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## The Keep

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The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)

The Post Amerikan Project

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2-1983

## Volume 11, Number 9

Post Amerikan

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Old Houses; LaGrow Goes; Entertainment; More Sanders

Bloomington-Normal

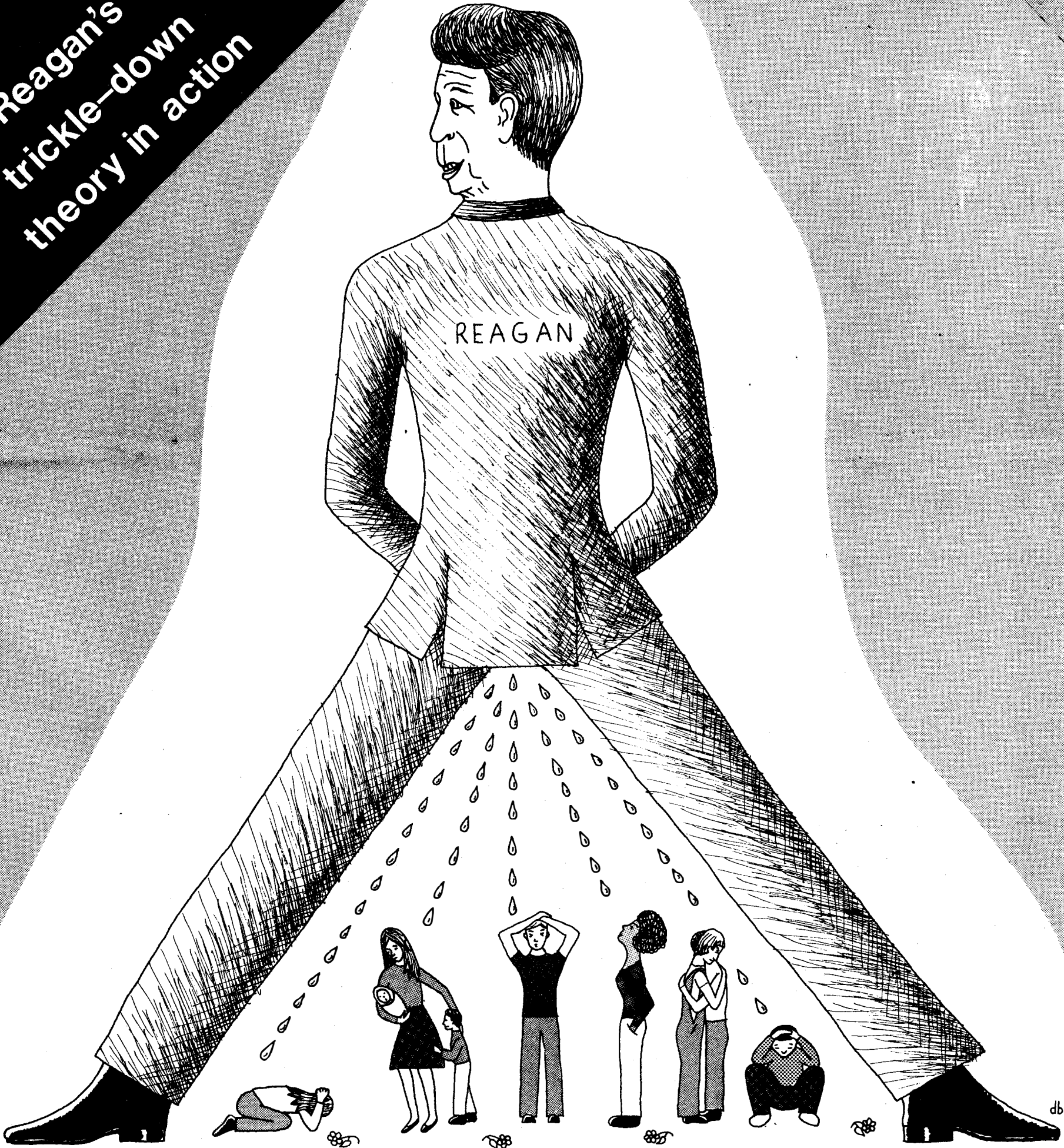
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# POST AMERIKAN

Vol.11 No. 9

February 1983

Reagan's  
trickle-down  
theory in action



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# ABOUT US

## POST AMERIKAN

The Post Amerikan--Bloomington-Normal's Alternative Since 1972.  
Volume 11, Number 9, February, 1983  
P. O. Box 3452, Bloomington, IL 61701

Member Alternative Press Syndicate  
Indexed in the Alternative Press Index

The Post Amerikan is an independent community newspaper providing information and analysis that is screened out of or downplayed by establishment news sources. We are a non-profit, worker-run collective that exists as an alternative to the corporate media. Decisions are made collectively by staff members at our regular meetings. We put out ten issues a year. Staff members take turns as "Coordinator." All writing, typing, editing, graphics, photography, paste-up, and distribution are done on a volunteer basis.

Most of our material and inspiration for material comes from the community. The Post Amerikan welcomes stories, graphics, photos, and news tips from our readers, and if you'd like to join us call 828-7232 and leave a message with our answering machine. We'll get back to you, usually within a week.

We like to print your letters. Try to limit yourself to the equivalent of two double-spaced typewritten pages. If you write a short, abusive letter, it's likely to get in print. Long, abusive letters, however, are not likely to get printed. Long, brilliantly written, non-abusive letters

may, if we see fit, be printed as articles. Be sure to tell us if you don't want your letter printed.

An alternative newspaper depends very directly on a community of concerned people for existence. We believe that it is very important to keep a paper like this around. If you think so too, then support us through contributions and by letting our advertisers know you saw their ads in the Post Amerikan.

The deadline for submissions for the March issue is February 17.

## Moving?

When you move, be sure to send us your new address so your subscription won't go astray. If you don't have a subscription, get one.

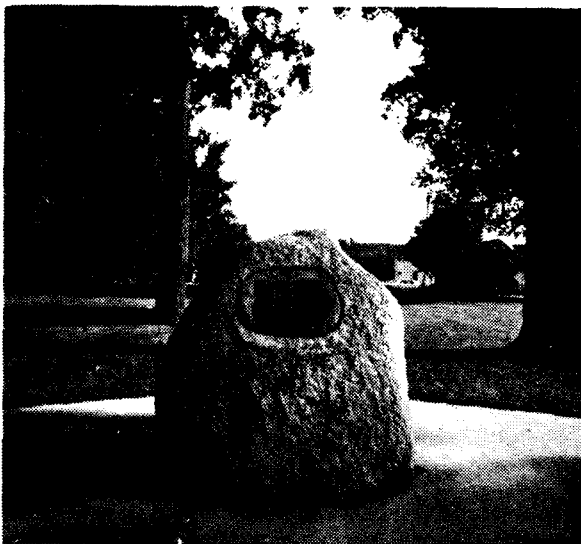
## Thanx...

This issue in your hands is thanx to Bobby, Bumper, Dan, Danny, Dave, Deborah, Diana, Gary, Holly, Jody, Laurie, Mark, Melissa, Nadene, Ralph, Sue, Susie (coordinator), X., and probably others that we forgot.

Thank you Delaware Alternative Press

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Empty lot and rock with memorial plaque is all that's left where a Victorian home once housed ISU's first president Charles Hovey, and his famous poet son, Richard. The photo is from a new book featuring before and after shots of 45 lost homes in Bloomington-Normal. See review p. 12.

## good numbers

Alcoholics Anonymous 828-5049  
American Civil Liberties Union 454-1787  
CETA 827-4026  
Clare House (Catholic Workers) 828-4035  
Community for Social Action 452-4867  
Connection House 829-5711  
Countering Domestic Violence 827-4005  
Department of Children and Family Services 828-0022  
Department of Health, Education and Welfare (Social Security) 829-9436  
Department of Mental Health 828-4311  
Draft Counseling 452-5046, 828-4035  
Gay/Lesbian Information Line 829-2719  
Gay People's Alliance (ISU) 828-9085  
God 800-JC5-1000 (in New Jersey, 201-555-1212)  
HELP (transportation for handicapped and senior citizens) 828-8301  
Illinois Lawyer Referral 800-252-8916  
Kaleidoscope 828-7346  
McLean County Economic Opportunity Corporation 452-8110  
McLean County Health Dept. 454-1161

Metropolitan Community Church 829-2719  
National Health Care Services (abortion assistance in Peoria) 691-9073  
National Runaway Switchboard 800-621-4000; in Illinois 800-972-6004  
Nuclear Freeze Coalition 828-4195  
Occupational Development Center 828-7324  
PATH (Personal Assistance Telephone Help) 827-4005 or 800-322-5015  
Parents Anonymous 827-4005 (PATH)  
Planned Parenthood 827-8025  
Post Amerikan 828-7232  
Prairie State Legal Services 827-5021  
Prairie Alliance 828-8249  
Project Oz 827-0377  
Public Aid, McLean County 827-4621  
Rape Crisis Center 827-4005 (PATH)  
Small Changes Bookstore 829-6223  
Sunnyside Neighborhood Center 827-5428  
TeleCare 828-8301  
Unemployment Compensation/Job Service 827-6237  
United Farmworkers Support 452-5046  
Women's Switchboard 800-927-5404

## Post Sellers

### BLOOMINGTON

Amtrak station, 1200 W. Front  
The Back Porch, 402 1/2 N. Main  
Biasi's Drugstore, 217 N. Main  
Bus Depot, 523 N. East  
The Coffee Shop, S. Main, Blm.  
Common Ground, 516 N. Main  
Discount Den, 207 N. Main  
Front and Center Bldg.  
Gene's Drive-in, 1019 S. Main  
Haag Drugstore, 509 W. Washington  
K-Mart, at parking lot entrance off of Empire  
Haag Drug, 1110 E. Oakland  
Last Page, 416 N. Main  
Law & Justice Center, West Front  
Medusa's Adult World, 420 N. Madison  
Mel-O-Cream Doughnuts, 901 N. Main  
Mike's Market, 1013 N. Park  
Mr. Donut, 1310 E. Empire  
Nierstheimer's Drugs, 1302 N. Main  
Oakland & Morrissey, NW corner  
Pantagraph (in front of building), 301 W. Washington  
The Park Store, Wood and Allin  
Red Fox, 918 W. Market  
Small Changes Bookstore, 409A N. Main  
Susie's Cafe, 602 N. Main  
U.S. Post Office, 1511 E. Empire (at exit)  
U.S. Post Office, Center and Monroe  
Wash House, 609 N. Clinton  
Washington and Clinton, SE corner  
Washington St., across from courthouse  
W Bake Shop, 801 E. Washington

### NORMAL

Alamo II, 319 North (in front)  
Blue Dahlia, 121 E. Beaufort  
Bowling & Billiards Center, ISU  
Cage, ISU University Union  
Dairy Queen, 1110 S. Main  
Drastic Plastic Records, 115 North  
Eisner's, East College & Towanda (at College entrance)  
Fink's, 111 E. Beaufort (in front)  
Midstate Truck Plaza, U.S. 51 north  
Mother Murphy's, 111 1/2 North  
North & Broadway, southeast corner  
Old Main Bookstore, 207 S. Main  
Record Service, Watterson Place  
Redbird IGA, 301 S. Main  
Upper Cut, 318 Kingsley  
White Hen Pantry, 207 Broadway (in front)

### OUTTA TOWN

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

# A one-WAY ticket to hell

The following true story was written in response to questions which a number of people have asked regarding a little-known bible cult whose members practice hypnotism, theft by deception, and a somewhat modernized version of brainwashing. Call it an ersatz religion, a communist plot, or organized fraud, but it is a very real threat to the freedom and well-being of the youth of Amerika.

I hope some who read this article will have second thoughts about getting involved with The Way International--or any similar outfits. The fact is that it's not half as easy to quit as it is to join, and for some people, joining The Way has been the single greatest tragedy of their lives.

My first encounter with The Way International came in January 1975, when a friend (I'll call him Dave) got involved with the group. I don't know exactly what happened, but Dave definitely changed after attending one of their meetings. He talked about having a "ministry" from God and being able to levitate objects and other unusual feats. He was excited by the "fellowship" he had with some Way members and agreed to move into an apartment with them, donating his stereo to them. I couldn't understand what was going on.

Within a few days, mainly out of curiosity, I went with a few of Dave's other friends, to his new apartment.

Whenever we entered the house, we were greeted with big, sloppy, wet kisses by the female Way members. We were constantly bombarded by Dave's Way buddies with invitations to come to their meetings and take a class known as Power for Abundant Living.

## Cameras for Christ

Dave also informed me that he had donated his Nikkormat camera, formerly his most prized possession, to Jesus. I wasn't quite sure what Jesus was going to do with a Nikkormat. The stereo which Dave had donated was not in evidence anywhere in the house, so apparently Jesus had needed it elsewhere.

Dave had also gone on a diet (no food until Jesus said it was all right), and had taken to staying up late (no sleep for 2 or 3 days in a row) under the constant vigilance of his Way buddies. This was supposedly to drive Satan out of Dave's body, but was also accompanied by rigid indoctrination and "speaking in tongues" (a form of nonsensical babbling which was meant to represent "perfect prayer").

If any one of Dave's former friends (such as me) were to question one of Dave's Way buddies as to the wisdom of what they were doing, we invariably received one of the following responses: 1. You're possessed; 2. You're the adversary (the devil); 3. You're off the word (the bible); 4. You're living in the world.

These people were obviously unable to defend their beliefs rationally and had been programmed to give a very limited number of responses to any inquiries by curious outsiders.

With all this intense browbeating going on, not one of us outsiders was ever seriously affected by the attempted programming directed at us. The only way I can account for this is that we were constantly on our guard and comparing (derisive) notes after the meetings were over. Perhaps be-

cause the Way members could never get one of us alone for any length of time, the hypnotism never quite took hold.

## The darker side

As the four of us continued coming to the numerous "fellowships" and "coffeehouses" which were held nightly at Dave's apartment (all fund-raising events), we began to get glimpses of a darker side of the Way organization.

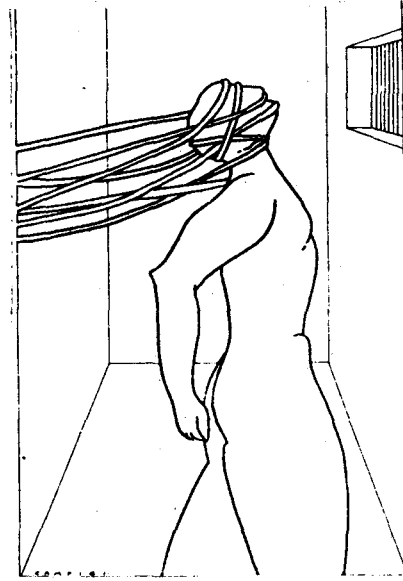
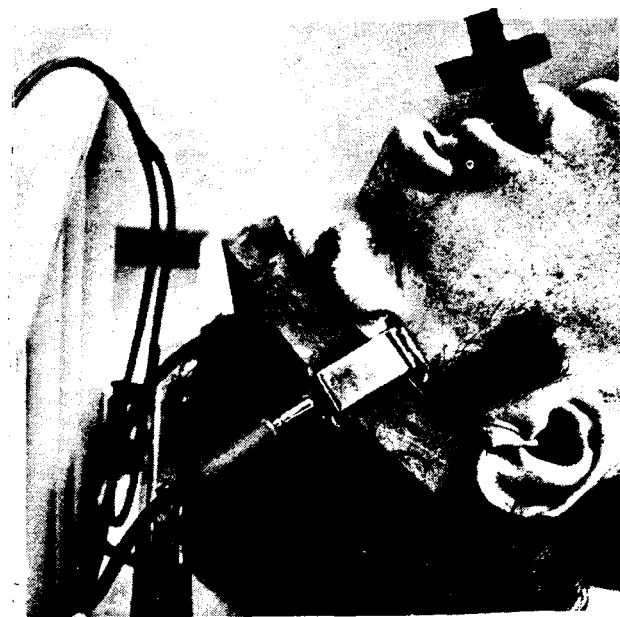
The founder of the Way was a man named Victor Paul Wierwille who lived in New Knoxville, Ohio; and, according to the Way members, this man was being persecuted by both the FBI and CIA. We were asked if we would like to come to the Illinois headquarters of the Way (located near Shirley, Illinois, at the crossroads of two major highways) and learn how to use firearms. We were told that we, or anyone else wishing to accept a "ministry" in the Way, would have to learn to "travel light" and avoid law enforcement officials.

During the early part of 1975, a Wesleyan student who had become involved with the Way called the PATH hotline, and while talking to the PATH volunteer, shot himself in the head and died. The Way people in Bloomington immediately disavowed knowledge of this person, saying that he was "possessed" and "living in the world." At the same time, many of the Way members changed their addresses.

I had been persuaded to take the Power for Abundant Living class, at the then low cost of \$75, but I changed my mind and wanted my money back. When I was told by the Way members that the money was not refundable, I sent them a summons, delivered to their house by a deputy sheriff, to appear in Circuit Court. Within 5 days, I received a check from the Way International headquarters in New Knoxville, Ohio.

## Intense paranoia

Meanwhile, I began hearing reports that the founder of the Way, Victor Paul Wierwille, was living in high luxury in a mansion in New Knoxville, whose grounds were patrolled by sentry dogs and "believers" carrying automatic weapons. So intense was the paranoia of the Way members in Bloomington that they alleged that the FBI and CIA were making daily assassination attempts on Mr. Wierwille. Why these agencies never succeeded is beyond me.



The newspapers, according to Way members, chose never to report any of these incidents, being themselves completely controlled by the FBI, the CIA and the devil. (These claims may be true for all I know!)

By the summer of 1975, the Way International was holding large-scale meetings in town. One of their slogans at the time was "The Way Over the World by 1976," meaning that by July 4th, 1976, they intended to have made the "word" and the Power for Abundant Living class available to every man, woman, and child on earth.

During their large meetings, the auditorium was patrolled by some mean-looking goons who were apparently professional security people hired by the Way. Anyone coming into the auditorium would be rudely told where they could sit.

## Solely for funds

Let me mention at this point that the Way is essentially no different from the Krishnas or the Unification Church of Rev. Moon as far as the intention of its leaders to make money using their Constitutional guarantees and tax-exempt status as a shield against governmental investigation. The Way is solely a fund-raising organization, and all the proceeds go directly to its founder's personal bank account.

The Way builds no churches, sends no missionaries to poor countries, sponsors no charities in the United States, pays no check to any of its members, gives nothing away. It appeals to the alienated youth of Amerika, siphons off their money, and gives nothing in return.

I would say that all allegations of the Way's kidnappings and extortions, made to the press by former Way members, are probably true. I heard and saw enough during my exposure to the Way's operations to realize that this organization is only superficially religious. Beneath the surface are all the workings of a bona fide crime syndicate.

I stopped going to all Way meetings by the fall of 1975, as it just seemed ridiculous to continue wasting my time. By the way, our friend Dave is now a burned-out zombie living a shadow existence on a remote farm somewhere in Illinois. He has served his usefulness to the Way, and has now been quietly "retired."

Next month: The 700 Club's "Eye in the Sky."

--Jim Tippett

# Reagan hoods rob from the



After President Reagan twice failed to kill the Legal Services Corporation (LSC), he packed the agency's board with saboteurs. They did better as pirates: running up bills more than double those of their predecessors.

Legal Services is a federally funded corporation that provides legal assistance to poor people in non-criminal (or civil) cases. Reagan has had it in for this agency since his days as governor of California, when the local Legal Services kept bringing, and winning, class action suits against his rich friends, the growers.

Reagan won a 25% cut in LSC's budget for fiscal 1982, but Congress refused to kill the program outright (for some reason, Congress and the American Bar Association are fond of Legal Services.) The Reagan cut forced a 28% reduction in attorneys and staff and the closing of 20% of LS offices nationwide.

Well, if you can't demolish it, impoverish it.

On Dec. 15 the House Judiciary Oversight Committee discovered that the Reagan appointees collectively billed LSC for \$156,201 in consulting fees, compared to \$72,029 charged by the 1981 board appointed by President Carter. The board's overall budget soared from \$113,721 to an unprecedented \$273,731.

### Four feet and a snout

This prompted Rep. M. Caldwell Butler (R-VA), chairman of the oversight committee, to observe, "It sounds like the first thing they did was to go and put all four feet and a snout into the trough."

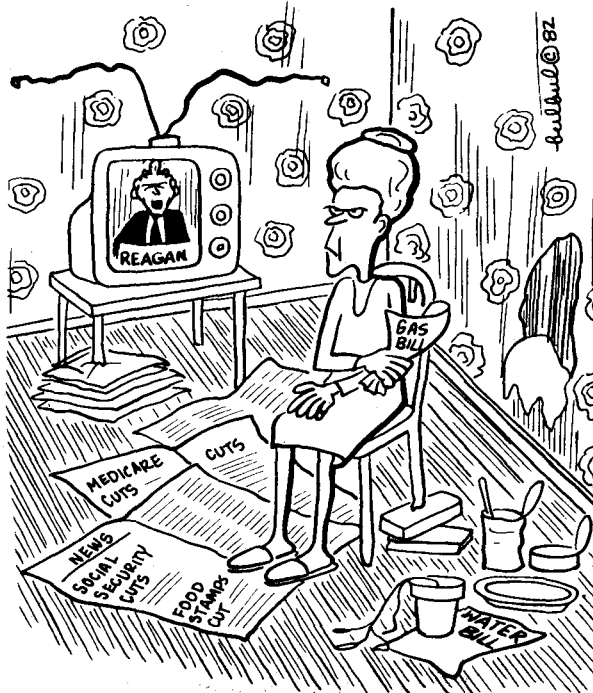
Acting board chair William Harvey charged LSC a whopping \$25,028 for part-time work, including driving time to and from Indiana because he does not like to fly. According to Legal Services records, Reagan's board members charged consulting fees of \$29 an hour, even for reading documents at home.

These fees are so high that Rep. Butler sarcastically remarked that he was not sure the oversight committee could afford the board members' testimony. They charge \$29 an hour just to think about Legal Services.

The LSC board further enraged Congress and Legal Services supporters when it approved the contract for the corporation's new president, Donald Bogard, even though the document had been illegally negotiated by acting board chair William Harvey on his own. The board had previously decided to work out the contract by committee.

### Connections pay

Harvey is a former law professor of Bogard's. Such connections pay handsomely: in addition to his \$57,500 salary, Bogard gets a full year's severance pay, benefits, and expenses if he is fired; unlimited room and board and two trips a month to his Indianapolis home until his family



moves to Washington in June; and a membership in the private club of his choice, presumably to compensate him for the indignity of consorting with the poor.

The board tried to discuss Bogard's contract in executive session, despite protests from several board members and a ruling from their own legal counsel that certain matters should be discussed in public.

But the executive session was held up when Mary Lanier, a stooped, elderly woman from Washington, D.C., wedged herself in the doorway and, leaning on her cane, refused to budge. When it became clear that they could not handle the crowd of legal services advocates and poor people gathered at the door, the board followed hotel guards through a back hallway in the Hyatt Hotel and went to a secure room.

Shortly afterward, however, a board member walked out of the meeting. The rest of the board soon followed, and the Bogard contract was discussed in a public session. Despite widespread protests from advocates at the meeting, the contract was approved on a 7 to 3 vote.

The LSC's new president was previously a lawyer for the Stokely-Van Camp canning company, which he defended against suits brought by Legal Services attorneys on behalf of migrant farm workers. Bogard admitted in congressional hearings that he has no experience in poverty law—a common qualification of all Reagan's appointees to LSC.

### Not poor for long

Dan Rathbun, a 23-year-old divinity school student, is the President's odd idea of a "client representative" for the poor on the LSC board. Rathbun's qualification as a poor person is that he has declared financial independence

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## Mid-term report

## What has done

At the 1980 Republican convention Ronald Reagan proposed "a special kind of compact" between the leaders and the people. "Let us make a commitment to care for the needy," he declared in his acceptance speech. "Let us pledge to restore . . . the American spirit of voluntary service, of cooperation, of private and community initiative."

Those words mock us today, now that we know exactly what he had in mind. The vague sentiments of Reaganism translated into brutal policies that required putting certain groups back in their place. Blacks recognized this right away; most women did soon enough.

Ordinary white male workers took a bit longer to see that they were targets, too. Reaganism's attack on big government sounded reasonable—in the abstract—but in practice it had the consequence of class warfare in American politics. Rich versus poor, business versus labor and consumers, powerful interests versus the weak and unprotected.

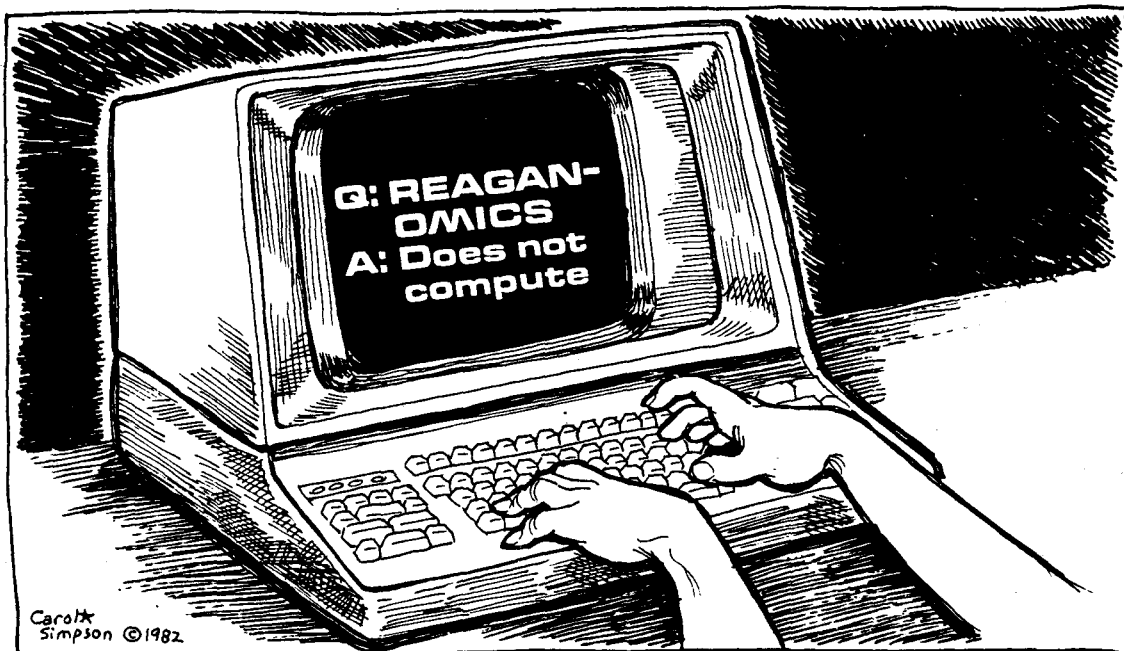
Under the slogan "regulatory reform," Reaganism gutted the government's enforcement powers against the predatory private interests that do damage to health, safety and the environment. His supply-side economics redistributed income upward, increasing the share of the top fifth of American families at the expense of every other income group.

Step back for a long look, and it becomes clear what great damage Reaganism has done:

--Under Reagan, the Environmental Protection Agency has sent 50% fewer polluters to the Justice Department for prosecution;

--FDA enforcement efforts against unsafe products dropped by 65% from 1980 levels;

--In 1982, OSHA investigators issued 49% fewer health and safety violations than in 1980;



# poor and keep it for themselves

from his family, although his parents claim him as a dependent. In any case, he won't be poor long: in two months he has collected \$1,032.07 in consulting fees.

All of this has infuriated Congress, especially the Republicans on the oversight committee. Seven of them fired off an indignant letter to President Reagan, advising him to surrender in his long war against LSC. Rep. Harold Sawyer (R-MI) blasted the administration for allowing "the Legal Services

board members to make a profit on the backs of a program designed to help out the poor and elderly. It appears to be the application of a 'suck up' as opposed to a 'trickle down' theory" of economics, said Sawyer.

While the LSC board was meeting, the Senate attached legislation to the special stopgap bill, insuring full funding for all legal services grantees and prohibiting board moves to cut such funding until its members are confirmed by Congress.

board, went on the McNeill-Lehrer Report and called the current scandal a "smokescreen" of congressmembers who resent the fact that the new board no longer funds "the left and their leftist constituencies."

Olson's adversary on the program, Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA), pointed out that one of the signers of the protest letter to the President is Rep. Henry Hyde, the ardent conservative from Illinois. "The suggestion that Hyde is a leftist front is, frankly, pretty funny," said Frank.

So this particular Washington Xmas story may have a happy ending after all. Congress has fully and aggressively joined the fight to preserve the funding for LSC. As Rep. Frank points out, "Reagan has made the Legal Services stronger politically than it's ever been."

--Ferdydurke

Sources: Washington Post, 16, 17, 22 Dec., 1982; The Guardian, 29 Dec. 1983.

EACH OF YOU INDIVIDUALLY,  
MAY BE JUST ANOTHER  
PERSON WITHOUT A JOB...

BUT TAKEN TOGETHER,  
YOU'RE 10.3 MILLION  
INFLATION FIGHTERS!



## Bye, bye country club

The legal services legislation also limits the amount of consulting fees board members may claim and nullifies the controversial benefits in the Bogard contract (i.e., the severance pay provision and the country club membership).

In the midst of the furor, William Olson, who has received \$19,000 in consulting fees in his year on the LSC

## Reagan to America

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--FTC issued 15 new actions to stop shady business practices in 1982, a 78% drop under Reagan;

--Families earning \$10,000 or less in 1982 lost \$140; families earning \$80,000 or more won \$8,320;

--The Social Services Block Grant was cut by 31% in real dollars under Reagan;

--School lunch appropriations were sliced by \$457 million under Reagan's budget cuts;

--Funds for compensatory education programs for the disadvantaged were cut by 21% in the last 2 years;

--Subsidized housing for low-income families was cut back by 41% over a 2-year period;

--Between March 1981 and September 1982, the benefits of 265,000 disability recipients were ended.

Women suffer disproportionately because women are disproportionately represented at the bottom of the economic ladder. When food stamps are cut by \$1.5 billion over the next 3 years, women will lose most because 69% of families on food stamps are headed by women. Medicaid is being cut by \$1 billion over the next 3 years, and 61% of Medicaid recipients are poor women. The same holds true for program after program: day-care centers, legal services, school lunches, housing subsidies, welfare, family planning.

Even the middle class lost in Reagan's redistribution of income. If American families are divided into 5 income groups, only the top group (those families earning \$40,000 or more) gained a larger share of the national income. Every other group--that is, 80% of U.S. households--lost some of its income share under Reaganism. •

--Abridged from an article by William Greider, Rolling Stone, 23 Dec. 1982/ 6 Jan. 1983 issue.

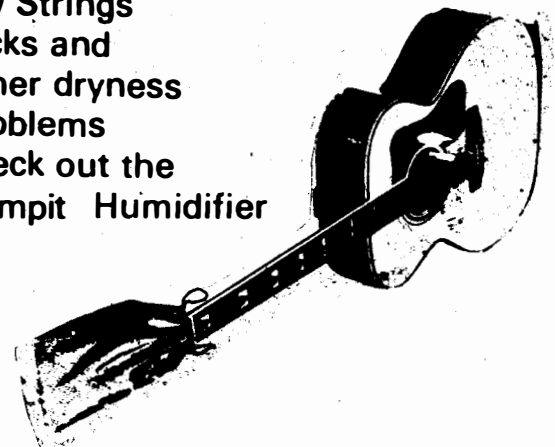
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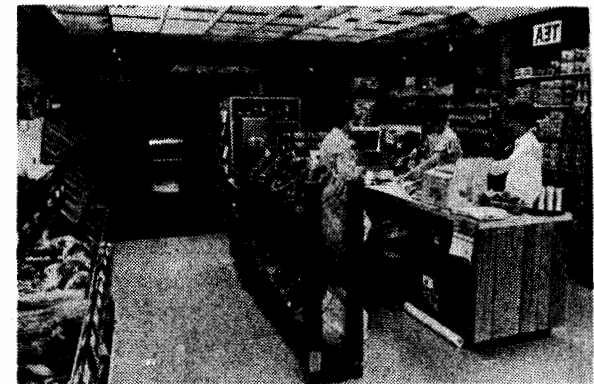
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Book review

# America the Poisoned

America the Poisoned. Lewis Regenstein. Acropolis, 1982. Available at the Bloomington Public Library.

In 1962 Rachel Carson revealed in her book Silent Spring how the chemical industry and agribusiness were poisoning America through the use and abuse of pesticides. Motivated by the fear of losing huge profits, the chemical industry tried to prevent publication of Silent Spring.

"In 1962," Lewis Regenstein writes in America the Poisoned, "the Velsicol Chemical Corporation even tried to prevent the publication of Silent Spring because of the book's criticism of two of its best-selling pesticides, chlordane and heptachlor..." Velsicol wrote to the publisher and charged that the book's arguments on pesticides might be part of a "sinister Communist plot to destroy American Farms." In 1967, Regenstein reports, Velsicol's chief spokesperson compared opponents of pesticides to Marx, Lenin, and the Nazis. These critics were "neurotics, driven by primitive, subconscious fears... they are actually preoccupied with the subject of sexual potency to such an extent that sex is never a subject of jest."

America the Poisoned is perhaps a reincarnation of Silent Spring. Regenstein is Vice President of the

Though the Carter Administration did not have an environmental scorecard worth cheering about, Regenstein reminds us that "within days of taking office, President Reagan and his cabinet began a concerted effort to cancel, postpone, or weaken dozens of regulations that protect the public from toxic chemicals. The Administration has moved quickly to dismantle many of the hard-won environmental gains of the last few decades."

In only two years, the Reagan gang has:

- \*\*\*Relaxed rules that restricted the export of hazardous chemicals on the grounds that they "placed US exports at a competitive disadvantage."
- \*\*\*Restricted the ability of the EPA and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to issue regulations.
- \*\*\*Pushed for a relaxation of the Clean Air Act.
- \*\*\*Proposed to ease or eliminate 35 air quality and safety regulations dealing with automobile emission standards and the auto industry.

\*\*\*Proposed allowing more lead in gasoline.

\*\*\*Proposed to abolish the CPSC.

\*\*\*Cut the Council on Environmental Quality budget by 72 percent and fired almost all of its experienced employees.

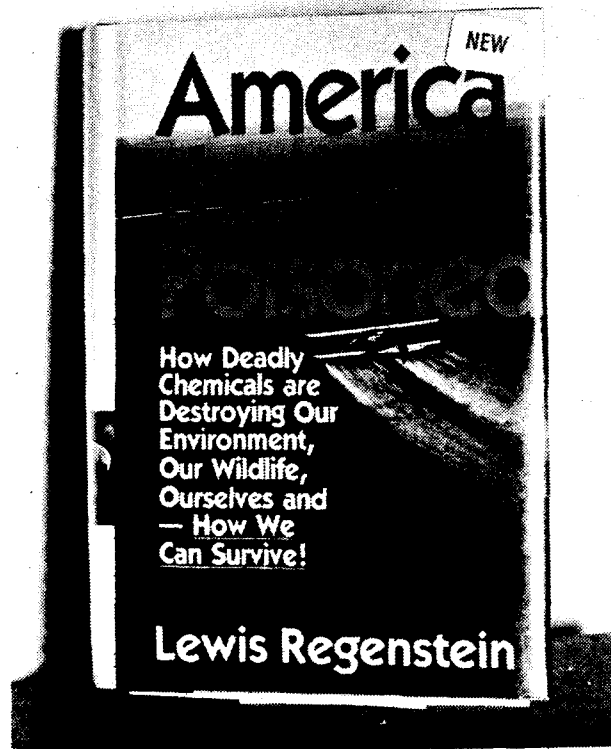
\*\*\*Appointed Anne Gorsuch, "a Denver attorney with a pro-industry, anti-regulation background" to head the EPA. Gorsuch, Regenstein notes, was a key person responsible for killing a toxic waste control program in Colorado. Gorsuch has appointed as top EPA officials a group of "lobbyists, lawyers, and consultants who had represented some of the nation's biggest polluters..."

\*\*\*Halted EPA efforts to ban the extremely toxic herbicide 2,4,5-T.

\*\*\*Gave David Stockman's Office of Management and Budget veto power over the Environmental Protection Agency's spending.

\*\*\*By March of 1981 the Energy Department had drafted legislation to abolish or drastically cut almost all its energy conservation, solar energy research, and research and education on alternatives to fossil fuel.

\*\*\*Proposed to increase spending on nuclear energy to 1.6 billion.



\*\*\*By the end of 1981, cut the number of cases referred to the Justice Department for prosecution.

\*\*\*Destroyed 86 of 104 EPA publications on topics such as pesticide safety for farmworkers and children.

\*\*\*Appointed admitted anti-environmentalist James Watt as interior secretary.

"None of these actions and appointments should have taken anyone by surprise," Regenstein concludes; "indeed, they accurately reflect the policies and philosophy of President Reagan, who has spent much of his public life attacking environmental regulations and defending corporate polluters. He has blamed air pollution on trees and other vegetation... has criticized the restricting of DDT and other cancer-causing pesticides... Reagan has characterized environmentalists as 'a tiny' minority opposed to economic growth which often finds friendly ears in regulatory agencies for its obstructionist campaigns," and has said "I'd invite the coal and steel industry to rewrite the Clean Air Act regulations." Reagan's "economic" arguments ignore the savings in health care and toxic waste clean-up costs, Regenstein argues. The government, in cutting the budgets of the EPA and OSHA, is only postponing the day of paying for these costs. ●

--GS



Fund for Animals and a former President of the Monitor Consortium, a coalition of 35 national conservation and environmental organizations.

Despite the outcry that resulted from Carson's book, we are still poisoning ourselves and our earth by falling for the industry's hard sell.

It is unfortunate that we need a reincarnation of Silent Spring, but as Regenstein notes, "almost all of the toxic chemicals Rachel Carson discussed are still in widespread use. The few that have been restricted have often been replaced by equally or more hazardous compounds, and a thousand new and largely untested chemicals are introduced each year."

The list of major corporations guilty of manufacture, distribution and use of toxics is long: Amchem, American Cyanamid, Amvac, Browning Ferris, Castle and Cooke, Chevron Chemical, Ciba-Geigy, Dow, DuPont, Ethyl, FMC, GE, Hooker Chemical, ICI, Michigan Chemical, Monsanto, Pfizer, Rohm and Hass, Shell Chemical, Stauffer Chemical, Tenneco, Union Carbide and Velsicol Corporation.

## Peoples College of Law

Founded by La Raza Law Students Association, Asian Law Collective, National Lawyers Guild and National Conference of Black Lawyers.

Now accepting applications for Fall 1983. Deadline for application: July 1, 1983.

PCI's goals are: to train peoples' lawyers and be a Third World/ Working Class school.

Its unaccredited four-year evening program leads to a J.D. and the California Bar Exam.

Admission based primarily on the demonstrated commitment to the struggle for social change. Two years of college or equivalent also required.

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## Peoples College of Law

## Maternal nutrition crucial

Dear Post Toasties,

Thanks to Phoebe for exposing the sleazy, evil, unspeakable practices of Dr. Slotky. Although I've known about his bizarre obsession with weight gain for years, it shocks me anew every time I hear about him inflicting his madness upon unsuspecting women.

Gail and Tom Brewer have written an excellent book about maternal nutrition during pregnancy. What Every Pregnant Woman Should Know names maternal malnutrition due to obstetrical practices (restriction of weight and salt), as the cause of toxemia, placental malfunctions, difficult labors, anemia, infections and Caesarean sections. The effects of maternal malnutrition upon the unborn child are equally grim.

The malnourished child is likely to be a low-birth-weight infant. According to the Brewers' research, half of all low-birth-weight babies will grow up with IQs of less than 70, which is the standard cutoff point for severe mental retardation. Three and a half times more low-birth-weight children suffer from neurologic disorders. The death rate for these babies is 30 times higher than in babies of normal birth weight.

Slotky, in his insane abuse of power, is supporting and perpetuating the high-tech nightmare of traumatic hospital birth, Caesarean epidemic and neonatal intensive care. He is effectively wiping out his patients' ability to control their birthing and early parenting experience.

I strongly urge all expectant parents to question any physician who harps about maternal weight gain and ignores nutrition awareness. Nutrition is the single most important factor in a healthy pregnancy. A little independent research now may prevent a lot of despair in the future. Take back control! And happy birth-days to all!

Still ranting after all these years,  
Julie

## Voice your opinion

Dear Post:

In case your busy staff missed Donahue this morning, I have an address you might be interested in. This group has compiled a list of sponsors' names and addresses that they will provide free upon request. They suggest we use this list to influence the media by giving the sponsors our opinions. I'm all for influence, aren't you?

Here's the address:  
Accuracy in Media, Inc.  
1341 G St., N.W.  
Suite 312  
Washington, D.C. 20005

My husband I enjoy the Post very much, but since we don't live in Bloomington anymore, we're running out of excuses to drive through once a month for a new edition. We give up! There's a check enclosed for a subscription. Thanks.

Don and Alisa Koch

## Pass the word

Post:

Thanks for a great job! I want to pass the word to my brother-in-law who first introduced me to the PA.

Merry Christmas!

Dawn de Sousa



## Letters

### Pleasure

Hi all,

The last issue was a true pleasure to read.

Keep up the fine journalism.

Nancy

### Get back, Jack

Dear Post Amerikan,

This is a note to express my thanks and appreciation to everyone at the New Year's Eve party who contributed to the 'Git Jack Back Fund.' It is wonderful to know that I have friends that I can count on.

Thank you all again,

Jack Waltrip

## Volunteer tutors needed

The Tenant and Community Services Office of the Housing Authority of the City of Bloomington and Western Avenue Community Center are sponsoring a tutoring program. Volunteers are needed as tutors for school-age children.

Tutoring help is needed in English, math, reading, and spelling. The focus will be on grade school and junior high school aged children.

The requirement for a tutor is only one hour, one day each week, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday.

Please contact the Housing Authority's Tenant Community Service Office at 829-3360 before 5 p.m. After 5 p.m. call Brenda at 452-0572.

## Sanders follow-up

Dear Post:

I am the desk clerk mentioned in the article concerning Shotgun Sanders. I have been referring to him as "Scattergun the Scatterbrain," but that's besides the point.

It is true that I was never questioned by police, and I agree that the investigation was a whitewash as stated by Charles Thomas. It is also true that I have never been contacted by police or their investigators in the past two and a half years. I was of course questioned by the investigator working for Charles Vasquez's lawyer.

It states in the article, "He yelled halt and then boom he shoots. That's how quick he shot."--as told by the maid and desk clerk. I never heard the "halt" yelled, as I was inside looking out a window. I did, however, hear the "boom"--twice--which at first I believed to be a car backfiring. As Charles Vasquez drove under the canopy in front of my view, the second shot was fired; I saw Charles' head jerk and I also thought this was the backfire of a car and that he was joking around, but only for a moment. For when I stepped over to the window after the second "boom," I saw officer Sanders and his shotgun, and I knew differently. I can only assume he yelled "halt." I'm sure he did; others heard him, but I did not.

I am not looking forward to events soon to come and I do not believe \$9 million will undo the damage done by "Scattergun the Scatterbrain." But my prayers are with Charles Vasquez, and I hope that justice will be done and the police and judge will realize something must be done to prevent future havoc this officer could cause.

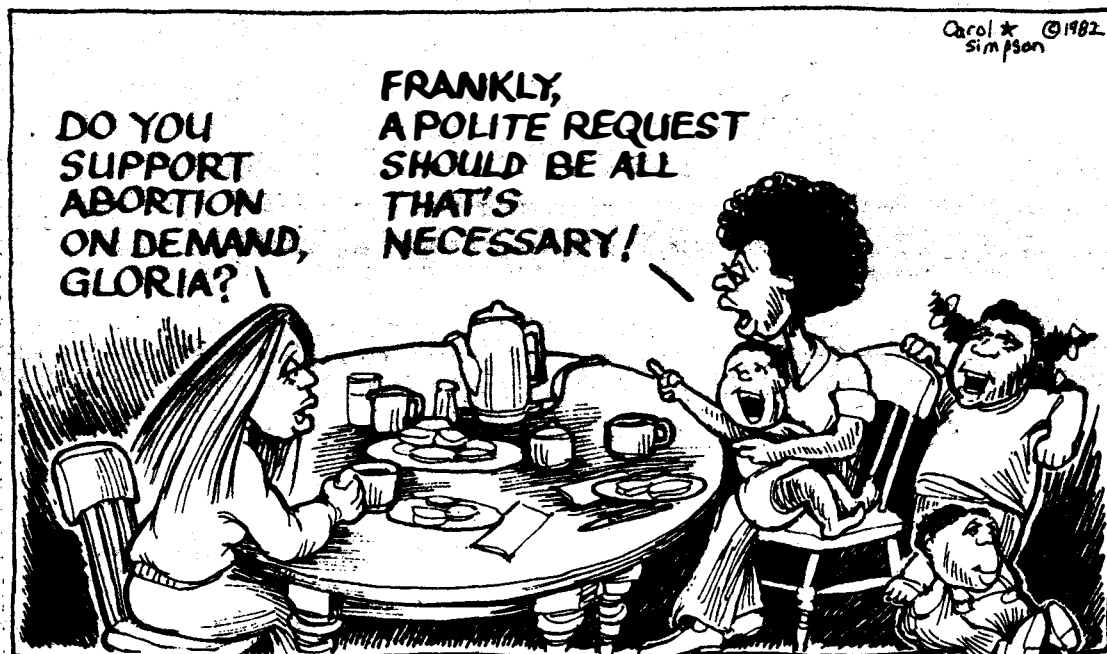
Kim

## Classified Ads

MOVEMENT strategy and tactics. Send \$4.95 (includes postage) for Plotting Directions: An Activist's Guide, 63 pages, to RECON, P. O. Box 14602, Philadelphia, PA 19134.

The Post-American runs free non-business classified ads every issue. Mail your ad to Post Classified, P.O. Box 3452, Bloomington, IL 61701.

You can advertise your business or sell items or services with Post Classifieds. Mail your ad to P.O. Box 3452, Bloomington, IL 61701. Include \$3.00 check or money order for each business ad.





# Outrages

## Court case limits noise ordinance

When panicked Normal officials enacted a new noise ordinance designed to give police more power to crack down on student parties, reasonable folks attacked the measure as being unreasonably vague and unfair.

Who is to determine what sounds are "loud and raucous"? And why should the rock 'n' roll beaming out of a student house on a sunny afternoon be subjected to legal scrutiny, while middle class types are still permitted to break out their lawnmowers at 8 o'clock on a Saturday morning?

When the Illinois Supreme Court upheld the noise ordinance's constitutionality in October, critics still attacked the measure as unenforceable.

That evaluation appears to be correct, after the first jury trial under the ordinance resulted in an acquittal last December.

ISU student Michael Simmons was charged under the ordinance after police determined that "loud and raucus" amplified music could be heard more than fifty feet from the house where Simmons lived with his roommates.

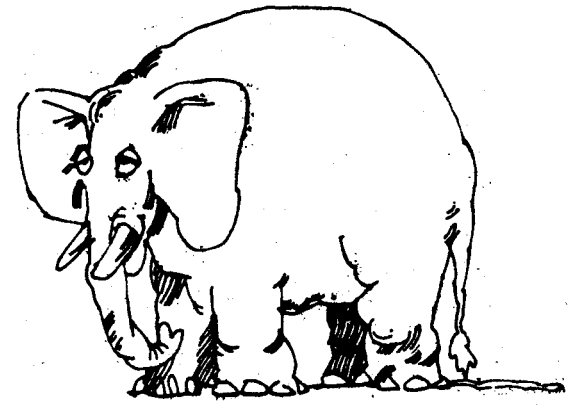
But the Town of Normal had no evidence to show that Simmons was the one responsible for playing the music.

"My concern was how far would the city go to stretch the accountability of Simmons for the actions of his roommates," defense attorney George Taseff

told the Pantagraph. "It is apparent that the city feels that one person is responsible for all conduct that takes place in a residence throughout a night. I don't buy that, and obviously the jury didn't either."

To get a conviction on the noise ordinance, Normal police now will have to get the names of everyone who lives in the house, find out who owns the music system, and prove who was operating it at the time of the alleged offense.

It'd probably be easier to bust people operating loud and raucus lawnmowers.



## Food stamp thefts increase 1200%

When the Illinois Department of Public Aid began mailing food stamps to recipients last July, we predicted problems. Although a public aid worker pooh-poohed our fears, we suggested that some recipients might never see their food coupons, since thieves could get to the mailbox first.

From July to October, according to a Pantagraph article, reported thefts of food stamps in Bloomington-Normal increased 12 times.

The article quoted Springfield postal inspector Corey Dudley, who reportedly said that people can report their food stamps stolen and get replacements without much difficulty.

Hah. Actually, if someone goes back

to public aid and reports their stamps stolen, they'll get nothing.

But if recipients report that they never received their stamps in the mail, they can get replacements, according to Roger Zimmerman, director of the local public aid office.

"But this isn't something someone could pull more than once," Zimmerman added, showing his deep compassion and trust in the clients his office serves.

According to Zimmerman, a client reporting "non-receipt" of food stamps must be interviewed again by a caseworker, who must determine that there hasn't been a similar non-receipt in the last six months. The client must come into the office again when the replacement food stamps arrive.

"We make them open the envelope in front of a caseworker and sign a receipt," Roger Zimmerman told the Post-Amerikan.

For the next three months, Zimmerman said, the food stamp recipient must make appointments and open each month's stamps in front of a caseworker.

"It's possible someone could pull this once," Zimmerman concluded, "but it would be tough for them to pull it more than that."

## Planned Parenthood won't squeal

Last year, the federal Department of Health and Human Services proposed a new regulation which would be binding on all family planning agencies receiving federal funds: parents would have to be notified if any teenage girls received any prescription birth control devices. (That would include diaphragms as well as IUDs and birth control pills.)

The proposed regulation drew more public comment than any other in the department's history. When Health and Human Services Director Richard Schweiker visited Bloomington-Normal last spring, he was greeted by a spirited demonstration.

The enormous public opposition caused the feds to postpone a decision on the proposed new rule, but they've finally made up their minds.

The national Planned Parenthood Federation is going to court in an attempt to overturn the new regulations, which are set to go into effect by February or March.

Despite the new regulations, local Planned Parenthood officials say that teenagers coming to their agency for birth control will still have their confidentiality respected. If the legal challenge to the new regulations fails, Planned Parenthood plans to ignore the new requirements.

Anyone can goof up—even a nuclear missile technician. American or Russian. That's why nuclear war is a growing danger in today's tension-ridden world.

But there is a way out of this mess. It's called the Freeze. With the Freeze, the United States and Russia would stop making nuclear weapons. Period. We've got 30,000; they've got 20,000.\* That's more than enough.

The bottom line is survival. That's why neither country has broken any of the 14 nuclear weapons agreements they've signed.† To help prevent cheating, each side watches the other with high-powered sensors and satellites (ours can read a license plate in Moscow). Of course, the Freeze won't solve everything; but it would be a strong first step toward a safer tomorrow.

The Freeze is our best hope for preventing nuclear war. And that's no accident.

I support the Freeze.

Please send me more information about the Freeze.

Here's \$20 \$50 \$100 other to support this important work.

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Bloomington-Normal Nuclear Freeze Coalition

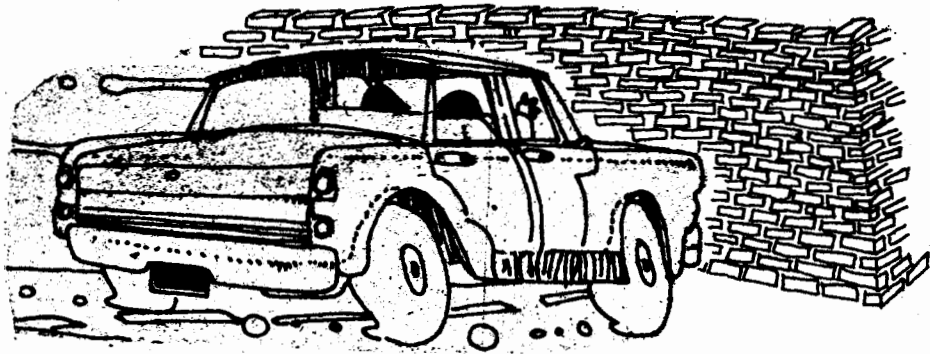
304 S. Evans

Bloomington, IL 61701

Please call 828-4195 for more information.

\*Center for Defense Information, Washington D.C.  
†Department of Defense, Washington D.C.

# Revisited



## Anti-poverty agency moves back from suburbs

Apparently stung by criticism in the Post-Amerikan last summer, the McLean County Economic Opportunity Corporation (MCEOC) has moved its offices back to a location near its clients: the west side of Bloomington.

The agency had moved to the far west side of Normal in June, half a mile from the nearest bus stop, and a good 2½ to 3 hour round-trip bus ride for many west-side Bloomington clients.

After less than six months in its west-Normal location, the agency moved in December to 1100 W. Market in Bloomington.

## Brokaw employees ordered

### to use new parking lot

In an amazingly revealing memorandum to their employees, Brokaw Hospital administrators have issued a clear-cut threat: park in our new parking lot or get fired.

Brokaw has gone through a lot to get that parking lot. After pressuring reluctant homeowners to sell, after extracting (on the second try) a hotly disputed zoning change from the Normal City Council, and after destroying an entire block of well-kept, tree-shaded residences, hospital administrators can look out their office windows onto a huge sea of freshly poured cement.

Although hospital officials cited their supposedly critical parking shortage as justification for leveling the adjacent neighborhood, much of the new parking lot was standing embarrassingly empty--until the hospital decided to force its employees to park there.

Here is the entire text of Brokaw's Jan. 12 directive to its employees:

January 12, 1983

TO: ALL BROKAW HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES  
FROM: JEFFREY B. SCHAUB, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT  
RE: PARKING

At Brokaw we value our employees' freedom and ability to get the job done in creative ways--as such we don't issue strong directives without good reason. We feel it necessary to make the following directive because Brokaw's community relations are at stake and because the Town of Normal has asked us, both officially and informally, to correct the situation. As a result, we are issuing the following directive:

Parking in specifically-provided employee lots is a condition of employment at Brokaw Hospital. No employee, while working in the hospital, shall park along public streets in the vicinity of Brokaw while designated employee spaces remain unused. Specific reference is made to maps and schematics distributed by Support Services detailing where employees are to park.

Because this is a condition of employment, failure to comply will be grounds for discipline as defined in the Brokaw Hospital Personnel Policy and Procedure Manual.

I hope those who are slightly inconvenienced by this can understand our reasons. We have spent many dollars over ten years acquiring the Franklin Avenue property and building parking, and untold manhours have been spent in meetings and negotiations to solve what used to be our number one problem.

Ironically, this very solution has spawned another problem, conflicts with neighbors and our town. These problems could very well stand in the way of Brokaw's future. It's in every employee's best interest to see that these relations remain good. Thanks for your cooperation in this matter and for your continued excellent work overall.

(Signed) Jeff Schaub

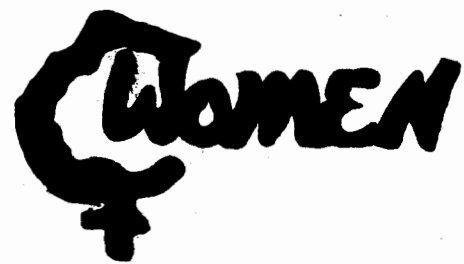
## Late for the high

When Illinois legislators finally passed, and Governor Thompson signed, a bill banning the sale of drug paraphernalia, the measure received a ton of publicity. All the media reported that stores selling drug-related equipment would have to shut down by January 1.

Now, it turns out, somebody was a bit too high while filling out the paperwork.

Because of a technicality that the media and lawmakers overlooked, the law actually takes effect July 1--not January 1.

Bloomington Senator John Maitland, who sponsored the new law, told the Pantagraph that he was "admittedly somewhat embarrassed" by the oversight.



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# Amerikan Almanak

Here you have it folks! Some suggestions for thrills on these grey winter days. This list of happenings was hastily compiled and will be more complete next month. If you have an event you'd like included, send it to the Post-Amerikan, P.O. Box 3452, Bloomington, Illinois 61701. The deadline for the next Amerikan Almanak is February 17.

--Holly Foy and friends

## january

Tuesday..... 25  
Film: 400 Blows. ISU Union Film Board, ISU Circus Room, Bone Student Center. 6:00 & 8:15. \$1.

ISU Faculty Trio. Bernard Eichen on violin, Ko Iwasaki, cello and Julian Dawson, piano. Kemp Recital Hall. 8:00 pm. Free.

United Mine Workers Formed 1890.



Wednesday..... 26

Gay People's Alliance. Speakers Bureau workshop and question session. 8:00 pm. Room 112 Fairchild Hall, ISU.

Thursday..... 27

Film: Taxi Driver. Capen Cinema, ISU. 7:00 & 10:00 pm. \$1.75 general public, \$1.25, students.

Vietnam Peace Treaty signed 1973.

Friday..... 28

Phil Collins, singer/drummer for rock group Genesis. 8:00pm, ISU Braden Auditorium. Tickets \$13.50 at Ticketron or Braden Auditorium box office.

Film: Deerhunter. Capen Cinema, 7:00 & 10:00 pm. \$1.75/\$1.25 students.

Saturday..... 29

Film: Deerhunter. Capen Cinema, 7:00 & 10:00 pm. \$1.75/\$1.25 students.

Sunday..... 30

Bloomington-Normal Nuclear Freeze Coalition meets 8:00 pm, 304 S. Evans, Bloomington.

Film: Deerhunter. Capen Cinema, 4:00 & 7:00 pm. \$1.75/\$1.25 students.

Gandhi assassinated 1948.

## february

Tuesday..... 1

ISU Faculty Recital. Robert Mannis, piano. Kemp Recital Hall, 8:00 pm. Free.

Film: M. ISU Union Film Board. Circus Room, Bone Student Center, 6:15 & 8:00 pm. \$1.

First sit-in, Greensboro, N.C. lunch counter 1960.

Wednesday..... 2

Gay People's Alliance. Gays and Religion; discussion led by members of the Metropolitan Community Church. 8:00 pm, Room 112 Fairchild Hall, ISU.

Thursday..... 3

Film: Fiddler on the Roof. Capen Cinema, 7:00 & 10:00 pm. \$1.75/\$1.25 students.

Friday..... 4

ISU's New Friends of Old Time Music presents blues artist Son Seals, 8:00 pm, Prairie Room, Bone Student Center.

Toxic Shock. Playing oldies with pizzazz. Fink's, 111 E. Beaufort, Normal.

The Society for Preservation of Bluegrass Music of America is sponsoring a Bluegrass Jam at the "Paul Davis Show" barn in Goodfield. Featuring the Bluegrass Crackerjacks and more. "Bring your family, friends, and lawn chairs!" 8:00 pm. \$3.

Rap. Question and Answer session designed for non-gay people.

Thursday..... 10

Film: Dr. Zhivago. Capen Cinema. 7:00 and 10:00 pm. \$1.75/\$1.25 students.

Friday..... 11

Film: Reds. Capen Cinema. 7:00 and 10:00 pm. \$1.75/\$1.25 students.

Saturday..... 12

Film: Reds. Capen Cinema. 7:00 and 10:00 pm. \$1.75/\$1.25 students.

Sunday..... 13

Film: Reds. Capen Cinema. 4:00 and 7:00 pm. \$1.75/\$1.25 students.

Bloomington-Normal Nuclear Freeze Coalition Slideshow. Normal Public Library. Call for time.

Tuesday..... 15

Film: ISU Union Film Board presents Umberto D. Union Ballroom. 6:00 and 8:15 pm. \$1.

Women's rights activist Susan B. Anthony born 1820.

Wednesday..... 16

Gay People's Alliance. Discussion of Separatism in the gay and lesbian community. 8:00 pm. Room 112, Fairchild Hall, ISU.

Thursday..... 17

ISU's La Ritz presents an evening of reggae music with "Dellow." 8:00 pm, Prairie Room, Bone Student Center. \$1.

ISU presents "The Rake's Progress," an opera, Stroud Auditorium, University High School. \$8 tickets available at Bone Student Center ticket office.

Film: Ragtime. Capen Cinema. 7:00 and 10:00. \$1.75/\$1.25 students.

Deadline for March issue of the Post-Amerikan.

Friday..... 18

Film: Ragtime. Capen Cinema. 7:00 and 10:00. \$1.75/\$1.25 students.

Opera: The Rake's Progress. See February 17.

Saturday..... 19

Opera: The Rake's Progress. See February 17.

Film: Body and Soul. Capen Cinema. 7:00 and 10:00. \$1.75/\$1.25 students.

TOXIC SHOCK

Film: John Travolta Film Festival--Grease and Urban Cowboy. Capen Cinema 7:00 and 10:00 pm. \$1.75/\$1.25 students.

Saturday..... 5

Film: Grease and Urban Cowboy. Capen Cinema. 7:00 and 10:00 pm. \$1.75/\$1.25 students.

Sunday..... 6

Film: Grease and Urban Cowboy. Capen Cinema. 4:00 and 7:00 pm. \$1.75/\$1.25 students.

Ronald Reagan born, 1911.

Tuesday..... 8

Film: Union Film Board presents Juliet of Spirits. 6:00 and 8:15. Circus Room, Bone Student Center. \$1.

Wednesday..... 9

Gay People's Alliance. Gay-Straight

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# Not sorry to see LaGrow go

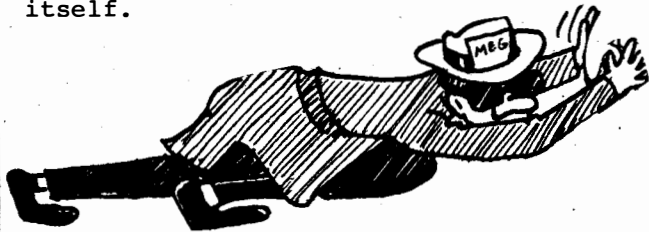
Walter "Jerry" LaGrow is leaving the Peoria MEG unit. Many citizens are happy about his departure, for his tenure as MEG boss was marked by conflict, controversy, and conceit. However, a few who enjoyed laughing at the zany antics of this keystone cop might be sorry to see him leave the scene.

LaGrow came to Peoria after several years as an undercover vice cop in Chicago. At last a command performance, his own show.

LaGrow tried desperately to live up to his own image of himself. As Mr. Tough Guy he denounced anyone who upset his own view of reality. In 1978 he lashed out at the judges of the 10th judicial circuit, referring to their sentencing policies as "sickening." He labelled his press critics as "freaks." Prosecutors that LaGrow didn't like were "inept" and "weak."

In 1975 LaGrow made libelous remarks about an acquitted defendant and embroiled the agency in a \$7.5 million lawsuit. He is also fond of calling reporters and making accusatory claims against defendants prior to trial. LaGrow doesn't seem to like being troubled with such things as fair trials.

In 1977 during an interview on drug laws, LaGrow told a newspaper reporter, "Nobody is trying to play God, but ...." That was a bad year for Walter "Mitty" LaGrow. In April he falsely testified to a Tazewell County grand jury that PCP was known as "Chicago heroin." The guy who didn't want to play God somehow felt "Chicago heroin" made PCP sound worse than it is itself.



## The facade slipped

LaGrow seems to imagine himself the Elliot Ness of narcotics, but sometimes the facade would slip and the bare truth would be exposed. In 1979 LaGrow admitted to the Peoria County Board his unit only stumbled onto a big dealer "inadvertently." Trying to justify his arrests of users, LaGrow explained, "and if we make the big buys, the money is gone."

LaGrow also seems to operate under a cloud of confusion about the effectiveness of his unit. In 1978 LaGrow grandly announced, "in Tazewell County drug use is almost an epidemic.... We have hundreds of sale cases there." He never did explain why the "hundreds" of cases were never prosecuted.

In 1976 LaGrow told the Bloomington City Council that MEG had only 6 acquittals in its entire history. The truth of the matter was much different, 21 acquittals and dismissals in McLean County alone.

Not one to understate his case, LaGrow told the Fulton County Board in 1977, "the narcotic problem is very, very serious, and what we're doing is very, very important." Sorry, Walter--not very, very convincing. LaGrow told the Bloomington Kiwanis Club, "Once we're gone, there's nothing to take our

place. What the hell will local authorities do then?"

LaGrow's feeling of self-importance manifests itself in his paranoid obsession with cameras. Despite the fact he has been photographed dozens of times, LaGrow still cringes and cowers when he sees a camera pointed at him. Somehow this lackluster



ABOVE: MEG boss Jerry LaGrow

police bureaucrat feels threatened by public identification.

## Threatened

LaGrow even felt threatened by the ISU Vidette. In 1976 the Vidette attempted a routine press interview with LaGrow. After a protracted discussion with LaGrow and his secretary, the

Vidette reporter was falsely told he was in Chicago. Brian Adair commented in the April 20th Vidette:

LaGrow's initial reaction was one of paranoia.... If he can't deal with members of the press, well, I feel sorry for him. If members of that group (MEG) can't tell the truth to reporters over the phone, how can anyone expect them to tell the truth in a court of law?

In May 1977 LaGrow testified in court in Galesburg that 4 of his informers had been killed during his tenure to justify keeping an informer's identity secret. LaGrow didn't bother to explain all four deaths were unrelated to MEG activities. (One died in an auto accident in another state!)

Speaking of informers, LaGrow has brought the most distasteful and unreliable batch of snitches used by law enforcement in Illinois to Peoria's MEG unit. Characteristically, LaGrow's star informer, Rodney Meyers, was probably the worst. Some prosecutors wouldn't even try a case if Meyers was to be a witness.

In 1976 Bloomington City Council member Richard Buchanan made public what insiders had long known: LaGrow made "enemies" within law enforcement circles because of his abrasive "personality." Buchanan tactfully said, "perhaps it's time now for him to go back to Chicago."

Six years later the sideshow is finally over. Sorry Walter, no encore.

I won't miss him.●

--J.L.



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# Pictorial history of lost houses, lost culture

Review: Bloomington-Normal Lost. The Old House Society, Bloomington-Normal, Illinois, 175 pages.

Bloomington-Normal Lost ("A Pictorial Account of Our Vanishing Architectural Heritage") is a book which speaks so cunningly and subtly for itself that it seems almost counterproductive to try to say anything about it. The book is the creation of the Bloomington-Normal Old House Society, which took on the project out of a passion for old houses and a sadness at the loss of many of Bloomington-Normal's finest old homes.

Bloomington-Normal Lost is shrewdly conceived. For a first publication put together by committee, it is near miraculous. What I mean is that the book treads carefully the line between a nice, merely informative publication for easily frightened, basically conservative members of the Old House Society and residents of the town in general, and a sometimes sad, sometimes outraged, sometimes bitterly ironic, but always aggressive and critical pictorial account of what's wrong, why it's wrong, and who's responsible.

Most of this implicit passion is created by the juxtaposition of before-and-after photographs of the same address. For example, on pages 24 and 25, a fine old Arts and Crafts style brick house is set opposite the building that replaced it—a Famous Recipe Fried Chicken. On pages 26 and 27 an unbelievably ornate brick and stone Queen Anne house faces its replacement, the Main St. U-Haul. On 46 and 47, a brick Italianate style house is opposite the Pit Stop which now stands where the house was.

It's an old story (fond to the hearts of aging counter-culturalists) about the hateful plastification of America. One vast shining McDonaldland, from sea to sea!

## Razed by institutions

Another, more prominent pattern emerges in the "now" pictures. An alarming percentage of Bloomington-Normal's old homes have been razed by institutions, those very institutions and professions which consider themselves the foundation of our community. Of the 45 houses in the "Lost" section of the book, 25 (55%) were taken down by hospitals, universities, city governments, churches, banks, law offices, and insurance offices.

Here perhaps Lost could be more explicit, less understated. Exactly what hospital is it that

**501 E. Washington:** The house at left used to stand at 501 E. Washington in Bloomington, until it was replaced by the church below.



prefers parking lots to lovely old houses? (It may be that the Old House Society expects its readers to realize that the 800 and 900 blocks of Main are adjacent to Mennonite Hospital.)

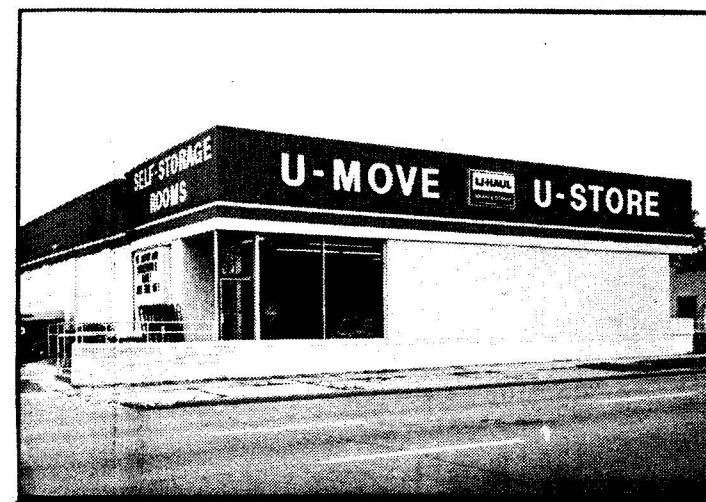
And what's the whole story behind the destruction of the Pillsbury house at 109 E. Olive, now the location of the Bloomington City Hall? We are told in the descriptive blurb that Frances Pillsbury, the house's last owner, "strongly protested the deliberate destruction of her home, which was in excellent condition at the time." But was she living in the house at the time? What pretext was used to claim her home? Eminent domain? Urban renewal?

One can see from the photographs of the 45 lost houses that only two were replaced by single family residences. That is, in only two of 45 instances were old houses destroyed because someone thought they could build a better house.

## Empty lot

But the Old House Society's most acid comment on the poverty of our appreciation for our architectural past is saved for the last pages of the "Lost" section. On pages 96 and 97 are the before and after pictures of the house of Charles Hovey, first president of Illinois State University and Richard Hovey, the well-known Bohemian poet of the late 19th century. In the before picture a memorial rock to Richard stands proudly before his unspectacular but handsome Victorian home. In the after picture the rock stands alone, a little embarrassed. The caption: "Memorial rock and empty lot."

**1206 N. Main:** The house on the right was torn down to make way for the building which eventually became the U-Haul business today.



Finally, why should we care about old houses? What difference does it make if there's a two-story, stone, Italianate style house or an 8-hour Key Cleaners at 411 E. Washington? Or, from a very different perspective, why should we mourn the loss of houses that more than anything else were originally the mark of class difference? Servant's stairways are "interesting" to us, but what must they have been to late 19th century servants?

To the second objection one can only reply, a little guiltily, that for good or bad the 19th century bourgeois had a highly sophisticated "art of life." In spite of the fact that this bourgeois art was dependent upon privilege and the exploitation of others (like the workers at the Chicago & Alton Railroad yard on the west side of town; the "oral history" currently being put together locally will soon tell that story), still it is difficult not to find their homes, their novels, their "style" beautiful, full of guilty pleasures. Like it or not, the decorative extravagances of wealthy people are a large part of what the history of art is about.

## A human culture

But it's the first objection, the what-difference-does-it-make objection, that is sinister. The willingness of present-day consumer capitalists to devour their aged grandparents, or, less metaphorically, deny their own cultural birthright, says something very plain about the culture we live in. For all its shortcomings, 19th century bourgeois culture was at least still a "human" culture. It was eccentric, iconoclastic, and crochety. It was the expression of the imagination and skills of people.

Look at Queen Anne on page 72 of Bloomington-Normal Lost. Its multi-dimensional angularity, misplaced tower, ornate portico, and second-story porch give it the look of some-

thing out of the labyrinthine etchings of M.C. Escher. For the architects, builders, and owners of these houses, Bloomington-Normal was not just the place they earned their money, not just the place they happened to spend their working years before retiring somewhere warm, it was also the place they lived. In short, it was a community. An unequal community no doubt, but a community.

## Consume the past

But in our own culture, the only duty is the national duty to consume. Consume the past, too, if it gets in the way of a fast-food franchise, or if it reminds someone of what we're not. For whatever the intent, the desire of our culture to deny history has the effect of stifling thought.

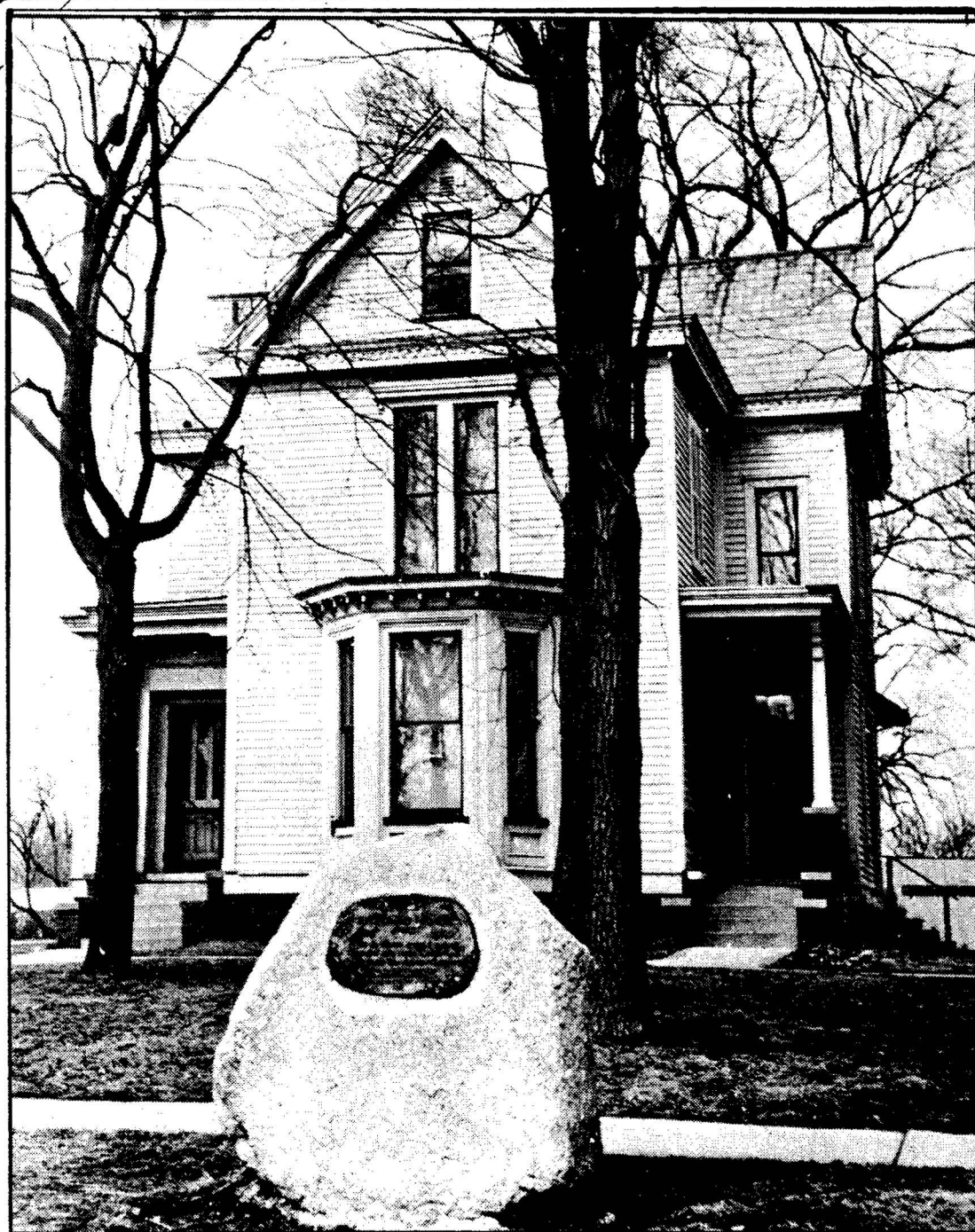
Americans don't ask, "What other ways are there to live?" "How did our great-great-grandparents live?" To be human is to be bound to history, whether one knows it or not.

But not to know that fact--not to know that things were ever different than they are now--is to be vulnerable to all the manipulative mythologies that currently define American life. ("Have you played Atari today?" "Be all that you can be--in the Army." "Cologne/designer jeans/a Chrysler makes the woman.")

When the last old house is reduced to dust and rubble, we will--as the Preface to Bloomington-Normal Lost says--have lost "a part of ourselves." That is, as I see it, we will be less full of human possibility, and more the mere creatures of a particular and not very admirable culture. ●

--Curtis White

--Photos by Earl Dunbar



**202 W. Mulberry:** In Normal, this Victorian home housed ISU's first president, Charles Hovey, and his son Richard, a poet. The rock and plaque honoring Richard is all that remains (see p. 2).



# Sanders roughs up suspect

**Post Note:** In a four-page section last issue, the Post Amerikan documented the treatment that Bloomington patrolman Tom Sanders has been dishing out over the years, from verbal abuse and minor roughness to head bashings and even a shooting. The following story, held over from last issue, fits into the same pattern.

On a late afternoon in Feb. 1980, Bloomington patrolman Tom Sanders pulled over a Silver Trans Am containing two young black men, John Trice and Eric Kellogg.

With his gun drawn, Sanders ordered the car's occupants to get out, place their hands on top of the car and spread their legs.

Two other officers, Ed Moser and John Stoops, backed Sanders up. They, too, had weapons drawn.

The officers searched the two bewildered men, but found nothing.

Sanders searched the Trans Am's passenger compartment, and found nothing. He searched the locked trunk of the car, and found nothing.

"Up to this point," attorney John Tielsch told the Post-Amerikan, "the police's actions may have been justified. But from then on, it seemed that Sanders was just trying to aggravate the situation. It seemed he was trying to get a confrontation going."

Tielsch represented John Trice in court, on the charges arising out of the ensuing incident. Trice was

charged with disorderly conduct, intimidation (for allegedly threatening Officer Sanders) and resisting arrest.

### Charges thrown out

After a bench trial, the judge said Sanders had no business placing Trice under arrest in the first place. He dismissed the disorderly conduct and intimidation charges, but found Trice guilty of resisting.

"The evidence does not justify the officer's actions of placing defendant under arrest for intimidation or disorderly conduct," the judge's ruling states. "However the law does not permit a defendant to resist a peace officer even though the arrest may be unlawful."

Trice appealed the conviction, but lost.

Whether Trice's actions constituted resisting arrest or not, a reading of the trial transcript supports the defendant's final words before sentencing:

It all happened from the way Officer Sanders approached him, Trice told the court. "If it had been another officer, I wouldn't be here today," Trice said.

### How it started

Patrolman Sanders had first been dispatched to the area on Bloomington's east side after police received a report of an argument at American Trio, the appliance store. A black male had reportedly threatened the proprietor, then left in a silver Trans Am. The

## Got more info ?

If you have more information about Patrolman Tom Sanders, call the Post Amerikan at 828-7232 and leave a message on our answering machine. You can also reach some Post Amerikan folks at 828-6885.

black male had reportedly claimed he had a gun in the car.

Sanders spotted Trice and Kellogg's silver Trans Am about 3/4 mile away, in the parking lot of Long John Silver's, where the two men were eating. Sanders called for back-up and waited.

When Trice and Kellogg left the restaurant, they drove away in the Trans Am. Sanders followed in his squad car.

Sanders testified he ordered the Trans Am to pull over "after noticing that the license plate validation was on the wrong side."

Because he had (mistaken) information that the occupants might be armed, Sanders approached with his revolver drawn.

After submitting to a weapons pat-down, Trice and Kellogg consented to having their car searched.

It is up to this point that attorney John Tielsch said the police's actions may have been justified.

### "Shut your black mouth"

But Trice and Kellogg had no idea why they were being held at gunpoint, or what police were looking for.

John Trice testified that he kept asking Officer Sanders, during the search, why they were stopped and what the police were looking for.

## Fed up

LONDON--Twenty-five prostitutes have occupied a church in the King Cross district of this city to protest police harassment.

Organized as the English Collective of Prostitutes, the 25 masked women entered the Church of the Holy Cross on Nov. 17 to demand an end to illegal arrests, threats to take away their children, and blackmail which, they say, have increased in recent months.

According to the collective, harassment is directed particularly against prostitutes who frequent a women's center in the area which provides a legal counselling service for them. Also at issue is the reported failure of the police to pursue men who rape prostitutes.

Rachel West, a spokesperson for the collective, said, "We're arrested while walking our dogs or shopping. We take a lot of verbal abuse and even beatings and rape by police. And we're fed up with officials trying to take away our children."

--San Francisco Chronicle

ZURICH--Twenty deer living in the bushes near the runways of Kloten airport here are to be shot because the new A310 airbus coming into service with Swissair could suck them into its low-slung engine.

--Reuter

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**FEBRUARY**

- 4 Toxic Shock
- 2 BB & the Guns
- 5 Comedy . Laughing Stock
- 11 The Bite
- 15 10 cent drafts
- 26 Talltrees
- 9-11:30

# after illegal arrest

"Shut your black mouth," Sanders replied, according to Trice's testimony.

Officer Stoops testified that Trice and Kellogg were obviously "confused and could not understand why police had their guns drawn."

Sanders apparently wasn't doing anything to explain things, nor was he taking any other measures to help calm things down.

After the "thorough search" turned up no weapons or contraband, Stoops testified, he heard Sanders and Trice arguing about the traffic stop.

Officer Moser characterized Sanders as "angry." According to Moser, Sanders was "upset that Mr. Trice was giving him a lot of lip service."

Officer Stoops said he couldn't remember what either party said until he heard Sanders announce that Trice was under arrest for intimidation.

## "I'll kick your ass"

Sanders says he placed Trice under arrest for intimidation when he allegedly heard Trice say "you little sucker, one on one I'll kick your ass."

A lot of folks have probably wanted to say that to Sanders. But even if Trice did say it, according to the judge, it doesn't constitute intimidation.

And Trice denies even saying it.

Trice said he asked his friend Eric Kellogg, "Why are they doing this to us?" and Sanders turned around and responded with "Did you say you're going to kick my ass?" and placed Trice under arrest.

The allegation that Trice resisted arrest stems from his stiffening his legs as Sanders tried to place him in the squad car.

On the way to the car, Trice says he asked Sanders to loosen the handcuffs, which were hurting his wrists. Sanders told him to shut up, Trice testified.

Trice walked to the squad car "without any difficulty," according to Officer Stoops' testimony.

But no one allowed him to enter the squad car on his own power.

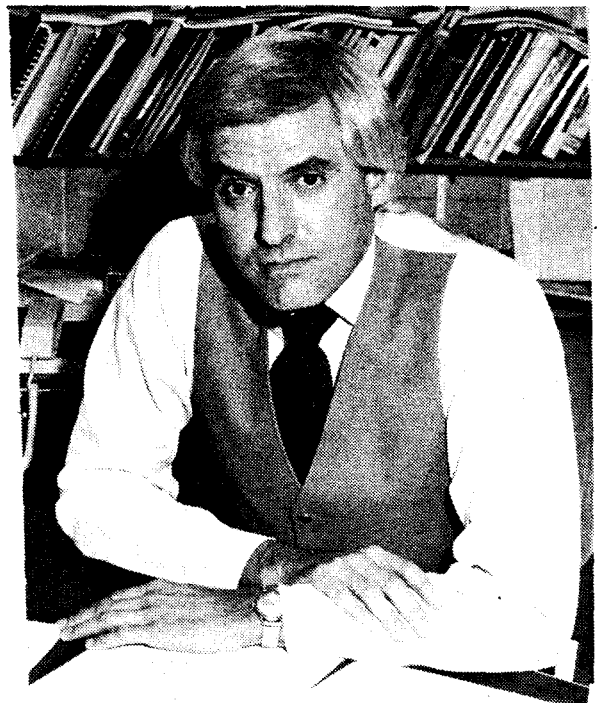
Trice said he asked to get in himself, but Sanders pulled his hair, kicked his legs and kned him in the behind.

Eric Kellogg testified that Patrolman Sanders was very aggressive and was making derogatory comments about Trice. Kellogg also testified that the clearance on the squad car was low, and Trice's head kept hitting the top as Sanders tried to push him in.

"I kept telling him to watch my head," John Trice told the court, "But he just grabbed my throat and threw me in."

To get Trice to unstiffen his knees, according to Officer Stoops, Sanders put "a drastic restraining hold around Trice's throat to reduce his body functions." As Trice's air supply was cut off, Stoops testified, Trice "lost body movement, and he relaxed and then he fell more or less with us pushing him into the squad car."

Defense lawyer John Tielsch said there was no testimony that Officer Sanders



Bloomington Police Chief Donald Story: "I don't want to see Tom Sanders subjected to any more publicity in your paper."

ever asked John Trice to get into the squad car on his own power. "It appeared that he was taken over there and pushed into the vehicle," Tielsch said.

And remember, this all occurred for an arrest which the judge said should never have occurred in the first place.

If it had been another officer stopping Trice and Kellogg, the incident probably wouldn't have happened.

"Sanders is sort of common knowledge among defense attorneys for his overzealous enforcement of the law," Tielsch told the Post-Amerikan. ●

--Mark Silverstein

## No progress in Sanders investigation

"I have nothing more to tell you than I did last month," Bloomington police chief Donald Story replied, when asked how his investigation of patrolman Tom Sanders was progressing.

Chief Story had told the Post Amerikan in early December that the officer was being watched closely and was the subject of an internal investigation.

At the time, Chief Story said that he was "definitely aware" that there may be a pattern of aggressive behavior in Tom Sanders' conduct.

Chief Story said his investigators have still not been able to talk to Brian Dietrich, the 18-year-old suspect who Sanders knocked to the booking room floor October 31. Sanders broke his own hand in the incident.

Without hearing from Dietrich, Story said, his investigation can't progress any further.

The Post Amerikan's investigation of Sanders' record last December turned up several incidents that Chief Story said he had not been aware of. But Story was not interested in pursuing an investigation of these cases, apparently because they occurred before he became chief of police.

Chief Story's willingness to talk about his troublesome patrolman went through a definite change after the publication of last issue's Post Amerikan.

In November and December, Story cooperated to some extent with the Post Amerikan's investigation. The police chief acknowledged that Officer Sanders' conduct was a legitimate area of

concern for a news medium. The chief even provided some reports that he was not legally obligated to divulge.

By January, however, Chief Story changed his tune.

When a Post Amerikan reader called me to report that an Officer Sanders had used an extremely unnecessary amount of force while serving a search warrant last September (see story next issue), I called Story for more information.

The Chief said he believed that the incident in question involved Detective Jeff Sanders, not patrolman Tom Sanders. He said it was possible that Tom Sanders was also involved, but he doubted it.

When asked if he could check department records to make sure, Chief Story refused.

"I don't want to see Tom Sanders subjected to any more publicity in your paper," Chief Story said. ●

--M. S.

We now have both of Kristen Lems' albums: Oh Mama! & In the Out Door

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# Miscellaneous outrages you may

## Mayors charge cities for California vacations

Mayor Richard Godfrey billed Normal taxpayers \$800 for the California trip he took to watch the Space Shuttle land last November, according to a Pantagraph report. Godfrey justified billing the city by citing the "intangible benefits" that Normal gains from the personal contacts the mayor made with federal government officials.

Bloomington mayor Richard Buchanan also hopped over to California for the event. According to the Pantagraph, Buchanan refused to reveal his expenses, some of which he intends to ask the city to reimburse. The Pantagraph also said Buchanan was "perturbed" at being asked to account for what he spent, and would not say what good his travel did for the City of Bloomington.

## Wife-beating—yes; free speech—no

If you were a Normal cop, which do you think you'd get in more trouble for, breaking your wife's jaw, or criticizing a policy of the police chief?

When Chief Lehr established a ticket quota system in early December, everyone knew it was a move to break up his patrol officers' efforts to establish collective bargaining. The Police-men's Benevolent and Protective Association had been conducting an unofficial ticket-writing slowdown for almost a year.

When two officials of the police organization publicly criticized the

## IPC foundation will help poor help IPC

Since utility company accountants all learn the same loopholes in the newest tax laws, it is no surprise that all the regional gas and electric companies are suddenly setting up charitable foundations supposedly designed to help poor people pay their energy bills.

CILCO did it; NiGas did it; IPC did it.

The utilities are setting up charities whose mission is to ensure that the utilities get paid. And the power companies chalk up their contribution as an operating expense--which is charged to the ratepayers, not the stockholders.

But the financial acrobatics (we're used to them now) don't raise the blood pressure as much as Illinois Power's pretending that they won't be controlling the money they are giving out.

"Illinois Power's involvement pretty much ends with the grants," Al Adams, IPC spokesperson, told the Pantagraph. "How the foundation uses the money will be determined by the foundation."

And guess who's on the foundation's board of directors? Wendell J. Kelley, Illinois Power Company President.

## Cable cancels service, keeps rates same

Cable TV subscribers learned Jan. 1 that they would no longer receive two late-night television stations.

Despite the fact that Telecable customers pay for services two months at a time, in advance, the cancellations were effective immediately.

Telecable was not offering any refunds to subscribers to whom the cancelled stations may have been the primary attraction of cable TV.

The stations cancelled so abruptly are WBBM, Chicago, and WTBS, Atlanta.

Both stations reached Bloomington-Normal Telecable subscribers after other stations had gone off the air. WTBS, the Atlanta "super-station," appeared on channel 5 after Peoria's Channel 25 went off the air. Similarly, WBBM (Channel 2 in Chicago), was available to Telecable subscribers after Chicago's Channel 32 quit for the night.

When the Bloomington and Normal city councils granted Telecable a 15-year franchise in 1981, they could have required the company to continue (or even expand) its cablecasting of these stations. But the councils missed their chance, and as usual, the late-night TV watchers get screwed.

## Fingerprinting children

A program to fingerprint grade school children began operation January 25, in Union County, New Jersey, reports the Wall Street Journal. According to the report, 92% of the parents of the area's 44,000 elementary school students have given permission for the fingerprinting, which is allegedly being carried out to help authorities locate any pupils who may become lost. Other New Jersey counties are reportedly considering instituting similar programs.

## Jail's dangerous, too

"I certainly think it's very dangerous for a minor not to be in school," Elizabeth Robb, Assistant Public Defender, told the Pantagraph in early November.

Robb was commenting on an appellate court decision which overturned an order by Judge Charles Witte. The court said Witte was out of line when he threw a 16-year-old girl in jail for four days for violating Witte's order that she attend school.

Does Robb think skipping school is more dangerous for a minor than sitting in jail?



Compiled by  
Mark Silverstein

# ELVIS

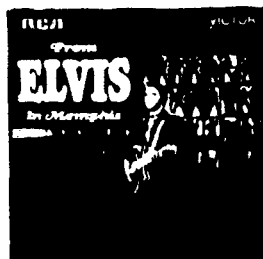


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"Talk louder, I can't hear you" Dept.  
**Live music in B-N**

**The Jerks**

**Danceability ★★★★★**

Who are The Jerks? Contrary to popular belief, they are not the people who use up all your mayonnaise and put the empty jar back in your refrigerator. They are a four-man band from LaSalle-Peru who can be found playing around town, delivering the old rock standards, as well as a selection of newer stuff and a handful of originals.

They do what they do with punch, agility, and great vocals.

The result is an exciting mixture that goes from rocking "Back in the USSR" to a speed-freak R+B "Dirty Water," around and back to an Elvis Costello or XTC number, and just so you don't think they don't know how to play anything but covers, to their own buoyant originals like "Dancing in the Doorway" or "Dance 22."

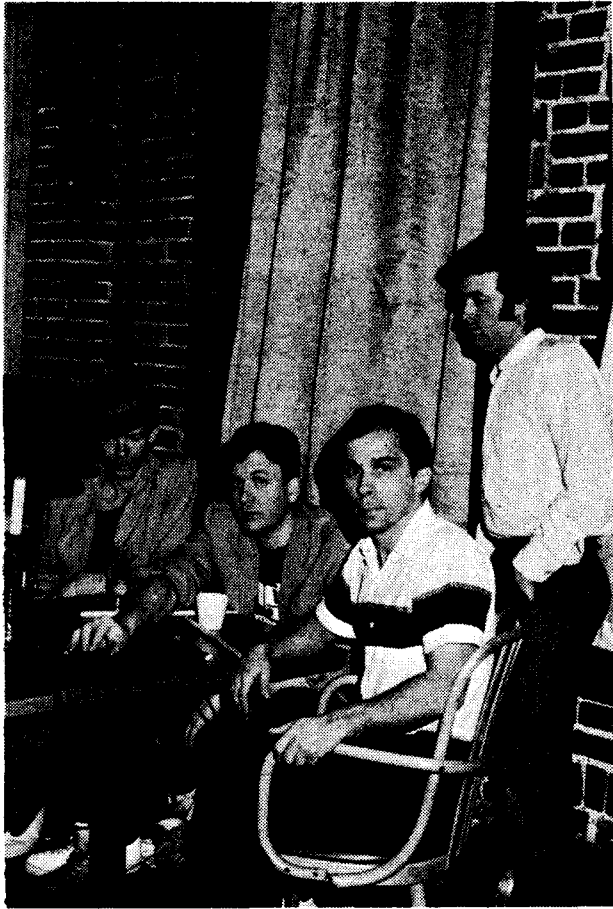
A brief conversation with The Jerks revealed that they really are: Alan Thacker, vocals, guitar, synthesizer; Dick Verucchi, drums; the dapper Alan Shupp, guitar, vocals; and Dave Morgan, bass.

Casually and cleverly they quipped: "We're in the middle of making some changes . . . we're looking for a new name, kind of going for a new approach, like "Fresh New Pope" . . . an 'up with people' feeling, you know, we'll play Choctaw reservations and nursing homes . . . getting inspiration from not so much the gospel of Christ but the RHYTHM of Christ, you might say . . . You know, most people think it was his teaching, but really it was his record collection and his dancing that really put him over the edge with the Romans."

They're a swell bunch of kids.

So if you're looking for good music and dancing, keep your eye out for The Jerks at Fink's or Central Station. Until they change their name and I say, the sooner, the better. ●

--LVD



**People's music lives**

We are a Midwestern network of people who are interested in music, survival and change; in music that in some way relates to the lives and struggles of our communities. Some of us are progressive singers, songwriters, performers. Some of us are production workers; some are less directly involved in music-related activities and work. But we all share a love for music and a commitment towards building healthy cultures and a healthy society. We have two projects:

The Directory--a tool to encourage communication among people's musicians. The Directory is a list of our members, with their addresses, phone #s, and a 30-word self-description of their resources, skills, interests and needs.

The Gatherings--twice-a-year weekend get-togethers for people's musicians from across the Midwest to meet and hear from each other in workshops, song swaps, and musical jams.

To join MPMN, send your address, direct directory listing as described above, and \$5 (yearly membership) to PO Box 8235, Mpls., MN 55408.

The next MPMN Gathering--Spring 83--will be held in Chicago, IL, May 6-8, as part of The People, Yes! annual May Day people's cultural festival. The People, Yes! is a Chicago-based organization to promote "the creative arts which articulate and support the struggle for democracy, peace, equality and progress." The contact person for the Spring Gathering/People Yes! weekend is Curt Koehler, 2538 W. 64th St., Chicago, IL 60629, (312)778-8801. ●

I FANCIED MYSELF A CHANGED PERSON AS I CAME TO REALIZE THAT MY OWN SELFISHNESS WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR TURNING KAT'S PRECIOUS, PUNKY BRAIN INTO PLUM PUDDING! NOW, I CLUNG TO THE VAGUE HOPE THAT SHE WOULD MAKE PROGRESS WITH SYLVIA, TOOTS, AND FRANKIE... AND THAT SOME DAY I COULD ONCE AGAIN SAY, "THAT'S HER... THAT'S..."

**MY SISTER, the PUNK ROCKER**

LVD 83

MEANWHILE, ACROSS TOWN A MIRACULOUS RECOVERY HAD TAKEN PLACE... A REASON FOR MUCH GAIETY AMONG KAT, TOOTS, FRANKIE AND SYLVIA...

AIN'T IT GREAT TO BE HOME!!?

YEAH, WE EVEN LEFT YOUR UNDERWEAR THERE ON THE FLOOR, WHERE YOU LEFT 'EM, AS A SYMBOL OF OUR VIGIL!!

OK YOU, RATFACE

BUT KAT, IF YOU WERE FAKING YOUR 'ILLNESS,' WHY DID YOU STAY WITH JILL ALL THIS TIME? WHY DIDN'T YOU LEAVE?

LISTEN, THERE'S A METHOD IN MY MADNESS! I HAD TO LET HER THINK SHE MADE ME WORSE THAN BEFORE OR SHE WOULD NEVER HAVE LEFT ME ALONE!!

LATER...

FIRST THINGS FIRST... THIS HAIR HAS GOT TO GO!!

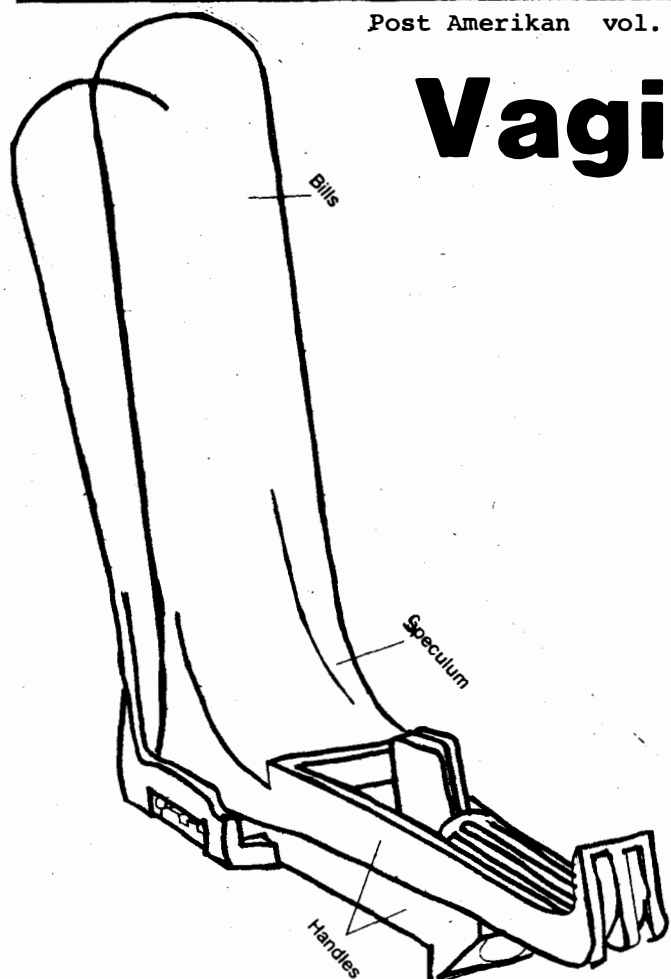
WELL, HOW DO YOU LIKE THE NEW ME? IT'S THE LATEST THING IN GUAM, REALLY... THE LOU REED LOOK...

BACK AT JILL'S...

OH, SHAME, OH DESPAIR!! LET HER RETURN TO PUNKDOM, PLEASE!! I'LL TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL THIS, I PROMISE!! I KNOW SHE WAS CYNICAL AND SUBVERSIVE, BUT BETTER A SPUNKY PUNK THAN A VISCOUS VEGETABLE! LET HER DANCE ONCE AGAIN TO THE STAINS AND I'LL DIE HAPPY!

NEXT IT'S YOUR MOTHER!

# Vaginal self help



Women used to get together during births and illnesses and during death to administer to themselves and their families. They shared knowledge and experience and developed remedies and made up old wives' tales. They performed an invaluable function to their communities.

About 12 years ago, feminists in the health care movement renovated this sharing of knowledge and body wisdom in the form of the Self-Help Movement. Women began to get together and, instead of talking about their bodies, they began to look.

With a speculum (see illustration of device that looks like duck bills), a flashlight, and a little hand mirror, a woman can see inside of herself. She can see her vaginal walls, her cervix (the mouth of the uterus), and os, which is the little opening in the cervix where secretions and menstrual blood (sometimes babies, too) come out.

When a woman examines herself throughout her cycle, she often sees changes in the color of her cervix and in the appearance of her secretions. With practice, she can probably learn to tell, just by looking, when she is ovulating. She can spot a vaginal irritation or infection as soon as it begins. She can treat it herself before it becomes a problem. And, best of all, she will know what she looks like.

It isn't mysterious. It isn't difficult. Look at your cervix and marvel at the amount of money you give your gynecologist.

### See for yourself

I first saw my cervix a year ago. I was 27. Oh, I had seen lots of pictures of female anatomy, but I don't think that I ever really believed that all that stuff was in there until I saw it for myself. And I think that in some fundamental way, I wasn't alive in that part of my body until I saw it. My cervix was pink and round,

and shiny--not dark or mysterious or alien to me.

I became part of a group of women who meet twice a month to do self exams. We have a chart where we keep track of our cycles and the appearance of our cervixes. We chart our energy patterns, food cravings, and our levels of horniness. We write down unusual dreams.

The first thing that strikes you when you're looking at women's cervixes (and their outer genitalia as well) is how varied. The sizes and shapes and colors are as diverse as our faces.

In a few months' time, most of us learned to tell when we--and each other--are ovulating. The secretions then are long and thin. That is fertile mucus. Fertile mucus is more alkaline than nonfertile mucus and better for sperm to live in. Under a microscope it is fernlike, with long parallel canals that pull the sperm upward. To the naked eye, it looks like egg white. If you put a little on your finger and pull it, you'll see that it's very stretchy.

For most of us, the changes in mucus around the time of ovulation are obvious, but for some, it is very hard to see any difference at all. The same thing is true of changes in the os. Most of us find that this little opening becomes larger during ovulation, but again, for some there is no noticeable difference. Each woman has to see what is normal for herself.

### Yeast infections

In my self-help group, we've found that yeast infections sometimes show up during exams as much as a week before the woman experiences any discomfort. The first time that this happened, the woman, Rachel, discounted what she saw. She had no real symptoms, she said.

Yeast shows itself as a cottage-cheesy

### Alternatives to over-the-counter drugs during pregnancy

If you are pregnant, you probably already know that powerful prescription drugs can endanger unborn children. But did you know that nose sprays, aspirin, antacids, cough medicines, or any of those supposedly harmless drugs for "everyday complaints" are also not proven safe for the unborn?

The Coalition for Medical Rights of Women has produced a valuable booklet, "Safe Natural Remedies for Discomforts of Pregnancy." You can order it for \$1.50 from:

CMRW  
1638B Haight St.  
San Francisco, California 94117

--S.F.

# Fasting

When a person stops eating, the body does not cease feeding itself. The body simply changes its source of food. It begins to live off the accumulated fat and stored materials within. The "disease" or toxic material the person is trying to clear out of the system by fasting is converted to food by the body, or discarded.

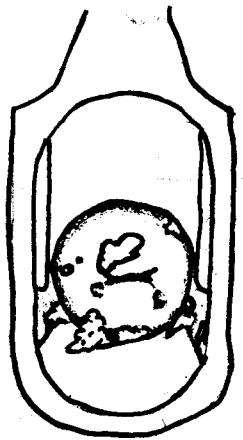
In the process of changing to this new internal diet, plus the associated cleansing which takes place, many signs and symptoms of sickness begin to appear in a cycle. The cycle occurs when the fasting person feels good for a couple of days and then goes through a down cycle for a day or two (or more). It is important to realize that each person's fast is different from others'. Each person is eliminating a different accumulation of toxic materials. Some symptoms are more commonly shared than others, however.

A few of these common symptoms are the coated tongue, dizziness, headaches, nausea, bad breath and body odor, diarrhea or constipation, fatigue and weakness, hunger pains followed by a loss of appetite and sore arms and legs.

Unwanted symptoms can be dealt with in many ways. For example, the loss of appetite usually happens after two or three days on water. When fasting on juice, which is a liquid food, the usual appetite and desire to eat at specific times seem to remain.

If one is on a water-only fast, drinking lemon water at the beginning of the fast neutralizes the strong hydrochloric acid in the stomach. In this way the desire or cravings to

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### Pregnancy

A few days after I became pregnant, five months ago, I noticed a little hunk of mucus in my os. At first I thought that it was just secretions, but three weeks later it was still there. A pregnant woman's body will form a "mucus plug" in the opening of her cervix to protect the fetus from outside bacteria.

At the same time, it had become harder for me to find my cervix. Each time I wanted to do a self exam, I would have to jump up and down and wiggle my pelvis around (this looks as silly as it sounds, but sometimes it works). Pregnancy makes the cervix, which is generally round and distinct, flatten out. It also tends to move it back, away from its basically central position at the end of the vagina.

I was only three weeks pregnant when I started to take some LSD--but I was prompted by my tiredness and by the changes that I had seen in my cervix, to get a pregnancy test first. You can get an accurate blood pregnancy test as early as 10 days after conception. Without self help, I probably would have ignored my tiredness and taken the acid. I don't know what to think of the rumor of LSD and chromosome damage, but I don't like the idea of taking any kind of drug during pregnancy.

Self exams also changed the way that I relate to my herpes. Occasionally I get outbreaks on my cervix. Before I knew how to look at myself, I experienced those as a kind of generalized discomfort "down there." I felt a rawness when I made love and an overall sense of something being wrong.

I've had that feeling once since I've started self help, and then I was able to look at what was happening. I saw three little blisters on my cervix and although knowing didn't make them go away, it did change my experience. I knew exactly where the discomfort was coming from--and it stayed there. I could confine it to those little dots because I could visualize it. It wasn't mysterious or creepy any more.

### Easy to learn

Women can do self exams privately. It's easy to learn. How To Stay Out of a Gynecologist's Office and A New View of a Woman's Body, both written by the Federation of Feminist Women's Health Centers, are wonderful illustrated books that I recommend strongly. Planned Parenthood at 201 East Grove, Bloomington, has plastic speculums that you can get for a minimal charge. I'm willing to send some handouts that I have on how to do vaginal self exams. My address is 1229 East Wilson St., Madison, Wisconsin 53703. Please send me 50¢ to cover postage and xeroxing.

The group that I am in grew to 10 women, which we felt was too many--both for the little room that we use and for easy conversation and sharing. We've split into two groups now; five is a good number. It is fine to do self exams alone, but we find that the meetings provide a way for us to share the confidence and the pleasure that comes from learning about our bodies. They give us a context in which to get together to exchange knowledge and experience.

We try out different remedies, share stories we've heard and articles we've read, and sometimes we make up old maids' tales. As one woman pointed out, the health of women is too important to be left to the medical industry.

--Alison Clement

discharge and, if you rub a little on your finger and sniff, you'll see that it smells (not surprisingly) like yeast. A full blown infection burns when you urinate and itches. There is a strong smell and an obvious discharge. A week later, Rachel had all the symptoms. The next time that happened to one of us, the woman knew to trust what she was seeing and to begin a remedy right away.

Every woman has yeast in her vagina. There's no problem unless it overgrows, which can happen if the woman is run-down or if, like Rachel, she has taken antibiotics. Antibiotics wipe out all the bacteria in the vagina and allow the yeast to grow like crazy because they have no competition. That's why one of the remedies for a yeast infection is plain, unpasteurized yogurt. You can insert it with a vaginal applicator or a turkey baster and keep it in there by using a tampon or natural sponge.

Some women find it easier--less messy--to use acidophilus tablets. Acidophilus is a concentrated form of yogurt bacteria that's available at

## --what to expect

Pest-Amerikan  
page 19

eat leave the faster sooner than the usual two days. The appetite simply goes away. Many fasters are grateful for this loss of appetite, and yet it has been this same loss of appetite which has worried some fasters.

If after seven to ten days of water fasting the faster rejects food because of no appetite or because of vomiting, there is still no reason to fear. This rejection of food simply means the body is still in its cleansing cycle. At this point, the faster could follow several options.

Some juice for a day or two will usually cause the appetite to return. Alternatively, the faster can take an enema or colonic. This additional

cleansing of the colon speeds the cleansing process, thus allowing for the natural appetite to return. The third option would be simply to continue fasting until the body's natural appetite returns. It will always return when the cleansing is complete or when the reserve of nutrients and ions is so low that it cannot complete the cleansing process during that particular fast.

The symptoms of sore arms and legs can be dealt with in two ways. The soreness can mean that the body is living off its own muscle tissue, in which case the person might decide to stop fasting. Drinking juice is a method of changing this tissue breakdown, for remember, juice is liquid food. Another way to react

is to continue water fasting but increase one's level of exercise. Within minutes of doing exercise the arms and legs cease to ache. Doctors in Sweden who advocate fasting have found exercise, especially walking, to be an important means of keeping the body in its cleansing cycle rather than breaking body tissue down as in degeneration.

Headaches, especially migraines, are sometimes experienced if the faster has previously consumed coffee, milk or alcohol in any addictive way. The headaches are signs of withdrawal from the addictive drinks but they usually cease after a couple of days.

Withdrawal from food itself has caused severe withdrawal symptoms for some fasters. Their observation has been "I didn't realize how addicted to food I really was." Taking enemas or receiving colonic irrigation enhances the body's cleansing and functioning during the fast. With these additional cleansing therapies the cleansing crisis and signs of all sorts of sickness are minimized.

One way to enhance one's well-being during a fast is to prepare properly for it. Eating a restricted diet of raw fruits, vegetables and sprouts for a good two weeks prior to the fast allows the body to build up its supply of enzymes and ions. If you have ever fasted without this raw food preparation and now try the preparation, you'll experience how different the fasting process can be.

--Marjorie Kinsella,  
Naturopath  
1923 E. Jackson  
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Carol \*  
Simpson ©1982

# The "Top" gay stories for 1982

More than any previous year, 1982 saw a number of landmark decisions, breakthrough events, and medical and political developments of importance to the nation's lesbians and gay men.

While there was no shortage of gay events to report on, it was usually gay publications that chose to do so. In the straight press, court decisions and political items took a back seat to the usual mainstream coverage--rest-stop busts, "shocking" crimes, and a Capitol Hill "scandal" that was all hype(see story, p. 21).

There were other events to be covered, and the following list of "top" stories, given in chronological order, shows the progress of the gay rights movement in 1982.

**1. COURAGEOUS RELIGIOUS LEADER.**  
After United Methodist Bishop Melvin Wheatley appointed an openly gay minister to the staff of a Denver parish, some of his fellow church-people accused him of "disseminating false doctrine." But an investigatory body failed to find grounds for the charges, and later in the year the Methodists' judicial council ruled unanimously that ordination of gays is not against existing church law.

**2. ONE WIN, ONE LOSS.**  
Referendums on gay rights were not as frequent in 1982 as in some previous years, but in January voters in Austin, Tex., rejected a proposed law that would have permitted anti-gay discrimination in housing. Later, the Austin City Council voted to include sexual orientation as a protected category in the city's fair housing ordinance. On the other side, Lincoln, Neb., voters turned down a proposal that would have extended civil rights protections to gays.

**3. ON WISCONSIN!!**  
In February, Wisconsin became the first state in the country to enact a comprehensive gay rights law. Since Wisconsin's new governor, Anthony Earl (D), is favorable to the gay rights cause and has appointed an openly gay journalist as his top press aide, the nation's first statewide gay rights law seems safe from threats of repeal.

**4. FAVORABLE COURT RULINGS.**  
A federal judge in San Francisco ruled that the anti-gay policy of the Immigration Service abridged "rights of free speech and association" and issued a permanent injunction to allow foreign gay visitors to enter the country. Another landmark decision was handed down in Texas, where a U.S. district court judge struck down as unconstitutional the state's law that made private homosexual conduct a criminal offense.

**5. UNIONS BACK GAYS.**  
In June, the 1.1 million member American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees overwhelmingly approved a strongly worded resolution calling for federal, state and local legislation to protect lesbians and gay men from discrimination. Four months later, the Industrial Union Department, which comprises 59 unions representing 6 million workers (most of them in the construction trades), approved a resolution that included sexual orientation as a category to be protected from discrimination.

**6. A SPORTING EVENT BY ANY OTHER NAME.**  
The first international Gay Games, held Aug. 28-Sept. 5 in San Francisco, drew 1300 gay and lesbian athletes from 28 states and 10 foreign countries. The U.S. Olympic Committee secured a court injunction barring the use of the word "olympic" in

connection with the event, even though numerous others are allowed to use the term. The Gay Games II are scheduled for 1986.

**7. AIDS INCIDENCE INCREASES.**  
By year's end the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) had chalked up 775 reported cases nationally, 294 of them fatal. Since an estimated 75% of the cases were reported among gay males, several groups have been organized in the gay community to raise funds and dispense information and assistance. In September, Congress approved \$500,000 for AIDS research, and an additional \$2.6 million was approved by the House in December.

**8. ELECTION YEAR SUCCESS.**  
The Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) raised nearly \$600,000 to help congressional candidates who support gay rights. HRCF claims an 81% success rate in targeted House and Senate races, and the group's fund-raisers featured such political big-wigs as former Vice President Walter Mondale, Sen. Alan Cranston (D-CA), and Sen. Paul Tsongas (D-MA).

Runners-up to these top stories:

--First positive Hollywood film about gays, Making Love, released; followed by Personal Best and Victor/Victoria.

--Florida Supreme Court strikes down law aimed at preventing gay college groups from using state-owned campus facilities.

--Former federal Legal Services Corp. president Dan Bradley comes out.

--Sen. Edward Kennedy keynotes the 5th anniversary dinner of the Municipal Elections Committee of Los Angeles, the nation's oldest gay political action committee.

--Nationwide surveillance of gays by the FBI from the '50s to the 70s revealed.

--Christian Science Mother Church in Boston fires 2 gay employees.

--The number of House sponsors of the federal gay rights bill reaches 59-- a new record.

--Chicago Mayor Byrne issues executive order banning anti-gay discrimination in city jobs and services.

--Oklahoma federal court upholds state anti-gay teachers law.

--Philadelphia approves gay rights ordinance.

--Gay California teacher wins damages from former state Sen. John Briggs.

--Former L.A. Dodger Glenn Burke comes out.

--U.S. Army heeds judge's order, allows openly gay Seattle soldier to re-enlist.

--Thanx to Stephen Kulieke, The Advocate, 20 Jan. 83

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### No gay hanky-panky

# The scandals that weren't

Washington, D.C., was buzzing last June with media reports of an alleged sex scandal involving congressmen and young male pages. It had all the marks of a '50s witch hunt: lists of reputed homosexuals in Congress, hastily issued denials, separate investigations by the Justice Department and the House Ethics Committee.

By August, the Justice Dept. had dropped its probe, saying it was unable to produce any evidence that pages had been sexually exploited by congressmen.



Both "scandals," according to Larry Bush of The Advocate, were largely the creation of over-eager journalists and new-right homophobes. From the beginning, says Bush, it should have been clear that the charges were reckless and most likely untrue. But the media hyped them shamelessly.

Both NBC and ABC put on the air disguised "hustlers" who have since been identified as paid FBI informants and who both, it turns out, were lying.

At least one of the "hustlers" was put in touch with the media by the editor of a new right-wing publication, Deep Background, which launched its publishing debut with an expose on homosexuals in Washington. This "hustler," David Schauer, turned out to be a campaign organizer for Rep. Larry McDonald of Georgia (author or cosponsor of every anti-gay bill in the House); an informer on gays in Washington for the ultraright Liberty Lobby; and a paid informant for the FBI.

Under close questioning by Bush and journalists from 2 other gay papers, Schauer admitted that he had substantially exaggerated the truth in his statement on national tv: he had no personal knowledge that any foreign agents were looking for closeted gays to blackmail.

Neither network backed off one iota on the story, and neither has acknowledged the errors or falsehoods that they broadcast.

And there is CBS. It's possible that the other two networks simply got carried away and sacrificed truth for ratings. But CBS has been charged by the D.C. police department itself with having misrepresented the events in Washington.

CBS's contribution to the scandal-mongering was to put Larry Williams on the air, initially in disguise, and let him allege that he had sex as a page with members of Congress. Williams has since publicly admitted that he lied. But it is not Williams alone whose credibility is at issue.



According to testimony offered behind closed doors at the House Ethics Committee, a CBS reporter combined several allegations into a whole package and sold the network on the idea of reporting a "sex and drug" scandal involving members of Congress and pages. The charges had been circulating in Washington for some months, but had been so severely discredited that no reputable news agency would report them. It took CBS "to bridge the gap," in the words of the D.C. police department--and create a sex and drug scandal where none existed.

CBS's record on covering gay-related stories isn't very good. Their 1980 documentary, "Gay Power, Gay Politics," was branded by the National News Council as unfair, distorted, and exaggerated (see Post, v. 9, #7).

--Ferdydurke

Sources: The Advocate, 14 Oct. 1982, 20 Jan. 1983; Washington Post, 28 Dec. 1982.

The Ethics Committee issued its report at the end of the year, after months of inquiry and an estimated \$400,000 cost to taxpayers. Its finding? That there was "no merit whatsoever" to the charges made against congressmen by 2 former pages.

The spin-off of the Congressional non-scandal premiered in July with an equally sensational script--Soviet operatives and other foreign agents were seeking names of homosexuals who could be compromised into betraying the nation. This story was as unfounded as the tale of the page boys and the congressmen.





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# Beware the populist

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The Conservative Digest (CD), the bastion of right-wing concerns since 1974, recently devoted its entire October issue to the "new populism." Apparently the "new federalism" has been preempted to bring you yet another stab from the past. Populism has historically been a liberal movement in American politics--a call for governmental concern for the populace, the people.

The Populist Party began in 1891, an offshoot of the Grangers and the Farmers' Alliances. The party is said to have consisted of farmers, advocates of women's suffrage, socialists, professional reformers, and remnants of earlier radical political parties. William Jennings Bryan became their link to the Democratic Party. The old populists wanted, among other things, an income tax, cheap money for the farmers and the poor, the abolition of the national banks, and government ownership of the railroads.

The new populist coalition wants the abolition of everything big. They ask for popular (conservative) control of everything from the government to the media. They are, at the moment, very new, very weak, and very dangerous.

What makes the new conservative populist revolt dangerous is that if you do not pay very close attention to the small print, it doesn't sound so bad. It is hard to argue in favor of big business, bureaucracy in government, and the oil corporations. On the surface, the new right appears to have aligned itself with the old left--always a dangerous idea.

The new populism is opposed to 10 major things: big business, big banks, the media elite, big education, big labor, the church establishment, big courts and the law establishment, big government, big oil, and foundations. Not a bad sounding list, if I do say so myself. The neo-conservative objections to these 10 "power blocs"

are what's frightening about the new populism.

## Big business

The new populists' main problem with big business is that it supposedly supports left-wing groups and organizations--like Common Cause, the Urban League, Operation PUSH, the ACLU, the Youth Project, and Planned Parenthood.

The new right also has problems with political action committees (PAC). "The PAC of Merrill Lynch," says CD, "donated \$5000 to the presidential campaigns of Jimmy Carter, Ted Kennedy, Ronald Reagan, John Connally, and George Bush." One wonders if Merrill Lynch would be in less trouble had they only given money to Reagan and Connally, or if the inability to make a decision is what finally did them in.

## Big banks

The problem with big banks, according to the new populism, is not that they loan money but that they loan money to foreigners. They are vehemently opposed to lending money to such countries as the Soviet Union, Poland, Bulgaria, East Germany, Angola, Brazil, and Mexico.

The new right especially hates David Rockefeller and the Chase Manhattan Bank, apparently the biggest offenders of foreign money lending. The new populists would like to stop them from lending money to any government or nation they see as unfriendly. Since their list of no-nos includes Mexico, one wonders if there would be any foreign interests on the "approved" list at all.

## Media elite

By now we all know what problems the new right has with the media: the TV shows are too sexy and violent and the news is too one-sided. But the new populism has problems not only with what is covered in the news (too few conservative causes and concerns), but also with the people who cover the news. Newspeople are, for the most part, well educated, which apparently makes them suspect. "93% have college degrees, and a majority (55%) attended graduate school as well," observes CD.

As well as being educated, the "media elite" tend to come from areas of the country which the new populist movement finds questionable: New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, New England, and the big industrial states just to the west--Illinois, Michigan, and Ohio.

The idea here is that since these areas of the country tend to be more

and to the BIBLE  
for which it stands  
(New Testament of course)  
and prayer in school.



liberal, the newscasters and reporters who come from those areas will be liberal. But it is not only that. The populists (who hate everything big, remember) hate big cities, too, and the "media elite" grew up too far away from small towns and "middle" Amerika.

## Church establishment

When it comes to "big religion," the new populists aren't opposed to churches, church leaders, ministers, or congregations. They are, however, opposed to the National Council of Churches (NCC), the World Council of Churches (WCC), and the U.S. Catholic Conference.

The NCC, the American branch of the WCC, has many sins listed behind its name by the new right. First under fire is the WCC's Program to Combat Racism. The problem came when the new right realized that this religious money was not only going to support places like Zimbabwe, Namibia, South Africa, and El Salvador, but that it was going to the revolutionaries in those countries.

The new populists aren't racist, you understand. They just don't want to see private church funds going to support causes they do not believe

## Local nuclear weapons freeze action



Peo Averil/LNS

The Bloomington-Normal Nuclear Freeze Coalition will be presenting a slide show on Sunday, February 13, 3:30 p.m. at the Normal Public Library. This slide show, "START vs. Stop" compares Reagan's "START" proposal with the Nuclear Weapons Freeze Resolution.

Sunday, January 30 at 8:00 at 304 S. Evans in Bloomington, we will be holding our next meeting. Topics will include the formation of educational research teams and raising funds to send coalition members to lobby in Washington, D.C., on March 7 and 8.

We would encourage any interested folks to join us at our next meeting or if you happen to have excess funds streaming from your pockets, you may wish to help sponsor the March 7-8 action by sending some greens to:

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--Holly

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in, like Marxist revolution in the third world.

The U.S. Catholic Conference's sins, contained in the Campaign for Human Development (CHD) and limited to the boundaries of these United States, are just as grievous. Conservative Digest points out that since 1970 the CHD has given millions of dollars "to hundreds of grass-roots anti-poverty organizations" as well as to "tenant strike organizers, pro-criminal radical lawyers, Marxist-style proponents of 'class struggle,' socialists. . . ."

Some of the programs under fire by the new populists include the Anti-Death Penalty Organizing Project and the Team Defense Project, both aimed at eliminating capital punishment and getting prisoners off death rows; Project Survival, which seeks subsidies for public housing; and the South Central Los Angeles Organizing Community Project, which "aims to bring together poor black, white, and Hispanic people through direct involvement of their churches."

Christ. I'd be worried, too.

## Big courts

The new populism is, not too surprisingly, opposed to what they call big courts and the law establishment. By that they mean such groups as the ACLU, Ground Zero, and the American Bar Association--groups which the new populists claim make laws without benefit of election and work to ban laws already on the books in individual states.

But these groups are not what the new

populists are really upset about. Oh no. Heading their law establishment hit list is another enemy of the people--the U.S. Supreme Court. That's right. You read it correctly.

The Supreme Court's crimes are many. CD tells us that the judges are questionable because "They serve life-time terms. They are appointed, not elected. They answer to no higher authority in government." If you thought that the Constitution set up the Supreme Court in that way, you are right. But the populists want to change all that.

They are also not pleased with certain Supreme Court decisions. Since 1953 and the Warren Court, "the Supreme Court has violated through its many controversial rulings many of the values held most dear by most Americans." It should be no surprise that some of the Supreme Court's "violations" came in its decisions on integration, busing, bilingual education, and affirmative action quotas in college admissions.

What is more surprising is that the new populists are still harping on the three decisions (Mapp, Miranda, and Coolidge) that excluded improperly obtained evidence and insisted that arrested people be advised of their constitutional rights. CD follows its general attack on the Supreme Court with 16 stories of cases in which the "criminals" were freed by the Court based on those three decisions. Of course, if police and prosecutors followed the law instead of breaking it, the Court decisions wouldn't have been necessary in the first place. But that's probably too subtle for the new right to handle.

## Big etceteras

The new populists also have problems with other "big," but these are really not news. They do not like big education (the National Education Association is too left-wing and controls teachers as well as subject matter); big labor (generally supports Democrats and has a "far-left leadership"); big government, which includes Congress and the Departments of Energy and Health and Human Services (spending deficits, bureaucracy, and funding of left-wing causes, like food stamps); big oil (primarily because oil corporations "are all major contributors to the Public Broadcasting Corporation"); and foundations (like the Ford and Rockefeller Foundations and the Carnegie Endowments) because they give their

...with liberty  
and justice for all.

© Copley News Service



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(private, not public) money "to a score of left to far-left causes."

Neo-conservatives, flying the banner of populism, seek to wrench power away from the people in order to serve their own small-minded goals. They have chosen to use the language of liberalism--calling the power institutions the "establishment" and the "elite"--in a thinly veiled attempt to confuse the American public.

The new populists are courting dissatisfied and angry Americans in the hope that they will "put aside their differences with and preconceived ideas of conservatives in order to meet our common objections. . . . The conservative movement plan for victory includes reaching out to these disillusioned Americans."

They claim, in the major statement on populism in the CD, that they do not want conservative control for their own gains: "Our new coalition must take away the power which the liberal elitists have seized over the people. Not because we want the power for ourselves. But because no one should hold so much power over the people."

Nice sentiment. But clearly a lie. Earlier, in the same article, they stated that their goal is "to achieve control of most of our major institutions and Congress and state and local offices. . . ."

Can they do it? Can these new "populists" actually get enough power to begin chipping away at the basic rights of this country's citizenry? I think so. Especially if we of the left do not believe that they can. Unbelieved and unchecked, the new populists could be unstoppable. ●

--Deborah Wiatt

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# No gay in this play

"A kiss," according to the popular song, "is just a kiss." But in Ira Levin's play *Deathtrap* it's a good deal more. It's the motivational linchpin for a complicated but intriguing storyline.

Somebody at Bloomington's Community Players (CP) should quit taking their cues from popular songs and learn to trust the playwright whose work they're presenting.

*Deathtrap* is an ingenious mystery-comedy that pokes fun at itself and the whole tradition of theatrical thrillers. It contains plot twists designed to fool even the most perceptive mystery buff. (If you haven't seen the play or the movie, which starred Michael Caine and Christopher Reeve, and you think you might want to catch it some time, stop reading now. I'm about to give the entire plot away.)

Author Levin builds carefully to the stage kiss in *Deathtrap*. The audience has seen two killings, which both turned out to be fake and which have been staged, apparently, to frighten a third character to death. But why did Sidney and Clifford conspire to scare Sidney's wife into a heart attack?

The playwright answers the audience's question with a stunning theatrical move, placed just a few lines before the end of the first act. Sidney and Clifford kiss. In the movie it was a rather long, ardent kiss.

As I see it, this important visual clue moves the audience from "What's going on here?" to "Oh, I get it."

And if some members of the crowd are a little slow, they've got the whole intermission to figure it out.

But for some inexplicable reason the Community Players' production of *Deathtrap* did not include the climactic kiss. The audience went from "What's going on here?" to "I still don't know what's going on here."

I was angered by this glaring omission, and so were a number of other people I talked to. Not only did this failure to follow the script hopelessly muddle the plot's key motivations, but it also slammed the closet door in the face of the gay people in the audience and in the community. It said: Community Players isn't going to acknowledge the existence of gay people.

Ira Levin doesn't develop the gay relationship beyond a few lines and references in the second act (which had no context, of course, in the CP production), so I'm not mourning the loss of insightful gay characterizations. The play is devoted to its clever plot and everything, including character development, takes a back seat.

But the two men are gay, dammit! That fact is important to the plot, and I'm outraged that the Community Players didn't have the guts to have two men kissing on stage.

If the actors couldn't bring themselves to perform the act (ick! phooey!), then get some who can. If Michael Caine and Christopher Reeve

can risk their images, two unknowns from Bloomington-Normal can make some sacrifice for artistic integrity. They could always rinse their mouths out with Listerine during intermission.

If the director, or the board of directors, or whoever, thought the audience would be offended, then pick another play. *Time Out for Ginger* is always a safe choice. I mean, the movie version of *Deathtrap* played here for several weeks and the citizenry didn't riot.

Most importantly, there are many gay men and lesbians in this town who support Community Players and theatre in general. Several were in the audience the night I saw *Deathtrap*. Some have even performed--gasp! horror!--in community productions. Right there on stage with the real people. And we're tired of being treated like we don't exist.

Gay people have been vital to the growth of theatre in Amerika--for starters, try doing without the works of Tennessee Williams, Edward Albee, Stephen Sondheim, Thornton Wilder, and Lanford Wilson--and it's about time our presence was recognized and our contributions acknowledged. Even in Bloomington-Normal!

--Ferdurdurke



## looks like a sleepy, serene community.



## look again.

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

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