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## The Keep

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The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)

The Post Amerikan Project

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## Volume 9, Number 6

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organic farming; religious right; lead poisoning; minor parties

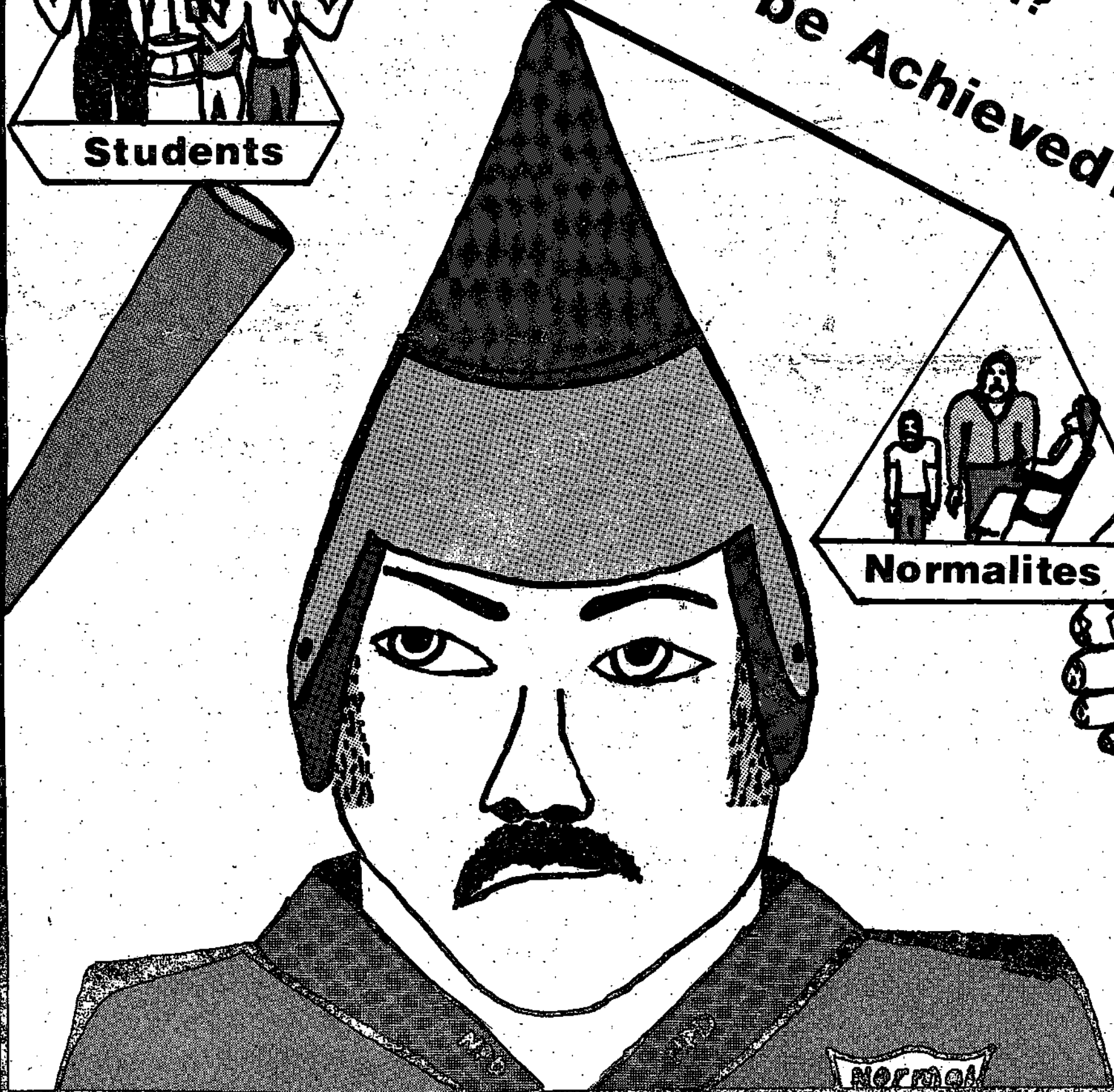
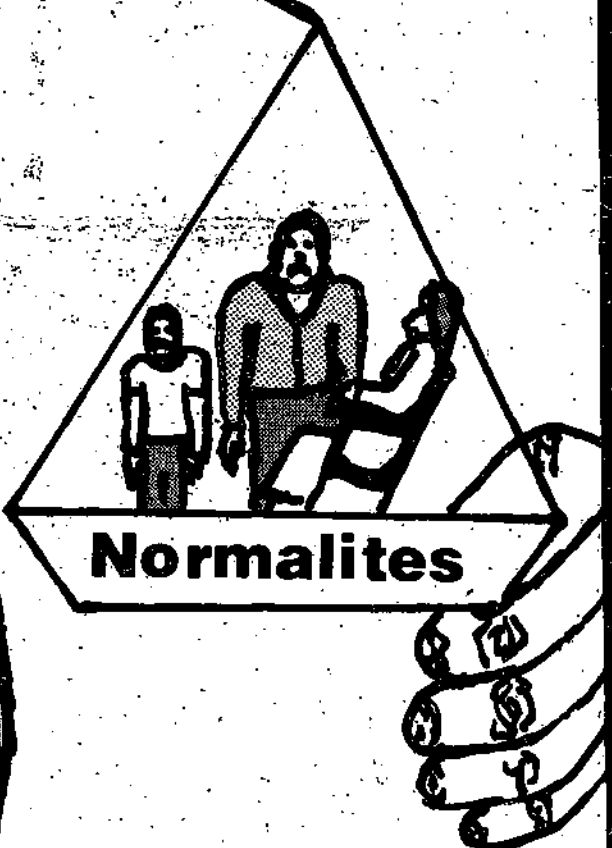
BLOOMINGTON—NORMAL

25¢

# POST AMERIKAN

Vol. 9 No. 6  
Oct.-Nov. 1980

Justice for All?  
Can Balance be Achieved?



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## 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 Nov. 6.

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.

## 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 County--827-4621  
 Rape Crisis Line--827-4005 (PATH)  
 SAW (Student Assn. for Women, ISU)--438-7619  
 Small Changes 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

## Post Sellers

### BLOOMINGTON

Eastgate IGA, at parking lot exit  
 Medusa's Adult World, 420 N. Madison  
 The Back Porch, 402½ N. Main  
 SW corner, Main & Front  
 Haag Drugstore, 509 W. Washington  
 Blm. Post Office, E. Empire (at exit)  
 Devary's Market, 1402 W. Market  
 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  
 Gene's Drive-in 1019 S. Main  
 Salt&Pepper Lounge 1105 W. Washington  
 Downtown Post Office Center&Monroe  
 Victory Bi-Rite 203 E. Locust  
 The Sacred Cat 312 So. Lee

### NORMAL

Redbird IGA, 301 S. Main  
 Mother Murphy's, 111½ North St.  
 Dairy Queen, 1110 S. Main  
 Eisner's, E. College (near sign)  
 Bivinyl 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  
 White Hen Pantry (out front)  
 Alamo II (out front)  
 SE corner, North & Broadway  
 The Gallery (out front)

### OUTTA TOWN

Urbana: Horizon Bkstore, 517 S. Goodwin

## 828-7232

Yes, that's our phone number--and now we have an answering machine! So you can call and leave us a message anytime. Be sure to leave your phone number if you want us to call you back.

## AN OBITUARY Another building falls

In early September the former G. H. Domke Building, located at 916 W. Washington in Bloomington, was transferred to the ownership of the City of Bloomington. Owned at one time by Bud Kelly, the building housed the Good Neighbor Thrift Store as well as a tenant upstairs. In more recent years past it housed Kelley's Television Sales as well.

Born in 1901, the Domke Building was a storefront structure in a neighborhood shopping area, an area which has been systematically torn down.

Last year, high traffic counts at the northern approach of the Morris Ave. and Washington St. intersection, mixed with a plan to widen Morris Ave., all the way to Business 55 eventually, made the City of Bloomington decide to enlarge Morris Ave. for just a block between Washington and Front Streets. This would ease the traffic problem at the intersection--and (suspiciously, we think) get rid of the Hickory Pit, a mostly-black bar.

The wrecking crews of the Sandstone Construction Co. from Peoria moved in and cleared the doomed area of the old BeeHive Building on one side of Morris

and the Hickory Pit on the other. The



only things left standing were the trees near Front St.

But while doing the demolition work on the Hickory Pit and the building sharing a wall with the Domke Building, Sandstone Construction "irreparably" damaged that common wall. The City of Bloomington questioned the structural integrity of the Domke Building. The City obtained quotations for fixing the exterior wall, but the costs of rehabilitation ranged from \$17,000 to \$28,000, according to Don Tjaden and Paul Richardson of the Urban Development Dept. The high costs virtually "ruled out" the practicality of restoring the building. Kelley was urged to sell the property to the City, insuring its ultimate destruction.

Now matters are simplified. The City made Kelley an offer he couldn't

refuse, and cleared the path for easier negotiations between the City and Sandstone's insurance company for settlement of damages to non-targeted structures during demolition. Kelley told the Post-Amerikan he may have the first option to reacquire the land for putting up a new building once the rubble of the Domke Building is cleared away.

The Domke Building will have been preceded in death by the BeeHive, Hickory Pit, Withers Library, vast sections of Front St., Roosevelt St., and other structures too numerous to mention. It will be survived by all the rest of us and our dwellings and structures on the west side of Main St.

--Jeremy Timmens

**Post Note:** Luckily for West Side residents the story doesn't have an entirely unhappy ending. The Good Neighbor Thrift Store, which provides low-cost goods to neighborhood people who can't afford high-cost threads and plastics sold by east side merchants, will relocate to a somewhat smaller space one-half block east, 903 W. Washington. Some good things live on as long as concerned people want them to.

# Sponges: A safe alternative to tampons

Rely tampons, which were, in the opinion of some of my friends, the best on the market, have been taken off the market. The FDA and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta want a warning on the boxes of all the existing brands of tampons, a warning similar to the one on cigarette packages. Instead of citing general danger to your health, though, the health agencies want specifics on the tampon warning. They want the warning to include a description of what toxic shock is, what its symptoms are, and that you run a great risk of getting this often fatal disease if you use tampons.

Toxic shock has symptoms very similar to those of scarlet fever, and it may be a distant and more serious form of scarlet fever. The symptoms include high fever, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and a sunburn-like rash.

It affects at least 3 out of every 100,000 women of menstruation age and was unheard of until the 1970's. Now, since 1975 alone, the CDC has received 299 cases of toxic shock, and 25 deaths have been reported.

The use of tampons, which are now made of cotton synthetics and blends of cotton and synthetics rather than pure cotton, has seemed to heighten the incidence of toxic shock. And while Rely tampons are the grossest offender, other tampons carry the same risks.

So what is a woman to do? If you use tampons, you run the risk of toxic shock. And if you go back to using napkins, you run the risk of bleeding through every piece of clothing you own.

I think the answer is sponges. Safer than tampons, more convenient than napkins, and cheaper than both, sponges offer women the best alternative to this latest hazard to health.

Sponges are just that, pieces of Mediterranean sponge which are used like tampons. Since they are natural, there is no risk of toxic shock. Since they are absorbent, there is less danger of leaking. And since they are only \$2.00 and one sponge will last you about a year, they are certainly economically the best alternative.

Sponges have certain drawbacks, though. Since they don't come with an applicator, you must insert them manually. And if you don't sew a piece of dental floss to them, you have to take them out manually.

Which means putting some fingers up your vagina while you are bleeding.

Since they are reusable, you have to rinse them out when they are saturated, which means getting blood on your hands while you are getting them clean.

But there are overwhelming advantages to sponges which, I feel, quite outweigh the disadvantages. Besides the cost and the safe nature of sponges, they are also soft and warm. They mold to fit your vagina and seem to become a part of it. You can't feel them.

It also doesn't hurt when you put them in. It is almost impossible to get them in wrong, so there is no discomfort from not inserting them far enough. And since they are soft, even if you don't get one in far enough the first time, a quick push with a finger pops them into place without pain.

There is also no applicator to deal with: no applicator to dispose of and no applicator to pinch and bite and otherwise attack your vagina.



(I must tell you that a lot of my friends think that the problems I have with tampons stem from my never learning to insert them properly. I found out recently, for instance, that most people are not deathly afraid of stabbing themselves to death with the applicator. But I figure that I cannot be alone; other women might have some of the same problems and fears I have.)

You can also have sex with your sponge in place. And to the fingers and/or penis of your lover, the sponge will feel like another part of the vaginal lining.

Rinsing sponges out in gang johns, at work, in classroom buildings, in the dorm, in restaurants, is a bit uncomfortable. You run the risk of having women come in right at the moment you have decided it is safe and assume when she sees the blood running down your hand that you have just slit one or both of your wrists.

But you can, of course, carry two. Zip-lock bags can be used for storing things other than dope. You can put one fresh sponge in your little bag, and when you need to change it you just switch the two. The fresh one into your vagina and the used one into your little bag. Presto chango. No muss, no fuss, no hysteria.

Sponges are worth a try. And if you find you don't like them, you are only out the price of a box of tampons, which you would have had to buy anyway. And if you do like them, sponges offer a wonderful chance for you to get in touch with your body. For me it seems to take much of the curse out of "the curse."

So if I have convinced you, and you want to say no to toxic shock and no to a saddle between your legs, and say yes to sponges, you can get them at Small Changes Book Store, 409 1/2 Main, Bloomington, for only \$2. They come in a little muslin bag for storage, with instructions for first-timers.

Also, they are distributed by a small women-owned company, "Wimmin Take Back Control," which means no corporate pigs will be getting your money. So try the sponge. And happy bleeding.

--Deborah Wiatt



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## Parents meet patriot profitseekers

Friends of ours who recently became parents got the following letter in the mail shortly after their daughter's birth. The letter was handwritten on cute-squirrel stationery.

Dear Mr. and Mrs ----, Congratulations on the birth of your daughter ----. She is fortunate to be living in a country such as ours where opportunity abounds for our Youth. If ---- believes in the American way of life, her loyalty to it will allow her to pursue her chosen career even to become the President of the United States.

And Mr and Mrs ---- we would like nothing better than to be able to say we outfitted the President. Bring this letter with you to the store within the next six months and you will receive 20% discount on one purchase of our regularly priced children's wear.

Sincerely,  
Verna Hoxworth.  
The Little Folks  
Eastland Shopping  
Center

Even though we may have become used to this phony personalization in junk mail-- "This handy tool is just what you need in your home workshop, Mr. Day."-- the above letter makes the promotional gimmick especially unappealing.

The combination of fake-folksy come-on and hokey patriotism implies that the letterwriter considers parents just as naive as Little Folks (and maybe even Little Folks could see through this trick).

--Phoebe Caulfield

## Co-op grocery: Joliet did it

Here's an idea for the west side of Bloomington.

In Joliet, two community organizations have joined together to reopen an abandoned food store as a neighborhood-owned co-op.

The store employs and trains youths and young adults in grocery operations, as well as providing a grocery store in a part of Joliet shunned by the monster supermarket chains.

The groups to contact for more info are the Joliet-Will County Community Action Agency and the United Southside Neighborhood Organization.



# Lead poisoning 'resurfaces'

After ignoring and misinterpreting the problem for years, area doctors, social service agencies and the McLean County Health Department are beginning a belated response to the specter of lead poisoning.

Even our clean, overwhelmingly white and middle class McLean County has seen the dread results of lead poisoning. In early Sept., a three-month-old lead screening plan within the health department's WIC (Women, Infants, Children) program found serious levels of lead poisoning in a four-year-old Bloomington child and his three brothers. The four-year-old was hospitalized with 200 parts of lead in his blood. The child is mentally retarded.

New research reveals that low levels of lead in a person's blood can contribute greatly to behavior changes--hyperactivity, lethargy, poor appetite or an inability to concentrate, according to Gary Johnson of the Illinois Public Health Department. Lack of such research sooner is one reason lead poisoning has been so long overlooked. Most health officials, following incidents in the inner city, have looked exclusively for acute lead poisoning--high levels of lead in the blood. Assuming that problem did not exist in their areas many officials have not considered lead poisoning to be a significant and potentially widespread health hazard.

## What's being done now

Through sheer ignorance, parents and social service agencies dealing with "problem" children have overlooked the sad fact that children with physical and mental disabilities may be contaminated with lead from various sources. The Pantagraph even quoted local pediatrician Dr. Saksena as saying he (and presumably other physicians) had never considered lead poisoning to be a threat in B-N's "semi-urban" environment.

The McLean County Health Department is concentrating now on urging people to voluntarily make appointments for their children to be tested for lead poisoning. Even so, the health department told the Pantagraph that they are relying on the

news media to provide the public with information about the tests.

Ben Boyd, director of McLean Co. Health Dept., however, expressed his concerns to the Post Amerikan, saying he feels "people are not energized about dealing with the possibilities of lead poisoning." He cited the fact that in only 3 cases did people bring in paint samples for lead content testing. Prior to our publication date, Boyd said the overwhelming majority of lead screenings had been in connection with the WIC program, not the voluntary screenings he had hoped for.

In another try, the health department will select areas in the county to conduct voluntary lead screenings by using a van and portable testing equipment provided by the Ill. Department of Public Health. The van will travel throughout the county Oct. 20-23 and possibly on the 24th. Target areas for the testing have been determined following consultations with area governing bodies.

Bob Keller told the Post the criteria used for

determining target areas were based on the high concentration of homes constructed before 1950 and the purported concentration of children living in the areas. (For a list of the target areas and the times the van will be in those areas, see the adjoining article.)

## Impossibilities and Improbabilities

There is now some awareness of the threat of lead poisoning. But despite assurances that recently manufactured interior paints contain very little or no lead, the same is not true for exterior paints, which contain varying quantities of lead. When it peels off a structure's exterior, the same possibilities for contamination exist.

Lead is a big industry in the U.S. and the rest of the world. Even the paint on the pencil I'm writing with now contains lead. Should I decide to ponder what I'll write next by sucking or chewing on the pencil, I'll ingest lead.

When your garage paint chips off and falls into

## Removing lead paint

With the onset of autumn, homeowners begin sprucing-up activities around the house. Often this involves scraping or sanding off old paint before applying a new coat. The McLean County Health Department urges weekend painters to use proper precautions while removing lead-based paint.

If you are using a torch to remove lead-based paint, use an approved respirator to prevent breathing lead vapors. Also, use the torch only to soften the paint. Burning paint gives off a toxic fume.

Proper ventilation and a tight-fitting mask are necessary to avoid inhalation of lead dust. For added benefit, change your mask regularly and while working clear the air with an electric fan.

Other suggestions include: not eating, drinking or smoking while working, thoroughly showering and shampooing after work, and storing and laundering soiled work clothes separately from others. Be certain to keep children away from the work area.

If you find that you are not feeling well, consult a physician. Inform the doctor if any of the following symptoms are present: persistent headache, dizziness, cramps, constipation, poor appetite, loss of weight, nausea, or visual disturbances.

Keep in mind that adults as well as children can get lead poisoning. You need to protect yourself and others from it. If you follow these precautions, the danger of lead poisoning can be largely reduced. For further information call the McLean County Health Department at 454-1161.

## Poison around us

# Low levels of lead affect

Unless you live near a factory that uses lead or a busy street or near some other notable source of lead pollution, the lead levels in your blood are probably below the present government standard for safety.

But that doesn't mean you're safe.

Your daily intake of lead is 100 times greater than that of people who lived in Illinois only 2000 years ago, and that means that lead is almost certainly interfering with the natural chemical processes of your body.

Lead tends to take the place of calcium in the body, and so it accumulates in bones. But it also affects brain and nerve tissues. In large enough amounts, lead will cause convulsions, brain damage and death.

## Less dramatic dangers

At that stage you have lead poisoning, and those severe results used to be considered the primary danger of lead. Indeed, 200 children die and another 16,000 are permanently damaged each year by lead poisoning. But recently, the less dramatic dangers of low-level lead contamination have been examined and found to be widespread:

--The National Center for Disease Control estimates that 3 million children are exposed to lead at levels which will seriously injure them, perhaps permanently.

--In Newark, N.J., one child in three

has unsafe levels of lead in their blood.

--Of 2 million children screened by the government between 1973 and 1977, seven percent had high levels of lead in their blood.

## More lead than suspected

Another important discovery, published early this year, indicates that our recent thinking about what level of lead pollution is acceptable has been quite wrong. Using ultra-clean labs, researchers determined that lead contamination from processing and packaging in lead-soldered cans increases the lead content in tuna 4000 times instead of the 6 to 7 times previously thought.

Earlier studies had not produced accurate measurements of the lead content in freshly caught tuna because researchers were actually contaminating the tuna during the testing.

The notion that freshly harvested food (before processing and canning) contains much less lead than we had once thought and the fact that pre-historic peoples ingested much less lead from all sources (air, food, and water) both point to the same conclusion: lead is probably interfering with natural biological functions.

## Recent studies

In fact, a number of studies strongly

support that conclusion:

--A Harvard Medical School study of 2335 first and second graders from white, working-class neighborhoods in Boston found lead in the children's bloodstreams; those with the highest levels of lead were "frequently disorganized, distracted, hyperactive, impulsive, and easily frustrated."

--An article in the prestigious New England Journal of Medicine reported that children with relatively low levels of lead in their blood were significantly slower to respond on hearing, attention-level, and verbal tests than children with still lower levels of lead.

These studies focus on children because they tend to retain in their bodies 50% more of the lead they ingest than do adults. Children are also more likely to react negatively to a high lead load than adults.

One group of children ages 5 to 12 in Brooklyn, who had the average lead load for urban children, was treated with chelates to reduce the lead in their bodies. (Chelates are chemical substances that bond with lead and then pass out of the body.) Their hyperactivity was reduced and their attention span increased.

The problem with using chelates to

# in McLean County



your garden, the tomatoes you grow after you till the paint into the soil will contain lead. In highly traveled urban areas, lead from the exhaust of cars using regular gas settle on the soil and increase lead concentrations.

There is no real way to eliminate lead in topsoil besides removing and replacing it. The health department, in response to the local lead poisoning cases, recommended the removal of 4 feet of soil on the periphery of the children's house because lead permeated the area.

Tests for lead in topsoil on a community-wide basis virtually do not exist. FS Farmtown in Bloomington does soil tests as a customer service, but they have one chemist and it is unknown whether they can test for lead. The U of I Environmental Research Lab in Urbana could conceivably test for lead, but it is a small lab beset with other testing demands. Another outfit in Terre Haute, Indiana, conducts soil tests for a price, but the possibility of an entire community using their services is questionable.

## Urgent cases

Depending on the outcome of the health department's current thrust to identify the scope of the lead poisoning problem, how much real power does the department possess for "correcting" clear and present dangers to people living in a poisoned house?

Boyd qualified and requalified his responses to this question. If tenants have a child with pica tendencies (putting things in their mouth), live

in dwellings with lead paint chipping off, and get a positive test for lead in the child, the health department can force a landlord to correct the situation. Presumably, should only adults live in a contaminated house, the health department is without "justification" to act. In the case of homeowners, the health dept. has no authority to force the owner to scrape and repaint.

According to Boyd, the public health law itself is vague. It does not allow the health department to act in all cases as an enforcement agency, because only the Ill. State Board of Health has such authority. However, in severe cases, the state health board can allow a county health department to become an "approved agency" with enforcement powers.

Lead poisoning is a clear threat to public health and safety. Budget restrictions and non-specific health laws make enforcement or correcting lead health hazards difficult at best. But the attitude, expressed editorially in the Pantagraph, that such environmental dangers are "clearly manageable," needs to be reassessed. Lead proliferates about us, and we should be aware that we must eliminate all possible contacts with the substance to keep the amounts in our bodies as low as possible.

--Jeremy Timmens

## Health Dept.

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### will test your body

From Oct. 20 through Oct. 23 the McLean County Health Department will conduct lead screenings for persons in selected areas of the county through use of a van equipped with portable testing equipment. Health department Director Ben Boyd said persons wishing to be screened, however, need not reside in the specific target areas.

The health department is hoping to test young children who are most apt to ingest leaded paint, but adults may be tested as well. The test or screening involves a "finger stick" to extract a small amount of blood and does not involve the use of hypodermic syringes. The times and locations are:

Oct. 20	9 a.m. to noon	Bloomington Public Library
Oct. 20	1 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Fell Park
Oct. 21	9 a.m. to noon	1st Christian Church parking lot, 401 W. Jefferson
Oct. 22		Chenoa (location to be announced)
Oct. 22	1 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Lexington (location TBA)
Oct. 23	all day	Leroy (location TBA)

# Lead poisoning— why does it still exist?

Every year lead poisoning kills or cripples more children in the U.S. than polio did before the discovery of the Salk polio vaccine. At least 500,000 children suffer some ill effects each year.

Yet lead, specifically lead in paint, was identified as the cause of death and suffering 75 years ago in Australia.

"How could a preventable disease," asks writer Jane S. Lin-Fu, "which can leave survivors with mental retardation, blindness, cerebral palsy, learning disabilities, behavior disorders and other problems escape national attention for so long?"\*

## Not pretty

There are answers to that question and they are not pretty:

1. Many people think that lead poisoning is a thing of the past, since the lead content in interior paint was voluntarily limited to 1% by manufacturers in 1955. But that agreement does not cover exterior paint; nor is it mandatory.

Many other people have never even heard of lead poisoning. In 1970, only 30% of the pediatricians in Brooklyn, a high-risk area, knew that paint could contain lead.

2. The symptoms of lead poisoning (stomach ache, nausea, anemia, low energy, convulsions) are similar to other diseases, many of them common to children. Worse, a routine exam will not establish lead poisoning as the cause of an illness.

## Disease of the poor

3. Acute lead poisoning (unlike low-level lead poisoning) is a disease of the deprived. Older houses were painted with lead paint, and deteriorating houses provide children

\*Quoted from her article "Lead Poisoning in Children—What Price Shall We Pay?" in Children Today, Jan.-Feb. 1979.

with paint chips to eat. Forty million housing units are potential hazards because of their state of disrepair. People who are poor cannot change these conditions.

In addition, nutritional deficiencies seem to increase the ill effects of lead, and children who lack sufficient parental attention or are subject to other stresses are more likely to eat and chew on non-food objects like paint chips, bannisters, window handles. Naturally, the poor suffer from these conditions most.

4. Children who are treated for lead poisoning must return to the same environment that poisoned them in the first place. So children who suffer acute lead poisoning are highly likely to get it again, and so are their sisters and brothers.

Lead poisoning is a chronic process that occurs as lead builds up in the body. Typically, a small child eats paint chips for several months before symptoms become severe enough to be diagnosed, and by then damage to the child's brain or nervous system is usually permanent.

Although the federal government has

continued on next page

# millions

remove lead is that they cause kidney damage and they do not remove lead from nerve and brain tissues.

## It's everywhere

On the other hand lead is everywhere.

It is in paint (especially exterior), in dust from painted walls, in gasoline, in many industrial processes, in water (especially from old water pipes), in tobacco smoke, in snow and ice in cities, in decals, in newsprint and magazine print, in toothpaste, in ceramic glaze, in pesticides, in the yellow paint on that pencil you're nervously gnawing on right now, and even in colored gift-wrapping.

But probably the number one source of lead for most Americans is their food, and the culprit is lead-soldered cans. Since canned food makes up one fifth of the diet of most Americans, the elimination of lead-soldered cans alone would significantly lower our lead intake.

That's not enough, but it's a place to start.

--D. LeSeure

Sources: Technology Review, June-July 1979, pp. 77ff; Children Today, Jan.-Feb. 1979, pp. 9-13, 36ff; The Progressive, Oct. 1979, p. 27; Science News, 17 April 1979, p. 23; The Nation 4 March 1978, pp. 242ff; Science, 14 March 1980, pp. 1167ff.

## Health Dept.

### will test your paint

Ben Boyd, McLean County Health Department director, told the Post-American that the department will test chips of paint from county citizens' homes for lead content. All that needs to be done is to put two good-sized pieces of chipped paint in an envelope and bring them to the health department's office at 905 N Main, Normal. Results of the test will be available in about one week.

# Why does lead poisoning still exist?

continued from preceding page

done little to correct the conditions that promote lead poisoning, it's in the last decade begun studying it, and the news is not good.

## Other sources

Paint is not the only way that some of the 3 million tons of lead produced annually finds its way into children's bodies.

The federal EPA says that "samples of dirt and dust collected from the streets of urban areas reveal concentrations of lead far greater than those considered at the limits of safety in paint by the FDA."

Much of that lead has come out of the air from automobile exhausts. Various studies show that the nearer you live to a busy street the more lead you'll have in your blood.

## No joke

These levels of lead are no joking matter. A child who eats a small fraction of a teaspoon of dust from within 100 feet of a busy street every day would suffer lead poisoning in eight months, from that source alone.

Canned baby foods and evaporated milk contain lead. Infant formula could by itself provide the major portion of what the government considers the permissible daily intake of lead. Add

up all the sources, and what have you got?

Ominously, government standards for safe levels of lead in the bloodstream have been reduced twice in the last 10 years, from 100 micrograms per 100 milliliters of blood to 30 micrograms. The average now for urban children is over 18 micrograms, which is at least 100 times as much as children had in their blood 2000 years ago.

It's not surprising that the latest news about low levels of lead--levels at or below the government standard --is that there is a direct connection between lead and hyperactivity, reduced attention spans, general mental dullness.

The next news about lead poisoning may be worse yet, but we can't say we haven't had 75 years of warnings.

--D. LeSeure



## Lead poisoning?

No. Jerry Falwell and his evangelistic accomplices recruit these children at a young age and indoctrinate them into the brain-dulling lifestyle of Christian fundamentalism and mindless patriotism. For more about the "new right's" plans to turn the entire country into walking zombies, see pp. 21-23.

### You're invited to the



NELSON NEWT DOES HIMSELF UP IN NEW WAVE GARB!!!

# DIVINYL MADNESS BIRTHDAY PARTY!!!

## Oct. 23 at the Lay-Z-J

1401 W. Market, Bloomington

# featuring: FOOD + MONEY VERTERATE



115 NORTH ST. NORMAL!!  
MON-SAT: 10-9 AND SUN: 1-6!!!

Several days ago a woman called me and told me that she couldn't find a doctor to provide prenatal care for her 14-year-old daughter because the doctors she'd called would not take public aid patients.

The woman was understandably angry and upset.

She had first tried Dr. Ashvin Patel, whose patient she had been six years ago. He won't accept Illinois Department of Public Aid payment, and his office offered no suggestions for alternative sources of care.

Next she tried Dr. William Henderson, who is accepting new patients, but not IDPA patients. His office also offered no referral.

The woman then called Sue Fatten of Planned Parenthood, who explained the Medical Society's rotation policy. All local obstetricians are supposed to accept a quota of public aid patients, and people looking for a doctor must call the Medical Society for a referral. (See last month's Post.)

So, the woman called the Medical Society--and got a tape-recorded message telling her that the society had no secretary and that she should consult the Yellow Pages for a physician. (According to Patti Winslow of Planned Parenthood, the Medical Society's usual hours are 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. when they keep them.)

Remember that this woman is trying to get care for her 14-year-old daughter. Teenagers that young are at special risk, and so are their fetuses. Yet the medical system created a neat,

hopeless circle.

"I think it's a shame any community won't provide facilities for prenatal care, or any care," the woman told me. "Prenatal care is basic health care and should be mandatory," she said.

Since the private sector isn't taking care of it, she continued, the health department should be. But the McLean County Health Department was still accepting the medical society's rotational system, even though director Ben Boyd told the Post last month that there were problems with that system.

The situation, as this woman pointed out, is similar to the situation that existed for years in regard to dental care. No dentist would accept public aid patients, yet the health department maintained that there were enough dentists per capita in Bloomington-Normal. Only recently has the area gotten a dental clinic. Before that, IDPA patients went without care or went to another town.

The women I talked to did eventually find a doctor for her daughter (George O'Neil). But she was resourceful and determined. And I gave her the doctor's name. How many others are not so resourceful and determined?

In the last month, 10 to 15 women have called Planned Parenthood seeking advice on how to find a doctor for prenatal care. No one knows how many found a doctor or how many gave up.

The refusal of local doctors to provide health care on the grounds that they don't like the amount or the

speed with which the state pays them--and this is greed, pure and simple--is an outrage. It shouldn't be allowed and it should be remedied.

At the very least, the county health department should establish a clinic to provide every kind of health care which local doctors and hospitals refuse to supply: a list which includes prenatal care and sterilization for public aid patients as well as abortion.

Do not overlook the fact that doctors and hospital administrators who are virtually all men made the decision to deny services mainly to women. Such sexism and such callous allegiance to the dollar are compelling arguments for community-controlled socialized medicine.

--D. LeSeure

### Last resort: Peoria clinic

As a last resort, women needing prenatal care but unable to get it because local doctors refuse to take public aid patients can try the St. Francis Community Clinic in Peoria.

Planned Parenthood's Patti Winslow says the clinic makes charges on a sliding scale according to the women's ability to pay, but that it takes Peoria residents first if there are too many women seeking medical care.

Also, as Winslow points out, a woman who can't afford to pay a doctor very likely will have trouble paying for regular trips to Peoria.

Call Planned Parenthood, 827-8025, for more info.

### Aid for pregnant women

Starting Dec. 1, a woman who is pregnant will be eligible for state-paid medical assistance on the same basis as a woman who has a child.

If you're poor and make the mistake of getting pregnant, check this out.

### Horror stories

I would like to hear about any case of a doctor refusing to provide care, for whatever reason. Please leave a message at the Post Amerikan office, 828-7232, and I will call you back as soon as possible.

--D.L.

North St. Normal

# MOTHER MURPHY'S

111 1/2

Pipes  
Bongs  
Posfers

Room Decorations

Art prints  
Bedspreads  
Leather + Gds.  
Buckles  
And Much More!!!

Handcrafted Jewels

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Pesticide eggs

(Prevention)--A recall of 3.2 million eggs reportedly contaminated with chlordane, a pesticide which has caused cancer in laboratory animals, was ordered by the Food and Drug Administration. The eggs, from a California farm, had been delivered in the West and to military installations in the Pacific. The FDA said while it did not believe there was any immediate health hazard, the recall was ordered because long-term impact of exposure to the pesticide is not known.

### DES still in cattle

(Prevention)--A widespread disregard of the federal ban of DES (diethylstilbestrol) in cattle has been uncovered. The Food and Drug Administration and the Department of Agriculture have ordered almost 300 feedlots to surgically remove the DES implants that were illegally placed in the cattle sheltered there.

The feedlots also were instructed to keep the cattle for at least 41 days after surgery before sending them to slaughter. As many as 450,000 cattle may have received the illegal implants, which promote rapid growth.

DES is a proven carcinogen in humans and animals, and residues of the substance crop up in edible tissues of the animals.



# LETTERS...LETTERS...LETTERS

## Notes from Inside

Post-note: We get lots of letters from prisoners in McLean County Jail, other county jails, and the state penitentiaries--so many letters, in fact, that we don't have room for them all. So instead of just choosing a few to print, we decided to publish part of each one, so our readers can hear at least something from all.

### Neglected prisoner dies

Post:

I am writing this letter about the death of a fellow prisoner here at Pontiac Correctional Center, who was confined in the North Cell House Segregation Unit. My brother prisoner died through the deliberate indifference of the prison administration, prison officials, and correctional officers, as well as the prison nurse. The prison administration was continually warned about each and every one of the dangerous conditions existing in the segregation unit, and of the dangerous conditions concerning inadequate medical assistance, and the possible resulting loss of life in the event of necessity for emergency medical treatment.

My fellow prisoner died sometime during the night or early morning. C.O. Burks was working on the gallery passing out the food for breakfast. He did not even notice or care whether the prisoners here on 7 gallery were all right. Approximately 8:45 AM the nurse was passing out the medication and discovered this prisoner. I do not know whether or not he was even alive at that time. Officer Burks then had to go all the way down to the gallery just to get the key for cell number 725. Finally they screwed around and stated that the prisoner was dead. They did not even bother to remove his body from the cell until 10:20 AM.

All the wardens have constantly been informed of the guard brutality, inadequate medical assistance, total indifference and dangerous conditions which exist in the north segregation unit of Pontiac Correctional Center.

The conditions existing in the segregation unit are so dangerous that a prisoner confined to the segregation unit for 15 days could end up with a virtual "Death" sentence for disobeying a rule. All attempts to have any of these conditions changed have met with total indifference and outright denial by everyone who is part of the prison administration and Gayle M. Franzen himself.

I am specifically requesting that this incident must not be allowed to be covered up as is usual by prison officials.

Very truly yours,  
Paul W. Tedder

### County Jail Understaffed

Post-Amerikan:

For a long time now, McLean County Jail has been understaffed, and it is not only hard on the people that do work here, but it is extremely hard on inmates. I don't think some of the officers can handle this job, physically or mentally. Sure, we are up here for breaking the law, but that doesn't mean we should be treated like dirt. For instance, the doctor up here thinks that a bandaid and a shot of liquid tylenol cures everything. And there are a lot of inmates that need medical attention, but do not get it. So I hope that someone will take notice, and will do something about it, because it is hard enough to do time as it is.

Thank you,  
Rick Bradford

### Payin' his dues

Dear Post:

It's true that some us at the McLean County Jail have broken the law. But also some of us haven't. Not everybody in jail is a lawbreaker. As a matter of fact, there are probably more lawbreakers on the street still running free.

Anyway, no matter what we've done, we are innocent until proven guilty. We would just like to be treated half way decent. We are here to pay our debt to society, and people should take that into consideration. We are paying our dues.

But with the attitude of the jailers up here, it's sometimes impossible. At least give us a fair chance. We are human. Thank you.

Hollywood

### Don't forget downstate prisons

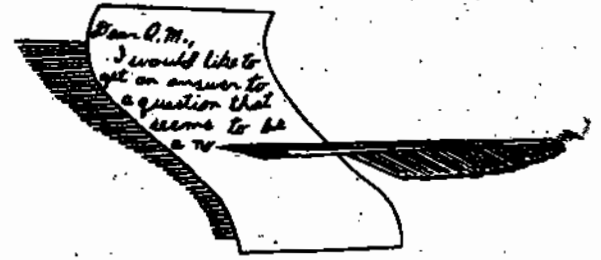
Dear Post-Amerikan:

I enjoyed your most recent article about the prison system now in Illinois. The only thing I have to complain about is that you seem to forget about us good people down in southern Illinois (Vandalia). I realize our problem is not as great as that of a max joint, but we most assuredly could use some reform here. The overcrowding is the main problem.

Plus we have flack coming from the guards. I realize their job is twice as hard with twice as many people to watch, but in some cases they show no consideration for humans who have made a mistake.

All I say is, please keep up the good work. We never forget a good friend, and do most greatly appreciate your sending us the paper.

Mike Edmonds # 1435  
Box 500  
Vandalia IL 62471



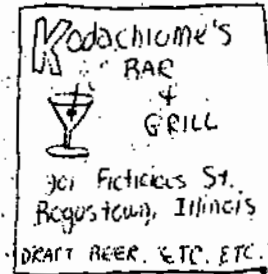
### BODY ADS

Dear Post People:

I'll try to be brief. However, I do want to make it clear that I'm not really complaining, just sort of making a comment on something that I feel is a little absurd.

I think I know a little about advertising. If I wanted to sell my service, product, or whatever, I would pay the Post, Penny Saver, or even God forbid, the Pantagraph, so much to display an advertisement.

EXAMPLE;  
(purely fictitious)



...this would bring my ad to the notice of potential customers.

Okay. But now there's a newer sort of advertising. It's called Body Advertising (my name for it).

What it involves is I get a bunch of T-shirts made up with my business name and logo, then you pay me to walk around advertising my product on your body. Sure, I pay for the shirts, but I make a tidy little profit when I sell them to you.

Doesn't this seem a little - er - backwards?

Don't get me wrong. I love T-shirts and I live in the damn things and I know everybody else does it (even the Post, hee, hee) but I just had to say something!

Fondly,  
"Kodachrome"

P.S.--



...makes the

world

go

round!

*more letters... more letters*

## DON'T AVOID SEXUAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Dear Post-Amerikan,

As a woman and human sexuality counselor I was interested in reading Deborah Wiatt's article in this month's Post exploring legal and societal definitions of rape. However, I find that I cannot accept some of the suggested inclusions in the quest for a better definition of rape.

I am willing to accept different types of coercion--physical and non-physical, overt and subtle as having validity within the search for a broader definition. My disagreement with the article is that the line was crossed between coercion by the person wanting sex and irresponsibility by the one not wanting it.

We must all be responsible for our own needs, behaviors, and choices. In the area of sexual needs and behaviors, we in this culture tend not to be. If one wants something or does not want something--in this case sexual activity of some kind, it is his or her responsibility to act on that need/want and to communicate that. If we choose not to make our needs known (as described in a number of places in the latter portion of this article) we must accept that we have so chosen. Choosing not to communicate, being "too tired to hassle", "avoiding a scene" may seem an easier way to go, but that is one of the primary reasons that the situation persists: it pays off for the asker if the askee does not choose to "hassle."

When one chooses not to make his/her desires known one must blame oneself for the dissatisfaction he or she feels, not the other person who is pursuing what he/she wants and may even be assuming the feeling is mutual. The author brought up the situation of having sex with a partner when you don't really want to, but didn't mention accepting the choice to give in or not give in and having to accept the consequences of being straight about the choice.

Some may say "but he/she should know that I don't want (insert any behavior)." Well, even if that other person is good at guessing, and many of us are not, why should we leave that up to them? to depend on their guessing?

I am not so naive that I will contend that this approach is easy. However, I do feel strongly that until we all begin to do so with some regularity, the situation of conflicting needs and the resultant dissatisfactions will not improve. I also realize that such communication may be misunderstood or ignored, may result in feelings of anger or hurt by the receiver and/or vulnerability or helplessness by the sender, but what do we gain by not trying?

It seems to me the present situation whether one calls it rape or the lack of acceptance of responsibility for one's own needs is bad enough that an attempt for improvement is past due. My experience, personal and professional, is that the situation does improve but that we must all be willing to expend the time, energy, and risk to state our needs, desires, and fears, to choose to act, and to accept our own responsibility for our own needs and actions.

Sue Fatten

## BATON ROUGE, B-N, SAME DIFF

Dear Post-Amerikan,

The mailman brought your last issue right to our door because he was holding a registered letter containing our eviction notice in his other hand.

We have not found another place to live yet because Baton Rouge (like your area) does not have much to offer for persons of low opportunist pig tendencies.

We like the Post and would like to congratulate you on your forthrightness. We just read "Baton Rouge" for "Bloomington-Normal," and I regret to say the worst things discussed in your paper directly apply to here. Your area does have the advantage of the Post, something Baton Rouge would never be able to handle. Right on!

Sabrina

## Rich folks' playground-- who pays?

The Sunday September 28 edition of the Pantagraph carried another installment in the continuing saga of the destruction of the downtown Bloomington business district, not to mention Bloomington's west side businesses and those still surviving in parts of Normal.

In its lead editorial titled "City Impetus Warranted for Convention Center," the Pantagraph spelled out its case for a multi-million dollar convention center. The proposed construction of the oversized playground for the rich would most likely take place east of Veterans Parkway near Eastland Shopping Center.

The convention center/hotel complex would be, in the pipe dreams of the Pantagraph editorialist, funded by allowing businesses to use low-interest industrial bonds from the city as another freebie "incentive," hoping that private businesses would take it from there. The city would also build yet another east-bound street between Empire and Washington to Hershey Road to provide easier access to the proposed site.

All the Pantagraph is doing is using a different adjective to modify the same monstrosity. Civic centers are known by their gross cost overruns and outrageous tax rip-offs to provide facilities for the wealthy. "Minimal help and guidance" takes on its hidden meaning after the project is okayed--the insulting use of community resources to allow developers and other schemers to pad their coffers.

### Traffic patterns and wisdom

The Pantagraph cited I-74 and I-55 as additional justification for a convention complex, arguing that they make Bloomington-Normal a "natural" for drawing visitors--wealthy ones--to the center. What they neglect to realize is that as travel becomes more expensive, the "naturalness" 10-years-from-now becomes questionable, since one needs an automobile to reach it.



Other centers, whether they be civic or convention, have mentioned the development of peripheral businesses and shopping areas as an added advantage. Peoria's downtown center is a case in point. But Peoria will also be tearing down a considerable amount of low-income housing near its civic center to accommodate its new mini-malls, much to the chagrin of low income people who have to move to more expensive housing.

In Bloomington's case, its ghost-like downtown will reap no benefits from such a center and other east side expansion. In fact, an irreversible death-blow may be the result. And don't expect to see a single parking meter near the convention center, either.

It's ironic that the Pantagraph lambasts the "municipal myopia" of other community civic centers, who rely on state aid, when their own proposal does not reflect any more wisdom or foresight. At least perhaps this time the Bloomington City Council won't get suckered into allowing another \$50,000 feasibility study--they can let the Pantagraph do the work and make the findings public every Sunday.

--Tom Pain

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## Susie's Cafe

### NEW LOCATION

602 N. Main

Home cooked food

Plate lunch  
& a la carte

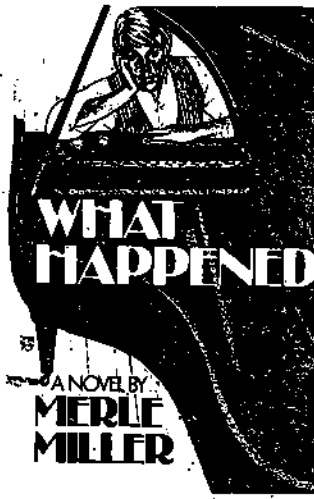
6 a.m.-7p.m.



Plenty of free parking at Mulberry & Main

# Book review

## Memoirs of a gay survivor



What Happened, by Merle Miller, first appeared in 1972, a year after the author had come out in the pages of the New York Times Magazine. At the time the publishers gave the novel little push and it wasn't reviewed widely. It died a quiet death and soon was out of print.

A year later Miller published his popular biography of Harry Truman -- Plain Speaking -- and his mother told him "Thank God you're on another subject." No doubt his publishers and reviewers agreed.

But now the novel is being re-issued by St. Martin's Press. It has an attractive dust jacket and a foreword by Miller. The cute blond on the new cover is not the main character, and the foreword rambles aimlessly. Forget them. But read the book.

George Lionel, the semi-autobiographical narrator of What Happened, struggles to grow up during the Depression in a town that resembles Miller's hometown of Marshalltown, Iowa. George likes to read, wears glasses, plays the piano, and can't catch a baseball. In a small town in Iowa, even today, that's a beatable combination. George is the town sissy, enduring both verbal taunts and physical attacks.

But George survives. And, like the author, he flees to the outside world in search of fame, fortune, and love. Also like Miller, George marries

(briefly) and is blacklisted during the McCarthy era. Both become middle-aged gay men whose feelings and personalities are shaped by a mercilessly oppressive society.

Although the parallels between character and author are only partial, they're worth pointing out. Because many readers, including gay ones, will want to dismiss George and his attitudes as exaggerated and self-pitying. Things weren't that bad, even for a sissy.

George Lionel is a concert pianist. He's also effeminate, promiscuous, alcoholic, suicidal, and something of a woman-hater. He deserves what he gets, doesn't he?

Well, no. George may be a card-carrying stereotype, but he's also a human being. Stereotypical people need love too, and, besides, stereotypes exist mainly in the eye of the beholder.

George Lionel is a lot more than a type, stereo or otherwise. He's a first-rate artist and a generous lover. He has a passionate concern for social justice and enough courage

and stubbornness to go on fighting a society that has tried, quite literally, to destroy him. "I will not go to the ovens quietly," he says. And he doesn't.

George isn't as self-assured as Molly Bolt, the spunky heroine of Rubyfruit Jungle. But he's every bit the fighter she is--in his own way. His weaknesses make him more believable than Molly, in my opinion.

What Happened is also as funny as Rubyfruit Jungle. No one escapes George's acid tongue. To him J. Edgar Hoover is merely "Auntie Edgar." And General MacArthur uses pancake make-up--"Max Factor Number Four." "As minor prophets go... Jesus was all right," but St. Paul, if he were living in Chicago at the time, would be "a leading member of the Capone gang, maybe the head." As for Robert Frost: "I am told, although I find it difficult to believe, that there are persons of intelligence who read Frost with pleasure." Tiny Tim, the Dickens character, was a "screaming, sanctimonious little faggot. I know where he ended up, hustling in Piccadilly underground, undercutting the other boys. I'll show you a good time for tuppence, sir. God bless us every one."

This novel is the story of the lives of many gay men, past and present. Times have changed since Miller's youth, but there's still a lot of vicious oppression around. George is sometimes sentimental and almost too bitchy to bear, but there's truth in his story. If oppression has deformed him, well, that's what happened, and continues to happen, to a lot of us.

--Ferdurke

## COMMUNITY NEWS



### Special delivery

Planned Parenthood of Central Illinois is sponsoring a series of information sessions about pregnancy, prenatal care, fathering and childbirth, 7 to 8:30 p.m., Mondays during October.

The first of the four sessions, Oct. 6, will feature a discussion of physical changes and nutrition during pregnancy, led by Darlene Weber, assistant professor of education, Illinois State University.

Breastfeeding will be the topic of discussion for the Oct. 13 meeting, led by La Leche League member Jennie Olson, and an overview of the LaMaze method of childbirth will be offered Oct. 20.

Fathering and the emotional aspects of pregnancy will be discussed in the final meeting, by John P. Quindry of Family Services and Becki Abrams, a new mother.

All sessions will meet in the Planned Parenthood offices, 201 E. Grove, Bloomington, are free of charge, and are open to both men and women. Babysitting and transportation will be available. For more info, call 827-8025.

### Recycle your junk

Operation Recycle will conduct another recycling drive Nov. 22 at their two sites located at the southwest corner of Main and College in Normal and in the Sears parking lot at Eastland Shopping Center.

People who wish to recycle their old newspapers, glass containers, and tin and aluminum cans may bring them to the sites all day that Saturday. Volunteers will be on hand to help deposit the materials in their proper containers.

People with materials to be recycled are asked to stack their newspapers in paper bags, soak the paper off cans and glass containers, and generally bring them in clean. If possible, glass containers which have plastic attached to them should be brought in with the plastic removed.

### Rape crisis center offers training

The Rape Crisis Center will have a training session for new volunteers Saturday and Sunday Nov. 8 and 9. The sessions will run from 9 am to 5 pm Saturday and from 1pm to 6pm Sunday at the Campus Religious Center, 210 W. Mulberry, Normal.

The RCC needs volunteers for client counseling, fund-raising, for its speaker's bureau and for its board of directors. Volunteers can serve in any or all of these areas.

The time commitment is as varied as the people--those with more time can volunteer more time and those with

### 'Rape culture' to be shown at ISU

The film "Rape Culture," an examination of rape in the US and how it affects women, men, the media, and the culture in general, will be shown Oct. 15 at 8 pm in the Illinois State University Union Auditorium Circus Room.

The Rape Crisis Center, in conjunction with the Newman Center, is presenting the film and will sponsor a discussion about both the film and rape in general after the showing.

Admission is free, and everyone is invited.

less, less. The Rape Crisis Center needs new people, and this could be your chance to do something about rape and sexual assault in your community.

Both men and women are needed as volunteers. If you are not sure you want to get involved in RCC or if you just want to know more about rape, you are more than welcome to attend the session. There is no charge.

For more information, call PATH at 827-4005 and ask for the Rape Crisis Center, or call 829-9839 and ask for Deborah.

# NPD Bust background

Normal Police Chief Richard McGuire has set the stage for an outpouring of student resentment after outlining his plans to crack down on student parties in Normal.

McGuire charged that parties in Normal are too loud, that they are uncontrollable, and that student patrols in party areas have been ineffective in restoring calm.

The night of Friday, September 26, was a usual fall evening near ISU in Normal. Students were partying, in most cases, aware of stepped up NPD/ISU security police action.

Then, ignoring the procedures they announced they'd follow, police in full riot gear stormed two of the parties in Normal, conducting searches through the homes, invading the privacy of persons using bathrooms, using foul and abusive language and excessive force against persons subject to arrest.

The police "procedure," outlined in the Sept. 25 Pantagraph, was first to issue a warning to party organizers if police felt a problem could be resolved after a complaint. A second complaint would have netted a bust.

On "Bust Friday," Normal police and their ISU security flunkies forgot or weren't aware of or ignored the procedures. They invaded one home, acting on a tip-off from an undercover city employee. According to party-goers, they found barely audible music and five women who were trying to keep the party under control. No warnings had been issued, and this visit was the first.

In the seven bust cases, arrested persons say they were not read their rights or told on what charges they were being arrested before they arrived at the police station.

In one case, a student didn't do as he was told because he felt that police had no right to be in the house. When the cops told him he was under arrest and refused to tell him what he was charged with, the student struggled to get free. He says that police attacked him, choking him, leaving visible marks on his neck. Chief McGuire did not comment on specifics of that arrest.

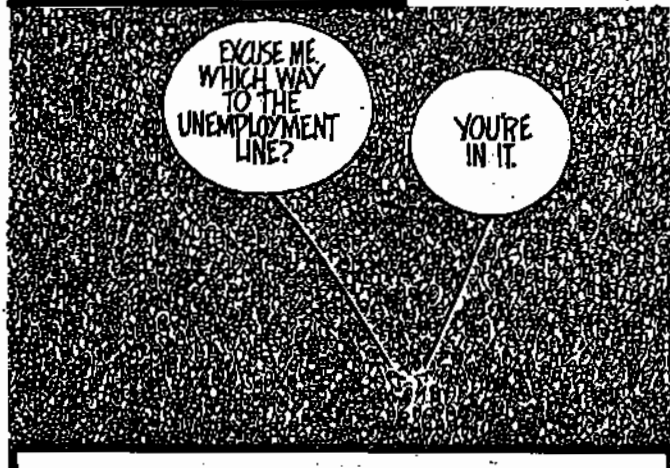
During the entire weekend of the crackdown, only two parties were busted. In one bust, police were only able to nab two students who had just returned home from studying on campus.

The Normal police's patrol included 36 officers and a paddy wagon on loan from the McLean County Sheriff's Dept. But they chose to crack down on what some parties called the easiest-going parties in town. And they have set an example of how other student party-goers in Normal would be given the full attention of the "law."

--Tom Pain

Post-American Vol. 9 No. 6 page 11

## McGuire asked to step down



The day after two parties in Normal were busted by overzealous Normal cops, ISU Student Association President Steve Henricksen demanded that NPD chief McGuire resign his post.

Henricksen told a press conference before a small Saturday demonstration that "the chief has consistently threatened students with crackdowns and other police state actions." Henricksen accused McGuire of being obsessed with busting students instead of directing police activities toward more important matters.

Following the initial call for his resignation, McGuire told the Pantagraph, "I thought for about 15 seconds before deciding I'd stick around."

SA President Henricksen, on the Monday following the busts, told the Post Amerikan that repeated attempts to communicate with McGuire had failed.

Some of the students who were busted attempted to arrange a meeting with the chief after they were released from custody, but McGuire refused. Later in the week, their only "success" was in meeting with City Manager Dave Anderson, who insists on keeping McGuire.

The Student Association Assembly voted to support Henricksen's call for McGuire's resignation.

A Sept. 30 meeting between Henricksen, McGuire, Anderson and university officials didn't change Henricksen's position. McGuire accused him of straining tensions between students and police.

Henricksen maintained he was responding to the expressed desires of his angered constituents.

When the Tuesday Vidette called for McGuire's resignation, the Chief, in a rare accommodating mood, said that the Opinions Council "as far as I'm concerned can go to hell."

City Manager Anderson said letters to the Normal City Council urging McGuire's firing would do no good. "The council doesn't have a damn thing to say about it," he snorted. "I am the person who hires and fires."

By Oct. 2, a healthy petition drive was underway, asking for McGuire's rapid departure. Petitions were being widely circulated during the Thursday mass demonstration at City Hall.

--Tom Pain

## PANTAGRAPH ASKS ISU TO BE A COP

A September 30 Pantagraph editorial regarding the Normal Police's efforts to calm off-campus parties called on the university to "do" something to stop the wild and reckless abandon demonstrated by its students. The Pantagraph doesn't seem to believe there's a difference between law enforcement and the setting of academic standards. It says, "ISU should fire more than a few unruly students." A student busted for possession of marijuana must face the criminal justice system, but should not face double jeopardy, being expelled from school as well.

The biggest problem seems to be rampant, helter-skelter imaginations. The Pantagraph writer envisioned "2,000 hell-raisers," devilishly planning the destruction of Normal. The only thing they didn't mention was outside agitation. But the Normal police invasion used tactics that would shame a professional police force, creating more animosity than order. Creating fear.

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- \*\*Natural cosmetics
- \*\*Senior citizen discounts
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Visit the store where good health is our business...

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Normal

For prompt, courteous  
service call  
454-2611

open sundays  
1-4 pm

# ISU students demonstrate, ask resignation



Pig heads always come in handy for demonstrations.

(Note: See page 11 for details of the busts that inspired the ISU student demonstration described here.)

Initially, about 300 ISU students congregated at Normal City Hall Thursday, Oct. 2, to voice their opposition to Normal Police Chief Richard McGuire's approach to law enforcement.

Students chanted "Fire McGuire" and carried signs indicating they were "Normal Residents, Too," as well as expressing other messages. A familiar face was also seen in the crowd--that of a pig, remarkably resembling one that greeted the president of Exxon Corp. last year at ISU.

Students continued amassing and chanting, and at one point paraded around the building in which McGuire stayed put.

Some media representatives, notably from country FM radio station WMLA, sought out anti-student passers-by to comment on the destruction of Normal.

With chants of "Boycott Normal," the swelling crowd marched across Beaufort, past North St., and took College Avenue. As they passed the Manchester-Hewitt dorms, the crowd coaxed more students to join the march.

They marched further on College, thoroughly blocking all traffic, as an ISU Security car brought up the rear. In the intersection of College and Main, the crowd sat down briefly, joined by students from Tri-Towers and the Union/Library.

The march then continued south on Main, stopping at residence halls as more students joined in, then heading back to City Hall.

The body count rose to between 2,000 and 3,000 demonstrators. Depending on how you count bodies.

In front of City Hall, eggs splattered the building and various chants were punctuated with loud bursts from fireworks.

Chief McGuire, still inside City Hall, had an army of 30 squad cars full of Normal, Bloomington, ISU and McLean County cops waiting 2 blocks away at Chiddix Junior High, ready for his signal to bust heads.

Normal City Manager Dave Anderson tried to speak to the crowd from atop a Normal Police car, but Anderson's earlier offensive, tough-guy act had turned the students off and nobody wanted to listen this time.

Anderson and McGuire were counting on the 4-day break to cool off the rapidly escalating moods and demands. But petition organizers and persons involved in the demonstration told the Post Amerikan that only major developments, including McGuire's resignation, would return calm to the campus.

--Tom Pain



Demonstrators carried empty kegs and six-packs mounted on poles.

## Somebody out there works undercover

During the September 26 busts, undercover agents were employed by the Normal Police Department to check out parties in cases "where complaints were received." NPD Chief McGuire used the undercover personnel to set up the parties. No warnings were issued at either party busted--only a sudden and misdirected use of police muscle.

McGuire said the undercover agents were at least 21 years old, and told the Pantagraph they weren't part of the NPD Cadet Program.

ISU Student Association President Steve Henricksen wasn't sure whether he trusted McGuire's denial that cadets may have been used. Despite the particulars, though, Henricksen decried the use of undercover agents to entrap people. Legally, the use of undercover agents is not necessarily viewed as entrapment.

The Normal Police in recent history have not scoffed at using cadets to do undercover work. Last year's October Post-American described a case where 18-year-old Stanley Rueger, a full-fledged NPD cadet, set up White Hen Pantry teller Steve Riedle. Riedle mistakenly sold the minor pork some beer (his 19th birthday was just one week away, making his license look like he was already 19), and was busted.

Other cases of alleged entrapment were documented last year by the ISU Student Association, which may explain the hard looks at NPD tactics during this year's onslaught.

--Tom Pain

Post-Note: If you know anything about the cadet program or possess info about anyone who works undercover for the NPD, call the Post at 828-7232. We'd be happy to get back to you.

## Anderson: Lawbender lectures on liquor

Normal's city manager, Dave Anderson, faced the crowd of students at Thursday's demo, and proposed a "simple solution" to the problem of student-police relations. His solution was for the students to have quiet parties which wouldn't disturb neighbors, and not sell liquor so's not to break the law.

Dave must have forgotten (or maybe he was under the influence of alcohol) the times when abiding by the law wasn't simple for him.

Like last spring when Normal police

arrested a minor for underage drinking, who reportedly had been served the alcohol at Anderson's house.

And what about Dave's scrape in April of 1979? More precisely, his run-in was with a parked car after he had been drinking at Pub II. He not only hit an immobile car while under the influence of alcohol, but didn't even report the accident until after he had gone home and changed a flat tire (??). 'Law' calls this a hit and run, unless you're city manager, and happen to be tight with Chief McGuire. (See Post vol. VIII, no. 2)

Mayor Godfrey commended Anderson for having "the guts" to face the students at Thursday's demo (Pantagraph 10/3). Godfrey is right. It took a lot of guts for Anderson to preach to the crowd of hundreds about abiding by the law, and assume the crowd wouldn't remember the times he had broken the law--and gotten away with it.

--M.M.

## McGuire, Anderson on the hollow point controversy

If you live in Normal or decide to visit the town by crossing Division St., don't anger a Normal cop to the point where he pulls his gun. Should that weapon discharge and strike only a glancing blow, you'll really frustrate local surgeons who try to put you back together.

The reason is that the Normal Police are regularly issued steel semi-jacketed hollow point rounds for their .38's. The difference between this ammunition and standard .38 rounds is that hollow point rounds, or dum-dums, mushroom upon impact, creating a savage tearing wound that expands as the bullet continues its path into the victim's body.

Bloomington Police are not issued this type of ammo. But other police departments, including Normal's, like them for their "stopping power." Other communities, such as parts of Connecticut, experienced an uproar when the police autonomously decided to issue hollow-points to their officers. In Normal, the police skirted the issue, and manager Dave Anderson veiled it to such a degree that no one seemed to notice.

When the use of hollow-points was discovered and publicized by the Post-American in January 1976, Chief McGuire refused all comment on the matter. When asked to see the Normal Police Rules and Regulations, which would govern situations in which a Normal cop could discharge his weapon, McGuire balked, saying not even the Pantagraph could see them.

David Anderson at the time was Twin-Cities Metromanager, an experimental position created for the coordination of policies in Bloomington and Normal. He was, and is now, McGuire's boss. Anderson claimed he didn't know what kind of ammunition his employees used. A day later Anderson said the NPD didn't use hollow-points. But NPD officer Walter Clark had already confirmed for the Post-American that hollow-points were issued. McGuire hadn't had a chance to silence his underling before the information was released.

A month after the initial report about NPD use of hollow-points was published, Anderson decided to let the truth be known--that the NPD had been using hollow-points since 1974. The decision to use them was McGuire's alone--he didn't have to consult with any Normal town officials who frequently pay lip service to public participation in the formation of public policies, including police policies.

McGuire blames the breakdown of police-community-student relations on those who exhibit concern for their constituents' welfare, like Student Association President Henricksen. But McGuire isn't accountable to the public, and his rumored retirement next year won't change any policies if apologists like Dave Anderson are free to hire persons of a similar mentality to replace him.

--Tom Pain

# the gallery III

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The earth is sweetening between Stanford and Danvers due west of Bloomington. That's where Phoenix Farms, a local organic farming operation, is located. Operated by Bloomington's Dan Linneman, Phoenix Farms grows food without the use of pesticides or chemical fertilizers. And the harvest is in.

Phoenix Farms' concept began a few years ago at Pennsylvania State University when Linneman and Neal Maizlish were doing graduate work in agronomy. When attempts to organize a group of people to collectively farm fell through, Linneman and Maizlish decided to do it themselves.

They would farm in Illinois, where the Linneman family owned acreage in McLean County. Linneman moved back to Bloomington in the summer of 1978 and worked for Funk Seeds while Maizlish finished his graduate work in Pennsylvania. Maizlish rejoined the partnership that winter.

## Decisions

They would farm organically, without pesticides or fertilizers. Economically, organic farming, they felt, was decentralized, self-sustaining, relying more on local resources such as manure from the former Eggs Unlimited business. Ecologically and biologically, they considered the soil alive, increasing in fertility as natural microorganisms were encouraged to multiply in it. These organisms can break down rock into topsoil and subsoil, and release valuable nutrients which further enhance the soil.

Herbicides to keep down unwanted weeds were avoided because the chemicals, according to Linneman, tend to create an imbalance in the biological systems inherent in soil. On a larger scale, changes in soil systems may change erosion patterns. Besides, no one really knows how such compounds break down in the soil.

Determination of their level of technology was the next step. And that decision was directly tied to their resources, because they couldn't afford the modern amenities most farmers require today. Linneman guessed they would be farming at a level appropriate to the early 1950's, using an old International Harvester tractor with attachments to accomplish their tilling and planting.

Figuring out what to plant for the first year took some consideration. They wanted a crop which would provide a sufficient payback to allow for salaries and satisfaction of debts. Soybeans didn't fit into the formula, but a special bush kidney bean which didn't require special harvesting equipment did.

## Procedures-Year 1

Linneman, Maizlish and Tom Pouliot, an integral part of Phoenix Farms '79, planted 30 acres in kidney beans, divided up between dark red and light red. Never having raised kidney beans

before, they were unaware of the timetables for "walking" the beans, that is, pulling the weeds that strangle the crop. They walked the beans several times to keep the weeds down.

The experiment yielded other insights. Light red kidney beans seemed to be less disease-resistant than dark reds. The 1979 growing season also made the beans ready to harvest before the leaves dropped off the plants.

The partnership had figured on hiring someone to do the actual harvesting that year, but the availability of a used IH 403 combine at a reasonable cost presented itself. They acquired it and discovered those leaves which had refused to fall off their plants. The combining went slowly so the machine could separate all the extra greenery from the dried beans.

They got approximately 28 bushels per acre before cleaning the beans. The cleaning was done by a clipper fanning mill which separates unwanted chaff and split beans from whole beans. Imperfect whole beans were removed by hand. Such a process assures that the beans meet USDA Grade I standards prior to sale.

## Marketing

Rather than calling up a buyer from General Grocer or some other outfit, the Phoenix Farms partnership decided to sell their beans to non-profit warehouses which serviced food coops. Linneman explained that such networks don't extract unwarranted profits from consumers and provide a higher quality food.

Buyers of the Phoenix Farms beans included Common Ground locally, as well as warehouses in Arkansas, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Washington, and Oregon. A number of the coop warehouses are worker-controlled col-

lectives, some are feminist worker-run cooperatives, and some are consumer coops.

All of them do a great deal of business in beans, and all prefer to purchase organically-grown beans. Linneman said he hopes to become a consistent supplier to warehouses, strengthening the chain of food supplying networks that operate without gouging consumers.

This year Linneman sent letters to warehouses describing the availability of his crop. The response was good--many of the buyers for the warehouses were soon in contact, attempting to arrange purchases.

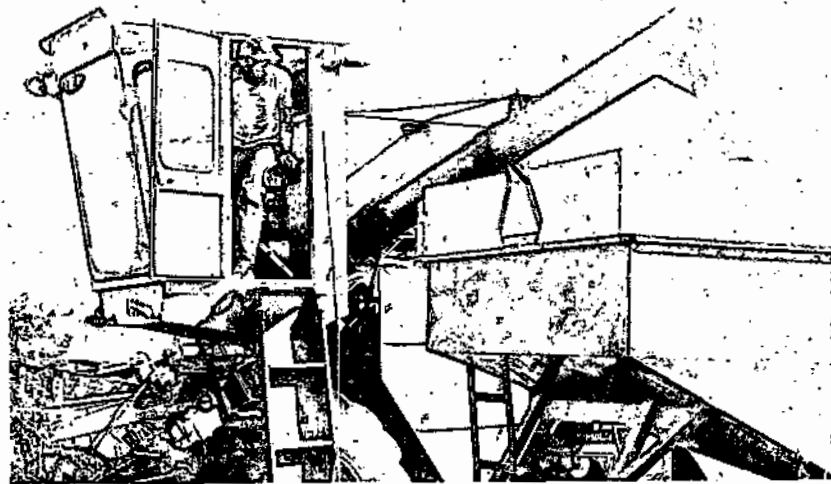
## The 1980 growing season

Phoenix Farms flowed and changed this year. The partnership dissolved because Maizlish went back to school in Ann Arbor, Michigan, to continue his graduate study. The weather and other situations had an even greater impact, though, on the Phoenix Farms timetable. And Linneman added organic soybeans on his farm's expanded acreage.

The spring was wet, causing an initial delay in planting. The tractor needed an overhaul, accomplished by local mechanical ace, Al Dick. And the seed hadn't arrived yet, necessitating a drive to Michigan to pick it up.

When it was time to walk the beans, Phoenix Farms provided kegs of beer, and local friends enjoyed themselves in the heat, walking beans and quenching their thirsts.

But the heat bore down. And it didn't rain. The soybeans, which had already developed good root systems, seemed to do okay. But the young, small kidney bean plants languished in the sun, their delicate flowers drooping, then falling off the plants. The reprieve



of rain in August helped, but the damage had already been done.

Bean leaf beetles, who didn't visit last year, chewed on the plants. The late rains began to blight portions of the kidney bean acreage. Then the rains stopped.

The machinery was checked out, fixed, lubed, and harvest began. When the chain which drove a cylinder on the combine broke and bent the sprocket housing, Linneman and a friend watched in amazement while a local farmer banged and yanked the bent-up mess into a shape which would rival its original manufactured condition.

The harvest proceeded and ended without any other major problems.

## Observations

Linneman makes no claims that in any way is his work any "better" than what other area farmers do. Faced with rising production costs and watching anywhere from 50-70% of their neighbors go out of business, area farmers are "some of the shrewdest, cleverest, hardest-working people around," claims Linneman.

cont.

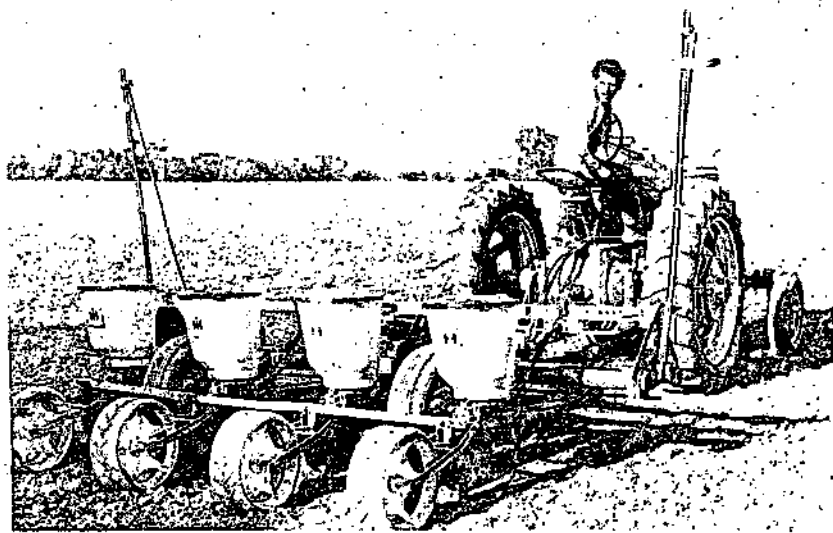
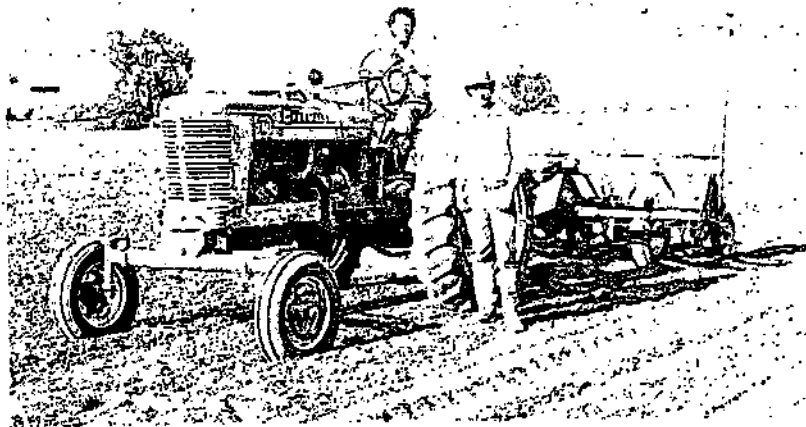


# back to basics

Still, a goal for Phoenix Farms is the continued improvement of the soil and a better crop rotation plan. Linneman feels that conventional farming methods stress heavily dousing the land with nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium fertilizers to insure a good crop year after year. But these three elements are only a part of a "balanced diet" for the soil.

Linneman associates these methods and their effects on the soil with taking amphetamines before a test. The student may ace the exam, but may need to recuperate a few days before s/he can attend class again.

A "green manure" planting of rye is planned at Phoenix Farms soon; the rye will be plowed under to add nutrients to the soil. Soybeans will be planted



should define the farming practices as well as the condition of the final product.

Linneman related the tale of one farmer who sold "organic" beans which were grown on land which was pasture for two years, following up the beans a year later with a crop of chemically fertilized corn. Such a farming practice does not evolve an organic system, Linneman said.

Insecticides tend to kill beneficial insects, leaving no natural controls over harmful insect populations. Linneman noted the gradual increase in helpful earthworms, spiders, and burrowing toads on his land this year, all part of his natural insect control and soil improvement plan.

Linneman disputes claims that organic farming could not possibly feed the population of the U.S. For example, he said that food growing may get closer to the point of consumption, reversing trends that exist now. California, which now ships produce all over the country, may not be able to feed its own population in the next 20 years.

But the U.S. exports 60% of its wheat, 40% of its corn, and about half of its other produce. A good deal of the crops that stay within our borders is used to produce meat, using 20 lbs. of vegetable protein to make 1 pound of meat protein.

next year where the kidney beans grew last year as part of the rotation effort, but Linneman hasn't decided which other cash crop to grow besides soybeans.

Working as both a tenant farmer and under a crop-share agreement, Linneman hopes to negotiate an expansion in acreage for next year, to add another tractor, and to involve more people in Phoenix Farms.

Linneman says he's still learning how to make Phoenix Farms function smoothly and how to design timetables

for work. More experience lets farmers engage in more educated guesswork, like knowing when to commence harvesting, given certain moisture levels in grains or beans. Such guesswork, says Linneman, makes him hesitant to trust his judgment with only a few years' practice.

### Thoughts on organic farming

Products which are labeled "organic" should at times be viewed skeptically. Ideally, buyers should know both the farmer and the farm where the product originated. "Organic"



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If some priorities were rearranged, Linneman claims organic farming could easily feed the U.S. population, with the added plus of turning around the destruction of what topsoil is left and providing consumers with good, nutritious food. If only agricultural colleges, the USDA, machinery and petrochemical firms could be persuaded to reassess their function in agriculture, Phoenix Farms wouldn't be one of the only shining examples of organic agriculture in the area.

--Jeremy Timmens

# Minor parties offer voters a

What's the matter, bunky? Got those ole "nobody worth votin' for" election-time blues? And you can't just ignore the darn thing 'cause they've been laying the guilt on you since fifth grade about being a good citizen and if you don't vote the country'll self-destruct by December and voter apathy is the lowest form of ingratitude ever?

Well, cheer up. There may be hope after all.

You'd gladly vote for the candidate of your choice if you could just find a choice, right? And Tweedledum and Tweedledee just don't make it, do they? Even with the White Rabbit in the race this year, the one-party system (a.k.a. the two-party system) is still the only reality on the ballot, right?

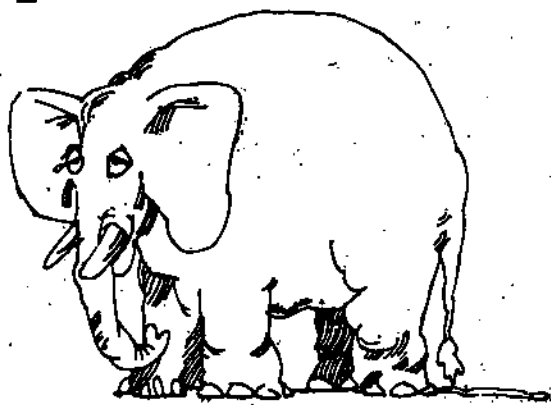
Wrong. Of course, the Party of Property is going to win, no matter which of its three candidates gets the most votes, but there are other choices for the compulsive voter who just has to punch that ballot and doesn't want to throw support to Carter, Reagan, or Anderson.

In Illinois, there are five parties on the ballot in the presidential race in addition to the Big Three. Eight choices in all! The minor parties are



the Communists, the Workers World Party, the Libertarians, the Socialist Workers Party, and the Citizens' Party. Elsewhere in the country the Socialist Party USA is on the ballot, and you could certainly write them in in Illinois.

Now, you understand that a vote for any of these minor parties is strictly a protest vote. If you're into winning, you'd be better off dialing for dollars. But the six other choices do represent an intriguing array of alternative ideologies, and since the color of Ronald Reagan's hair dye is the only thing even remotely unpredictable in this year's election,



you might as well check out the raps on the also-rans.

## Libertarian Party

The Libertarians are likely to get the most votes after Anderson/Carter/Reagan. They fully expect to get five percent of the popular vote in 1980, and that's not just wishful thinking.

In 1978 the 200 Libertarian candidates for state and local office won an astounding 1.3 million votes, and one of them actually got elected--to the Alaska state legislature. Their 1980 presidential candidate, Ed Clark, a lawyer for the Atlantic Richfield Company, polled almost 400,000 votes in the 1978 race for governor of California.

An important reason for the Libertarians' strength is that they have substantial financial backing. Most of it comes through their vice-presidential candidate Charles Koch, who is the head of a family-owned oil distribution company that *Forbes* magazine says "may well be the U.S.'s most profitable private business."

## No government

The Libertarians bill themselves as "the Party of Principle." And their main principle is that "all individuals have the right to exercise sole domination over their own lives. . . ." This means the Libertarians oppose government in all its roles--moral, military, and economic.

The first plank in their platform calls for a complete decriminalization of drug use, prostitution, homosexuality, gambling, and suicide. It goes on to demand the withdrawal of all American forces from abroad. Sounds pretty good--so far.

But the Libertarian principle of "no government" would also mean an end to

social security and welfare, a "free market" approach to nuclear power, and the elimination of all regulatory agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

## The Citizens' Party

The Citizens' Party (CP) is also getting a good deal of media attention and support. I think that's primarily because their candidates are already well-known political activists. The Citizens' Party is running environmentalist Barry Commoner for president and American Indian activist LaDonna Harris for vice-president (her husband is former Oklahoma Sen. Fred Harris).

Commoner is the driving force behind CP. Its leading goals--public control of energy industries, a halt to nuclear power, a strong push for



conservation and solar energy, and a limitation on the political and economic influence of corporations-- seem to come right from Commoner's latest book, *The Politics of Energy*.

CP also advocates an immediate reversal in the rate of military spending, support for human rights at home and abroad, a guaranteed job for everyone who wants to work, and stable prices for basic necessities.

Despite this progressive platform, the Citizens' Party has gathered little support from labor, minority, women's, or anti-nuke groups. Nonetheless, CP expects to be on the ballot in as many as 35 states in November and optimistically estimates it can get as much as 4% of the vote.

## Reds and Pinkos

The Communist Party slate includes party chief Gus Hall for president and well-known black activist Angela Davis in the v-p slot.

Davis is clearly the star on this ticket. *Newsweek* did an article on her candidacy and managed to mention

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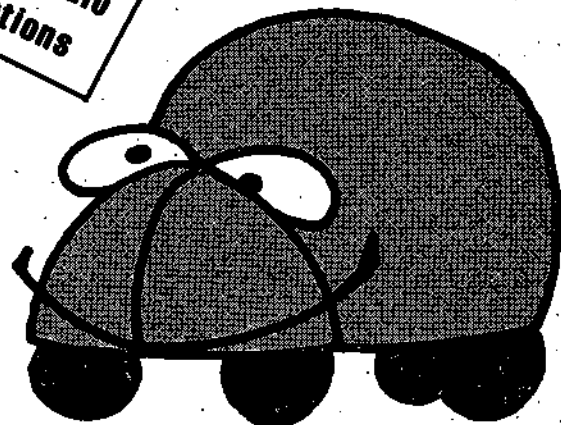
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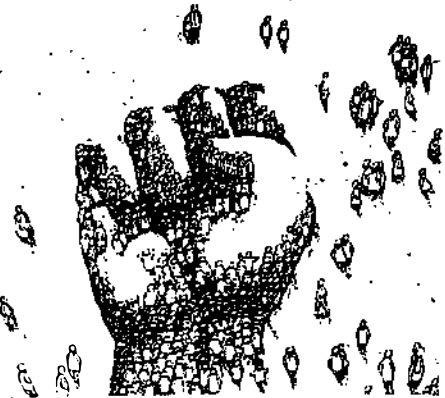
# choice in November

Hall only once. Davis characterizes her campaign as an effort to "protect all the democratic channels that remain open."

Party officials expect Hall and Davis to get no more than 100,000 votes in the general election. Their strategy, however, is to use the campaign as a step toward a coalition third party composed of labor groups, progressives, and oppressed minorities.

The Socialist Workers Party (SWP) are running Clifton Deberry and Matilda Zimmerman for president and vice-president. I couldn't find out much about SWP, but what little I did discover doesn't endear me to their organization.

According to Gay Community News (GCN), the Socialist Workers forced a transsexual member to resign on the basis of her violation of the party's dress



code. Dress code? That's right. The party defines any form of transvestism or cross-dressing as "exotic and incompatible with SWP membership."

SWP doesn't have much truck with things exotic or peripheral. A spokesperson for their group made this comment about the transsexual incident: "The Socialist Workers Party is not a party of social rejects but a serious party." La-dée-dah.

GCN also reports that SWP's position on gay oppression is that it's "peripheral to the class struggle" and not an important issue.

## The gay man and the nun

In direct contrast to SWP's rejection of lesbians and gay men, the Socialist Party, USA (SP-USA) unanimously nominated an openly gay man for their presidential candidate. David McReynolds is a long-standing gay rights activist, a member of the War Resister's League, and on the editorial board of WIN magazine, a pacifist publication.

Running with McReynolds is Sister Diane Drufenbrock, a Catholic nun who teaches in Milwaukee. McReynolds claims that he and Drufenbrock agree on the major campaign issues, even though he's an atheist. The sister says she's gotten no flack from the Vatican yet, despite John Paul II's prohibition against Catholic clergy running for public office.

McReynolds has made it clear that he's not running as a gay lib candidate. "I think the arms race, racism, and unemployment are much more urgent questions," his press release states. "But I will not hide who or what I am." McReynolds also points out that "the Socialist Party and I emphatically defend the rights of sexual freedom."

In the past, SP-USA has run Norman Thomas and Eugene V. Debs for president. In 1980 they are hopeful that they will be on 10-15 state ballots in the general election in November.

## Socialism is reasonable

McReynolds is hopeful that his party's influence will be felt--"Minor parties can lose elections but see their platforms adopted." He wants his campaign to show "that socialism is both reasonable and compassionate. . . and that only some form of socialism can deal with the fundamental American economic and political crisis."

Specifically, SP-USA is calling for the decommission of all nuclear power plants, no draft or draft registration, immediate 25% cut in military spending, public ownership of major corporations, and a strong federal program for solar power. They also advocate the eradication of race and sex discrimination.

McReynolds and Drufenbrock won't be on the Illinois ballot in November. If you want to vote for a gay atheist and a nun--which, you must admit, is a kinky idea--you'll have to do the write-in number.

## Desiree for President

I don't know anything about the Workers World Party, except that they're on the ballot in Illinois with the slate of Desiree Griswold for president and Larry Holmes for veep.

You'll notice that the Workers World people are the only ones running a woman in the top spot. I think it'd be terrific to have a president named Desiree. Sure beats Jimmy or Ronnie.

All of these choices should give you something besides weeping to do in the



voting booth. Some of these parties run candidates for lesser offices, too. The Communists and the Libertarians are likely to show up in many places on the ballot.

I always vote for the Communists for the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois, especially since I don't know what the trustees do and don't have any idea who the candidates are. A Commie or two on that board might just liven things up.

Since electoral politics are absurd in Amerika anyway, you might as well have some fun. Satisfy your guilt feelings and vote for the minor party of your choice.

--Ferdydurke

Sources: Gay Community News, May 17, 1980, Sept. 13, 1980; Newsweek, April 21, 1980, June 9, 1980; Progressive, June 1980; Saturday Review, March 1, 1980; Washington Post, May 9, 1980; WIN, March 15, 1980.

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## General grocer says "no women"

# "I want

Jacqui White is getting the run-around. She is getting it from the Bloomington-Normal Human Relations Commission, the Bloomington City Attorney, and most heavily from General Grocer.

Jacqui is causing a lot of trouble. She is causing it because she's angry. She is causing it because she wants her job back. She wants to be able to pay for her truck and her mobile home. She wants to be able to go to the doctor or the dentist or the gas station or the grocery store without worrying about the price of stomach flu or cavities or oil changes or hamburger. She wants to be able to live with her daughter in their home with some sense of security and well-being.

It doesn't seem like Jacqui wants a whole lot. She wants what everybody wants. And because of General Grocer's politics and party politics, it is doubtful she'll get it.

Jacqui White and her daughter lived in Champaign from 1976-1978. She had a good job with possibilities for advancement. Her daughter was going to a good school. But when she visited her widowed mother and step-mother in Bloomington, she decided she'd like to live here. While working her job in Champaign, she put job applications in here.

She had seven years experience in warehouse work. She had been the assistant in one warehouse, in charge of both incoming and outgoing shipments, paper work, loading and unloading of trucks. She told me she could pick up a 170-200 pound box and throw it. I believe her.

She applied at General Grocer because her father had once worked there, and she knew it was a good warehouse to work in.

The first part of Feb., 1979, Bill McNamara, warehouse foreman of General Grocer, called to ask if she would be interested in three or four days work. She said no. She already had a good job and would only be interested in full-time work.

He asked her if things opened up if she would be interested in relocating,

and she told him that she would, if she had a "permanent, full-time, secure job." He asked how much time she would need if he were to call, and she said that within five minutes she would give her Champaign employer two weeks notice.

McNamara told her he was impressed with her credentials and that she had two things going for her--her seven-years experience and her size.

Less than a week later he said he had an opening for her. He said she would start Feb. 21, 1979. She took her daughter out of school and moved to Bloomington. She began work second shift at General Grocer Feb. 21.



### A good worker

General Grocer would like its warehouse workers to move 120 pieces (boxes, cartons, or crates) an hour. Within a week, Jacqui was moving 115. The warehouse lead man over her, Bob Hopkins, the vice president, the warehouse supervisor, all congratulated her on the fine job she was doing. The lead man started keeping track of how many pieces everyone pulled and posting the results, in an attempt to get as much out of his men as he was getting out of his women.

Jacqui got along very well with her fellow workers. They helped her learn the routine, but they gave her no special treatment. Several of her co-workers told her they respected her

because they didn't think when she was hired that she could do the work, but she did it, she did it well, and she was accepted.

Approximately 2 weeks later, on a Thursday night, she called in late because she was going to the hospital for treatment. She called again later and said she wouldn't be in at all: the hospital admitted her for tests. She said she'd be in the next night.

When she got to work, there was a note on her time card, saying she was to talk to Bill McNamara before punching in. He told her that he was either going to have to lay her off or cut her back to part-time. Part-time meant that she may work one day a week, she may work all week.

Jacqui says the entire time he was talking to her he would not look at her, would not make eye contact. She got the feeling he was not being totally honest, and she was uneasy about it as well as disappointed. The papers for her loan on a mobile home came through the day before. She had to call in every day to find out if she was working that night.

Two men who were hired after her continued working. A week later, she looked at the time cards. Not only were the two men still working 40 hours; they had both put in almost 8 hours of overtime. When she asked McNamara for an explanation, he said that a lot of drivers were coming in to the warehouse and bumping jobs on seniority. She asked why the two men weren't bumped first, or at least bumped equally.

### "Her job - or yours!"

At that time, a friend of the union steward called her and said that he didn't think what they were doing to her was right. He said the president of the company, Tom Vinckner, was on vacation when she was hired, and Vinckner was very upset when he came back to find that she was hired. He gave McNamara an ultimatum: her job or yours.

White didn't know whether or not to believe this man; but two other men from the warehouse also called her and said they thought what the company was doing to her was dirty. She finally began to believe.

After calling in for a month, and getting the runaround, and after she and the union steward had spoken with the Vice President, Carl Neal, and was again told that drivers were bumping warehouse jobs, she called McNamara and said, what's going on? The word is that Vincker doesn't like women working in the warehouse. What have you got to say about that? He said he didn't know. She asked if he was satisfied with her work; he said he was. She asked him if the two men who started after she did were still working. She was told that he had gotten rid of one of them because he couldn't do the work, but that the other one was still there. He had not been laid off or cut back to part-time at all.

### See ya in court

She said it was going to come down to his company and her in court. He said that he knew that, and he was surprised she hadn't talked to a lawyer already.

Jacqui contacted the EEOC in April, but the agency never called her as they promised to. She applied for unemployment. As PATH suggested, she filed with the Human Relations Commission as an alternative to EEOC.

Her case went before the HRC Sept. 12,



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# my job!"



1979. The Commission gave her hope that there really was someone out there who would fight for all the little people. She says the Commission was gung ho about her case.

Her case was turned over to the city legal department, and Paxton Bowers entered the picture. Hope went out the door. There were meetings and letters back and forth with her and Bowers and with Bowers and the attorney for General Grocer, Paul Welch.

She was told that Bowers was waiting for additional information from General Grocer, and that if nothing was accomplished or resolved out of court, they would go to public hearing in Nov. 1979. Public hearing was the last resort, and only two cases of discrimination had ever gotten to the public hearing since 1970 when the Commission was formed.

Jacqui tried to help her case along by doing much of the legwork herself. She went out to the local Teamsters office and got a seniority list. She contacted the men who had called her and asked if they would testify in



court.

In November she talked to Tim Walker from the HRC. "What do you want out of this?" he asked. She told him she wanted her seniority back, her back pay, and her job. She was told they didn't know if they could get all of them for her. She said, then get me my back pay and my job.

Tim Walker told her at another meeting that one of the city council members had called the Commission to find out what was going on with her case. He said he should warn her that local

politics might start to enter the case. He was not sure what kind of effect the power plays would have.

"At that point," she told me, "as far as I'm concerned, my case came to a standstill."

A week later she called Bowers and was told he was still waiting for additional information. She has a letter from HRC, dated June 1979, saying they were waiting for additional information and were going to public hearing in November. "My God," she said, "it's almost November again." She talked to Walker a week later and was told the hold-up was with Bowers. Walker told her to call Bowers weekly or twice weekly and maybe then he would do something.

In May of 1980 Bowers again asked her what she wanted most. "I want my job back," she told him. He asked her what if they could only get her job, no seniority, no back pay. She said fine, that's all she wanted now. She'd been getting by working for Circle Cab Co. but couldn't do it forever.

## Fighting to survive

She told him she was into debt up to her neck and she just wanted her job. He said they'd go for that. The next three times she went in to see him, he asked her what she wanted out of all this. He also told her that if it was any consolation, she could always file bankruptcy.

"Here he is in his secure job, and if he doesn't have that, he can always practice law, and here I am, just fighting to survive and I'll never have one tenth of what he has, and he says it's okay if I go under. Now that made me mad. There's got to be somebody who gives a shit!"

But General Grocer isn't budging. Two weeks ago Bowers told her he was not sure that they could do anything now. He told her that there were some companies so ultra-conservative that there isn't a heck of a lot to do to them.

"There has to be something," she told

me. "If nothing else, God is going to come down out of the sky and strike them dead or something. But I don't want to wait for that."

What about the public hearing? Bowers told her they could take it to a public hearing but they cannot force the company to give her her job back. "The most we can do is get a settlement for \$1000," he said. "You still won't have your job back."

He again asked her what she wanted most and she again replied that she wanted her job back. He told her it was good she had that attitude, but there was still probably nothing they could do.

"They can't get away with it," she told him. "I will pursue this with a private attorney."

## Lost Faith

Jacqui has no faith any more in the Human Relations Commission or in government in general. Her original assumption that they were just a bunch of bureaucrats has been confirmed. She has called HRC back, but she is not sure they can do anything. A person isn't allowed to file charges with more than one agency, and the HRC still is officially her agent.



Jacqui talked to a private attorney. When he asked her what she wanted, she said, of course, that she wanted her job back. She also told him she'd like her back pay and her seniority as a slap on General Grocer's hand to tell them they couldn't do this anymore. But mostly she wants her job.

The attorney said Human Relations was her best bet. It's not the first time an attorney has been wrong.

"I want people to know that this kind of shit is still going on," Jacqui told me. "I want people to know. They're going to have to learn that, goddamn, we're here. And we're people, and we're trying to get by just like everybody else. And if they're going to push us, we're going to push them back."

"Women have been in slavery since the beginning of time. Well, by God, we're not slaves. We're human beings. And there's a whole hell of a lot of us that are mad. And we're going to stay mad until we're recognized as equal human beings."

Jacqui's not through fighting. She can go to a private attorney, if she can find the money (and she will find the money). And she is exploring alternative methods of getting her story out.

Jacqui White is broke, out of a good job, and mad. Mostly she's mad. And when she's got a good job again and is making good money again, she's still going to be mad. And a solvent Jacqui White is going to be something to reckon with. Because the broke Jacqui White is quite a force now.

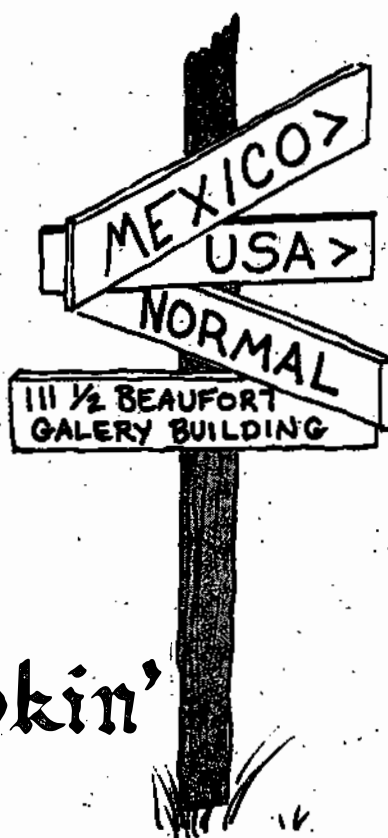
I think that before it's over both Paxton Bowers and Paul Welch are going to be sorry they ever heard of Jacqui White. But the women in McLean County are going to be real happy they did.

--Deborah Wiatt

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Now take a look at your feet. Do your toes line up next to each other, plump and pink and happy? Or do they clump up numb and ugly, looking like raw hamburger unnaturally squashed into the shape of a piece of pecan pie? What are those angry red dents over your instep? Does your heel feel abused?

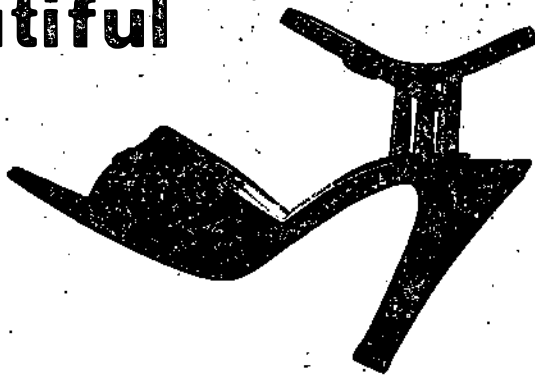
I'll bet you've been wearing those silly high-heeled shoes again. And I'm here to convince you there're a lot better ways to get high.

Now, you may say that 3, 4, even 5-inch heels make your legs look better--your calf more shapely, your ankle slimmer, and so forth. But if attractiveness is your concern, think again. If you do more during the day than stand or sit in one place, well propped up, high heels can get you in all kinds of ungraceful, not to mention dangerous, situations.



You can get your spike stuck in a patch of tar on the street, possibly losing your shoe and your balance. You can come to the top of an escalator and find that you can't get off--your heel is wedged firmly between the wide metal treads. You can find yourself suddenly 3, 4, even 5 inches shorter on one side from innocently strolling over a grate or sewer cover carelessly. You can get banged from behind as you try to pull your heel out of the grate of a revolving door.

In fact, you can just plain fall off your shoe and hurt yourself. You were designed to stand on a base the size of two whole feet: high heels, by putting all your weight on the front of your feet, reduce the base you stand on, thus increasing the risk of a sprained ankle. And there's nothing like an ace bandage to make your ankle look thick.



You have the fashion industry's equivalent of bound feet, and you probably realize it when you try to move. Here comes a bus--you're just half a block away--forget it. Console yourself by admiring your shapely legs while you wait for the next bus. Because you certainly can't walk, at least not far, without acquiring the cute little wobble one usually associates with slight intoxication or newborn farm animals.

You cannot be seized with the joy of springtime and skip merrily down the street, nor hop impulsively on a passing skateboard, nor jump confidently over cracks in the ground during an earthquake. (Of course, you can take your shoes off and hang them around your neck, but then you have the glass and gravel on the ground to contend with, as well as the irritation of your shoes banging you on the chest with every step.)

You are much more open to attack in high heels. You can't run fast or far with them on; you can trip over them as you try to kick them off; and your attacker is not going to hold off while you undo those four cunning little buckles that looked so cute in the store.

If I had been wearing high heels the time I got chased by an attacker, I have no doubt that I would have been strangled and raped.

You may argue that you think your attacker would look great with a five-inch spike heel in his eye--but if he's gotten close enough to spike, he's probably already knocked you over, easily, because of the reduced base you were standing on.

So face it: we women have enough going against our freedom of movement. We don't need to spend twenty-five hard-earned dollars on shoes that just make things harder for us.

In 1961 James Michener's *Hawaii* sold for 95¢ in its 6th printing. In 1973 the book was reprinted with a cover price of \$2.25. This represents a price "increase" of 236% in 13 years. Today the same book would sell for \$3.50 or an additional 155% price increase, thus bringing the overall increase to 391% for the same damn book. This is typical for all paperbacks. Why? When a book has outlived its shelf life it is not sent back to the distributor. What happens is the front cover is torn off and sent back while the rest of the book finds its way into the garbage. Thus, the book can be reprinted later at a higher price to keep par with inflation.

Books are sold new at a markup in the neighborhood of 40%. So it is easy to see just how many books the chain bookstores have to sell to cover inventory costs, rent (at the malls!), utilities, taxes, insurance and labor. In fact many of these bookstores operate in the red each year.

So where is the profit? It appears to be at the wholesale level. The news agencies and the book distributors are the ones making the profits. In fact, many news agencies own the bookstores they deliver to. These bookstores in the red provide an excellent tax write-off.

The question becomes, what alternative does the reader have? Well, he or she can continue to buy new books at inflated prices which like the rest of the economy have no end in sight. Or, the reader can shop at library sales, garage sales or used bookstores which generally carry as good a selection (if not better) than the chain bookstores. This article is not suggesting that the reader abandon the conventional book market altogether. Rather, the reader (if concerned about inflation at all) should be more selective in the new book media they purchase. Buying 3 new books a week will cost roughly \$7.50. If the reader were only to buy one new book a week and take that extra \$5.00 into a used bookstore they could buy anywhere from 4 to 20 additional books for their money.

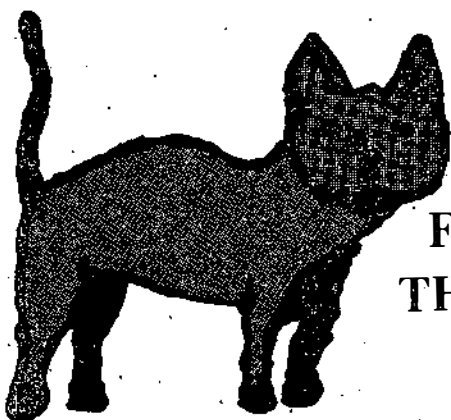
Check out the chain bookstores, then go check out a used bookstore--you will be surprised that much of the selection is identical; the only difference being the used bookstore sells the same book for at least 1/2 the price.

So readers, you don't have to give up what you enjoy because of inflation. Read the same (or more) and even save a few bucks. Bloomington-Normal Readers, you now have a used bookstore, the decision to rising book costs is yours, the answer has been provided.

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As far as attractiveness goes, your legs are already beautiful. They're just long enough to reach the ground. They hold you up day after day. They have that convenient bend at the knee. They don't produce mucus or other gunk, they are rarely a source of offensive body odor, and you can get away without seriously washing them for days. Appreciate them. Walk away from high heels.

--Phoebe Caulfield



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**TIME:**  
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# Evangelist J. Robison: Fascist in cowboy boots

Texas evangelist James Robison claims to have preached to more than 10 million people. If he has his way, the entire country will be listening to him.

An Old Testament prophet with a southern drawl, Robison is the youngest electronic preacher to make a grab for political clout. *Time* magazine called him "Fort Worth's fastest-rising evangelist."

Because of his relatively young age, 36, and his broad base of support--a 90-station tv ministry and a Southern Baptist constituency--Robison may be the conservative leader of the future.

In a field that includes such power-mongers as Jerry Falwell, Jim Bakker, and Pat Robertson, Robison will have to pull out all the stops. Like his rivals, Robison is adept at making powerful friends and building a political organization.

### Rich friends

He made the Dallas Cowboys' coach, Tom Landry, the honorary chair for a television campaign last summer. The producer for his tv show is Ted Dienert of the Walter Bennett Agency and Billy Graham's son-in-law. Robison numbers among his supporters the billionaire son of H. L. Hunt and industrialist T. Cullen Davis.

The Robison organization produces a weekly tv series, puts out a magazine, and provides a toll-free telephone counseling service. A professional advertising agency helps to promote all this.

Robison's 125-member staff is presently working on making their boss's "vision of reaching America for Christ through prime-time television" a reality. They've budgeted \$15 million for the project and have already aired three prime-time specials.

### Scores a victory

Last August Robison scored a victory in the religion-for-politics race with the National Affairs Briefing (see adjoining story). As vice-president of the Religious Roundtable, a Washington, D.C., organization formed to educate religious leaders on political issues, Robison was instrumental in bringing the event to Dallas and arranging many of the political contacts. His previous dealings with John Connally and Philip Crane undoubtedly accounted for their appearances at the briefing.

Other political activities of Robison include being chairperson of the newly formed Coalition for the First Amendment. Don't let the name mislead you: the group is lobbying for prayer in the public schools.

In typical "new right" Christian style, Robison takes the First Amendment to mean he can preach anything he wants, anywhere, any time. Everybody else has to shut up.

### Attacks on gays

In fact, Robison attributes his involvement in politics to his much-publicized legal wranglings with WFAA-TV in Dallas. They canceled his program after he attacked the "sin" of homosexuality, calling it "perversion of the highest order" and saying gay people were "despicable."

Robison said he was just preaching the word of God. The Dallas Gay Political Caucus didn't see it that way: they felt that Robison went a tad too far when he blamed gay people for crimes ranging from molestation to murder.

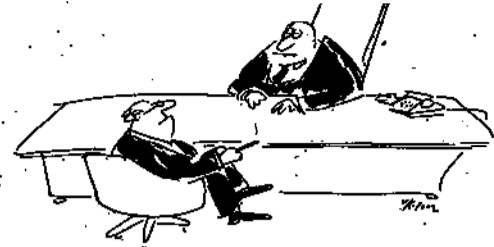
The tv station agreed and gave the gay group the time to reply. Then WFAA canceled Robison's show, explaining that his programs were a "continuing problem" because of his statements about other religious organizations and groups, which required the station to give those groups equal time to respond.

A storm of protest arose over the cancellation, and Robison got a lot of publicity. He hired a big-time lawyer, the flamboyant Richard "Racehorse" Haynes (who had defended T. Cullen Davis in his two murder trials and the murder-for-hire trial), and demanded a hearing before the Federal Communications Commission.

### March into Poland

Eventually money and influence won out, of course, and Robison got back on WFAA. But all the media attention convinced the evangelist that politics is where it's at. So he made his battle with the gays and the FCC into a cause--"the bureaucracy and the government restrictions began to choke me and silence me from preaching the whole counsel of God"--and marched into Poland: he joined Moral Majority, spoke to anti-abortion marchers in Washington, formed the Religious Roundtable, and got Ronald Reagan to speak at the National Affairs Briefing.

Robison's views are the same jumble of religion and fascist politics that Jerry Falwell and the rest of the Reichmasters subscribe to. He preaches against ERA, Salt II, gay rights, abortion, moral permissiveness, and communism. He supports public school prayer and bible reading, stronger families, less government regulation, and more military spending.



Robison told an anti-abortion rally that his mother, deserted by her alcoholic husband and living in poverty, had considered having an abortion, but a doctor persuaded her against it. That piece of bad medical advice gave Robison his personal stand on abortion and the world one more power-hungry, money-grabbing, loud-mouth preacher.

### \$\$\$

Robison gets an annual "base salary" of more than \$40,000. How much he gets in tax-exempt living allowances and special "ministry expenses" is anybody's guess.

But when he needs money, Robison knows how to make emotional fund-raising appeals. Last November he wrote to supporters: "This letter is not simply an attempt to raise money--This is an emergency, an effort to save the ministry which God has blessed and Satan hates, and is fiercely attacking."

And that man has the gall to call homosexuality "perversion of the highest order."

--Ferdydurke

Sources: *New York Times*, April 1, 1979, Aug. 22, 1980; *Christianity Today*, March 21, 1980.

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# Religious right talks politics

If there were any doubts about the political intentions of fundamentalist Christians, the National Affairs Briefing in Dallas last month made their goals frighteningly clear. The briefing was actually a political rally aimed at mobilizing militant Christians throughout the country for an assault on the Constitution and a crusade to wrest the Holy City of Washington from the hands of the infidels.

Attended by 20,000 fundamentalist ministers and lay leaders, the meeting in Dallas' Reunion Arena featured a parade of right-wing politicians and fire-and-brimstone preachers who alternately lambasted liberal causes (ERA, desegregation) and harangued the crowd about getting active in politics.

"Not voting is a sin against the almighty god!" shouted Texas evangelist Jim Robison, one of the briefing's organizers (see adjoining story on Robison). He also called the movement to pass ERA an "immoral, perverted cause."

The gathering was organized by a group called Religious Roundtable, an organization of politicians, preachers, and financiers in Washington, D.C., which helps to coordinate the efforts of Christian lobbyists.

## Born-again power

This group has also formed a political polling firm, Lance Tarrance, Inc., especially to sound out fundamentalist views for conservative organizations. Tarrance estimates that there are 30 to 60 million "born-again" Christians in the U.S. One of the main goals of the National Briefing was to politicize this vast bloc of voters (and their tax-exempt contributions).

"I'm going to make a substantial effort to refocus the efforts of these folks," said Paul Weyrich of the Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress, a right-wing campaign agency. "If you want to change America, you have to change the Congress." Weyrich and his associates figure that a typical congressional district has 12,000 to 20,000 fundamentalists who are not registered voters. (That's a lot of sinners!)

In addition to Robison, well-known tv evangelists Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson addressed the conference. As usual, they called for increased military spending, the death penalty, and prayer in the public schools. They attacked abortion rights, gay rights, and attempts by the Internal Revenue Service to remove tax exemptions from the more than \$600 million that these "electronic preachers" take in yearly.

## Reagan speaks

The briefing was climaxed by the appearance of Ronald Reagan, former B-grade actor and newly nominated presidential candidate for the Party of Property, Republican branch. (Jimmy

Carter and John Anderson both declined invitations to attend the meeting.)

Reagan concurred with the fundamentalists' new interpretation of the doctrine of separation of church and state. "The First Amendment," Reagan claimed, "was written not to protect the people and their laws from religious views but to protect those values from government tyranny."

Casting the intimidating, name-calling Christians in the surprising role of victims, Reagan charged that those who want to keep religious fanatics out of politics are making a "cynical attempt" to "discredit traditional moral teachings" and to "exclude them from public debate by intimidation and name-calling."



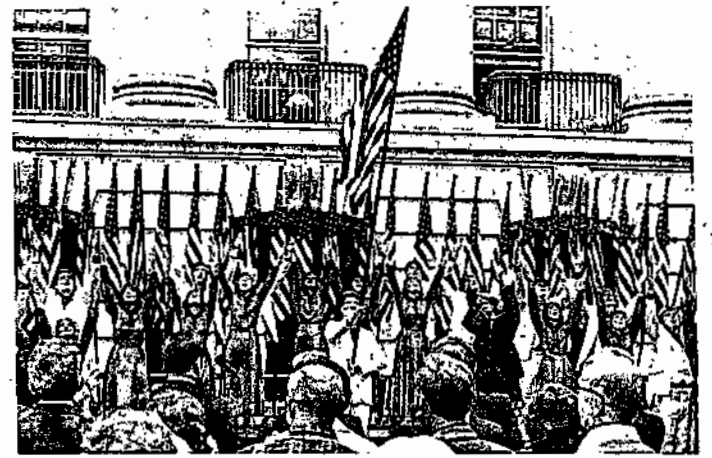
Reagan also accused Jimmy Carter of letting the IRS go on "an unconstitutional regulatory vendetta" by seeking to lift the tax-exempt status from church schools that discriminate against blacks. He didn't mention that many of these schools were founded to evade racial integration.

## Picking on Christians

"As government has become morally neutral," Ronnie went on, "its resources have been denied to individuals professing religious beliefs and given to others who profess to operate in a value-free environment."

As an example of how the big bad government wolf harasses the poor little Christian pigs, Reagan made the astounding claim that the Federal Communications Commission has "shown greater interest in limiting the independence of religious broadcasting" than in limiting "the drug propaganda concealed in the lyrics of some recorded songs." (Is that what Debbie Boone meant when she sang "You light up my life"?)

In his speech and a press conference, RR endorsed a variety of fundamentalist causes, including giving equal time to the biblical creation myth



in public school science courses. But he skillfully skirted any mention of abortion, ERA, and gay rights.

Although the National Affairs Briefing was billed as "non-partisan," almost all of the politicians who spoke were Republicans. They included such "new right" leaders as Phyllis Schlafly, Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC), and Rep. Philip Crane (R-IL).

## Wealthy scoundrels

Other participants were Texas industrialist T. Cullen Davis, who bought his way out of three murder indictments a few years ago, and multimillionaire N. Bunker Hunt, who was recently investigated by Congress for unfairly manipulating the silver market and trying to influence governmental agencies in his silver dealings.

Presumably Davis and Hunt are two of those "individuals professing religious beliefs" that have been denied government resources. Poor babies!

I guess the fundamentalist bible says it's a sin not to vote and a sin to tax churches, but is silent, or "morally neutral," about shooting your ex-wife and cheating your neighbor out of billions of dollars.

--Ferdydurke

Sources: Washington Post, Aug. 23, 1980; The Guardian, Sept. 3, 1980

## Suing the Catholic church

A national pro-choice organization has announced it intends to file suit against the Roman Catholic Church in the U.S. in early October, charging that the church has violated its tax-exempt status by engaging in political campaigns on the abortion issue.

The Internal Revenue Service grants tax-exempt status to religious, charitable and educational organizations that do not "devote more than an insubstantial part of their activities to attempting to influence legislation by propaganda or otherwise, or directly or indirectly to participate or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office."

Lawrence Lader of Abortion Rights Mobilization says his organization will be joined by other groups and individuals in suing the hierarchies of three archdioceses in the country. Lader says plans do not yet call for including Humberto Cardinal Medeiros of Boston in the suit, but that he may be added. A few days before the recent primary elections, Medeiros issued a pastoral letter condemning pro-choice legislators and those who elect them.

--Gay Community News

Post-American Vol. 9 No. 6 page 22

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

# Falwell slanders gays-again



The Rev. Jerry Falwell is almost as quotable as Richard Nixon. Like the ex-First Criminal, Falwell misspeaks himself a lot.

One of his most notorious misspeakings was when he trumpeted a call to return "to the McCarthy era, where we register all communists . . . stamp it on their foreheads and send them back to Russia." Falwell later said about this statement that it was made in a jocular vein. Ha.

Gay people frequently set off Falwell's verbal blunders.

During a 1977 rally in support of an anti-gay crusade starring the former Mrs. Bob Green (a. k. a. Anita Bryant), Falwell said "so-called gay folks would just as soon kill you as look at you." He later denied ever having made the statement, then even later said it had been taken out of context.



## Adam and Steve

At an "I Love America" rally in Lansing, Mich., last May, Falwell made the tiresome claim that "God made Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve." Cute.

But the most serious Falwell gaffe occurred last spring in Alaska where he recalled a January interview he and a dozen other religious broadcasters had with President Carter.

Falwell said he asked Carter, "Sir, why do you have known practicing homosexuals on your senior staff here in the White House?" Falwell told the crowd that Carter replied, "I believe I should represent all people."

Falwell then said he told the president he should "have some murderers and bank robbers and so forth" on his staff, too.

## The truth comes out

When the White House heard about the Alaska speech, they released a full transcript of the Falwell-Carter conversation. According to the transcript, Falwell actually asked Carter whether his definition of the family included homosexual marriages. The president's reply was inaudible.

Confronted with the White House reply, Falwell said he took his memory of the exchange and turned it into an anecdote to illustrate what he believed Carter's policy was concerning gay people. Sure.

Other religious leaders, including Southern Baptist Convention president Jimmy Allen, who attended the White House meeting, said Falwell had not reported his conversation with the president accurately.

Accuracy? truth? Jerry Falwell can't be bothered with such minor matters. After all, he talks with God every day. It's talking with humans that causes him problems.

--Ferdurke

Source: Detroit Free Press, Sept. 21, 1980.



## People protest mindless moralism

About 300 protestors disrupted the "I Love America" rally in Madison, WI, that Jerry Falwell spoke at.

Hecklers shouted "Sieg Heil" and "Fascist," interrupting Falwell's speech warning that the United States is "under the judgment of God for abortion, pornography and immorality."

The demonstrators carried signs declaring that "War Mongers Are Not Pro-Life," as well as "Ayatollah Falwell," "Moron Majority," and "Keep Abortion Safe and Legal."

A reporter from the Post Amerikan attended the protest in Madison and got these pictures of both the protestors and Falwell and his followers.

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# Signs warn citizens of nuke waste

On the evening of Sept. 22, people in the northern half of Illinois posted signs on major trucking thoroughfares which have been or may be used as routes to haul nuclear wastes. The action, coordinated by the Greenpeace/Morris Alert coalition, came after months of planning to bring the issue of the transport of nuclear wastes to the public's attention.

A loosely-knit group of volunteers in Bloomington-Normal posted signs along Route 51, Route 150, and Route 9 in an effort to alert B-N residents to the threat.

The signs, bearing the symbol for radioactivity, stated that this posted warning is "in anticipation of a marked increase in shipments of radioactive wastes on nearby roads and highways." Two phone numbers belonging to Governor Thompson's office in Springfield were printed on the posters to provide information on evacuation plans in case of a trucking accident.

Thompson's office was flooded with calls from concerned people, as were the phone lines of WJBC's "Problems and Solutions" program the next day. With the exception of Sheriff Brien and a mouthpiece for Thompson's office, the callers on the radio program overwhelmingly voiced their concern and alarm about the prospects of a nuclear accident.

## Some realities, some myths

The Governor's office ego-tripped about the poster campaign, thinking it was in response to Thompson's Sept. 19 veto of a portion of a bill which would have prevented the import of nuclear garbage into Illinois, particularly to the Morris nuke dump site. The rest of the bill, which Thompson did not veto, created a cabinet-level Nuclear Safety Department in Illinois. The new bureaucracy is designed to spend untold millions in tax-

dollars to tell Illinois citizens they have nothing to fear from nuclear wastes.

Bridget Rorem, the coordinator for the Greenpeace/Morris Alert poster campaign, told the Post Amerikan that this action had been planned since last March, when 80 to 90 groups pledged support to combat the possibility of Morris becoming a national away-from-reactor (AFR) dump site. Rorem said shipments from 3-Mile Island in Pennsylvania, as well as from other reactors, are already being shipped across I-80, destined for the Morris site.

She said the AFR plan is a convenient cop-out for the nuke industry, citing the "out of sight, out of mind" attitude prevailing among nuclear industry officials and, sadly, among ordinary citizens. Given that attitude, and Thompson's clearing the way for increased trucking of radioactive wastes to Morris, the odds in favor of a nuclear accident increase dramatically, from 10-50 shipments per year to several thousand.

Nuclear waste is a highly radioactive--deadly--material. A truck transporting it in winter could easily jackknife on a slippery road, exposing an entire community to the threat of nuclear contamination. Naturally, a trucking accident is not seasonally limited.

Should a trucking accident occur in the area, like the one which occurred in 1978, 2 miles southwest of Gibson City, what are the evacuation plans for our community?

A flatbed truck owned by Tri-State Motor Transit in Joplin, Missouri, broke an axle and dropped a 49,000 lb. steel cask containing plutonium and uranium fuel rods. A similar truck owned by the same company, and carrying nuclear

waste, was seen going through Bloomington on Feb. 8, 1979. It slowly passed through town without incident. That time.

If such a load ever dropped from a truck, exposing the fuel rods to one another, they would increase in temperature to 300 to 500 degrees Celcius. Any person near the rods would be dead of radiation poisoning within minutes. As the temperatures increased, radioactive poisons would boil off the rods, become airborne, and contaminate the area around the accident as well as areas many miles downwind. Years later, people who did not die immediately would die of cancer, not sure of its cause. Small, continuing doses are sufficient to kill over the years.

## Evacuation

There are no radiation evacuation plans. There is nothing Civil Defense can do in a short time to remove a community of this size a "sufficient" distance from a nuclear accident. How are the prisons, nursing homes, and hospitals going to be evacuated? How do you evacuate a person on a life-support system?

So far we have been lucky. But spent nuclear fuels, as well as the facilities which harness them into electrical energy, have half-lives lasting as long as 250,000 years. Spent wastes from military nuclear facilities add to the growing list. The ever-present danger of nuclear destruction is not as likely from a missile silo somewhere in the Soviet Union as from Clinton, Illinois, Commonwealth Edison's 77,000-acre nuclear energy "park" in northern Illinois, and the expanded nuclear dump site in Morris.

--Jeremy Timmens,  
with thanks to Greenpeace/Morris Alert,  
the Prairie Sun, and the March 13, 1979  
white paper for the Prairie Alliance



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