. Virtual Dandelion opens. Tix: \$4. 772-7891. **saturday 16** Who cares if they act like they're in love with being in love. Somebody has to. And **Tuck & Patti** do a damn good job of it. Their newest release, "Learning How to Fly" has been described as "the sweetest, most exhilarating teamwork since Fred and Ginger." On top of eight Tuck & Patti originals, the album features covers of Joni Mitchell's "Woodstock" and "Getaway" from Earth Wind & Fire. But the pièce de résistance has got to be "Heaven Down Here," cowritten by Jim Carrey. Catch up with the lovey-dovey duo at Raoul's, 865 Forest Ave., at 9 p.m. Tix: \$5. 773-6886. **sunday 17** Feeling in the mood to connect with your Irish roots? Then a night with Celtic guitarist **David Surette** may be exactly what you're craving. Heck, even if you haven't got the tiniest bit of Irish blood, the strumming of this critically acclaimed folkster should please your ears. Surette will play music from his new release, "Trip To Kemper" at Olin Arts Center, Bates College, Lewiston, at 7 p.m. Tix: \$1. 786-6158. **monday 18** It's 1934, and a night of improvisational jazz and double-crossing is about to transpire at the Hey Hey Club. That's the setting for "**Kansas City**," the latest offering from Robert Altman. Jennifer Jason Leigh plays a tough Jean Harlow-type trying to bail her small-time crook boyfriend (Dermot Mulroney) out of trouble. In her desperation, she kidnaps the wife (Miranda Richardson) of a local politician she thinks can help. The two women form an unexpected friendship. Harry Belafonte costars as one smooth crime boss. At The Movies, 10 Exchange St., at 5 p.m., 7:15 p.m. & 9:30 p.m. "Kansas City" shows Nov. 13-19. Tix: \$4.25. 772-9600. **tuesday 19** The last time you found yourself in a tizzy about "that damn new bridge" or "another freakin' parking garage" did you stop to think about how challenging it must be to figure it all out? Maybe it's time for you to sit in on "**Challenges & Opportunities: Greater Portland's Land Use Dilemmas**," a panel discussion with planners and citizen activists from Portland, South Portland, Cape Elizabeth and Falmouth. The panel will discuss current local issues including conflicts between active and passive recreation, demands on social services and competition for limited municipal funding. At the Portland Museum of Art, 7 Congress Sq., at noon. Free. Sponsored by Greater Portland Landmarks. 775-6148. **wednesday 20** Some things are better discussed over a proper cup of Earl Grey. That's the thinking behind The Ladies High Tea and Feminist Insurgency Society's series of "uncommon conversations." Join the ladies for the second installment of the "Performing Sex" section of the series, "**Sex Work, Sex Wars**," a lively chat led by Wendy Chapkis of USM's Sociology and Women's Studies departments and Heather Barry of USM's English and women's departments. At the Campus Center, USM campus, Portland, from 2:30-4 p.m. Look for upcoming conversations on "Performing Sex," including "The Soil in My Blood: Nationality, Race and Identity" and "Performing the Other: Race & the Emergence of American Cinema." Free. 780-4955. **thursday 21** What do you know about 17th-century music? If your answer is "not much," then perhaps the **Lygonia Consort** can help. The Portland Conservatory of Music presents the consort in a noonday concert of Loelliet de Gant, Handel, Bertoli and Schürmann. The two-year-old musical group is dedicated to historically accurate readings of 17th-century music. You can hear them perform on replicas of period instruments at the First Parish Church, 425 Congress St., from 12:15-12:45 p.m. 775-3356. **friday 22** You may already have glimpsed a few twinkles of the Christmas season around town. If it's not too early for you, Portland Lyric Theater offers a chance to dive right in with "**Here's Love**," a musical remake of "Miracle on 34th Street." Explore the ever-present question of whether Santa Claus really exists at Portland Lyric Theater, 176 Sawyer St., So. Portland, at 8 p.m. "Here's Love" shows through Dec 8. Tix: \$11-\$13. 799-1421. **saturday 23** If you still haven't isolated your favorite style of jazz, then you'll be a happy camper when the **USM Jazz Ensemble** joins the **UMA Touring Group** for a variety-packed concert. The UMA group will open the concert, followed by USM's Jazz Ensemble playing selections from Art Blakey, Count Basie and Bill Holman. You'll hear everything "from swing to hard bop to West Coast cool jazz" says director Scott Reeves. Get your jazz fix at Corthell Concert Hall, USM campus, Gorham, at 8 p.m. Tix: \$4 (\$2 students/seniors). 780-5555.



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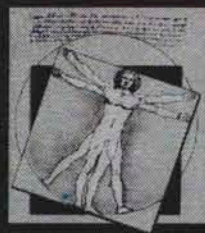
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SHORT cuts

The dirt on the Overtones

To the delight of their many fans in southern Maine and beyond, Portland's ska-funkers Rustic Overtones have released a new CD, a four song "maxi-single" called "My Dirt." Recorded by Car's Colin Decker at Westbrook's Big Sound Studios, the CD contains two new songs, "My Dirt" and "Darryl," and two older, re-recorded songs, "Month and a Half" and "Bad Truth." The sound isn't drastically different from last year's "Long Division," but the band sounds even tighter and more self-assured than ever. The only problem with "My Dirt" is that, at just over 16 minutes, it's way too short. But it will have to last fans for a while, since band manager Bill Beasley says that the recording of a full-length followup to "Long Division" is not in the immediate future. According to Beasley, Rustic Overtones has been touring constantly since "Long Division," playing at venues up and down the East Coast as far south as South Carolina. One recent gig had them open up for the Founder of Funk



himself, George Clinton, in Worcester, Mass. Beasley says that Clinton's road manager gave the band strict orders not to go one minute over their allotted time. But when they left the stage a couple minutes past their time, they found Clinton not angry, but rather asking them to play one more song.

As for the future, Beasley says for the rest of the year, Rustic Overtones will concentrate on building up their fan base in New England and, in particular, upstate New York. When January rolls around, the band will hit the road again. As for signing to a major label, Beasley says that some are "nibbling," but the band is in no hurry. "We're doing fine by ourselves," Beasley says. "The question is, what will [the record labels] bring to the table?" What Rustic Overtones bring to the table is great music and the uncanny ability to get bodies moving. Albeit way too brief, "My Dirt" is proof of that.

"My Dirt" is available at Bull Moose Records for \$5.88. The band performs Nov. 15 at the Gray Cage at Bates College in Lewiston at 8 p.m. Tix: \$6, \$3 Bates students.

The vile sounds of Cannibal Corpse

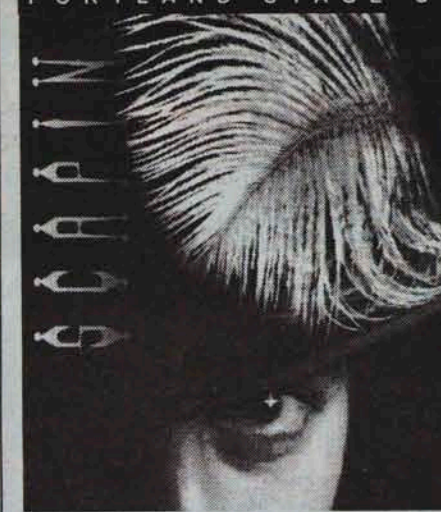
While on the campaign trail, Bob Dole attacked the film and music industries for their lax morals, citing the work of musical artists like Snoop Doggy Dogg, Nine Inch Nails and Cannibal Corpse. Which, of course, prompted a lot of people to ask, "Who the hell is Cannibal Corpse?" Diehard metalheads would know Cannibal Corpse as a Florida-based death metal band. Astute observers of pop culture may also remember them for a brief appearance in "Ace Ventura: Pet Detective."

Despite their obscurity, Dole's singling them out for attack makes sense. Their name alone has an amoral ring to it, while their music — with its loud, ugly, high-speed riffs and growled vocals that sound like a B-movie demon — will infuriate even the most tolerant parents. As for lyrics, the guttural growl makes them indecipherable, but with album titles like "Butchered at Birth," "Tomb of the Mutilated" and this year's "Vile," it's doubtful they're singing about love. The young metalheads, at least, will find exactly what they're looking for: pure musical aggression and speed with horror movie imagery thrown in. As for the rest of us, well, did you really think you'd like a band called Cannibal Corpse?

■ DAN SHORT

Cannibal Corpse, with opening acts Brutal Truth, Immolation, Rare Form and Polygot, performs Nov. 25 at Zootz, 31 Forest Ave., at 5 p.m. Tix: \$10 advance, \$12 day of show. 773-8187.

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Mommies dearest

Vintage Rep spins a tangled web of matriarchy, and the going gets a little sticky

MARY STAMATEL

The latest offering from Vintage Repertory Company, "My Mother Said I Never Should," is a challenging play, designed for an all-woman cast. The women play four generations of a single family, and the audience sees each character portrayed as both child and adult, mother and daughter, sometimes changing within seconds. Most of life's major milestones are reached off-stage; what the characters say and do onstage must convey the effect of off-stage marriages, births, deaths, divorces and love affairs.



Girl talk: The cast of "My Mother Said I Never Should"

Unfortunately, this production hasn't yet achieved the rhythm and cohesion needed to transport the house. The characters pass from childhood to adulthood — while having jobs, men and babies — away from the stage, with the actors trying to maintain a dramatic tension to what actually does happen onstage. Faced with a dearth of action and a plethora of stuffed emotions, though, the cast's only strategy is to hone its dialogue to razor-precise bits. The actors recite their lines, but that's about it; they seem to be waiting for their next mark, rather than listening — and acting — in character. The cast, it seems, is still sharpening its edges.

The first half of the play — written by Charlotte Keatley and directed by Jane Bergeron — sets up a scenario in which Margaret Bradley (Kathleen Weddleton) rears Rosie (Ann Moller), the illegitimate bay of her daughter Jackie (Devon Louise Jencks), as if Rosie were her own. The second half deals with the lives of these three, as well as Margaret's mother Doris (Elizabeth Guest), after Rosie is grown up and may be told the truth.

The women in the play are constantly bowing to the demands of family caretaking at the expense of taking care of their own emotional needs. When Jackie learns that her own great-grandmother was a single mother, for example, she realizes she might have kept her daughter and angrily confronts her mother — only to be forced into silence when Rosie enters. (Jackie and her mother, it turns out, never get to have that intimate show-down.) The program notes are at pains

to establish the overarching influence of men in these women's lives — the notes include marriage dates, spouses' names and even an engagement date — but the men themselves are physically absent. Keatley's intent is to allow the female characters to be freer selves, but the primary identity that emerges is that of women as mothers, a role not always essential to womanhood.

Interspersed throughout "My Mother Said..." are interludes in which the four characters step out of chronological time to play together as children. These moments fit comfortably into the non-chronology of the play, and, framed by blue lighting, are easy to recognize. But the actors play children without the intense and untamed emotions children actually have. When little Margaret suggests to the others, "Let's kill our mummies!" she does so in a treacly voice.

The emotional tone is more on the order of the self-consciously cute juvenile, a child's foil for an adult presence. It's too misplaced for the audience to swallow.

The acting does have a few transporting moments, though, particularly when Guest is able to inject an ironic flavor into her lines. Moller, a sophomore at North Yarmouth Academy, is a convincing Rosie. In fact, the cast does well in each individual characterization — it's the connection between characters that flags. All signs point to the eventual mastery of the family web, but last Saturday's performance had a visible streak of dress rehearsal running through it. **CDW**

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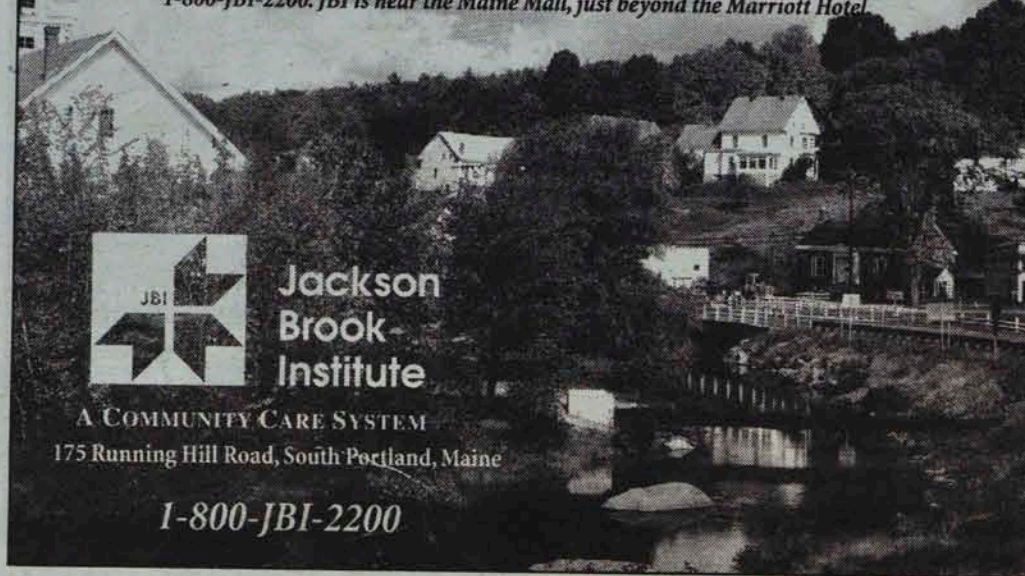
FREE Community Seminar November 21

There's no excuse for domestic violence! Jackson Brook Institute and The Family Crisis Shelter are offering a FREE presentation on domestic violence and related difficulties.

It's not your fault! The presentation will include a lecture by Bonnie Blythe, Associate Director of the Family Crisis Shelter, a video, and information on help available. Refreshments will be served.

There is help available! If you, or someone you love, are a victim of domestic violence, please attend this FREE program. The program will be held Thursday, November 21, at 7:00 p.m. at Jackson Brook Institute, 175 Running Hill Road, South Portland.

To register for this event or for more information, please call Jackson Brook Institute at 1-800-JBI-2200. JBI is near the Maine Mall, just beyond the Marriott Hotel.



Jackson Brook Institute
A COMMUNITY CARE SYSTEM
175 Running Hill Road, South Portland, Maine
1-800-JBI-2200



THE PHONE CALL THAT COULD CHANGE YOUR LIFE

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- JOHN MELLENCAMP

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99.9 and
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TUNE IN NOW!

Don't Just Watch TV — Make It Portland Access TV, Channel 2 offers classes in TV production. "Studio Production" meets Wednesdays through Nov 20 (5 sessions). All classes meet at 68 High St., Portland from 6-9 pm. To register, call 780-5941.

"The Emergence of Consumerism and Nationalism in Modern China" Nov 19. A lecture from former state department official Peter B. La Montagne presented by the Chinese & American Friendship Association of Maine and the YWCA Racial Justice Committee. At YWCA, 87 Spring St., Portland, at 7 pm. 655-2351.

The Enneagram & Human Compulsion A talk and workshop presented by Jack Deupree. The talk, Nov 15 from 7-9 pm. Cost: \$5. The Workshop, Nov 16 from 8:30 am-12:30 pm. Cost: \$25. At Wholeheart Yoga Center, 150 St. John St., Portland. 797-3102.

Five-Author Booksigning Event Nov 16. Greater Bookland hosts Kathy Lynn Emerson, Jim Moore, Tess Gerritsen, Stobie Piel and Sylvie Kurtz. At Greater Bookland & Cafe, Cook's Corner, Brunswick, from 11 am-4 pm. 725-2313.

Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance at 12 Pleasant St., Brunswick, offers workshops on a regular basis. Nov 16: "Workshop for High School and College Poets," with Jeri Theriault, from 10 am-3 pm. Cost: \$55. Nov 16: "Poetry Slam Workshop" with Elizabeth Peavey, at Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak St., Portland, from 10 am-3 pm. Cost: \$55. Preregistration required. Workshops take place at MHPA office unless otherwise noted. 729-6333.

Mattovich Society An educational organization of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and friends meets the second and fourth Thurs of the month. Nov 14: "Literature For Young People in Sexual Minority Families" at Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland, from 7:30-9 pm. 761-4380.

Meet Maine Authors and Illustrators Nov 10. Artists and writers whose books have been published by Audenreed Press and Bidde Publishing Company will discuss their work at Greater Bookland & Cafe, Cook's Corner, Brunswick, from 1:30-4 pm. 833-5016.

"One Hundred Twenty Five Years of Skiing in Maine" A collection of ski memorabilia is on exhibit in the Portland Room, at the Portland Public Library, 5 Monument Sq., Portland, through Nov 30. 871-1758.

Political Postmortem Breakfast Nov 14. The Advertising Club of Greater Portland hosts a panel discussion with political leaders, activists, commentators and consultants who will address the marketing tactics used by the candidates and referendum interest groups during the November election. At the Pavilion, 188 Middle St., Portland, from 7:30-9 am. 829-2096.

"Strategic Planning for the Evolving Aquaculture Industry: Private Use of Public Resources" Nov 14. Marine Law Institute's Marine Environmental Law Speakers Series presents Anne Hayden and Laurie Howell of Spinney Creek Shellfish, Inc. At USM's School of Law, Portland, at 4:10 pm. 780-4474.

"Why Maine? Why Mysteries? Putting a Mysterious Spin on Rural Reality" Nov 20. Portland Public Library's Brown Bag Lecture Series presents Gerry Boyle, newspaper editor, columnist and mystery writer. At PPL, 5 Monument Sq., Portland, from noon-1 pm. 871-1758.

American Association of Retired Persons Nov 19. Prepare for the holidays with ideas on fitness for seniors. At No. Deering Congregational Church, 1364 Washington Ave., Portland. Business meeting at 11 am, luncheon at noon. Cost: \$5.50 (reservations needed). 773-3509.

Country Craft Fair Nov 16. At West Scarborough United Methodist Church, 2 Church St., Scarborough, from 9 am-2 pm. 883-2814.

Fall Folkcraft Fair Nov 16. At the Merriconeag Waldorf School's Grade School Campus, 57 Desert Rd., Freeport, from 10 am-3 pm. 865-3900.

Greek Cooking Class and Dinner Nov 18. Come watch or help create Spanakopita and other Greek delicacies, then enjoy a delicious dinner. At the YWCA, 87 Spring St., Portland, at 5:30 pm. Cost: \$15. 874-1130.

Holiday Fair Nov 23. At Allen Avenue Unitarian Universalist Church, 524 Allen Ave., Portland, from 10 am-2 pm. Cafe opens at 9:30 am. 772-1941.

Home for the Holiday's Fair Nov 18 & 19. At St. Anne's Church, 299 Main St., Gorham. Nov 18 from 9 am-7 pm with baked bean supper from 5-7 pm. Nov 19 from 9 am-noon. 839-4857.

Professional Pet Portraits Nov 17. Hosted by Friends of Feral Felines. At Kennel Shop & Animal Care, Pine Tree Shopping Plaza, Portland. \$5 sitting fee. Prices start at \$24.95. 772-7622.

Redeemer Lutheran Church Fair Nov 16. At Redeemer Lutheran Church, 126 Spurwink Ave., Cape Elizabeth, from 9 am-2 pm. Seafood quiche luncheon from 10 am-2 pm. 799-5941.

Wild Truth Pest Control Tour Nov 16. Teens Alive Ministries and First Baptist Church of South Portland team up to bring this nationally touring youth event designed for students in grades 6-9. At First Baptist Church, Sawyer St., So. Portland, from 6:30-9:30 pm. Tix: \$12 (\$10 advance). 490-5738.

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.

family events

Developmental Screening Child Development Services of Cumberland County offer developmental screenings of children ages birth through 5 for parents with concerns about their child's development. The screening uses simple activities to look at how a child is developing skills in communication, motor movement, behavior and thinking. To schedule an appointment, call 874-8082.

health events

Flu Shots The City of Portland offers flu shots at various locations. Tuesdays at Riverton Health Station from 2-6 pm, Nov 19. 874-8451. Wednesdays at City Hall Health Station from 7:30-11:30 pm, Nov 20. 874-8300. Thursdays at Reiche Health Station from 2-6 pm, Nov 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.

"Life in Accordance With Natural Law: Perfect Law and the Transcendental Meditation Technique" Nov 20. A lecture at Maharshi 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.

etc events

American Association of Retired Persons Nov 19. Prepare for the holidays with ideas on fitness for seniors. At No. Deering Congregational Church, 1364 Washington Ave., Portland. Business meeting at 11 am, luncheon at noon. Cost: \$5.50 (reservations needed). 773-3509.

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- GENESIS
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TUNE IN NOW!

movies



Michael Jordan and Bugs Bunny prepare to shoot some hoops in SPACE JAM.

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.

BASQUAT! The whole, albeit biased, story of ill-fated, angst-faced painter Jean-Michel Basquiat, by fellow '80s art icon Julian Schnabel. Basquiat rose in good '80s fashion, from a graffiti artist living in cardboard boxes to the painter-darling of the Warhol set, only to crash face-first, dead of a drug overdose at the age of 27. Schnabel molds his story into a sympathetic tale of an exploited genius. Look for David Bowie as Andy Warhol. Also starring Dennis Hopper, Gary Oldman, Courtney Love, Parker Posey and Benicio del Toro.

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 gosse things. Seems the gese 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 recommendation: 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.

JACK Robin Williams plays an average 10-year-old kid who happens to grow four times faster than normal. The question is, can Williams retreat the ground covered so well by Tom Hanks in "Big" without seeming like a copycat?

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 Mulroney 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 — is 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 keeps 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, halts any momentum that Jordan manages to create.

THE MIRROR HAS TWO FACES Once upon a time, love wasn't a prerequisite for marriage. People married to have someone around who'd help keep house and share a meal. Jeff Bridges' passionless college professor tries to resurrect that bygone era in a marriage of companionship with his briefly-and-beautiful colleague, played by Barbara Streisand. Problem is, she's hot for him. And when her aging beauty of a mother (played by aging beauty Lauren Bacall) convinces her a makeover could change her life, things heat up.

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

RANSOM Mel Gibson plays Tom Mullen, a super-successful Manhattan businessman who does things his own way. When his son is abducted by criminals who demand big bucks for his return, Mullen 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), Mullen 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 star-crossed 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 starring John Leguizamo, Jessica Lange and Paul Rudd.

SECRETS & LIES The latest offering from Mike Leigh ("Naked") examines the relationship that evolves when a young middle-class black woman meets her biological mother, who is white and working class.

SLEEPERS Four men (Brad Pitt, Jason Patric, Billy Crudup and Ron Eldard) seek revenge for the physical and psychological abuse they suffered as boys from a guard while doing time in a juvenile reformatory for a prank. The presence of Kevin Bacon as the doomed guard with such luminaries as Robert De Niro and Dustin Hoffman ensures yet another batch of the party game "Six Degrees of Kevin Bacon" in dorms everywhere.

SPACE JAM The most recognizable man in the world, Michael Jordan, teams up with a bunch of Looney Tunes characters, including Bugs Bunny, in this live action/animation comedy. Jordan must help save the Looney Tunes from destruction by aliens. Also starring Wayne Knight, Thera Randie and Bill Murray.

THINNER Looking for a miracle diet to take off those extra pounds? You won't be after you view the latest Stephen King adaptation, about a porter whose zeal for over-eating causes him to plow a mystic's daughter down with his car. No need to smoke the law — a curse will settle the score just fine. Watch the goulmand waste away in good King style. You'll never wish to be thin again.

A TIME TO KILL Samuel L. Jackson heads an all-star cast in the movie rendition of John Grisham's first novel. Jackson plays a father who takes the law into his own hands to avenge the brutal assault of his young daughter. Also starring Hollywood's man-of-the-moment Matthew McConaughey, Sandra Bullock, Kevin Spacey, Donald Sutherland, Ashley Judd and Kiefer Sutherland.

TIN CUP Kevin Costner stars in his third sports movie, attempting to add glamour and drama to a film about golf — a sport which is about as exciting as watching dust settle. He plays Roy "Tin Cup" McAvoy, an amateur golfer who falls in love with his biggest rival's girlfriend, Dr. Molly Griswold (Rene Russo), and attempts to gain her heart by winning the U.S. Open. Don Johnson, who plays Tin Cup's antagonist, David Simms, looks so good in pastels that it was only a matter of time before he ended up in a golf movie.

A VERY BRADY SEQUEL All eight Brady imposters (and Alice) are back. The family gets into more trouble when its groovy mentality clashes with the mess-up mindset of the '90s. Get ready for Kitty Karmal, a trip to Hawaii and a run-in with Carol's long-forgotten first hubby. What ever happened to Oliver?

movie times

SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE FRIDAY-THURSDAY, NOV 15-21 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.

THINNER (R) 4:20, 9:20

JACK (PG-13) 1:10 (SAT & SUN ONLY), 4:10, 7:10, 9:50

A VERY BRADY SEQUEL (PG-13) 1:20 (SAT & SUN ONLY), 7:20

TIN CUP (R) 12:50 (SAT & SUN ONLY), 6:50

PHENOMENON (PG) 1 (SAT & SUN ONLY), 4, 7, 10

THE CHAMBER (R) 3:50, 10:10

THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME (G) 12:30 (SAT & SUN ONLY), 3:30

A TIME TO KILL (R) 6:30, 9:30

INDEPENDENCE DAY (PG-13) 12:40 (SAT & SUN ONLY), 3:40, 6:40, 9:40

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

SPACE JAM (PG) 11:15 (SAT & SUN ONLY), 12:50, 1:15, 2:55, 3:20, 5, 5:25, 7:05, 7:30, 9:10, 9:35

RANSOM (R) 1:15, 1:45, 4, 4:25, 7, 7:20, 9:25, 9:45

SLEEPERS (R) 1:35, 7, 9:50

HIGH SCHOOL HIGH (PG-13) 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.

SECRETS & LIES (R) 12:45, 3:35, 6:30, 9:20

THE MIRROR HAS TWO FACES (PG-13) 12:50, 1:15, 3:40, 4:15, 6:50, 7:20, 9:45, 10:10

LARGER THAN LIFE (PG) 1:40, 6:45

DEAR GOD (PG) 4:20, 8:50

ROMEO AND JULIET (PG-13) 1:10, 4, 7, 9:50

THE ASSOCIATE (PG-13) 1:20, 7:30

MICHAEL COLLINS (R) 1:35, 6:40, 9:30

THE GHOST AND THE DARKNESS (R) 4:10, 9:55

FLY AWAY HOME (PG) 1:30, 4:30

THE LONG KISS GOODNIGHT (R) 7:10, 10

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

KANSAS CITY (R) NOV 14-19*THURS-TUES 5, 7, 15, 9:30*SAT-SUN 12:45, 2:45

BASQUAT! (R) NOV 20-26*WED-TUES 5, 7, 9*SAT 1, 3*SUN 1

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

THE MIRROR HAS TWO FACES (PG-13) 1:10, 3:45, 7, 9:30

SPACE JAM (PG) 12:50, 2:55, 5:10, 7:10, 9:05

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) 7:25, 9:40

MICHAEL COLLINS (R) 1:15, 4:15, 7, 9:45

HIGH SCHOOL HIGH (PG-13) 6:55, 9

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 Advocates Group

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- real estate
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- land for sale
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International Performance artist

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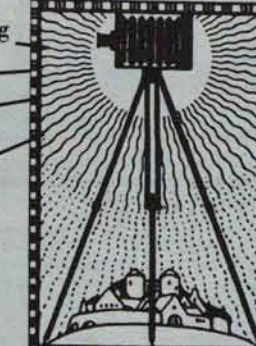
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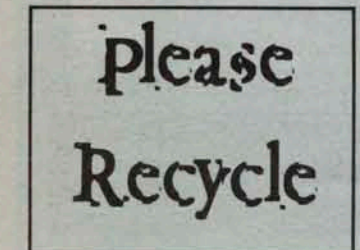
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WOMEN & MEN

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SWIM TO LIFTS. REPLACE. FOOTRUBS. Lakeshore DFW, 41, 5'4", 140#, blonde, attractive, independent, intelligent, LD, smoker, skier (and) kids, utility wif, romance/fun. Seeks tall, caring, no baggage. Near Naples. #9271 (12/11)

ABSOLUTELY AMAZING. We haven't met yet! Why wait? Let's begin with moon walks, mountain hikes, cycling, backpacking, x-country skiing, the arts, quiet times, shopping, surfing. SWF, 43, #9350 (12/18)

ADVENTUROUS PROFESSIONAL. beautiful inside and out. SWF, 31, 5'3", athletic, slender, outdoors enthusiast, well-educated and traveled. Seeking 30-40yo, emotionally, financially secure, attractive man. #9438 (12/25)

WOMEN & MEN

ALL DOWNHILL FROM HERE! Fit, outgoing skier (x, too), naturalist seeks similar, 32-40, S/D/M to get out (and stay in) with winter Love theater, dancing, dining, travel, adventure, books. Upper Mid-coast. #9409 (12/25)

ANTENNAS OUT FOR MUSICAL. upbeat, somewhat collaboration-independent falls in reach of Jacksonville or Orono. I am building the puzzle to fit the pieces - Wow! You? I'm strong, BR/BR, creative, busy, rooted, inspired, slim, 30's. #9415 (12/25)

ARE YOU STRONG ENOUGH TO MY MAN? Forty-something free spirit seeks man who's intelligent, educated, wise, funny, tall, handsome, easy-going, generous, brave, financially, physically, and emotionally fit with good sense of humor for fun and romance. NO, N/D, NS, music, movies, theatre, and good books, long hair and recovery all pleasures. Live out, casual. #9426 (12/25)

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GLASSY, ABOVE AVERAGE. very attractive, charming DFW, very young 50, 5'3", 115lbs, seeking DWM, 50-65, for friendship. Interests: Tennis, golf, sailing, theatre, opera, antiques, hiking, travel, the company of good friends. N/S, Portland area. #9332 (12/18)

CREATIVE, AWARE WOMAN SEEKS man from Vermont to share great chess, meals, music, films, conversation. Be healthy, earth conscious, open, compassionate and preferably 40-50 yrs old. #9344 (12/18)

ARE YOU STRONG ENOUGH TO MY MAN? Forty-something free spirit seeks man who's intelligent, educated, wise, funny, tall, handsome, easy-going, generous, brave, financially, physically, and emotionally fit with good sense of humor for fun and romance. NO, N/D, NS, music, movies, theatre, and good books, long hair and recovery all pleasures. Live out, casual. #9426 (12/25)

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HAPPY WOMAN, DWP, 38, seeks happy man, S/DWP, 38-45ish, tall, smart, independent, active, seeks same (a mesh a blue). Books, hiking, travel, the company of good friends. N/S, Portland area. #9342 (12/18)

I CALL IT NATURE LOVER. SWF, 48, Gentish/gray/BL, 4'8", tall-figured, attractive, N/S, affectionate, spontaneous, camping, dancing, art, photography, travel, looking for SWM, 5'4", 5'10", BR/BL, 40-50, hard working, and above interests. #9321 (12/04)

ARE YOU STRONG ENOUGH TO MY MAN? Forty-something free spirit seeks man who's intelligent, educated, wise, funny, tall, handsome, easy-going, generous, brave, financially, physically, and emotionally fit with good sense of humor for fun and romance. NO, N/D, NS, music, movies, theatre, and good books, long hair and recovery all pleasures. Live out, casual. #9426 (12/25)

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PLANETARY SEARCH FOR: A business-suit and arid farley intellectual hopy gronzo stud muffin Buchstid new age suffer dude, for sparking conversation, a 30th decade, respond in Naku form. #9425 (12/18)

PLAYFUL, YET SOPHISTICATED. independent but affectionate, tall, attractive DFW, seeks attractive, N/S, S/DWM, 38-49, 5'11", for companionship and fun. I value integrity, SOI, fitness, intelligence, and financial stability. Enjoy the arts, recreational athletics, good conversation, intimate dining in or out. Do you cook? Great! #9333 (12/18)

POPEYE COME HOME! Olive Oyl seeks little muscinea market tolerant male, not too old to grow old with me. I cook too spicy, have too many cats, go weird on full moons, but I am what I am - 33, artist, strong, somewhat attractive. Sorry to Barbie Doc! #9321 (12/04)

ARE YOU STRONG ENOUGH TO MY MAN? Forty-something free spirit seeks man who's intelligent, educated, wise, funny, tall, handsome, easy-going, generous, brave, financially, physically, and emotionally fit with good sense of humor for fun and romance. NO, N/D, NS, music, movies, theatre, and good books, long hair and recovery all pleasures. Live out, casual. #9426 (12/25)

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SWF/ISO PRINCE CHARMING. SWF, 27, enjoys music, dancing, football, and hangin' w/ friends. Interested in meeting DWM who is relationship-oriented, fun loving, sensitive, caring, romantic, open-minded, w/ SOH. #9425 (12/18)

THIS SWF, 35, 5'9", heavy-set, is looking to meet one SWM to treat a woman like a woman. All responses answered. I'm worth the call. #9341 (12/18)

WARRANT, INTELLIGENT, ATTRACTIVE DFW, 40's, seeks contemporary masculine counterpart. Forget about walking on the beach in the moonlight. I prefer a more exciting shared adventure. Be dominant without being domineering, sophisticated but comfortable in the North Woods, entrepreneurial, active but thoughtful, N/S, independent, monogamous, emotionally available, please be same. Portland area. #9328 (12/14)

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

WOMEN & MEN

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WARM WISE WOMAN DFW, 50th, pleasant-looking, well-educated professional, artistic, energetic, outdoorsy, with a social conscious, sometimes strong-willed Loves kids and animals. Loves company, out, needs solitude and tranquility. ISO N/S, N/D, male, artistic, intelligent, well-educated who loves the outdoors and knows how to nurture his own inner life. #9428 (12/25)

WOMAN WHO ROLLS WITH THE DOG. Loves the dog, the cats, the garden, the home, good friends, dancing, laughter. Life good and I'd love to share it with a fit, attractive man, circa 1945-1961, who has love and a good life of his own. #9322 (12/14)

WOMAN WHO ROLLS WITH THE DOG. Loves the dog, the cats, the garden, the home, good friends, dancing, laughter. Life good and I'd love to share it with a fit, attractive man, circa 1945-1961, who has love and a good life of his own. #9322 (12/14)

WHY NOT? I'M OVERWEIGHT. DWM, 41, 6'1", 220lbs, clean and sober, tender warrior, creative, intelligent, gentle and sensitive. Looking for someone to share my life with. Must enjoy patchouli, guitar rereads, romantic evenings and kids (I have a 9yo son). Greater Portland area please. #9424 (12/25)

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PEAR SHAPED, PLUMP, AN HOURGLASS with more sand in the bottom, a distress free dance with spirit, passion, nerve, desired by fit, sensitive, handsome, housebroken, well-traveled, politically incorrect, irreverent, eclectic, Latin looking dragon-slayer with knightly prancing and capable of heroic deeds. Me: SWM, 40, 5'10", 170lbs, fit, fun, frisky, battlers included. Portland area. #9329 (12/18)

PUCKISH, WHIMSICAL INTELLECTUAL, 45yo SWPM, dedicated custodial father seeks companion with cool SOI, positive attitude, huge intelligence, for conversation, dinner at my place, films. #9433 (12/25) Personal Advertiser # 8642, P.O. Box 1238, Portland, ME 04104

SEEKING SINCERE PERSON for friendship, hopefully romance. I am playful, fun, romantic, educated, BF 27, enjoying flowers, nature, arts, dancing, conversation, intuitive, individualistic, caring, concerned. #9421 (12/25)

SHOW ME THE WAY. 36yo, romantic, poet-in-novice seeks 35-45yo, experienced, gentle soul to help "set my desires free." You lead and I'll follow. #9279 (12/11)

WOMEN & MEN

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ADVENTUROUS PROFESSIONAL. beautiful inside and out. SWF, 31, 5'3", athletic, slender, outdoors enthusiast, well-educated and traveled. Seeking 30-40yo, emotionally, financially secure, attractive man. #9438 (12/25)

ATTRACTION AND FIT. SWM, 46, 6'2", 150lbs, great shape, seeks, likes dining, dancing, traveling outdoors. Seeking S/DWM, attractive, 45-55, similar interests. #9313 (12/18)

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

SLEEPLESS IN KENNEDYBUNK. Single dad, 44, light BR/BL, handsome, fit, self-employed artist special LTR with caring kind-hearted lady. Who is attractive, fair, and fit. 35-45, Southern Maine. #9436 (12/25)

SOME MEN HAVE MORE TO OFFER. Good-looking, WM, 32, professional, 5'11", slim, fit, with an interesting companion. So call me, please. #9417 (12/25)

WOMEN & MEN

PHOTO DATE

Ladies Special
Open House This Weekend
Sat. & Sun. 11-4
Be one of the first 5 women each day to stop by and receive 1/2 off membership. See photo & profiles (coffee & donuts)
11 Frost Brook Lane, Freeport
1/2 mile out of town off Rt. 1
Toward Brunswick
Open 9-8 Daily • Freeport
865-0828

SWIM TO LIFTS. REPLACE. FOOTRUBS. Lakeshore DFW, 41, 5'4", 140#, blonde, attractive, independent, intelligent, LD, smoker, skier (and) kids, utility wif, romance/fun. Seeks tall, caring, no baggage. Near Naples. #9271 (12/11)

ABSOLUTELY AMAZING. We haven't met yet! Why wait? Let's begin with moon walks, mountain hikes, cycling, backpacking, x-country skiing, the arts, quiet times, shopping, surfing. SWF, 43, #9350 (12/18)

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WOLF HOWLING TO THE MOON. 30yo non-erotic, energetic, athletic, slightly shy woman, finally discovering true self, searching for a creative, energetic, sincere, sensitive who loves music, throwing a Frisbee, hiking, shooting hoops, and can let the moon guide her on new adventures, friendships and whatever. #9337 (12/18)

WHITE-COLLAR MIND TRAPPED in a blue-collar body. Bar Harbor-based WM carpenter, 31, loves ballroom dancing, Norwegian folkdances, cooking, books, and movies. Very of personal aids but, open-minded, looking for same. #9440 (12/25)

WHO WANTS TO BE LONELY? I want to say you're not lonely. I'm just asking you. You keep waiting for love to strike, you wake up in the middle of the night, nobody's gonna make it single. SWM, 30, 6'1", seeks attractive N/S, S/D, 25-35, to melt the winter blues away. Life is full of surprises, let me be one of them. #9434 (12/25)

WHY NOT? I'M OVERWEIGHT. DWM, 41, 6'1", 220lbs, clean and sober, tender warrior, creative, intelligent, gentle and sensitive. Looking for someone to share my life with. Must enjoy patchouli, guitar rereads, romantic evenings and kids (I have a 9yo son). Greater Portland area please. #9424 (12/25)

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LET'S GO CRAZY! 20, 5'5", 130lbs, attractive and sensual looking for same (18-26). Please be feminine, with no games. Enjoys fitness and hanging out. Dancing? Coffee? #9319 (12/18)

LET'S GET LIFE! 33yo, 145lbs, 5'8", BR/BR, relatively normal, somewhat life-less, (but livin'), working man seeks very similar guy to share the life we get. Let's get going. #9214 (12/14)

LOOKING FOR QUALITY TIME? Loyal, happy, working guy, 27, ISO similar guy, 20-30. Friendship, possible LTR. It's about time. #9220 (12/14)

LOOKING TO EXPERIMENT? I'm early 20's, B/L, curious, and looking for a first time. My preference is that you're the same but, all offers will be considered. Philosophy required. #9218 (12/14)

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NO MAN IS AN ISLAND. And a rock feels pain. This 33 year old 6'2", 230#, kind, loving man is looking for a male friend/companion to share quality time. #9272 (12/11)

NO BULL. W/M, 35, 5'7", 175# N/S. Only honest, faithful, W/M, 35-45. Sincere, honest, romantic only. Likes walks, quiet times together. #9289 (12/11)

OLDER IS BETTER. GWM, 45, seeks GM, 50yrs, any race, for friendship/hot times together. UB slim/trim/body and ready. Let's be hot together this winter. No lies. Please call. #9303 (12/04)

ONE SIMPLE DAY. ONE FRIEND. one destiny. Looking for devoted friend with good luck but, fancy for long lasting relationship. Good call to you. #9255 (12/14)

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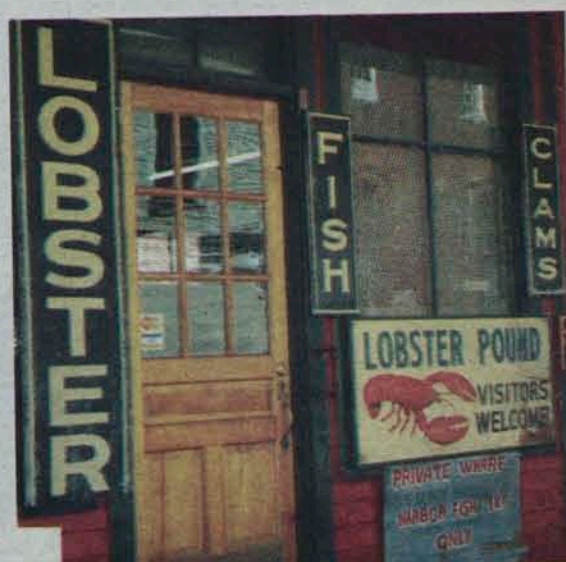
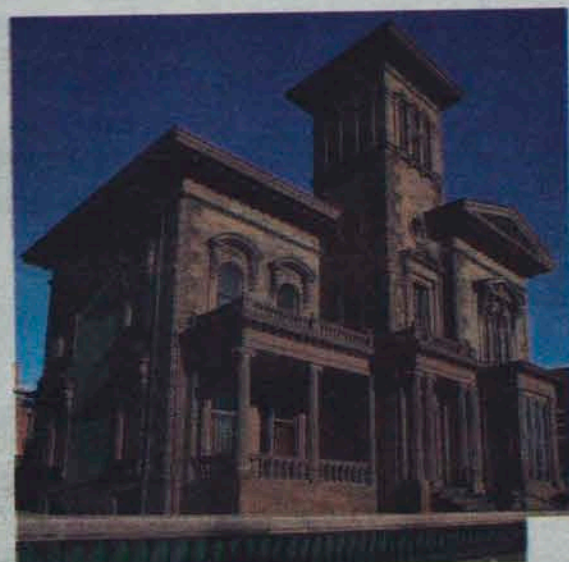
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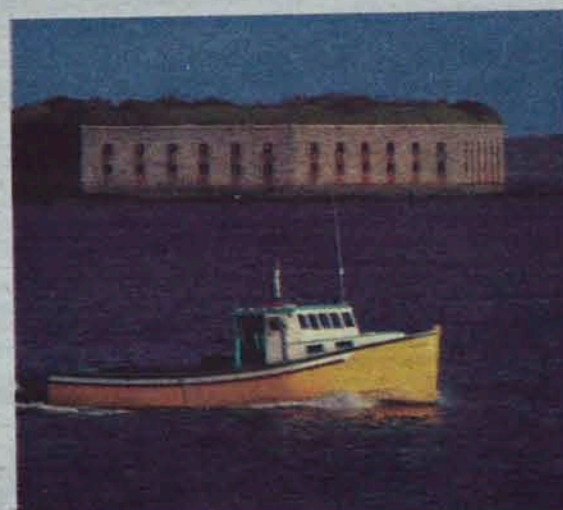
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We're proud to join the landmarks of Portland.



GRAND OPENING
Portland Factory Store
Wednesday, November 20



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Take Exit 6A/
Forest Ave. South,
Downtown, to
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