

Eastern Illinois University

## The Keep

---

The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)

The Post Amerikan Project

---

4-1981

### Volume 10, Number 1

Post Amerikan

Follow this and additional works at: [https://thekeep.eiu.edu/post\\_amerikan](https://thekeep.eiu.edu/post_amerikan)



Part of the [Gender, Race, Sexuality, and Ethnicity in Communication Commons](#), [Journalism Studies Commons](#), [Publishing Commons](#), and the [Social Influence and Political Communication Commons](#)

---

He may croak yet

see page 8

# POST AMERICAN

Bloomington-Normal

25¢

April 1981  
Vol. 10 No. 1

## EL SALVADOR:

# VIETNAM II

Produced by: the U.S.  
State Dept.

SEE - mistakes  
you thought you'd NEVER see  
again!

SEE -  
bodies found  
in unmarked  
graves!



SEE - thousands of peasants - men, women, and  
children - massacred!

HEAR - two-bit generals talk about peace and  
freedom and the elimination of the  
dreaded Communists!

starring **RONALD REAGAN**  
&  
**ALEXANDER HAIG**

ADMISSION PRICE: Your TAX DOLLARS  
RATED 1-A (18-21 yr. olds especially welcome!)



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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED  
POST-AMERICAN  
PO BOX 5452  
BLOOMINGTON, IL 61701

# Mental health agencies seek easier forced 'treatment'

McLean County mental health groups are asking the state legislature for the power to drug former mental patients against their will, even after their release into the community.

The proposed change in the Illinois mental health code is one of six recommendations put forward March 24 to the Illinois Commission on Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities.

Backed by State's Attorney Ron Dozier, the two groups asked the Commission to seek changes which will make it easier to force "treatment" and hospitalization on people who don't want it.

Illinois law currently prohibits forced treatment of people unless they pose a threat to themselves or others.

The Illinois mental health code of January 1979 gives potential "patients" extensive protection from forced treatment and confinement in an institution.

The new law extended so many rights to formerly powerless people that shrinks at Brokaw Hospital's

psychiatric ward refused to deal with any more involuntary admissions.

Psychiatrists and social workers who "deliver" all mental health "services," as well as police and prosecutors, have run into problems with the January 1979 code's protection of patients' rights.

The March recommendations proposed by local mental health groups will make it easier to put people away against their will. The recommendations loosen the legal procedures required. They also provide for forced commitment even if the person poses no threat to self or others.

Another proposal would loosen the state's confidentiality law to allow social agencies to "responsibly" share information about their clients. Under the recommendation, a psychiatric social worker could divulge information about clients who are involved in completely voluntary therapy, even when the clients express their desire for privacy by refusing to sign a waiver.

Alan Spear, Director of the Center

for Human Services, wrote the eight pages of recommendations, which the Post-Amerikan did not obtain until the day of our deadline. A more detailed examination of this outrageous document may appear in a future issue.

Referring to his proposals, Alan Spear told the Pantagraph, "We will be going head-on with many rights advocates."

He's right.

--Mark Silverstein

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

## Happy Birthday

★★★★★★P-A!★★★★★★

The Post-Amerikan is now entering its tenth year of publication. With this issue, we're nine years old. We sure never thought we'd survive this long, but here we are. Gifts may be sent to PO Box 3452, Bloomington IL 61701

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

## ABOUT US

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

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

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

not print anything racist, sexist, or ageist.

Most of our material and inspiration for material comes from the community. We encourage you, the reader, to become more than a reader. We welcome all stories and tips for stories, which you can mail to our office. The deadline for the next issue is April 30

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

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

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

## Post Sellers

### BLOOMINGTON

- Gene's Drivein, 1019 S. Main
- Mike's Market, 1013 N. Park
- 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)
- Biasi's Drug Store, 217 N. Main
- Discount Den, 207 N. Main
- Blm. Red Fox, 918 W. Market
- Kroger's, 1110 E. Oakland
- Bus Depot, 523 N. East
- Wash House, 609 N. Clinton SE corner, Washington & Clinton
- The Last Page, 416 N. Main
- The Park Store, Wood & Allin
- Common Ground, 516 N. Main
- Mel-O-Cream Doughnuts, 901 N. Main
- Mr. Donut, 1310 E. Empire
- 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
- Downtown Post Office, Center & Monroe
- Victory Bi-Rite, 203 E. Locust

### NORMAL

- Redbird IGA, 301 S. Main
- Mother Murphy's, 111½ North St.
- Eisner's, E. College (near sign)
- Drastic Plastic Records, 115 North St.
- Bowling & Billiards Center, ISU
- Cage, ISU University Union
- Midstate Truck Plaza, Rt. 51 North
- Upper Cut, 318 Kingsley
- Old Main Book Store, 207 S. Main
- White Hen Pantry, (in front)
- Alamo II, (in front)
- SE corner, North & Broadway
- Galery III, 111 E. Beaufort (in front)
- Record Service, Watterson Place
- Dairy Queen, 1110 S. Main

### OUTTA TOWN

- Urbana, Horizon Bkstore, 517 S. Goodwin
- Blackburn College Bkstre, Carlinville

## good numbers



- Alcoholics Anonymous--828-5049
- American Civil Liberties Union--454-1787
- Clare House (Catholic Workers)--828-4035
- Community for Social Action--452-4867
- Connection House--829-5711
- Countering Domestic Violence (PATH)--827-4005
- Dept. of Children and Family Services--829-5326
- Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare (Social Security Administration)--829-9436
- Dept. of Mental Health--828-4311
- Draft Counseling--452-5046 or 828-4035
- Gay Action/Awareness Union of McLean County--452-5852
- Gay People's Alliance (ISU)--828-8744
- HELP (Transportation for handicapped and senior citizens)--828-8301
- Ill. Lawyer Referral Service--800-252-8916
- Kaleidoscope--828-7346
- McLean County Health Dept. --829-3363
- McLean County Mental Health Center--827-5351
- 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 Services--827-5021
- Project Oz--827-0377
- Public Aid, McLean County--827-4621
- Rape Crisis Line--827-4005 (PATH)
- SAW (Student Association for Women, ISU)--438-7619
- Small Changes Bookstore--829-6223
- Sunnyside Neighborhood Center--827-5428
- Tele Care--828-8301
- Unemployment Compensation/Job Service--827-6237
- United Farmworkers Support Group--452-5046
- Women's Switchboard--800-927-5404

**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.

Rich get off easy

# City utility tax soaks poor

The Bloomington City Council has decided to solve its \$450,000 budget deficit by soaking poor people with an extremely regressive tax. Unless there arises what Mayor Buchanan considers "a major outcry from the public," the council will formally approve a 50% increase in the utility tax April 13.

Bloomington residents will soon pay a 3% surcharge, up from 2%, on their bills for electricity, gas, telephone, cable TV and water.

The council could have raised the same amount of revenue with an increase in the property tax--the traditional method of municipal finance.

The property tax is also regressive; that is, both the property tax and the utility tax take a larger chunk of poor people's income than rich people's income.

But the utility tax is more regressive. It hits poor people much harder than a property tax increase, while letting upper-middle and upper income families off the hook.

Poor people, especially elderly people

on small fixed incomes, are already victimized by rapidly rising utility bills. Some analysts expect natural gas prices to triple by 1985 after deregulation, and Illinois Power Co. has already said it wants an additional rate hike even after they get the 23% hike pending now.

The utility tax will jump with each utility rate increase.

While upper income families live in relatively well-insulated homes which are energy efficient, many poor people can't even afford to insulate--keeping their utility bills (and thus utility taxes) unfairly high.

The utility tax hits low-income renters especially hard. Tax analysts generally assume that tenants really do pay property tax--it is built into their rent. If the city council had chosen a property tax, a landlord owning a \$30,000 house would have to pay about \$15 more a year, according to city manager Bill Vail. Most likely landlords wouldn't pass on such a small tax increase to their tenants right away. But renters will be hit by the utility tax immediately.

Tenants who live in uninsulated houses will be further victimized--the landlord doesn't care how high the tenant's utility bills are and so doesn't insulate.

Financing with a utility tax instead of property tax also swindles small fixed-income homeowners. State property tax reforms give elderly homeowners a break from inflation-caused increases in the assessed value of their homes. No such tax reforms protect fixed-income families from the even higher inflation built into a tax based on utility bills.

Homeowners can deduct their property taxes from their federal income taxes; utility taxes can't be deducted.

Business, of course, gets over either way. Businesses can deduct both their utility taxes and their property taxes.

Some council members back the utility tax because it "gets into the pockets of business," as city manager Vail said. They are correct, but the property tax also forces business to pay.

According to Jim Kaiser, Bloomington asst. finance director, business and industry will pay from 60-70% of the \$450,000 raised by the utility tax increase. According to the Bloomington assessor's office, business would pay only 39% of a property tax increase.

By opting for the utility tax, therefore, the council forces business to bear an extra 20-30% of the tax burden.

Not a bad idea, but who saves that money?

Upper-middle and upper income families save the money, although that's not what you hear from the city council.

According to Mayor Buchanan's quotation in the Pantagraph, the utility tax increase "will shift some of the burden from middle, upper-middle, and low-income families to businesses, industrial, commercial, and higher income families.

I don't believe him.

Roughly speaking, the richer a family is, the more expensive house they buy, and the more property tax they will pay.

Within certain ranges of incomes, utility consumption (and utility tax) also increases with income. But only up to a limit.

Middle income people might make more long distance phone calls than poor people. Middle income people might have Home Box Office in addition to regular cable service. They operate more electric appliances. They have air conditioning.

But upper-middle and upper income families don't consume significantly more utilities than middle income families. Rich people don't leave their lights on all night or heat their homes to 90 degrees.

The utility bill of a \$70,000 income family won't be much different than that of a \$30,000 family. But their property tax bills will be much different.

So when Mayor Buchanan says "a utility tax increase offers the best opportunity for equity," you know whose equity he is protecting.

--Mark Silverstein

## Higher and higher

Bloomington city council members agreed to jack up the utility tax from 2% to 3%, but they really wanted to boost it all the way to 4%.

Boosting the tax to 3% will take care of the immediate problems, but council members expect an additional increase next year.

Council member Donn Pierce argued for doubling the utility tax right now--to 4%. Mayor Buchanan wanted to pass a two-stage increase, with the rate

becoming 4% a year from now.

They backed down so they wouldn't "tie the hands" of the new council elected April 7.

All the arguments against the utility tax presented in the adjoining article are twice as important in light of the council's intention to boost the utility tax even further. And both Pierce and Buchanan are unopposed for re-election.

--M. S.

## Conflict of interest in utility tax vote

General Telephone Co.'s representative on the Bloomington City Council has been a staunch advocate of raising the city's utility tax.

Donn Pierce, Gen Tel's Governmental Affairs Officer, even advocated jacking up the utility tax by 2% instead of the 1% agreed on by the rest of the city council.

As payment for collecting the utility

tax for the City of Bloomington, Gen Tel (and the other utilities too) gets .2% of all the utility taxes it adds on to its customer bills.

Any increase in the utility tax makes more money for Gen Tel, without the phone company having to do any more work.

Shouldn't Pierce disqualify himself from voting on the utility tax?

## GRAND CENTRAL GRAIN STATION



GROCERY • 130 E. BEAUFORT ST. • NORMAL, ILL. 61761



# City councils give in

Local Telecable officials are all smiles now, emerging victorious after eight months of lobbying with the Bloomington and Normal city governments.

Although city staff who studied Telecable's finances recommended continued rate regulation of the monopoly, the councils approved a limited deregulation of cable TV rates. The final ordinance, though appearing to be a compromise, will still prove immensely profitable to the cable company.

In addition, Telecable gained--with only minor concessions--a new 15-year franchise agreement. As debate on the proposal concentrated almost exclusively on the rate-deregulation issue, the cities lost a major opportunity to wrest expanded service and other concessions from the cable TV company. (See next month's article.)

## Corporate long-range plan

Until now, Telecable has needed city council approval for any rate increase. Telecable launched its campaign for deregulation in July 1980 in a letter asking ordinance changes which would permit--without council approval--rate hikes as high as the Consumer Price Index.

Telecable tied its bid for rate deregulation and a new franchise to its "corporate long-range plan" for a major expansion of channels offered to its customers in most of its 15

cities. By the end of 1981, Telecable plans to offer 20 channels, and 36 by the mid-1980s.

Since Telecable planned to borrow over \$4 million to finance its expansion, the company wanted an early renewal of its 15-year franchise, which was due to expire in 1983. (Why spend \$4 million if you won't be in business after two years?)

Telecable also deceptively cited its expansion plans as an excuse for needing rate deregulation. Bankers would be nervous lending money to a company that didn't have "control of its own destiny." Telecable's plea to the city councils concluded with this not-so-subtle threat: "We request that the amendments requested be approved as soon as practicable so that . . . the Bloomington-Normal market can be included . . . in the previously described corporate long range plan, and that the exciting changes in cable television can be extended to the citizens of Bloomington and Normal."

In other words, no deregulation, no extra channels.

## Presentation bogus

Telecable's presentation was bogus in at least two ways. Except for three "local access" channels, all of the proposed expansion of channels will be pay TV, like Home Box Office. Viewers who purchase only Telecable's basic service will get almost no benefits from these "exciting changes in cable television." Yet the city councils' authority to regulate rate includes only the basic service, not HBO or other pay TV. The councils never asked why expansion of pay TV should be financed by raising the price of the basic service.

Second, Telecable's hint that bankers wouldn't lend to a regulated company must have been consciously deceptive. As city staff members were to learn later, Telecable has already signed up 72% of the local market--an incredibly high "penetration level" for a cable firm. Other financial data later analyzed by a city staff committee showed Telecable is so highly profitable that the company could

easily borrow money for expansion--regulated or not.

But Bloomington council members, in their first discussion of Telecable's request, readily approved the concept of deregulation. In fact, the council was naively prepared to give Telecable total rate deregulation--more than the company had dared ask for.

In an Aug. 1 letter to Bloomington City Manager Bill Vail, Telecable VP Gordon Herring revealed that the cable company wanted total deregulation all along, but was too chicken to propose it. After some introductory flattery ("I have always enjoyed City Council meetings in Bloomington because it's a pleasure to see a well-run city"), Herring said that Telecable requested the Consumer Price Index "compromise" as "the least controversial route." After that first council meeting, Herring said, he realized that both the council and Vail would go for deregulation of cable rates.

Herring's elation fortunately didn't last long. Normal council members were slightly reluctant to give Telecable the right to jack up its rates whenever it felt like it. Telecable was given the stall, as the proposal was held up for study by a joint staff committee led by Normal Corporation Counsel Allan Novick and his Bloomington counterpart Paxton Bowers.

## Is it or isn't it?

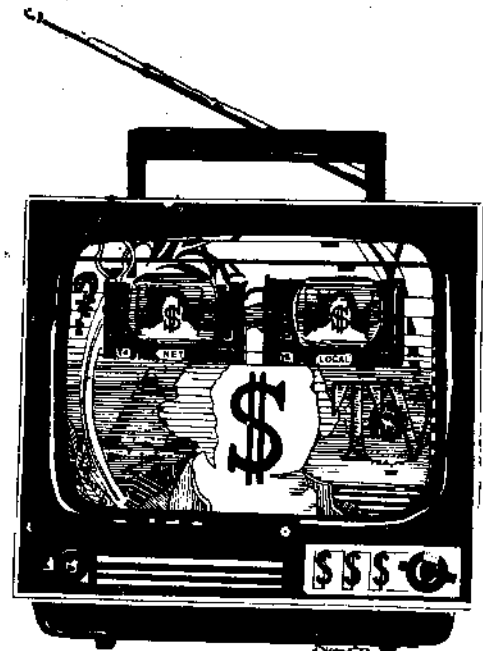
Discussion of Telecable's bid for deregulation hinged on whether cable TV was a utility or not.

Utilities are usually government-chartered monopolies, with a high capital investment, and provide what is considered a necessity, like water.

Proponents of deregulation argued that TV is not a necessity and shouldn't be considered a utility.

The city council evidently agreed.

So why does the city charge a 2% (soon to be 3%) utility tax on all our cable TV bills?

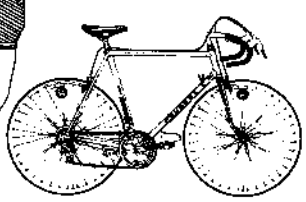


Free For All/cdf

## A Winning Experience



Capture the feel of competitive cycling with the Peugeot PXN10 racing cycle.



The quality and craftsmanship of Cycles Peugeot is in evidence from the polished alloy handlebars down to the Michelin whitewall tires. We offer the amateur bike rider the same lightweight and durable frames available to the professional racer. Alloy side-pull brakes. Cotterless crankset. Simplex alloy derailleurs.

Come in and experience a proven winner today.

**WILSON'S  
CYCLE SALES & SERVICE**

919 W. Market St. Bloomington  
829-6824

505 Raab Road Normal  
454-4868

**CYCLES  
PEUGEOT**



## Hmmm...

"... the total deregulation of cable television rates is the preferred approach."

"In light of the turn toward total deregulation that our request seems to be taking, I am enclosing modified proposed ordinance language to be added to the package earlier submitted which would accomplish the desired result."

--Gordon Herring, Telecable VP, in a letter to Bloomington City Manager William Vail, August 1, 1980. The letter has never been published before.

"We've never sought total deregulation."

--Gordon Herring, to the Normal City Council, Dec. 1, 1980, quoted in the Daily Pantagraph.



# to Telecable deregulation

The city staff's report firmly opposed deregulation of Telecable rates.

## Cable highly profitable

"Cable TV is monopolistic in nature," the staff report declared. While most cable companies serve 40-50% of the households in a market area, the city staff discovered that Telecable had 72% of the Bloomington-Normal market wrapped up. "This factor should be considered when reviewing the financial statement of Telecable," the report continued.

The staff committee had some trouble reviewing the financial statements, the report complained, because Tele-

ruse to leverage rate increases without a specific investigation of Telecable costs and profits." The Personal Consumption Expenditure Index, Pierce said, "doesn't evaluate the cost of providing service. It doesn't develop a control on profit."

## Telecable's judgment

Statements by Telecable officials have implied that they wouldn't dare raise rates high enough to reap exorbitant profits--because too many customers wouldn't pay the increased rates. But let's examine Telecable's judgment on previous rate increases.

In 1978, Telecable requested a \$1.45 rate increase. The city councils ap-



cpf

## Coming next issue

Next issue's installment reveals how Telecable violated the spirit, if not the letter, of FCC regulations through a conscious policy which actively discouraged use of the federally required public access channel.

A separate article explains that deregulation is not the only prize Telecable won. With virtually no conces-

sions, Telecable walked away with a 15-year franchise. The story explains some of the extras city negotiators could have asked of Telecable, but didn't.

Unlike other promises of what the Post-American will publish next month, this one will be kept--the articles are already written.

cable reneged on its promise to deliver audited financial statements for 1978 and 1979.

No wonder Telecable tried to withhold the financial information. When it was finally submitted (after the staff report was prepared), it showed that the cable company increased its stockholders' equity a phenomenal 164% in one year. (Sounds like Telecable needs rate decreases.)

Despite its limited information on Telecable's finances, the staff committee determined that the cable company was one of the most highly profitable industries in town.

Since the committee knew that its recommendation to continue regulation would be overruled, the staff also prepared a compromise, a modification of Telecable's original proposal to tie unapproved increases to a price index.

This compromise, which the councils approved, permits Telecable to raise its rates as high as the Personal Consumption Expenditure Index. This index has been rising at a rate of 4.4% a year--less than half the Consumer Price Index which Telecable wanted to use. If the cable company proposes a larger rate increase, council approval is still required.

## Sham

Tying cable rate increases to any price index is a sham. It presumes that Telecable's costs of providing service are increasing according to the index--a ridiculous presumption. In fact, as Telecable increases its penetration of the Bloomington-Normal market, its cost of service per household may be declining.

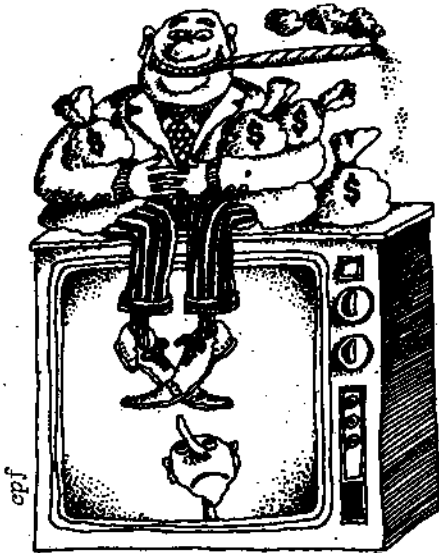
Bloomington council member Donn Pierce, a dissenter to the franchise giveaway, labled the index "a

proved only a \$1 rate hike. From 1978 to 1979, Telecable's stockholders' equity increased a whopping 164%--from \$288,337 to \$761,892. Since Telecable proved so immensely profitable with only 2/3 of the rate increase request, the company's judgment in rate matters must have been considerably mistaken.

## Buchanan's cards

To placate the opposition to deregulation, the new ordinance provides that if the cable company "abuses" its freedom to raise rates, the city councils can reinstitute regulation. As spelled out in the ordinance, such "abuse" can include failure to respond adequately to viewer complaints, failure to develop the promised channel expansion, or trying to raise rates without regard to the index.

According to the Pantagraph, Bloomington Mayor Richard Buchanan's evaluation of the ordinance was "it looks like it gives us all the cards."



cpf

But if the cities truly held all the cards, then Telecable supposedly would still be unable to borrow money. Don't forget those anxious bankers who wouldn't finance Telecable's expansion until the cable company gained control of its "pricing destiny."

Somebody isn't telling the truth.

Normal council member Vernon Maulson pointed out that the ordinance is too vague about how the cities could decide to regulate Telecable's rates again.

If Telecable steadily increases its rates according to the index, regardless of whether costs of providing service have gone up, I would consider that to be enough abuse of the rate hike power that the cities should retake control.

Even Mayor Buchanan said that the cities would reinstate regulation if Telecable continually jacked up its rates to the maximum allowed by the index.

But the mayor must not have read the ordinance--such abuse is not included in the ordinance's list of the abuses for which the cities can re-establish control over Telecable's rates.

## Headed for abuse

And Telecable is already headed for just such abuse of its new rate-making freedom, though no one seemed to notice. Telecable generously pledged to hold off on a rate increase until January 1982. Council members and reporters apparently forgot that in 1978, when the company's last increase was OK'd, city staff insisted that Telecable was entitled to no more rate hikes until the end of 1983.

Telecable also promised that next January's rate hike will be no more than a dollar. The buck raise represents a 13.3% jump--which comes out just exactly to 4.4% each year since the last increase. You can't use round numbers and stick any closer to the maximum allowable increase under the Personal Consumption Expenditure Index.

If Mayor Buchanan really regards the cities as "holding all the cards," I think I'd like to get in poker game with him. ●

--Mark Silverstein

# Sex-linked disease hits town



"Why don't you act like a man?"

The Center for Disease Control, operating a temporary office in a vacant used car lot, has confirmed reports that a presumed obsolete disease has struck Bloomington-Normal and is spreading rapidly.

The disease, Testosterone Poisoning (TP), although once fatal, is now only usually annoying. Its victims are always heterosexual males, usually between the ages of 12 and 40, although it has been known to strike much younger and much older men, too.

There is no known cure for TP, but early diagnosis can help. Through individual counseling, peer re-identification, behavior modification, and education, the disease can be arrested if help is sought soon enough.

Like the lepers of olden times, the victims of testosterone poisoning tend to group together for support. They can often be observed on street corners or parking lots in groups of three or more. Many times they purchase convertibles or sports cars in an attempt to forget their illness, but this seems only to aggravate the problem.



Victims of TP lose almost all social skills and amenities. In the early stages, testosterone poisoning victims usually have uncontrollable ties to telephones and bathroom walls. They can be found spending long, lonely hours in phone booths, dialing random strangers (usually female) and breathing or making lewd suggestions into the receiver.

They can also be observed scrawling such marvelous (to them, poor chaps) witticisms as "For a good time, call 829-0123" and "Don't look up here, the joke's in your hand."

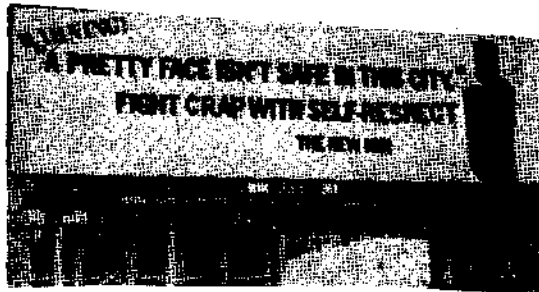
### Loss of control

Testosterone poisoning is likely, in advanced stages, to render its victims unable to control their muscles, the tongue and the hands being the most seriously affected. Their lips pucker unnaturally and emit loud, grating whistles whenever a woman appears in their vision. They holler at women on

foot, on bikes, in cars, and in general. "Show us your tits!" "Hey, baby, wanna screw?" and the ever popular "Wanna see 12 inches?" are among the favorites.

Other victims of TP have seemingly lost the ability to verbalize in their own language and are forced to communicate with women through series of grunts, growls, and barks.

When their hands lose muscular control, these victims pinch, slap, and fondle the breasts and buttocks of unfamiliar women in elevators, stores, restaurants, and sometimes even on the street. The victims themselves have coined the phrase, "Copping a feel," to describe this behavior.



TP is a disease much like alcoholism. The growth and spread of the disease can be arrested and at times even retarded, though complete recovery is seldom, if ever, possible. The victims must want to be cured, however, but very few men affected by TP have expressed the desire to be helped. It seems this malady has become the sort of status symbol that once only illnesses like baseball fever enjoyed.

### There is hope

There is hope, however. Strong doses of Susan Brownmiller and Andrea Dworkin have been known to help. Seeing films like "Rape Culture" repeatedly also does some good. Saying mantras, like "Women are human and so am I," has proven successful in some cases.

Another invaluable tool is having victims of TP talk intensively with men who have been as cured as one can expect. Once the victims can be shown that there is hope, that they can live useful, meaningful lives, and can put the stigma of TP behind



them, they can turn into healthy, happy, productive citizens once again.

Remember, testosterone poisoning is a disease, and you can help stop its spread. Early detection is paramount. If you notice behavior in men you assume to be TP related, sometimes the best tactic to use immediately is to ignore their existence. Another good idea is to shout at the top of your lungs, "Buzz off, creep!"

But the one I like best is the quiet, sincere approach. Just look them right in the eyes and say, very nicely, and with complete understanding, "Get off my back, f\*ck\*r!"



Together, maybe we can put an end to testosterone poisoning in our lifetimes. ●

--Deborah Wiatt

Typist's note: Seriously, guys, this street hassling is no laughing matter. You have learned complex operations such as knotting a tie and repressing displays of tender emotion: surely you can manage to control your rudeness on the street. Your disrespectful and intrusive behavior is disgusting.

# VITESSE

College & Linden  
Normal Illinois

# Community canning kitchens make a comeback

Public canning kitchens are an idea whose time has come and gone and come again.

Today, despite a growth rate in the fast food industry that is second only to that of toilet bowl bacteria, more and more people are canning. For good reason: food you can yourself costs considerably less, and it lacks

Economic Development (CCED), a Cambridge MA group which studied public canning centers in 1977. Fear of strikes and of the effects of another oil crisis on transportation fuel some of these concerns, the center reported.

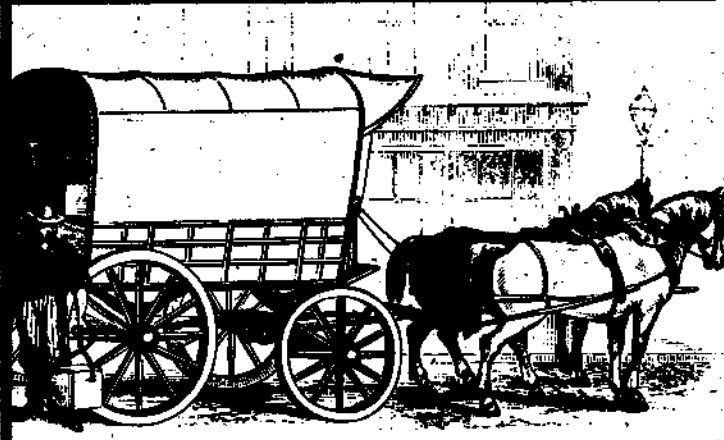
### A sense of community

"A renewed interest in the importance of establishing a sense of community has led to recognition of the role of the community canning center in bringing people together," the report added.

The CCED report chronicled the success of several canning centers. A community council in Bonifay FL reported that people there canned 108,000 pints and quarts of food-stuffs during the council's fourth year of operation.

A canning center in Indianapolis IN, begun in 1975 by the Marion County Extension Service, is now operating successfully through the city's Parks and Recreation Department, which also has a vigorous community garden program.

Ball Corp., makers of the famous Ball jars, estimated in 1977 that its simplest system could be set up for about \$12,000 plus another \$3000 for an inventory of jars, lids, and canning supplies which would be sold. The 1980 price is about \$15,000, plus supplies, from the Brethren Service Center which took over Ball's program for setting up public canning kitchens.



the 1001 chemicals that keep a week-old green bean looking as fresh as an Egyptian mummy.

Community canning kitchens are becoming popular again because they provide a large space where you can process your food in large batches with all the proper equipment readily available. Anyone who has tried canning in their own kitchen, with pans that hold 7.4 green beans each, will immediately appreciate the advantage of public canning kitchens.

Additional advantages include "a growing sentiment for community control and self-reliance in food production," according to the Center for Community



Just think, with \$6000 each from General Electric, General Telephone, and State Farm, we could start up our own canning kitchen in Bloomington. How's that sound? --D. LeSeure

Lanc. Ind. Press/cpf



Unfortunately, no one has yet figured out a way to make a canning center entirely self-supporting, largely because of heavy start-up costs. Many centers have been started with government grants, and the Indianapolis center started with a grant from the Eli Lilly Co.

### Lower cost

One way to cut costs, commonly used in Georgia and Virginia, is to operate canneries out of a school. The equipment can then be used both for teaching and for public use.

Tell our advertisers

you saw them

in the

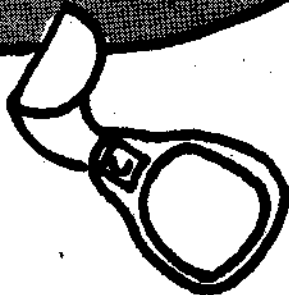
**Post  
AMERIKAN**



**Cans**  
27¢ lb.

MORRIS TUCK CO.  
501 E STEWART BL.  
828-6004

Mon-Fri  
7:30-4  
Sat  
8-11:30



**Common  
Ground**

NATURAL FOODS

516 N. Main St. Bloomington, Ill. 61701

COMMON GROUND now offers you the opportunity to cut food and vitamin costs by 10%. You may obtain our 10% discount club card in the following two ways:

- (1) You may purchase a discount card for a yearly fee of \$10.
- (2) You may earn a free discount card by accumulating \$50 worth of COMMON GROUND sales receipts. Simply save your receipts until you have a total of \$50, at which time we will present you with a FREE 10% discount card good for one year.

Once you have your discount card, simply present it at the checkout counter for a 10% discount on every purchase.

Our wide selection of wholesome foods now includes gourmet coffee beans fresh produce





# Reagan Death Watch Contest

Thanks to the inept marksmanship of John Hinckley, Jr., the suspense over Ronald Reagan's impending demise continues to mount. When will the 20-year curse fall? How will the President buy it?

In order to ease the tensions and help our readers through this time of insecurity and dashed hopes, the Post-Amerikan has re-opened its Dead President Contest, this time offering valuable prizes to the person who most accurately predicts the cause of death.

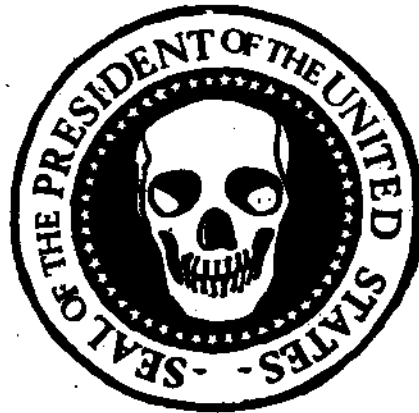
As almost everybody knows, U.S. Presidents have been dying in office every 20 years, like clockwork, for the last 140 years. According to Steve Conliff of Overthrow, a curse by an Indian shaman started it all.

History tells us that Gen. William Henry Harrison, who won the presidential election of 1840, was known primarily as an Indian killer. His greatest victory was a pre-dawn assault on a slumbering Shawnee village at Tippecanoe Creek, Indiana; it disrupted Tecumseh's efforts to organize an independent Indian state in the Midwest.

Tecumseh's brother, Tenskwatawa, was also the village's shaman (his name meant Prophet), and he put a curse on Harrison. It didn't take long to work. President Harrison caught a chill from riding coatless (and macho) in his inaugural parade and died a month later. It was the shortest administration on record.

- 1840 Harrison
- 1860 Lincoln
- 1880 Garfield
- 1900 McKinley
- 1920 Harding
- 1940 Roosevelt
- 1960 Kennedy

So 1980 is not only the year of the rat, it's also the numerical nail in Ronnie Reagan's coffin. ●



Since then, every Great White Father elected in a year ending in zero has died in office, usually violently or disreputably.

### Valuable Prizes

- \*Get-out-of-jail-free card.
- \*Lifetime draft deferment
- \*Executive clemency for all future crimes
- \*Congressional investigation of politician of your choice
- \*Your own fallout shelter
- \*Three free shots at Jerry Falwell with Nancy's derringer
- \*Bribe from FBI agent disguised as an Arab sheik
- \*All royalties from re-runs of "Death Valley Days"

In honor of this Amerikan tradition, then, the Post brings you the revised version of its Dead President Contest (see Vol. IX, #4).

Predict the Cause of Death (Mark one)

- Nancy thinks he's a burglar, shoots him with her derringer
- Trampled by 20 mule team
- Head of National Rifle Association shoots him with bow and arrow
- Tree pollution
- Retroactive abortion
- Skin cancer from Grecian Formula hair dye

- Bonzo, resenting years of second billing, pummels him with bananas
- Nancy, resenting years of second billing, plugs him with her derringer
- George Bush, resenting years of second billing, slips him a CIA toxin
- Jane Wyman, resenting years of no billing, strangles him with a reel of film from "King's Row"
- Alexander Haig nukes the White House
- Ron, Jr. stuns him with a ballet kick and pirouettes on his head
- Your guess \_\_\_\_\_

Special Bonus: If your entry is post-marked before April 15, you get to axe the social program of your choice.

Send your prediction to the Post-Amerikan, P.O. Box 3452, Bloomington, Illinois, 61701. All entries will become the property of the Post, and in case of a tie the winning entries will be placed in the bottom of a bird cage. The entry still remaining legible after a proper mourning period will be declared the winner. Enter as often as you wish. There will not be another contest like this for another 20 years. The families and friends of Post staff, supporters, and advertisers are, of course, eligible to participate. ●



## Hi-De-Ho

523 N. Main Bloomington

### NEW HOURS

Mon - Thurs

11 am - 1 am

Fri - Sat

12 noon - 2 am

### HAPPY HOUR

Mon - Fri

3 pm - 6 pm

### POOL TOURNAMENT

April 11th / 25th

**Busch  
& Michelob  
On Tap**

Thursday, Friday and Saturday Evenings Bus Service

# The Night Rider

April 2 through May 9, 1981  
For Information call: 828-9833 or 438-3215



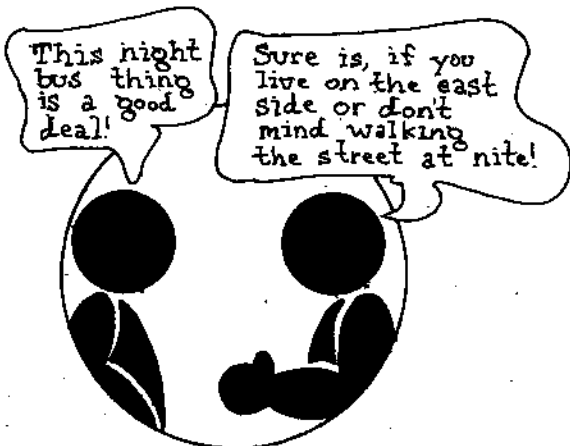
The Bloomington-Normal Transit System began night bus service, of a limited sort, April 2.

The buses are running on 2 routes from about 7 p.m. until shortly after midnight on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. Rides are free the first 3 weeks, and the fare is 25¢ after that—until the experiment in night bus service ends May 9.

Night bus service arose out of a desire by Normal city government to divert Illinois State University students from weekend parties. The 6-week experiment will, however, have considerable effect on whether the whole of Bloomington-Normal gets night bus service.

Popularity of the present routes will be used to determine whether night service starts up again in the fall and whether it is expanded.

The Green (or A) route runs from near the former Illinois Soldiers and Sailors Children's School down Lincoln to Normal to ISU and down University to Hovey and over to Adelaide and down to Division. It continues from Division south on Center to downtown Bloomington and circles back up Main to Division.



The Red (or B) Route runs from Cottage in west Normal along College to Adelaide and down Gregory. It then heads south on Main back to College and through ISU to Fell. It runs down Fell, Vernon, Grandview and Westview to the College Hills Mall. From there it goes down Towanda to Empire and through K-Mart/Eastland/Zayre. After that, it runs south through restaurant row on Prospect (parallel to Beltline) before circling back south of Oakland.

Buses on both routes run every 34 minutes, on the schedule in the timetable printed here.

EASTBOUND: RED ROUTE (B)										
College & Cottage	Tri Towers	Cardinal Court	ISU Union	Vernon & Linden	College Hills	K-Mart	Eastland	Zayre	Eldorado & Buckeye	
7:11	7:14	7:16	7:19	7:22	7:28	7:35	7:38	7:40	7:45	
7:45	7:48	7:50	7:53	7:56	8:02	8:09	8:12	8:14	8:19	
8:19	8:22	8:24	8:27	8:30	8:36	8:43	8:46	8:48	8:53	
8:53	8:56	8:58	9:01	9:04	9:10	9:17	9:20	9:22	9:27	
9:27	9:30	9:32	9:35	9:39	9:45	9:52	9:55	9:57	10:02	
10:01	10:04	10:06	10:09	10:12	10:18	10:25	10:28	10:30	10:35	
10:35	10:38	10:40	10:43	10:46	10:52	10:59	11:02	11:04	11:09	
11:09	11:12	11:14	11:17	11:20	11:26	11:33	11:36	11:38	11:43	
11:43	11:46	11:48	11:51	11:54	12:00	12:07	12:10	12:12	12:17	

WESTBOUND:										
Eldorado & Buckeye	Zayre	Eastland	K-Mart	College Hills	Vernon & Linden	ISU Union	Cardinal Court	Tri Towers	College & Cottage	
							7:04	7:06	7:08	7:11
							7:38	7:40	7:42	7:45
7:45	7:51	7:54	7:56	8:03	8:09	8:12	8:14	8:16	8:19	
8:19	8:25	8:28	8:30	8:37	8:43	8:46	8:48	8:50	8:53	
8:53	8:59	9:02	9:04	9:11	9:17	9:20	9:22	9:24	9:27	
9:27	9:33	9:36	9:38	9:45	9:51	9:54	9:56	9:58	10:01	
10:01	10:07	10:10	10:12	10:19	10:25	10:28	10:30	10:32	10:35	
10:35	10:41	10:44	10:46	10:53	10:59	11:02	11:04	11:06	11:09	
11:09	11:15	11:18	11:20	11:27	11:33	11:36	11:40	11:42	11:45	
11:43	11:49	11:52	11:54	12:01	12:07	12:13	12:17	12:19	12:22	

SOUTHBOUND: GREEN ROUTE (A)					
ISU Annex	School & Summit	ISU Union	Wall Adelaide	IWU	D.T. Bloomington
7:12	7:16	7:19	7:22	7:25	7:29
7:46	7:50	7:53	7:56	7:59	8:03
8:20	8:24	8:27	8:30	8:33	8:37
8:54	8:58	9:01	9:04	9:07	9:11
9:28	9:32	9:35	9:38	9:41	9:45
10:02	10:06	10:09	10:12	10:15	10:19
10:36	10:40	10:43	10:46	10:49	10:53
11:10	11:14	11:17	11:20	11:23	11:27
11:44	11:48	11:51	11:54	11:57	12:01

NORTHBOUND:					
D.T. Bloomington	IWU	Wall & Adelaide	ISU Union	School & Summit	ISU Annex
7:29	7:33	7:37	7:41	7:43	7:46
8:03	8:07	8:11	8:15	8:17	8:20
8:37	8:41	8:45	8:49	8:51	8:54
9:11	9:15	9:19	9:23	9:25	9:28
9:45	9:49	9:53	9:57	9:59	10:02
10:19	10:23	10:27	10:31	10:33	10:36
10:53	10:57	11:01	11:05	11:07	11:10
11:27	11:31	11:35	11:39	11:41	11:44
12:01	12:05	12:09	12:13	12:15	12:18



FREE!! Radical therapy group. Group goal is to provide support for individual problem-solving. Wimmin wanted. Nine months to a year commitment preferred. Pump your own socks! (and other catchy endings). For more information, please phone: Dolores del Rio, Mystic Queen of the Road, 829-2026 or 828-5662, evenings. Serious inquiries only.

SHOCKING guide to nuclear weapons: The Counterforce Syndrome. Send \$5.95 (includes postage) to RECON, PO Box 14602, Philadelphia PA 19134.

Cosmic boredom is the mind trap of duality!--F. Foont.

## Downs Import Auto Service

"We repair \$49.95 tuneups"

Does your imported car suffer from these dread diseases?

- Pained Piston
- Broken Brakes
- Senile Suspension
- Anxious Alternator

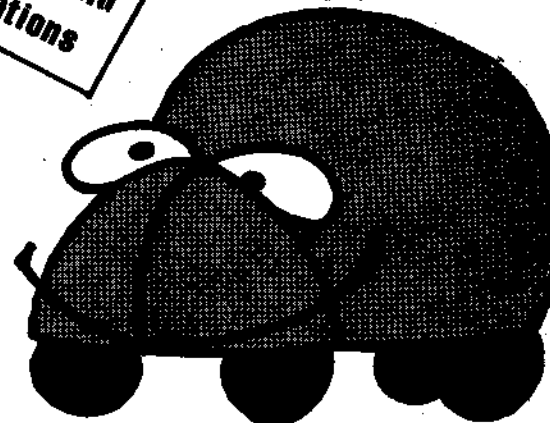
Large Stock of VW Parts

Superb radio installations

Open Saturday for do-it-yourselfers

Call 378-4321

Vunder Bug™



Shaffer Dr., Downs

# Vietnam Awareness Week



A drawing from North Vietnam done in 1964.

Illinois Wesleyan University's Fellowship for Reconciliation, a group "dedicated to exploring the power of love and truth for resolving human conflict," is sponsoring a Vietnam Awareness Week on the campus of IWU the week of April 6-11.

The week's activities will include films, discussions, and lectures to examine the significance of the Vietnam War and its relevance for today.

The scheduled events are as follows:

- April 6  
12 noon, AV Room, Sheean Library--A short history of the events which led up to the war.  
7 p.m., AV Room, Sheean Library--Film, "El Salvador: Another Vietnam?"

- April 7  
12 noon, AV Room, Sheean Library--Film, "Interviews with My Lai Veterans."  
4 p.m., Conference Room #10, Sheean Library--Film, "El Salvador: Another Vietnam?"  
7 p.m., Buck Memorial--Lecture, "Vietnam and Its Meaning for Today."

- April 8  
12 noon, AV Room, Sheean--Film, "Kent State."  
4 p.m., Conference Room #10, Sheean--Film, "El Salvador: Another Vietnam?"  
7 p.m., Buck Memorial--Panel Discussion: "What Was Happening on the IWU Campus during the Vietnam Era?"

- April 9  
12 noon, AV Room, Sheean--Film, "Only the Beginning."  
4 p.m., Conference Room #10, Sheean--Film, "El Salvador: Another Vietnam?"  
7 p.m., Buck Memorial--Debate, "Was Vietnam a Noble War?"

- April 10  
12 noon, AV Room, Sheean--Films, "The Unique War," and "Thanh."  
4 p.m., Conference Room #10, Sheean--Film, "El Salvador: Another Vietnam?"  
6:30 p.m., Buck Memorial--Film, "Hearts and Minds."

- April 11  
6:30 p.m., Buck Memorial--Film, "Hearts and Minds."

All these events are free and open to the public.

## Housing Authority of the City of Bloomington and the Department of Urban Development Announce Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Program

REHABILITATE YOUR RENTAL UNIT AND RECEIVE GUARANTEED RENTAL INCOME BY ENTERING INTO A 15 YEAR AGREEMENT WITH THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON.

### SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

- \*1. Unit must be located in the City of Bloomington.
2. Minimum of \$1,000 Rehabilitation needed per unit.
3. Current tenants must qualify for the Section 8 Rental Subsidy Program.
4. No permanent displacement allowed.
5. Plans including accessibility standards for the handicapped will receive high priority.

\*Program has now been opened to city-wide participation.

Maximum Rents, including costs of utilities, after rehabilitation, for assisted units are:

1 BR	\$228
2 BR	\$270
3 BR	\$313

Annual Adjustments

For more information, application forms and proposal packets contact:

CONNIE GRIFFIN  
Urban Development  
828-7361, ext. 245



## SMALL CHANGES

### OPEN HOUSE

Small Changes Alternative Bookstore is now open additional hours on Saturday. To celebrate (and to have some fun), we're having an OPEN HOUSE on Saturday, April 18, from 9 to 11 p.m. There will be punch, munchies, and friends--and we're updating our scrapbook to share. So join us. It's time all our supporters met each other.

Small Changes will be open every Saturday from 9 to 11 p.m. We hope this will make it more convenient for some people to come by the store, especially if you work days or live out of town. Thanks for your support.

### BENEFIT

There will also be a benefit for the bookstore on Sunday, April 17 at the Gallery III. The benefit will begin at 8 p.m. Everybody come!!

--Susie--for the collective

## Women's potluck

This month's women's potluck will be held on April 26 (a Sunday) at 1418 Kingsridge, Normal. Festivities will begin promptly at 3 pm, or thereabouts.

Call the Post office, 828-7232, if you need directions. All women are welcome and are encouraged to attend.

See you then.

## Susie's Cafe

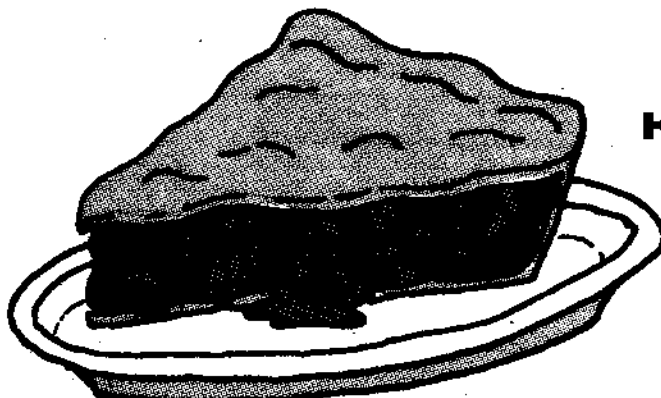
### NEW LOCATION

602 N. Main

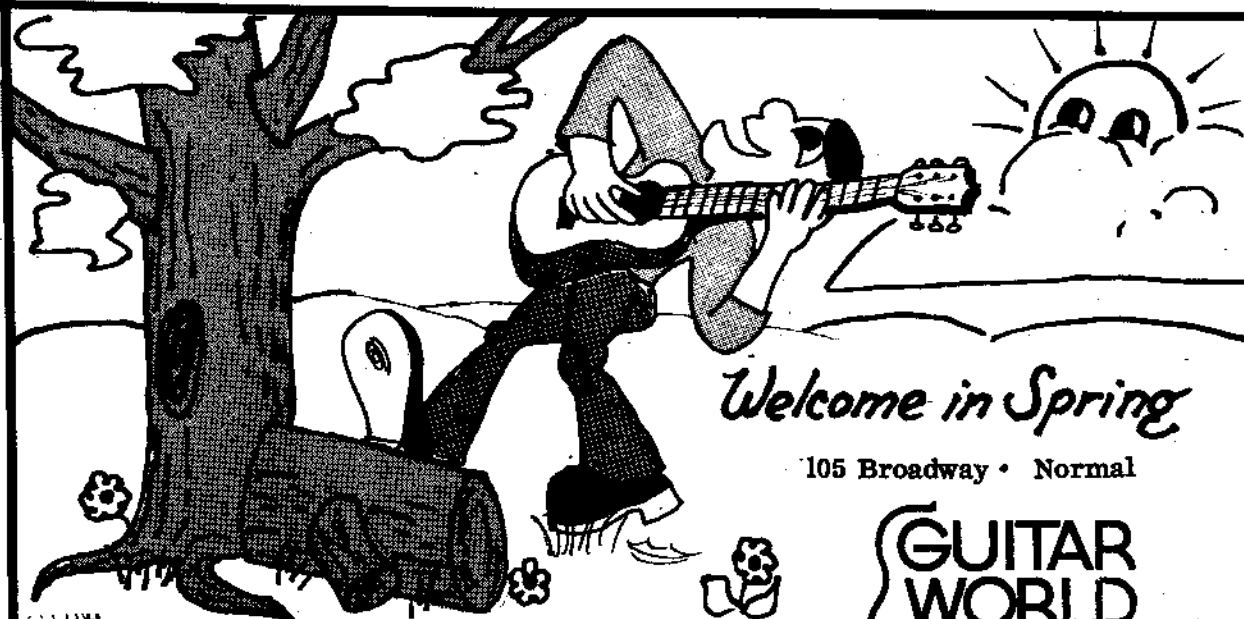
Home cooked food

Plate lunch & a la carte

6 a.m.--7p.m.



Plenty of free parking at Mulberry & Main



Welcome in Spring

105 Broadway • Normal

GUITAR WORLD

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



ABOVE: Students at the March 27 rally.

BELOW: Local tavern patrons know her for her spirited singing, but Rosie also opposes U.S. military aid to the Junta.

## ISU students protest El Salvador military aid

"No More Aid!" "No More Aid!" The concrete canyons of ISU echoed to the chant of a few hundred demonstrators in ISU's first anti-war demonstration in many a year, marking student and community concern over increased aid to El Salvador.

The rally, on Friday, March 27, capped a week of El Salvador awareness activities, sponsored by the Peace and Justice Coalition.

The crowd heard speeches from ISU professor Joel Verner, who has studied Salvador extensively; Campus Religious Center staff Paul Gilmore; Bloomington factory worker Kevin Welch; and numerous ISU students.

Both Verner and Gilmore cited the strong religious influence in Salvadorean events, especially the murdered church leaders, and their strong stances against U.S. military aid.

Welch got the crowd cheering, by connecting domestic cutbacks with the increased militarization within the U.S. and abroad.

Besides the speeches, there was music and a guerrilla theater presentation, featuring a mock trial of a Salvadorean peasant, worker, and nun by "President JellyBean," Alexander Haig and two Salvadorean leaders. All three defendants were detained for the "crime" of seeking social reforms.

The rally completed a week of activities including speakers and film presentations. Dr. Verner gave a

very thorough historical-political overview of Salvador, and the recent PBS documentary "El Salvador: Another Vietnam?" drew large crowds.

The week's events ended with a fund-raising at the Gallery III, producing \$200 for El Salvador Refugee Relief, to be channeled through Oxfam International.

The Peace & Justice Coalition plans to remain active on this issue, and the Fellowship of Reconciliation is planning a "Vietnam Week" at Illinois Wesleyan University April 6-11 (see page 10 for details.)

--MgM



## MARCH TO THE PENTAGON MAY 3

The war preparations by the Reagan administration and the military-industrial complex pose the gravest danger to the people of the United States and the entire world. In particular, Reagan and Haig are bent on provoking a Vietnam-type war in El Salvador.

Join the tens of thousands of people who want to demonstrate to express their outrage at the dangerous course toward

war and increased human suffering planned by Reagan for millions. Protest the anti-people, racist budget cuts, which are a direct result of the bloated \$190 billion Pentagon war budget.

If you're interested, contact the People's Anti-War Mobilization, 1470 Irving Street N.W. (Wilson Center), Washington DC (202) 462-1488.



# El Salvador: The Junta's war against the people

El Salvador--a tiny, impoverished nation--has become part of our national consciousness, as nightly TV news reports, reminding us of another war 15 years ago, show bands of soldiers gingerly working their way through tiny villages and dense jungles.

El Salvador is the Reagan Administration's selected spot "to take a stand against" international communism. But Salvador is more than a playing field for East and West--Salvador is a poor, hungry, but hopeful people saying no to militarization, no to exploitation, yes to a land of their own.

Military rule is nothing new to El Salvador. The nation began that way. The king of Spain divided the country into 14 departments, granting each of these to a retiring general or minor colonial official. Their descendants are the "14 Families" who dominate the nation's political and economic climate today, controlling what little wealth there is.

In 1821 the Spanish Empire collapsed in Latin America, and El Salvador was a nation. For the next 20 years it floundered, occasionally federating with other Central American states. In fact, it approached the US twice about statehood. No one ever bothered to reply.

Until 1875 the country continued as an isolated, weak state, the 14 families revolving in leadership. Land ownership was decentralized, and most peasants enjoyed small, but adequate, self-sufficient farms.

Then in 1875 a cash crop--coffee--entered the Salvadorean economy. The 14 families consolidated landholdings, transforming the nation into a plantation. The next 20 years saw frequent revolts, as peasants attempted to regain their lost land, with each revolt brutally crushed.

## Coffee buzz

Coffee tied the Salvadorean economy to the international, particularly the North American, economy. 90% of the nation's foreign credits come from coffee. As with any cash crop economy, market fluctuations can mean extreme depression. Transforming

Salvador in this fashion cut the majority of the people off from a subsistence base, making them farmworkers on coffee plantations and the hungry victims of any market downturn.

The 1930s depression years were particularly difficult. A vicious general--Maximilian Hernandez Martinez--was in control. Martinez considered himself the "Voice of God" and crushed brutally a peasant revolt in 1931-32, murdering 25-35,000 peasants.

Martinez lost power in 1944, and a somewhat liberal regime came to power. At no time did Salvador have anything resembling elections. The reform period brought a few hospitals, clinics, roads and national electrification. The reforms were motivated, however, by the power of a left-wing government in neighboring Guatemala, which took over US-owned plantations and attempted economic reforms. The Salvadorean leadership feared this interest in land reform would creep across the border, so it took on a phony liberal face. (The Guatemalan reform government was overthrown by a CIA-inspired coup in 1954, and the military has ruled there ever since.)

Cuba's revolution in 1959 sparked another fear of reform, and Salvador saw three coups between 1960 and 1961. Until 1979 the government has been nothing but a revolving panorama of various hard-line colonels and generals, all children of the 14 families.

October 16, 1979, sparked the first hope of reform; a group of young colonels, mostly lower class in origin, overthrew the military government of General Carlos Romero.

A coalition of left and centrist political groups joined reformists and rightist military factions to form a revolutionary junta, proclaiming their intention to redistribute land and democratize El Salvador. Thirteen months later a number of the civilian reformers who had participated in the formation of the original junta were kidnapped and murdered.

The right wing had become the major

force of the junta, with the army serving as its enforcer.

Immediately after the new junta seized power, "pronunciamientos de muerte," or death sentences, began appearing in Salvadorean newspapers, listing peasant, labor, and church leaders for execution. And almost certainly, these individuals would be visited by right-wing death squads, usually consisting of off-duty military personnel.

Liberal members resigned the junta in protest, leaving the right wing in command. Colonel Jaime Gutierrez became the de facto ruler, and he consolidated power. A typical strongman, Gutierrez is from the 14 families and promises to be "tough on Communism."

## Mutilated corpses

Accompanying the widespread killing are deliberate attempts to terrorize those who might protest: public assassinations, the display of mutilated corpses and the targeting of prominent individuals.

One teacher was killed in front of his class. Another teacher, active in the union, was killed two days after receiving a teaching award. And, most gruesome, the head of an assassinated teacher was put in front of the school to teach the other instructors a lesson.

To maintain the junta's reform façade, Dr. Jose Napoleon Duarte became President in December 1980. Duarte is former head of the small Christian Democratic Party (most of his followers are now with the leftists). Although the more moderate Duarte is president, control of the military remains in Gutierrez's hands.

An interest in maintaining a façade of reform explains the US involvement. The Carter administration welcomed the 1979 coup as a "human rights opening" in Central America and supported the new regime. As the regime turned right-ward, the US continued in support, hoping to influence it toward moderation. Carter faltered in support in December 1980 after 4 US women were murdered by the junta, but Reagan has endorsed the regime, vowing to "take a stand against

communist aggression" in this tiny nation.

## Landless poor

Where does this leave the Salvadorean people? As poor as ever. A few statistics tell the story.

Salvador, with 5 million people, is about the size of New Jersey, making it one of Central America's most densely populated nations.

Land, the source of food, is denied to the people. Concentrated landownership leaves the people without an economic base. 65% of the rural population is landless, and 35% of the people have no permanent home.

60% of the existing farm units are under 2.8 acres, 90% are under 11 acres (15 acres is the estimated minimum for survival). 6 families own land equal to 133,000 peasants' land: That is, 60% of the land is owned by 2% of the people.

Between January and August 1980, 52 percent of those assassinated in El Salvador were peasants, followed by students (7 percent) and workers (3 percent). The recent clampdown on the peasantry reflects the ever-increasing political and social organization of the landlords and their supporters in the military.

Of the land that the 14 families control, little is used for food crops that could feed the people. 90% of the large plots are used for pasture land, to feed beef to export to the US; the other 10%, the richest land, is used for coffee.

Presently, 50% of the population is unemployed or only employed seasonally, and 90% of the population earns less than \$100 per year. \$528 is regarded as the minimum necessary subsistence level.

The US has claimed to help Salvador by encouraging land reform. However, the US backed land reform was designed by none other than Roy Prostermann of the Agency for International Development (AID), who designed the village "pacification" program in Vietnam.

The aim of the AID program is the "social, political and psychological control" of the rural population. It seeks to concentrate peasants in identifiable units, and thus keep close tabs on their leadership. Many peasants have shied away from these programs, as frequently their identified leaders have been the victims of right wing death squads.

The armed forces treat the civilian population like an enemy in a full-scale war: motorized invasions of rural areas, search-and-destroy missions and the sacking of rural

property are the most common manifestations of the rampant militarization of Salvadorean society. Between January and May of 1980, the armed forces engaged in 274 military invasions of peasant areas.

## Shut up

Along with the annihilation of the social basis of political opposition, the regime has been silencing all forms of cultural dissent: the universities have been taken over by the military, opposition newspapers have been bombed and machine-gunned into submission, and a large percentage of the intellectual community has been killed or has fled into exile.

The important thing for Americans to realize is that the people of El Salvador are bent on having their own nation. They have a neighbor, Nicaragua, which recently overthrew a right-wing dictatorship. The Salvadoreans know that it is only a matter of time before the military crumbles. The left coalition--FDR (Revolutionary Democratic Front)--is a coalition of socialists, democrats, labor and peasant leaders, urban reformers and liberal Catholic clergy, all seeking basic and necessary reforms.

The Reagan state department seriously views El Salvador as a domino--one in a line of dominos that runs from Cuba to Nicaragua, Nicaragua to El Salvador, Salvador to Guatemala and Honduras, Guatemala to Mexico and Mexico to... (Texas???) (They can't seriously believe that some little ol' brown skinned commies are going to take back the Alamo! J.R. won't take this one lying down.)

Central America is not just a scenic paradise of little villages, volcanos, and old cathedrals. It is large American-owned banana, beef and coffee plantations. It is potential rich oil fields in Guatemala. It's a cheap labor market for runaway shops. And that is where the key to the dominos lies--not in Soviet aggression--but in a cut-off of markets for American corporations and exploitation.

And that's what's got old Ronnie and war criminal Haig worried. Having democratic, free countries all around the USA is awful threatening. They're hard to deal with; they like to do things their own way. They're not like a general who Uncle Sam can bribe with a few torture lessons, a shipment of M-16s and a new helicopter. A free Central America is people ruling themselves. And people ruling themselves is one idea that Washington can't stand.

--Thanx to MgM and James Petras of The Nation

## Documents don't support Haig allegations

In February the Reagan Administration released 20 documents written in Spanish allegedly captured in El Salvador. A State Department "white paper" accompanied the documents.

Secretary of State Alexander Haig contended that captured hand-written documents--47 pages in all--proved that the Soviet and Cuban governments were orchestrating the rebellion in El Salvador, and had provided up to 800 tons of weapons to the leftist guerrillas there.

Pacific News Service, however, reports that it has translated the documents--and the news service alleges that their contents do not back up the allegations made by Haig.

Pacific News reporter John Dinges says the documents do indicate that socialist countries around the world have supported the efforts of the Salvadorean opposition to overthrow the country's ruling military-civilian junta.

However, those same documents, Dinges says, reveal that only 10 tons--not 800--of weapons from abroad ever reached El Salvador. What's more, Dinges says, the papers indicate that the Salvadorean rebels rely mainly on antiquated rifles and other weapons they obtain on the international black market.

Dinges writes that the documents also reveal that the rebels believed they were being snubbed by the Soviets, and that the papers contained complaints about a lack of support from Moscow.

Ironically, Secretary Haig used these very documents to justify sending more U.S. military advisors and \$25 million in additional military aid to El Salvador.

Pacific News says that, "in historical terms," the State Department's white paper and the supporting documents could become the equivalent of the now discredited "Gulf of Tonkin" incident in 1964 which caused the United States to escalate the war in Vietnam.

--Zodiac News Service





# Church in El Salvador backs revolution

"You can kill me, but you cannot kill the voice of justice."

These words have become a battlecry in El Salvador.

They were spoken by a slight, white-haired Catholic bishop.

Oscar Romero, assassinated a year ago on March 24, would not fit your typical idea of a social reformer.

But throughout Latin America, Romero, a Catholic bishop, and thousands of others, particularly priests, nuns, and lay leaders, are in the forefront of agitation.

Traditionally, the church has been regarded as a force of reaction. Often a large landowner, the church has been threatened economically by peasant movements, and scoffed at, in the eyes of leftists, as an "opium of the people."

In Latin America, and increasingly here in the US, the church has become an active proponent of social reform.

The tradition is not new. Since the 1880s, Catholic popes have spoken of the right to reform, the legitimacy of labor unions, the need for economic and political sharing.

This tradition was given new life, and challenged the established church, with the development of a "theology of liberation" in Latin America in the 1960s.

Unlike most theologies, which develop in universities or monasteries, the "theology of liberation" was born in the slums and the streets.

In Latin America, missionaries and native clergy found people living in extreme misery and poverty. Finding charity inadequate, many began evolving alternative programs.

But in Third World countries, any program is suspect; any attempt to uplift the poor is viewed as an attempt to overthrow the few wealthy. And church leaders, like labor and peasant leaders, found themselves the victims of repression for standing up for simple justice.

The Brazilian clergy, including the bishops, were among the first to get involved in social movements. After Brazil's military coup in 1964, they began to challenge the repression, especially the slave conditions in Brazil's factories, the displacement of millions from the land, and the growth in "favelas," or slums, that came with the growth in the nation's military and economic wealth.

This movement continued to grow, particularly amongst grassroots clergy and lay leaders, who interpreted the gospels in a radical light.

According to liberation theology, the Old Testament story of the Jewish people and their flight from slavery symbolizes the need for people to resist reactionary regimes. Jesus' words about sharing with the poor, justice, and a "new kingdom" are seen as an overthrow of repression to build a world of justice and peace for the poor majority.

This theology took on added legitimacy in Medellin, Columbia, in 1968, when the Latin American Bishops' Conference endorsed a radical platform of social reforms. Medellin became the justification for thousands of grassroots clergy to mobilize

their populations, using Medellin to encourage church leaders to support them.

The foundation of liberation theology has been "base communities," small discussion groups, which usually begin from the Bible, and then analyze their own communities, deciding what actions need to be taken. These have given liberation theology a very democratic tone and have taken the initiative away from the hierarchical church.

In Central America, liberation theology flowered when church members became active in the Nicaraguan revolution. Fr. Ernesto Cardenal, a poet, became an outspoken and internationally popular voice for the Sandanistas and is presently Minister of Culture in that struggling country.

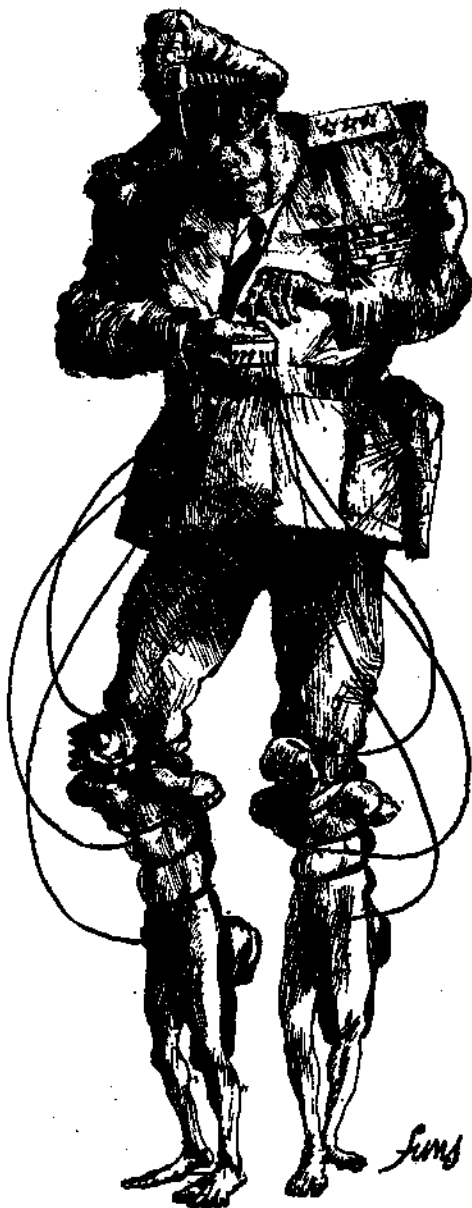
Liberation theology soon spread across the border to El Salvador.

Oscar Romero was a typical churchman. Conservative, he disliked talk of revolution and supported the ruling military.

But the 1977 murder of a local priest, Fr. Rutilio Grande, a Jesuit, led Romero to investigate. He set up an archdiocesan commission on human rights, which soon became the most thorough investigator of the murders of peasants and workers. Romero was shocked by the military repression, especially in the villages.

His radio station was bombed, his life threatened. Romero kept speaking out.

At first he simply encouraged



moderation, calling on the military to relax its repression. Eventually, he began supporting the revolution as a just reaction to a terrible situation.

He was shot by a death squad on March 24, 1980, while saying mass.

Romero became a powerful symbol to Catholic El Salvador and all of Latin America.

The impact came home to the US on Dec. 2, 1980, when 4 Americans--3 nuns and a lay volunteer--were murdered. Their bodies were found in a shallow grave, battered and obviously raped. The Salvadoran military and police seemed to care little, and local peasants reported that soldiers had been involved in the murders and the burial. No one was ever tried or indicted for the crime.

The four women, who were involved in the subversive act of refugee relief, have become a symbol, as Romero is for Latin America, to US church members, particularly to Catholic clergy.

The US Catholic Conference, which supported the war in Vietnam, has taken a forthright stand against continued US military aid to El Salvador.

This past March 24, marking Romero's assassination, the left called a cease-fire in El Salvador to honor Romero. In the US, demonstrations, vigils and church services were held, and 13 protesters, including 5 nuns and 2 priests, occupied the office of Sen. Charles Percy in Chicago, demanding that he cease supporting the military junta.

These actions, and the followers of liberation theology in Latin America and the Philippines, are still a minority within the Catholic church.

But the activists are becoming increasingly outspoken, and US missionaries, returning from overseas, are beginning to connect poverty in this country to political action, getting involved in community struggles and analyzing US powerholds --government, military and corporate --as the roots of poverty and suffering both here and overseas.

There is still strong tension between traditional church leaders and this new movement.

The liberation theologians, however, have proven one thing--they're not afraid to struggle, even if it means death. An archbishop, 4 US religious people, and hundreds of other priests, nuns and lay leaders have proven it already.

--MgM

# Pontiac murder trial begins

POST-NOTE: Groups in 4 US cities staged demonstrations March 14 to mark the beginning of the trials of the 17 Pontiac prisoners charged with the deaths of 3 guards during the 1978 uprising. In Bloomington, the Coalition Against the Pontiac Frame-Up handed out leaflets containing the following:

On July 22, 1978, prisoners at Pontiac State Penitentiary in Pontiac, Illinois, rebelled. The causes of this spontaneous rebellion were so obvious that the director of Illinois prisons said, "It came a year later than most of us anticipated. You can only crowd so many people into a warehouse for so long before something happens." Three guards were killed and three others injured; damages were estimated at \$4 million. Many prisoners were injured by guards and National Guardsmen retaking the

prison.

The entire prison population was then put on deadlock--locked in their cells 24 hours a day without showers, visits, recreation, work, or basic necessities like soap and toilet paper. The deadlock continued for eight months.

The "investigation" that was carried out under deadlock conditions consisted principally of attempts to coerce prisoners to testify against selected scapegoats by threats and bribery. Not until three months after the rebellion did State officials begin to claim that the prisons were "run by the gangs" and that the Pontiac rebellion had been a "gang" conspiracy.

Administrative charges were brought

against 67 prisoners, each of whom was sentenced to a year in segregation and loss of one year good time without a single witness being presented.

On March 5, 1979, an all-white grand jury handed down indictments against 31 prisoners--all Black and Latin. Seventeen were charged with murder and 14 with other felonies. The state's attorney had already announced that he would seek the death penalty for any prisoner convicted of murder.

No one will ever know what happened at Pontiac in the sense of "who did what to whom." The State's very method of investigation made sure of that.

We do know that the real causes of the rebellion were the racism, brutality, and the intense overcrowding at the prison. The frame-up and execution of 16 men by the State of Illinois will not change the fact that the State itself is responsible for the barbarous conditions that produced the rebellion and which still exist in Illinois prisons today.

Violence against Black people is rampant all across the country. In the past several months, 21 Black children have been murdered in Atlanta, eight Black men have been murdered in Buffalo, and three Black men have been murdered in New York City.

In addition to these murders, there have been many by the police. They murdered four Black people in New Orleans within a 48 hour period and two Black youths in New York City. At the same time, the courts have freed racist murderers in Miami, New York, and Greensboro.

And now, in Chicago, the Pontiac Brothers' trials begin. This is it--the beginning of the largest civilian death penalty case in the history of the United States.

--PPSC

BELOW: Coalition protests frame-up and trial in Bloomington March 14.



## Highlights of riot trial testimony

After months of jury selection, the murder trial of 10 of the Pontiac 17 defendants got underway in Chicago. Six more prisoners will be tried as a group. The 17th defendant has turned state's evidence and will plead guilty to a lesser charge after the trials.

As in other trials stemming from the 1978 rebellion almost all the state's case is based on the suspect testimony of other prisoners who were under intense pressure to name the defendants. Prisoners who cooperated with the prosecution were rewarded with transfers, early parole, money, and other favors.

With prisoner testimony so suspect, the state's case needs at least one correctional officer implicating some defendants. He is Officer Dan Dill, one of the guards wounded in the uprising. Dill was once considered "an important prosecution witness." But after implicating three defendants, Dill also admitted to lying to state investigators for months after the riot. Dill admitted implicating seven prisoners in interviews with investigators, but none of the seven were ever indicted.

In other highlights of the trial:

\*\*\*Angelo Robinson, the defendant who turned state's evidence, said he decided to testify against the others only two days beforehand. He admitted he would lie to save his own



life, but not if it meant sending someone to the electric chair.

\*\*\*Ex-prisoners Jimmie Brackett testified that he overheard two of the defendants brag about killing two guards. But Brackett also admitted signing a 23-page statement to defense investigators, saying he never heard the defendants talk about the killings. Brackett's statement also accused the prosecution of pressuring him into implicating the two prisoners, even though Brackett insisted for months after the riot that he knew nothing.

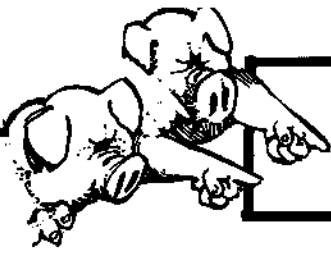
\*\*\*Prosecution witness Edgar Richmond admitted receiving \$2000 in cash from the prosecution to pay his living expenses. Richmond testified that he spent the money on T's and blues, a drug combination which simulates the effect of heroin. Defense attorneys forced Richmond to show his needle-marked arms to the jury.

\*\*\*Prosecution witness Angelo Robinson testified he saw two of the defendants threaten another prisoner on March 6, 1978. But neither defendant he accused had even arrived at the prison until weeks after the alleged incident.

\*\*\*A state investigator screwed up his testimony, pointing out the wrong defendant as the man who had a cut hand after the riot.

\*\*\*Prosecutors really wanted ex-inmate George Conners' testimony. They paid his family \$2300 while he was still in prison. Prosecutors also gave Conners an additional \$3500 after his release, which he admitted spending on heroin and cocaine. Prosecutors also promised to secure a lighter sentence for Conners' brother in an unconnected case. In addition, an agent of the Illinois Dept. of Law Enforcement threatened to revoke Conners' parole if he failed to testify. Although Conners did testify to seeing one of the defendants hit a guard with a baseball bat, the former prisoner also admitted telling defense investigators that the story is a lie.

--Mark Silverstein



# Miscellaneous outrages

## X-rated movies

In February, the Normal city council discussed passing an ordinance which would require movie theaters to enforce the age guidelines of the G, PG, R, and X rating system.

Their worry comes from the fact that at College Hills Movies 4, kids buy their tickets in one place and can go to any of the four movies--thus, underage kids can go see R- or X-rated movies without anyone stopping them.

None of the council members said, though, why they didn't want kids to see those movies.

We doubt that the council is afraid the children will pick up sexist attitudes from the R- or X- rated films. They can pick up sexist attitudes from Bambi, anyway. Or from TV. Or from school. Or from Dad and Mom.

## Welcome to Normal

Just in case visitors can't read the map, the Town of Normal has erected six solid redwood signs greeting motorists with the message "Welcome to Normal." The hospitality cost the city over \$1100 in labor and materials, according to information supplied by Normal Parks and Recreation Director Ron Blemler.



## Don't show me

An Illinois House committee has already approved legislation which would establish jail terms for librarians who make "harmful" material available to anyone under 18.

The bill defines material as "harmful" if it "goes substantially beyond customary limits of candor in description or representation" of nudity, sex, or excretion.

Representative James Barnes of Oak Lawn introduced the bill. Oak Lawn was the scene of a book-banning controversy last year, after moral majority types raised a ruckus over the local library's ownership of the sex education book Show Me.



## LSD safe as life, sez Gov.

Remember all the scare propaganda designed to keep us away from LSD? The chromosome damage, the instant insanity, the human vegetables?

Now the government has published a report on army and air force personnel who were given LSD in secret experiments from 1955-1967. The conclusion: the men suffered "no significant damage." The military subjects of the LSD testing suffered about the same rate of physical and mental illness as the general population, according to a brief AP story on the Pentagon's report.

The story did not say whether the subjects knew they were taking LSD, or whether they were victims of the government's top secret MK Ultra program, where government testers slipped acid to unsuspecting subjects, some of whom didn't even know they were participating in an experiment.



## Paranoia funded

In a time of government budget tightening, there's still always enough to indulge officials' paranoia. To "upgrade security" at the McLean County Law and Justice Center, the county board recommended March 17 that \$5100 be spent. The project will install bulletproof glass in the public waiting area in the sheriff's department, and pay for some sort of electric door for the state's attorney's office. There's been no problem with gun-wielding crazos in the sheriff's dept. (except for the deputies themselves), but there's no arguing with the "security" mentality.

## Potato chips, white bread save liquor license

Because they recognized that west-siders need a grocery store, Bloomington city council members changed their minds March 23 and approved a package liquor license for a souped-up gas station to be built near the intersection of routes 9 and 55.

Spee-D-Mart will sell self-serve gas, package liquor, and some groceries.

Spee-D-Mart's application was rejected in February, because council members balked at handing out another liquor license to a business that is basically a gas station.

But Hershel Brock, who will build the business, collected 180 signatures from residents who say the west side needs a grocery store.

Council members were impressed enough to reverse themselves. "I don't like businesses that sell gas and alcohol," Jesse Parker was quoted in the Pantagraph. "But the people out there want a grocery store."

True enough. But Spee-D-Mart's predictable selection of "groceries"--primarily soda pop, potato chips, cookies and other nutrition-free junk--won't get the west-siders any closer to the full-fledged grocery store they really need.

# A's

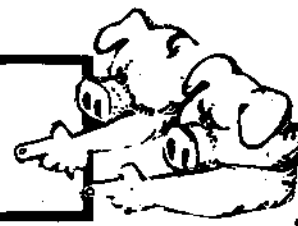
## used furniture & appliances

618-20 S. Lee St.  
Bloomington  
Corner Lee & Oakland

buy  
sell  
trade

829-1912

# you may have missed



compiled by  
Mark Silverstein

## Profits from plug-ins

The importance of accounting became clear last month, when the Associated Press reported that an FCC change in accounting rules would cost telephone company customers billions of dollars.

Nothing changed in the real world. The telephone companies won't be spending extra money or selling any new products.

All that changed is the location of the columns those boring squinty-eye men write their little numbers in.

The new accounting rules will change how phone companies list their costs for installing a new phone in someone's house.

The FCC previously regarded phone installation as one of the utility's capital costs. Phone companies were permitted to recoup only a portion of their phone installation costs each year.

Now phone installation will be considered a direct annual expense. Phone companies will be able to recoup their phone installation costs immediately.

As a result, charges for installing phones are expected to triple. Rate hikes for phone installation may be worked in over four years.

The Associated Press said that the accounting rule change would cost consumers \$17 to \$20 billion over the next ten years. An expensive slip of the pen.



## And go shopping instead?

To keep ISU Students from having loud obnoxious beer parties this spring, the Town of Normal shelled out several thousand dollars to subsidize night bus service on two routes. The bus service will supposedly drain the students from the campus area, giving them something more constructive to do at night. And what's more constructive than booze? Shopping! Normal planned to bus students to College Hills Mall, and nowhere else.

Remember the old blues song: "Got a mind to give up living, And go shoppin' instead; Pick me a tombstone, And be pronounced dead."

The City of Bloomington later joined Normal's plan, chipping in enough bucks to extend the routes to downtown and the east side. (See story elsewhere in this issue.)



## This is sanity?

"The most effective and sane way to prevent pregnancy among teen-age girls is to encourage, even enforce, abstinence. If the girls won't, the boys can't."

--Pantagraph editorial, March 17



## No ads for us

It's bad enough that the Town of Normal is spending \$2,000 on an advertising campaign to "educate" students about how to party within the law. What's even worse is that Normal won't cut the Post-Amerikan in for a any of the cash.

For only \$100, Normal could get a nice full-page ad advising students to obey the law. It would even serve as balance to the rest of the Post-Amerikan's content.

But Normal Community Development Director Steve Westerdahl told the Post-Amerikan that the entire \$2000 budget had been already divided up among the ISU Vidette, the Penny Saver, and the Pantagraph.

The Pantagraph?

"We're not under the illusion that students read the Pantagraph," Westerdahl told the Post. "But the ads in the Pantagraph will show the community that something is being done."

## Prisons not perfect yet

When Stateville prison Warden Marvin Reed was indicted last June for his role as middleman in a car theft ring, his boss Gayle Franzen re-assigned Reed only "reluctantly." Director of Corrections Franzen also wrote that he was "confident Reed will be cleared."

But Reed was convicted March 25, showing that the confidence of the director of corrections doesn't amount to much. But Franzen doesn't have his own job any more either.

Meanwhile, an outbreak of salmonella poisoning at Dwight Correctional Center baffled authorities. Fifteen employees and 69 prisoners had confirmed cases of the poisoning, but prison officials were unable to figure out the source of the bacteria.

Two guards were stabbed as prisoners took over a cellhouse at Stateville for twenty minutes in late March.

And an appellate court restricted prisoners' access to non-violent resolution of complaints about prison conditions, by ruling that prisoners are not entitled to court-appointed lawyers for civil suits.



## looks like a sleepy, serene community.



## look again.

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

For the next 12 monthly issues, send \$4.00 to Post-Amerikan, P.O. Box 3452, Bloomington, Il. 61701.

**POST AMERIKAN**

Send me a subscription--\$4.00

Send me a T-shirt--\$5.00

name \_\_\_\_\_

address \_\_\_\_\_ city \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

zip \_\_\_\_\_



# Founding Fathers doubted

My favorite bumper sticker of late is the one that reads "The Moral Majority Is Neither."

One of the biggest lies that the New Right uses to justify its program of political oppression is that their beliefs are shared by almost everybody in the country. They also make a lot of fraudulent claims about the "religious heritage" of this country. They ignore the fact that the religious groups which first came to this country were "dissenters"--that is, people who held nonconformist or minority beliefs--and pretend that Jerry Falwell is some kind of George Washington or Thomas Jefferson reincarnated.

In truth, Washington, Jefferson, and a whole bunch of the so-called "founding fathers" would probably have refused to be in the same room with Falwell.

The historical reality is that the people who shaped the political structure of this country had a healthy distrust of religion and religious zealots. They knew firsthand about religious persecution and often expressed doubts about the existence of God, the divinity of Jesus, and the validity of the Bible.

Even the believers among the founding patriarchs recognized the dangers of mixing religion and government.

Here's a brief rundown of early Amerikan skepticism and unbelief that they didn't tell you about in U. S. History 101:

## Allen

--Ethan Allen, the leader of the Green Mountain Boys and the captor of Fort Ticonderoga in the Revolutionary War, wrote the first anti-Christian book published in Amerika. It was entitled Reason: The Only Oracle of Man and was one of many works of the time that said people should rely on their own thinking and not expect some supernatural power to bail them out of trouble.

## Paine

--Tom Paine, the leading propagandist for the American Revolution, who wrote "These are the times that try men's souls" and was secretary of the Continental Congress that drew up the Constitution, also wrote the definitive statement on deism, a popular 18th century system of thought that advocated "natural religion" based on human reason rather than divine revelation. Called The Age of

Reason, Paine's book discounted the concept of the Trinity, pointed out the inconsistencies of the Bible, and questioned the paternity of Christ.

Paine also wrote: "Of all the tyrannies that afflict mankind, tyranny in religion is the worst" (1797). And: "For my own part, I believe that all are imposters who pretend to hold verbal communication with the Deity" (1797). And: "I reject the Bible as unworthy of credit . . . the Bible is not the word of God, it is a falsehood" (Letter to Anonymous, May 12, 1797).

But, as one of Paine's biographers wrote, "Although subsequently damned as an atheist, his religious views were not exceptional in his own day."

## Franklin

--Benjamin Franklin was also a deist. In a letter to his friend Ezra Stiles (March 9, 1790), Franklin wrote: "As to Jesus of Nazareth . . . I think the system of morals and his religion, as he left them to us, the best the world ever saw or is likely to see; but I apprehend it has received various corrupting changes, and I have, with most of the present dissenters in

TO: Post-Amerikan Readers  
FROM: Ferdydurke  
RE: Falwell's monthly discharge

## Fleecing the flock #15

1. This month's hit: An emergency gift of \$15.
2. This month's crisis: "For some unknown reason, our contributions during January and February dropped by 20%."
3. Reasons for crisis: a. "Some of

- our staff blame the Penthouse magazine interview."
- b. "Other staff members here tell me that the general bad state of the economy in America is to blame for our loss of income."
4. Scare tactics: a. "We are seriously considering going off the air on many television and radio stations in the next few days."
- b. "If we cannot raise a large amount of money in the next few days, we must begin cutting stations--perhaps right where you live."
- c. "We may be forced to cancel 20% of our television and radio stations."
5. Sentimental appeal: "Thousands in nursing homes, shut-ins, and sick persons depend on the Old-Time Gospel Hour for their spiritual help."
6. Contribution gimmick: "Many of my friends are praying about a \$500 contribution toward our building project... Many friends will place a Memorial Brick in the Prayer Chapel."
7. Titillation: "We have just learned . . . that several pornographers have decided to spend a large sum of

- money to discredit me and this ministry. They have already hired writers to dig up 'dirt' about me...."
8. Ironic statement of the month: "These are ruthless people."
- 9 Hype: a. "Open this letter today. Tomorrow may be too late!" (in red on the envelope).
- b. "Please read this entire letter immediately!" (in red at top of page 1).
- c. "Your gift could make the difference."
- d. "The fight is on."
- e. "We need a miracle within the next 30 days."
- f. "Thank you for letting me share my heart with you." (underlined in red).
- g. "IMMEDIATE RESPONSE REQUESTED" (all caps on top of contribution form).
10. Questions for discussion: a. Is it true that "sick persons depend on the Old-Time Gospel Hour for their spiritual help"?
- b. Where would you like to see a Memorial Brick placed? Do you think one would be enough? ●

## MEG news

Sometime even judges can see that the MEG undercover narc squad goes too far in its efforts to snare young marijuana smokers.

Our February 1980 issue told the story of a 20-year-old man who finally succumbed to MEG agent Jill Bottom's repeated insistent requests for a bag of marijuana. We labeled the agent's tactics as entrapment.

Judge James Knecht agreed in a bench trial a year later.

In finding defendant Kevin Scott innocent of delivery of marijuana, Judge Knecht focused on "the conduct of the agent." "The criminal purpose in this case was created by the agent," Knecht ruled.

\* \* \*

There's been a lot of media coverage of proposed cuts in the city of Bloomington's budget, especially the police chief's plan to cut the police force by 5 officers. Citizens have voiced concerns about the resulting reduction in police protection, but no one has suggested this partial solution: quit MEG.

As a member of the 6-county narc squad, Bloomington contributes one full-time officer to work undercover for the secret marijuana police. Wouldn't Bloomington residents prefer to have that officer protecting their homes? ●

Ph. 452-8377



# Mr. Kelly's Pizza

"Just a wee bit better"

2 liters RC free with 16" pizza with this ad - good thru April 20

FREE DELIVERY

204 North St. Normal



# religious dogma

England, some doubts as to his divinity . . . ."

## Adams

--John Adams, 2nd President of the U. S. (1797-1801), had some strong words for the abusive nature of Christianity: "As I understand the Christian religion it was, and is, a revelation. But how has it happened that millions of fables, tales, legends, have been blended with both Jewish and Christian revelation that have made them the most bloody religion that ever existed?"

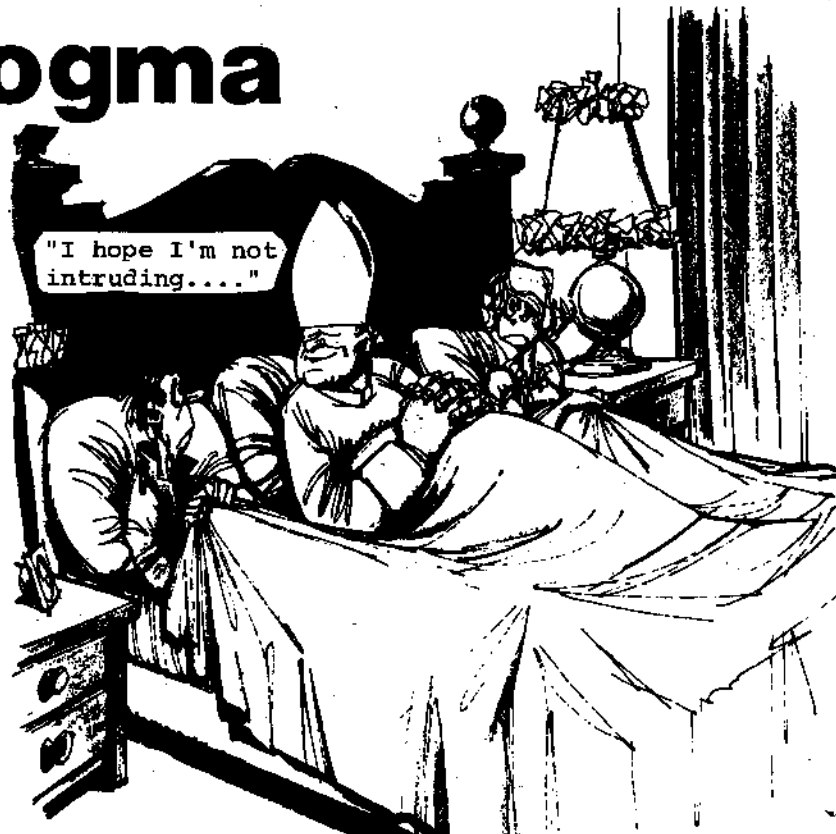
And in a letter of 1798, which urged ratification of the Constitution, Adams wrote: "If the abuse of Christianity can be annihilated or diminished, and a more equitable enjoyment of the right of conscience introduced, it will be well . . . ."

## Jefferson

--Thomas Jefferson, 3rd President of the U. S. (1801-09) and author of the Declaration of Independence and large portions of the Constitution, was often reviled as an atheist and a heretic, probably because he refused to accept religion as the supreme authority for social policy. For example, he once wrote: "Our civil rights have no dependence on our religious opinions."

In Notes on Virginia (1784), Jefferson pointed out that "The legitimate powers of government extend to such acts only as are injurious to others. But it does me no injury for my neighbor to say that there are twenty gods, or no God. It neither picks my pocket nor breaks my leg . . . . Reason and free inquiry are the only effectual agents against error."

Jefferson also had a hard line on religious leaders who use their beliefs for political and personal advantage: "In every country and every age, the priest has been hostile to liberty; he is always in alliance with the despot, abetting his abuses in return for protection to his own." (By "priests" Jefferson meant clergy of any denomination.) Like Franklin, Jefferson thought the values and



Give a Post to a friend!

# The God biz

## Oral Majority

Miami FL--Gay activist Bob Kunst, who gained public attention when he did battle with Anita Bryant over a Dade County anti-discrimination ordinance, has started another controversial organization. This one is to be called "Oral Majority."

Kunst says the new group's goals are: a presidential executive order banning discrimination against gays, a federal "privacy act" similar to one passed in Florida last November, a "national effort for 'consenting adult' legislation," "quality sex education in the schools," an end to victimless crime laws, and "high role model visibility nationwide." ●

--Gay Community News

principles of Jesus were admirable but "The purest system of morals ever before preached to man has been adulterated and sophisticated by artificial constructions to a mere contrivance to filch wealth and power to themselves . . . ."

## Madison

--James Madison, 3rd U. S. President from 1809 to 1817, also felt strongly about keeping religion out of government and letting people think for themselves. In 1785, he argued against a bill giving state funds to "teachers of the Christian religion": "The religion of every man must be left to the conviction and conscience of every man; and it is the right of every man to exercise it as these may dictate."

Later that same year, Madison joined with Jefferson in writing the Act for Establishing Religious Freedom in Virginia. The main point of this law is "That no man shall be compelled to frequent or support any religious worship, place, or ministry whatsoever...but that all men shall be free to profess...their opinion in matters of religion, and that the same shall in no wise diminish, enlarge, or affect their civil capacities."

\*\*\*\*\*

The tradition of doubting and questioning religious authority didn't end in the 1700s, although the constipated morality of the Victorian period made it difficult to be openly skeptical about religion. Any list of famous American atheists or free-thinkers (those who doubt religious dogma) would include such diverse individuals as Andrew Carnegie, Emma Goldman, H. L. Mencken, Eugene V. Debs, Thomas Edison, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Clarence Darrow, Robert Ingersoll, and Albert Einstein.

So don't let the Moral Majority fool you--their history is as phony as their name. ●

--Ferdurdurke

The following is a list of the estimated yearly grosses of the leading TV and radio evangelists in the US. At a time when social programs and support for the poor and elderly are being slashed to ribbons, we thought it was appropriate to remind our readers of the obscene amounts of untaxed income these religious entrepreneurs are raking in.

Although some of these figures were printed in the Post before (see vol. 9, no. 7), this list is more complete and up-to-date:

Garner Ted Armstrong (The World Tomorrow)	\$75 million
Oral Roberts Evangelistic Assn.	\$60 million
Pat Robertson (700 Club and Christian Network)	\$58 million
Jim Bakker (PTL Club and Network)	\$51 million
Jerry Falwell (Old-Time Gospel Hour)	\$50 million
Billy Graham Evangelistic Assn.	\$40 million
Rex Humbard (Cathedral of Tomorrow)	\$25 million
Jimmy Swaggart (Camp Meeting Hour)	\$20 million
Robert Schuller (Hour of Power)	\$16 million
James Robison (Man with a Message)	\$15 million
"Rev. Ike" Eikerenkoetter (United Church)	\$11 million

## Born again fraud

The Federal Communications Commission voted unanimously to deprive a California religious group of one of its TV licenses. The action came after 3 years of investigating the fund-raising practices of something called the Faith Center, which is headquartered in Glendale CA.

Faith Center is run by the Rev. Eugene Scott. It owns 3 TV stations and grosses over \$4 million a year in contributions. In 1977 when the license of one station was up for renewal, the FCC asked to see Scott's financial records. He refused, saying the government can't pry inside a church.

In 1978 the FCC cited Scott for: 1) refusal to open his books, 2) possible fraud in fundraising, and 3) failing to serve the public interest. In March of last year, an FCC administrative judge said there was a "clear pattern of deliberate evasion" on Scott's part and ruled that his refusal to show his records forfeited his right to the TV license.

Scott appealed this decision, but the FCC recently upheld the judge's ruling and stripped Faith Center of its license. The complaints against Scott and his group centered on allegations that money received from on-the-air appeals was used for other than its stated purpose. ●

--Facts of File

## 40% not a majority

A 1980 Gallup Poll on church attendance found that only 4 out of 10 US adults went to a church or synagogue in an average week in 1979.

According to the poll, church attendance has been declining since 1958, when a peak of 49% was recorded in a typical week. In recent years church attendance had reportedly held steady--41% in 1978.

Likewise, a Gallup Youth Survey last year found that 1 in 4 teenagers in this country had never read the Bible, while only 1 in 10 claimed to read it daily. ●

--Facts on File



Many local residents gathered on ISU's Quad March 27 to participate in a candlelight ceremony in recognition of the missing and murdered children in Atlanta.

### Reader likes cabs, not buses

Dear Post-American workers,

I read the Post for the first time, and what you said about some things are true. But don't you think that you put it a little thick about the bus service?

Why should the citizens have to pay for their troubles if they don't have the money to stay in service? I think that's their fault. You talk about safety for women. Let them take the cab. Circle City Cab Co. would take them right up to the door--you can't ask for more safety than that, and it won't cost the city or the state any money at all.

You take a look at the buses going down the street. Some of them don't have anyone on them. They have too many buses on the street now. This town is not big enough for all the buses the Bus Co. has now. The city and state would not have to do anything if the Bus Co. would cut down their overhead and get rid of some of the hot rod drivers.

The Circle City Cab Co. is needed as much or more than the Bus Co. Circle City Cab Co. hauls handicapped people and elderly people around and helps

them up to the door. Does the bus driver do that? I think if the city and state help the Bus Co. out, they should help Circle City Cab Co. out, too. The Cab Co. came to town in 1978, and the man who runs it didn't ask for anything. If people would talk to the man like I did, you would think a lot of him. He gives us elderly people a discount on our cab fare.

The bus doesn't give us good service like the Cab Co. They let us off at the bus stop and take off, but the cab driver takes our hands and takes us in to the doctor and up to our door at home. If the city would give the Cab Co. a fair chance, I think we would have a lot of bus and cab service.

Now I think the people of Bloomington and Normal better wake up and save the Cab Co. the same as the Bus Co. I go to the mall about every week, and I take a cab sometimes and the bus sometimes. The bus drivers don't wait until I sit down before they take off. I fell once to my knees. But I don't think the city or the state should put out money for bus service when money is needed elsewhere.

--Cheryl Seiben

### Prisoners show solidarity

To all our Brothers and Sisters:

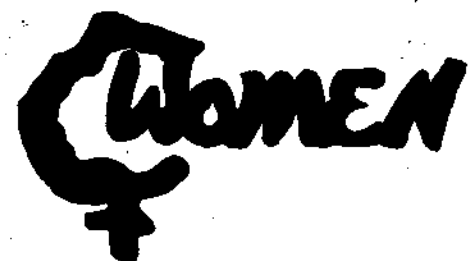
This letter is written to you in the Spirit of Peace and Love and concern for the families and victims of the senseless killings which go on in spite of all alleged efforts to "find" these vicious killers. We call each of you to support our show of Unity and Solidarity, through Love and Concern, to those that need us in their most desperate times of trouble--the families and Victims in Atlanta, Georgia.

We, the prisoners (all) have come together in Unity and Solidarity in order to express our Love and Concern. We are tying green ribbons, and/or black shoe laces to our bars in a show of Unity and Solidarity. This movement is participated in by all prisoners of Pontiac Correctional Center.

We wish to request that you, our Brothers/Sisters, also join with us in our demonstration of Solidarity and Unity, and that you will inform others of our demonstration and cause.

We began our movement on March 9, 1981, and fully intend to keep our ribbons/shoe laces up on our bars until these killers are brought to justice and these atrocious inhumanities are stopped. We respectfully request that all of you will join in with us in this movement to let the government know this must be stopped, immediately!

In the Struggle for Justice,  
Paul W. Tedder  
Pontiac Correctional Center  
P.O. Box 99 - #C-73372  
Pontiac, Illinois 61764



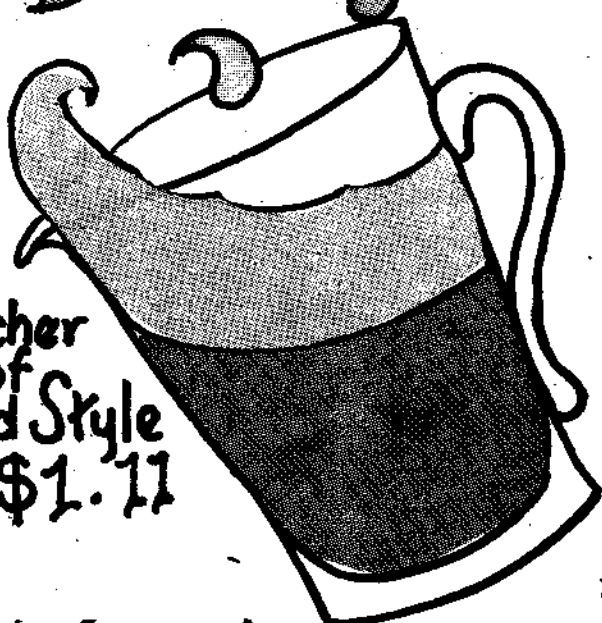
If you have been raped, sexually attacked, or assaulted, call us for legal, medical and psychological assistance, referrals and alternatives

Call PATH  
827-4005

and ask for the  
RAPE CRISIS CENTER

We're Number One

# GALLERY III



Pitcher of Old Style \$1.11

Remember!  
New Wave Night every Wednesday

thnx to Drastic Plastic

Mon-Tues-Weds.  
4:30 to 9:00

III E. BEAUFORT-NORMAL  
454-2830

# Dumping on women and children

Between now and the end of June, deliveries in the local WIC (Women, Infants, Children) program will be cut from 1008 to about 700. Those are the cold numbers.

The WIC Program provides food for women, infants, and children who would otherwise not be able to afford a proper diet. The cold numbers translate into 300 people who will do without.

According to the director of the county health department, women who are not breastfeeding and children 4 years old or older are being cut first. Director Ben Boyd expects those 2 groups to be the only ones cut off, but he can't be sure yet whether others will also have to go.

The WIC cuts resulted from a simple measure: the state health department said, "this is all the money there is for the rest of the fiscal year," until Oct. 1.

The state was reacting to cuts made during ex-President Jimmy Carter's term. Carter's cuts were in response to wails from people who couldn't make ends meet any longer on yearly incomes of \$35,000. Those people wanted their taxes cut by a couple hundred a year so they could keep up with the payments on their individual hot dog cookers.

The 300 local women and children who have been sacrificed to the hot dog cookers will undoubtedly be joined by others when Ronald Reagan's round of cuts begins after Oct. 1.

The new president has made nutritional programs--food stamps, school lunches, and WIC--one of his chief targets. The few millions saved will be used to boost the war department's budget by 45% over three years.

What we have here is the trickle-down theory in action: the conservative load fell on old Jimmy, who promptly

got diarrhea; pretty soon the real conservative dumping hit the people at the bottom, the women and children.

Jimmy Carter was naive about many things but not about votes. The poor seldom vote, and children never do. In some of the housing projects in Bloomington fewer than 1 in 10 eligible voters are registered.

Who's to blame them? When it comes down to it, the great corporations and the suburban hot-doggers will buy the elections and the policies they want.

Sure, it's more subtle than \$10 a vote. Instead of cash payments, now the million-dollar ad campaigns persuade the disabled veteran whose only income is a VA pension to vote his prejudices, to vote Republican. When the latest

prez then cuts VA benefits, whose interests are served?

About 40% of the children in this country are growing up in officially defined poverty conditions. Not enough money, lousy food, tensions and hatreds. Most of those children live in female-headed households.


It's no accident that the WIC Program is being cut. In Amerika, it's always women and children first.

--D. LeSeure

The Post-American  
--pass it on!

**ALTERNATIVE BOOKSTORE**

**NON-PROFIT**



**SMALL CHANGES**

Women's Books, Health Care, Non-sexist Children's Literature, 25-cent Used Books and MORE

409 A N. MAIN  
BLOOMINGTON  
829-6223 10-6 MON-SAT



## Pre-natal program set

Planned Parenthood of Mid Central Illinois will present a series of programs on pregnancy and childbirth. These pre-natal sessions, entitled "Special Delivery," are open to the public and will meet from 7 to 8:30 pm on three successive Mondays at the Planned Parenthood office, 201 E. Grove, 2nd floor, in Bloomington.

The dates and topics for the program are as follows:

- April 6--The Physical Changes During Pregnancy
- April 13--The Emotional Aspects of Pregnancy and Fathering
- April 20--Breast Feeding
- April 27--The LaMaze Method of Childbirth

For more information, call 827-8025.

North St. Normal

**MOTHER MURPHY'S**

11 1/2

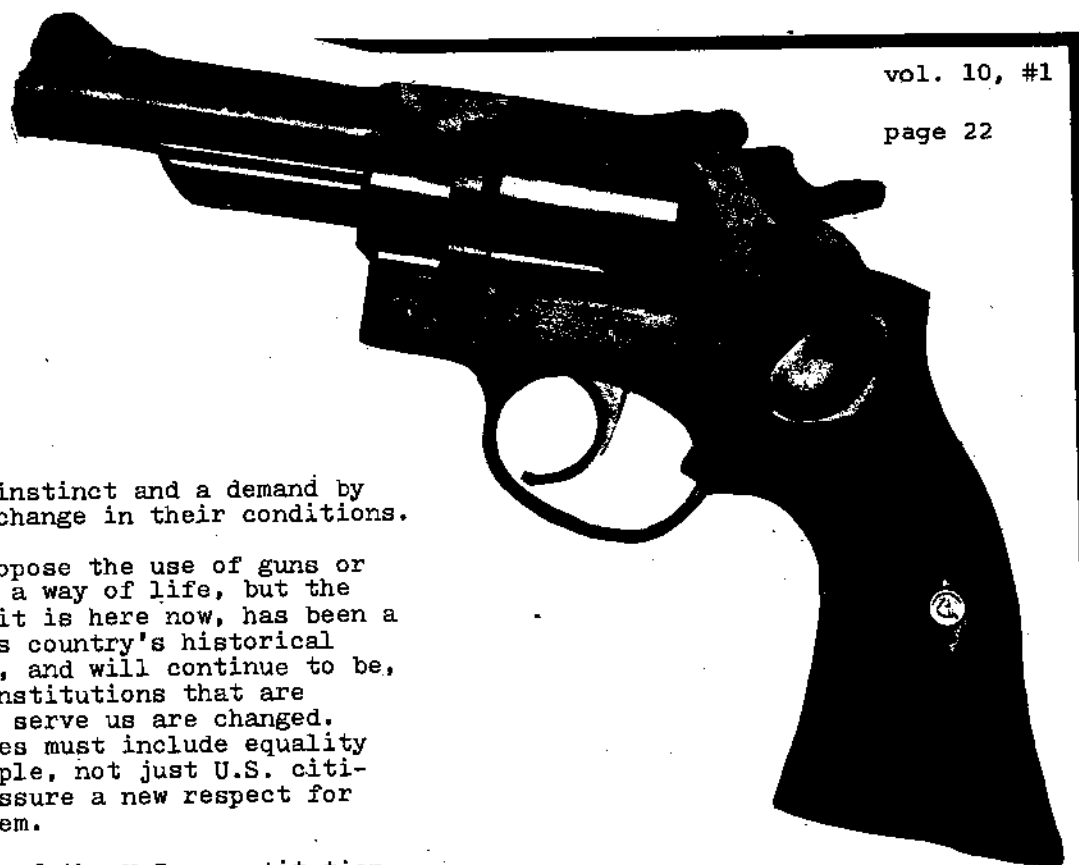
Room Decorations  
Handcrafted Jewels

Pipes  
Bongs  
Posters

Art Prints  
Bedspreads  
Sweaters + Gds.  
Socks

...much more!!

# Have it ready



Gun control, particularly handgun control, is a live issue for many of us these days. On the one hand we see the misuse of guns by people. Yet on the other hand we see the people of El Salvador needing to protect themselves with weapons. Needing to protect themselves from aristocrats in their country and our country.

Reagan presently is the representative of white aristocracy, and he is our so-called leader. As commander-in-chief of the most sophisticated and powerful secret police and military machine in the history of our world, he seems to be moving steadily toward a fascist position, both internationally and domestically.

In light of this state of affairs, it becomes increasingly foolhardy to depend on our governmental agencies for protection and/or justice.

I am not saying that social change does not occur peacefully most times, for it does. The changes happen within us, in our attitudes toward others, then in the equality of our relationships with others. Yet even this change involves inner struggle, often exhibiting conflict. This struggle and conflict is an essential part in changing our self-oriented nature into a natural caring and sharing equality.

Such is the nature of social change. It happens in work relationships, woman-man relationships, and citizen-government relations. My feeling is that we are close to a divorce in the present citizen-government marriage, and that "the man" intends to do us in if and when we demonstrate infidelity. The U.S. provides a few official checks and balances; freedom of the press; freedom of assembly; and the right to carry weapons. It's too bad our constitution is so lopsided in favor of property rights over human rights, but this too will change as time passes, that is, if Reagan doesn't tempt ending time.

This temptation by the aristocrats to go for broke leaves us in a unique historical situation, but is still related to the balance of power between people and institutions. As the majority of people in the U.S. are pushed into conditions of degradation and powerlessness, both crime and police action will increase. This police action represents property protection, while crime represents

a survival instinct and a demand by people for change in their conditions.

I do not propose the use of guns or violence as a way of life, but the reality of it is here now, has been a part of this country's historical development, and will continue to be, until the institutions that are supposed to serve us are changed. These changes must include equality for all people, not just U.S. citizens, and assure a new respect for the ecosystem.

The writers of the U.S. constitution realized the imperfections of the property-person relationship. This is probably why they used the "right to bear arms" as a necessary precaution against such things as a military dictatorship. The balance of power between our governmental institutions and our people is moving to a confrontation. The institutions repre-

senting wealth are generally without conscience. Yet there are people as their robots who can only be stopped with a balance of power, including arms, and we must clearly differentiate who these people are.

Struggle, yes. Genocide, no. ●  
--Hope Sovereign

## READER'S PARADISE

Marvel & D.C. Comics  
Science Fiction  
Magazines  
Westerns & Mysteries  
Romances, Harlequins & Presents  
Trading comics 3 for 50 cents

603 S. Center Bloomington  
New Hours 1:45-5:45 6days, 10-6 on Saturday  
828-1551

## Attention pot-smoking Clinton nuke workers

Former workers on the Clinton nuclear power plant should declare publicly that they occasionally smoked mari-

juana during construction.

Such an announcement will apparently prompt the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to perform a special review

of the construction, according to a March 19 AP story.

When nine workers employed at a nuclear power plant under construction in Louisiana were busted for marijuana, the NRC quickly announced its concern. "We intend to single out places where these people worked and to look them over more thoroughly than we normally would," a regional director of NRC assured.

If the NRC intends to check over all work performed by pot-smoking construction workers, the agency is going to be extremely busy.

But the dangers of a nuclear accident are so great, any extra inspection of the construction is certainly worth it. (Especially if the inspection delays the opening of the power plant.)

So how about it, Clinton nuke plant workers? Just call up the Pantagraph and confess that you occasionally went to work stoned. You can't get arrested for your "confession," and you'll be performing a public service. ●

--M.S.

## THE NEW DEAL

OPEN DAILY AT NOON  
HAPPY HOUR 4-6PM  
SPECIALS DAILY



THE GOOD TIMES ROLL at 405 N. MORRIS BLOOMINGTON



# Property tax burdens shift

The skyrocketing cost of housing in the 70's is showing up in property tax assessments. After the last general reassessment, residential property, including apartments, made up 61.5% of the assessed value of property in Bloomington compared to 54.5% earlier.

Since real estate taxes are based on assessments, this shift means that residential property is now carrying a greater share of the tax burden.

Pity the poor eastsiders in their \$85,000 homes, you renters say sarcastically. Alas, landlords routinely pass higher property taxes on to renters. And the assessed value of apartment complexes of 6 units or more went up 63% compared to a 42.5% rise for all other residential property.

## The only winners

The only winners in this shift of the tax burden are the owners of commercial and industrial property. Existing office buildings declined in value by 1.7%, and industrial assessment dropped 6%.

The biggest gainer in town was General Electric, whose assessment dropped from \$2.7 million to \$1.7 million. General Telephone's property assessment also dropped, by \$188,000.

Bloomington assessor Mike Ireland told the Post that homestead exemptions

are offsetting some of the rise in the assessed value of private residences. The exemption allows homeowners to postpone paying taxes on improvements to their property for several years. Such exemptions don't help renters, however.

Ireland also said that home values are now climbing much more slowly



Sedition/cpf

than in the late 70s, and that the next reassessment might reverse the recent trend towards a greater burden on residential property.

## Market value

The key, of course, is that assessed value (and therefore the tax) is based on the market value of a property. Many more people would want to buy any given house than would want

to buy State Farm's corporate headquarters. So a house is worth almost what it would cost to build it, while the worth of the State Farm building isn't anywhere near its estimated construction cost.

Sadly, the slower rate of increase in the value of existing homes is a result of already high prices and especially of incredible mortgage rates. These conditions are exactly the ones which cause people who would otherwise buy a house to continue to rent an apartment instead. With more renters, apartments become more valuable, property taxes go up--and so do rents.

So add \$10 a month rent since the market will bear it and another \$5 for increased property taxes, and this tale ends with the usual result of the supply and demand market--them with the least pays the most.

--D. LeSeure



# Who me? gay?

Jackson MS--Rep. Jon Hinson (R-MS), who faces attempted sodomy charges after he was busted in a House office building men's room, has finally submitted his resignation, effective April 13.

Hinson has been hospitalized at Sibley Hospital in Washington since his arrest and has been undergoing psychiatric treatment.

Originally, Hinson was charged with oral sodomy, but the charge was later reduced to attempted sodomy.

In a prepared statement released in Jackson, Hinson said the decision to resign was "painful and difficult." He went on, "I have faced the fact that, for the time, I am emotionally unable to continue my work and must concentrate the total of my energies to recovery."

Hinson did not mention homosexuality in his statement.

Last Aug. 8, Hinson disclosed at a news conference that in October 1977 he survived a fire at a Washington theater, the Cinema Follies, an all-male porn theater.

At the same time, Hinson said that a year before that he was arrested at the Iwo Jima Monument, a popular gay cruising spot, for committing an "obscene" act. The case never came to trial, and he paid a \$100 fine for committing a "public nuisance."

But Hinson denied being a homosexual.

--Gay Community News

# Midwest Rainbow Gathering

Good days, brothers and sisters--much lovelight to you--

There will be a Regional Rainbow Gathering May 1-7 in Comins, Mich.

Reason: to help connect and focus the energy in the Midwest.

--Caravan together world peace healing gathering, July 1-7, Washington State

--Start building a communication, sharing, trade network with our brothers and sisters

If you could, make and put up posters,

print and hand out maps, spread the word or help on site (preparation, materials, food), we need your help. Please write: Caleb Morningstar, 1819 6th St., Sarasota Florida 33577.

Horses and camels are welcome.

Please bring friends, food creativity, camping gear, peace.

Please don't bring dogs, weapons, alcohol, drugs.



Gay People's Alliance

ISU--Fairchild 112 / 8:00pm

## Meetings for April

- April 8 "Dyad Communication among Lesbian Couples" --lecture and discussion
- April 15 "Gay Voices" --readings of gay literature by Alliance members
- April 22 "How to Be Rich, Famous and Sexy" --what GPA can do for you and vice versa
- April 29 Three gay movies: "A Comedy in Six Unnatural Acts," "Home Movie," and "Some of Your Best Friends"



# IPC makes profits, keeps double books

Illinois Power Company's profits in 1980 were up 24.3%, according to the utility's annual report released in March. But the power company is still hungry and still pursuing its request for a 23% rate hike.

In another development, Larry Bertschi of the Governor's Office of Consumer Services charged that IPC keeps two sets of books--one for potential investors on Wall Street and another for its rate overseers in the Illinois Commerce Commission.

As an official intervenor in IPC's rate case, Bertschi had obtained

internal power company documents--computer projections of IPC's revenue under different sets of circumstances.

IPC has claimed that it needs all its requested rate hike in order to be financially solvent enough to sell bonds. But according to Bertschi, the computer projections show IPC is lying. Bertschi says the projections all show that the power company will easily be able to float bonds even without the entire requested increase in rates.

An Illinois Commerce Commission order had forbidden Bertschi from releasing

the revenue projections to the public. But Bertschi appealed the order, threatening a court battle which could delay resolution of IPC's rate hike request. In a negotiated settlement, the power company agreed to allow Bertschi to release the information.

Meanwhile, the power company is stepping up its PR campaign, taking out ads telling us how cheap our electricity is, and stuffing propaganda in its billing mailings. ●

--M.S.



## Barclays' ad campaign

# The pressure is back

I often have a few words to say about the evils of both advertising and men, but I don't consider my opinions too feverish. I never could find the word SEX in the whisky sour's ice cube, nor the wild urge to rape in every masculine eye.

So I'm not just rattling my chains when I say that the Barclay cigarette ad campaign honors rape and mocks women's equality.

The slogan of the Barclay ads is "The pleasure is back." Two versions exist: both show the same man lighting his own or a woman's cigarette. (Yes, for a while in history, it looked like women were going to light their own cigarettes. Evidently that's when "the pleasure" was gone.) In both ads, the woman is off-camera, only her well-manicured hand hovering on the edge of the scene.

The funny thing is, I probably don't need to describe these ads to you. You've probably already noticed them: almost everyone has. They strike you.

Why? I think it's the expression on the man's face that first arrests your attention. I stumbled through my creepy impressions of his glance, his icy remote and sidelong stare at the invisible woman, and I crashed into the bleak fact in his face:

He looks like he hates her.

He looks like he hates her, and he also looks like he intends to screw her. It doesn't take a fanatical feminist to shudder at that combo.

Just think:

"The pleasure is back."

After you rescue your eyes from his brute and masterful leer, look at the rest of the ad.

The woman is faceless. Her hand drapes dependently on his shoulder or

hangs poised in the air waiting for his light.

He's in control, so cool and aloof he doesn't even face her. No one else is around.

Look outside the window, the suggestion of dark night and bitter weather. She isn't going anywhere alone, and

he knows it. Does that account for his ghost of a gruesome smirk?

Look at his clothes, his hair. What does this man say about success?

About sex?

About pleasure? ●

--Phoebe Caulfield

