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## The Keep

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The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)

The Post Amerikan Project

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8-1983

## Volume 12, Number 4

Post Amerikan

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**Religion; welfare; endometriosis; liquor; Sanders**

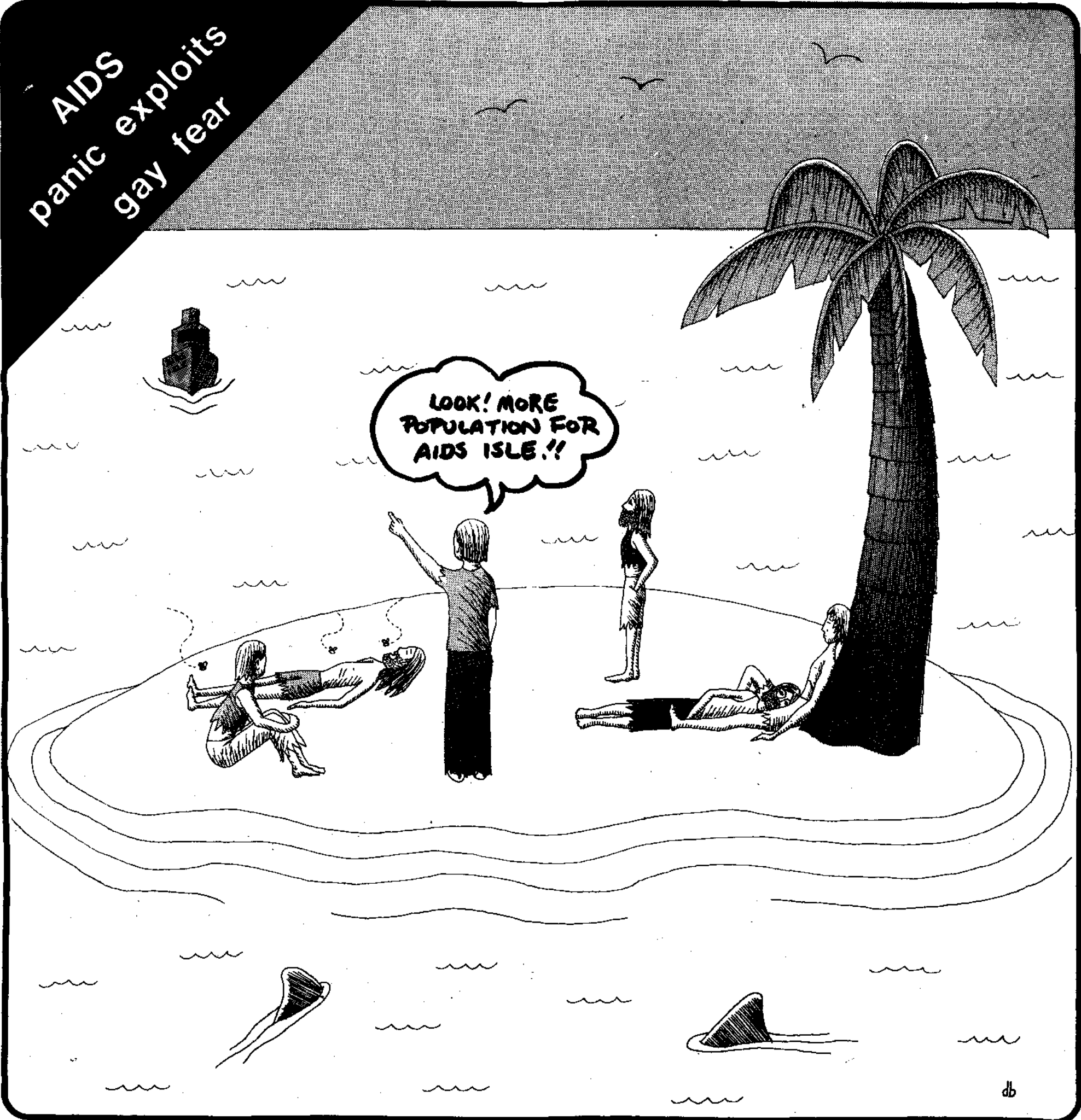
Bloomington-Normal

25¢

# POST AMERIKAN

Vol.12 No.4  
August 1983

**AIDS  
panic exploits  
gay fear**



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## Post sellers

### BLOOMINGTON

Amtrak station, 1200 W. Front  
Ault Pharmacy, 1102 S. Main  
The Back Porch, 402 1/2 N. Main  
Biasi's Drugstore, 217 N. Main  
Bus Depot, 523 N. East  
The Coffee Shop, S. Main  
Common Ground, 516 N. Main  
Front and Center Bldg.  
Haag Drugstore, 509 W. Washington  
Haag Drugstore, 1110 E. Oakland  
Law & Justice Center, W. Front  
Medusa's Adult World, 420 N. Madison  
Mel-O-Cream Doughnuts, 901 N. Main  
Mike's Market, 1013 N. Park  
Mr. Donut, 1310 E. Empire  
Nierstheimer Drugs, 1302 N. Main  
Pantagraph (in front of building),  
301 W. Washington  
The Park Store, Wood & Allin  
Red Fox, 918 W. Market  
Small Changes Bookstore, 409A Main  
Susie's Cafe, 602 N. Main  
U.S. Post Office, 1511 E. Empire  
(at exit)  
U.S. Post Office, Center & Monroe  
Wash House, 609 N. Clinton  
Washington St., across from courthouse  
W.W. Bake Shop, 801 E. Washington

### OUTTA TOWN

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

### NORMAL

Alamo II, 319 North (in front)  
Blue Dahlia, 121 E. Beaufort  
ISU University Union, 2nd floor  
ISU University Union, parking lot  
entrance  
ISU Milner Library (entrance)  
Fink's, 111 E. Beaufort (in front)  
Midstate Truck Plaza, U.S. 51 north  
Mother Murphy's, 111 1/2 North St.  
North & Broadway, southeast corner  
Old Main Bookstore, 207 S. Main  
Record Service, Watterson Place  
Redbird IGA, 310 S. Main  
Upper Cut, 318 Kingsley  
White Hen Pantry, 207 Broadway  
(in front)

## Thank you

This issue is in your hands thanx to:  
Laurie, Deborah, Dave, J.T., Danny,  
Susie, Bobby, X-ey, Ken, Sue, Michael,  
Francois, Bumper, Susan, Melissa,  
Barb, Tom, Cindy, Linda, Nadene, Kathy,  
Diana, Bill, Holly, Terry, Stan, and  
Mark (coordinator)--and others we  
probably forgot to mention.

Special thanx--and love and kisses--  
to Linc 'n' Tim for their generous  
donation, which made it possible for  
us to put this issue out.

Post-Amerikan Aug. 1983 2

# Post Amerikan

THE POST AMERIKAN--BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL'S  
ALTERNATIVE SINCE 1972

Volume 12, Number 4 August, 1983  
P. O. Box 3452, Bloomington, IL 61701

Member Alternative Press Syndicate  
Indexed in the Alternative Press Index

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

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

We like to print your letters. Try to limit yourself to the equivalent of two double-spaced typewritten pages. If you write a short, abusive letter, it's likely to get in print. Long, abusive letters, however, are not likely to get printed. Long, brilliantly written, non-abusive letters may, if we see fit, be printed as articles. Be sure to tell us if you don't want your letter printed.

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

The deadline for submissions for the September issue is August 18.

## good numbers

Alcoholics Anonymous 828-5049  
American Civil Liberties Union 454-1787  
CETA 827-4026  
Clare House (Catholic Workers) 828-4035  
Community for Social Action 452-4867  
Connection House 829-5711  
Countering Domestic Violence 827-4005  
Department of Children and Family  
Services 828-0022  
Department of Health, Education and  
Welfare (Social Security) 829-9436  
Department of Mental Health 828-4311  
Draft Counseling 452-5046, 828-4035  
Gay/Lesbian Information Line 829-2719  
Gay People's Alliance (ISU) 828-9085  
God 800-JC5-1000 (in New Jersey,  
201-555-1212)  
HELP (transportation for handicapped  
and senior citizens) 828-8301  
Illinois Lawyer Referral 800-252-8916  
Kaleidoscope 828-7346  
Mid Central Economic Opportunity  
Corporation 829-0691  
McLean County Health Dept. 454-1161  
Metropolitan Community Church 829-2719  
National Health Care Services (abor-  
tion assistance in Peoria) 691-9073  
National Runaway Switchboard 800-621-  
4000; in Illinois 800-972-6004  
Nuclear Freeze Coalition 828-4195  
Occupational Development Center  
828-7324  
PATH (Personal Assistance Telephone  
Help) 827-4005 or 800-322-5015  
Parents Anonymous 827-4005 (PATH)  
Planned Parenthood 827-8025  
Post Amerikan 828-7232  
Prairie State Legal Services 827-5021  
Prairie Alliance 828-8249  
Project Oz 827-0377  
Public Aid, McLean County 827-4621  
Rape Crisis Center 827-4005 (PATH)  
Small Changes Bookstore 829-6223  
Sunnyside Neighborhood Center 827-5428  
TeleCare 828-8301  
Unemployment Compensation/Job Service  
827-6237  
United Farmworkers Support 452-5046  
Women's Switchboard 800-927-5404

# Blacks outraged over liquor license denial

Bloomington's black community is outraged over the city council's refusal to grant a liquor license to another black bar.

Ignoring the recommendation of the Bloomington Liquor Commission, the city council denied the license for Different Faces, 426 N. Main St., on June 13.

Owners of the proposed tavern, Mrs. Earlene Smith and her son Ferrell Robinson, charged that the license denial was racist.

The council's action came less than two months after they refused to permit another black tavern, the Ace High Lounge, to re-open under new management.

The council's excuse for denying the license to Different Faces was the proximity of Grace Christian Fellowship at 416 N. Main. Under state and local liquor laws, bars cannot locate within 100 feet of a church.

## Church?

But is Grace Christian Fellowship a church within the meaning of the Illinois Dram Shop Act?

In a six-page legal opinion submitted to the Bloomington liquor commission, Asst. Corporation Counsel Paxton Bowers said basically "I don't know."

The city council could have chosen to issue the liquor license and allowed Grace Christian Fellowship to appeal the decision to the Illinois Liquor Control Board.

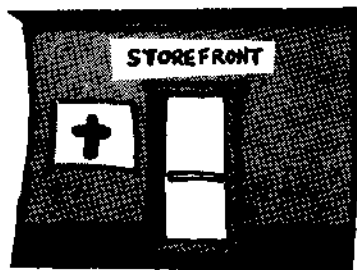
The need for a gathering place for blacks is so strong that the Human Relations Commission took the unprecedented step of supporting the license application.

Commission Chairman Hezekiah Webb dismissed the church issue by saying that Grace Christian Fellowship existed in temporary rented facilities, had no membership list, and no board of directors. It is more like a religious meeting room.

Although the Different Faces building has housed a bar for years (most recently, My Place), it was unoccupied at the time Grace Christian Fellowship rented its quarters in November, 1982.

## The Forbes angle

Grace Christian Fellowship is renting from Leo Forbes, who is also interested 426 N. Main. When Mrs. Smith and her son bought the My Place building at a public auction earlier this year, Leo Forbes was the only other bidder.



In his legal opinion, Paxton Bowers delivered this warning about considering Grace Christian Fellowship a church: "Any minister could open a storefront church near a liquor establishment that was for sale and effectively prohibit the sale because a liquor license would not be available to the buyer."

With the denial of their liquor license, Mrs. Smith and her son may be forced to try to sell their building. Since the premises can't be used as a tavern, the property's value is likely to drop. They are unlikely to recoup the \$16,000 they have already spent on renovation.

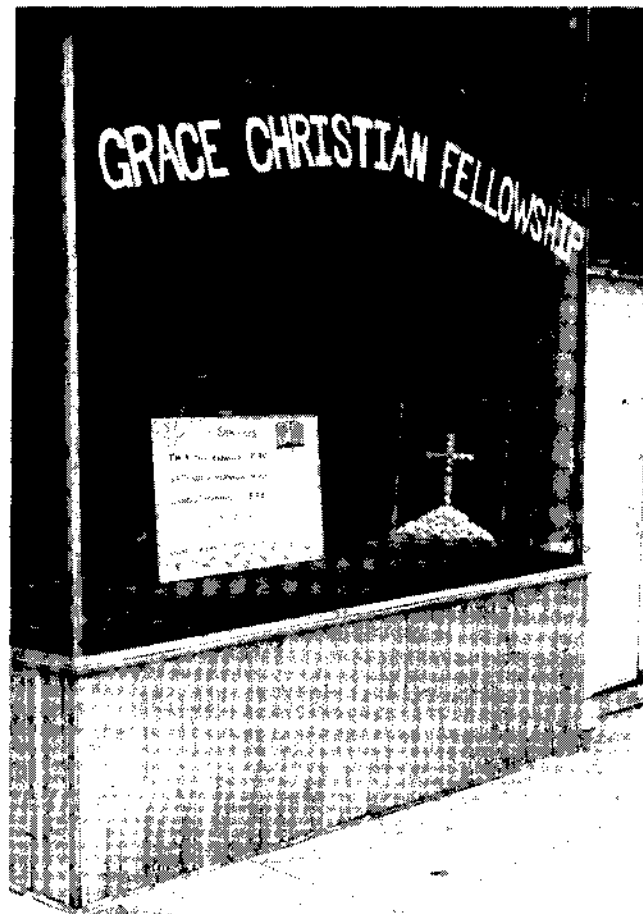
And if Leo Forbes is still interested in the property, he'll be able to buy it for a song.

And if Leo Forbes wants to suddenly increase his new property's value, all he

has to do is evict the Grace Christian Fellowship (or wait for their lease to expire). Then Forbes can apply for a liquor license himself, or rent to someone who wants to open a bar.

## Outrage

The denial of Different Faces' license has produced a spate of outraged letters in the Pantagraph. Coming so soon after a particularly outrageous denial of a license to the Ace High Lounge, the city council's action reinforces the view that the whites who run the town would rather not even see blacks at all. The only black bar in town now, the Third Ward Club, is located under the Main St. viaduct--it literally keeps its patrons out of sight.



A proposed black bar was denied a liquor license when the city council claimed that this storefront meeting room (above) qualified as a church.

After Robert Bacon was convicted of delivering cocaine (he says MEG entrapped him), he lost his liquor license for the Ace High Lounge on Monroe Street. When Mrs. Annabelle Grimm applied for a license to reopen the bar, her long-time association with Bacon prompted the liquor commission to pull an unheard-of move: they declared a four-month moratorium on any license on that location. The reason: "to clear the place out." Just what was supposed to be in the premises that needed to be "cleared out" in a few months was never spelled out. After four months, though, the commission okayed Mrs. Grimm's license. But then the city council turned it down.

## Race, class prejudice

Controversy over the two licenses, plus a third for Leggy's, which attempted to open in the old Hi-de-Ho, reeks of race and class prejudice.

I have read minutes of Liquor Commission for years, but only recently has there been so much overt consideration of the social class of a prospective tavern's patrons.

In approving the license application for Different Faces, much of the commission's attitude was this: "Well, they might be blacks, but don't worry, they're middle-class blacks."

Here are some quotations from the minutes of the Liquor Commission's hearing June 1:

"Each of the Commissioners agreed that there is a strong need in the community for a middle-class tavern which will attract primarily black persons."

"The cover charge and dress code were considered to be significant as methods of controlling the types of persons who would go to the establishment."

"There was a strongly felt attitude that this was a reasonable and appropriate location for a middle-class establishment of this type."

In recommending approval of a license for Leggy's, the former Hi-De-Ho, the Commission again offered reassurance based on class prejudice. To be operated by a former employee of Big Rudy's, Leggy's would supposedly "upgrade the block by attracting a different type of clientele than had frequented the Hi-De-Ho." According to the Commission minutes, Commissioners viewed the former Hi-De-Ho patrons as unsavory working class types who might bother passers-by or urinate in alleys, while Leggy's could attract middle-class jock types who wouldn't do such things. (Have the Commissioners ever walked by Big Rudy's on a Saturday night?)

## Blacks watching

When the council voted on Leggy's liquor license application July 11, the black community was watching closely. If this white bar got a license after two black bars were turned down, there would have been hell to pay.

And the council knew it. Leggy's was turned down too.

Now that the city council has turned down three licenses which the liquor commission has recommended favorably, the two groups are planning a joint meeting to discuss criteria.

Meanwhile, Ferrell Robinson and Earlene Smith are appealing the decision that Grace Christian Fellowship is a church.

--Mark Silverstein

## Fourth annual Cultural Fest

The joint efforts of five local sponsors will result in the Cultural Fest '83, an all-day outside event which is centered at the Miller Park outdoor theatre. The festival, organized by Gary Gaston and Lee Otis Brewer, will be held from noon until 9:30 p. m. on August 27.

This year the cultural festival, which is largely a music-oriented affair, is adding a children's jump-rope contest and a speakers' forum. The NAACP will be on hand again for voter registration, the Gojo Kai will stage a karate demonstration, and local dance troupes are tentatively scheduled for appearances.

Music buffs should attend for the local jazz and funk. Three bands are already signed up. Free refreshments will be provided by the Cush Masonic Lodge, and the Eastern Star Lodge will paint faces and provide balloons for the children attending.

Local artists are encouraged to attend and show and sell their work. Toni Kennedy, who is involved with the advertising for the festival will have a display of her own art on hand.

This year's cultural festival is sponsored by S.A.G.E., the Bloomington Human Relations Commission, Delta Kappa Delta, Gaston's Upper Cut Barber Shop, and the Cush Lodge. Individuals who wish to donate their assistance to this year's festival are encouraged to call 452-9231 or 828-8465 for more information.

# AIDS hysteria - the second

A New York ambulance company refused to transport a man possibly suffering from AIDS. Some funeral directors in New York state are refusing to embalm bodies of persons who die of AIDS-related diseases. Four San Francisco city workers put on disposable paper suits and surgical masks before they picked up trash from the Gay Freedom parade.

These are the latest incidents in a series that has led some observers to call the hysteria surrounding AIDS a second epidemic. Feeding on rumors, fear, prejudice and the uncertainty surrounding the disease's cause, public reaction to the AIDS outbreak has resulted in increased anti-gay sentiments and discrimination against individuals suffering from illnesses related to the immune deficiency syndrome.

Juries and television technicians have refused to be in the same room with people who have AIDS. Landlords have evicted tenants with AIDS. Some nurses, who routinely treat patients with everything from legionnaires' disease to rabies, have refused to offer their services to those dying of AIDS.

Sociologists and anthropologists who study public reactions say that the AIDS hysteria has a lot to do with the fact that the outbreak is within a group (gay men) who are already socially stigmatized. "The fear of contact with an outcast group is widespread anyway," said Alan Dundes, an anthropologist at the University of California at Berkeley.

"In terms of so-called macho types, there might already be the fear that homosexuality is catching. The AIDS situation then gives them a medical rationale for their fear, saying that these people really could be dangerous."

According to Thomas Pettigrew, a UC sociologist and expert on prejudice, the fact that AIDS has occurred primarily in gay males should reassure the rest of the population that they are less susceptible to the disease, but it hasn't. Instead "it seems to enforce what they thought anyway about gays. People can say they got what they deserve, or if they'd just straighten up and fly right they would be all right."

Another cause of public fear is the

uncertainty of scientists. Ambiguity and the absence of authoritative explanations create anxiety and rumors. "The more the fear, the more the rumors flourish because people need to articulate and express their fears," said Alan Dundes.

Dr. Selma Dritz, a specialist in disease control for the San Francisco Health Department, emphasized that "you get infected with AIDS when you get the virus from semen or blood from the AIDS patient and it goes into your own blood supply through a break in your skin."

Even doctors and nurses who have worked without precautions with AIDS patients for 2 years have not come down with it, using instruments and needles with some of the sickest patients. Why should a man worry about picking it up from garbage in the streets?"

Dritz, who finds herself increasingly in the position of chief assuager of fears, said with a sigh, "All we can do is keep repeating the facts. Some people are listening, and are cooling off, and others have a stone wall there and don't want to be convinced."

The street workers who donned protec-

## Falwell wants gays curbed

On July 12, Rev. Jerry Falwell held a press conference in Washington, D.C., on behalf of the National (misnamed) Moral Majority (MM), asking for preventative actions by federal health officials against the AIDS outbreak.

After criticizing the government for its slow and inadequate response to the AIDS crisis and calling for increased research into the cause of the mysterious disease, Falwell got down to the real purpose of his appearance: he called on the government to 1) close gay bathhouses, and 2) require all blood donors to disclose their sexual

orientation and give a detailed health history.

During the course of the new conference, Falwell said that he considers the AIDS outbreak a "holy retribution" against homosexuality. He also remarked that the government can control "cattle disease in Texas" better than it has handled AIDS.

Although Falwell's proposals were carefully qualified and presented as "reasonable" requests (in contrast to the hysterical rantings of MM's national secretary Greg Dixon--see adjoining story), they still pose a serious threat to the nation's gay community. It would downright stupid to accept at face value Falwell's sudden concern for the health and welfare of people he's publicly condemned and vilified for the past 20 years.

Falwell and Co. have more than just medical objections to the baths. They think what goes on in them is sinful, immoral, disgusting, and vile, regardless of how many microorganisms are or are not exchanged. Today it's the baths--tomorrow the bars? And having people indicate their sexual preference in order to donate blood seems to me like a good beginning for a nationwide registration of gays.

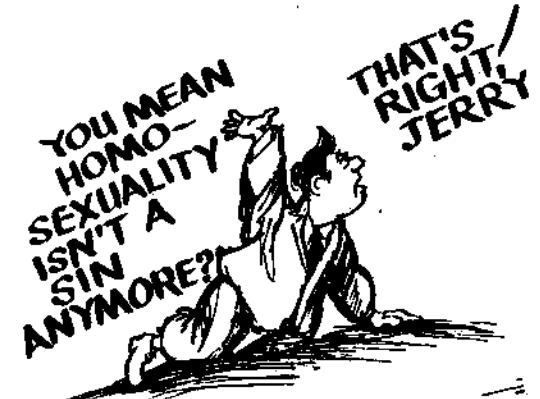
Also, Falwell's "requests" simply add more stigma to an already overly stigmatized group. He's blaming the victims of the disease for having it. Gay men didn't create the virus that causes AIDS--if indeed it's a virus that causes it. Gay men are the victims of AIDS and don't deserve to be held responsible for its deadly effects any more than people who get influenza and pass it on. (The flu, by the way, causes several hundred more deaths a year than AIDS has caused in three years.)

If AIDS is "holy retribution," then god created the virus. Blame him. Maybe we should put a ban on god in this country until he's been medically checked out and cleared.

More seriously, if Falwell really wants to save people from pain and death, he should propose a curfew on all heterosexual males over the age of 12.

After all, there is one heterosexual rape every 7 minutes in this country. That's a far more serious health crisis than the one Falwell has chosen as his pretext for grabbing the spotlight and spreading his homophobia.

--Ferdydurke

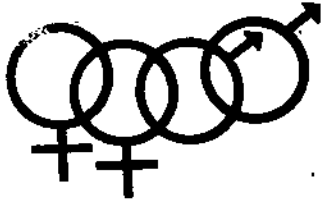


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# epidemic

tive garb won't be doing it again, according to the director of San Francisco's parks and recreation: "It is not a department policy and it should not have been done. It was an anxious over-reaction, stemming from ignorance, and it could contribute to an atmosphere of hysteria."



In New York it was reported that the ambulance company suspended a driver, an attendant, and a dispatcher for their refusal to transport the AIDS patient. The company's chief administrator was quoted as saying, "Our policy is that we have no policy on AIDS. An ambulance call is an ambulance call and a patient is a patient."

And New York's Governor Mario Cuomo moved quickly to push legislation which would provide sanctions against funeral directors who refuse to enshrine the bodies of victims. In introducing his legislation, Cuomo said, "We must not permit AIDS sufferers and their families to be subjected to irrational and unscientific behavior born out of fear rather than fact."

--Ferdydurke

Sources: New York Native, July 4-17, 1983; San Francisco Chronicle, 28 June 1983.

## Moron majority exploits AIDS crisis

Post-American  
Aug. 1983 5

In a guest opinion column that appeared in the June 22 edition of USA Today, some religious pervert from Indianapolis has all but called for the extermination of gay people.

Under the blunt headline "Stop Homosexuals, Or They'll Infect Us All," Greg Dixon, an admitted baptist minister who openly flaunts his position of national secretary for the misnamed Moral Majority, Inc., used the AIDS crisis as his pretext for urging "the citizenry of this country to do everything in their power to smash the homosexual movement in this country."

Dixon didn't give details for his final solution to the gay problem, but his Third Reich rhetoric left little doubt what he has in mind: "If homosexuals are not stopped, they will in time infect the entire nation, and America will be destroyed--as entire civilizations have fallen in the past." (As with most claims about civilizations that were destroyed by sin-and-sex, Dixon failed to name any.)

Not surprisingly, Dixon seems fascinated with the sexual habits of gay men, and he dwelt on them in his column: "the average number of partners in the life of an active male homosexual is more than 1600"; "more than 300 'gay baths' exist in the nation, and because of them, 90% of all homosexuals engage in the ultimate homosexual act"; "almost half of all homosexual acts are in

orgy-type situations . . . (with) writhing masses of humanity engaged in the most gross of possible actions." (I don't know what Dixon means by the "ultimate homosexual act"; I wasn't aware it had been invented yet.)

Dixon also complained that "most homosexual acts are among those who do not know one another" and "the act is under unplanned and furtive circumstances. . . ." That's a little like shooting people in the foot and berating them for limping. If you were gay and Greg Dixon came charging toward you waving his copy of Leviticus in the air, wouldn't you head for the bushes or the nearest bath house?

Indiana Adolf concluded his tirade with these uplifting sentiments: "Modern science has now confirmed that the God of the Old Testament was not a 'dirty bully' when he called for the extermination of entire nations who were infected with venereal disease. We know now that he is a loving God who is watching over his creation so that man might not destroy himself."

A loving god who exterminated entire nations in order to keep people from being destroyed??? How many contradictions can you find in that concept? Well, when you're trying to make genocide into a christian duty, I guess you can't worry about making sense.

--Ferdydurke

## a.i.d.s. notes

New treatment: Medical researchers have discovered that a substance called Interleukin-2, which is produced by the white blood cells of a healthy person, is not present in the blood of people with AIDS. In lab tests, Interleukin-2 boosted the infection-fighting ability of the defective cells when added to the blood of AIDS patients.

Tests on human subjects have already begun and will continue for several months. Researchers also need to explore ways to produce the substance synthetically, since it occurs naturally only in very minute amounts. (USA Today; "All Things Considered")

\* \* \*

Leveling off: The spread of AIDS is slowing in New York City, according to the city's health commissioner. For a while, cases were doubling every 6 months, but Dr. David Sencer said they recently leveled off to about 60 a month. He said the leveling off is partly the result of gay men curtailing their sexual activity but may also indicate that the disease is less virulent than previously thought. (Chicago Sun Times)

\* \* \*

Shunning vaccine: Many health workers and gay people are risking liver cancer by shunning a new vaccine against hepatitis B because they fear they'll catch AIDS from it. The vaccine is extracted from blood obtained from people infected with hepatitis B including gay males who are a high-risk group for AIDS.

The vaccine's makers and the federal Center for Disease Control agree that AIDS transmission is improbable because the manufacturing process inactivates viruses "of all known types." It is estimated that 200,000 new cases of hepatitis B occur each year in this country; 4000 of them are fatal. Only 634 persons have died from AIDS in the last 3 years. (Chicago Sun Times)

\* \* \*

Support network: Representatives of 38 national and local AIDS-related organizations have established a federation of groups doing AIDS work. The new federation includes 7 city-based AIDS organizations, the National Gay Task Force, the National Gay Health Education Foundation, and the Women's

AIDS network.

Two federation projects are the establishment of an office to lobby for AIDS-related research funds and the creation of an information clearinghouse. (Gay Community News)

\* \* \*

Anger and fear: Speaking at a press conference called to warn against AIDS hysteria, Bishop Paul Moore of the Episcopal Diocese of New York pointed out that "underneath the panic about AIDS itself is an unresolved anger and fear and a looking down upon the gay community and the Haitian community." (Gay Community News)

--compiled by Ferdydurke

## What? The Post-American needs money? James, get my checkbook!



Seriously, folks, we've been struggling along putting out this paper for eleven years now, trying to make come from ads and paper sales stretch to cover rent, supplies, and printing (which has gone up four or five times in two years), and what have you done to help except throwing us a lousy quarter once a month (when you remember)?

We are depending on our readers, those who feel an alternative newspaper is good for the community. If you can send at least \$25.00, you get a lifetime subscription to the Post. Also, every Christmas you can send a free year's sub to a friend (or enemy). Send donations to: Post-American, PO Box 3452, Bloomington, Ill. 61701

# Shady character at Tarvin's Mobile Homes

Watch out, Bloomington-Normal, there's a fly-by-night "businessman" on the run seeking refuge in your city. This guy is the type who gives used car dealers and mobile home dealers a bad name by taking advantage of unwary consumers. I stopped by Tarvin's Mobile Homes July 7 to confirm a rumor. I heard that Marty Bowerman is now employed there. Sure enough, he's there, but I hope they don't let him sell and service homes like he did in his old territory.

After servicing and selling mobile homes for more than ten years, Marty fled the Quad Cities (Davenport, Bettendorf, Rock Island and Moline) because he couldn't get a job anymore and because of numerous threats to his life and property.

I've seen a number of crooked mobile home dealers come and go, but this guy is the most outrageous. I have recently taken over the job Marty fled from, and I have personally dealt with his victims.

These people and others with their broken promises harassed Marty so much that he spent many an afternoon hiding out at the Greenbriar Pub. When he was at work he usually wouldn't answer the phone. He would signal to the secretary to say that he wasn't in. When people did confront him, he usually lied or made additional promises to quiet them.

Both consumers and honest businesses were taken advantage of, but the people who bought homes from him were hurt the most because some of these people had their life's savings and dreams wasted on broken promises.

For a typical example, a young couple with children had just bought their new home and they needed a clothes washer and dryer. Marty told them they could trade their living room furniture and \$200 cash for a washer. Now the people are missing their furniture and cash with no washer and dryer to show for it.

The way Marty serviced mobile homes often created more problems than he fixed. He got such a bad reputation that one of the mobile home manufacturers considered quitting selling homes through his dealership. A service representative of that company told me that they can tell where Marty is working by the quantity of service requests made by home owners and dealers alike. The model homes are always missing light fixtures and plumbing parts, both of which can be sold for quick cash or resold to mobile home owners for service repairs. After Marty left the Moline business, 5 central air conditioning units, 3 sets of washers and dryers, 42 mobile home tires and 6 axles were missing from the inventory.

This is the land of the free, and Marty is free to move on to another town to swindle new victims. I know of a lot of hurt people, though, who wish this was the Old West. They want a lynching.

--Greg Stoewer

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## Amerikan Almanak

Compiled by Holly & friends Send items to Amerikan Almanak, P.O. Box 3452, Bloomington.

Mon., July 18  
Heart of Illinois Fair, Peoria Fairgrounds. Continues through July 23. Phone 309/691-332 for more info.

Tues., July 19  
Free children's movies. Bloomington Public Library. 10-11 a.m. and 2-3 p.m. Also Aug 3, 10.

Free film. "Tex" 8:45 p.m., Holiday Park

1848: First Women's Rights Convention in U.S. Seneca Falls, NY

Wed., July 20  
Free film. "Tex" 7:30 p.m. Miller Park Pavilion

Free lunchtime music. "Money Creek Boys" 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Bloomington Courthouse Sq.

Thurs., July 21  
Free "Walk with a Naturalist." 5:30 p.m. Comlara Park, Rangers' station. Also July 28, Aug. 2, 4, 9.

Theater: Normal Parks and Rec. production of "Where's Charly?" Maxwell Park, 8:30 p.m. Also July 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 30, 31.

Senior citizens health screening. Township Bldg. in McLean. 1:30-3 p.m. For more info: 454-1161

Fri., July 22  
Free "Star Walk" Comlara Park, 9 p.m. Sponsored by B-N Amateur Astronomers Club

Sat., July 23  
Free films "Rise & Fall of the Great Lakes," "60 Second Spot," "Celebration of Trees" Comlara Park. 8:30 p.m.

Mon., July 25  
Free music: Marita Brake. Noon. Peoria Courthouse lawn.

Tues., July 26  
Free Film: "Herbie Rides Again" 8:45 p.m. Holiday Park

Free "Walk with a Naturalist" 5:30 p.m. Comlara Park, Rangers Station.

Wed., July 27  
Free children's films. Bloomington Public Library. 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

Free Film: "Herbie Rides Again" 7:30 p.m. Miller Park Pavilion

Free lunchtime music: "Bluegrass Crackerjacks" 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Bloomington Courthouse square

Thurs., July 28  
Free stars and sun program given by the Amateur Astronomers. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Miller Park Rec. Center Register with Bloomington Parks Dept.

Sat., July 30  
Music: "Illinois Prairie Woman"-- Marita Brake. 8 p.m. Forest Park Nature Center, Peoria.

Sun., July 31  
Bloomington-Normal Nuclear Freeze meeting. 304 S. Evans, Blm. 8 p.m. All are welcome.

Mon., Aug. 1  
1976: First civil disobedience against U.S. nuke. Seabrook NH

Tues., Aug. 2  
Free Film: "Condor Man" 8:45 p.m. Holiday Park

Wed., Aug. 3  
Free Film: "Condor Man" 7:30 p.m. Miller Park Pavilion.

Free lunchtime music: "Manassas Junction" 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Bloomington Courthouse square.

Fri., Aug. 5  
Free Musical: "Annie" 8 p.m. Miller Park Amphitheatre.

"Indian Fireside Legends & Stars" Free program, Comlara Park 8:30 p.m.

Sat., Aug. 6  
Free Musical: "Annie" 8 p.m. Miller Park Amphitheatre.

Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Arts Festival 2-4 p.m. Franklin Park: music, dancing, poetry, and art.

1945: U.S. exploded nuke over Hiroshima. More than 100,000 civilians killed.

Sun., Aug. 7  
"Annie" 8 p.m. Miller Park.

Tues., Aug. 9  
Nagasaki Day candlelight vigil 8:30 p.m. Miller Park bridge. For info, call 828-4195.

1974: Richard M. Nixon resigns presidency by popular demand.

Wed., Aug. 10  
Lunchtime music: "Prairie Wind" 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Bloomington Courthouse square.

McLean County Wheelers Bicycle Club monthly meeting. 7 p.m. Bloomington Federal meeting room.

Child immunizations clinic. 1-3 p.m. Sunnyside Neighborhood Center, 1612 W. Olive, Bloomington.

Thurs., Aug. 11  
"Annie" Miller Park 8 p.m.

"Evolution and the Solar System" Free program by McLean Co. Amateur Astronomers. 7:30-9 p.m. Register with Bloomington Parks & Rec.

Nonbelievers conference: Robert Ingersoll Lyceum. Olin Hall, Bradley Univ., Peoria 1-5 p.m.

Fri., Aug. 12  
"Annie" Miller Park 8 p.m. Free.

"Observing Deep Space Objects" Free program. Comlara Park, 8:30 p.m.

Nonbelievers conference: Free-thought Fair, Glen Oak Park, Peoria. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sat., Aug. 13  
"Annie" Free musical at Miller Park Amphitheatre. 8 p.m.

Nonbelievers conference: Ingersoll exhibit, GAR Hall, 416 Hamilton Blvd., Peoria. All day.

Sun., Aug. 14  
1978: First National No Nukes Conference, Louisville KY.

Mon., Aug. 15  
Operation Recycle has 2 24-hr. drop boxes for recyclables: 1100 W. Market, and 501 E. Stewart in Bloomington.

Wed., Aug. 17  
1969: Half a million people party, Woodstock, NY.

Thurs., Aug. 18  
Deadline for letters, stories, and ads for the next issue of the Post Amerikan.

# More *razzle-dazzle* about unemployment

There's an old adage that says, "Figures don't lie, but liars can figure." I don't know who that old adage has been listening to lately, but if he's had any recent dealings with the Labor Department and the Illinois Bureau of Employment Security (BES), he's got ample evidence for his cynical observation about statistical manipulation.

For your consideration, I submit the case of the shifting unemployment statistics--or, the Bureau giveth and the Bureau taketh away:

1. On June 16, 1983, the Pantagraph carried an Associated Press story which said that the unemployment rate for Bloomington-Normal was 8.3% for the month of April. While no statewide figure was given, unemployment rates for cities in Illinois ranged from 6.6% for Champaign-Urbana to 16.5% for Peoria and 17.9% for Kankakee. The national jobless rate was reported to be 10%.

2. On the same day or shortly thereafter, some 56,000 unemployed people in Illinois received the following notice from the state BES: "You are currently receiving benefits under the Federal Supplemental Compensation Program. The number of weeks that you are entitled to receive these payments is determined by the insured unemployment rate in Illinois. Because this rate has dropped below 6%, the number of weeks payable to you will be reduced from 14 weeks to 12 weeks effective June 19, 1983."

3. On July 8, 1983, the Pantagraph carried another AP story which said the unemployment rate for Illinois climbed in June to 12.4% and that this figure represented an increase of 0.4 of a percentage point over the May jobless rate.

### How can this be?

"Now, how can this be?" you may ask. Even Nancy Reagan, should she ever take a look at the unemployment statistics, could probably figure out that 12.4% is a long way from being "below 6%."

The key to our riddle is the phrase "the insured unemployment rate." What you read in the paper about unemployment rates has nothing to do

with the way the Bureau of Employment Security determines who gets extended benefits and who doesn't (or, more accurately, when people get extensions and when they don't).

You see, the "insured employment rate" is the proportion of working Americans covered by unemployment insurance who actually receive benefits. Two observations need to be made about this term (which, by the way, BES never bothers to explain to people who apply for unemployment benefits), and you'll have to pay attention here because this is where the razzle begins to dazzle:

1. Only 88.5 million of the 99.4 million working Americans are covered by the unemployment insurance benefit program. Among those not covered are the self-employed. At first glance this distinction seems to suggest that since the unemployment rate for the "insured" is below 6%, then the other 6.4% of the jobless rate must come from the much smaller portion of the work force who are the "uninsured." In other words, it appears that 11% of the labor force accounts for more than half of the unemployment in this country. But on to our second observation:

2. You need to focus of the phrase "who actually receive unemployment insurance compensation benefits." If a lot of so-called "insured workers" are no longer actually receiving benefits--and they're not--then the proportion goes down. When workers have exhausted their unemployment benefits, the Labor Department no longer figures them into the "insured unemployment rate."

Let's take this hypothetical example: if 10 out of 100 insured workers are out of work and actually receiving benefits, the "insured unemployment rate" is 10%. But if 5 of those 10 exhaust their unemployment insurance, then only 5 out of 95 are actually receiving benefits and, presto: the "insured unemployment rate" is 5.3%. Ten people are still out of work, but BES counts only the 5 who are getting benefits.

In reality, of course, the situation is much more complicated: insured workers return to their jobs, others get laid off, more run out of benefits, and so forth. But the important thing to remember is that BES doesn't count a lot of unemployed people--namely, those no longer getting benefits and the "uninsured."

They also don't count students who are unemployed for the summer, or farmers and construction workers who don't work in the winter months. These unemployed people are dismissed in the name of "seasonal adjustments." Which is another way of saying we expect these people to be out of work, so who cares? Of course, if these folks do find a job, they'll be counted as part of the insured working force and help keep the "insured unemployment rate" down.

It's been estimated that if all of the no-counts were counted, the unemployment rate would be 25 to 30%. Is it any wonder the Labor Department and BES sweep these people under the statistical carpet? ●

--Ferdydurke



## Labor Council begins job development program

Unemployed? Tired of the endless search even for the minimum wage jobs, that aren't even there? Unsure about your future?

Your fate, and that of millions of other Americans, is in a difficult situation right now.

There are no easy or immediate answers to the situation, but some steps are being taken to give out-of-work folks a chance.

The Bloomington and Normal Trades and Labor Assembly (AFL-CIO), the local organization of about 33 unions, in conjunction with McLean County CETA, United Way of McLean County and the Bloomington Area Vocational Center, has begun a new program to aid unemployed workers in our community.

The program is long-range and might not have an immediate answer to someone's dilemma, but it will soon be able to offer alternatives to people.

The first task of the program is to develop a sense of who the unemployed are in our community, what needs

they have, what programs they are eligible for, and what jobs they can be trained for.

GED programs, or high school diploma equivalencies, will be one of the first offerings of the project.

Then in October, when CETA is replaced by Reagan's new alternative, the JTPA (Job Training Partnership Act), local organizations will propose specific job training programs for local unemployed workers, and provide a list of names of people eligible for such programs. By first gaining a sense of who the unemployed are, programs can then be put together that will upgrade their skills to ones that are more marketable.

The program has no immediate easy answers and can guarantee a job to no one. But hopefully, by pooling our resources and getting a head start on the new Job Training Program, answers and jobs can be won for the unemployed. For more information, contact the Trades and Labor Assembly, P.O. 3248, Bloomington, 828-8813. ●

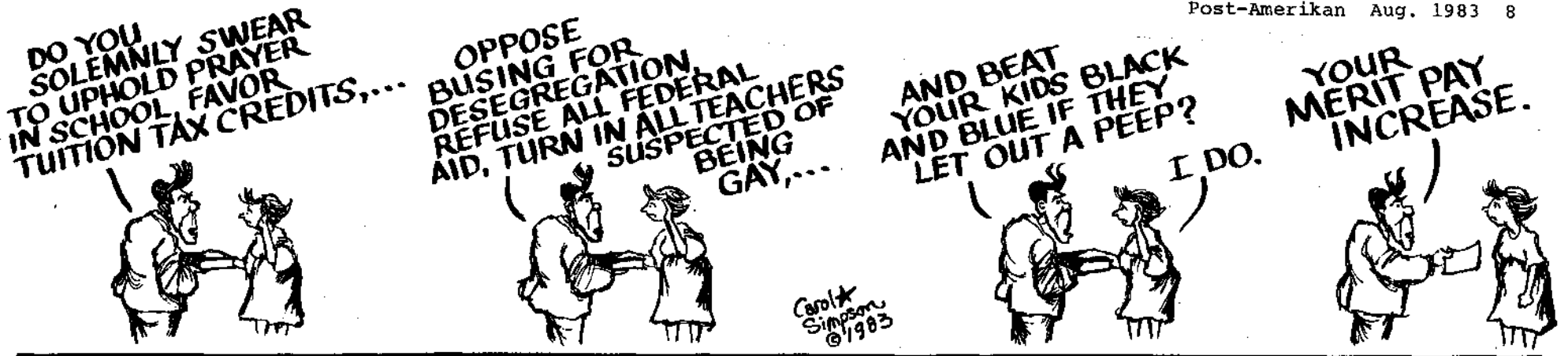
--McM



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## The death of religious freedom

On May 24, 1983, the Supreme Court ruled that Bob Jones University and Goldsboro Christian Schools were not eligible for tax exempt status because of their racist policies; BJU admits black students (it has about a dozen among its 6300 students), but does not admit students involved in interracial marriages and expels students and faculty for dating interracially. The Goldsboro Schools do not admit black students in their elementary and high schools.

Reactions to the ruling were mixed. The NAACP, the ACLU, and other civil rights groups were, of course, enormously pleased with the decision. Chief Justice Warren Burger wrote that "Entitlement to tax exemption depends on meeting certain common law concepts of charity" and that "there can no longer be any doubt that racial discrimination in education violates deeply and widely accepted views of elementary justice."

President Reagan, who had supported the tax exemption for the two schools, said simply "We will obey the law." That's white of ya, Ron.

But religious leaders were not quite as pleased as everyone else. Bob Jones III, president of BJU, ordered all flags at the university lowered to half-mast after the Supreme Court's decision. "We're mourning the death of religious freedom," Jones said.

In an assembly on the campus that day, Jones had a lot of other nasty things to say. He maligned the Court, saying that "the nation was in a bad fix when eight evil old men and one vain and foolish woman can speak a verdict on American liberties." He also expressed his concern for the Court in that he had "pity for the heathens who sit on the Supreme Court,

pity for their damned souls and their blighted minds."

Jones also told his students that "our nation has declared itself to be the enemy of the God in heaven today. Our nation from this day forward is no better than Russia insofar as expecting the blessings of God is concerned."

Poor baby.

Jones also said that BJU would not change "its religious beliefs and practices" despite the ruling.

As though anybody cares. The ruling did not say that the schools had to change their religious beliefs. It said they couldn't get a free ride from the IRS if they didn't. Freedom of religion was, of course, one of the things being argued. Justice Burger made it clear, however, that although the ruling might indeed place financial burdens on the schools, it would not interfere with their practice of religion.

Other religious leaders are also reacting badly to the decision. "For the first time," says Samuel Ericsson of the Christian Legal Society, "the Supreme Court has decided that the government is free to tax unpopular religious beliefs, no matter how sincere those beliefs may be."

William Bentley Ball, attorney for BJU, believes the ruling means that "religious bodies, if they are to enjoy tax exemption, must lock-step themselves to public policy even if it violates conscience and doctrine."

While the churches are angry about having to comply with integration of blacks in their schools or risk losing their tax exempt status, they seem to be scared to death that sooner or later

somebody will take a similar case to court involving discrimination against women.

"If a church refuses to ordain women because it sincerely believes men should lead, could its tax exempt status be removed?" asks Beth Spring in *Christianity Today*. Very possibly, now, she concludes, and almost certainly if the Equal Rights Amendment ever passes.

Now, maybe I'm being stupid, but I really don't see the problem here. It makes sense to me that if you want rights and privileges from the government that you have to play by the government's rules. These same religious freaks are lauding and applauding the federal decision to make university students prove that they have registered for the draft before they can receive federal education grants, regardless of how sincere and conscientious the students are about opposition to the draft.

Sincerity has never cut a lot of ice with the feds. And it cuts no ice at all with the IRS.

So Bob Jones thinks racism is Biblical. So what? Bigamy is Biblical, too, as is human sacrifice, murder, and rape.

And so is taxation, or does nobody remember why Mary and Joseph went to Bethlehem in the first place? ●

--Deborah Wiatt

Sources: *Chicago Tribune*, Wednesday, May 25, 1983; *Facts on File*, May 27, 1983; *Christianity Today*, July 15, 1983.

## Exemption equals subsidy

May was not a good month for the churches. The Supreme Court lambasted them so badly on May 24 with the Bob Jones decision (see adjoining article) that the decision on May 23 almost went by unnoticed.

On that day, the Supreme Court referred to tax exemption as a form of government subsidy. The decision of the Court was unanimous. Justice William Rehnquist wrote, "A tax exemption has much the same effect as a cash grant to the organization of the amount of tax it would have to pay on its income."

Makes sense to me. It does not, however, make sense to church leaders.

Dean Kelley, religious liberty expert at the National Council of Churches, says "henceforth tax-exempt organizations will have to justify exemption as though it were a subsidy" by proving that they serve a public purpose and do not violate public policy. "That poses a serious problem for churches."

No sh\*t, Sherlock.

Most churches would have a hell of a time proving that they serve a public purpose. Most churches do not.

And I really don't care if churches in Amerika do not serve a public purpose and do violate public policy every chance they get. But I do care if they get a tax break to do it with. And I'm glad that the Supreme Court sees it my way for a change. ●

--Deborah Wiatt

# Common Ground

## NATURAL FOODS

516 N. Main St.  
Bloomington, Ill. 61701



Come visit our newly remodeled store. We have more of everything, including an expanded produce section, to serve you better.

COMMON GROUND now offers you the opportunity to cut food and vitamin costs by 10%. You may obtain your 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

# Small Changes closes - but spirit lingers on

Small Changes bookstore underwent its final transition when it closed its doors for the last time June 16.

One more opportunity for the counter-culture in Bloomington-Normal slipped away.

The non-profit, feminist bookstore's passing was quiet--symbolic of the waning interest in the collective over the past few years.

The radical community always expressed support for the collective, but there weren't enough people willing to take responsibility individually by committing time and money.

"They cared, but they didn't care deeply enough to put in the energy to keep it going," said Terri Dolan. She and Cathy Ahart, the only two remaining members of the collective, closed the downtown Bloomington store.

The immediate reason was lack of money. The workers, Terri and Cathy and two other volunteers, couldn't keep the store open long enough each week to bring in enough money to pay the bills. Furthermore, as the downtown declined, so did walk-in traffic.

Hours became increasingly erratic as the women struggled to schedule around their paying jobs. When the collective was started in 1976, its seven members were able to keep the store open eight hours a day.

## No money

In recent months, there was no money for rent, building repairs, utilities, or for buying new stock. The store stayed open with donations, but the collective left still owing money.

Fundraisers in the form of monthly coffee houses always drew a lot of people, Dolan said. The last one pulled enough donations to pay off the phone bill. It also brought an enthusiastic woman ready to pour energy into the collective, but by that point it was too late.

In the final days, there was discussion as to whether to admit men into the collective to keep it afloat, but members decided that men would change the definition of the store, which was in part intended as a refuge for women.

"There was a danger of losing perspective and starting to think of it as a business," Dolan said.

"It was more than a store, it was a

spirit and a feeling. A place for a woman alone downtown to come in out of the cold. A place for people to meet and exchange ideas."

Dolan would like to see the store reincarnated. She has most of the stock and is considering opening a library in her home, but is hoping first to get some community feedback.

She also has taken on the debt, which she is paying off little by little.

## Flagging interest

One reason for the flagging of interest in Small Changes and feminist causes in general, Dolan mused, is the lack of perspective of young women, while older women become complacent with the victories already won.

"The people that win rights don't enjoy them--the people that come after them do. Young women are taking for granted that they as women are equal in this society. But the fact that we have rights now doesn't mean we're always going to have them.

people were a little more active politically. It's important to keep places like that in the midwest."

There was a time, she said, when there was more of a community spirit among the subcultures in town.

"We have to keep a network or we'll stagnate. I'm afraid that women's groups will get isolated and strangled in little pockets."

Dolan speculated that with the tightening economics of the '80s, people don't want or can't afford additional demands on their time, or that they are afraid to jeopardize their paying jobs by being associated with countercultural enterprises.

"Now there are more people underground. Things are getting harder for all of us."

--Louise Bryant

## What we're going to miss

One of the most important things about Small Changes bookstore--especially in the winter--was that it was a place you didn't have to pay money to be in.

Not only a store, it was a reading room, a community living room. You could browse as long as you liked. You could relax, drink a cup of tea, read, and listen to music. It was the collective's interest to maintain the store as a friendly, peaceful, reflective space.

There was a range of books, magazines, art and music unavailable elsewhere in town. There was a community billboard. There was a lending library, and a selection of used books that cost 25 cents each.

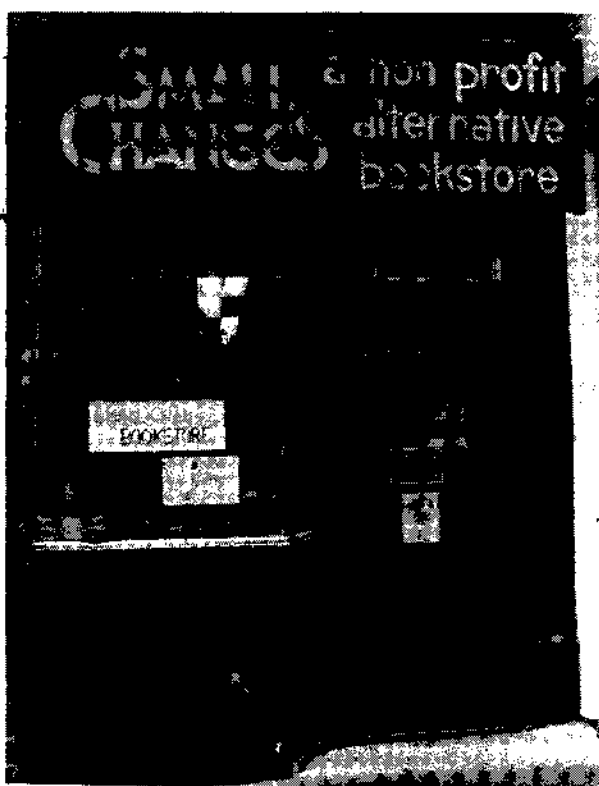
The store was an outlet for local artists to display and sell their wares. There were buttons, pins, bumper stickers and other political artifacts.

There were books on feminist issues, lesbian issues, aging, childbirth, health, psychology, education, science fiction, cooking, poetry and fiction, and non-sexist children's books.

There was a wide range of pamphlets from small feminist, lesbian and gay publishing collectives.

The name of the store was taken from a book by Marge Piercy called Small Changes that became a feminist classic. The original collective wrote Piercy and asked if they could use the name of her novel for the bookstore. They received a letter from Piercy saying she would be pleased and proud to have the bookstore take the name of her book. The letter was framed and kept hanging on the wall of the bookstore.

--L.B.



"People are taking for granted now what they could lose very easily, what they had to work very hard to get.

"It's important that Small Changes stay here in Bloomington. It's one of the few places left from a time when

## How it all began

The founders of Small Changes Bookstore were a group of women who met in a weekly discussion group.

Out of the discussion arose a decision to take action. Six months later, the dream became reality.

The following are excerpts from a statement that appeared in the December, 1976, Post by the collective to announce the opening of the store:

Small Changes was organized by a collective of seven women who come from different backgrounds and have different philosophies and politics, but agree on at least four important political ideas. These ideas brought us together as a bookstore collective.

We feel that radical social change is necessary, that the ideals of peace and freedom and self-determination we were brought up on are not the realities of our lives, or most other people's lives.

We also believe that small groups can be a vital, workable means of deep social change. . . .these small groups must have continuous consciousness-

raising within them and must continually make connections with other like-minded groups and individuals. To be most effective, small groups should be made of people who are close to each other and caring about one another.

. . .for now, we as women can be most effective basing our political action on the experiences, the oppression, and the strengths that we have as women. This belief will come through in the stock of the store, which will have a definite but not exclusive emphasis on books for women.

Last, we share a commitment to a joyful struggle. We are involved in a struggle whose climax may very possibly not come in our lifetimes. But we also strongly intend to improve our daily lives, and by god have fun doing it. It is important to us to become more loving with one another, to hang out and deepen our friendships, to laugh and become daily stronger, healthier, saner and happier, as it is to contribute to a more future-oriented, very often painful struggle for revolutionary change.

--L.B.

## Moving?

When you move, be sure to send us your new address so your subscription gets to you. Your Post-Amerikan will not be forwarded. (It's like junk mail--no kidding!) Fill out the handy form below and return it to us.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

# Ohio farmworkers begin cross-country march

Ohio Farmworkers, organized by the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC), have begun a 560-mile march from Ohio's tomato fields to the headquarters of Campbell's Soup Co. in Camden, New Jersey.

For the past 4 years, these farmworkers have been carrying on a national boycott of Campbell's products, and striking tomato fields in Ohio where produce for Campbell's is grown.

FLOC is demanding that Campbell's recognize the needs of farmworkers, and that Campbell's provide decent wages and conditions for farm labor when they sign their annual production contracts with Ohio tomato farmers.

Campbell's and other canneries annually contract with local farmers as to the price per ton of produce, type of tomato planted, harvest dates and planting season. Yet nowhere in the contract is any allowance made for the use of hand labor, necessary for maximum production in the tomato fields.

Ohio farmworkers have some of the lowest wages in the nation, averaging less than \$2.00 per hour, and with some of the worst child labor abuses. It is not uncommon to find whole families in the fields, picking tomatoes, while the father or head of the family is the only employee

listed on company record books.

Campbell's has consistently claimed that harvesting is the farmers' concern, and that it has no interest or input. In the past, Campbell's has refused to even meet with farmworker leaders, until the national boycott campaign brought pressure on the company.

FLOC began organizing in the late 60s in the Ohio tomato fields, and initially won contracts with area farmers. FLOC realized, however, that the farmer was not in a condition of control over crops, and so FLOC launched its demand for three-way negotiations between canneries, farmers, and farmworkers to set conditions, and began strikes on fields contracted to Campbell's Soup.

On July 7, about 100 FLOC strikers began their march from Toledo, Ohio, the union's base in western Ohio, and plan to reach Philadelphia on August 7, then march across the river to Camden, N. J., world headquarters of the Campbell's Company. Cesar Chavez, President of the United Farm Workers of America (AFL-CIO), will participate in the final leg of the march.

Through its campaigns, FLOC has successfully convinced over 1,000 schools to quit participating in Campbell's

"Labels for Education" program, in which school children collect soup can labels in exchange for school supplies. FLOC has released studies showing "over-charges" by Campbell's in the program--the labels are redeemable for only 1/10 of a cent, while a can of Campbell's soup can cost from 2 to 15¢ more than other labels. If the cost of items given away to schools are compared to the extra cost of Campbell's Soups, and the 1/10th of a penny label price is computed, item "given away" by Campbell's are at a price 3 to 4 times their market value. For instance, a \$7.00 mini-calculator, available in most stores, costs \$21 in soup labels.

The Campbell's boycott has been endorsed by the United Auto Workers, the United Farm Workers, and the Indiana and the Ohio Council of Churches, along with numerous Catholic organizations. Locally, the Bloomington and Normal Trades and Labor Assembly (AFL-CIO), has endorsed the Campbell's boycott.

For more information of this young labor union, write FLOC, 714 1/2 S. St. Clair St., Toledo, OH 43609. Letters of support for FLOC and calling for negotiations can go to Gordon McGovern, President, Campbell's Soup, Camden, NJ 08101, 609/964-4000. ●

--MgM

## Non-believers conference slated

The Friends of Robert Ingersoll will hold a sesquicentennial festival in honor of the noted 19th century agnostic and orator, who practiced law in Peoria and was Illinois' first attorney general. The 3-day festival will take place at various locations in Peoria on August 11 through 13.

Ingersoll was well-known for lectures on his creed of agnosticism. He attracted controversy for nearly 3 decades because he attacked orthodox religious beliefs.

One of the more interesting events of the festival will be the Freethought Fair, an open air event to be held at the foot of the Ingersoll statue in Peoria's Glen Oak Park. Freethought literature will be sold, displayed, and given away by various participating groups.

The Freethought Fair will also feature a "soapbox" to allow for the free expression of ideas. Speakers may lecture to as many as they can hold with their oratory.

Groups presently scheduled to be at the Freethought Fair include the Freedom from Religion Foundation, the American Humanist Association, the Religious Freethinkers from California, the American Atheist Association, and the American Rationalists.

More information about the Ingersoll festival can be obtained from the Friends of Robert G. Ingersoll, P.O. Box 5082, Peoria, IL 61601. ●

## Praise the Lord and shoot the blacks

Licking, MO--In the rugged Ozark Mountains, far removed from the "mongrel" American civilization they so deplore, a corps of "christian soldiers" is conducting bible classes while preparing for guerrilla warfare.

The combat training sessions are being held in preparation for what they believe is an imminent racial conflict and economic collapse in this country.

This grim gathering is sponsored by the Illinois-based Christian Conservative Churches of America and has attracted several hundred people who hold a belief in a violent and divinely ordained apocalypse on the national horizon.

"The patriots are going to rise up with great force," said John R. ("Johnny Bob") Harrell, the outspoken 61-year-old founder of the church, whose doctrines include belief in the supremacy of the white race. "We're getting ready to fight for our survival. A caucasian, you know, doesn't make a good slave."

Harrell, who lives in Louisville, Ill., presides over a tax-exempt church structure that includes five other right-wing organizations. He is a leading figure in the emerging "Identity" religious movement, which teaches that Jews are the "seed of Satan" and that blacks are morally and intellectually deficient. The Identity movement has recently been linked with the paramilitary Posse Comitatus and the Ku Klux Klan.

Tax protester Gordon Kahl, who was killed in early June in a shootout with authorities in Arkansas, was a member of the Posse Comitatus and an

Identity church adherent. His death has made him something of a martyr in the Identity movement.

"Gordon Kahl Lives!" proclaims one pamphlet on display at Harrell's 230-acre church campground, where his annual Survival Conference is being held. The conference, which in previous years was held in Southern Illinois at Harrell's larger-than-scale replica of George Washington's Mount Vernon, features a wide variety of seminars: Bee Keeping, Bible Answers to Racial Questions, Jews and the Anti-Christ, Legal Use of Lethal Force, and Psycho-politics and Brainwashing.

The literature tables are overflowing with such book titles as: "Better Read Than Dead: The Complete Book of Nuclear Survival," "Who Killed Christ?," "Seven Financial Conspiracies," "The True History of the Holocaust," and "The Chemistry of Powder and Explosives."

A retired military man, Col. Benjamin F. M. von Stahl, heads up Harrell's Citizens Emergency Defense System. "We have 40 million illegal aliens here who should be bounced back to where they came from instead of allowing them to bring their disease, their poverty, and their revolutionary ideas here," he says.

"We're in a most perilous position," von Stahl continues. "We're being disarmed all the time, both our military and our personal weapons. Our army is now 60 percent black."

The only hope for a change, says von Stahl, is to restore all political

authority in the country to white christians. "Identity is the secret of the whole thing," he says. "We have the law (of God). The lesser breeds are without the law."

Other major figures in the Identity movement include Rev. Richard Butler of the Aryan Nations and Church of Jesus Christ in Hayden Lake, Idaho, and Rev. Thomas Arthur Robb of Harrison, Ark., who is national chaplain for the Ku Klux Klan and editor of a newspaper published by the White People's Committee to Restore God's Laws.

In Louisiana, Buddy Tucker leads the National Emancipation of Our White Seed group, and James K. Warner, a former officer of the American Nazi Party, operates the New Christian Crusade Church.

Although Identity churches appear to have been proliferating in recent years, they have been plagued by internal strife. Unresolved personal rivalries within the churches have led to often bitter splits and freely hurled charges that a former associate no longer represents "true Identity" beliefs.

For his part, Harrell hopes to bring the divided movement together. "My job is to be the Old Testament watchman on the wall--to sound the warning," he says. "God always warns before he wounds." ●

Source: Chicago Tribune, 26 June 1983.

## Just like you and me

Hooray, hooray! We have our first citizen in space. He isn't a Post Amerikan staffer, like I earlier suggested he should be, but our time will come.

So who is the everyday private citizen who soon will be zipping overhead in the space shuttle? Why, just an ordinary joe, a regular feller, a typical all-Amerikan hometown boy; that's who Charles Walker is.

Oh yeah, he also happens to be an engineer for McDonnell Douglas, the people who brought you the Vietnam War, the F-4 fighter bomber, and countless other practical necessities of international diplomacy. And a finer representative of what Amerika's all about would be hard to find.

## They have some nerve

Thank God our blessed and all-wise Senate has finally acted to plug an embarrassing and spineless gap in our nation's defenses. They've voted--at last--to build up our nerve gas supply. Hallelujah!

Now we can bargain with those godless commies from a position of strength. Nuclear missiles aren't tough enough to force those Russkies to get rid of their chemical weapons. We need the gas ourselves.

What matter that the Russians won't reduce theirs while we increase ours? What matter that their soldiers are protected against gas, so we kill only civilians? What matter that if they reduce theirs, we'll have to reduce ours, which we just spent billions to make? What does it matter?

Have a nice day!

## They're preying again

The Nebraska State Legislature has had the same Presbyterian minister on its payroll for 16 years. Is this a violation of the First Amendment ban on governmental establishment of religion? Of course not.

Here's what no less an authority than the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, a man noted for his sage, impartial rulings, has to say: "To invoke divine guidance on a public body entrusted with making the laws is not, in these circumstances, an establishment of religion or a step toward establishment. It is simply a tolerable acknowledgement of beliefs widely held among the people of this country."

## Just insignificant pests?

It seems that the First Amendment doesn't apply to high school students in Washington, Illinois, our wholesome neighbor to the northwest. After some "embarrassed parents and students" called the school superintendent Ray Torry to complain about items in the school's newspaper, censorship became the word of the day.

At the risk of seeming to invoke a little divine guidance, allow me to say: "Jeezuz Christ!" Burger's statement is a perfect example of why he should be hawking vacuum cleaners during PTL Club station breaks, rather than interpreting the U.S. Constitution. If paying a religious worker to do religious tasks with tax bucks isn't an official establishment of religion, I don't know what is.

The vile, odious items in question were in the gossip column, which only appears three times a year. They were the usual smirky, unsigned things one gets in a high school paper. Torry called them "inside jokes normal readers wouldn't think too much of," and said: "The paper will not be a forum for personal messages."

Divine guidance for politicians may not be a bad idea--they need all the help (however illusory) they can get. But to have a supposedly educated man justify this by calling it a "tolerable acknowledgement of widely-held beliefs" is more than a rational mind can bear.

Ka-Boom! No Valentine's Day specials, no Christmas specials, no senior wills. The last item was begged for by the paper's editor, who promised that the wills would be "carefully edited" (now there's a euphemism for you).

Since when is a widely-held belief the basis for correct law in this country? Racism is a widely held belief, so is sexism. Let's abuse the Jews--it's what the people want. Fair elections in the South? Nobody cares, so why bother? Freedom of the press?--hell, no! Let's shut up the troublemakers.

Come off it, Ray. Once you start censoring the kids in a state-funded educational institution, you're trashing the whole scholastic system. Bureaucratic excess always starts small, chipping away a tiny bit at a time. But then, that's the way termites work, and what are they?

"There can be no doubt that the practice of opening legislative sessions with prayer has become part of the fabric of our society," says Burger.

So has homicide, kidnapping, and rape, Warren.

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## It makes great kindling

Pity the poor Ku Klux Klan. So misunderstood. So maligned. So cruelly used. It can't even blow away a few commies on tv without catching a lot of pinko flak.

In a move designed to bolster its unfairly tarnished image, the Klan is going public with its constitution and some of its ceremonies, though it still won't tell who belongs.

"We have been hamstrung for a couple of years with some people taking portions of our constitution, printing them out of context, and making us look bad," said the Imperial Wizard, Bill Wilkinson.

The Klan doesn't like to look bad.

In fact, it's going to enter into the mainstream of public politics. Hot damn! Save your confederate money, boys. . . .

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jury acquits him

# Cops punch, choke, kick Ricky Mann

While intervening in a domestic argument between Ricky Mann and his girlfriend Brenda Kirkland last January, Bloomington police officers Bill Rusk and Michael Fazio turned a verbal argument into a physical brawl.

After cuffing Ricky Mann's hands behind his back, Officer Rusk punched Ricky in the mouth, setting off a violent struggle during which time Ricky was choked, kicked, rolled through dog excrement and had his hair pulled out.

"There was no reason for it," Brenda Kirkland told the Post-Amerikan. "The police just went completely off."

The police officers' version, of course, is slightly different. They charged Ricky Mann with aggravated battery and resisting arrest.

### Victim acquitted

In late June, a McLean County jury heard both the officers' story and Mann and Kirkland's version. The jury bal-



ABOVE: Ricky Mann has a permanent bald spot where police yanked out his hair.

anced the word of two white police officers against the testimony of two low-income blacks.

Ricky Mann was acquitted of aggravated battery. The next day, the state dropped the resisting arrest charge.

Even before his acquittal, Ricky Mann had filed a federal lawsuit charging Rusk and Fazio with violation of his civil rights. (See adjoining story.)

Here's what happened, according to interviews with Brenda Kirkland, Ricky Mann, and Mann's attorney, Michael Barford:

Brenda had asked police to come to her house at 607 N. Lee St. She and Ricky had been arguing, and she wanted him to leave. But police realized that Ricky's name was on the lease, so they couldn't simply kick him out of the house.

### Surprise arrest

As a solution, police radioed in to see if there was a pending warrant out. There was--for an old misdemeanor in Peoria, which Ricky thought had already been dismissed.

Police told Ricky he was under arrest and cuffed his hands behind his back.

Up to this point, Brenda said, everything had been physically peaceful. She and Ricky were arguing with each other, but they were only exchanging words.

As soon as the police declared they were arresting Ricky, the content of the arguments changed. Brenda started arguing with the police.

"I just wanted Ricky out of the house-- I didn't want him arrested," Brenda told the Post-Amerikan. "I didn't understand that they found a warrant on him."

Some of Ricky's skin was caught in the cuffs. They hurt, and his wrist was bleeding. He kept turning around, asking the cops to loosen the cuffs.

At one point, Officer Rusk ordered Ricky not to turn around again.

Meanwhile Brenda was arguing with the cops, telling them to loosen the cuffs and challenging Ricky's arrest.

"Isn't this what you wanted, bitch?" Rusk replied.

### Everything went wild

When he heard Rusk call Brenda a bitch, Ricky turned around. Suddenly Officer Rusk's fist was in Ricky's mouth, and everything went wild.

"They just started beating on him," Brenda said.

Most of the subsequent struggle took place in a narrow area of the front porch floor, which Kirkland's puppy had used for a bathroom. Ricky's hair and clothes were covered with excrement. The cop's clothes were fouled too. That made them angrier, and they took out that anger on Ricky.

At one point, one cop was choking Ricky, trying to cut off his air, while the other was kicking him. "I thought I was going to die," Ricky told the Post.

"The police just went nuts," Brenda said. "I was afraid they were going to kill him right there in front of me. And what could I do? Who could I get to stop them? They were the police."

Ricky has a permanent bald spot where the police ripped out his hair. He lost a tooth, and his back still isn't right.

Since police charged him with a felony, Ricky didn't have money for bail right away. Despite his innocence, he spent two months in the county jail before trial.

The Peoria misdemeanor warrant which Rusk and Fazio were so eager to bring Ricky in on was quickly dismissed.

The police claim that they struggled with Mann before he was handcuffed. They claim he was resisting arrest, and the choking and punching was necessary in order to get the cuffs on and bring Mann in.

Attorney Barford says that even if Ricky Mann had been resisting arrest, the police use of force was excessive and violated Mann's civil rights.

Barford successfully argued in the June McLean County Court jury trial that Mann's kicking the police was justifiable to defend himself from the police's excessive force.

"Even if Mann had been convicted of resisting arrest," Barford told the Post-Amerikan, "we would still be suing in federal court." ●

--M.S.



# Suits charge racism in Bloomington Police Dep't

In two lawsuits filed June 15 alleging police brutality and violations of civil rights, Bloomington attorney Michael Barford also accused the Bloomington Police Department of racism.

The lawsuits (see adjoining stories) allege that Bloomington police officers Tom Sanders, Bill Rusk and Michael Fazio applied excessive force in separate incidents in the arrests of Alan Mann and Rodney Mann.

The officers are white. Alan and Rodney Mann are black.

According to the lawsuits, the Bloomington police pursue "a policy and practice whereby members of the Bloomington Police Department... actively pursue the arrest and conviction of both male and female members of the black race, and especially youthful members of the black race... and wrongfully hold, arrest, detain, and harass these individuals."

Barford's lawsuits attack the hiring policies which have produced an almost entirely white police force.

"The City of Bloomington maintains... a hiring practice... which has as its intended purpose and has in fact resulted in the promotion and mainten-

ance of a white, male police force, to the exclusion of a force which would have a reasonably representative membership made up of blacks, other minorities, including women, Hispanics, and the like," one suit charges.

"There are 70 police officers in Bloomington," Attorney Barford told the Post Amerikan. "Only two are black. Marvin Thomas will be retiring this year, and Joe Rusk will be retiring soon."

There are no women or Hispanic police officers in Bloomington either.

In a Pantagraph story, Bloomington Corporation Counsel David Stanczak labeled Barford's hiring policy charges "hogwash." Stanczak claimed that the city had an affirmative action program actively recruiting minorities.

Not true, Barford told the Post-Amerikan. Barford recalled speaking with Tim Walker, Bloomington's affirmative action officer and director of the city's Human Relations Commission. According to Barford, Walker said his affirmative action jurisdiction does not extend to the police department. "Walker agreed there was a problem with the police department," Barford told the Post Amerikan. ●

--Mark Silverstein

# Are Rusk's actions part of racist pattern?

Since the Post-Amerikan has documented the disproportionate number of Officer Tom Sanders' victims who are black, it was not surprising to see him named as a defendant in a civil rights suit which alleges racial harassment.

But what about Bill Rusk? Was his January beating of Ricky Mann also part of a racist pattern?

When the Post-Amerikan reported Alan Mann's story last December, Bill Rusk came off as one of the good guys. According to Mann, Rusk intervened when it looked like Officer Sanders was going to resume beating Mann.

According to Mann, Rusk said everyone knows that Officer Sanders has a tendency to go off on people. Rusk reportedly encouraged Mann to plead not guilty to the aggravated battery charge "because everyone knows how Sanders is." In addition, Rusk reportedly encouraged Mann to file a complaint against Sanders with the police chief.

Attorney Michael Barford, who filed the suit against Rusk, was aware that Rusk doesn't always come off the way he did to Ricky Mann.

"Rusk is a real affable guy when he's not angry," Barford said. "But Rusk does occasionally have an attitude problem," Barford continued. "I don't have details, but I know there have been other incidents."

But in contrast to Tom Sanders' pattern, blacks do not appear in disproportionate numbers as the targets of Bill Rusk's anger.

Only a month before he punched out Ricky Mann and slapped on a bogus aggravated battery charge, Bill Rusk did the same thing to Robert Head, according to court records. Head is white. A jury acquitted Head of the aggravated battery June 24.

Only one day later, June 25, Officer Rusk got into another fight during an arrest and got his radio broken. The suspect was white.

That same night, Michael Fazio, Rusk's co-defendant in the civil rights suit, also got into a fight in a separate incident.

Are these guys unlucky, or does something in their style of police work help create antagonistic situations?

"Fazio has an attitude problem," attorney Barford said.

racism, brutality alleged

# Officer Tom Sanders sued again

A lawsuit charging Bloomington Patrolman Tom Sanders with racism, police brutality and violation of civil rights was filed in federal court June 14.

The suit charges that Sanders, without legal justification, used a flashlight to smack Alan Mann in the head during an arrest for drinking on the public parkway. The flashlight, plus additional blows from Sanders' fists, caused Alan Mann to suffer a fractured skull and broken nose, according to the suit.

This is the second time that Sanders' brutal and reckless actions have forced the City of Bloomington to defend itself against a civil rights lawsuit. A \$9 1/2 million suit stemming from Sanders' shooting an innocent person during a 1980 incident at the Regal 8 Motel is pending. The plaintiff in that suit, Gus Vasquez, has permanent brain damage from Sanders' impulsive shotgun blast.

Although State's Attorney Ron Dozier said he questioned Sanders' judgment in the shooting, no disciplinary action was ever taken against the officer.

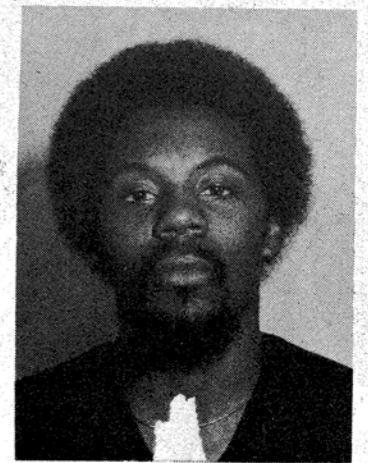
### Who beat who?

As is customary when police use excessive force on their suspects, Tom Sanders filed battery and resisting arrest charges against Alan Mann.

Sanders' beating of Alan Mann was the cover story of the Dec. '82-Jan. '83 issue of the Post-Amerikan.

In late January 1983, Assistant State's Attorney Todd Greenberg dismissed the battery and resisting arrest charges against Mann.

Greenberg didn't have authority to drop the remaining charge against Mann: public drinking. That's an ordinance violation, and Bloomington Asst. Corporation Counsel Paxton Bowers has so far refused to dismiss it.



Alan Mann

The charge is extremely petty. Officer Sanders charges that Alan Mann was drinking on public property--the parkway in front of Mann's house. Mann says he was dropping a nearly empty beer into the garbage can.

Any reasonable prosecutor would drop the charge. But Attorney Michael Barford believes the city is hoping a conviction on the ordinance violation will weaken his client's claim for damages in federal court.

### Racism

Of the three officers named in Barford's suits, Tom Sanders' racism is the most overt. Alan Mann remembers Sanders calling him a nigger.

Since December, the Post-Amerikan has reported on at least seven separate incidents where Tom Sanders has used excessive force. Four of these incidents involved blacks.

"Sanders can't handle dealing with blacks," Barford told the Post-Amerikan. "Whenever Sanders sees a group of black males around, he starts looking for pending warrants." ●

--M.S.

In 1977, Bill Rusk was suspended for 30 days without pay for conduct unbecoming an officer. Rusk had killed his next door neighbor's Labrador retriever, while the dog was on a second floor balcony just outside a bedroom. Rusk's bullet went through the house wall and lodged in a chair inside his neighbor's bedroom. Although Rusk had been provoked (the Labrador had just killed Rusk's toy poodle), Rusk's anger moved him to dangerous recklessness.

Rusk's anger certainly turned into the same dangerous recklessness when he beat up Ricky Mann. But was Barford asserting that Ricky Mann's beating was racially motivated?

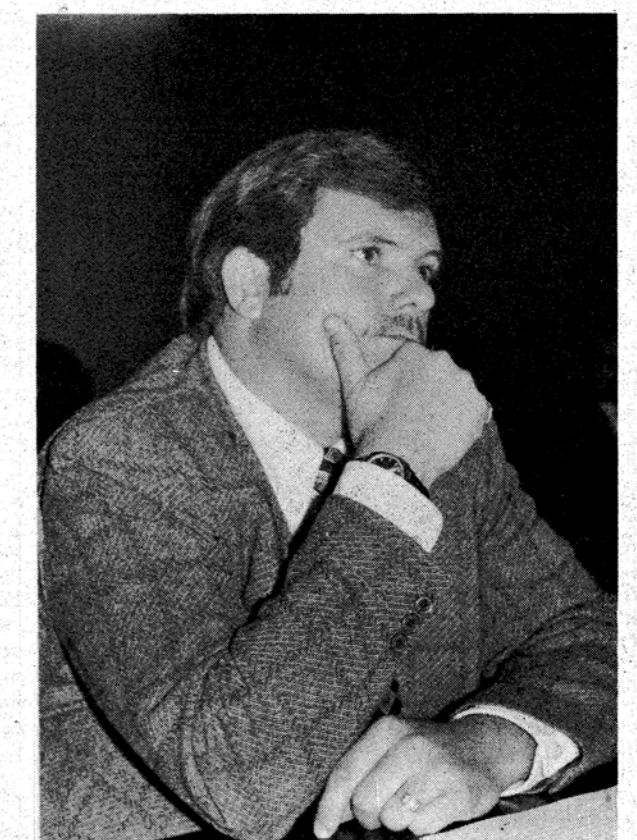
"I don't have any racial remarks or epithets," Barford said, "but the officers were white and the people they were pushing around were black. Maybe it's because they were poor people, or because Rusk knew one of them from other incidents. But my experience in this town tells me that if Rusk and Fazio had been dealing with white people on East Grove Street, they wouldn't have handled the situation the way they did."

"Usually with old warrants, they don't throw you up against the wall and cuff you behind your back,"

Barford continued. "They say 'get a hold of your lawyer and come down to the station and take care of this.'"

"If there were more blacks on the police force we might have fewer incidents like this," Barford concluded. ●

--M.S.



Officer Bill Rusk

# Coming out proud,



Lesbian and Gay Pride day is the one day of the year when gay men and lesbians can march and listen, munch and flirt, celebrate and reflect in a totally gay environment. In honor of the scruffy dykes and drag queens who became street fighters on the night of June 27, 1969 in Greenwich Village at the Stonewall Inn, Pride Day was observed this year between June 9 and June 26, depending on local schedules.

Rallies and marches were the order of the day, but gay people across the country were equally proud at dances, parties, brunches, teas, receptions, films, religious services, foot races, picnics, and drag shows.

The largest single event in the country--indeed, in the world--was the 13th annual Lesbian/Gay Freedom parade and rally in San Francisco. Waving placards and carrying balloons, riding motorcycles and floats, singing and dancing, more than 200,000 lesbians and gay men filled Market Street and the Civic Center Plaza on Sunday, June 26.

## Tradition

Upholding tradition, a half-block contingent of Dykes on Bikes kicked off the parade: a symphony of tuxedos, t-shirts, and black leather. The lesbians gunned the engines of their motorcycles as they rolled down the street. Among the motorcyclists was a woman who drove her Kawasaki 400 down from Sacramento to ride with the Leather and Lace motorcycle club. Behind her, a lesbian couple on a minibike proclaimed themselves "Baby Dykes on Baby Bikes."

Adding a shadow to the sunny celebration, about 20 gay men with the

mysterious disease AIDS marched next in the procession to the sympathetic applause of spectators. The event was dedicated to victims of acquired immune deficiency syndrome, most of whom are gay males.

Two gay plainclothes police officers accompanied the group--including an officer who has AIDS himself--because of phone threats made against the patients' appearance.

The only uneasy moment came when an intoxicated celebrator stumbled into the AIDS contingent, but they were otherwise greeted with applause or silent nods of compassion.

Then came gay businesswomen, gay doctors, gay lawyers, gay clog and samba dancers, gay clergy, gay fathers, gay reformed alcoholics, and just enough glitzy drag queens to fulfill the worst expectations of tourists from Indiana.

Among the more than 200 contingents and floats, one of the largest was the National Association of Lesbian/Gay Square Dance Clubs, which had participants from 7 clubs across the country. One performer, who calls himself Steffany Stamper, wore a black chiffon dress, full beard, and a black

bouffant wig stuffed with baggies for extra height.

Members of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus sang as they marched, and the Barbary Coast Cloggers, dressed like miners in jeans and steel-toed boots, performed Appalachian clogging routines on a truck bed. Other performing groups included the Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps, and Sistah Boom, a lesbian drum corps and drill team whose spirited numbers encouraged audience participation.

## Special Issues

Also in the parade were the Gay Farmers Alliance--a single marijuana grower from El Dorado County--Lesbians for Lipstick, Penguins for Gay Rights, and Life in the Fat Lane, a group of king-sized lesbians and queen-sized gay men.

They joined more serious groups like gay fathers--whose children marched with many of them--Black and White Men Together, Gay American Indians, the Berkeley Gay Men's Health Collective, and representatives from 8 gay student groups.

The Parents and Friends of Gays drew perhaps the warmest response from the



## No heterosexuals in the news

In listening to the reports of the congress guys who were recently reprimanded for having sex with teenage pages, I noticed a small but curious difference in the way the two cases were described by some of the media. Rep. Daniel Crane (R-IL) had "relations with a 17-year-old female." But Rep. Gerry Studds (D-MA) had "homosexual relations with a 17-year-old male."

Why do some news reporters insist on being redundant in their characterization of gay encounters? If it's about a guy having sex with another guy, there's no need to include the word "homosexual" in the report. And if you specify the sexual orientation in the male-male or female situations, why not in the female-male ones?

Which leads me to another question: have you ever noticed how heterosexuals never do anything? A man rapes a woman but it's not called a "heterosexual rape." A husband beats his wife but it's not a "heterosexual beating." Ted Bundy's murders of 36 women were often described as "brutal sex slayings," but never as "brutal heterosexual slayings."

I wouldn't care about these omissions if the news media didn't regularly include the word "homosexual" in reports about crimes and scandals that involve people of the same gender. I read a book about Ted Bundy which never used the word "heterosexual"--but the one reference in the book to a same-sex mass murderer labeled him (Dean Corli) a "homosexual killer."

To add to the problem, this inclusion is selective: "homosexuals" (sometimes "gays") appear only in stories about crime, scandal and politics. Otherwise homosexuality is irrelevant to the rest

of the news, as is heterosexuality (apparently) all the time.

Why am I bothered by this verbal discrimination? Because I think that inclusion of the word "homosexual" in reports about murder and scandal creates an identification in the public mind between gayness and criminal acts. People get used to hearing phrases like "homosexual killer" and "homosexual molester" and "admitted homosexual" (as if it's some crime or sin one admits to).

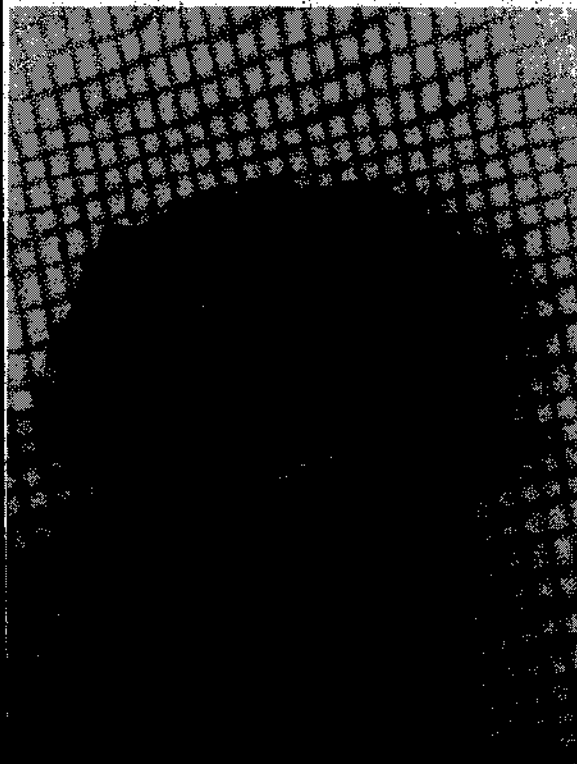
And omitting the word "heterosexual" from reports of similar crimes and scandals subtly confirms what a lot of people already believe: there's nothing inherently "wrong" with heterosexuals, but homosexuals are "queer" and abnormal and typically inclined to violent acts and scandalous behavior.

Although many news reports of the congressmen-pages story did not specify sexual preference, WBBM radio (the all-news station in Chicago) consistently used the adjective "homosexual" to describe Rep. Studds encounter with the 17-year-old while leaving the gender of Rep. Crane's 17-year-old partner speak for itself. The AP story in the Pantagraph included two "homosexuals" and no "heterosexuals," even though the report was about two incidents of heterosexual behavior and only a single gay one.

In case you didn't know, James C. Haworth, majority chief page in the House, was the other heterosexual male who had heterosexual relations with the 17-year-old heterosexual female page. One assumes their both are "admitted heterosexuals" and "committed" heterosexual acts.

--Ferdvduke

## Cabbages read the Post



Why does Cassie Cabbage read the Post-American? "For the People Meeting People column," says Cabbage, 14. "Not to mention the weekly summaries of Bill Flick's column. We vegetables have got to stick together."

# strong in 'Frisco

spectators, who were lined up 3-deep along the parade route. In the Parents and Friends contingent were 2 men carrying placards that read "I Love My Gay Son" and a woman marching arm-in-arm with two young men whose t-shirts labeled them "son" and "son-in-law."

Other crowd pleasers were Ladies Against Women, whose banner read "Tupperware Preserves the Family," and Girl Scout Troop 69, whose motto didn't say anything about reverence. And, of course, there were the ever-popular Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, with the beloved Sister Boom-Boom carrying a small, tasteful sign that proclaimed "Reagan is a Fart."

Amid the outrageous costumes and the high-spirited fun, serious political concerns still managed to come across. In addition to such groups as the Democratic Socialists of America, the California Abortion Rights Action League, the All-Peoples Congress, and the Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance, a number of participating groups seemed to focus on two current issues: Central America (Friends of El Salvador) and the anti-nuclear movement (Nukes on Ice).

Representing this last issue was the Enola Gay Faggot Anti-Nuke Affinity Group, which marched with only 4 members because the rest of the group had been arrested at the Livermore Lab demonstration on June 20 and were still in jail. One of the members of Enola Gay who did march in the Gay Freedom Parade is Jack Davis, a former resident of Bloomington-Normal and a good friend of Ferdydurke. (By the way, Enola Gay's slogan for the parade was "Gomorrah for a Tomorrah.")

The parade ended at the Civic Center, where people milled around, lay in the sun with their arms around each other, drank beer and fresh-brewed coffee, and listened to singers, comedians, and gay politicians.

While the rally focused on many issues:

## Hypocrite of the month award

You've probably heard about Rep. Daniel Crane, the conservative congress guy from Danville, Illinois. He was recently reprimanded by the House ethics committee for having sexual relations with a 17-year-old female page in the spring of 1980. (Those were heterosexual relations, by the way --see adjoining article.)

And you may also know that Rep. Crane is only slightly less conservative than Paul Laxalt, Jessie Helms, and Atila the Hun. Crane was a former board member of Christian Voice and received a 100% rating from that very right-wing lobbying group for his voting record in Congress.

But I wonder if you also know that in 1981 Dan Crane joined his equally conservative brother Rep. Philip Crane (from Mt. Prospect, Ill.) in a successful effort to overturn an ordinance adopted by the District of Columbia that would have liberalized the district's sexual laws.

On Oct. 1, 1981, playboy Crane delivered a speech on the floor of the House of Representatives in which he cited, among other things, the ordinance's horrible impact on minors: "When the Washington D.C. Council legalizes homosexual conduct and the seduction of children and decreases the penalties for forcible rape, we have lost sight of the moral codes of a god-fearing society."

We hear you, brother.

--Ferdydurke

of interest to lesbians and gay men, many speakers touched on the need for gay people to show compassion to each other, to take care of their own health, and to fight for their rights. This emphasis was in keeping with the day's official theme: "Strengthen the ties, break the chains."

"Human rights and freedom are not goodies that come to you while you sit on your fat back," said Wenche Lowzow, a lesbian member of Norway's Parliament. She urged the crowd to be more involved in each other's lives all year round: "Gay Freedom Day should be more than a homosexual Christmas Eve, where we all act nice to each other and give each other presents."

The rally began with Senior Voices--speakers who talked about the history of the gay movement in this country--and closed with Youth Voices. The young people who ended the day, 7 hours after it all began, provided an appropriately exciting and inspiring finish. They promised that gay youth are alive and healthy and more than willing to carry on the struggle and celebration of gay and lesbian pride in Amerika.

--Ferdydurke



## Gay ad causes furor

Minneapolis--The editors of a high school newspaper have successfully fought the school board's attempt to censor gay-oriented advertising in the paper.

The ad for the Gay Pride Committee of Minneapolis and their volunteer hotline had been placed in the April 29 issue of the Southwest Arrow, the newspaper for the Southwest Secondary School. But the school administration and the Minneapolis school board refused to let the ad run. So the paper's student editors, Julie Risser and Jeff Robertson, instead ran a boxed announcement reading: "Ad censored. This space was reserved for an ad by a community organization. Due to the nature of the ad, operations superintendent Ken Northwick instructed principal Harlan Anderson to censor it from this issue. The Arrow abhors this flagrant violation of freedom of the press."

Represented by the Minnesota Civil Liberties Union, the students then

took the issue to federal court. The court ruled that the ad must be allowed to run. The decision was upheld on appeal and the ad ran in the paper's May 27 issue.

That issue also carried a paid insert from school board member Marilyn Borea, who addressed students and parents: "You should be aware that your rights may have been violated" by the gay ad, which "is published over the objections of your principal, the superintendent's office, and over my objections."

One of Borea's objections was that the gay hotline announces free drinks at various bars. But co-editor Risser told Minneapolis' Equal Time newspaper that Arrow "has run ads from restaurants, from pizza places, all of which serve alcohol." It just seemed to the students that it wasn't applied equally. . . . For the students, it was a First Amendment question.

--Gay Life, 30 June 1983

# Letters

## Busted and bummed out

Dear Post:

I just completed your expose on MEG. It's about time that the general population was told of their activities!

As you can tell from my return address, I am currently serving 5 years at the Dwight Correctional Center for Women for delivery of a gram of PCP. I was busted by an old neighbor of mine on Chestnut St. His name is Tom Ryburn and he's currently working as an informant for the Dept. of Criminal Investigations. His partner is Gary King from Pontiac, with blonde hair, medium build, about 5'10", glasses, and he can be seen driving a blue truck or red Trans Am. This pair was also the cause of two friends of mine being busted, as well as two acquaintances.

I think that the public should be made aware of what these two are up to and that you expose them for what they are. They not only bought from me, but they also gave me a quarter of a gram back to do, and they never reported that part of it.

Post, I have a subscription for your paper and read it faithfully; but I'd like to see MEG or DCI in print more often. How about it?

I hope your print my article, and if anyone wants to write to me, I'll be happy to answer.

Sincerely,

Carol Beehn  
A67603  
Box C  
Dwight, IL. 60420

# Likes Robin Plan's show

To all the New Wave Readers of The Post Amerikan:

There's an old saying that goes, "You don't know how much something means to you until you've lost it." I recently learned how true this is when I recently lost Robin Plan's new wave radio show by moving to western Kansas.

Things are tough here. Rolling Stone isn't even available on the newstands. The only place that sells records--the local discount store--has little to offer beyond Duran Duran, the Psychedelic Furs, and Culture Club. And worst of all, about the farthest out the local radio stations get is Bowie's "Let's Dance" or a little carefully selected Prince.

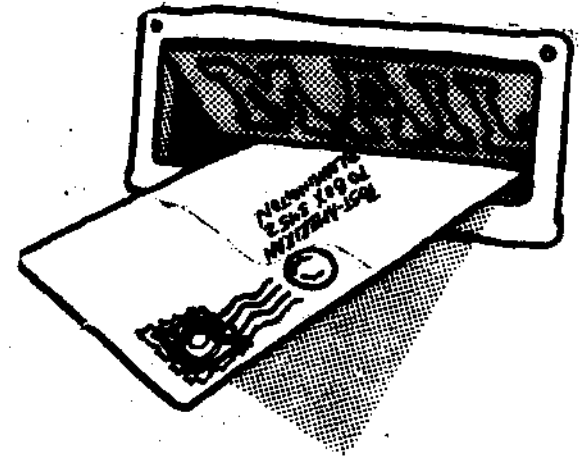
You don't know how lucky you are in Bloomington-Normal to have Robin and her show. And as you know, it has been an uphill battle for Robin all the way to get and keep her show on the air. She needs you not only to "lend her your ears" but also to support her.

Let Robin, her boss and sponsors know you're out there. Write Robin a letter. Send her a postcard when you're out of town this summer. Call her. Write to her boss and tell him how much you love her show. Let the businesses who sponsor her show know that you listen to her program and hear their ads. Get a WRBA bumper sticker and put it on your car.

If you don't, you may end up like me. And it sure is quiet out here.

(Note to those who may not know: Robin's Show is on every weekday afternoon from 1 to 6 p.m. on WRBA, 1440 AM.)

Keep rockin' Robin,  
Dinah Faber  
From Somewhere on the Lone Prairie



## Give a moral boost

Dear Post,

Friends, volunteers and workers of Planned Parenthood of Mid Central Illinois will be staffing a booth at the McLean County Fair Aug. 2-6.

Sitting behind tables in the exhibit building, watching over pamphlets, models and posters dealing with subjects that may not be welcomed by a portion of the citizenry can be pretty discouraging. Guessing about the meaning of the glances directed their way (embarrassment?...shock?...disgust?...) is frustrating.

I know they would appreciate a visit from a friend, a little moral support or maybe even the purchase of a t-shirt or a "Moral Majority Is Neither" button.

Come on out and say hi,

Love carefully,  
Maggie Sanger

## Prisoners seeking mail

Post note: The following ads are taken from longer letters which we cannot print in full because of the number of requests we receive.

I would like to have my name in your paper for correspondence reasons. I would be thankful. My name and address are: Glen Jackson #91714, Box 711, Menard, IL 62259.

Most of the views in your paper are interesting and enlightening since other papers don't tell it like it is. Would you run this ad for me? Age 29, Irish, looking for sincere pen pals. Barry Bell, #10487, P. O. Box 711, Menard, IL 62259.

I'm writing to compliment you on a fine newspaper. Also if you will place my name in your paper, I'm seeking mature people to correspond with. Stanley Ash #A66301, Box 711, Menard, IL 62259.

I saw a copy of your publication and was very pleased. I was told I might be able to get my name listed in your letters column. I'm a male, age 27, 5'6". Jerry Clevenger #A50015 Box 711, Menard, IL 62259

# BE A STAR

in your own Post-Amerikan T-shirt!

Turn heads as you walk down the street!

CLIP-N-SEND

YES, I crave the fame and glory a Post-Amerikan T-shirt will bring me! I can't live without it. In fact I'll just die if I can't have a Post T-shirt! Enclosed is my check for \$6.00. Thank you. You've made my life worth living again.

Circle Size S M L XL

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Clip-n-send to Post-Amerikan, P.O. Box 3452, Bloomington, IL 61701.



## Post-Amerikan ad rates

Display ad rates are \$100/page. 10% discount for a six-in-a-row contract; 20% discount for a 12-in-a-row contract.

SIZE	REG.	10% off	20% off
1/6 page	\$16.67	\$15.00	\$13.33
1/5 page	20.00	18.00	16.00
1/4 page	25.00	22.50	20.00
1/3 page	33.33	30.00	26.67
1/2 page	50.00	45.00	40.00

### BUSINESS CARD SIZE ADS

Ads the size of standard business cards (3 1/2" wide by 2" tall) will be reduced slightly and appear in the paper as one column wide 3" and 1 3/4" tall.

### RATES FOR BUSINESSES

6-in-a-row contract..... \$42.00  
12-in-a-row contract..... \$72.00

### RATES FOR INDIVIDUALS

One insertion..... \$6.00  
6-in-a-row contract..... \$33.00  
12-in-a-row contract..... \$60.00

MAKE-UP CHARGE..... \$1.00



# The only good Injun is a dead Injun

"Words will not give my people health or save my people's lives," Chief Joseph told the government of the United States. A hundred years later, about all Native Americans are getting from the government is words.

The Native Americans do not exist in most people's minds in this country. And if they do exist, they exist in Westerns, in ceremonial sideshows, and sitting colorfully in front of a tepee making coin purses for tourists.

But Native Americans do exist, even though the government seems to be doing everything in its power to exterminate them. The government used to kill Native Americans quickly with rifles and with ropes. Now the government kills them slowly by insuring that they have little or no adequate medical care, so they die lingering deaths from disease.

"Across the country, the average life span of the U.S. non-Indian population is 65.1 years. Yet, the average life for the Navajo people ends more than 22 years earlier at age 42.4" write Tim Giago and Sharon Illoway.

While the infant mortality rate among Native Americans is declining thanks to "Well-Baby" clinics and better prenatal care, the death rate of Navajo babies over 18 weeks old is two and a half times that of the overall population.

Navajo parents have neither the means nor the money to drive their babies to clinics. When they stop going to the clinics, the babies die from pneumonia or diarrhea, mainly because their families do not have the money to give them healthy diets or a healthy living situation. Inadequate water supplies and poor sewage control lead to disease. 40% of Navajo families have no piped-in water, and Federal plans for 10,800 units of housing include no sanitary or water facilities.

It is not only Native American babies that suffer from a lack of proper medical care. The 25 to 34-year-olds,

whom Giago and Illoway say should be the backbones of their tribes, are dying too. Twice as many Native Americans in that age group die from diabetes as non-Indians, and the death rate from cirrhosis of the liver is 14.5 times that of the national death rate.

Many Native Americans are genetically allergic to milk and dairy products; they cannot metabolize lactose from milk. The government allotments of food to the Native Americans every month includes powdered milk, butter, and 5 pounds of cheese. Most of this is given to animals because the Native Americans can't eat it.

Pregnancy complications, accidents, respiratory diseases, and digestive illness are the four most frequent reasons for hospitalization of Native Americans. The fifth most frequent reason is mental illness.

The reasons are clear.

--46% of Native American families at the Pine Ridge Oglala Sioux Reservation live in 1- or 2-room houses. That compares with only 5% of non-Native Americans who are forced to live in houses that small.

--The Pine Ridge Reservation has an unemployment rate of 75%. The Yankton Sioux and the Standing Rock Sioux Reservations have 79% unemployment rates. The Shoshone Tribe in Idaho and the Blackfoot Tribe in Montana have 53% unemployment rates.

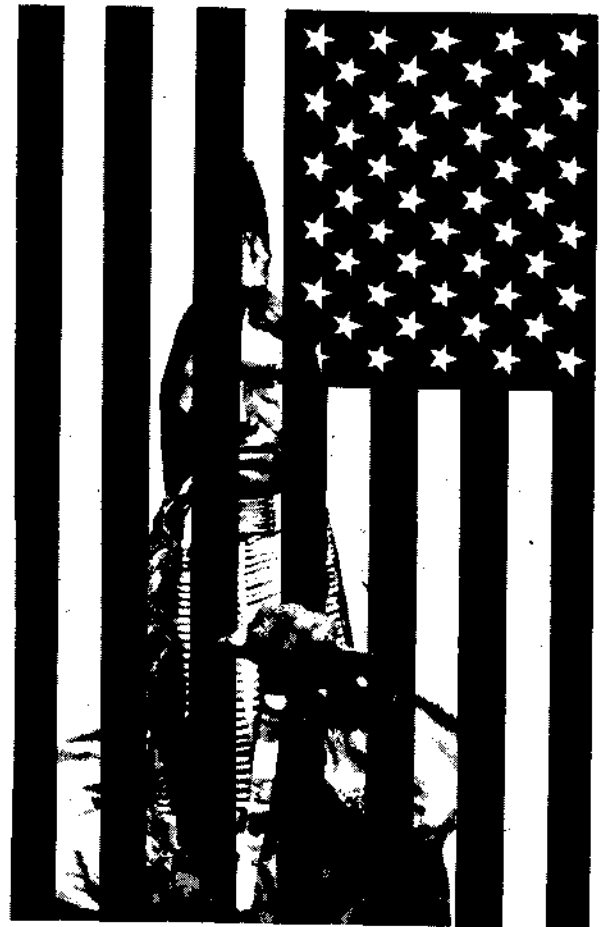
--The rate of health problems among Native Americans is twice as high as among non-Native Americans living in the same geographical area.

--Average per capita government spending in 1980 was \$3,688. The average for Native Americans the same year was \$2,948.

The appalling conditions under which Native Americans are forced to live lead to the huge problems on reservations: suicide and alcoholism.

Suicides for Native Americans have increased since the 1950s. The suicide rate for Native Americans 15-24 years of age is four times that of the national average.

Alcohol addiction among Native Americans is very high. And the need for escapism may not be the only reason. Dr. Thomas Lowe, a health care administrator with the Navajo, believes that Native Americans, like several



genetically related Asian groups, may lack an enzyme which would greatly reduce the ability for the body to clear alcohol from the system. This would reduce the tolerance for alcohol and make it easier to become physically dependent on it.

But despite the seriousness of alcoholism among Native Americans, there are very few detoxification programs on the reservations, and the few they have are suffering from severe funding cuts.

The government also seems to be doing everything in its power to add to the stressful lives the Native Americans already lead. Ten thousand Navajo and Hopi people are being relocated, by congressional decision, from small farms where they raise sheep and cattle to the middle of border towns. The few already moved have become confused and disoriented, and some of those are coming down with physical illnesses due to the drastic change of environment.

Relocation Commissioner Hawley Atkinson is sympathetic to their plight. "They'd better be out by July, 1986," he has said. "Or else we'll go in with guns and Federal marshalls."

So we're back to the rifles and the ropes. And, sadly enough, it seems much more humane. ●

--Deborah Wiatt

Source: "Dying Too Young," by Tim Giago and Sharon Illoway, in *Perspectives*, Fall, 1982.

## Peace Arts Festival

August 6th and 9th mark the anniversaries of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Knowing that it will take a massive effort to prevent another such holocaust and celebrating 38 years free of nuclear war, the Bloomington-Normal Nuclear Freeze Coalition invites all to join in the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Arts Festival.

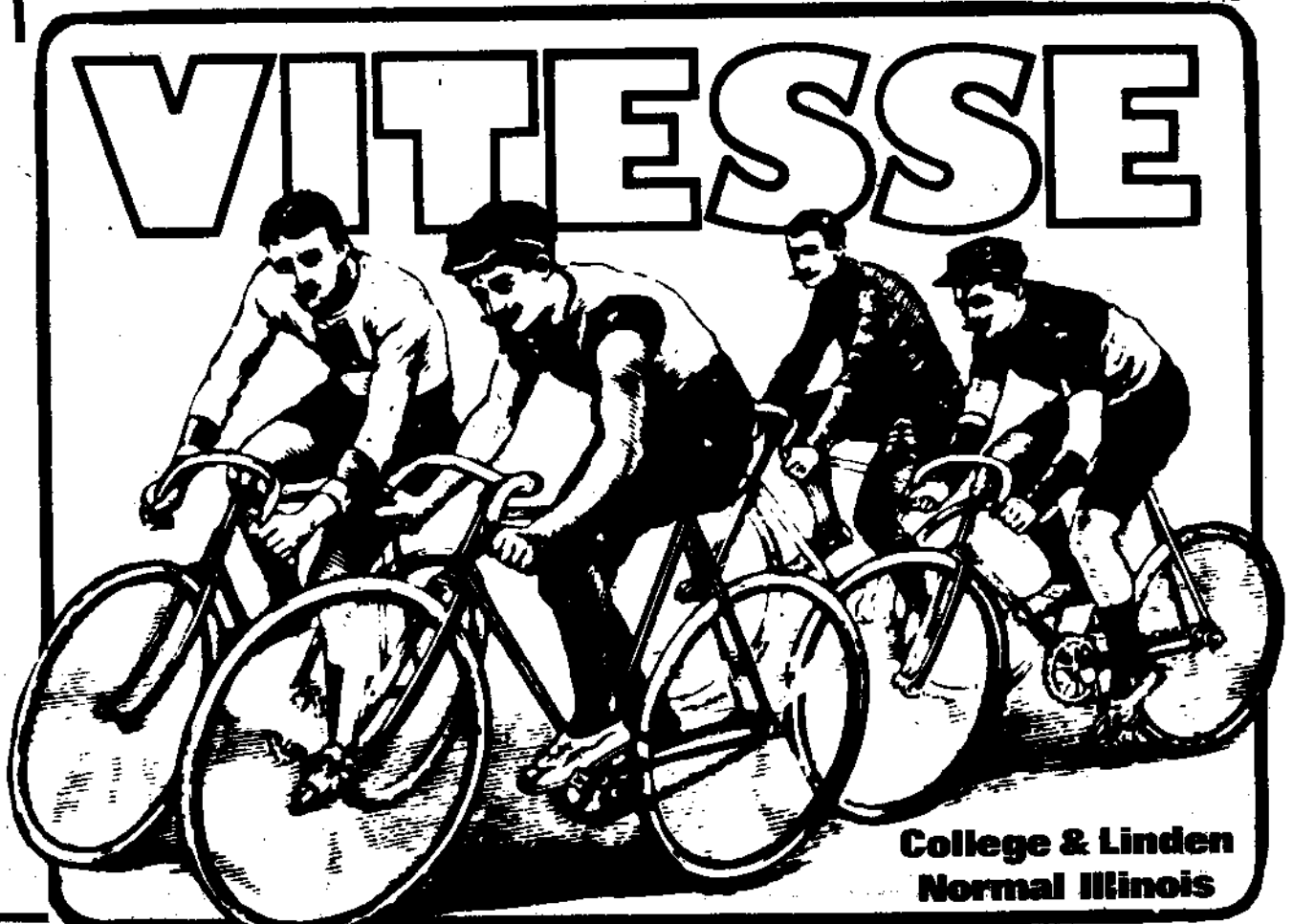
Taking place on Saturday August 6, the anniversary of the Hiroshima bombing, the festival will feature music, dancing, poetry readings, new games, children's story readings, the construction of origami cranes and banners, a literature table, munchies, and more.

The festival will begin at 2:00 p.m. with the program beginning at 2:30. The remainder of the time (until 4:00 p.m.) is free for wandering and participating. These activities will take place at Franklin Park with the Newman Center as a rain location. People wanting to contribute talent can contact Holly at 452-7291.

For Tuesday, August 9, a more quiet activity has been planned to mark the anniversary of the Nagasaki bombing: we will be holding a candlelight vigil near the Japanese bridge at Miller Park. This will begin at 8:30 p.m.

The B-N Nuclear Freeze Coalition also invites energetic freeze supporters to join us at our next meeting-- Sunday, July 31, 8:00 p.m. at 304 S. Evans, Bloomington. ●

--Holly



## Medical support services

The Mid Central Economic Opportunity Corporation (MCEOC) is seeking donations of wheelchairs, canes, crutches, walkers, or other medical equipment that may be stored in closets and is no longer in use.

These items will be made available for loan to low-income people at no charge.

MCEOC, during the winter months, also loans space heaters at no cost to households whose main heat source is inadequate or has been terminated.

Anyone who would like to donate medical equipment or space heaters may contact MCEOC at 1100 W. Market St., Bloomington (309-829-0691), or 515 N. Ladd, Pontiac (815-844-3201).

1981-Reaganomics

1982-Reaganemia

1983-Reaganosis

1984-Reagamortis

## Canning workshop scheduled

Mid Central Economic Opportunity Corporation, in conjunction with the Bloomington, Housing Authority will sponsor a Canning Workshop for interested residents of McLean County. Margaret Esposito from the University of Illinois Extension Office, will demonstrate techniques for canning fruits and vegetables, such as tomatoes, green beans and other produce. The workshop will take place at MCEOC's office, 1100 W. Market, Bloomington, Wednesday, July 20th at 7:00 p.m. For further information, phone 829-0691.

## Child immunizations

The McLean County Health Department has scheduled a child immunization clinic for Wednesday, August 10, 1983, from 1:00 P.M. until 3:00 P.M. at the Sunnyside Neighborhood Center at 1612 W. Olive St. in Bloomington. Parents must sign consent forms and are requested to bring their child's immunization record to the clinic.

## Senior health screening

The McLean County Health Department will be conducting a health screening clinic for senior citizens at the Township Building in McLean on Thursday, July 21st from 1:30 - 3:00 P.M. Blood pressure, anemia, glucose and urine screening will be provided to senior citizens 60 years of age or older.

Senior Citizens Health Check is a program provided by the McLean County Health Department through partial support of the East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging. For more information phone the McLean County Health Department at 454-1161.



## YWCA care program begins

YWCA Community Care Program has immediate openings for McLean County Residents 60 years of age and older who are in need of high level in-home care. If you, or someone you know is unable to or has difficulty preparing meals, leaving home without an escort, performing regular household tasks, grocery shopping, or taking care of his or her personal appearance, they may be eligible for Community Care services. Charges will vary depending on income and the amount of service provided.

This is not a sitter service nor will it replace needed nursing care. For additional information or application, phone Y.W.C.A. Senior Services at 454-1451.

## Workshop on sexual abuse

Parents and children can talk about sexual abuse at a workshop based on the "OK Bears" OK-Not OK Touches approach on Thursday, July 28. The workshop will feature:

- A demonstration of the OK - NOT OK TOUCHES approach with small groups of children, ages 6-10 years old
- Techniques and suggestions for parents and other adults to help them in protecting children from sexual abuse.

WHEN: Thursday, July 28, 7-8:30 pm  
WHERE: Bloomington Public Library, first floor meeting room

Pre-registration required for children's groups. Pre-registration encouraged for parents and adults.

Contributions to the OK - NOT OK TOUCHES sexual abuse library fund accepted at the door.

For pre-registration and additional information call Susan Strand at 827-8025.

The workshop is part of Planned Parenthood of Mid Central Illinois' sex education in the family series, co-sponsored by the Illinois State University child care center.

## Head Start registration

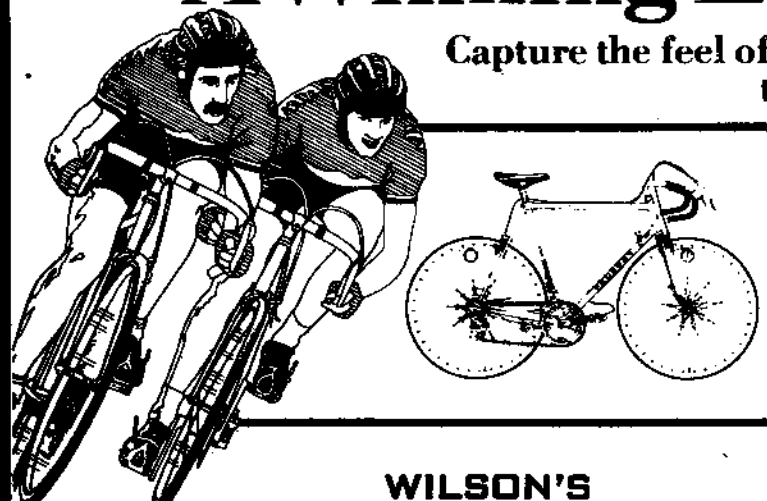
McLean County Head Start is taking applications for the 83-84 program year. Head Start includes a pre-school program covering total development services to children age 4. To be eligible for the program, your child must be 4 by Dec. 1, 1983. In addition, family income must meet the Federal income guidelines, but if your child has a diagnosed handicap, your family may be exempt from the income guidelines. For information, phone 829-1381.

## Farmers market open to all

Mid Central Economic Opportunity Corporation is organizing a Farmers Market to enable people to sell excess produce from their gardens. Households who are not low income will be charged a minimal rental fee for space at the market. Those interested in volunteering to help organize the market, in donating the produce, or in selling their produce at the Farmers Market should contact MCEOC's office at 829-0691.

## A Winning Experience

Capture the feel of competitive cycling with the Peugeot 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

**CYCLES  
PEUGEOT**



# Myths about welfare exploded

Some "concerned taxpayers" have questioned the three billion dollars the State of Illinois spent in fiscal year 1982 (and is still spending in 1983) to support those less fortunate than they by providing Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC)--more commonly known as welfare.

Their feelings are that tax dollars could be better spent, and I agree, but not for the same reasons. Most of their concerns are based on myths within the culture about why it is that welfare recipients aren't supporting themselves.

Here are some facts from the Department of Public Aid that present a clearer picture of the need for Illinois taxpayers to continue to support those less fortunate than themselves.

"Once on welfare, always on welfare" is one of the most repeated myths about people receiving AFDC; however, even with the many things working against them, it takes the average welfare family in Illinois less than three years to be self-supporting. Three years is certainly not always. About 55.2 percent of the AFDC families have been on assistance less than one year. Another 26.9 percent have been receiving assistance one year but less than two years, and families who have been on the rolls two but less than three were 8.5 percent of the total. Only 2 percent

have been receiving assistance ten years or more.

Another cultural myth is that welfare families are big families and keep having kids just to get more money. Within Illinois, the largest number of welfare families, 37.2 percent, have just one child,

LENGTH OF TIME ON WELFARE IN McLEAN COUNTY June 1982	
Less than three months	3.3%
Less than six months	13.1%
Six months to one year	20.3%
One to two years	21.5%
Two to three years	13.2%
Three to five years	12.9%
Five to ten years	12.1%
Ten years or more	3.3%

and 27.6 percent have two children. Within McLean County, of the 733 households receiving welfare, 303 are single parents with a child. These families are receiving \$236 monthly for all expenses excluding food. Rent and utilities for a one bedroom apartment, however, costs at least \$200 a month. So 303 families in McLean County are frivolously spending a maximum of 36 tax dollars per month on soap, shampoo, diapers, etc. And if they have another child, they'll be only \$48 richer each month.

58 percent of welfare recipients in McLean County have not finished high

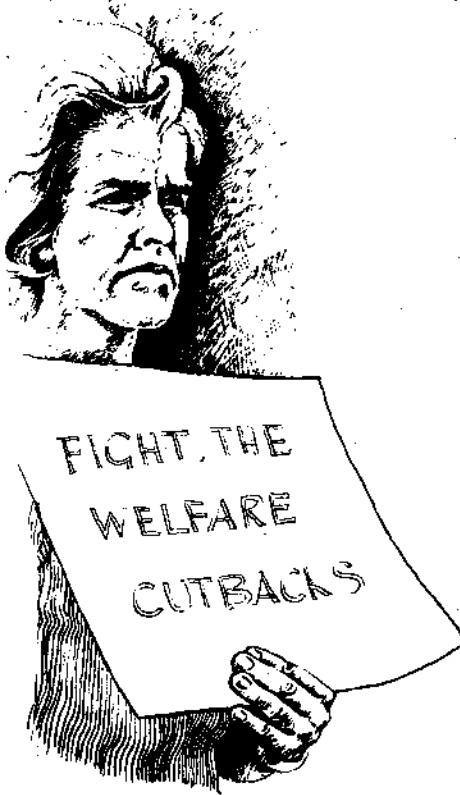
school. Now, some will say, if they aren't at least going to get educated, why don't they get themselves a job? And I say to them, look at the help wanted ads and see how many opportunities you find.

I've got another suggestion for those rich folks--I mean "concerned taxpayers"--who think welfare recipients are living a plush life while they are struggling at State Farm to make mortgage payments on their \$70,000 home. I think they should quit their jobs and head down to their local public aid office (where, by the way, they may spend all day or even several weeks gathering proof that they really are poor, but that's OK 'cause they'll have nothing better to do.) to see what it's really like. Maybe after this experience they will begin showing some genuine concern and seeking ways to provide better educational, nutritional and employment opportunities to people who haven't had it as easy as they. ●

--M.M.



"IF THERE'S ONE THING I DESPISE--IT'S THE WELFARE CHISELS!"



## Recycling made easier--and profitable

Recycling now not only saves natural resources and helps clean up the environment, it also provides a way to earn some extra cash. If you bring your recyclables to Operation Recycle (OR) on a Saturday morning between 9 and noon you will be paid 20 cents a pound for aluminum and 1 cent for 2 pounds of glass.

OR is a not-for-profit business which is staffed by three full-time workers. Changing it into a business has enabled the group to hire two low-income residents. A great deal of the work necessary to run the business is done by volunteers within the community.

Although the buy-back program can pay you only for glass and aluminum, OR also collects newspapers, tin cans, office paper and corrugated cardboard for recycling.

To start recycling at your home, set

aside a small dry area in a basement, garage, or closet. Collect the items in grocery bags or boxes, one for paper, one for glass, etc. When your area starts to get crowded, bring your items in and start over again.

OR has two convenient recycling locations. One is their warehouse at 1100 W. Market, Bloomington (the warehouse space and the office space are donated by Mid Central Economic Opportunity Corporation). It is a 24-hour drop box for recyclables. Another 24-hour station is available at 501 E. Stewart St., Bloomington, and OR plans to open more stations around town.

Recycling drives are held on Saturdays every 5 to 7 weeks at the Sears Eastland and ISU Turner Hall parking lots from 9 to 3. The next drive is scheduled for Saturday, August 27th. ●

--MM

## Denied public aid?

A number of individuals in the community have been affected by the WIN program which is administered by the Department of Public Aid. The program requires recipients to attend meetings and look for work. Some recipients have had their benefits reduced or discontinued because they failed to cooperate with the program.

If this has happened to you and you feel you had a good cause for missing the meetings or not searching for work, contact Prairie State Legal Services at 827-5021. They may be able to help you get your benefits back. ●

## rape crisis center of mclean county

WE'RE A NON-PROFIT VOLUNTEER GROUP WHOSE MAIN PURPOSE IS TO OFFER ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT TO VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AND THEIR FRIENDS AND FAMILIES. FEMALE VOLUNTEERS ANSWER OUR CALLS, BUT BOTH MALE AND FEMALE VOLUNTEERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR CRISIS ASSISTANCE, INFORMATION AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS.

If you want to talk to one of us,

Call PATH 827-4005

and ask for the

## rape crisis center

# Natural healing worked for endometriosis

In September 1982 I wrote an article concerning my experiences with endometriosis and my attempts to get funding for the treatment of that disease (Vol. 11, #5). The article ended on rather a bitter note--I had exhausted all resources and was still unable to begin the Danocrine therapy. However, my story turned out to have a happy ending and I would like to share it with the Post's readers.

Throughout my entire experience with endometriosis, I was afraid to use the Danocrine because of its side effects. I kept thinking that there must be some kind of safer, more natural method of treatment. I began to do a little research and in the August 1979 issue of Prevention magazine I found an article written by a woman whose experiences with endometriosis were very similar to mine.

She had heard that large doses of Selenium combined with Vitamin E had been used successfully in the treatment of ovarian cysts, which are believed to be caused by the same process as endometriosis. She began her own treatment program of 400 mcgs. of Selenium and 1000 I.U. of Vitamin E. Within several months, her endometriosis was gone! At the time of writing, she had been free of the disease for over a year.

Greatly encouraged by her article, I began to follow her treatment. It was also at this time that I began seeing Dr. D. William Hankins, a local chiro-

practor and holistic doctor who prescribes only vitamins, herbs, and glandulars (Raw Ovary, Raw Uterus, and a variety of others), as well as a specific liquid remedy for endometriosis which he had used to treat other women. All this combined with a vegetarian diet and an avoidance of sugar became my treatment plan.

Dr. Hankins' main philosophy is that in order to combat a specific problem or disease, the whole body must be functioning at its strongest. This is why he prescribed such a variety of vitamins and glandulars for me, and insisted that I see him on a weekly basis. All of this was still much less expensive than the cost of the Danocrine.

Within several weeks I began to notice a general improvement in the way I felt--I had much more energy and the pain from the endometriosis was far less noticeable. I knew, though, that the only way to be sure that the treatment was working was to have another laparoscopy. I continued the treatment for 5 months and went into the hospital for the surgery in March.

The only thing I really remember about my surgery was the moment after it was over and Dr. Lin came in and said, "It's all gone." I was pretty dazed at the time and couldn't quite comprehend what he meant. I went back to sleep and when I work up my mom and a close friend were there and they said the same thing. But I really didn't believe it until Dr. Lin

came in and said that except for a microscopic spot behind my uterus (which was already in atrophy), the endometriosis on both my ovaries, my bowel, and my stomach had completely cleared up!

I don't think there's any way to describe how that moment felt, or how the knowledge that I am cured still feels. To be rid of all that tension, frustration, and fear and to be able to just get on with my life is an amazing source of energy.

When I told Dr. Hankins about the success of our treatment, he was just as overjoyed as I was, particularly because I was the first woman to have a laparoscopy after his treatment and was proof positive that it works.

I am still seeing Dr. Hankins on a monthly basis and am continuing the treatment as a preventative measure against recurrence of the disease. But I believe that I have won the battle and will remain free of endometriosis as long as I continue to put my trust in the power of nature and the human body to heal itself.

Take that, pharmaceutical companies! ●

--Diane Ferris



## TV causes crowding

After touring prisons in Dwight and Lincoln in mid-May, State Rep. Judy Koehler gave these quotations to the Pantagraph:

"It is preferable to have some crowding in prison. The public intends that they (convicts) stay there."

"The only reason they're crowded there is because they've got a TV and a stereo and records in there," the lawmaker continued.

## Eisner, Prenzler get presents from city

The Normal Town Council gave an early Christmas present to local wheeler-dealer Vernon Prenzler and the Eisner food store chain in early July.

Eisner wants to build a huge grocery-drug store complex on land Vernon Prenzler controls on Normal's west side.

But West Hovey Avenue, which has been good enough for the traffic which currently uses the road, isn't good enough for all the customers Eisner plans to attract.

So the Town of Normal agreed to spend over \$300,000 to improve West Hovey.

Normal had already agreed to give Eisner an interest rate break by issuing \$2.5 million in tax-free municipal industrial revenue bonds to finance construction.

With the two presents from the city, Eisner and Prenzler were ready to sign their contracts.

Everybody's happy, except maybe the owners of Redbird Super-Valu and possibly Bloomington's North Main Street Kroger store, both of which will probably lose customers to the new city-subsidized grocery store.

## Women doctors close office

Doctors Patricia Dunbar and Linda Liston closed down their medical practice July 1, "in part due to the attitude of the medical community regarding women physicians," according to a letter-to-the-editor published June 30 in the Pantagraph. When contacted by the Post-American, the letter's author, Cynthia Leiseberg, said she could not elaborate.

## Suspect hits head on police flashlight

We've heard lots of stories about police using their flashlights to whap difficult suspects in the head. Sometimes the police get angry and whap when they don't really need to, or they whap a few times more than is necessary to subdue their prisoner. In those cases, police have to decide what sort of story they're going to tell about the whapping.

Normal Police Sgt. Gary Speers came up with a good one in early June, according to a Pantagraph story.

During the struggle to forcibly restrain and handcuff James Cummins, the paper said, the suspect "hit his head on a flashlight that was on the floor."

## Miscellaneous Outrages

*you may have missed*



Compiled by Mark Silverstein

## Cigarette ads forced on young moviegoers

Banned from TV years ago, slick cigarette ads are re-emerging in a new medium: the movies.

Attending three showings at Kerasotes theaters in late June, I was subjected each time to a disgusting 60-second (or longer) film touting the merits of Barclay cigarettes.

The advertising shorts were even run before films rated GP for audiences filled with people too young to buy cigarettes legally.

Meanwhile State Sen. John Maitland (whose diligent efforts brought us the recent anti-paraphernalia law) is crusading to ban mail-order advertising of bongos and other drug paraphernalia.

The sale of pipes for smoking marijuana, Maitland often maintained, made a mockery of the drug laws. And the advertising of paraphernalia, he says, makes a mockery of the anti-paraphernalia law.

If Maitland is truly interested in halting the promotion of addictive and physically dangerous drugs, maybe he should take some action to stop the drug pushers who run Kerasotes Theaters.

## Gen Tel's got your number . . . for sale

While approving General Telephone Company's most recent rate request, the Illinois Commerce Commission also granted the phone company permission to do something they've been aching to do for years: charge customers for using directory assistance.

The telephone company maintains the that directory assistance is over-used by people too lazy to use their telephone books.

But for young people and renters who move frequently, and whose friends move frequently, the telephone book is often irritatingly out-of-date. With a three-month lag time on the publication of the annual directory, it can take up to 15 months before

someone's new phone number is published.

Although Gen Tel does not hand out phone books for other cities in our area code (like Peoria and Galesburg), they received permission to charge for information about all 309 numbers.

The first 5 calls to directory assistance each month are still free. So are calls to directory assistance in other area codes.

Why couldn't the commerce commission have allowed Gen Tel to charge only for numbers that are already in the telephone book? That would have been enough to deal with the "abuse" of directory assistance that Gen Tel has been complaining about since 1972.

Welcome in Summer  
105 Broadway • Normal

**GUITAR WORLD**

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

on the  
MUSIC SCENE

## ★★ Violent Femmes storm Normal ★★

The Milwaukee-based trio, the Violent Femmes (whose debut LP on WB/Slash is available locally) has been garnering a lot of national attention lately. Accompanying the release of "Violent Femmes" earlier this year (rock & roll is a business) was the PR tale of their discovery by lead Pretender Chrissie Hynde, who supposedly caught their acoustic streetcorner act and was impressed enough to have them open for her show that night. In my humble opinion, both the woman's aesthetic judgment and the band's promising talent are right on. The Violent Femmes are into something new.

The band was loose and happy on their second visit to Fink's June 29. Gordon Gano, the 19-year-old lead singer and guitarist, was energetically abandoning the mike stand to shout a cappella his sing-song evocations of teenage lust and frustration, while drummer Victor DeLorenzo, whanging joyfully on his trance-a-phone (actually a washtub of corrugated iron turned down on a tom-tom), and brilliant bassist Brian Ritchie consorted in smiles as they kept the beat bouncy. They were obviously having a good time.

Certainly the songs they played from their album, imbued as they are in the pit of angst and anger that is adolescence, were nothing less than violent statements. But the songs' delivery was definitely light, as they interspersed their sets with several old time blues numbers, and shared a private joke with their tongue-in-cheek rendition of a song entitled "We're Fashionable."

The Femmes and their music give rise to the generic label "new wave punk." The Femmes use an innovatively primitive mode. They bring back a fresh acoustic sound with their simple instrumentation, and they take it places that music hasn't yet been, positively redefining the rhythm-and-blues of the past and making us groove in new and different ways. This justifies the appellation "new wave."

Countering the sound of their music are desperately cynical, precociously violent lyrics. Gordon Gano's high school experience--and I can only assume that it's over--must have made Apocalypse Now seem a picnic. A sample of his lyric:

"I'm so lonely/Feel like I wanna  
crawl away and die...  
I'm so lonely/Feel like I'm gonna  
hack it apart,  
I'm gonna hack hack hack hack it  
apart,  
I'm gonna hack hack hack hack  
...etc."

Obviously, the words in print won't evoke the same sense of despair and indignation that Gordon imparts to them with his neo-Lou Reed voicings, but it is equally obvious that the message contained within is as stridently iconoclastic as Johnny Rotten's more succinct "I wanna destroy..." on "Anarchy in the U.K."

Throughout the show, the Femmes exhibited a high level of confidence. They weren't at all hesitant to break into highly subjective, free-form jams which were nothing less than daring, considering the no-frills, acoustic sound they employ. Every last note was nakedly audible, and yet they didn't shy from spontaneous experimentations. That's what John Cale would call musical "guts."

Those who appreciate "new wave" and "punk" music should try to see the Violent Femmes someplace soon. It's not certain how angry the young Gordon will be once he's reached his 20's. ●

--Red Newton

## ★★ Spinal Tap ★★

Normal's own punks, the Spinal Tap, have recently undergone some personnel changes. The foursome has finally found itself an able and steady bassist in ex-Uptown Ruler Mark Hilton. He lends an appreciable push to the group's already exhaustively driving sound.

Bill Hill is now filling the vacancy left by departed lead guitarist Bill Stagner, and leading Spinal Tap's aural onslaught. Hill can sing as well as he plays, and in this regard is a welcome addition to the band.

Hilton and Hill join lyricist/drummer Mark Johnson and vocalist/guitarist Jeff Warren.

Now maybe Spinal Tap can get themselves some gigs. Let's hope...



... LIGHT ANOTHER CIGARETTE  
AND LEARN TO FORGET  
HOW RADIO ONCE WAS...  
WITH

1440

WAR

# Uptown Rulers

★★

# diaTribe

June 16th marked the debut appearance of the refurbished Uptown Rulers on the floor up at Fink's. Setting what must have been a door-receipts record for the club, the new Rulers' disappointed none of their ecstatic, sweaty following with sets comprised almost entirely of reggae-hued ska originals. Original members Mike Goodrich, Chris Grigoroff and Dennis Willan have been supplemented by the services of drummer Brian Bongoes and bassist Joe Adducci.

Hearing melodies of great pop richness overlaid on a rock-solid rhythmic bottom, the audience expressed its mass approval of the new Ruler sound with its feet, jamming every available inch of Fink's with dancing. No one could have left this show without the firm conviction that the Uptown Rulers are a dynamic, raving good band. The perspiration-soaked clothing told that much.

Reportedly, the band is set to begin studio work on its second recording effort for Red Scare Records at Creative Audio in Urbana. The sought-after Rich Denhardt, composer/engineer of Adrian Belew, King Crimson, Combo Audio, and others, will produce the follow-up to the Uptown Rulers first EP, "12", Twelve". According to guitarist/vocalist Goodrich, the new disc will probably contain 6-8 new songs.

In the meantime, the Rulers have a rapidly-filling concert schedule that will see them in places throughout the midwestern states, but not much here in Bloomington/Normal.

The Friday, July 1, gig of diaTribe's provided evidence aplenty of this art band's vibrancy. Although the heat upstairs at Fink's was nearly unbearable, the new sound that human drummer Jeffrey Scot helps to provide was a refreshing breeze. Dean, Dwin, James and Timothy were in Red's opinion absolutely right when they decided to welcome Scot's vital pulse into the band.

Overall, the new diaTribe songs seem much less introspectively gloom-filled than was the older material. This is a healthy shift in stance, since the old stuff almost drove you to suicide while listening to it. This time, Dean actually smiled.

Red is definitely impressed with what he saw and heard of the new, improved diaTribe.

on the  
MUSIC SCENE



## The sad demise of Fink's

It's a rotten, stinking shame, but Bob Fink's oasis for authentic new music is biting the dust. The debt-beleaguered Fink has done these twin-city towns an incredible service during his tenancy over Beaufort St., offering in his venue some of the most exciting different acts to ever blow this way off the prairie, or grow to maturity on top of it.

In addition to helping scores of young local bands onto their professional feet, Fink brought to Normal national acts of extreme interest and talent. Where else within a 120-mile radius could one have paid no more than \$3.50 and seen the likes of the enervating Jason and the Nashville Scorchers, or gained admission to the rollicking polka party that was Brave Combo? And, more recently--who will forget the interesting throes that Milwaukee's own Violent Femmes engaged in? That ascendant trio was so impressed with the casual lay-out and interested clientele of Fink's that they opted to come back a second time while on their national tour for Warner Bros./Slash Records (see review below).

To old Red, and probably to myriads of others, the demise of Fink's seems a very bad dream indeed, one which will no doubt reduce this place into the cultural wasteland it has otherwise been, bereft of the efforts of progressive-minded persons like Bob Fink.

We'll sorely miss Bob Fink's. ●



Bob Fink contemplates unemployment

--on the music scene  
Red Newton

CLASSY-FRIED ADS



TEENAGE WOMEN, before you volunteer for the military be sure you know what will happen to you. Send \$3 (includes handling) for Women: The Recruiter's Last Resort to RECON Publications, PO Box 14602, Philadelphia PA 19134.

Post-American Aug. 1983 23

## FAREWELL FINK'S

WHEN FINK'S FIRST OPENED UNDER ITS NEW NAME, IT SEEMED VERY MUCH A CONTINUANCE OF THE OLD COFFEEHOUSE GALLERY!



FOR ME THE TURNING POINT CAME WHEN BOB F. AND DRASTIE PLASTIC BEGAN SPONSORING WEDNESDAY "NEW WAVE NITE!" THE OLD GALLERY HAD MADE A STAB AT NEW POP DISCO--BUT FINK'S BUILT A CROWD OF REGULARS WITH IT! I WAS ONE OF THE DEEJAYS: I GOT PAID IN BEERS!



WHEN BOB DROPPED THE RECORD PLAYING IN FAVOR OF LIVE BANDS, WE D.J.S WERE RESENTFUL--PARTICULARLY WHEN A BILLED "NEW WAVE NITE" BAND TURNED OUT TO BE MERELY ORDINARY! BUT THE BANDS IMPROVED! SO DID MY ATTITUDE!



PROBABLY THE BEST THING ABOUT FINK'S WAS THE INTIMACY BETWEEN CUSTOMER AND MUSICIAN! OVER A WEEK THE PLACE SPOTLIGHTED ALL KINDS OF MUSIC, NOT JUST NEW WAVE, AND IT WAS ALL SHOWBIASED WITH THE SAME APPEALING CASUALNESS!



## Thompson repays campaign debt

# City, state, help ISSCS developers get rich

One Normal Plaza, the new development of the former Illinois Soldiers' and Sailors' Childrens' School, is boasted as the area's most exciting example of private urban renewal.

On the surface, the idea is simple and admirable: pour venture capital into abandoned-but-still-useful property and create a bustling commercial center with a mix of specialty shops, offices, day care and recreation areas.

One would hope it is an emerging trend to reverse the neglect and decay of older buildings and downtown areas like Bloomington's.

All it takes is the vision and energy of a few sharp lawyers and real estate developers and a bunch of folks with a bunch of money to invest--folks who could use the tax breaks.

In the case of One Normal Plaza, the deal sounds almost too good to be true; everybody is going to win out.

Jobs will be created, the property will be put to use, the city will not have to put out any of its own money, and all the local taxing districts will reap new revenues since the land is no longer owned by the state.

"I think you're going to find this is a really fun thing," Bloomington lawyer Tom Jacob reportedly told city council members when he approached them with a tax-increment financing plan.

Under his proposal, the owners would get two-thirds of the property taxes rebated to them to cover their costs of development.

Again, nobody loses because there was no tax money being generated from the



property in the first place; state-owned land is exempt.

The rest of us might find the whole thing to be a lot of fun, but Jacob and his group are absolutely ecstatic.

Consider how the plaza concept became a reality.

Illinois was looking for something to do with the place after it closed the children's school in 1979. But although several groups expressed interest in it, Gov. Thompson had to wait until he was re-elected in November or face the risk that his opponent would charge him with giving away state property.

This spring, he put it on the auction block. Jacob's group--which includes lawyer Paul Misch and developers J.C. Ebach, Jim Bliss and Ed Saari--were the only bidders.

At the starting price of \$1.75 million, there aren't going to be too many people in the market.

But don't think these guys were sitting on that kind of money just waiting for the chance to buy a passel of crumbling buildings.

The terms of the auction called for the high bidder to make payment in full, unless prior arrangements had been made with the state.

Jacob's group had done just that. And a sweetheart of an arrangement it was at that. They negotiated with Thompson's people to pay 5 percent of the purchase price within the first 60 days. While the state would finance the rest at 8 percent interest over a 25-year period.

It doesn't take a financial wizard to think about getting a loan of more than a million and a half dollars at those terms and understand why Tom Jacob is having so much fun.

But if you think the state was ready to offer that deal to anybody who was interested, you don't have a good understanding of Illinois politics and the meaning of clout.

Even if everything else were equal, Tom Jacob still has something you don't have: in 1978, he was Thompson's campaign manager.

Still think you or I could get that kind of loan? ●

--Atticus Finch

# 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 issues, send \$4 to Post-Amerikan, PO Box 3452, Bloomington IL 61701.

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