

Eastern Illinois University

## The Keep

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The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)

The Post Amerikan Project

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7-1980

## Volume 9, Number 3

Post Amerikan

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gay pride; freight-hopping; lithium; rape; bugs

BLOOMINGTON—NORMAL

25¢

# POST AMERICAN

Vol. 9 No. 3  
July 1980



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED  
POST-AMERICAN  
PO BOX 3452  
BLOOMINGTON, IL 61701

BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 168  
BLOOMINGTON, IL 61701

# ABOUT US

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

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

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

not print anything racist, sexist, or ageist.

Most of our material and inspiration for material comes from the community. We encourage you, the reader, to become more than a reader. We welcome all stories and tips for stories, which you can mail to our office. The deadline for next issue is July 24.

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

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

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

## Post Sellers

### BLOOMINGTON

Eastgate IGA, at parking lot exit  
Medusa's Adult World, 420 N. Madison  
The Back Porch, 402 1/2 N. Main  
SW corner, Front & Main  
Haag Drugstore, 509 W. Washington  
Bl. Post Office, E. Empire (at exit)  
Devary's Market, 1402 W. Market  
Harris Market, 802 N. Morris  
NE corner, Front & Prairie  
Biasi's Drug Store, 217 N. Main  
Discount Den, 207 N. Main  
U-I Grocery, 918 W. Market  
Kroger's, 1110 E. Oakland  
Bus Depot, 523 N. East  
Wash House, 609 N. Clinton  
The Park Store, Wood & Allin  
Common Ground, 516 N. Main

Mel-O-Cream Doughnuts, 901 N. Main  
Mr. Donut, 1310 E. Empire  
Doug's Motorcycle, 809 S. Morris  
K-Mart, at parking lot exit  
Small Changes Bookstore, 409A N. Main  
Lay-Z-J Saloon, 1401 W. Market  
Pantagraph Building (in front)  
NE corner, Main & Washington

### NORMAL

Redbird IGA, 301 S. Main  
Mother Murphy's, 111 1/2 North St.  
Dairy Queen, 1110 S. Main, Normal  
Eisner's, E. College (near sign)  
Divinyl Madness, 115 North St.  
Bowling and Billiards Center, ISU

Cage, ISU University Union  
Midstate Truck Plaza, Route 51 north  
Upper Cut, 318 Kingsley  
Old Main Book Store, 207 S. Main

### OUTTA TOWN

Galesburg: Under the Sun, 427 E. Main

Springfield: King Harvest Food Co-op  
1131 S. Grand Ave East

Urbana: Horizon Bkstre, 517 S. Goodwin

## GOOD NUMBERS

Alcoholics Anonymous--828-5049  
American Civil Liberties Union--452-3634  
Clare House (Catholic Worker)--828-4035  
Community for Social Action--452-4867  
Connection House 829-5711  
Countering Domestic Violence (PATH)--827-4063  
Dept. of Children and Family Services--829-5326  
Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare (Social Security Admin.)--829-9436  
Dept. of Mental Health--828-4311  
Gay Action/Awareness Union--828-6935  
Gay National Educational Switchboard--800-227-0888  
Gay People's Alliance (ISU) 452-5852  
HELP (Transportation for handicapped and sr. citizens)--828-8301  
Ill. Lawyer Referral Service--800-252-8916  
Kaleidoscope--828-7346  
Lighthouse--828-1371  
McLean County Health Dept.--829-3363  
McLean County Mental Health Center--827-5351  
Men's Rap Group--828-6935  
Mobile Meals (meals for shut-ins)--828-8301

National Health Care Services (abortion assistance in Peoria)--691-9073  
National Runaway Switchboard--800-621-4000 in Illinois--800-972-6004 (all 800 #'s toll free)  
Occupational Development Center--828-7324  
PATH (Personal Assistance Telephone Help)--827-4005  
Parents Anonymous--827-4005 (PATH)  
Planned Parenthood--827-8025  
Post-Amerikan--828-7232  
Prairie State Legal Aid--827-5021  
Project OZ--827-0377  
Public Aid, McLean Cnty. Dept. of--827-4621  
Rape Crisis Line--827-4005 (PATH)  
SAW (Student Association for Women, ISU)--438-7619  
Small Changes Alternative Bookstore--829-6223  
Sunnyside Neighborhood Center--827-5428  
Tele Care--828-8301  
Unemployment Compensation/Employment Office--827-6237  
United Farmworkers Support Group--452-5046  
Women's Switchboard--800-927-5404

## Harassment at work

# Two scenes from everyday life

He leans against the wall a few yards away from her desk, arms folded, staring at her. Citysilly continues working, vaguely aware of someone nearby. She glances up. He continues staring, now with his eyes focused directly at her breasts and his lips forming a possessive, self-assured grin. Citysilly feels irritated and embarrassed. She flushes slightly, and keeps her eyes riveted downward as if seeking help from the papers on her desk.

He saunters up to her, looking over her shoulder. "You've got the sexiest penmanship," he oozes. "Mr. Jones, I'm trying to get this work done," Citysilly says gently smiling self-consciously.

"You're too serious, sweetheart," he says condescendingly. He places his hand on her shoulder. "You need to relax. How about a drink after work?"

Citysilly squirms, trying to pull away from him. Her discomfort mounts. "I'm sorry, I can't Mr. Jones. I have to study tonight."

"Now, honestly, C.S.," Jones says, running his fingertip along her neck, "You don't want to turn into a dull old bookworm, do you?"

"No, really, I can't. I have an exam."

"Oh, well, that's no problem," Jones says. "I'll help you with your exam. I'll examine you. You can examine me." He winks at her, his face contorted in a cocky smile. Citysilly feels powerless as the anger wells up inside her.



\*\*\*\*\*  
He leans against the wall a few yards away from her desk, arms folded, staring at her. Citywise continues working, vaguely aware of someone nearby. She glances up. He continues staring, now with his eyes focused directly at her breasts and his lips forming a possessive, self-assured grin. Citywise feels irritated.

"Mr. Jones," she says, her voice low pitched and firm. "If you have some business to discuss, let's talk. In any case, I want you to stop staring at me."

He saunters up to her. "What's wrong, cutie, bad time of the month?" He places his hand on her shoulder. "You're a little edgy today, aren't you?" he says condescendingly. "You need to relax. How about a drink after work?"

With a quick, deft movement, Citywise removes his hand from her. She's feeling annoyed and slightly bored with his clumsy, arrogant style and with the tedious assumptions on which his behavior is based.

Citywise says, "Listen carefully." She speaks slowly and deliberately. "I'm not interested in going for a drink with you. I'm not interested in going anywhere with you. I don't want to have any personal conversation with you. I don't want you to stare at me or to touch me, or to call me 'cutie' or any other such names." Citywise's expression shows mild disgust. "I find," she continues, "that your presumptuousness annoys me." She pauses. "Now that's all pretty clear, isn't it?"

He shakes his head, slowly back and forth, trying to maintain his cool. "No sense of humor," he says weakly. "Must be a 'libber'." He walks away, still shaking his head, looking around, hoping no one heard.

Citywise smiles to herself, a little sadly.

### Security tips

\* Speak up directly and assertively when someone is intruding on you.

\* Remember that you have the right to be annoyed when you are being bothered.

--thanks to Naked Man

# Judge Townley investigated for elevator incident

Until the Illinois Judicial Inquiry Board completes its investigation, you might not want to ride in any elevators with Judge Wayne C. Townley Jr.

Especially elevators that Townley has a key to.

After 18 years of handing out jail sentences and smug pious pronouncements on the lives and morals of McLean County residents, Wayne C. Townley may be in store for a taste of his own medicine.

The Pantagraph revealed May 15 that Townley is under investigation, but didn't report what the probe is about.

Knowledgeable sources confirm that Townley is being investigated for making unwanted sexual advances to a young woman training to be a court reporter. In giving the woman a tour of the Law and Justice Center several months ago, Townley allegedly hustled her into the judges' private elevator.

According to the allegations, Townley used his key to turn the elevator off, stopping it between floors. The judge reportedly then began making sexual advances, which the woman refused. Townley put the elevator back into operation after the court reporter trainee refused his advances, according to the reports of the allegations.

The Illinois Judicial Inquiry Board wouldn't even admit to the Pantagraph that an investigation was in progress. But the paper reported that an invest-

igator for the board had already taken two depositions in the case.

The allegations won't become public until (and if) the Judicial Inquiry Board decides there is enough evidence



Judge Wayne C. Townley

to file a complaint and hold a trial before the Illinois Courts Commission.

The Courts Commission has the power to reprimand, suspend, or remove a judge from office.

Townley is the third local judge to get in hot water with the Judicial Inquiry Board lately.

The Courts Commission is still deciding what action to take against Judge Keith Campbell (see last issue) for throwing two Post-Amerikan reporters out of his courtroom and ordering the doors locked to both press and public. Judge Townley was one of a

half dozen courthouse workers testifying against Campbell in a day-long trial April 23.

Judge Sam Harrod III just resigned as the Judicial Inquiry Board was preparing to charge him with a variety of improper actions. Harrod had already been suspended once by the Courts Commission for ordering young men to get haircuts.

After watching Judge Townley conduct the eight-day trial last March of two prisoners charged in connection with the Pontiac riot, I can reassure McLean County residents that Townley's removal from the bench will be no great loss. Spectators saw racism oozing from Townley's voice and manner as he related to non-white lawyers, witnesses and defendants. His clearly different treatment of high-status and low-status witnesses was revoltingly elitist. His heavy-handed bias in favor of the prosecution infuriated both spectators and defense lawyers.

And while we are waiting for the agonizingly long procedures deciding Townley's fate to unfold, I call on the judge to have the decency to immediately disqualify himself from all cases having anything to do with rape or unlawful restraint.

Although Townley isn't being investigated for rape, he is being investigated for rape mentality. As long as Townley is being investigated for attempting to gain sexual contact through the coercive and intimidating tactic of stopping an elevator between floors, no rape victim is going to feel comfortable testifying in Townley's court..

--Mark Silverstein

## Physician screams at rape victim

After the severe emotional trauma of being raped, an ISU student endured further abusive treatment from the examining physician, Dr. S. Gorney, at Brokaw Hospital last fall.

Information on Dr. Gorney's shockingly abusive treatment of an unsteady rape victim appears in the court file of McLean County case 79cf498.

The rape victim told the grand jury that Gorney treated her "extremely harshly." After the doctor asked if she'd taken a shower since the rape she said yes. "And he just got very upset and then he asked me if I was

going to press charges and I said that I didn't know what I was going to do," the victim told the grand jury. "And he just screamed at me, just stood there and screamed. And the nurse just took my temperature and blood pressure."

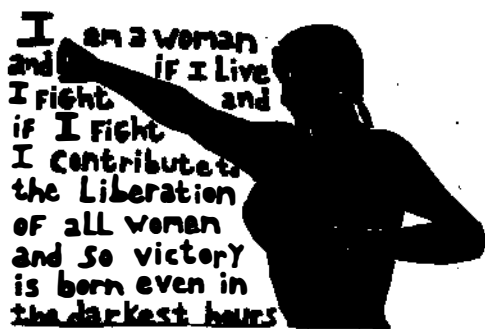
The rape victim did not even get the pelvic examination she had come to the hospital for.

The victim was accompanied to the hospital by a friend, who also reported on Gorney's lack of compassion. The nurse allowed the friend to accompany the victim into the examining room. But Gorney screamed at her to "get out."

Gorney is not listed in the Bloomington-Normal phone book, but a call to Brokaw Hospital confirmed that he is on a list of doctors practicing there.

The list should be changed..

--M.S.



opf/women: a journal of liberation

### ISU women repel attack

## Fight back!

According to the Daily Pantagraph, two women fought off three male attackers on ISU's campus. While speaking to one of the women involved, I was enlightened by their strength in dealing with the attempted assault.

The women had been on their way to the library around 10:45. They saw several groups of people heading in their direction and realized the library might be closing. Within seconds, the woman

I spoke to saw someone grabbing her friend in an attempt to knock her down. Her friend screamed and threw a punch at the assailant. The other woman assisted her friend in knocking the man to the pavement, while getting a few swings in on the two other men involved. The two men must have recognized the women weren't powerless, because they fled, leaving the man flat on his back.

It is this form of action which women

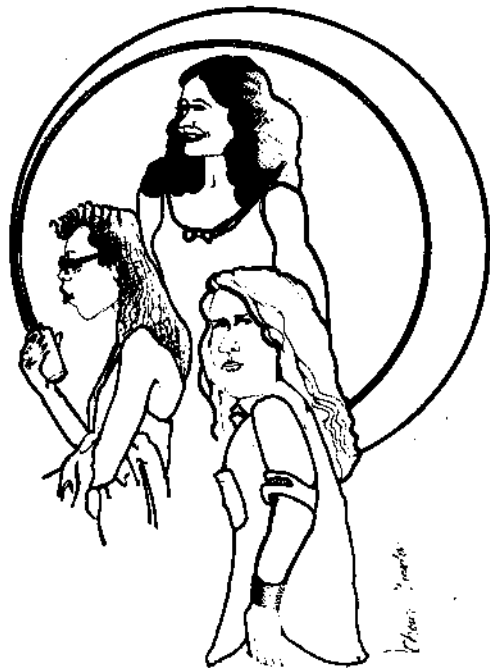
-- M.M.



need to take. These women left one man flattened on the pavement, and the other two scurrying for their safety. The woman told me if it happens again, "...the attackers will be laid out on the pavement when the police arrive..."

As she related what happened that night, I became intensely aware of her attitude toward showing men she wasn't willing to structure her life around their abuse. I gained strength from her. Strength to recognize my tendency to stay in after dark is not the solution; the solution is to fight back. Although physical violence shouldn't be necessary, some men need to recognize the streets were made for walking-- and not just for them..

# And my anger



Some have an easy answer  
Buy a lock and live in a cage  
But my fear is turning to anger  
And my anger is turning to rage  
And I won't live my life in a cage.  
--Holly Near, 1978

As women get out of the kitchen and into the streets, they realize that the hideous stories their mothers used to tell them about boogie men were true. Real live boogie men--rapists, muggers, exhibitionists, murderers, and all manner of attackers--are out there everywhere, waiting for some unsuspecting female to appear on the scene.

Some women, upon this realization, went back home, bought a guard dog, and sat with a loaded shotgun across their laps waiting for someone to cross their thresholds. Others went home, did some reading, took some classes, and went back to the streets, determined to reclaim the land.

The decision to resist attack actively must be the decision of each individual woman. It is the right response for some women, and clearly the wrong response for others. No one can make that choice for you; it has to be your own.

If you should decide to resist when you find yourself in a rape situation, you should be aware of the dangers. If you're going to fight, you should be fairly certain you can win. A few wild punches in the direction of your attacker may make him mad enough to hurt you even more than he had intended to. If you know you can't win--whether because of your physical limitations or predicaments, your mental state, or your distaste for fighting--don't fight.

As you think about fighting back, you need to know what options are available to you, figure out which ones you're capable of doing, and then practice those both physically and mentally.

The mental practice is, in my opinion, the most important. You must know what you think you would do in any given situation to make it even minimally successful. There cannot be too much emphasis placed on the fact that you must think about how you might act if attacked and about what resistance measures you could and would use. Your mental attitude greatly influences your physical actions.

Most women have the double difficulty of not knowing how to defend themselves as well as thinking that any form of aggressive behavior is taboo for a female. It is not my intention to make fighters of all you women out there, nor to make you feel bad about yourself if you choose not to fight back. The decision whether to fight or not belongs to each woman alone.

There are women who will not fight back and women who cannot fight back. To infer that a woman who does not actively resist deserves everything she gets is utterly absurd, to say the least.

Whatever you decide, do what is right for you, not what somebody else thinks is right for you. You alone know your capabilities and your limitations. Whatever you decide to do (or not to do), that decision must be made with

your own self-interest in mind. If made this way, the decision will be the right one.

There are probably a few more things you should realize before you go on to learn how to lay out an attacker. Not everything works. The same technique will not work for women of different size and ability; it also will not work for you every time.

Realize, too, that fighting back has its drawbacks. It really could, if it doesn't work, leave you much worse off physically than not fighting. If you are going to fight, you must go through with it once you've started. It's very difficult, after you have attempted to break his nose, to pretend you were just kidding.

If you are not a natural screamer, practice. Go out to Dawson Lake or somewhere where there are few people around to come to the aid of a woman screaming for help, and practice.

Practice, also, the things you have decided to do. Practice with your women friends, and when you think you are ready for it, practice on your 6 foot, 4 inch boyfriend or your 250-pound brother. It makes a big difference.

I should also give you a word about weapons. If he has one, in my opinion and the opinion of the Rape Crisis Center, you have about two options. Either get him to put it down, or submit. Submit, submit, submit! If he cannot be talked out of his weapon, submit until it hurts.

And if you should meet up with a rapist or mugger or any other sort of attacker, whether you fight or not and whether you win or not, feel free to call the Rape Crisis Center to talk. You will probably need to discuss what has happened, and they have real good ears. They can be reached by calling PATH at 827-4005 and asking for the RCC.

## Talking him to death

The files of Rape Crisis Centers across the country are filled with reports from women who used their voices to get themselves out of a rape situation. Talking sometimes works. If it works, you're out of the situation, and if it doesn't, you haven't lost anything.

As one rapist said of his victims, "They could be women, they could be used cars. It doesn't matter. They're something I can hurt." So your goal in talking a rapist out of hurting you is to turn you from a something into a someone. And it can, and has, been done.

You can try telling him you're a virgin, you're only 15, you're menstruating, you're pregnant, you've got VD, etc., but these lines probably won't work. In the first place he probably won't believe them, and in the second place you can't use several in the same sentence, so it has to be a one-shot line. He may believe you're a virgin (and he may not care), but he's not likely to believe that you're a 15-year-old menstruating pregnant virgin with gonorrhea. It's an all-or-nothing line you're choosing.

You first have to talk to your attacker, not down to him, which is difficult at best. Imagine yourself confronting a man who has just jumped out of the bushes at you and trying not to scream obscenities at him and, instead, discussing the situation in the Middle East. Like I said, difficult at best.



# Common Ground

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# is turning to rage

But if you can become a whole person, the theory goes, he may decide to leave you alone. If you can bend your mind around it, it's probably one of your best shots.

## Fighting back

The things that work best against attack are martial arts such as karate and judo and disciplines such as boxing and wrestling. These, however, are not to be played with. If you have been trained in these techniques, then use them. If you haven't, then don't. It's that simple. Don't think you can pick up the basics by watching David Carradine or George Foreman. There are other things you could be doing.

Screaming is an excellent defense. It draws attention, it hurts the ear if you scream directly into it, and it usually releases your tension so you can fight at your top level. If you tend to freeze at danger, carry a whistle in your hand or around your wrist. Bear in mind, however, that screaming is not altogether safe. Your attacker may hurt or kill you just to shut you up. Bear in mind also that whatever you do, your objective is to get away, not to kill. Hurt the attacker, break his holds, and get away. Don't stand around to find out if he's still breathing. RUN!

**THE FRONTAL ATTACK.** The best parts of the anatomy to aim for are the eyes, ears, nose, and throat. Smash his nose with either an upward blow with the heel of your hand or with your head. Scratch his face with your fingernails. Chop at his throat or the bridge of his nose with the side of your hand. Gouge his eyes with your thumbs. Strike with a full or half fist at his Adam's apple, the bridge of his nose, his temple, and his solar plexus. Pop your hands hard over his ears. Yank on his little fingers to release a hold on your neck.

**SELF DEFENSE**  
is a right.



To release a hold on your hands, push hard in the direction of his thumbs; that is the weakest part of his hold. If a man is coming at you with his arms in any way out in front of him (as if to grab your neck) bring your arms straight up from your sides as hard and as fast as you can to part his arms, then follow through with a downward motion to his collarbone.

**THE REAR ATTACK.** Run your foot down his shin and stomp hard on his instep. Curl your foot in front of his nearest leg and push on his back with the arm you have around him. He should fall flat on his face. Throw your head back into his face; bite or bend his

fingers; kick his shin; gouge his side, stomach, or throat with your elbows. Drop suddenly to a crouch, jump up, and run. Punch or knee him in the groin, if possible, but concentrate on other areas unless you have a clean shot. He will probably protect this area first, leaving the others open for attack.

Lean into your target as you hit. Kick, elbow, kick, and chop hard. If he lets up, pull away and run. Look your attacker in the eye. Act confident and try to remain calm. Try to think of what you can do to him rather than what he can do to you.

## Weapons

Below is a list of common household items that make good weapons and a brief description of how to use them in that capacity. Lethal weapons, guns, knives with blades over four inches, cross bows, etc. are not being discussed here. There are legal restrictions concerning the use of these weapons, and as such it is best not to even consider using them. Any discussion, therefore, has "with the exception of lethal weapons" inferred.



You have the right to defend yourself at any given moment with any means available to you. In this community, the use of any weapon is legal if it is used defensively. A corkscrew, therefore, is not considered a lethal weapon if you use it to ward off an attacker, but it is if you use it to cut up your Uncle Charles and Aunt Minnie. If you feel safer carrying a weapon in your hand while you walk down the street, this, too, is legal. However, IF YOU DON'T INTEND TO USE A WEAPON, DON'T CARRY ONE. Be advised, too, that any weapon you may have can be taken away and used against you. If you know what you are doing, weapons are a fine idea. If you don't know what you are doing, or if you don't feel comfortable with weapons, don't use them. There are other means of defense.

Bic pens, sharpened pencils, nail files, screw drivers, ice picks, metal or plastic rat-tail combs, letter openers, knitting needles, scissors, and pocket knives have basically the same function: jabbing. Aim for the face, throat, solar plexus, and stomach. DO NOT try to cut him up into little pieces. Jab and run. The pain will delay him long enough for you to get away.

Corkscrews, keys, and big, heavy rings have one purpose: tearing. Rip the man's face apart, then run.

Hat pins or needles placed in erasers are good for jabbing in tight places. Jab them into eyes and into ears.

Use umbrellas and rolled up newspapers or magazines to ram into the man's solar plexus and throat. If he doubles over, hit him again across the back of the neck and then run.



A broom is a terrific weapon. Use the bristles, not the handle. Run the bristles into the man's face. When he brings his hands up to protect his eyes, jab him in the solar plexus or stomach and/or hit him across the ears.

A can of aerosol spray or a plastic lemon or squirt gun filled with ammonia or a lye solution are excellent weapons for long or short-range defense. (These are offered as a substitute for mace, which is illegal.) Aim for the eyes, and while he is blinded, run away. One caution: if you use a squirt gun, use one that bears no resemblance to a real revolver. You may be dead before you have a chance to prove that your pistol is plastic.

One of the best close-range weapons you can use is a lit cigarette. Smash it against your attacker's face or into his eyes, then run.

A roll of pennies placed inside your fist acts as a set of brass knuckles. With this added strength to your fist, you can send powerful blows to his face, stomach, and groin.

These are certainly not the only things that can be used as weapons nor are they necessarily the best. What they are are ideas, some good, some probably not so good. But since it is the function of ideas to give birth to other ideas, you should now have some thought as to what types of things can be used and how to use them. If you do fight, remember: that is no gentleman attacking you--don't be a lady. Hurt him and hurt him bad.

--Deborah Wiatt





# Avoiding

## Here are some things you can consider,

There is no such thing as the Ten Commandments of avoiding and resisting attack. There is no magic wand that can assure women of protection from the ever-present threat of rape. There is no never-fail recipe for complete safety.

What there is is a little knowledge of self-defense (see adjoining articles) and a lot of common sense. The question is: common sense for whom? The answer is, of course, not easy. If you listen to the raps from safety divisions of places like the police department or the Association of Commerce and Industry, they will tell you that you, as a woman particularly, should live in virtual fear every waking moment of your life, because paranoia increases awareness and awareness increases safer living. And they're probably right.

But if you listen to the raps from hippies and certain feminists, you will hear that you should do only what you want to do and not be paranoid, because paranoia increases limitations and limitations increase duller living. And they're probably right.

What you, as a woman, should strive for lies somewhere in between. I believe very strongly in awareness without paranoia. It takes years to develop, but the end result is usually very satisfying.

The point of this article is not to make you aware of rape. The Post-Amerikan has and will continue to run articles on rape in an effort to make every woman around know that she is most assuredly a potential rape victim. This article assumes you know that already. The point is to make you aware of what you can do to make you safer, or at least make you feel safer, in your everyday life.

Several things need to be stressed. First of all, the suggestions below are just that--suggestions. They are not rules. They are not ultimatums. They are not meant to make you feel guilty just because you leave a key to your house in the mailbox for your friend from Wisconsin who will arrive before you get off work but one of the

many local rapists gets there first and lets himself in and rapes you when you come home at noon. There is only one place for guilt when talking about rape, and that place is squarely on the shoulders of the rapist himself. Not on your shoulders. Never on yours.

So you should read these suggestions and be aware of what things you could do. Then you must decide for yourself how much you are willing to limit your space and your freedom and your life. Some women see their limited freedom as a fair exchange for relative safety. Others see relative safety a poor excuse for limiting their freedom.

There is no right answer for every woman. You must search your own head and come up with a reasonable policy for your life. If reasonable means all of the suggestions below, as well

as making up a few of your own, then that is the correct thing for you to do. If reasonable means making no compromises whatsoever and giving the list of suggestions to your mother whom you feel might benefit, then that, too, is the correct thing for you to do. If reasonable means picking and choosing what you are willing and able to follow, then that is the correct thing, also.

So, then, what follows is a list of possible ways for you to feel safer. It is formally called, by the Rape Crisis Center, "Avoiding Attack," and loosely called, "Lowering Your Odds."

--Deborah Wiatt,  
with the suggestions stolen from  
the Rape Crisis Center Training  
Packet.

## Where you live ...

1. There should be lights in all entrances and hallways. Dark corners make excellent hiding places.
2. All windows should be in place and have locks which you should use. There should be curtains or blinds on every window.
3. There should be strong locks on every door and a chain lock and/or peephole on all windowless doors.
4. Never open a door until you know who is standing on the other side. All repairpeople are issued identification cards, as are all police officers, delivery people, etc. If a person claims to be from a particular company or establishment but fails to produce any identification, tell them to wait, then call the firm they claim to be representing to determine whether or not they are at your home on official business. If the company cannot verify the person, call the police.
5. Do not put your first name on your mailbox or in the phone book; use your initials. If you live alone you may wish to list fictitious roommates on your mailbox.
6. Know which of your neighbors you could trust in an emergency.
7. Have the correct key in your hand both to and from your house and car. Know which way your key goes into the lock.
8. Never leave a key in a mailbox, under a mat, or in any other hiding place near or around your house. If you want someone to have a key to your house, give it to him or her directly.
9. Leave a light and a radio on inside your house when you are gone. If your house looks inhabited, chances are better that it will not be broken into.
10. Do not leave porch or garage lights on when you are gone. This is a giveaway that you are not at home.
11. Carry a flashlight when you are returning home at night.
12. Be aware that tall or untrimmed shrubbery around your house makes a good hiding place. If you hesitate to have it trimmed, shine your flashlight behind it when returning at night.

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# attack:

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## but there's no hope for complete safety

13. Make sure your street is well-lighted. If it is not, complain to everyone in the city government you can think of. If you make a nuisance of yourself, you may get results just to shut you up.
14. If you are riding in an elevator, stand near the control panel. If you are on the first floor and the indicator is pointing to the basement, do not get on. It will come back, and the thirty seconds you may have to wait for it could save you from being mugged, raped, or killed in the basement of your building. If you know the people in your building and you see a strange man in the elevator as you start to get on, get out and wait for it to come back empty.

### On the street . . .

1. Avoid walking in or by the narrow walkways between buildings.
2. Walk near the curb rather than near buildings, alleys, or shrubbery.
3. Avoid parks, unlit parking lots, and construction areas after dark.
4. Do not take short cuts through any poorly lighted areas.
5. Walk only on well-lit, well-travelled streets.
6. Vary your routes and your time schedule. If these are unpredictable, your chances of a planned attack decrease.
7. Do not walk through a group of men. Either walk around them or cross the street.
8. Do not walk alone if you are upset, drunk, or high on drugs.
9. Be aware of the other people walking or loitering around you.
10. Walk with confidence in your gait and try to look like you are in complete control of both yourself and your surroundings.
11. Stand solidly with your feet apart so no one can push you over.
12. Keep your hands as free as possible and out of your pockets. Being burdened with packages or books makes you an easier target.
13. Wear clothes that allow you to move freely and to run. Be aware that you are not going to be able to run in clogs, platform shoes, and tight pants or skirts. Remember that capes, scarves, and long necklaces are easy to grab. Be aware of the physical limitations placed on you by how you are dressed.
14. Walk on the side of the street facing the on-coming traffic. This will enable you to spot a suspicious car more quickly than if it slips up behind you.
15. If you are accosted by someone in a car, run in a direction opposite to the way the car is headed. In the time it takes the car to turn around, you can be gone.
16. If you are being followed, run to the nearest lighted place and get in quickly. Breaking a window brings faster attention than ringing a bell. If the door is unlocked, walk in. You are not there as a guest--don't act like one. Once inside, call the police.
17. Remember, risk of attack decreases as the size of the group increases. There is safety in numbers.

### In your car . . .

1. Always check the back seat of your car for intruders before you get in.
2. Always lock your car doors, but have the correct key in your hand and have it facing the right way so you can quickly unlock the door.
3. When driving, lock all your car doors and keep the windows rolled up high enough that no one can get an arm and hand through. If you must ventilate the car, roll the windows up when stopped at an intersection, especially at night. If you are driving alone, roll down only the driver's window.
4. If someone tries to enter your car when you are stopped, gun the engine and get away, even if this means running a red light or a stop sign. If the police stop you, you won't have to waste 20 cents to call them.
5. If you are being followed by a car, drive to a police, fire, or gas station, or any other well-lighted, well-populated area. If a car follows you into your driveway at night, stay in the car with the doors locked until you can identify the driver. If identification is impossible, sound your horn until your neighbors come to your rescue or your pursuer flees because of the noise.
6. Leave a space between your car and the cars in front of you in traffic or at a stoplight so you have room to maneuver in the event of an attack.
7. Keep your car in gear at stoplights and railroad crossings at night. Be ready to move instantly.



8. Never pick up male hitchhikers. If hitchhikers make you the least bit uncomfortable, don't pick up anyone, male or female.
9. Make sure you don't run out of gas.
10. If you have a flat tire in a lonely or deserted area, drive on it until you reach a safe or well-lighted spot.
11. In the event of car trouble, if someone tries to help you, lower your window a crack and ask them to call for assistance. Do not let anyone into your car; do not get out of your car.
12. If you stop to aid another motorist, keep your doors locked, lower your window a bit, and find out what assistance is needed. Then go to a phone and notify the proper authorities. Again, do not get out of your car and do not let anyone into your car.
13. If another person is riding with you, always wait for him or her to get into the house and turn the lights on before you drive away.

Cont. on next page



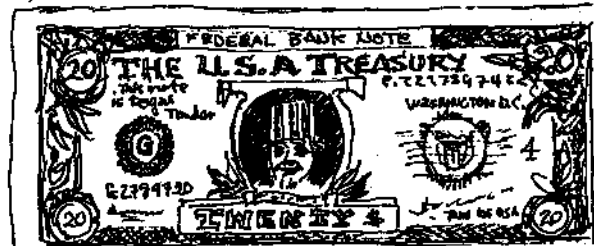
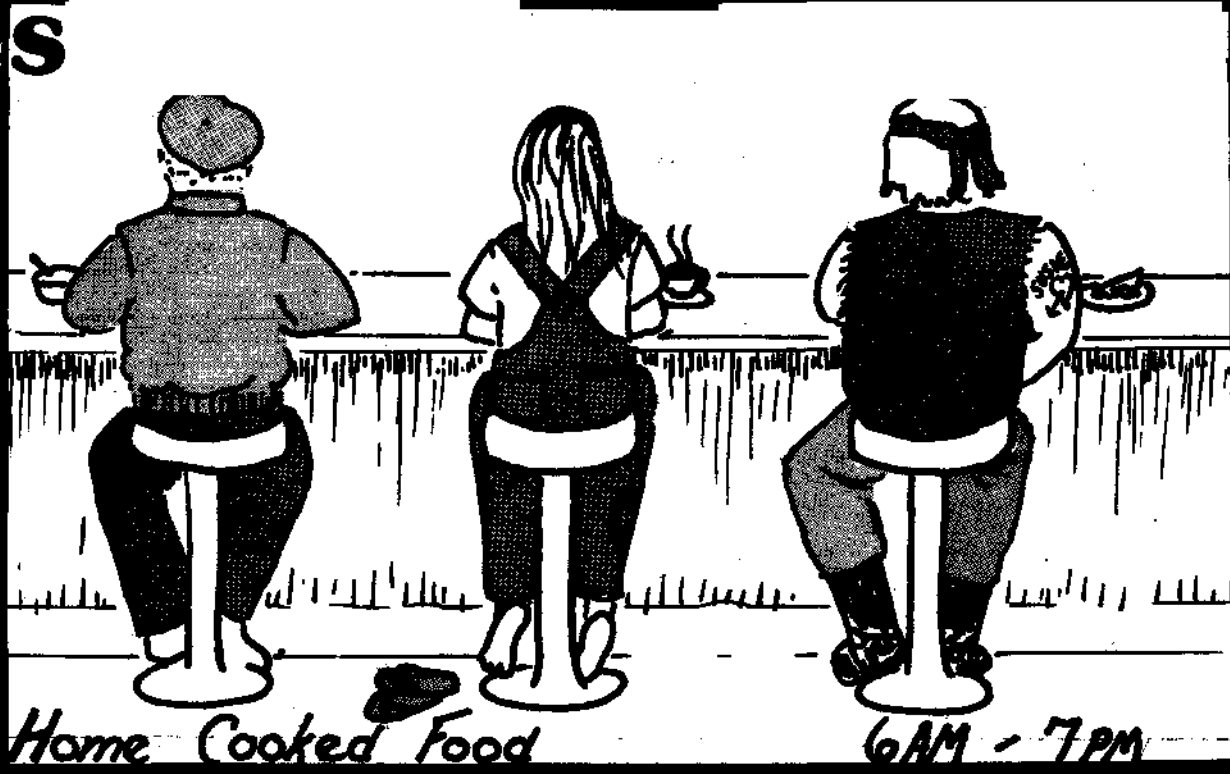


# Avoiding attack, cont.

## Hitchhiking . . .

While hitchhiking is generally a poor idea, there are times and circumstances which make it a necessity. If there is any other way of getting around, use it. If you do decide to hitchhike, and if anything happens to you, your position with the police and in court is weakened considerably. They will tend to put most of the blame on you. If you are going to hitchhike, you should try to follow as many of the following suggestions as possible. They do not claim to insure you a safe trip, but they should reduce your chances of attack.

1. Don't hitch by yourself.
2. Don't hitch at night.
3. Hitch rides where there is a lot of traffic; stay away from deserted places.
4. Never accept a ride with more than one man. Don't be afraid to refuse a group.
5. Encourage women who hitch to pick up other women when they are driving.
6. Write down the license number of the car before you get in.
7. Before you get into the car, look in the back seat to make sure no one is hiding there.
8. Make sure there is an inside door handle that works on the passenger side.
9. Make sure the driver is fully clothed and not exposing himself.
10. Don't get into a car if beer or liquor bottles are on the floor; the driver may be drunk.
11. Don't accept a ride from a man who was speeding and slammed on his brakes to pick you up.
12. Don't accept a ride from a man who changed directions to pick you up, like making a turn or changing blinkers to turn a different way.
13. Ask the driver where he is going before he asks you. Never get dropped off directly at your destination.
14. Be aware of where you are going and how to get there so you will know if the driver makes a wrong turn.
15. Never hitch into the country or the outer-city limits where the driver could drive quickly and without stopping.
16. If the driver wants to make a stop first, get out as soon as possible.
17. If you have a bag, keep it on your left side between you and the driver. You can use it to help ward off an attack.
18. Always keep your window partly rolled down in case you have to scream.
19. Carry a whistle with you.
20. Always have a lit cigarette in your hand.
21. There may come a time when you have to jump out of a moving car. Check first for stoplights or signs where you could get out safely. If you feel you have to jump, make sure that you can roll to a clear spot away from other moving cars. Throw your shoulders first with your right hand near your body. Tuck your head into your neck and keep your back curved. Let your feet follow. It will hurt.
22. As long as the driver doesn't have a weapon your chances are fair to good-- he still has



# Discourage bugs --don't poison them

There are about a million different bugs that eat plants. Fortunately, only 1% are agricultural pests. The rest perform useful work--they break down dead material or burrow in the soil and help aerate it.

If you have good soil, if you keep the weeds down and supply your garden with food and water, you'll have healthy plants. If you have healthy plants, you won't have too much trouble with insects.

This doesn't mean that you won't lose a few leaves or a few beans to the bugs. That's the price you pay for having the good bugs along with the bad. And you should be willing to pay that price rather than use chemical insecticides, even if you don't worry about poisoning yourself along with the slugs.

Still, you want to minimize insect damage, and there will be occasional imbalances no matter how solicitous you are of your plants' welfare.

My garden, for instance, has been plagued with a heavy onslaught of slugs lately, due to the wet weather and my preference for using mulch to keep the weeds down. Slugs love cool



moist ground and they get through the hot afternoons by hiding under the mulch. True, they've not done much damage to my vegetables, but I'd rather they didn't eat all my marigolds. So what to do?

Read on, and I'll give you some suggestions for slugs and other beasties. But first, a word to the wise.

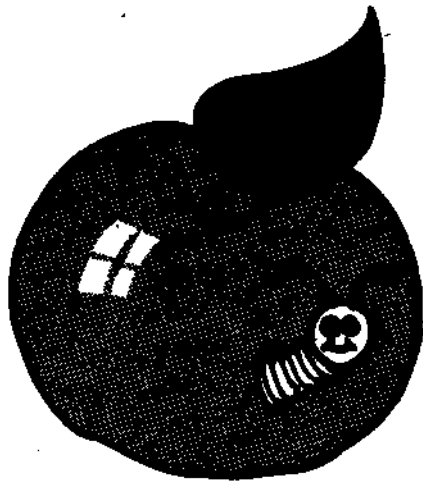
Inspect your garden frequently for insect damage. A half a dozen little green worms are easier to deal with than half a hundred. If you find a few chewed-up kohlrabi leaves, search out the culprit then and there. If you can't find the critter, try again at dusk or after dark when many insects feed. They you can try one of the remedies listed below:

--Encourage birds to come live at your house. Some will eat a few of your strawberries, but the others will eat their weight in insects every day. Plant sumac, holly, or wild grape to provide food and resting places. Bird baths help, too.

--Other good critters are ladybugs and praying mantises, both of which eat other insects like aphids and mites. You can actually buy ladybugs and praying mantises to release in your garden. I tried both last year, and their populations are still high. Most of the big seed companies will mail these bugs to you.

--Spiders are almost universally loathed, but if you like plants, be kind to spiders. Almost all of them eat other bugs.

--Another useful weapon is Ivory Snow soap powder. (Any soap powder would do, but don't use detergent.) I mix 2 or 3 tablespoons to a quart of water and then spray it on susceptible plants, such as beans and members of



the cabbage family. It discourages many bugs because they don't like the way it tastes. (You, of course, have the option of rinsing your food before dining.) I find it works tolerably well against the little green worms (actually the larvae of a white moth) that eat kohlrabi, broccoli and cabbage. It also discourages slugs and the little bugs that look like green ladybugs and eat beans. It helps with squash bugs, red spider mites and scale.

--Another all-purpose method is your fingers. Tomato cutworms, for instance, can be spotted by looking over denuded leaves and branches. Once found, grasp the rascal between thumb and forefinger and dispose of as humanely as possible. Slugs and cabbage worms can be treated similarly. Squash bugs are also relatively easy since they lay amber eggs in clusters on the underside of your squash plants. Watch for them soon and squeeze between the same two digits.

--Some plants naturally repel certain insects. Garlic and chives scattered through your garden will definitely help. If you want to protect individual plants, say a tomato from cutworms, tie (loosely) some onion stems to the main stalk at ground level. Other herbs, like savory and thyme, ward off insects, and even the marigold is reputed to keep away some bugs, though obviously not slugs.

--If you're desperate to save a cherished plant, you can try an insecticide like pyrethrum or rotenone, both of which are derived from plants and will break down. Be sure, however, to follow instructions and to buy a solution that contains no dangerous synthetic chemicals. Of course,



these sprays will kill many beneficial bugs, also. (You can make your own spray by drying out chrysanthemum flowers and grinding them up for mixing with water. Pyrethrum is obtained from a chrysanthemum species.)

--Alcohol on a cotton swab is a good way to get rid of mealy bugs, though you must be determined. (I reserve this method for houseplants.) Just touch all visible bugs and the white cottony masses at branchings.

--Many animals are useful because they are voracious eaters: turtles, chameleons, blue-tailed skinks (a lizard), toads, frogs, and salaman-

ders. Turtles, for instance, will do well in a fenced-in garden. Toads will sometimes stick around of their own accord since they like to settle into a familiar place.

--Some simple traps work well. Snails, slugs, squash bugs and wireworms will crawl under boards. Wireworms and snails will find raw potatoes lightly buried. Jars filled with water and molasses attract many insects. Flies and slugs (allegedly!) like shallow dishes of beer. Of course, boards and potato baits require you to go out and kill the bugs thus lured.

--Ground bone meal and wood ashes spread at the base of a plant will repel some insects (like slugs), and both also provide useful nutrients if not overused. Ground pepper and oil of citronella also work. Even simple collars of roofing paper or milk cartons will keep some insects from reaching plants, like peppers. Screened enclosures keep particularly deadly flies away from radishes and the cabbage family early in the season.

Of course, you should always remove badly infested or sickly plants in order to limit the damage. In the fall, you should clean up your garden, because many insects winter over in dead plants, and you should turn over the soil to disturb insects that have



settled in for the long winter. Finally, in the spring you should rotate your crops: don't plant tomatoes in the same place every year. Otherwise, the bugs that like a particular plant will have an easy time finding food and thus get off to a fast start.

Let us know if you have your own favorite methods of controlling insects.

-D. LeSeure

(with thanks to Jack Kramer's The Natural Way to Pest-Free Gardening)

\*\*\*\*\*

## Danny Grover: narc

Bloomington's Danny Grover worked as a MEG informer, setting up a large number of local young people during the summer and fall of '79. He worked with MEG Agent Steve Reeter.



# Prosecution misconduct charged

Moving to dismiss charges because of misconduct by the prosecution, attorneys for five black men charged in connection with the 1978 riot at Pontiac penitentiary have spent days of court time in McLean County in mid-June offering witness after witness testifying that state investigators used threats, bribery, intimidation, and imposed intolerable conditions on prisoners to get them to give evidence against other prisoners.

The head of the Illinois Department of Law Enforcement (IDLE) investigation of the riot, commander Larry Dowdy, admitted threatening a prisoner

with death to get him to talk. Dowdy said he told a prisoner he would "burn in the chair" unless he cooperated with investigators.

The state is seeking the death penalty for 17 of the prisoners who were indicted in connection with the riot.

The defense is arguing that the tactics of IDLE agents and the conditions under which the investigation was conducted created false testimony against those finally indicted.

Many witnesses, including prison monitor Jeanette Musengo of the John Howard Association, testified about the medieval conditions IDLE forced prisoners to endure during the 8-month deadlock imposed after the riot. All prisoners were locked in their cells 24 hours a day, with no jobs, no schooling, no recreation, no walks to the chow hall, no phone calls. For the first three sweltering summer months, prisoners had no showers. For the first couple of months, no visits from family were permitted.

Food, already cold, was slopped onto paper plates folded in half and handed through the bars. Since guards seeking revenge told prisoners they had pissed and spit into the food, most unsealed food wound up thrown onto the galleries. Garbage, rotting food, and the inevitable insects accumulated,

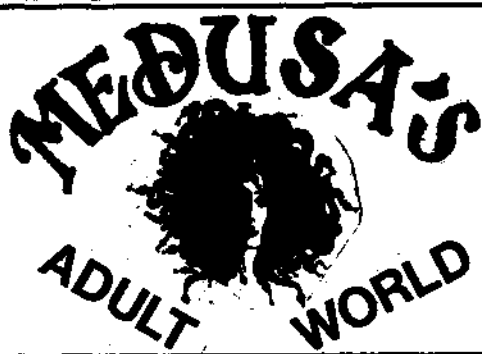
since inmate workers couldn't get out of their cells to clean up.

Picture rows of cells, sixty cells long, stacked five rows high. Stacks of cages, each with two men locked inside for months at a time, baking without showers in 100-degree heat with the stench of maggot and roach-infested rotting garbage. Men in cages with no outlet for their rage but to scream and bang futilely on the steel bars. The animals in the zoo receive better treatment.

Ninety percent of the caged men are black. Ninety percent of their keepers are white. A prison riot is the closest thing modern America has to a slave rebellion, which brings up one of the cruelest ironies of the Pontiac riot trials being conducted in Bloomington: the five black men charged with rebellion must sit in the courtroom under a portrait of slavery advocate Stephen A. Douglas, famous for his debates with Abraham Lincoln.

But I am digressing.

During the deadlock, the Illinois Department of Law Enforcement--not prison officials--controlled Pontiac. The prison was controlled by the agency responsible for prosecuting the riot defendants. The prosecution held all potential witnesses under



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## Citizens volunteer to pull the switch

Letters from volunteer would-be executioners have been pouring into the Illinois Department of Corrections since the agency announced in March it was thinking of using volunteers to carry out the death penalty, including the execution of mass murderer John Gacy.

State officials say they have received hundreds of letters from people outlining their executor qualifications. Some say they would be eager to pull the switch on condemned criminals.

The DOC says, for example, that a Wisconsin police officer wrote in volunteering for the job, citing his

job experience as including "the destruction of animals at an animal shelter."

And an Illinois volunteer claimed, "I am the type who works with life and death on a daily basis. I am a licensed funeral director and embalmer."

Other volunteers were more direct. "I am not wanting this job just (to kill) John Gacy. I want them all." There are currently 26 men sentenced to death row in Illinois..

--ZNS

## CIA tried to contact dead agents

During the late 1960's, the Central Intelligence Agency experimented with mediums in an effort to contact dead agents, says an article by Martin Lee in the April High Times. These attempts, according to former high-ranking CIA official Victor Marchetti, were part of a larger effort to harness psychic powers for various intelligence-related missions that included utilizing clairvoyants to divine the intentions of Kremlin leadership.

CIA documents recently released to High Times indicate that the agency's interest in parapsychological phenomena dates back to the late 1940's. A handwritten memo from this period suggests that "hypnotists and telepaths" be contacted as professional consultants on an exploratory basis. A document dated April 4, 1950, describes a successful ESP demonstration wherein a young woman employee was placed in a light hypnotic trance and then proceeded to describe accurately a scene in the

life of another CIA operative as he held her hand.

By 1952, the CIA initiated an extensive program involving "the search for and development of exceptionally gifted individuals who can approximate perfect success in ESP performance." Along this line, the CIA began infiltrating seances and occult gatherings. A memo dated April 9, 1953, refers to a domestic --and therefore illegal--operation that required "planting of a very specialized observer" at a seance.

By the early 1960's, the CIA's parapsychological experiments were incorporated into the top-secret MKULTRA program. The ESP experiments continued after MKULTRA was terminated in the mid-1960's and are still being conducted at the present time, although agency officials refuse to comment on the exact nature of this research..

# in Pontiac riot pre-trial hearing

these barbaric conditions, kept the pressure on, offered transfers and parole for cooperation, and threatened non-cooperators with indictment or with being set up for reprisals by other prisoners.

Word circulated around the prison about which prisoners IDLE was asking about. As the IDLE continued the deadlock, they stepped up the pressure on prisoners to tell investigators what they wanted to hear, whether it was true or not.

Tom Vogt, a jailhouse lawyer in the prison, testified that he cracked under the pressure of deadlock. In poignant testimony, he recounted banging a stool against his cell bars until his hands were bloody from the mad, desperate effort. "It was the only outlet, the only release," he said.

Vogt convincingly testified that he was ready to murder a guard simply for refusing to permit him to wear a sweatsuit to his long-awaited shower. Vogt testified that he was ready to make up a story about witnessing something during the riot, just to get out of the torture of the months-long deadlock. (But Vogt was a resident of the one cellhouse which had stayed locked up during the riot.)

IDLE commander Dowdy admitted that he knew the pressures of living under deadlock would induce prisoners to lie to investigators.

Dowdy also admitted coercing prisoners to talk by "fronting them off" to other prisoners. Here's how it worked:

In the first weeks after the riot, IDLE agents interviewed each prisoner in Pontiac for exactly 20 minutes, whether the prisoner indicated he'd cooperate or not. The set time period prevented prisoners from using an interview's length to determine who was going to be a stool pigeon. But in subsequent interviews, IDLE didn't follow this procedure. Some non-cooperating prisoners were held in interrogation rooms for long periods



of time, just to get them in trouble with other prisoners. Such tactics made the offer of a transfer in return for information look promising.

One prisoner who didn't cooperate testifies that an IDLE agent loudly whispered to him, in front of other prisoners, "thanks for the info."

Two prisoners who had been listed as witnesses for the state admitted they had lied because of various pressures on them.

Several witnesses reported that IDLE investigators asked about specific names, and offered rewards for information about them. Testimony made it clear that word could easily travel around the prison that investigators were interested in certain prisoners, allowing prisoners opportunity to make up false statements in advance of

their interviews with IDLE.

Some witnesses said IDLE agents pointed out specific photos of prisoners, saying "that's the one who did \_\_\_\_\_, isn't it?" One prisoner, formerly listed as a witness for the state, claims that he invented his testimony of who did what based on clues from questions of IDLE agents.

Aware of the webs of hatreds, resentments, and gang rivalries that underlie prison life, prisoners knew that others could be giving false information about them. Aware of the ease of frame-ups, prisoners got scared when IDLE investigators used what they admit was a common tactic: "\_\_\_\_\_ said they saw you doing this. We would help you out if you help us out."

In the midst of hearing evidence in mid-June, Judge Glennon conceded that "The defense has established that post-riot conditions at Pontiac were intolerable, and that the deadlock probably went on longer than necessary." But from the judge's attitude during the week of evidence of prosecution misconduct, he seemed unlikely to dismiss charges outright. Defense lawyers seem to accept that their motion to dismiss will fail, but have been patiently building an extensive record which they will rely on for appeal if their clients are convicted.

Trial for the five men charged with looting the prison store and burning it down will have begun by June 18.

--Mark Silverstein

## Electrocution described

POST-NOTE: Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for seventeen black men charged with the murder of three guards during the Pontiac prison uprising of July 1978. Evidence against the seventeen is tainted by the same investigative techniques of bribery, coercion, threats described in the adjoining article. Trial of the seventeen is expected to begin sometime this summer. The following explanation of electrocution is reprinted from the newsletter of the Pontiac Prisoners Support Coalition, to give readers an understanding of what prosecutors are actually trying to do in the largest mass death penalty case in the country.

In Illinois a person sentenced to death dies in the electric chair. This is what happens to a person killed in the electric chair.

A condemned person is electrocuted by passing a high power current of electricity through his or her body. The current causes the eyeballs to pop out and fracture; the tongue to roast and turn blue-black; and the head and legs, which are in direct contact with the current, to be cooked. As the current flows through the body, the victim involuntarily defecates and urinates. The muscles of the body whip and snap violently--causing the neck to swell to twice its normal size and the face to bulge and become grotesque. The current jolts the victim with such power that the back may snap and the neck twist until broken.

After an unknown period of time, during which the victim burns, boils and melts, death results from cessation of respiration and cardiovascular activity.

It is impossible to say with medical certainty that electrocution causes loss of consciousness or death instantaneously. In the case of Ethel Rosenberg it is documented that she



was still alive after the current coursed through her body for three minutes. A witness described her execution.

"...As the black strap was placed across her mouth, she looked straight ahead at the ashen reporters sitting on hard benches before the chair. Her eyes were open when the black leather hood was dropped over her head.

"The warden signaled with a nod. Francel walked quickly into the alcove. He pulled the switch down. Her body smashed convulsively against the straps, which made creaking noises under the strain. Combined with the whistling, crackling sound of the electricity, they created weird, rhythmic dissonances, as if witches were howling in the wind.

"Her right index finger rose as if in silent rebuke. Her body lifted off the seat against the straps and her hands closed into fists as if she was going to charge across the room swinging.

"There was a strong smell of burning flesh, as the temperature of her body

reached 140 degrees. Thin smoke rose from her scalp and turned blue in the overhead light, as it flattened out in an ugly cake against the skylight overhead.

"After the three long shocks, the switch was turned off. The body hung loose. The silence and stench mixed. A guard unleashed the black strap that had been tied tightly across her breasts. Another guard unbound her arms and a leg. Dr. McCracken approached. He could not place his stethoscope into the collar of the dress. He and Dr. Kipp tore it open and listened to her heart. The doctor stepped back bewildered. Instead of uttering the ritual words, he looked at the warden and said in a hollow voice, "Warden, she is still alive.

"The executioner came out from his alcove to consult with the warden and the doctor. He, too, could not believe that there was still a heart-beat. In a whispered conference, they decided to turn the switch on for a severe and then modified jolt.

"The guards restrapped her as if for a second execution. The warden signaled again. The switch was pulled down. For 57 seconds, her body bounced in convulsive movements against the straps, while sizzling skillet noises crackled in the room. The switch was lifted. She descended into the seat in slow motion. Another jolt for 57 seconds made sputtering noises and sent a plume of smoke out of her head. Then silence and collapse. The doctor applied his stethoscope to the smoldering chest. He straightened and said, "I pronounce this woman dead." (June, 1953).

--Pontiac Prisoners Support Coalition

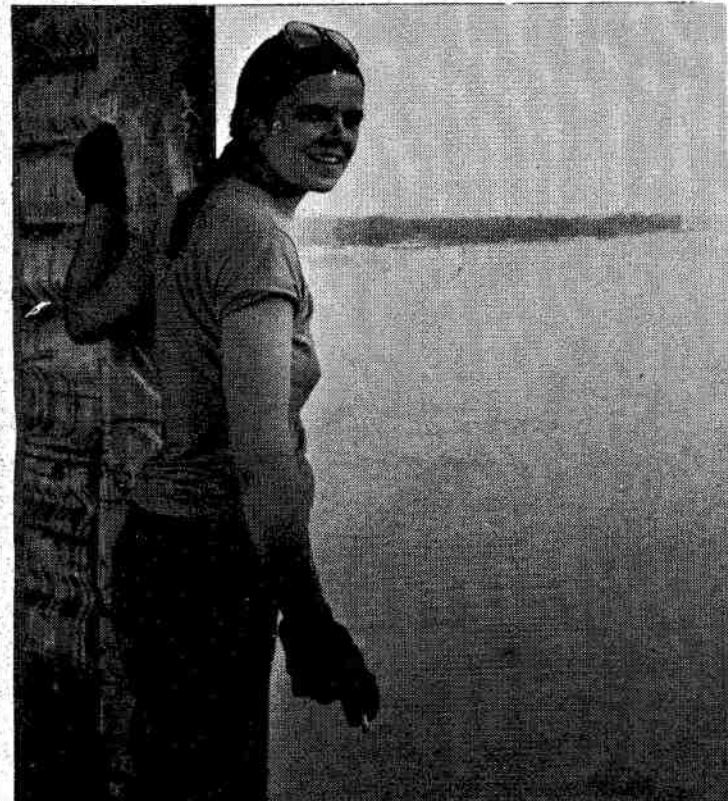
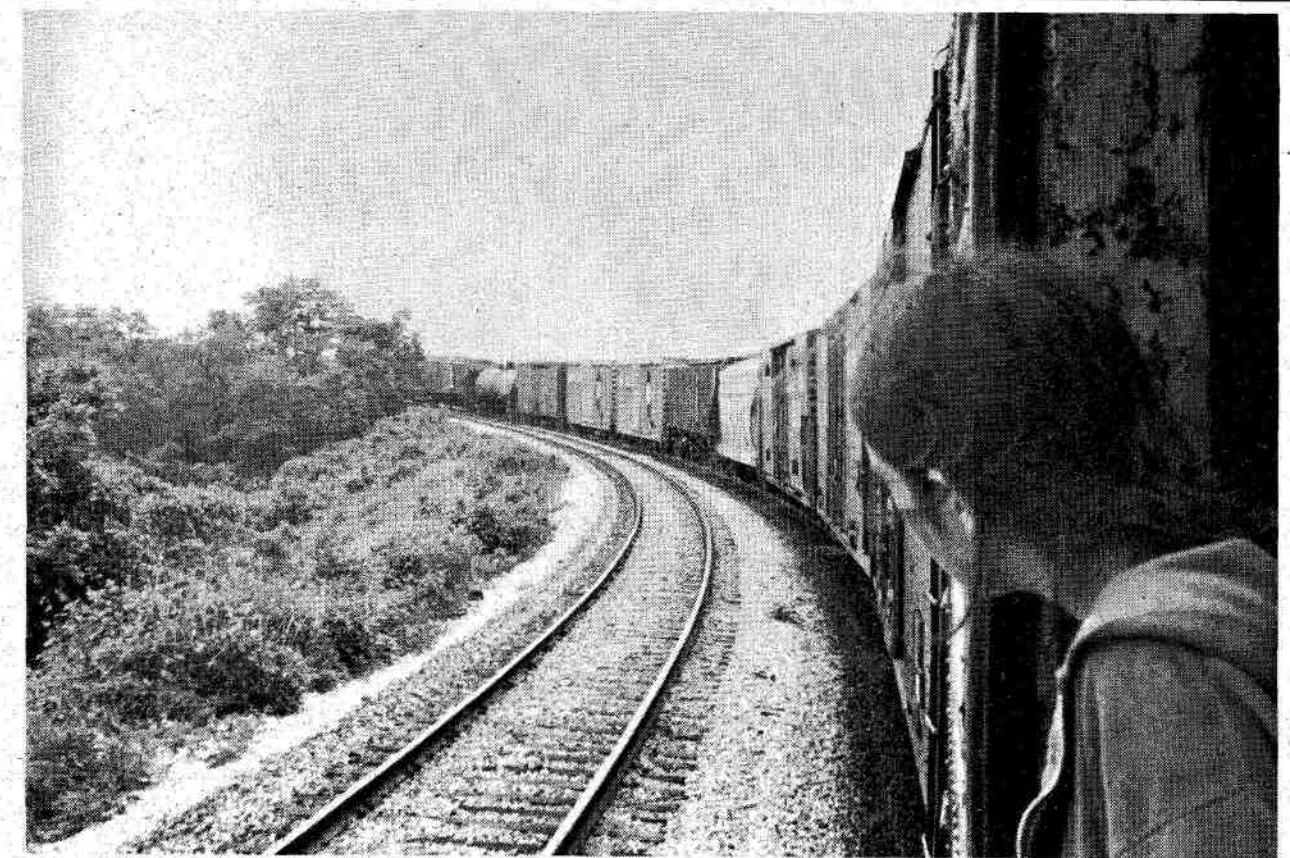


Travel

# See America ... by boxcar



Riding the rails brings scenery closer than any highway driving can.



Crossing the Ohio River. Wearing gloves helps keep hands clean when climbing into or holding onto the boxcar.

If you are up for some low-cost, energy-saving, adventurous traveling and don't want to deal with the weirdos who might pick you up hitchhiking, why not try hopping freights? With proper preparations, basic safety precautions, and plenty of patience, you can enjoy an exhilarating scenic ride through America's backwoods and backyards. And if you don't like the ride, you can get your entire fare refunded.

Inspired by a reading of the recently published Freighthopper's Manual for North America: Hoboing in the 1980s (by Daniel Leen, Capra Press, Santa Barbara. Available through Small Changes Bookstore), Post staffer Melissa McGrath and I decided to check out Illinois Central Gulf's boxcar accommodations over Memorial Day weekend.

I had already had some experience. Two years ago my friend Fred and I, after an embarrassing series of false starts, rode freights down to New Orleans. We made a lot of mistakes to learn from, like don't go long distances without water (or wine). Leen's book offered tips which we were anxious to put into practice.

Most folks think of freight hopping as necessarily conducted behind the backs of railroad employees, who are supposedly drooling and ready to bash

in the heads of unfortunate hobos.

But the key to successful travel on the boxcars seems to be gaining the help of railroad workers.

And they are willing to help.

By being upfront about our desire to get a train, railroad workers gave us plenty of useful information about train schedules, destinations, which cars were going far and which weren't.

One helpful employee told us when the railroad's special agent would be around and advised us where to hide to keep out of his sight.

We had feared that railroad workers would behave paternally, disapproving of a woman riding the rails. But we received no such reaction at all.

To reach the Illinois Central north-south main line, we hitched to Champaign. The yards are just north of I-74.

Arriving Friday evening, we learned that a train headed to Birmingham, Alabama would be stopping briefly at 12:30. We also learned that a train headed south was being made up right in the yards in Champaign, but wouldn't leave until 3 AM. A railroad worker said a traveler was already sleeping in one of the boxcars being

hooked up to the 3 AM train.

Since we had several hours to wait before the 12:30 train, we took off to explore the area. Any readers thinking of taking trains out of Champaign should know that there is a drive-in theater not far west of the yards. A pre-teen bicycle gang showed us how to sneak in and catch the movie.

The 12:30 arrived a little early and stopped. We found an excellent boxcar; doors open on both sides (great for scenery), new flooring, and cleaner than some of my friends' living rooms.

So far, the freights had Amtrak beat. Cheaper fare, a movie in the waiting room, prompt service, and far more spacious seating.

The train soon pulled out, and we were on our way to Birmingham. Or so we thought.

Within about 20 minutes, we found our boxcar on a side track--quiet, immobile. Our train had left us in Champaign.

We sadly abandoned our boxcar and started hiking back to find some railroad workers.

We eventually learned that we had

been unlucky enough to get on a small section of cars set to be dropped off in Champaign. If we'd got on another part of the train, we'd be moving.

But we learned that the boxcar we'd just abandoned was supposed to be part of the 3 AM train being made up in the yards. We had a happy reunion with our boxcar as we climbed back in.

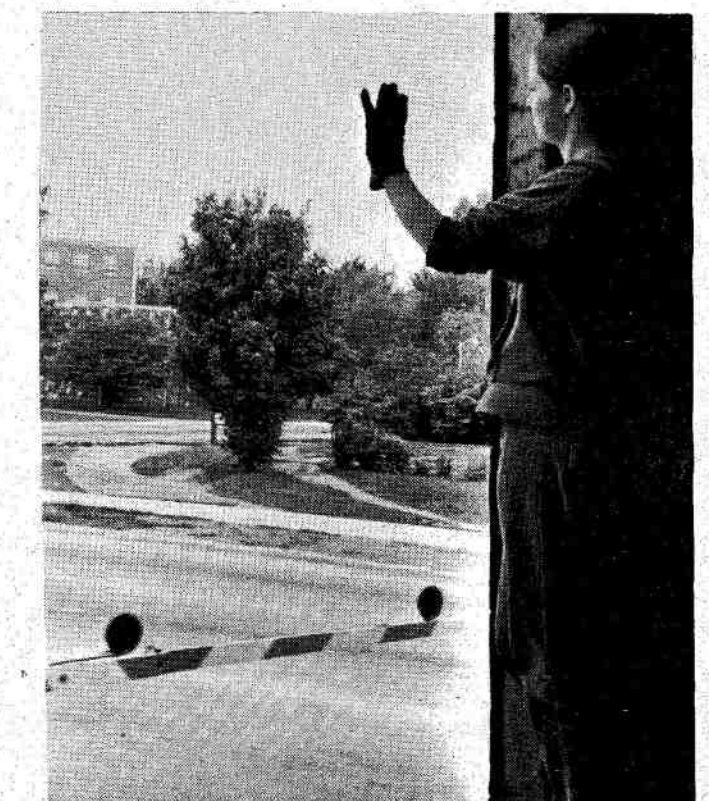
Later in our trip, we learned to ask not only about a train's final destination, but also which sections of the train were going all the way.

We'd lost a few hours, but I said you had to bring patience. Once on our boxcar, we threw down some plastic, broke out the sleeping bags, and caught some sleep.

I woke up from a bumpy, but satisfying nap at dawn, as we sped through beautiful mist-covered countryside in south-central Illinois.

As we moved painfully slowly through one section of early morning track, I remembered that two trains had derailed in the area in recent weeks. Through the mist, my camera caught the gruesome sight of an overturned bashed-in bulk loader lying in the trackside ditch.

Although Leen's book claims that the (Please turn the page.)

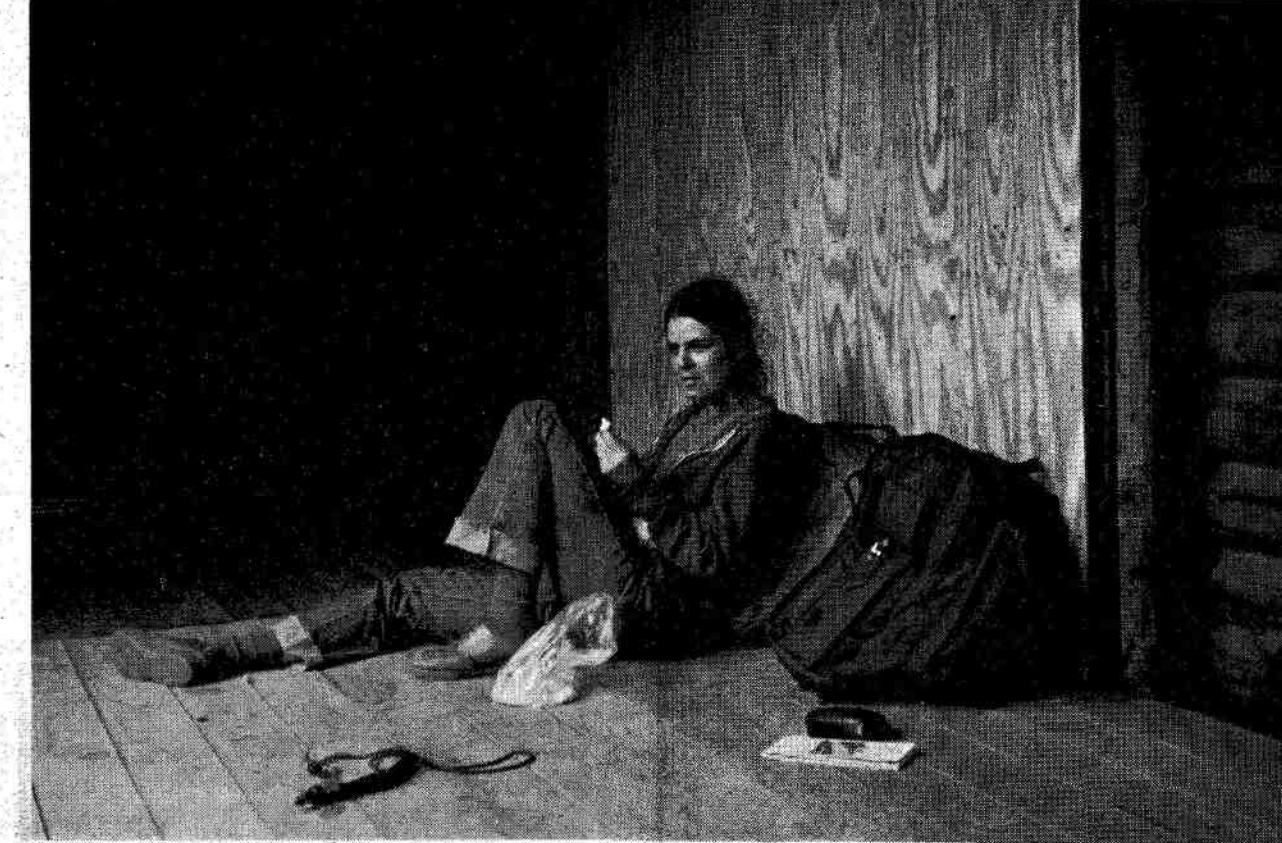


Exchanging waves with folks stopped at railroad crossings is fun. Some folks get real excited waving to us, as though they felt a vicarious thrill of participation in our unorthodox freedom.

This trestle is the approach to the bridge over the Ohio near Cairo.



With bota of wine, bag of cauliflower and sleeping bags, this exceptionally clean boxcar served as combination club car, diner and sleeper. Much more relaxed than the frenzied car-switching of an Amtrak ride.



Lying overturned in a mist-covered trackside ditch, this bashed-in wreckage of a recent derailment stands as a grotesque reminder of the risks of riding on neglected roadbed.





# See America (cont.)

(Continued from preceding page.)

chances of a car accident are statistically higher than a freight derailment, driving a car still gives you the illusion of having things under your own control. Sitting on a moving boxcar, it's clear that it's all up to fate. The Freighthopper's Manual suggests sleeping with your feet toward the forward end of the train to give more safety in case of derailment. We didn't understand the physics, but we followed the advice.

We spent most of Saturday on the train, cruising through Centralia, Carbondale, the Shawnee National Forest, down to Cairo. Crossing the Ohio River on the railroad bridge was excellent--the open boxcar lets you feel so much closer to the scenery than you can in a speeding enclosed car.

Our train was going on at least as far as Memphis, but we hopped out in a small southern Kentucky town to explore. Starting back north the next day, the friendly railroad workers gave us plenty of help and got us on a train for Carbondale.

Centralia was our undoing. Standing by the caboose of a train all set to pull out for Champaign, a friendly railroad worker with a walkie-talkie told us to hurry ahead and catch the train. He said he is the guy who radios the engineer to pull out, and he was going to hold the train for us.

Just as we were approaching an empty boxcar, the train started pulling out.

Since we weren't going to try to board any moving trains, we just watched our ride go by.

We didn't watch long. The train was followed by a solitary switch engine with a fellow riding on front. He hopped off and ordered us out of the yards.

Seems he was the yardmaster, and had probably caught the other guy trying to hold the train for us. But he didn't even try to take our names, making the consequences of being caught in the yards less severe than the warning ticket and boot off the highway which hitchhikers risk.

We had to walk only a mile or so to the highway, and the hitchhiking home was easy.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you are going to try hopping freights, be careful in the yards. Don't cross a stopped train between cars--you never know when it'll start moving. Similarly, leave plenty of room between yourself and any string of cars on the track you are crossing. When you are inside or on the train in the yards keep your footing very solid and hold on well--when cars are coupled together, one slams into the other with tremendous force. Be extremely careful if you are considering jumping a moving train, especially if it's a boxcar--the floor is much higher up than you might think. Wear tough shoes or boots and watch your footing when walking around the yards, because the



ABOVE: Bridge over Ohio River.

trackside areas are always littered with spikes, springy steel, and other debris lying wait to pierce your feet or trip you.

The Freighthopper's Manual gives much more comprehensive info about do's and don't's. I recommend ordering a copy.

--Mark Silverstein

# DIVINYLYL MADNESS RECORDS

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# Send me your tired, your poor . . .

...your huddled white, English-speaking, middle-to-upper-middle class heterosexual masses... Somehow that's not how I remember the inscription on the good old Statue of Liberty. But somehow, without my knowledge or consent, that is how it seems to read in recent months.

It all started with the Vietnamese refugees. Those who came over before the boat people were okay. Well, these Vietnamese were a bit questionable, since they were yellow-skinned, but they were well-educated. They spoke both English and French, they had trained military minds, they were okay.

But then the boat people started their mass exodus. Ignorant, uneducated peasants. They spoke one language--Vietnamese--and they had very questionable jobs--they were farmers and fishers, not fighters.

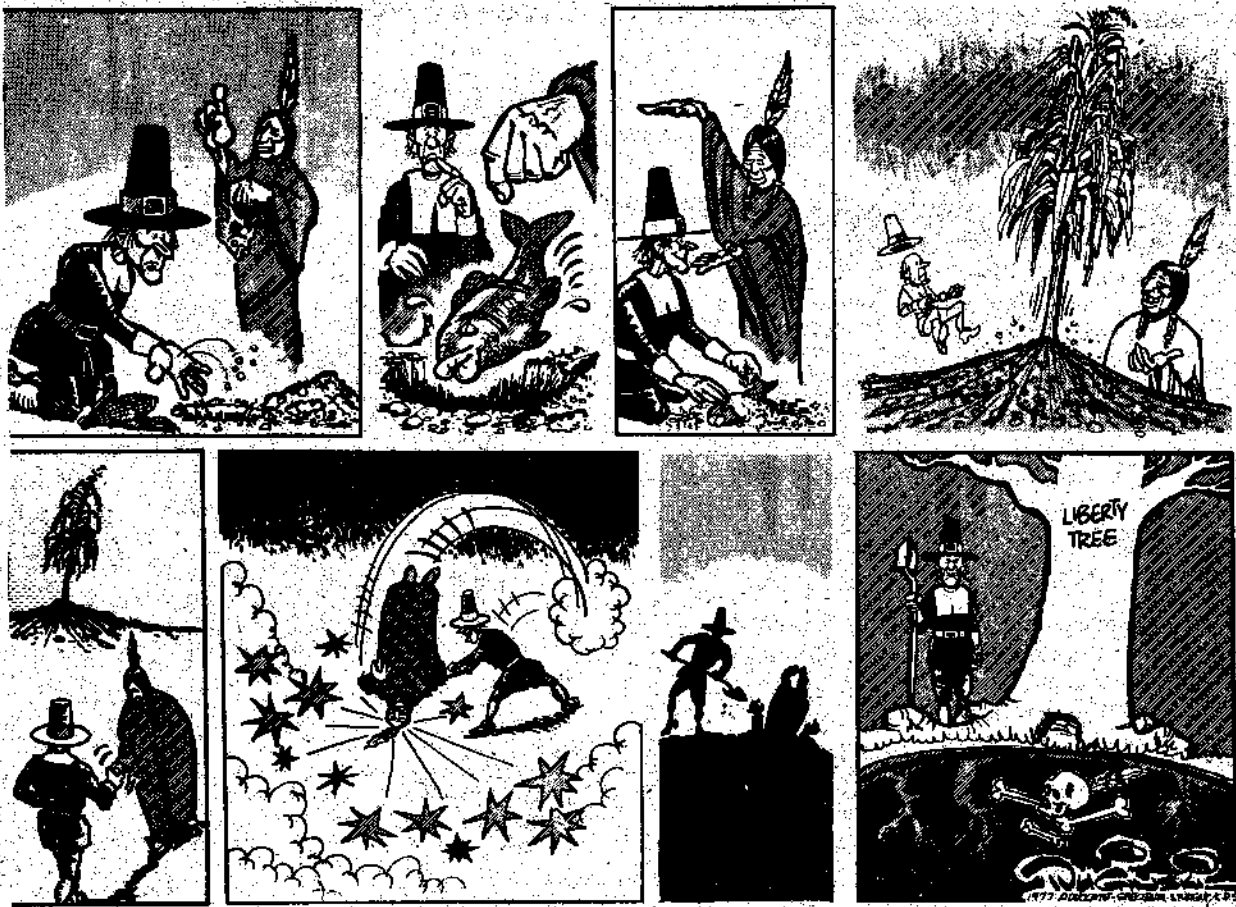
But the U.S. realized that they were ruined because of all the years of war in their country, and we let them in. We weren't real happy about it, though: not only were they yellow and couldn't talk right, but how did we know that they hadn't, only a few short years before, been shooting at our boys? After all, they all look alike. How could we be sure? But we gritted our teeth and said all right.

It didn't stop there of course. People from Laos and Thailand and Cambodia started hopping on boats and coming over, too. And we didn't even do anything in their countries. (How quickly we forget.) But, again, we're the good guys in the white hats, and we let them come. We realized that most of the good doctors around are yellow, and they're nice people, so a few more folks couldn't hurt, and besides, they wouldn't be living in our communities, anyway.

And then a terrible thing happened. They started living in our communities! They started moving in and renting apartments and taking over our jobs. They started going to our children's schools, our churches, our stores. They started living in the Mississippi Valley, the Texas panhandle, the California coast. And they started living in the heart of the corn country--good old McLean County USA.

This was more than we bargained for, but since they were, for the most part, sponsored by such left-wing organizations as the United Methodist and the Roman Catholic Churches, there was little we could do without seeming like we were anti-church, when really we were merely clean-cut, all-American racists. It was a fine point, and we reluctantly gave in. As long as our daughter doesn't marry one.

But now, we learn that most of the population of Cuba is coming over to (dis)grace our shores, too. "Over 100,000 refugees from Cuba have already arrived," scream our newspapers, "with thousands more ready to come." Ain't that a frightening thought? We never even destroyed their country. And still they think they can come over and reap the benefits our nation has to offer.



## ROOTS

These people don't speak English, either. They speak Spanish. That's all we need in this country--more Spanish-speaking people. Before we know it they'll be petitioning Congress to make it the second official language. Then all our signs would have to be in both Spanish and English, and our public officials would have to learn Spanish and wouldn't that be awful. It would be worse than Canada, because at least the French up there are white.

And then we learn that not only are the Cubans coming, but so are the Haitians. Excuse me, but that is just too much. They're black, you know.

It's not like we don't have enough trouble with our own black and brown people without importing more of them. At least our colored folk speak English, of a sort. But this is just too much for all of us snow-white racist reactionaries to take. We've had enough. This is, after all, the land of opportunity, and there won't be enough opportunity to go around if we have to keep sharing it with all these foreigners.

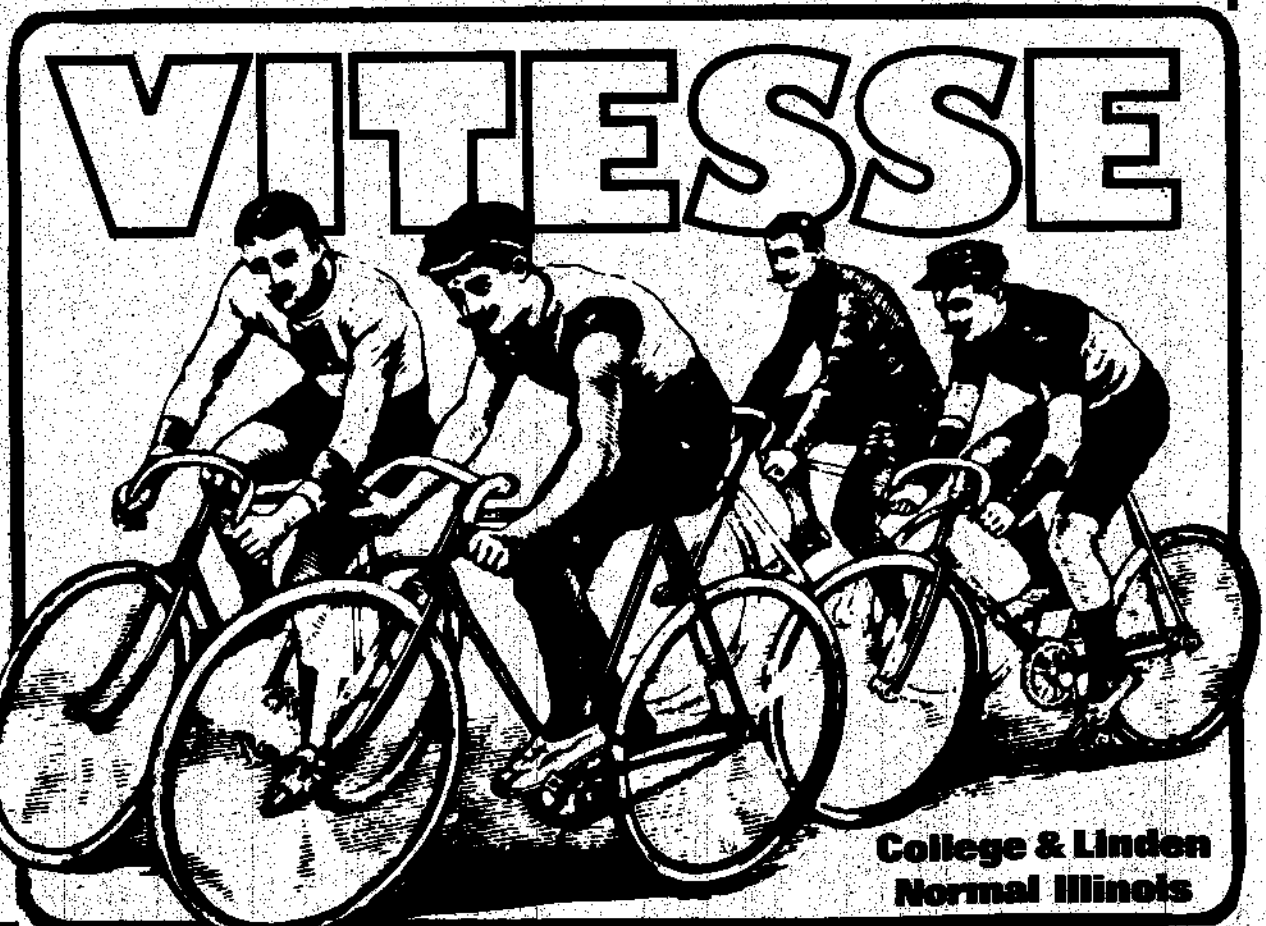
That's how I think it happened. That's how the golden door of Ms. Liberty's fame became the iron wall of racism and bigotry. And I don't much like it.

And I think it's stupid. Except for the Native Americans (you remember them--the injuns, the Red Skins), we are all of us immigrants. What nationality are you? How many of us respond "American" unless we are traveling in Europe? We are Polish or Irish or German or French or Swedish or Belgian or Serbian or a hundred other things, but we are not "American."

We are, however, white, and there lies the difference. If the Vietnamese, Laotian, Cambodian, Cuban, and Haitian refugees were white, I seriously doubt there would be near the uproar there is now, if there would be any uproar at all. We are not concerned that our country is being taken over by refugees; we are concerned that it is being taken over by colored refugees. Yellow ones and brown ones and black ones. As we all know, the only acceptable color is white.

Perhaps we should examine our reasons (and our family backgrounds) before we get too bent out of shape over the "sudden" influx of immigrants into this country.

--Deborah Wiatt, third generation Polish, Amerikanized from Wiatrowski.





# Lithium—side effects worse than

**POST-NOTE:** Since doctors Bay and Chapman and their firm Neuropsychiatry Inc. have enjoyed a near monopoly on delivery of psychiatric "services" in Bloomington-Normal, and since the shrinks have displayed a propensity to prescribe Lithium for a large proportion of their patients, McLean County may have one of the highest per capita rates of Lithium consumption in the nation. Although Lithium is usually prescribed for people diagnosed as "manic-depressive," Neuropsychiatry Inc. has reportedly been dishing out the drug much less discriminately. Bay and Chapman's large pool of Lithium-using patients has conveniently provided the shrinks with plenty of material for the scholarly articles they have published about the experimental drug in psychiatric journals. This article will serve to alert readers who may someday wind up in the offices of Neuropsychiatry Inc. to the potential dangers of Lithium use.

Lithium has long been hailed as a miracle drug—but it doesn't always work well for everyone. Lithium has been used primarily for patients with so-called manic-depressive illness, a condition characterized by alternating periods of high and lows.

Lithium has been prescribed quite a bit locally by the staff at Neuropsychiatry, the only private firm in the area offering psychiatric services.



Lithium is a very poisonous drug. Its early side effects include nausea, diarrhea, increased thirst and urination, mild shaking of the muscles, light-headedness, difficulty thinking and concentrating, and feelings of being dazed. It also has some unpredictable side effects (which may or may not occur). These include thyroid gland disorders, acne and skin rashes, headaches, confusion, impotence, inability to sleep, and epileptic seizures. The situations in

which lithium poisoning is most likely to occur are: taking more than the prescribed amount, excess sweating, loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, kidney disease, heart disease, and not enough water and table salt consumed.

Lithium is basically a downer, a depressant of the nervous system. Lithium is not broken down by the body. It goes in and comes out exactly the same and is removed from the body mainly by the kidneys and the excretion of urine. Because of this and the fact that lithium is extremely poisonous when too much accumulates in the body, lithium is not the kind of drug that can be prescribed and forgotten about.

When lithium is first started, frequent blood tests are needed, and from then on, as long as the lithium is continued, blood tests are needed at least once a month to make sure the lithium level remains within the therapeutic range and does not approach toxic levels.

The so-called "normal" or "therapeutic" range of lithium used by the psychiatrists at Neuropsychiatry is 0.6 to 1.2 mEq./liter (milliequivalents per liter of blood); the level they accept as being toxic is over 1.5 mEq./liter. Because the "therapeutic" level is so close to the toxic level, the most basic part of the process for controlling lithium is the blood test.

Even though lithium has these numerous problems, some of the doctors at Neuropsychiatry still proclaim it to be a wonder drug.

## Color-coordinated manipulation

When prospective psychiatric patients see a shrink at Bloomington's Neuropsychiatry for the first time, they are most likely to be seen in the RED suite. The red suite has red as its theme color: the carpet is red, the chairs and couches have red tweed covering, the entire area is decorated in warm shades of red and brown. According to psychological research, these colors are supposed to make people feel more at home and more relaxed, and therefore more willing to relate to their doctor information about themselves and their problems.

After the initial interview, our patients will continue to see their shrink in the BLUE suite. The blue suite, as you might guess, is decorated in shades of blue. The walls are painted light blue, the carpeting and chairs are shades of blue, all intended to convey another message—friendship.

Research says that blue is the color to wear if you want people to be your friends or you want them to trust you. Considering the therapist your friend, and trusting them are two of the most important issues for therapy to begin. Hopefully, you'll even tell your deepest, darkest secrets, and they'll have the inside track on what's screwing you up.

If our patients are going to need some medication—you know, a little bit of Thorazine or Lithium—they'll be sent to the WHITE suite. This suite is decorated in a very sterile, untrammodern style, similar to a regular doctor's office. The receptionists and nurses all wear white jackets, and the therapy rooms are all equipped with examining tables. The "reasoning" behind this is that patients will supposedly be less likely to question the medication and be more receptive to medical intervention than they would if the medicine were prescribed in a verbal therapy setting.

The whole idea behind the color schemes is not to make the rooms prettier, but to influence patients into doing things (like accepting medication) they really don't want to. This kind of subliminal manipulation threatens the rights of the patients and gives to the psychiatrists more power than the patient realizes.

But you might start to catch on when you go to pay your bill—in the GREEN suite.

--Judy Baron

## Connection

There's a new place in town where runaway people, ages 13-17, can stay for up to two weeks. Connection House, 212 N. Roosevelt St., offers runaways an option to being picked up by police or sleeping in the streets.

It has room for up to 8 people at a time. Both male and female runaways are welcome.

Connection House is supported by the Salvation Army—but don't worry, they won't try to lay a religion rap on ya'. I stopped by a couple of weeks ago and talked to a very friendly

## Women wanted!

We are four women working in a women's problem-solving group and looking for new members. Our group is modeled on those run by Hogie Wyckoff, author of *Solving Women's Problems*, and other radical therapists.

Radical therapists believe that people have the ability to learn to heal themselves and that our personal problems have their roots in oppressive social systems. The problem-solving group is a very structured, powerful tool for making changes in our lives.

We've been together since September and are learning as we go, since none of us has been formally trained in radical therapy. So new members would have to be willing to work a lot on group process.

If you'd like to consider working in a problem-solving group for a year or so (we started out making long-term commitments because the book said to do it that way, but we now appreciate the reasons why!), please get in touch with us. Call 828-6935 and ask for Susie, Andrea, or Luma.

We teach you to play, then sell you the right guitar.

Welcome in Summer

**GUITAR WORLD**

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# the problem

What they don't admit to their patients is that many people are lithium "non-responders," meaning they do not experience any "help" from this depressant. Percentage estimates of all people who take lithium who are "non-responders" range from 40-60%. All they do is submit themselves to the risks of this toxic element in a search for drug answers to life's problems.

Mary's case is a good example. When Mary (not her real name) was referred to Neuropsychiatry, she was a good student (her grade point average was about 3.3), and was very outgoing. She was diagnosed by her psychiatrist as being in a mild manic state ("he called it hypomanic"). He prescribed lithium 300 mg. twice a day at first.

Within a few days Mary began to show signs of early side effects--hand tremors, "dry mouth," and excessive urination. She called her doctor who assured her that these side effects would go away in a "week or so." She continued taking the lithium and the side effects got worse. She began losing concentration in her classes, falling asleep in class and at work. She often needed frequent naps during the day to be attentive for her night classes. And she still had the other side effects as well.

Even though she had these side effects, her doctor raised her dosage to 300mg. three times a day or 900mg. total. At this point, she complained of being confused and of "always losing my train of thought." She was unable to remember even simple things: "some-

times I couldn't even remember my telephone number, and I'd had it for over a year."

She continued to tell her doctor about the side effects and how they were disrupting her life. "All he kept telling me was not to worry and they'd go away. I even told him about my problem remembering things for exams in my classes. He just didn't seem to care."

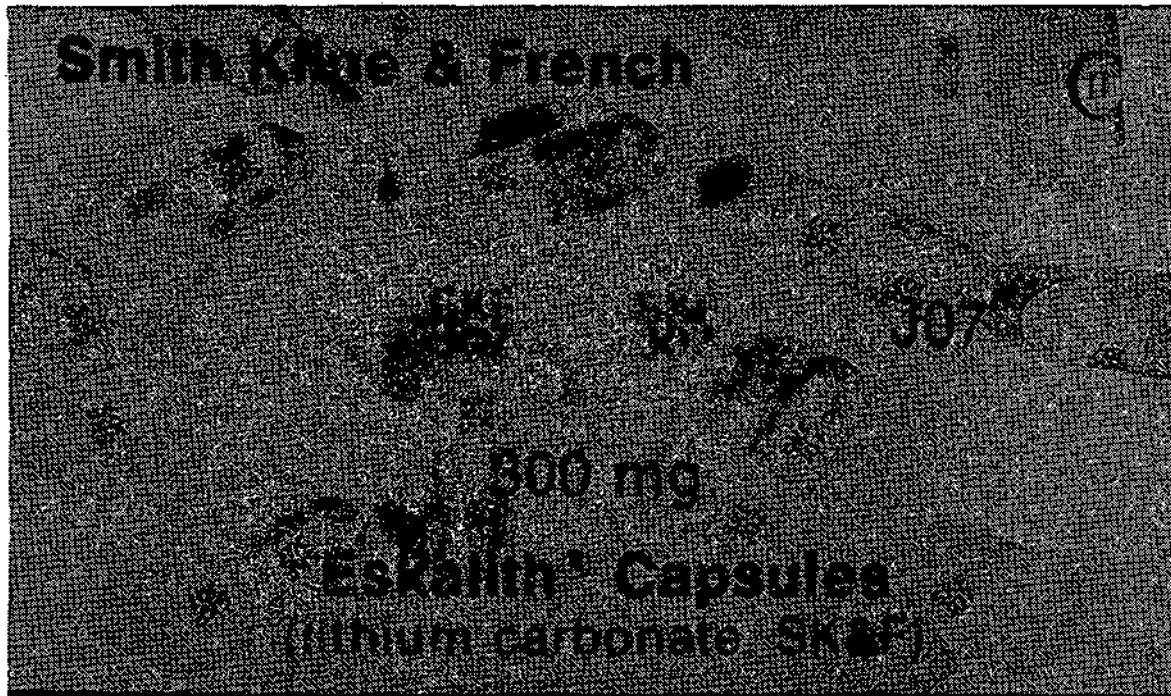
Three months had gone by since Mary first started taking the lithium and she still had all the side effects that appeared during the first couple of weeks on the lithium; none had stopped, as the doctor had promised. When she received her semester grades, her average had dropped to a 2.73, the lowest it had ever been. Mary finally

got angry enough and quit taking the lithium.

Her psychiatrist gave her "a lot of flack at first, but that was something he'd have to get over. I wasn't going to change my mind."

During the next few months, Mary knew it would be a long road back to "being myself again," but she was willing to be patient with herself while her body got rid of the rest of the lithium in her. As her body gradually detoxified itself, Mary's ability to remember things returned. She recalled, "It was the most terrifying experience I've ever had. Even more than my problems themselves."

--Judy Baron



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### House for runaways

person named Robbie. She assured me that runaways are free to do what they want (short of tearing the place up), and that they won't end up being "sent" home or to the police.

Robbie explained that whoever stays there cooks their meals together and are welcome to hang around all day. If a parent should call the police and the police call Connection House, they won't tell if you're there until you have talked to your parents.

It seems a neat place to me and the "staff" seemed young and friendly. Connection House is open 24 hours a day. You don't need to call first, but if you want to the number is 829-5711. If you run away and don't have a place to stay, drop by or call the Connection House.

--Rich



### Homebirth seminars planned

The Association for Childbirth at Home, International (ACHI) will present an intensive childbirth preparation seminar in Normal June 21 and 28. This seminar will be an unabridged consolidation of the ACHI's six-session series of childbirth classes and will emphasize practical and technical information.

Topics will include normal labor and delivery, breathing techniques, recognizing and dealing with complications, coping with fear and pain, labor coaching, monitoring the labor, care of the newborn, equipment, medical backup, and more.

The seminar is open to all prospective parents, professionals, and interested individuals. There is a charge for the seminar and a textbook is included. For further information, contact Julie at Small Changes Bookstore (829-6223). ACHI is a non-profit organization.

### Midwifery seminar in July

An intensive five-day midwifery seminar will be conducted by Linda Bennett, a renowned empirical midwife and the executive director of the Association for Childbirth at Home, International, July 14-18.

The midwifery seminar covers technical and practical aspects of the art and science of midwifery. It is particularly geared toward the needs of beginning and intermediate midwives (10 to 150 births) and will also serve as an excellent introduction to midwifery for aspiring midwives. Experienced midwives (over 150 births) and birth attendants will also find much information of value.

For more information and registration forms, contact Cathryn S. Feral, midwest regional coordinator, at R.R. 3, Box 63, Auburn, Illinois 62615.



### Day camp this summer

The Sunnyside Day Camp will be providing "Summer Fun" June 19-August 8 for youths between the ages of 6 and 12. The day camp will provide such activities as arts and crafts, free swimming and boating, drama, movies, creative movement, safety programs, tennis, baseball, archery, and two out-of-town trips. Registration began the first day of May.





# LETTERS...LETTERS...LETTERS

## Calvary Baptist brainwashing didn't work

Dear P-A:

Eleven years ago I was baptised into the Calvary Baptist Church like all good Christian girls and boys should. Not long afterwards I stopped attending church. Somehow I don't think the water penetrated because I'm still an asshole.

I won't put down religion. I happen to believe in God. But in view of CBC's tactics I'm beginning to think there are two Gods--mine and his. If the Rev. Weniger knew what I think of him and the holier-than-thou members of his Nazi congregation I'd be banned from setting foot on church property.

I'd like to know what he's afraid of. Maybe he's worried "his people" will find out what a hypocrite he is. And I'd be interested to know how many closet P-A readers he preaches to. That is if there are any open-minded sheep left of the chosen brainwashed flock.

S. A.

P.S. I'm glad God enjoys your paper as much as I do.

## Thanks for exposing the half brains

Dear Friends,

About that May-June issue--it was great! It was so good to see you people united against that awful Calvary Baptist Church machine. I knew there had been some negative reaction to the Easter issue, but the pressure and underhanded tactics employed by C.B.C. were amazing.

Having limitedly contributed to past issues of the Post-Amerikan and having several friends closely associated with the Post, I've recently been reminded of just how close you all are and how strongly united you all can be when attacked--especially when the attack is vicious and unjustified.

I'm back to believing that Christians are super-holy, hypocritical half-brains (with the exception of my friend, Deborah Wiatt). Thanks for all the enlightening information about Arno and his unthinking, moralistic flock. It's sure too bad B-N business people allowed themselves to be pressured and pushed around by these "holy crusaders."

Hopefully, this whole mess will go away. But if it doesn't, I hope you'll keep us up to date on the battle.

R. Jay Gibson  
New Orleans, LA

## Guilt through association

Dear Post,

Apparently no one really knows the law, and even the police have trouble sometimes. On a nice, early, sunny summer day, it is an easy decision to go to the lake and maybe (even politicians wear swimming trunks) find an uncrowded beach. The fresh air isn't perforated with performance specifications and doesn't pollute the water. This was my case.

I grabbed my alarm clock to turn the radio on. Nothing, so I got my test instruments to check it. It's unplugged, but anyway it was on for the weather. Sunny. As I put my test leads and clips away I wondered, could these be construed as illegal? Some people come up with really variant ideas about paraphernalia.

Heat and basement air make 11 o'clock light seem earlier, and maybe the beach would be open. First, water my plants, flowers, and the vine. This

one pansy has been hanging out in someone's cultural symbol of mind expansion, a bong. There wasn't any mud in it of course, due to roots and potash. I thought to myself, if this is going to be illegal my pansy will be crushed. But on to, hopefully, the beach.

The concern is that the human mind needs specialized equipment in its organizational aspect. Take for instance the plumbing in a house, pipes, fittings, fixtures, soldering. And even matches and growing things are smoking paraphernalia. I always thought police and plumbers were to be emulated, followed.

Anyway, I was about to take my frisbee and make it to the beach when it occurred to me that it was possible to germinate pot seeds in a frisbee and that spoiled my trip to the beach. Probably can't drink there anyway.

--a loyal reader

## Post important news source

Dear Post,

My favorite quotation from Phyllis Monical (see last Post issue, p. 7, paragraph 16) is that if local merchants "know what's in the Post and continue selling it, (they) must agree with everything in it." This sounds so much like what her minister might be telling her about another popular publication which he sells, I wonder if she isn't merely echoing this peculiar philosophical gem, which would indeed be unfortunate if it were true.


First of all, no store manager would have the time to read every periodical that they put on their shelves, not even after taking 20 Evelyn Wood speed-reading courses. But what if they discovered a sentence in the Ladies' Home Journal which they didn't agree with? Would they then be morally obligated to ban this magazine forever from their shelves? By following this policy, a merchant soon would have no magazines for sale. What about the rights of others to read what they want to read and form their own opinions? Would Ms. Monical prefer that, or has she been told that individuality should be suppressed? Finally, why isn't Ms. Monical campaigning against the National Enquirer if she's so obsessed with seeing truth in print? I think that what it boils down to is that Ms. Monical read some truth in a past Post issue which she would like to see overlooked.

I would like to echo a recent statement regarding the Post from a man whose profession makes no attempts at censorship or moralization, and from whom Phyllis Monical could possibly benefit if her minister were to give his consent. I am referring to Robert Kooker, Doctor of Psychiatry, who read a Post article condemning certain psychiatric practices and declared, with no feelings of ill will, "I think it's very important to have an alternative source of news in the community."

James C. Tippet

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## Good -bye, this town

Good-bye, this town I called home. What will I miss? Where will I roam? This's the question I asked myself before. Then I heard the slamming of my Joliet cell door.

The pain of leaving is always on my mind, But MEG's just glad I'm doing time. To them I was just a dooper, not safe for the street, The kind of person they don't want their kids to meet.

I was set up and my friends were, too. Oh Steve Reeter, how can you live with you?!

It was March 10th when you kicked open my door. The police wanted justice but you wanted more.

Now, Mr. Reeter, to me you're a clown, I pray to see you when you are down. Good-bye, this town I once called home.

--David 'Alabama' Gresham  
C-63605

## Prisoner gets run-around

Post,

I am writing at this time concerning the run-around the State of Illinois and McLean County jail has been giving me. On April 3, 1980 I was woke up at 7 am and told to pack my stuff, that I was going to another cell block. At that time little did I know that this other cell block was at Joliet prison. At that time I wasn't even found guilty of any charges against me. After 25 days of being at Joliet I was told that I would go to the Parole Board within that week.

Well, I was all set to go to the Board when, once again, I was told to

get my stuff. I asked what for, and I was told I was moving to another cell. Well three and a half hours later I made it to my new cell, back at the McLean County jail. The country is running out of gas. I think I know why now!

It's a real drag just being incarcerated but it's worse when you don't know why or when or even where you'll be the next day.

Thank you  
David "Alabama" Gresham

## Klan activity in Pontiac

Dear Post-Amerikan:

I have just finished reading your issue of the Post-Amerikan of March 1980, especially page 23. On this page are letters from two of my Brothers in Solidarity in the Human Rights Struggle here in the Pontiac Prison. I, myself, wish to express my appreciation to you for printing my brothers' letters.

Brothers Rucker and Caruth are now confined in the North Cell House Segregation Unit, where I have been confined myself since August 2, 1979, also for refusing to share a single-cell with another prisoner, which is also in violation of a prison doctor's recommendation that I am to have a single cell. This violation is coupled with the regular harassment by prison officials for my filing law suits against this prison for violations of not only my, but my brother inmates' constitutional rights.

I would like to further up-date you as to cruel and vicious attacks of several of my black brothers by Ku Klux Klan prison guards. These attacks were reported to the so-called Internal Affairs Officer, Donald Polizzi, personally through written complaints. He has in fact sanctioned these KKK attacks by refusing to investigate these attacks and/or take any steps towards their disciplinary actions. In short, he has simply totally disregarded my formal written complaints.

The incidents consisted of various combinations of using fists, clubs, mace, and of kicking brothers while they were chained in handcuffs. These officers also choked these brothers until they were either almost or were fully unconscious and left lying on the floor of their cages without any medical attention from 30 minutes up to several hours and then, at best, got completely inadequate medical attention.

This is strictly KKK activity, and it is a commonly known fact that officers continuously sit around and discuss nothing but rolling on brothers confined in the segregation unit. They many times harass these brothers in here simply for an excuse to be able to viciously attack these brothers and then write these brothers disciplinary tickets to have their good time taken and have them sentenced to segregation longer.

These officers justify their actions through these illegal and unfounded disciplinary tickets, and have more opportunities to beat these brothers because of these brothers' longer confinement in this hell-hole called "segregation." The racist Adjustment Committee Members violate every state and federal law to find these brothers guilty. There is no kind of justice or fairness as far as these brothers are concerned.

These incidents have been reported to Wardens J.W. Fairman and James Thieret as well, and they have full knowledge of what has occurred. They have failed to take any action themselves, and by their inactions have in fact sanctioned these KKK activities. And they wonder why they have so many problems with the prisoners in segregation, ha!

As my Brother Alana X. Caruth wrote, "You may think that just because prisoner Bland is not a black prisoner, that this needless and cruel beating will go unnoticed by many black and brown prisoners in this segregation unit...." And Brother Reginald Rucker wrote "...There are only a few of us with this minimal amount of knowledge of jurisprudence,

but we're enough to take care of the rest, in some instances." There is some solidarity among us here in segregation. Although I am a non-black/brown prisoner, I stand fully united in solidarity with the rest of my brothers in the struggle for human rights everywhere, as well as with our brothers and sisters in the struggles on the outside. I have committed my limited amount of knowledge to my brothers for the human rights of our fellow prisoners here in Pontiac with us.

I am writing this letter solely for the appreciation of Brothers Rucker and Caruth for taking their time to write these letters to you, and for you taking your time and space to print these letters. It gives us a strong will in the struggle to see that these articles are in fact being brought to the attention of the people on the outside and others on the outside are interested and aware of our struggles. Thank you.

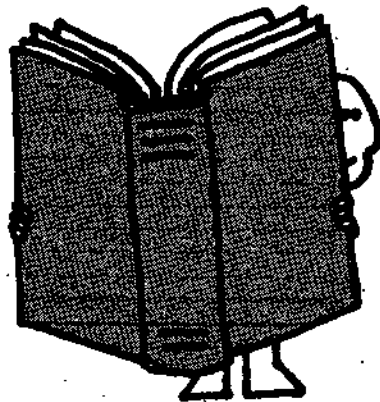
In Solidarity,  
Paul W. Tedder  
#C-73372  
P.O. Box 99  
Pontiac, IL 61764



## THE LAST PAGE

416 N. Main, Blm.

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\*\*\*\*\*  
\* EVERYONE'S BITCHING ABOUT INFLATION! BUT \*  
\* WHAT ARE YOU DOING ABOUT IT? WELL, THE \*  
\* LAST PAGE IS TRYING TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT \*  
\* IT! IF YOU LIKE TO READ, WE HAVE OVER \*  
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\* THEIR ORIGINAL COVER PRICE. \*  
\* \* \* \* \*  
\* --THANK YOU \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

# Gay 80 pride review

Commemorations of the 1969 Stonewall riots promise to be bigger and better than ever this year. Parades, rallies, and accompanying events are scheduled in numerous cities around the country.

Most of the Gay Pride celebrations will take place during the last week of June and typically include at least a week of activities which culminate in a march and rally. Cities that have announced plans for pride week include Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, Portland, San Diego and San Francisco.

Other cities such as Seattle, Miami, New Orleans, and Minneapolis will un-

doubtedly also hold celebrations of some sort.

Gay Pride week is primarily a time for gay and lesbian folk to celebrate and have fun. But these events also serve to consolidate the gay community and to gain media recognition of the strong presence of lesbians and gay men in the country.

Besides the usual concerts, plays, art shows, forums, and picnics, some truly unusual events are planned for 1980's display of gay and lesbian pride. In Boston, for example, there will be a Sunday morning bike ride, a Full Moon Celebration, a formal ball, an Israeli party, and special events for gay school workers and gay youth. Also scheduled are a 60's night and a deaf awareness event. Denver plans to hold a candlelight vigil at the state capitol

The East Coast celebration will last for two weeks, with the march and rally in Boston on June 21 and the Christopher Street parade and street fair in New York on June 29. Gays in Baltimore,



11th Annual Gay and Lesbian Pride Week, June 20-June 29



- June 20 Fri. evening "Celebrate! The 80s Are Ours!" Multimedia presentation with Rev. Troy Perry guest speaker.
- June 21 Sat. evening Pot-luck dinner for the entire community; coordinated by the National Coalition of Black Gays.
- June 22 Sun. 1 p.m. Annual picnic--Lincoln Park at Cannon Drive, east of Lagoon, near Diversey. Bring a picnic lunch.  
3 p.m. The Windy City Gay Chorus concert--615 Wellington St. (\$2.00).  
8 p.m. Three plays by "Speak-Its-Name" Gay Theater Group. At Chicago Comedy Showcase, 2761 N. Seminary (\$4).
- June 23 Mon. 8 p.m. Repeat of three plays. At the Baton, 436 N. Clark.
- June 24 Tues. 8 p.m. evening 2nd repeat of plays. At the Baton. Open forum coordinated by the Gay and Lesbian Coalition.
- June 25 Wed. evening Cocktail hour with local legislators to answer questions about pending Gay Rights Bill. Coordinated by IGRTF.
- June 26 Thurs. 8 p.m. Interfaith service--2nd Unitarian Church, 656 Barry St.
- June 27 Fri. evening Another pot-luck, by the National Coalition of Black Gays.  
Gay Horizons/Gay Academic Union reception for conference participants.  
9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Dance (for women only)--3445 N. Clark; advance tickets \$4.00.
- June 28 Sat. noon All day Women's Picnic--Belmont rocks, bring your own lunch.  
8 p.m. Conference: "Discovery 80: Gay/Lesbian Culture and Identity" at Northwestern Univ., Norris Center.  
Gay Pride Band concert--625 Wellington (\$2.00).
- June 29 Sun. 11th Annual Parade. Line-up at 1 p.m. at Halsted & Addison; step-off at 2 p.m., down Broadway and Clark to Lincoln Park.  
Rally/Music Fest--following parade in Lincoln Park.  
Presentation of parade awards.



## Can't beat the bushes

After all the hoopla that CBS made about public sex in San Francisco's Buena Vista Park, it's refreshing to hear some other points of view.

Isabel Wade, who has lived near the park for 23 years, told the San Francisco Examiner, "My feeling is it's probably the safest park in the city now. If you scream, you know 15 guys will pop out of the bushes to help you, and a lot of them carry whistles."

And Police Officer Robert Battaglia summed up official policy by saying that gay men are not arrested for having sex "if they do it within the privacy of their own bush."

--The Advocate



## Steam cars

"The tempest in your grandmother's teapot could solve some of today's energy problems," says an article by Dave Noland in the May High Times.

Noland says that steam-powered autos "outperformed gasoline-powered competitors by a mile. The Stanley steamers were smooth, quiet and immensely powerful. Because steam engines create maximum torque at low rpm, they require no transmission. The Stanleys theoretically could burn anything--wood, coal, dried cow shit, you name it."

## Paraphernalia bill

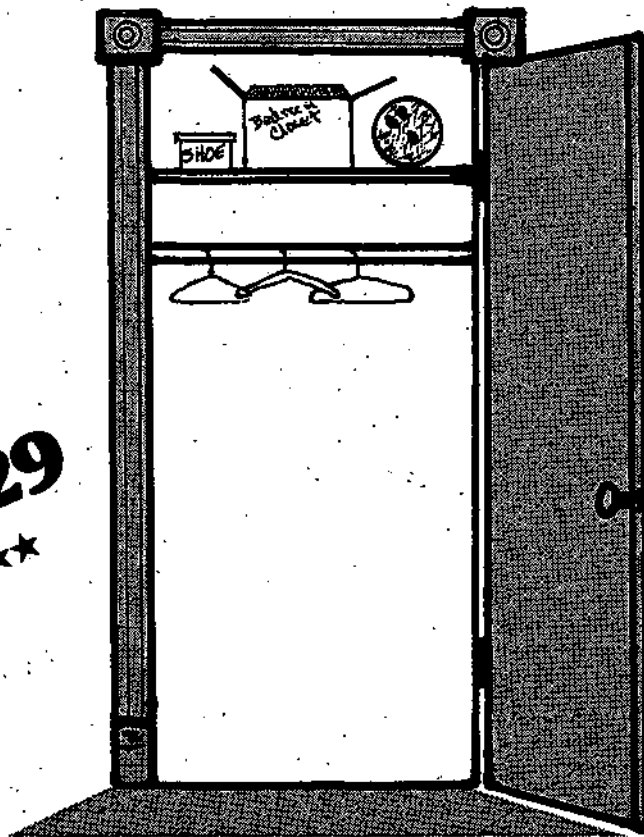
Last issue, we described Senator John Maitland's outrageously overbroad, unconstitutional bill to ban drug paraphernalia. The bill passed the Illinois Senate overwhelmingly in May.

But only a greatly watered-down (but still outrageous and unconstitutional) version made it through the House Judiciary Committee.

The House bill would ban paraphernalia sale to and possession by minors. Maitland's bill, written and promoted by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration, attempted to ban sale and possession of drug paraphernalia by anyone.

Both bills suffer because they depend on a suspect's "intent" to decide whether a particular object is legal or illegal to possess. For instance, if

**Celebrate  
Gay  
Pride  
Week  
\*\*\*\*\*  
June 20-29  
\*\*\*\*\***

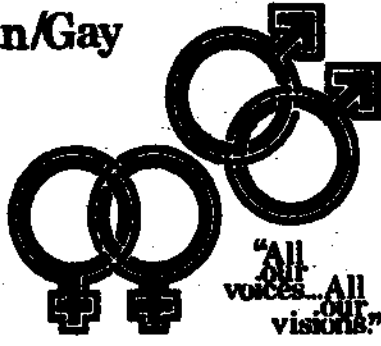


**ISU Gay People's Alliance**

Philadelphia, and Washington D. C. will coordinate their activities with the marches in New York and Boston.

Last Year's Gay Pride festivities centered on the 10th anniversary of

**Lesbian/Gay  
Pride**



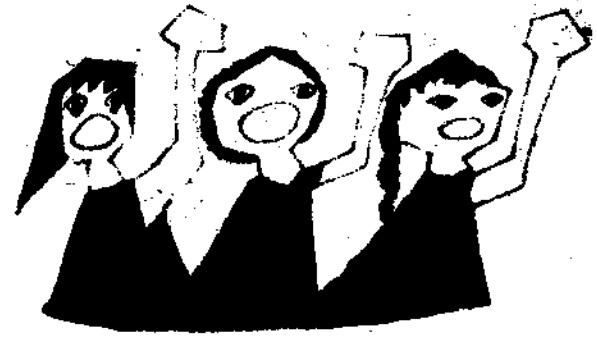
Stonewall and the first decade of the modern gay liberation movement. The parade in New York drew 100,000 last year, while San Francisco had over 250,000 marchers.

This year's themes are more diverse. Chicago is proclaiming "Gay and Lesbian Pride--1980"; Los Angeles' theme is "New Horizons of Gay Pride and Unity"; and Boston is emphasizing "All Our Voices, All Our Visions."

Each year several contingents of gay people and supporters of gays from Bloomington-Normal attend the festivities in Chicago, some even make it to the marches in San Francisco and New York.

For those who are interested in what's happening in the Windy City, here's the present schedule for Chicago's 11th Annual Gay and Lesbian Pride Week, June 20-June 29. Some of the items in the following list are still not complete, with locations of events not always indicated. You can get more information by calling the planning committee at 312-348-8243 in the evenings..

--Ferdydurke



**Gay rights  
go down  
in California**

The gay rights movement received a sharp setback in Northern California when voters in Santa Clara County and the city of San Jose rejected twin ballot propositions that would have banned discrimination based on sexual orientation.

The double defeat was marked by sizable margins. Proposition A (for Santa Clara County) was turned down by a 2 1/2 to 1 vote (103,479 yes; 244,085 no), while Proposition B (for San Jose) was crushed 3 to 1 (yes vote 35,957 to no vote of 109,238).

Both sides agreed that the defeats were due in large part to a last-minute flood of anti-gay literature from two religiously based opposition groups (Concerned Citizens against the Sexual Orientation Ordinances and the Moral Majority of Santa Clara County).

Members of the gay and lesbian Coalition for Human Rights charged that some of the leaflets from the Moral Majority "bordered on the obscene" and that Concerned Citizens misrepresented the purpose of the ordinances. One of the pieces of anti-ordinance literature was a large fold-out brochure entitled "Don't Let It Happen Here." It contained pictures of gay men fondling each other with a text about the threat to children, property rights, and morality. This brochure was produced by the Moral Majority, which received substantial financial support from Anita Bryant's Florida-based Ministries.

Coalition chairperson Johnie Staggs pointed out that the defeat of the propositions was a serious indication of a drift to the political right in the country. "People have got to wake up and see that gay rights are just one step on the ladder. I think real hard times are coming for all people who are not white, straight, male, and middle-class."

--Gay Community News

**Electric car push may**

I read in the Pantagraph that the Department of Energy is pushing use of electric cars, even giving grants to government agencies and businesses to "demonstrate the commercial feasibility of the vehicles."

Last fall, the Tribune ran a huge story heralding General Motors' supposed "breakthrough" in electric car storage batteries. The Tribune story envisioned the possibility of a major shift from gasoline powered cars to electric cars.

None of the stuff I've read about electric cars asks what seems the crucial question: where will the

**be misguided**

massive quantities of electricity needed to charge and recharge the cars' batteries come from?

Any major increase in use of electric cars will dramatically increase overall demand for electricity. New power plants will have to be built. They will be expensive and will jack up electric rates.

The Pantagraph story said electric cars have the advantage of reducing pollution.

But widespread use of electric cars will increase pollution--the new power plants will have to be fueled either by polluting coal, or dangerous (and polluting) nuclear power plants.

How come the promoters of electric cars and the reporters who write about them are not asking any questions about the new power plants that would have to be built?.

--Mark Silverstein

**Getting high  
on peppers**

"Hot cuisine is one of the quickest ways to alter your state of consciousness, and chile peppers are what give most hot foods their kick," says an article in the May High Times. "Not only that, chile peppers are easy to grow, filled with vitamins and are a great natural air conditioner."

According to the article, "Every year more and more people are discovering one of America's choicest recreational chemicals. So strong that you can get a buzz from a 1:1000,000 solution of it. It's capsaicin (pronounced cap-say-uh-sin), and it's the main active ingredient in chile peppers."

Ward points out that, "Researchers checking out aged Chicano men in the hills around Las Cruces discovered a correlation between chile consumption and longevity that seems to indicate that capsaicin has anticoagulant properties that might make it useful in preventing or treating heart disease."

**advances,  
but gets diluted**

you think you're selling rolling papers for cigarettes, that's legal-but if you think your customer is going to use them for dope, you're committing a crime.

The House bill, which Maitland accepts as the most strict likely to pass this year, also bans sale of certain legal herbs to minors. These herbs are sometimes sold in head shops as legal highs.

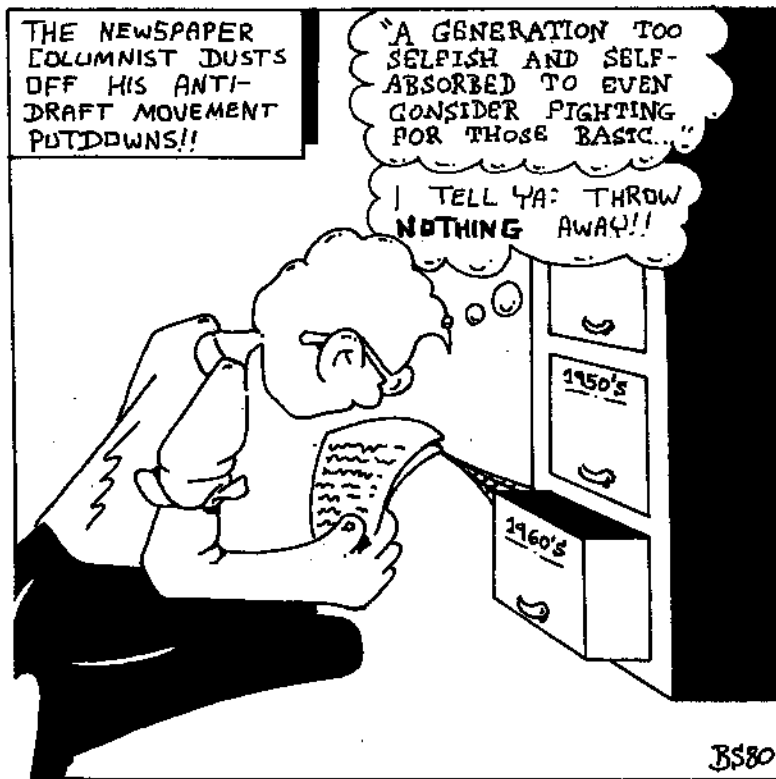
Even the watered-down anti-paraphernalia bill was attacked by the American Civil Liberties Union, which said that the bill's overbroad vague language would lead to selective enforcement (only being used to bust people the cops want anyway).

--M.S.

**Classy Fried Ads**

ORGANIZING GUIDE, people's law, first aid, self-defense in this 334-page handbook. Send \$3.95 (includes postage) for Beat the Heat to Recon, PO Box 14602, Philadelphia PA 19134.

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**U.S. warheads:  
enough  
for everyone**

The United States today has more than 30,000 nuclear warheads for a total yield estimated at about 7000 megatons--or 7 billion tons of TNT. The Hiroshima bomb was the equivalent of less than 20,000 tons of TNT.

--Post-American

# Bryant demo proves there's

Sometimes I'm tempted to think that there really is a God--and he's on their side. Sometimes the very elements seem to be working against our side.

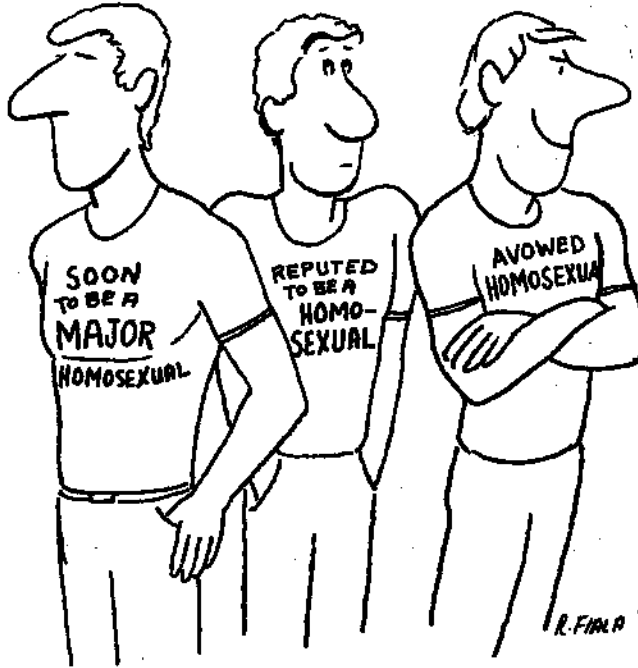
But the events of Saturday, May 17, re-confirmed my unbelief.

May 17 was the day Anita Bryant sang at the Gospel Opry House, a converted IGA store, in Mahomet, Illinois. As you probably know, whenever the ex-queen (beauty) turned pusher (orange juice) gives a concert in the area, the gay people of Bloomington-Normal are obligated to gather themselves and their friends together to stage a demonstration. We had done it in Pekin and in Decatur, and although the mountain couldn't come to Mahomet, we could. So we did.

We made phone calls to our friends in town, got in touch with the gays and radicals of Champaign-Urbana, notified the Mahomet police (that's singular), and organized a poster-making party.

Everything seemed to be going fine--lots of enthusiasm, no problems with arrangements. Then God got into the act, or seemed to. On Saturday morning it began to rain. Hard. Big black clouds, winds, tornado warnings, the whole bit.

The determined few--all six of us--



gathered to make posters. We also brought umbrellas and raincoats. We were prepared.

3:30--no one else had showed. At 3:45 eight more intrepid ones arrived and we whipped out a few more placards. At 3:50 it stopped raining. At 4:00, when we left town in our 3-car caravan, the sun had actually broken through the clouds.

When we arrived in Mahomet, we saw what looked like a hundred cops--state police, county police, and the guy from Mahomet. What's more, the parking lot of the IGA Opry was filled with late-model gas guzzlers and a steady stream of concert goers.

And no other demonstrators in sight.

Obviously out-numbered, we did the Uncle Tom routine, and politely asked the nice cop-man where we could legitimately carry out the expression of our Constitutionally protected freedom of speech. We were in luck--the police had heard of the First Amendment.

So we set up our procession and bravely tried to make a protest out of 14 people and 10 signs. As we circled in front of the Gospel store, we kept alert for reinforcements from the Champaign set. Fortunately, they began to trickle in. It was easy to spot them--anyone not wearing polyester or carrying a gun was there to demonstrate.

The only exceptions were members of the news media, who wore polyester and carried cameras. They were out in force--3 newspapers and 2 TV stations.

As our gay little band grew in numbers, we began the usual chants and singing. "Gay rights right now!" alternated with "Move on over or we'll

## New lesbian books: A witch's

1. The Wanderground: Stories of the Hill Women by Sally Miller Gearheart. \$5.00 from Persephone Press. The hill women are refugees from a future culture which has carried sexism and earth-rape to incredible lengths. The women live in several scattered groups outside the male-controlled cities, trying to survive and to turn around the dominant death culture. They are helped in their struggles by the trees and animals, with whom they can communicate, and by the "gentles," men who have also grouped together outside the cities. This collection of stories has climbed to the top ten on the booklist of every woman I know who has read it.

2. Retreat: As It Was by Donna J. Young. \$5.00 from Naiad Press. Also science fiction, this is a novel about women's society "before the men came."

3. The Bra-Strap Bar and Grill by Donna Camille young. \$4.95. Carol from Feminist Bookstore Newsletter (FBN) says it's "a rowdy, raucous novel about love and life in and around a gay bar. . . . Guaranteed to offend the most politically correct."

4. The Coming Out Stories edited by Julia Penelope Stanley and Susan J. Wolfe. \$6.95 from Persephone Press. From the book's introduction: "A collection of coming out stories is one way of assuring other women that they are not alone in their struggles, and perhaps it will make those struggles less painful, less frightening... These are the stories of our survivors, the women who are coming home."

5. Sunday's Woman: A Report on Lesbian Life Today by Sasha Gregory Lewis. \$9.95 from Harper & Row. The author's theory is that lesbian lifestyles and relationships challenge heterosexual society's basic concepts about family, child-rearing, females roles, ownership, and alternative roles. She covers the current position of lesbians in society, the process of growing up gay from childhood through adolescence, the problems and challenges of living in a committed relationship unrecognized by law, and

the politicizing of lesbian liberation.

6. The Notebooks that Emma Gave Me: The Autobiography of a Lesbian by Kay Van Deurs. An older (in her 40s or 50s) lesbian-feminist-anarchist--a silversmith, ex-cab driver and ex-Quaker -- shares her life with us, mostly through letters she has written to friends, lovers, her family, President Carter, Holly Near, Meg Christian, and others.

7. Lesbian Peoples: Material for a Dictionary (subtitles seem to be the "in" thing for lesbian books these days) by Monique Wittig and Sande

who dislike ambiguous movie endings.

8. Lorraine Hansberry: Art of Thunder, Vision of Light is a special issue of the black quarterly Freedomways (\$2.50). Hansberry was a playwright and activist working in the 50s and 60s, and this is a collection of essays about her. Two essays, one by Margaret B. Wilkerson and one by Adrienne Rich, give insights into her struggles as a feminist and woman-identified black woman.

9. Eye to Eye: Portraits of Lesbians by JEB. \$8.95 from Persephone Press.



Aieg. \$5.95 from Avon. This is a collection of mostly one-paragraph word definitions written as if after the end of patriarchy. Example "Age: . . . From the chaos of the Iron Age emerged such ages as the Soft Stone Age, the Steam Age, the Concrete Age, the High-Speed Steel Age (the same as the preceding one). The lesbian peoples do not hold themselves responsible for the confusions, contradictions, incoherences of that history. We have now entered the Glorious Age. This was not achieved without difficulty." Very bizarre, this book is not for the faint of heart or those

This includes 40 incredible strong and beautiful black and white photos and an introduction on the history of lesbian photography, quotations from lesbians pictured, and extracts from literature. One of my favorite new books.

10. Lesbian Health Matters from the Santa Cruz Women's Health Center, \$3.75. Our first lesbian health resource book covers gynecological health, health and sexuality, vaginitis, cramps, breasts, alternative fertilization, menopause, alcoholism,





move on over you, for gay folks' time has come." Sometimes the political line got a bit mixed--"2-4-6-8, smash the family, church, and state" didn't quite jibe with "We're an angry, gentle people, singing for our lives."

(We had informally decided not to single out Anita Bryant herself in our signs and chants and to direct our slogans against the general oppression of lesbians and gay men.)

Not surprisingly, the Christians going into the concert weren't very charitable or Christ-like in their

## dozen

feminist therapy, and more. It's wonderful!

11. The Lesbian Path edited by Margaret Crinkshank. From Caroline House. The 37 autobiographical sketches in this book "celebrate our diversity and strength" and fall into sections about young lesbians, being Catholic, public lives, and struggles, adventures, and mothers.

12. Between a Rock and a Hard Place by Joan Gibbs. \$2.00 from February 3rd Press. This is a collection of poetry and a prose piece by a black lesbian feminist who is one of the founding editors of Azalea, a magazine by third world lesbians.

13. Living in the Open by Marge Piercy. \$3.95 from Random. I've saved the best for last. Piercy says on the back that this is the most autobiographical book she has written. The poems explore her relationships with men, with women, and with the country land in Massachusetts where she lives. (She is an uprooted Detroit city kid.) In a recent interview she said that she writes some of the best contemporary nature poetry around, and I agree with her.

I recommend all of Piercy's poetry, even to folks who generally are put off by poetry. It's not hard work to read and understand, and it is full of fresh images.

### Notes:

The prospective reader will notice that almost all these books are from presses you probably never heard of. I scoured the recent FBN's and mainstream publishing house catalogs for new lesbian titles and, strangely enough, could find only a couple from publishers other than small women's presses.

I would like to thank Carol of FBN for some of the titles and raps. Enjoy!.

— Andrea

reactions to our demo. "You can tell what you are just by looking at ya," yelled one hypocrite. (We could tell what he was just by looking at him, too.)

"Why do you call yourself gay? You don't look very happy," cried one man who was obviously unhappy with us. "You look like a bunch of queers to me."

"Thank you," we replied.

A great many townspeople began to gather across the street to view the confrontation. A lot of them were either teenagers or older folk from the neighborhood. Most of this crowd seemed merely curious and watched us at a distance for the entire time of our protest.

But a few hecklers did appear. At first they just drove by and yelled "faggots." But some stopped and formed groups with other on-lookers to snicker and taunt from afar.

One clump of sniggering males encouraged two of their cohorts to approach the demonstration. They courageously chose to argue with the lone woman who was holding the far end of the banner (which read "We Will Love Who We Choose").

Several other protesters moved in, and a shouting match ensued. The police quickly took steps to prevent any escalation of the conflict, and the two hecklers were led away but not arrested.

We continued our chants and songs for what seemed like several hours, finally dispersing when the program began inside. Actually we were there only an hour, but the brief displays of hostility made the time seem much longer.

We went to our cars under the watchful eyes of the Mahomet cop and some of the 30 back-up police. It was uncomfortably comforting to see the state trooper parked at the Mahomet exit to I-74. (I've seen Easy Rider; I know what happens to hippie freaks on the way out of town.)

All in all, the demonstration was a success. About 50 people finally showed up to protest. We got coverage in the Bloomington Pantagraph, the Champaign News-Gazette, and on 2 TV stations (channels 3 and 15).

And although Bryant was late and didn't get to see or hear our protests, she must have heard about them: a week later she announced that she was ending her 20-year heterosexual relationship.

And--it didn't rain on us. Not one drop. There were tornadoes and thunderstorms all around, but not in Mahomet. The Jesus people claimed that it was a miracle that the sun shone on their march in Washington (because it had rained the day before

Protesters against homophobe Anita Bryant at Mahomet's Gospel Opry House drew polyester stares (above right) and heckles. One heckler was escorted away by Mahomet police (below).



and the day after). They said God caused it to stop raining on them. Now, does that work for our demonstration too? Or are the Christians really all wet? Maybe God stopped the rain to protect all that expensive polyester.

Or maybe--just maybe--rain is merely condensed water vapor in the atmosphere, and God is a convenient out for people who can't justify their behavior in any other way. Maybe..

--Ferdydurke



## Dollars for Bryant

Files recently released by the IRS show Anita Bryant collected over \$2 million from the public in 1978 for the operation of her two anti-gay organizations, Protecting America's Children and Anita Bryant Ministries.

Bryant Ministries, launched in 1977 to establish counseling centers for homosexuals who have drifted away from Christ, raised almost \$1 million in contributions, yet tax files show that only \$150 of that went to counseling, while \$400,000 went to more fundraising, and the other half million went into the bank.

--BMR



# Ten ways to deal with gays

Tired of tripping over all those gay men screwing in your parks? Worried about gay teachers in your schools? Afraid that gay people will open an S&M parlor in your neighborhood? Relax, modern science has provided a multitude of cures and therapies to help you in your battle to make the world a safe place for straights.

If you can catch the little buggers and hold them still for a while, here are some of the ways to turn them into decent, god-fearing citizens once again:

- 1. Death therapy.** This method of dealing with queers was first devised by the Bible. It was improved and updated by the Inquisition and Adolf Hitler. Death therapy has always been 100% effective, although not one of the cured homosexuals has gone on to lead a successful heterosexual life.
- 2. Oppression therapy.** In this method, you subject homosexuals to job and housing discrimination, and generally make them feel like the scum of the earth. Get the psychiatrists to tell them they're sick, the ministers to say they're sinful, and the police to beat them up and call them outlaws. This therapy was generally very effective, until about 10 years ago when the homos started thinking of themselves as human beings just like the rest of us.
- 3. Aversion therapy.** Show photographs of naked men to the homosexuals and then give them drugs to induce vomiting. While this method has never been entirely successful, it has created thousands of males who cannot get undressed in front of a mirror without making a mess.
- 4. Electroshock therapy.** Unfortunately, this tried and true approach has become financially unfeasible because of the skyrocketing cost of energy. Sticking their fingers in light sockets does not count.
- 5. Psychotherapy.** In this method, the homosexual talks himself out of his affliction. The major drawback to this is that it takes a very long time. The usual result of this form of therapy is a 65-year-old heterosexual with laryngitis.
- 6. Verbal therapy.** This form of eliminating homosexuality has been used by the Soviet government, which declared that "there are no homosexuals in Russia; homosexuality is strictly the product of capitalist decadence." No one has yet been able to explain, however, why there are so many Russian accents on 42nd Street every time the Bolshoi plays New York.
- 7. Jesus therapy.** This school holds that homosexuality can be cured by

praying to someone who spent most of his life traveling around with a group of twelve men. Its effectiveness seems limited.

**8. Music therapy.** Unlike aversion therapy, this method seeks to encourage heterosexuality by having homosexuals listen to the song "I Want a Girl Just Like the Girl That Married Dear Old Dad" over and over again. The advent of Disco and the Village People has pretty much put an end to this therapy, and the only recorded success was some Greek named Oedipus.

**9. Role model therapy.** The idea here is to show movies of professional athletes to homosexuals, thereby teaching them how to look and act like "real men." The method had to be discontinued when it was discovered that one of the clients is now sharing a one-bedroom apartment with a member of the Chicago Bears.

**10. Immersion therapy.** This method is modeled on the practice of forcing children to puff on one cigarette after another until they get sick of smoking. Homosexuals are encouraged to have multiple sexual encounters with numerous partners. The theory is that they'll get tired of a good thing and switch to heterosexuality. Results of this form of therapy are not yet in, since the many patients are still undergoing treatment, but it seems to be popular. "My doctor told me to" is a favorite line in gay bars across the country these days.

If none of these methods works and your neighborhood is still overrun with homosexuals, you might consider the wisdom of the saying "If you can't fight 'em, join 'em."

--Ferdurdurke, with thanks and apologies to Lenny Giteck of The Advocate



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