

Eastern Illinois University

## The Keep

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The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)

The Post Amerikan Project

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11-1975

### Volume 4, Number 8

Post Amerikan

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ACLU vs. MEG; KING; COPS; LENZ; NARCS; Price Increase

Bloomington Normal

25c

# POST AMERIKAN

NOVEMBER 1975

Vol. IV. No. 8

## AMERIKAN GRAFFITI

...the flip side of nostalgia



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

DIVORCE: Amerikan Style;

MONTY PYTHON

BULK RATE U.S. POSTAGE PAID NORMAL, ILL. 61761

# ABOUT US

# POST SELLERS

Mail, which we more than welcome, should be mailed to: The Post-Amerikan, 101 North St., Normal, Illinois, 61761.

Anyone can be a member of the Post staff except maybe Sheriff King. All you have to do is come to the meetings and do one of the many different and exciting tasks necessary for the smooth operation of a paper like this. We have one brilliant, dynamic, underpaid coordinator; the rest of us don't get paid at all, except in ego gratification and good karma.

Decisions are made collectively by staff members at one of our regular meetings. All workers have an equal voice. The Post-Amerikan has no editor or hierarchical structure, so quit calling up here and asking who's in charge.

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

Most of our material or inspiration for material comes from the community. We encourage you, the reader, to become more than a reader. We welcome all stories or tips for stories. Bring stuff to a meeting (the schedule is printed below) or mail it to our office.

### MEETING SCHEDULE

Friday, October 31 . . . . . 6:30 p.m.  
 Friday, November 7 . . . . . 6:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday, November 12 . . . . . 6:30 p.m.  
 (articles deadline)  
 Saturday, November 15 . . . . . 11:00 a.m.  
 (layout begins)  
 Sunday, November 16 . . . . . 12 noon,  
 layout.

These meetings are held at the Post-Amerikan office, 101 North St., Normal.

Subscriptions cost \$2.50 for twelve issues, \$5.00 for 24 issues, etc. Buy one for yourself and a friend.

You can make bread hawking the Post-- 7 1/2¢ a copy, except for the first 50 copies on which you make only 5¢ a copy. Call 452-9221 or stop by the office.

Our number is 452-9221, or you can reach folks at 828-6885, or 828-7908.

## POST Admits to Price Increase

Well, I guess you noticed that this paper cost you 25¢ instead of the usual 15¢. I don't like it either. In fact, I didn't like it when the paper went from 10¢ to 15¢ in June 1973.

You could ask yourself if there's anything else in Amerika that stayed the same price from June 1973 to November 1975. (The answer is no, unless you count the best things in life, which are free.) And then you could tell yourself that not only did the Post Amerikan stay the same price--it got BIGGER instead of smaller. (Unlike candy bars.) But all this sweet reason isn't going to mean a thing when you're digging your last quarter out of your jeans to put in a machine.

So here's some more things to contemplate. It's getting colder out now, and this winter you won't have to mess around trying to get a dime and a nickel out of your pocket while you're freezing to death; the price increase makes buying a paper a simple one-coin operation.

Also, gas prices are getting higher and higher, and this winter you'll probably be setting your thermostat at 65 or below in order to eat, and you'll be sitting around feeling sorry for yourself and shivering. Well, with revenue from the price increase, the Post Amerikan is going to print more pages, adding a bunch of depressing international and national news (the really bad stuff that you don't get in the Pantagraph,) and you'll feel lucky that you aren't in jail for reading it, like you would be in Spain, or Italy, or South Africa, or Argentine, or Chile, or Alabama.

Also, you probably won't have a job or anything this winter, or any prospects of one, and with Family Hour, and higher cable rates, and advertisers getting frantic because nobody can buy anything any more, you won't want to spend your leisure time watching TV. For just a quarter a month, you can pass those long cold evenings reading the Post and taking bets on whether the stories are true or not.

I'll even give you a hot tip: they are.

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### Justice for Farmworkers--



### Boycott Grapes and Head Lettuce.

Support the United Farmworkers Union (AFL-CIO)

### NORMAL

- University Liquors, 706 W. Beaufort
- Welcome Inn (in front)
- Redbird IGA
- Newman Center, 501 S. Main
- Student Stores, 115 North St.
- Mother Murphy's, 111 1/2 North St.
- Ram, 101 Broadway Mall
- Al's Pipe Shop, 101 Broadway Mall
- Hendren's Grocery, 301 W. Willow
- Co-op Bookstore (in front)
- Sugar Creek Book Co-op 115 North St.
- The Gallery (in front)
- Lobby Shop, ISU Union
- Cage, ISU Union
- Recreation Center, ISU
- Midstate Truck Plaza, Rt. 51 North
- Hottle House, 1402 S. Main
- SW Corner, University & College
- Radio Shack, Raab Rd. (in front)
- Dairy Queen, 1110 S. Main
- Old Main Bookstore, 207 S. Main

### BLOOMINGTON

- The Joint, 415 N. Main
- DA's Liquors, Oakland and Main
- Medusa's Bookstore, 100 blk. W. Market
- News Nook, 402 1/2 N. Main
- Book Hive, 103 W. Front
- Cake Box, 511 S. Denver
- Gaston's Barber Shop, 202 1/2 N. Center
- Sambo's, Washington & U.S. 66
- DeVary's Market, 1402 W. Market
- Harris' Market, 802 N. Morris
- Hickory Pit, 920 W. Washington
- Biasi's, 217 N. Main
- Discount Den, 207 N. Main
- SW corner, Morris and Washington
- Madison St. Cafe, 317 S. Madison
- Produce-A-Plenty, 1409 S. Main
- J&L Gas Co., 1402 S. Main
- U-I Grocery, 918 W. Market St.
- U-I Grocery, 608 S. Lee
- Krogers, 1110 E. Oakland Ave.
- Mike's Market, 1013 N. Park
- Bus Depot, 523 N. East St.
- Park Store, 909 S. Allin
- Nierstheimer's Drugs, 1302 N. Main
- Pantagraph Bldg. (right in front)

## GOOD NUMBERS

Once again, for the benefit of all, we have a list of numbers you can stick by your telephone to use when you need help, or if you just want someone to talk to. If you know of any numbers we left out, call Virginia at the Post-Amerikan, or write it down and send it over.

- Information 1411
- Alcoholics Anonymous 828-5049
- American Red Cross 828-5065
- Am. Civil Liberties Union 436-6709
- Birtheright 452-0041
- Boycott Support Committee 452-5046
- Community for Soc. Action 828-9148
- Day Care Centers (see yellow pages)
- Director of Public Serv. 829-1488
- Divinyl Madness Records 454-2521
- Dept. H.E.W. 829-9436
- Dept. Ch. and Fam. Serv. 829-5346
- Food Stamps (see Public Aid)
- Family Serv. of McLean Cty. 828-4343
- Gay People's Alliance 438-3411
- Headstart Program 828-8413
- Home Svt. Home Mission 828-7356
- ISU Tenant Union 436-6661
- Ill. Lawyer Referral 800-242-8916
- ISU Student Legal Serv. 438-3642
- Kaleidoscope 828-7346
- Lighthouse 828-1371
- Ill. St. Employment Serv. 827-6237
- Men's Rap Group 829-8792  
452-9221  
829-7908
- McLean Cty. Mental H. Center 827-0073
- McLean Cty. Youth Serv. Agcy 827-6241
- McLean Cty. Health Dept. 829-3363
- Occupational Dev. Center 828-7324
- Project Oz 827-6714
- Public Aid 829-7057
- Post-Amerikan 452-9221
- Planned Parenthood 827-8025
- PATH 452-4422
- Rape Crisis Line (call PATH)
- Sugar Crk. Book Co-op 452-7623
- Salvation Army 829-9476
- Senior Action Center 827-6201
- Sunnyside Neighborhood Cntr. 829-9715
- State's Attorney's Office 829-3328
- WESN Radio 556-2332

# ACLU SUES NARCS FOR \$1 MILLION

3

At an October 14 press conference in Peoria, the American Civil Liberties Union announced that it had filed a federal suit against MEG (Multi-County Enforcement Group) for over \$1 million. At the same time, the civil liberties group sent an 8-page letter to 12 city and county governments, asking them to withdraw their support from the multi-jurisdictional undercover narcotics force. (For full text of ACLU's letter, which includes a documented indictment of the undercover police, see elsewhere in this issue.)

The federal suit alleges that Bloomington resident Sammy Neal was illegally entrapped into delivering drugs to a MEG agent. The suit asks \$25,000 actual damages, plus \$1 million in punitive damages.

The actual damages include Neal's loss of his job, plus time lost from having to spend three months in jail before he could gather enough money for bail.

Defendants in the suit are Jerry LaGrow, executive director of the Multi-county Enforcement Group; Shelby Stiger, a paid MEG informant who supplied Neal with heroin to deliver to another MEG agent; "J.J.," also known as Robert J. Edwards, the MEG agent who purchased the drugs from Neal; and Paul Welch, McLean County State's Attorney.

The suit claims that MEG informant Shelby Stiger came to Sammy Neal with a packet to hold for



Sammy Neal: entrapped by MEG, now suing for \$1 million.

someone else to pick up. According to the suit, Neal agreed to hold the packet until the arranged person could come. That person turned out to be a MEG agent who called himself "JJ." Neal's transferring the packet to "JJ" constituted the delivery Neal was later charged with.

There were three such deliveries. In each case, the suit says, MEG employee Shelby Stiger supplied the packet of powder to Neal. So in reality MEG employees were both buying and selling, with Sammy Neal in the middle.

Two of the deliveries, the suit contends, proved not to be controlled substances. ACLU says that State's Attorney Paul Welch possessed a lab report proving that the substances were not controlled, yet pressed for an indictment anyway. The two extra indictments for substances which were not illegal helped keep Neal in jail for two months, since each charge adds to the bail required.

The ACLU suit says that when Neal's attorney found out that it was really a case of entrapment, he secured a dismissal from the State's Attorney.

This is the 2nd lawsuit to hit the undercover drug squad in the last year.

Last spring Ed Cotton slapped a \$7 1/2 million libel suit on MEG, its director, and each of the governmental units which give money and/or manpower to MEG. That suit asks damages for MEG director LaGrow's telling a Galesburg newspaper that Cotton, a recently-acquitted defendant, was really guilty.

## Welch, Grand Jury, MEG Knew About Entrapment

Court records in the cases of Sammy Neal and Shelby Stiger completely back up ACLU charges that paid MEG informant Shelby Stiger delivered drugs to Sammy Neal, and proceeded to have Sammy Neal busted.

Records in the McLean County Circuit Clerk's office for criminal cases 75cf286, 75cf173, and 74cf682 show that all law enforcement authorities involved—including a grand jury, the State's Attorney's Office, 2 independent polygraph operators, and even MEG itself—finally wound up believing Sammy Neal's reports that he had been entrapped illegally.

With ACLU support, Neal is now suing MEG and others for \$1 million for illegal entrapment (see adjoining story.)

Neal was originally busted for allegedly delivering controlled substances to MEG agent Robert J. Edwards, who used the name "J.J." Neal argued that MEG informant Shelby Stiger had not only arranged the sale to Agent Edwards, but also supplied the drugs and taken the money for the sale.

Two separate lie detector operators said Neal was telling the truth. Their reports can be found in the court file for 75cf286.

MEG informer Shelby Stiger was also given a lie detector test. Stiger tried to contradict Neal's entrapment story. The polygraph operators said Stiger was lying, according to court records.

Charges against Sammy Neal. Reason for dismissal, according to the court records, was that Neal had successfully passed two polygraph tests.

At the next grand jury, in June 1975, MEG operative J.W. "Bill" Stephens (head of MEG's Bloomington office) and Sammy Neal testified about Shelby Stiger. The result: MEG informant Shelby Stiger was indicted for delivery of a controlled substance. The delivery cited was a delivery to Sammy Neal—the drugs in question were the same packets of drugs Neal had previously been busted for.

Also in the court file in the delivery case against Shelby Stiger is the statement of assistant State's Attorney Ron Dozier, who admitted that during Stiger's delivery of heroin to Sammy Neal, Stiger was "a paid undercover informant for the Multi-County Enforcement Group.

After ACLU filed suit alleging that MEG had entrapped Sammy Neal, MEG head Jerry LaGrow was quoted on TV saying that ACLU's charges

were "total nonsense." "If I had the information ACLU supposedly has, I'd take it to a grand jury," LaGrow was quoted.

But the case of *People v. Shelby Stiger* shows that the grand jury was not a grand jury last June. MEG Agent Bill Stephens was one of the people securing the indictment. And the grand jury agreed with ACLU: MEG informant Shelby Stiger did illegally deliver heroin.

At the time he was indicted for delivering a controlled substance, MEG informant Shelby Stiger already had a pending forgery charge. In September '75 Stiger and the State's Attorney worked out a plea bargain. Stiger pleaded guilty to forgery, and the delivery charge was dropped. The plea bargain calls for Stiger to pay back the \$600 he received from the forged check.

Yet nothing in the agreement mentions the \$900 Stiger got from MEG for selling them drugs while also collecting MEG money for his informant's salary. Stiger actually was selling drugs to a MEG agent while going through Neal, who was an unwitting middle person. Neal, the lie detector analyst reports, simply passed on the money to Stiger. On one occasion, a grateful Stiger laid \$20 on Neal for helping with the transaction.

## MEG's Reply to Suit: More Busts

To counter the bad publicity over getting sued again, MEG quickly put together an "instant raid" to show its strength after the ACLU press conference October 14.

The raid took place between midnight and 6 AM Wednesday, Oct. 15, and was based on 101 charges against 37 people in Fulton County.

MEG busts are usually based upon grand jury indictments; the Oct. 15 arrests were based on "criminal informations," which are just complaints signed by the State's Attorney.

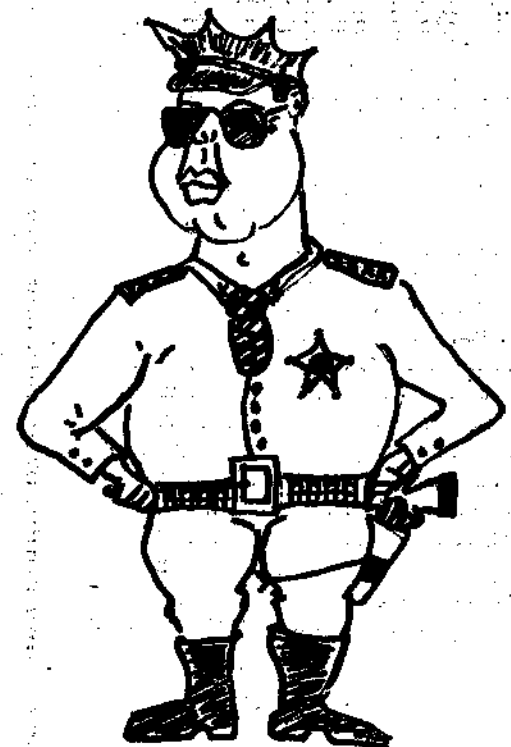
"Criminal informations" can be obtained in a hurry, and that's what MEG did.

On Friday, Oct. 10, ACLU called an anti-MEG press conference for the following

Tuesday. MEG had just a few days to prepare complaints for cases which they probably would have worked on for another month or two, if it were not for the sudden bad promo.

Many of the arrests were for delivering substances which were not controlled substances. In other words, the "drug pushers" arrested did not sell any drugs; they sold a substance which they represented to be drugs, but which lab reports showed were not.

Selling a substance purported to be a controlled substance is still a felony in Illinois, but it's not the kind of charge that narcotics agents pride themselves on bringing in. The large number of these shows MEG was in a hurry to file a lot of charges quickly.



# ACLU Slams narcs'

**Post-Note:** On October 14, two ACLU chapters called a joint press conference in Peoria. Besides announcing the filing of a \$1 million lawsuit against MEG, the ACLU chapters declared that they were asking for an end to all government support of MEG. ACLU sent an 8-page request to all six counties, six cities, and the Illinois Law Enforcement Commission--the entities which support MEG--asking that support be ended. The complete text of that request follows.

The Peoria Chapter and the McLean/DeWitt/Livingston Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union have concluded that the activities of the Multi-County Enforcement Group (MEG) violate citizen's Constitutionally-guaranteed civil liberties and exert a chilling effect on democratic institutions. The record indicates that MEG has engaged in activities which not only abridge citizens' Constitutional rights, but which have been clearly illegal and morally questionable. Governmental units which support MEG as a secret-police force through financial and/or personnel resources aid and abet in the commission of these acts and contribute to the perpetuation of a climate in which such acts are condoned.

ACLU requests that the Illinois Law Enforcement Commission, the six counties, and the six municipalities listed above terminate their support of the Multi-County Enforcement Group and cease their participation in MEG's activities. The basis for the request follows.

There is evidence documented that MEG and its chief administrator, Jerry LaGrow, have engaged in activities which violate citizen's Constitutionally-guaranteed rights, and are in many ways illegal.

1. The Pekin High School Case, documented in reports on the dismissal hearing of Principal Ray Morelli in the Peoria Journal Star and the Bloomington Daily Pantagraph.

a) MEG entered into a conspiracy with Morelli and local police to place an undercover agent in Pekin High School's East Campus without the knowledge of the school's administrators or of the Pekin School Board. This act subverted the authority of the school board as an elected body charged with supervision of the schools of the district. b) MEG was thus instrumental and cooperative in establishing a system of undercover or clandestine surveillance in the high school.



CLANDESTINE SURVEILLANCE  
IN HIGH SCHOOL

c) MEG supplied an undercover agent to watch students and teachers for evidence of drug activities; as an additional duty the agent was instructed to make notes on teachers suspected of teaching "inappropriate" matters, specifically, "deviate sexual practices and blatantly communist and left-wing politics." (Daily Pantagraph, Jan. 22, 1975).

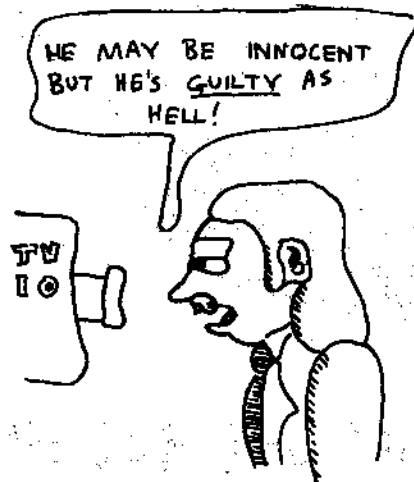
d) Through its chief Bloomington operative, John "Bill" Stephens, MEG supplied its Pekin undercover agent with a forged Bloomington High School transcript to fraudulently misrepresent that person as a transfer student to Pekin High School. At the Morelli hearing, the undercover agent testified: "I was told by agent John Stephens that the falsified transcripts were a federal offense." (Peoria Journal Star, Jan. 23, 1975.)

(For additional documentation, see Journal Star, Jan. 22, 1975, and Daily Pantagraph, Dec. 21, 1974; Jan. 23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 1975.)

2. The Cotton case, documented in the Daily Pantagraph and in the Galesburg Register-Mail.

a) In bringing drug-selling charges against Edward Cotton, a school teacher in Abingdon, MEG presented evidence so patently fabricated that Judge Heiple, presiding in the case, was forced to instruct the jury to render a directed verdict of not guilty. Judge Heiple subsequently called a highly exceptional press conference to explain that the directed verdict was required by MEG's shoddy presentation of its case and the agents' "poor and unprofessional police work." (Daily Pantagraph, Jan. 21, 1975).

b) Subsequent to Mr. Cotton's being declared not guilty, MEG's chief administrator, Jerry LaGrow, himself had a press conference in which he asserted that Mr. Cotton was guilty as charged; he further stated that MEG had a statement from the 17-year-old agent "that he purchased LSD from Cotton, and also a statement allegedly made by Cotton to the undercover agent at the time of his arrest. In the statement, Cotton allegedly told the undercover agent he had been into drugs for eight years since he was a student at Illinois State University, and that he knew 25 dealers, four of whom dealt in cocaine and one in heroin." (Galesburg Register-Mail, Jan. 21, 1975). The Register-Mail then quotes LaGrow as saying of Cotton: "He felt safe selling to a 17-year-old because he knew he couldn't be a narcotics agent."



Mr. LaGrow, as director of a police force supported with taxpayers' money, thus improperly used his official position to declare an acquitted man guilty. Edward Cotton has subsequently filed a civil suit against MEG, LaGrow, the Register-Mail, and the 12 governmental units which support MEG asking 7.5 million dollars in damages for defamation of his character and potential injury to his future career as a teacher. (Daily Pantagraph, Feb. 6, 1975).

3. Following arrests, MEG has repeatedly made statements in the press assuming guilt on the part of those arrested before they had been indicted or tried. These statements in the press constitute

adverse pre-trial publicity which makes it difficult for the accused to receive a fair trial. According to a highly respected Bloomington attorney who frequently has undertaken the defense of persons arrested on drug charges through MEG's action, these statements have been prejudicial to his efforts to defend his clients. MEG's pre-trial statements to the press, through implying guilt and creating adverse publicity, constitute a violation of the rights of defendants to a fair and unbiased trial.

(For a sampling see the Daily Pantagraph, Dec. 6, 1974, when MEG was called 'Narcotic Activity Regional Control Squad (NARCS)'; Dec. 7, 1974 ("Two cases sent on to Grand Jury"); Jan. 29, 1975 ('Narcotics unit director says courier ring broken'); Feb. 2, 1975 ("Busted" and "Opium haul tops for state -- agents").

At the same time, we find in the Peoria Journal Star such headlines as 1) "State's Attorney Wants to Dismiss 4 Drug Sale Indictments in Tazewell" (dated Jan. 1, 1975 - with this statement in the adjoining article: "...substances turned out not to be controlled substances according to lab tests."); and 2) "No Drugs in Lab Sample; Dismissal of Case Sought" (dated Jan. 10, 1975 - with this adjoining statement: "...6th indictment for drug sales in last two weeks - all sales made to MEG.").

4. Through the statements of executive director Jerry LaGrow, MEG has made irresponsible threats against advertisers in the Post-American, a Bloomington-Normal newspaper which, by LaGrow's own admission, has hampered MEG's effectiveness through its intensive reporting of MEG's activities (Daily Pantagraph, May 1, 1975). Specifically, the Pantagraph of Saturday, July 12, 1975 reports Mr. LaGrow saying that "if any harm comes to any of his men he will look to the advertisers in the underground paper as prospects for a lawsuit." This threat against the advertisers has no basis in law (for advertisers are not to be held legally responsible for the content of a newspaper in which they purchase space). It is clearly an attempt to intimidate advertisers from advertising in the Post-American, so that, through losing its advertising revenue, the newspaper will not have the financial basis to continue publication. It is clearly an effort to hinder the Post-American and its staff in the exercise of their First Amendment rights of expression, and to thwart the Constitutional guarantee of freedom of the press.

The items above are clearly documented instances of MEG's actions which have surfaced in the public domain. They reveal a pattern of



TO WHOM IS MEG ACCOUNTABLE?

activity and of attitudinal disregard for law and for citizens' Constitutional rights which ACLU finds abhorrent. The pattern is significant, for it reveals a pervasive tendency; it also raises the question (difficult to answer in view of MEG's secrecy of operation) as to what other instances similar to these have occurred but have not come to light yet. For example, are other operations similar to that in the Pekin school system (which surfaced by accident) occurring elsewhere in the six-county area which falls within MEG's field of activity?

Do the various County Boards, City Councils, and School Boards know what may be occurring in the areas of their jurisdiction? The question is inescapable, and inevitable in the absence of MEG's accountability to civilian review.

In this regard, ACLU finds it disturbing that MEG and its operations are not subject to the oversight and review of civilian authority. As a law enforcement agency, it is overseen by a board of law enforcement officials. MEG is simply not accountable to civilian authority; and if such an organization is to exist at all, it should be. To whom is MEG accountable for its actions, expressed attitudes, and expenditures of public monies? As citizens we all have recently seen on the national level the abuses which can occur from secret activities of governmental agencies when use of funds, strategic planning, and specific actions are not accessible to Congressional or public scrutiny. The same principle applies at the local level.

In addition to these documented violations of law which are listed above, there are other activities of MEG



Fighting crime is no easy life. A Post-American photographer caught this shot of a county cop narrowly escaping assassination at the hands of a desperate crook.

# "illegal & immoral" conduct

which, though not easily documented, are no less important than those above, and equally repugnant to law and social order.

For instance, allegations have come to ACLU's attention from sources intimately connected with the events that MEG has resorted to entrapment and solicitation of illegal acts. Solicitation of illegal acts is itself illegal. To gain evidence to make arrests, undercover agents posing as "friends" solicit target persons to sell them drugs, using as "buy money" funds that have been allocated to that purpose from MEG's cash support. Solicitation of illegal acts (in this case, encouragement of persons to participate in drug trafficking) and entrapment are difficult to prove; for those who have the evidence would have to incriminate themselves to testify to the facts. People are understandably reluctant to do that.



Representatives of two ACLU chapters condemned MEG at an Oct. 14 press conference in Peoria.



SOLICITATION AND ENTRAPMENT

Nonetheless, the McLean/DeWitt/Livingston Chapter of ACLU has had brought to its attention by a Bloomington attorney a clear case of entrapment employed by MEG. In this case, a person charged with sale of drugs spent nearly two months in jail pending indictment; then, after indictment, all charges were dropped by the McLean County State's Attorney's Office when the fact of MEG's entrapment became clear. After careful investigation, the McLean/DeWitt/Livingston Chapter of ACLU has filed a lawsuit in Federal Court on behalf of the entrapped man, charging MEG with violation of his constitutional rights and seeking one million dollars in punitive damages from MEG and pertinent governmental entities.

ACLU has also received reports from a variety of sources that MEG recruits some of its agents and informers through a kind of extortion, or blackmail. The typical pattern is this: a person is arrested and charged with possession or selling of drugs; faced with prosecution, that person is then offered a "deal" - prosecution will be light, or deferred, or charges will be dropped in exchange for that person's becoming an agent or informer for MEG. He or she will be expected to gather information, turn in names, acquire evidence, or "set up" friends for arrest. In effect, the practice is to get someone "over a barrel" and then pressure that person to become an undercover agent against his will. This is a type of coercion. Once again, this practice is difficult to prove

and document because of its secrecy and the penalty to the coerced agents of self-incrimination.

Beyond the unlawful aspects of such activity as coercion of unwilling informers and undercover agents, there is a broader concern to society in the practice: it exerts a generalized chilling effect on the exercise of citizens' rights as guaranteed by the First, Fourth, and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution - the rights of free expression and assembly, the rights of a person to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects against un reasonable searches and seizures, the rights of citizens to be granted equal protection of the law. This effect is incompatible with the quality of life in a free society. The practice has historically worked to anti-democratic and anti-social ends wherever it has been allowed to flourish.

For those reasons, the Peoria Chapter and the McLean/DeWitt/Livingston Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union object to the activities of the Multi-County Enforcement Group (MEG). The record indicates that MEG has engaged in and encouraged illegal acts, shown a disregard for principles of due process, and acted in such manner as to grievously violate citizens' Constitutional rights and liberties. It seems to ACLU that governmental units which support MEG with financial and/or personal resources must share the responsibility for these abuses. We therefore urge the Illinois Law Enforcement Commission, the Counties of Fulton, Knox, McLean, Peoria, Tazewell, and Warren, and the Municipalities of Bloomington, East Peoria, Galesburg, Pekin, Peoria, and Peoria Heights to withdraw their support from the Multi-County Enforcement Group and to withdraw from participation in MEG's activities.

## Mr. Kelly's Fine Pizza

PRESENTS . . .  
OUT OF THE FRYING PAN  
& INTO THE MOUTH . . .



204 NORTH ST. FREE DELIVERY IN NORMAL 452-5112 and 452-1995  
HOURS: 4PM-1AM MON-SAT 4PM-11PM SUN

# FIRST SCERB HEARING DELAYED

6

In a desperate show of strength, the Illinois State University has threatened former student and political activist Marty Meketarian. In a letter from SCERB puppet Chris Schwelle, Meketarian was advised that he may be held responsible for the behavior of demonstrators who show up at the next SCERB hearing. The letter went on to say that any persons who act inappropriately would be assumed to be there based on Meketarian's "invitation."

Meketarian is currently under ISU indictment for nothing more than being the son of a Pinto owner which was spotted on the quad on that controversial spring day--May 5, 1975. Meketarian and two others were ordered to appear in court several months after the first annual People's Park festival occurred.

The hearings, which were re-scheduled after heavy absenteeism hit the elite board of SCERB members, had been re-scheduled separately for all three victims. The dates are being kept secret so that witnesses and persons who attended last spring's day of festivities won't attend. The original hearing date, Sept. 29, saw scores of demonstrators, some displaying signs, demanding the charges be dropped against the three. ISU bureaucrats who thought they could slither by with a postponement will undoubtedly have had their hands full at Meketarian's hearing which was re-scheduled for Friday, October 24, at 1pm in Julian Hall, the first date this issue of the Post will be available.

Meketarian, who refused to be intimidated by the university hierarchy, encouraged witnesses and participants in last year's festivities to attend his hearing. In a prepared statement to the SCERB board Meketarian stated,

"This indictment against me is nothing more than a sleazy, frame-up attempt by university officials. Further I see a half-assed attempt by these same university bureaucrats to discredit the strong left-wing element of this community, as well as scare college students from taking control of their own lives."

In a hard line stand opposing the repressive tactics of the university Meketarian stated "persons bonded by the fibers of togetherness will never be defeated; not by police violence, not by phony indictments, not even by token attempts by the university at a fenced-in, police-state sponsored function called 'rites of spring'."

Although the university had encouraged Meketarian to defend himself against the charges, Meketarian pointed out that he can't as long as the bureaucrats refuse to provide the facts which make up the case. Meketarian referred to the ISU security files which he claims are police intelligence files on students. Meketarian had asked for that information (his own police intelligence files) in order to prepare his case. Because of bureaucratic doubletalk and stalling tactics Meketarian had not obtained the information. Meketarian believed he would never see his police files because he believed they were kept from students and are only viewed by ISU officials.



Security chief Newbold, in his charming mature fashion, suggests that curious protestors leave Morris' office. Note Morris glowering in back.

Charley Morris, secretary of the university, initiated the unbelievable charges. Meketarian said Morris used prejudiced tactics in singling him out. "He picked me 'cause he hates me from previous encounters. I was never scared of any of his bull," Meketarian said, "therefore I've always stood up to Morris and his little band of scoundrels."

While university officials are trying to sweep the embarrassing truths of the case under the carpet, Meketarian's light, direct approach to the bureaucrats and their scare tactics is quite refreshing.

Meketarian, who was not even living in the Bloomington area at the time of the festival, claims no part in organizing the event. "I wish I had been involved in it; it came off beautifully." Everyone there will remember the excellent weather and the joyful mood shared by all at the "non-authorized" people's function. Thousands turned out last May 5 to drink, smoke and celebrate the day-long people's event, which the university officials wanted held in the enclosed stadium.

"Who knows what the telltale rascals will try next?" Meketarian mused. "But whatever they try, I'll stand unafraid. They could do one of two things. Drop the charges or give me the facts; and I'll prove there's a frame-up."



Marty Meketarian calmly reads his press statement before facing his false accusers.

## NEWBOLD TO RESIGN

John Newbold, head of ISU Security, has agreed to resign his position if Meketarian does not obtain justice. In a talk with Meketarian last month about police intelligence files, Newbold stated to Meketarian and his legal people, "If you don't get a fair shake, I'll quit my job."

Based on that statement, Meketarian responded with, "I guess he'll have to quit, 'cause there's no way I'll get a fair shake from the university." The only way for a fair shake, Meketarian feels, is to get access to the police files so that he can prove his case. But Meketarian is confident he'll never see those secret police files.

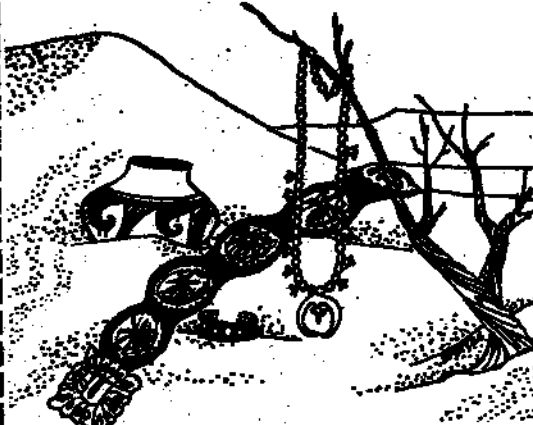
Meketarian is planning to publicly request Newbold's resignation at the hearing Oct. 24.

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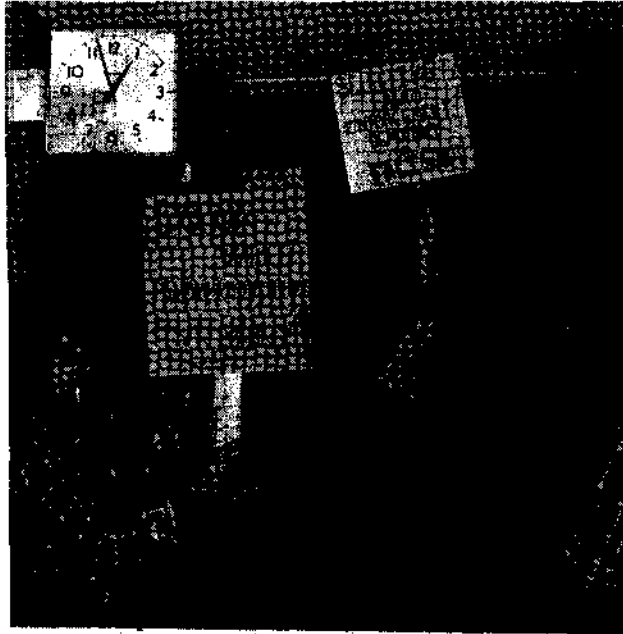
# SCERB/ISU TRY TO SAVE FACE AFTER ALTERNATIVE "RITES"

After putting up for so long with ISU red tape and bungling, ISU students took control of the quad last May 5 for a day of music, relaxation, and fun. Many refused to attend the "official" Rites of Spring which the University, after weeks of committee debate, finally agreed to sponsor in the ISU stadium.

Most students participated in alternative celebrations. At first, they converged on South Park, converting it to People's Park. No electricity was available for live music, so people collectively decided to pitch in money to rent a portable generator, and to move the action into the quad. After a while, thousands of people converged, deciding that they knew what they wanted, and that was not some Rites of Spring debating squad.

After it began getting dark, students asked Charles Morris, secretary of the university, if some light could be shed on the amphitheater section of the quad. Morris and the University refused to cooperate, stating that they didn't want to be party to a non-sanctioned affair. Students then lit a small bonfire near the bandstand, and Morris freaked out. The Normal fire department was called and nervously began spraying the fire, a number of persons attending, and the band equipment. People attending the festival at first interpreted the spraying as an attempt to break up the festival and responded with throwing some rocks and bottles. The local media went wild, playing up a narrow angle of crowd violence. The University never acknowledged that the whole scene could have been avoided if they had lit a dangerously dark quad.

Morris, in the meantime, had been taking names of students and non-students who he felt had been responsible for damaging his credibility as an effective administrator. He addressed his complaints to SCERB (Student Code Enforcement and Review Board) alleging that students 421, 422, and 423 had violated University regulations with their participation in the alternative Rites. Morris' gripe sheet also contained references to non-students A, B, C and D. There is no action planned yet against these non-students.



Protesters at the miscarried SCERB hearing.

Students 421, 422, and 423 were sent letters from SCERB informing them that a hearing date had been set for Monday, September 29 at 1 pm in Julian Hall. A number of students, angered at victimizing certain persons, showed up to protest the hearing. The protest was orderly, and all involved followed SCERB executive secretary Chris Schwelle's confused orders. After a short meeting with the accused students, Schwelle emerged and said the hearing had to be put off.

The protesters, realizing that Charles Morris could prevent the idiocy from going any further by rescinding his complaints, went to his office in Hovey Hall for an explanation of why he insisted on pursuing these students. Upon their arrival, Morris and ISU Security Police Director John Newbold moved into the rear of Morris' office. After meeting with two of the accused students, Morris and Newbold emerged to face the crowd. Oozing with administrative rhetoric, Morris and Newbold refused to answer any of the point-blank questions posed by the protesters present. Vidette reporter Lori Young, who immediately cuddled up to Newbold, distorted events by writing that the "disrespectful" and "verbal" group "persecuted" the poor administrators with "uninformed" questions. Not recognizing the issue of selective enforcement of University regulations, Young's shoddy reporting provided precisely the distorted image of the confrontation Newbold and Morris wanted. Since that time, the Vidette has editorially come out in support of the three students accused by Morris.

## looks like a sleepy, serene community.



## look again.

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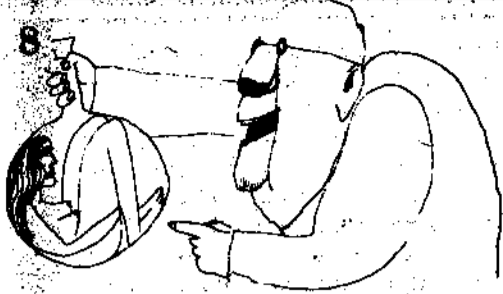
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# D-I-V-O-R-C-E

I wrote my own story about divorce, but then tore it up because I thought it was too opinionated and negative. I felt that to analyze my own feelings on divorce, it was necessary to compare them to those of others. So I did. And now I feel justified in writing even my most negative feelings, because in talking to others, I discovered my feelings are representative of theirs. I did all this "research" because rather than this being one personal hard luck story, I want it to express and speak out for those in the same situation who either don't get the chance or are too afraid to speak out themselves.

Most of this deals with being divorced and not the actual divorce proceedings, but I'll include a little about my own fun day in court with Judge Campbell. Rick Syre was my lawyer, and he warned me that depending on Judge Campbell's mood that day, I had a really promising 50-50 chance of obtaining my divorce. Divorce must really bum him out, because it's a fact he doesn't hand them out like candy. I had more than enough to get my divorce on mental cruelty, but Syre warned me how difficult it would be on those grounds even if I had the best case in the world. Going that route would be a sure loss if you live in McLean County and divorce is at the discretion of J. Campbell. Because of all this, I had to file on physical cruelty, which meant the whole thing could and would get into a scene I would have liked to avoid. Although I had grounds on this too, it really bummed me out because it meant tearing down my husband's character and having to use witnesses who were his friends as well as mine to degrade him even more. We had both agreed to part as friends, but because of our perverted divorce laws, I was forced to get my divorce in the usual "he's so terrible" way, and as a result a lot of bitterness and hard feelings took the place of our once amiable parting.

The fact that Judge Campbell is always for the woman was more than obvious in my case. A lot of bills were accumulated during our marriage, and my husband's wages were at this time being garnished by two different loan companies. (These were loans in his name only.) Because of this his take home pay was a meager \$60.00 a week. During our marriage we had bought a mobile home, and when we separated I left it to him. Unfortunately he was never too good at keeping track of bills, and he let the insurance lapse on the mobile home. 6 days later it burned down. Balance still owed, \$3200.00. My job paying a little over minimum wage had to be supplemented by Public Aid which amounted to \$235.00 a month. Okay, so Rick Syre and I tried to work it out in a way to be fair to my husband, but also to keep me from being stuck with the many, many debts of our marriage, debts which in truth were in no way my responsibility. So here we were, presenting a fair divorce to an unfair judge. Egging Campbell's vengeance on even more, my husband chose not to present any defense, or even show up, figuring it would be a lot of money just lost. That was a big mistake, for Judge C. used his absence to put the heat on him big-time. As I said, Syre and I were presenting what would have been fair to both husband and wife, such as no-fault divorce would have been, but as usual the system held tight as well as the judge. Syre told the obviously-in-a-bad-mood already scowling J. Campbell exactly what my husband's meager income a week was. Then he told him the huge amount of money we owed in exact figures. Next he explained the \$3200.00 debt. It was then explained that I was asking child support in the amount of \$100.00 a month, but that it wouldn't go into effect for 5 months at which time my husband's wages would no longer be garnished. We asked that he take full responsibility for past debts, including that of the burned mobile home. It wasn't until I took the stand that Judge C. showed any signs of listening at all.

Whether he dislikes Public Aid or just the people receiving it, he made very apparent his feelings toward both. When I told of my income from work, and the supplemental \$235 a month ADC, he surprised both Syre and I by turning around abruptly and, in a very sarcastic tone, asking me why I was asking a measly \$100 a month child support when I was getting a generous \$235 a month from the state! He was definitely implying I would rather take from the state than the real father. This was really a hollow accusation, since J. C. had himself written down all the facts and figures presented to him.

From all these facts it was obvious and had already been established in Syre's presentation that at that time my husband could not even handle \$100 a month unless he slept on the sidewalk. Besides, we were asking him to assume the debts that I could not. My answer to J. C. was that if my husband were to assume the debts, I could hardly ask for more.

Judge C. shook his head in disgust and didn't say another word until it was all over. And when he did deliver his final decision, it was apparent he was either poor at mathematics, deaf in one ear, or so intent on being as clever and devious as possible, that he forgot to throw a little logic in to make it look good. Judge Campbell, displaying the usual amount of fairness and unbiased opinion, announced that the divorce was granted, I got the kids, and my husband was to pay all the bills and for the lost mobile home.

On top of all that, my husband, on \$60 a week, was to pay child support in the amount of \$235 a month starting right then, and within 5 days I was to report this to Public Aid so they could make arrangements to discontinue my assistance. Any fool could see how stupid this decision was.

## CAMPBELL STRIKES AGAIN

It could not have been based on the facts presented to him, but only based on the spiteful attitude and personal feelings, for his ruling was just plain impossible for my husband to live up to on his income. Campbell's excuse for this would probably get into a lecture about a father's responsibility. My comeback would stress "affordable" responsibility. As far as excuses go, Judge Campbell is one of the biggest ones I know.

Before my divorce was final, friends warned me to think it over. They told me divorce was no picnic, especially with two children. I chose to take the chance. Nothing, I concluded, could be worse than a bad marriage. (First bad conclusion in a series of way too many more!) However, I did notice, and also disregard, rumors about divorced women. I figured no one really believed generalizations of that nature. Wrong again. It's too bad that divorce is the only option in getting out of a marriage. There ought to be an easier way!

Probably at one time or another, every divorcee has been refused rentals for no other reason than her marital status. Some landlords, it seems, believe the myth that all divorcees are wild, promiscuous, and might hurt the reputation of their apartments or scare off the "respectable" married tenants by her actions, such as all night company, etc.

## LIGHTS ON

Since when did marriage claim exclusive rights to "respectability?" If that isn't ridiculous enough, take for example the landlord who weighs out the odds and decides to be fair and rent to you. But first he delivers an hour long harangue on "how he expects his tenants to behave," and of course, how he doesn't expect them to. And finally, how they better not. Being such a nice guy, he'll even allow you to bring your "boyfriend" (singular) in, but he can't spend the night. (You begin to wonder if you might be dying, as your past seems to be flashing before you!) About this time you expect him to tell you the lights go off at ten, but instead he asks you to leave them on, because "it looks better."

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Then there are the landlords who fear trouble from ex-husbands, or others who simply state, "married people are more stable than divorced persons." A rather large generalization. Many landlords still prefer or only accept married couples or marrieds with families. This is obvious from local newspaper ads which plainly read at the bottom, "No Singles." (Which, I might add, puts one in the same category as "No Pets")



**WOMAN  
DIVORCEE?  
NO LOAN  
FOR YOU.**

Another really fun adventure of being divorced is obtaining a loan. It seems that if your credit is not in doubt, then your character probably is. (Please refer back to the myth about divorcees. Banks apparently do.) Example: At the time I applied for a particular loan, my credit was okay, my income good, but I was actually refused a loan by a reputable bank here in Bloomington for reasons of my marital status. One of the big-wigs simply said that a divorced woman is not a good credit risk. When I questioned this brilliant conclusion of his, he said that divorced women are too unpredictable, often remarrying and then changing their names. Thus making themselves hard to find, sometimes moving out of the state, the country, or, as the bank secretly fears, off the face of the earth. (Where it's probably easier to get a loan, even if it is a little out of the way. . .)

As far as the whole incident goes, I wonder if a divorced man might have got the same loan. Let me guess.

As of Oct. 28, there is a law being passed to supposedly put a stop to credit discrimination based on a woman's marital status. . . .

**MEDDLERVILLE**

Not a big problem, but a real nuisance, is Meddling. It seems that when married, your private life is your own, but when divorced, it becomes public property. Since you are now divorced, this assumption is wrong. . . . your marriage, you have also lost your "morals."

Because you are not living the life of a nun, they apparently delight in taking on the intriguing task of keeping an eye on you. (In referring to "they" I am referring to all the various perfect people of our society who spend all their time meddling into what no doubt is none of their business.)

It can really get out of hand. For beginners, consider the divorcee who stays home with her children and doesn't work. The Meddler's first question, no doubt, would concern the source of her income. And the first conclusion might be that she's living off her various boy-friends, even if she has none. Or she might be accused of "running a profitable business at home," especially if the Meddlers happen to be neighbors who time her boyfriend's visits at night. (If a divorced woman doesn't work and her income is welfare, Meddlers without knowing the facts of her situation, often judge her just "too lazy to work and spoiled by the state." Of course, living on welfare is so much fun and the benefits are so plentiful. Small things such as having no car, health reasons, or the lack of job availability are apparently considered poor excuses. Rarely is the attack on the father who sends no child support. On the other hand, if a divorcee has the means to work and support her kids, the remarks run something like, "She ought to be home with her kids," or "Her job means more to her than her children."

But it can get wilder yet. Attacks on a divorced woman's social life are quite colorful! To begin with, she's not supposed to have one. (From courtroom to convent?) Secondly, if she does, she can expect to make headlines by morning if the Meddlers are still putting in their time. If she goes out alone or with friends to a bar, club, or whatever, the comments would be a lot different than when she was married. ("She used to be such a nice kid.") Or if she has kids and is lucky enough to go out maybe 2 times a week, a commonly heard remark would be, "Those poor kids, shuffled from babysitter to babysitter. . . ." I wonder what they would say if they knew the daytime sitter was also the night time sitter?!

As far as romantic meddling goes, their interest in your "boyfriends" is probably greater than your own. Usually they'll find as much fault with them as possible even if they have to invent it, and then tell their friends, "I don't know what she sees in him; her husband was such a nice man." And so on. Or take a comparison: If a married woman comes home at 4 A. M. with, or even without a cool in Meddlerville. But let a divorced woman come home at 4 A. M. with, or even without a male companion and it's "terrible the way that woman carries on."

It's obvious you don't have to do anything to acquire a reputation; just be divorced! Unless you become immune to gossip, idle or not, you may never survive divorce!

I've heard a lot of divorcees bitch and complain about men who immediately assume she is only "looking for a husband." Or that she can't go

out without becoming involved. It would only stand to reason that if she liked marriage so much, she wouldn't be divorced. Since obviously her marriage was no big success, or very pleasant, it's very doubtful that she would be eagerly awaiting another try. Despite popular belief, a divorcee's goal in life is not to find a new husband. This popular belief causes many men to shy away from divorcees. Really stupid. Almost all the divorcees I've ever talked to, wouldn't get married on a bet, and when they finally do, they've usually been divorced so long that they wouldn't get divorced again on a bet!



Worse yet, I've actually heard some men refer to a divorced woman as "another man's cast-off." Followed shortly by, "Who wants seconds?" What really got me was that they believed what they were saying. Since it was a divorced friend of mind who was under attack but not present to defend herself, I gladly did it for her. I pointed out to them that apparently they never considered that she may have been the one doing the "casting off" and of course it just so happened she was. Then I told them that if they didn't like seconds then they must be planning on firsts, and if that's the case they'd play hell finding it. I suggested they try the local kindergartens. They suggested I shut my mouth.

To start on a more touchy subject, just refer again to the myth of the divorcee. Some new adjectives are about to be included. Besides being wild and promiscuous, anything from "hard-up", "sexually deprived", "easy", to a sure score are just a few of them. The reasoning behind all this is that since she was married and slept with a man every night, is therefore used to sex 7 days a week, then of course now that she's divorced and presumably "single" she'll have to have it cuz she's used to having it. Maybe they even think that if she misses a night she'll die in her sleep. How often a woman has to put up with that kind of garbage depends mainly on the type of men she deals with day to day. The whole point is a divorcee has the right to choose who, when, and where without having to put up with a torrent of rude insinuations if she chooses not to, insinuations that because she's divorced she has no reason not to. This type of treatment has often caused a wide mistrust of men in general. Sisk of being used, or the attempts to be, she sometimes becomes wary of the wrong guys and just worsens the whole situation. "They either take you out for one reason, or they won't take you out for another!" That was how one divorcee summed things up.

Last, and not least, the divorcee with kids probably suffers the worst of the discrimination, because it is more often their children than they who are the objects of rejection. Common remarks go anything like, "She only wants a father for her children," to "Who wants to raise someone else's kids?" Or there is the male ego trip, "I want my own kids!" But the remark I hate the most has to be "She's got kids? FORGET IT!"

They don't even know her but judgment on her has already been passed. It all goes back to the fact that many believe a woman with kids is unable to go out without the intention of getting involved, or some such nonsense!

Even worse is the man who gets involved and pretends to accept her kids, but the whole time is devising various plans of disposal for when they get married. ("Send the kids to their dad, their grandma, or whoever," and they'll live happily ever after.) Raising children is hard enough without a lot of these unnecessary hassles. Probably already plagued with doubts towards her situation, all this only causes resentment towards herself and even worse, sometimes towards her children too. Sad, huh?

I think I've hit on everything I wanted to. In comparing marriage and divorce, it's a real toss up! "For better or for worse" might just describe your chances with either one!

Lisa

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The masked man pictured above is MEG Agent Ford Conley, the subject of this in-depth character study. Conley wore ski mask and motorcycle helmet to disguise his identity from photographers as he left the courthouse after testifying in Stillwell's trial.

# Close-up:

ing a woman he dated for several months.

## 2. A Narc Is Friendly

Ford always showed great interest in meeting people. He always begged Dale to "introduce me to this guy, introduce me to that guy." He tried to gain rapport with total strangers by attempting to get them to find him some dope.

## 3. A Narc Is Brave

Ford Conley owned a rifle, an automatic shotgun, two other shotguns (one 12 gauge and one .410 gauge), a single action handgun, and a 9 millimeter semi-automatic pistol, which he kept loaded in his room. None of these could be considered collector's items. He kept this arsenal for "protection." He also carried a straight razor on a thong around his neck.

One night a loud party upstairs had the ceiling and walls shaking. Dale went up and asked the partiers to cool it. Nothing happened. Agent Ford Conley offered to go up again with Dale. He stuck his loaded gun in the back of his pants, and they went upstairs. Dale knocked on the door. Ford hid behind Dale.

## 4. A Narc Is Sensitive

One of Dale's and Ford's roommates was freaked out by guns. Ford got a kick out of going into his room, returning to the living room, sneaking up on this roommate, pulling his gun out of his pants, suddenly sticking the gun in the roommate's face, and yelling "Blamblam!" when the gun was loaded. Ford also enjoyed nature; he made a practice of going hunting and shooting small birds at close range with his shotgun. He once proudly displayed to Dale a black bird with its brains oozing out of its head. It wasn't dead, but that was all right with Agent Ford Conley. He liked it when the birds would flop around on the ground after he shot them down. Then he liked to finish them off with a blast from his pistol, which he carried illegally into hunting areas.

## 5. A Narc Is Humble.

Two of Ford Conley's favorite sayings: "I'm rough and tough and hard to bluff," and "I'm tall and lean and really mean."

## 6. A Narc Is Diplomatic.

MEG agent Ford Conley made a practice of walking up to his roommate's dog and kicking and hitting it. Sometimes he would do this while the dog was asleep.

## 7. A Narc Is Mature.

At first, Ford Conley would say he wanted to be in the Mafia. Later in the year, he decided that he wanted to be a Mafia lawyer and defend the big shots. He maintained HE KNEW all about law. After all, he did take two classes in business law! Too bad he was never instructed in the laws of entrapment, solicitation, and civil rights. Using a boot, he fashioned a quick-draw holster, which he wore low on his hips on an extra belt. He would swagger around and brag about how he could beat anyone in a showdown. He practiced twirling his pistol like a movie cowboy.

## 8. A Narc Is Charming.

Agent Ford Conley called women "heifers."

Many of us wonder what strange quirks of character, what perversities of personality, inspire people to choose embalming, bill collecting, or junior high teaching as means of survival. But even the enigma of these characters is nothing compared with that of the person cloaked in mystery and smelling of sewage: the narcotics agent.

What dark force drives these people to the lowest, most despicable, most dishonest, and hopefully most dangerous of professions? What perverse thrills tickle their nerve endings as they stalk stoned hippies through the labyrinthian dorms of ISU in quest of a nickel bag? What motivates these creatures to slither about in the mud of deception and dishonesty?

Perhaps we can answer some of these questions by close observation of one specimen in grotesque unnatural habitat. The following data was collected from Dale Stillwell, who was an unwilling roommate of narcotics agent Ford Conley for twelve months--and who was later busted in last May's MEG raid for a November '74 sale that his narc roommate had set up. Stillwell, pleading entrapment,

won acquittal of the charges in mid-September (see adjoining story.)

Understandably, our source was willing to relate his experiences living with a narc, and to provide us with some insights into the character of Ford Jonathan Conley, Narcotics Agent. The resulting personality profile ranges from the comic to the bone-chilling--but it does give flesh and blood to a hitherto nightmare figure.

Of course, a person's image of self is one telling clue to personality. We will attempt to structure our data by first revealing what MEG agent Ford Conley seemed to think about himself and his role, and then by imparting related anecdotes and examples from his everyday life, as his former roommate and bustee saw it.

## 1. A Narc Must Be Loyal

Ford Conley lived with Dale Stillwell in 3 different apartments. He confided in Dale about problems in his love life. In court, Agent Conley said that he considered Dale a friend even at the time he set him up for a bust. At the 3rd apartment, Ford met their two new roommates and several of their friends and former roommates. He later busted many of them, includ-

## THE CHRONOLOGY

The technicalities of narc Ford Conley's roles (whether Agent or Informer or Jerk) are kind of jumbled around in the adjoining portrait of his personality. For those purists in the P-A audience, we include this sketchy chronology.

Some of the history was put together only after information came out in court months later about what Conley had been up to.

In January, 1974, Ford Conley moved in with Dale Stillwell. At that time, there was no MEG unit. Conley made contact with Bloomington Police Lt. Sprague, the mentor of narcotics informants. Conley had been an informer at Eastern Illinois University before this contact with BPD.

During the spring of 1974, the six counties and six cities later involved in the MEG unit were publicly making their preliminary plans.

The P-A knows from another ex-MEG informant (see P-A IV #2) that Lt. Sprague was recruiting informants for the not-yet-formed MEG unit in the spring of 1974. Presumably, Ford Conley was one of these.

Two nights a week, Ford Conley traveled to Peoria for police training classes in the spring of 1974.

On July 1, 1974, the MEG unit officially became active. That's when Ford Conley got a new gun.

During the fall of 1974, Conley was considered an informer for MEG. His job was to introduce MEG agents to suspected drug dealers. Yet MEG at least once allowed Conley to make a drug buy, though it was only for \$5. (That bust was later thrown out of court.)

In December, 1974, Stillwell was going to Peoria for a student teaching job interview. Conley said he had to deliver some LBS in Peoria, so he offered to drive Dale. It turned out later that Conley was going to Peoria for his own job interview, applying for a job as a full-time undercover MEG agent. Conley dropped Stillwell off, had an interview with MEG head Jerry "Superspy" LaGrow, and then picked Stillwell up again.

On January 1, 1975, Ford Conley became an official MEG agent, and moved out from Stillwell's house. None of the people Ford had set up while living with Stillwell were actually arrested until May 1, 1975.

Thus some of the people were picked up more than six months after the date of their alleged drug sales.

Before being busted, but after Ford had moved out, Ford's roommates began to understand what was happening. That's when Ford claimed that the Post-Amerikan pushed drugs (see adjoining story).



# Portrait of a narc

## 9. A Narc Is Generous.

When Dale was distressed about missing his bus to the Chicago area for a wedding last June, undercover agent Conley drove Dale as far as Lexington trying to catch up with it. He gave Dale a little red pill and told him to take it to calm himself down. Dale asked what it was, and Agent Conley replied that it was a "red."

Agent Conley later testified in court that he had filled the red capsule with baking soda and gave it to Dale to gain his confidence in drug matters.

It turned out later that Ford had worked as a narc at Eastern before he came to Bloomington-Normal.

Ford also kept referring to his big pusher friend who lived in Bloomington. His friend's name was "Dave Garrison," who was the person Conley arranged to make the buy (2 lids of grass at \$12.50 a lid) from Dale.

After the Post-American's 2nd publication of narc Dennis Garret's picture, a friend of Dale's caught on that MEG agent Dennis Garret was the same person as Ford's "pusher friend" named "Dave Garrison."

**"I'M ROUGH AND TOUGH AND HARD TO BLUFF."**

**-Ford Conley, undercover MEG agent**

## 10. A Narc Is Good-natured.

Conley claimed that he had shot a guy in the leg near Charleston when the guy tried to cheat him out of some drugs. He also bragged that he had killed a man in St. Louis by shooting him in the head.

## 11. A Narc Is Philosophical.

Dale used to go hunting with Ford Conley until he couldn't stand it any more. Once they both went hunting with another man who had never done it before. The guy shot at a bird. It fell to the ground, still alive, and the novice saw that it was a little goldfinch. He felt terrible about shooting the bird.

As MEG agent Ford Conley finished the bird by stomping it into the ground, he turned to the guy and said, "Now you're a man."

## 12. A Narc Is Honest

Throughout their time together, Ford would tell Dale how he was making so much money buying dope cheap at ISU and selling it over at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston.

## 13. A Narc Is Suave.

Ford met Dale through the Lindell Apartment office when one of Dale's roommates moved and he needed a new one. They had pot roast for their first dinner together in the apartment. Instead of using the silverware, Ford whipped out a flick knife--a pocket knife with the bolt loosened so that the blade flies out easily--to cut his meat with. He also continually practiced with it to increase his speed.

## 14. A Narc Is Religious

Agent Ford Conley often carried a Bible out of the apartment with him when he was actually (Dale found out later) going to Peoria for police training classes.

Here's another view of undercover MEG Agent Ford Conley as he left the Courthouse.



Conley also really did get out of bed every Sunday morning and go to church.

We asked Dale if he could draw any conclusions from his observations of an undercover narcotics agent. Dale said that he had met a man from Casey, Illinois, Ford Conley's home town, and that this man described Conley in his youth as "the kid in school who always gets kicked around."

This description fits in with Dale's general analysis of Ford Conley. Dale sees Ford's actions having their basis in power psychology. Conley really feels insecure and powerless (probably because he's such a jerk), so he's very hung up on overt power trips: flashing guns and knives around, bragging, objectifying women, brutalizing animals, playing Secret Agent, and getting people busted.

In spite of all this, getting up sympathy for a narc is more than most of us can muster. We can, however, try to take the glamor and appeal out of marching for these chumps, and make the profession as unrewarding and dangerous as it should be.

--- Phoebe Caulfield

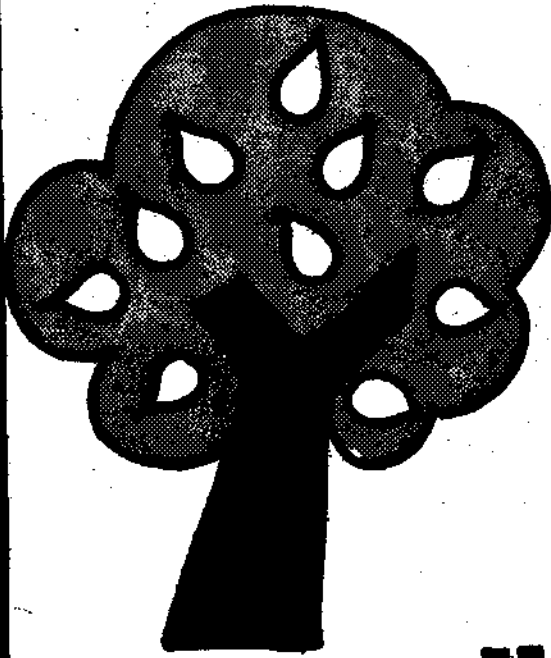
## POSTSCRIPT:

I have always found it difficult to hate anyone, for I feel that to hate is to give up hope of finding some settlement of differences. Hate closes one's eyes and suffocates one's mind. I must admit that at times, I do hate Ford to the point where I would like to see if I could kill him with my hands. However, there are times when I have stronger feeling towards Ford than hate. These are thoughts of pity for Ford, for the boy who doesn't have enough self-respect, confidence, intelligence, or guts to make it in this life on his own. I also pity him for the day he wakes up to what he is, or is not, and realizes what he must live with. If he can live with himself it is not because he is strong, but rather because he is small. I pity Ford because he is a hypocrite and phony who must use people to make his living, because he is a liar who can't be truthful with himself or others, even under oath.

I pity Ford, as he is sick and doesn't know it. And for this reason I pity our society and our way of life. Is Ford J. Conley the type of policeman this country needs? OR wants? I pray not. I have heard that most cops never pull their guns, save for shooting someone. However, I believe that someday policeman Conley will, in fact, use his gun, not because he has to, but rather because he wants to. I have known a number of cops in my life. Most, I am happy to say, were not Ford J. Conleys; they believed what they were doing was right. They didn't have to break the law to enforce the law, as Ford and other agents of MEG feel they must.

Ford, how do you justify this? Where is your head at? Please try to get some professional help.

--Dale



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# MEG's Breakfast Treat



MEG Agent Dean Bacon

Did you read in Family Weekly recently that the name your parents choose for you influences the profession you choose? Ever hear of a tennis player named Court, a drag racer named Rod, or a psychiatrist named Cimbalik?

Well, Post researchers have come up with an example Family Weekly must've missed: A narcotics agent named Bacon!

Yes, the fellow represented here is really named Dean Bacon, and he's a MEG agent, the evidence clerk for MEG's Peoria office, and an undercover dope buyer.

county Enforcement Group thinks he's worth \$2.05 a pound.

## More Informers Revealed

Three more drug informers have come to the Post-American's attention recently.

Steve Warsaw, of Colfax, worked as a MEG informer, according to the September court testimony of MEG agent Dennis Garret. Warsaw introduced Agent Garret to a potential drug supplier, presenting Garret as a "drug dealer from Champaign." On the witness stand, Garret claimed that Warsaw was not a paid informer, although that option was supposedly open to him.

Donald Gillespie Jr., of 400 Blair Drive in Normal, is on probation for several counts of delivery of LSD. Gillespie got probation by providing MEG with information according to a July 29 Pantagraph. He reported to MEG weekly from the time of his arrest for dealing in November 1974 until his probation hearing last July, the Pantagraph said.

William Carper, whose last known address is 1510 Woods, pled guilty to two sales of LSD and PCP. His lawyer, Hal Jennings, got quite upset when Carper didn't get probation, because Carper "had voluntarily cooperated with narcotics agents as to the source of his drug supply," according to an Oct. 9 Pantagraph. Carper's lawyer also said that Carper was "willing to cooperate with the prosecution in other drug cases." Carper's 1 to 3 year sentence is being appealed.

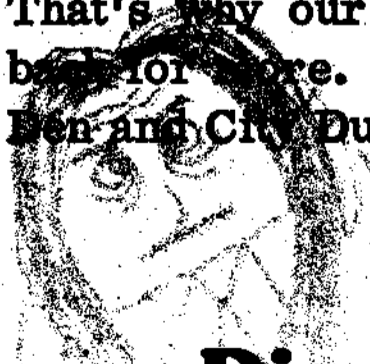
LOOK, FERMIN, WE GOT YOU DEAD TO RIGHTS SELLING DOPE!	MAKES NO DIFFERENCE! WHAT IF WE WERE A BUNCH OF SCHOOL KIDS!	DON'T MATTER, FERMIN! POINT IS YOU SOLD TO US!
BUT YOU WERE THE ONES BUYING IT!	I DON'T SELL TO KIDS! YOU'RE NO SCHOOL KIDS!	YOU ASKED ME!
THAT'S IRRELEVANT, FERMIN! SALE IS AGAINST THE LAW!	THAT'S THE LAW, FERMIN!	BUT WHY SPEND SO MUCH TIME SETTING ME UP WHEN THERE ARE SO MANY REAL VILLAINS ABOUT: KILLERS, RAPISTS, WHITE-COLLAR CRIMINALS!
YOU'RE ADULTS! YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW WHAT YOU WANT!	DEALERS?	PARTICULARLY ALL AMERICA THE WHITE-COLLAR CRIMINALS!

# WE LIKE TO RIP YOU OFF.

That is, if making a profit is ripping you off. We are in fact quite proud to call ourselves a profit-making organization, especially since we have offered you the lowest prices in town for the past 5 years.

How do we do it? Several reasons: First, we are good at what we do and our employees work harder. Second, we just simply work for less money on less mark-up than anyone else.

Maybe it's just easier to say that when we do rip, we rip very carefully. That's why our customers keep coming back for more. Who are we? Discount Den and City Dump Stores.



## Discount Den and City Dump Stores

Narcs

# letters

ROTC Come back?

13

## Dangerous Drivers

Post-American:

Your article about MEG agent J.V. "Bill" Stephens driving a school bus failed to mention one very important detail: he might get those kids killed.

Since, according to the narcotics agents' view of themselves, the dangerous desperate drug pushers they bust would just as soon kill an agent as look at him or her, the narcs are walking targets for assassins' bullets.

What if a desperate pusher found Stephens while he was driving a busload of kids? What if Stephens got machine-gunned and swerved the bus into a building? Those kids could get hurt.

Of course, I wouldn't be so much afraid if MEG's main energies were devoted to busting relatively harmless young small-time dealers. Those aren't the type who would shoot an agent. Nor are they the ones who are really responsible for supplying drugs to the area.

I think the school board should look into the question of Agent Stephens' safety as a bus driver.

--a concerned parent

The Post-American more than welcomes letters from the readers. Send them to 101 North Street in Normal, and don't worry about the word limit that most newspapers have. When a letter is longer than the traditional letter-to-the-editor, we often give it a headline and lay it out like a regular article. So write to us!

## Mr. & Mrs. Eastland?

I would like to thank Susie for the great article on Eastland's sex-exploitation of children. This article should be printed on the front page of every newspaper in the country.

I have a suggestion for a contest next year. Why doesn't Eastland sponsor a Mr. and Mrs. (or Ms.) Eastland contest? The winners would be the couple with the most varicose veins on their body. (Maybe Sheriff King could enter this; he'd be great.)

I wonder how the parents would react to this. Would they say that would be stupid and childish? Of course they would, but they don't seem to think so in the cases of their little girls.

I learned a lot from that article and I hope more will be written about contests like this.

Stadebaker Koch

On Wednesday, October 15, a proposal went before the executive committee of the ISU Academic Senate to bring ROTC to campus. The wording of the proposal asserted that, "This is no longer the sixties. It is no longer dishonorable to belong to the army."

Are we going to let ISU sponsor the teaching and glorification of the art of mass murder? I think not. It is a right of the students at ISU to be free of an atmosphere of militarism. Rise up against ROTC!!!!

a concerned student

## Big Brother Still at Work

There has been no change in the State of Illinois' policy of operating a welfare "cheaters" hotline number through which anyone can fink on persons, with assurances that the tip will be checked out. One records the tip over the phone, and anyone can be turned in. Not only could such a farce put someone who does receive welfare in a tight spot, but it can also victimize persons who are off welfare and who are turned in by spiteful persons. Please call 1-800-252-8903 (a toll-free call) and let the Department of Public Aid have a piece of your mind! For more information see Post-American Vol. IV #7, page 20.

Thomas Pain

# Divinyl Madness

115 North Street

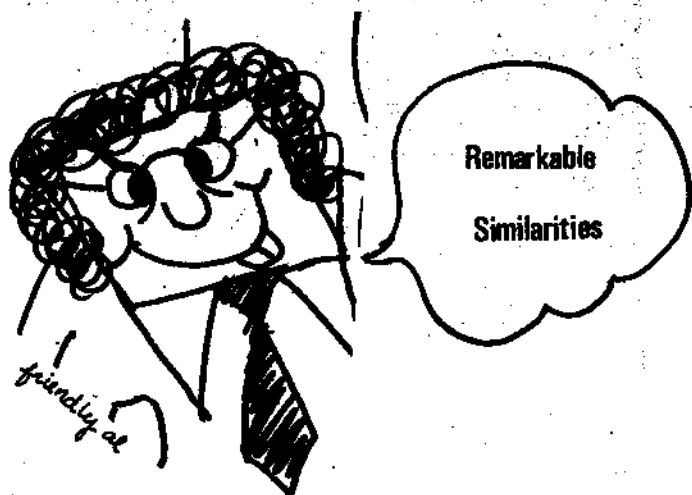
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Please come down and bring a friend--  
everyone wants to be on EASY STREET

# Politics Makes Strange Bedfellows

On September 6, 1975, smiling Dan Walker cruised into Galesburg to attend a fund-raising function of the Independent Democratic Action Club (IDAC). Walker's host, Warren Blythe, owner of Galesburg Cigar Co., is chairperson of the Independent Democratic group. Warren Blythe also has had the dubious distinction of being Galesburg's gambling machine boss.

Last December the local police raided "Boss Blythe's" business, his home, his son Rick's car, and some rooms at the Hotel Custer rented in Blythe's name. (The Hotel Custer, interestingly enough, is the headquarters for reputed Mafia fence Benny Amato.)

The punch boards, pull tabs, and other assorted pieces of gambling equipment took the detectives all night to haul in and inventory. "Boss Blythe" eventually pled guilty to an amended charge against his company and was fined a mere \$200.

Earlier this year Blythe was being investigated by the I.B.I. and the Illinois Department of Revenue in regard to his underworld gambling machine connections and possible violations of the income tax law. The investigations were suddenly terminated and everyone is tight-lipped about why.

Prior to the Illinois Governor's appearance in September the IDAC met on August 18th in the basement of the American Legion building. Speaking to about a dozen IDAC members, "Boss Blythe" said the group would enjoy immunity with Knox County Sheriff Rayder Peterson in respect to club gambling law violations. (Sheriff Peterson has his own law violations to worry about as he is currently under State's Attorney's office investigation on charges of theft and malfeasance of office.)

At the same basement meeting Blythe bragged about his close political relationship with Walker and told of his attendance at a \$1,000-a-plate dinner

for Walker. Apparently Blythe told the truth, for local politicians were shocked by Walker's visit. They were surprised he took time from his busy schedule to lend his prestige to such a small group of apparent alcoholics, gamblers, and influence seekers.

Besides Blythe and his employees, others who are active in the "Action Club" include Rocky Rockhold ("The

Fixer") and Gene Kennedy, the bar-hopping independent candidate for sheriff in the last election. A casual observer is put to wonder why a man so committed to honesty in government, as Walker says he is, would allow himself to be wined, dined, and used by such an unsavory lot of characters.

--Mike Richards  
Galesburg Correspondent

## OFFICIALS VIOLATE STATE DRUG LAWS

Every once in a while we read in the newspaper that someone has been arrested for "cultivation of marijuana."

That arrest means that police caught a live marijuana plant growing on property (or in a flower pot on property) for which the arrested person is responsible. Usually he or she is the tenant.

The police don't actually catch someone growing the plant--they catch the plant, and assume that the tenant is responsible for growing it.

One cultivation arrest recently arose from plants growing in a back yard. The people inside the house were arrested, simply because they lived there. Police just assumed that the tenants were cultivating the marijuana plants.

The marijuana plant pictured here was photographed as it grew inside the Normal Public Library, in the planter on the second floor.

Perhaps police would like to arrest the Normal Library Board, or maybe the City Council (or both!) for cultivation.

But police action would take the form of a warning to destroy the plant.

Maybe police would like to admit that they enforce the cultivation law only on "likely" criminals: blacks, poor people, young people.



This marijuana plant was photographed growing in the Normal Public Library.

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# The Flip Side of Nostalgia

They are banned from many restaurants.

All day they are kept in institutions where their movements, possessions, appearance, and toilet habits are closely monitored, (and controlled, if possible.)

They are hired for the most menial jobs at low wages.

Their families watch them suspiciously for signs of aberration.

Police pick them up for walking down the street.

Even official documents refer to them as "cute stupid little cretins."

You may ask, "why doesn't this horribly oppressed group speak out against these injustices?"

No one would listen. They're only high school kids.

I guess the best thing about high school is that it gets over with. It seems like once people get out, they forget what it was like. At least, I hadn't thought about it for a long time before the Post obtained a letter written by Dorn Okopski, President of ISU's University Union Board.

## "Little cretins"

This letter, on ISU Union Board stationery, was a call to action for all ISU student organizations to help with a plan to limit the use of the Bowling and Billiard Center to the exclusive use of ISU students and faculty. In rousing language, Dorn asked students to volunteer to check IDs at the BBC door to keep high school kids out. He said that by the end of the year, he hoped those "cute/stupid little cretins will have gotten the message that they are no longer welcome in our facility."

I remembered the laundromat on Richards Street, the Cuckoo Clock, the Dog 'n' Suds--the places that were the real center of my high school life in Joliet. I remembered not being welcome.

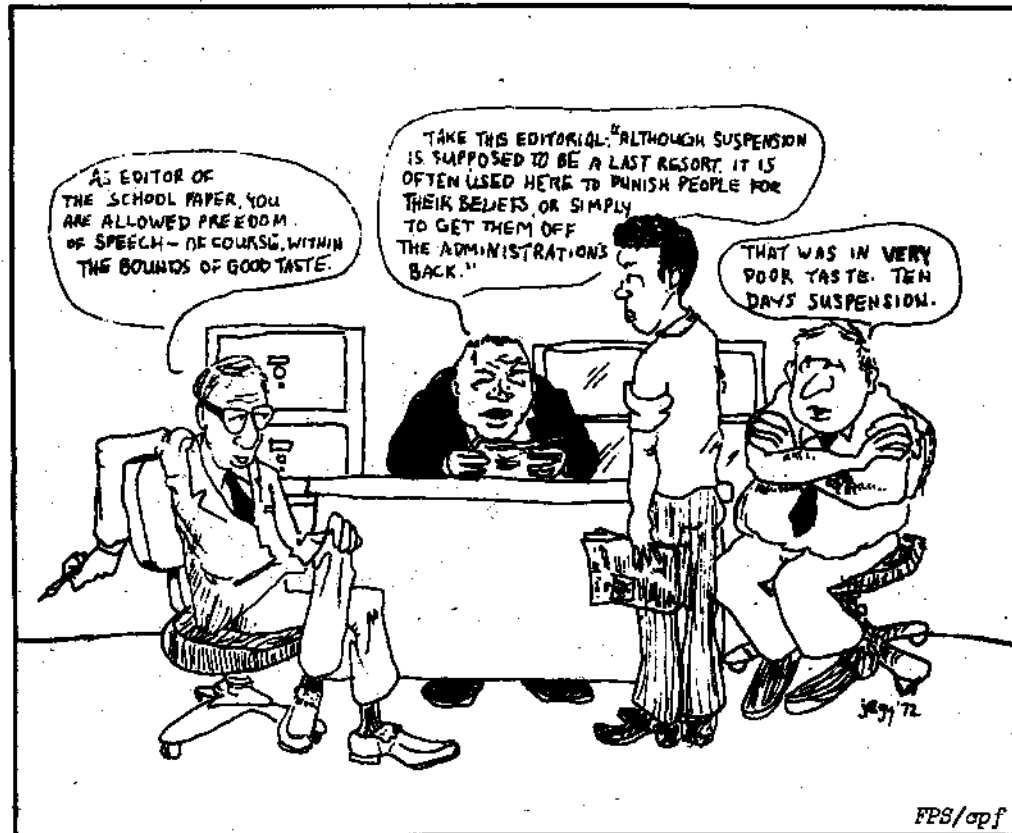
Consider what most people's everyday lives are: work and recreation. For people in high school, work consists of school and maybe a part time job; recreation consists of hanging out. From interviews with high school students and articles about them, I've gathered some information about their lives which I think reveals what we all used to know when we were in high school, but have conveniently forgotten: the teenager gets not only the worst of both worlds (adult and child), but also deals with a special oppression all his/her own.

## "Let's see your pass!"

First, let's consider the teenager's work life. Most adults see the teenager's main task as going to high school, supposedly learning stuff. The teenagers we interviewed do have more positive attitudes toward school than I did. Their main gripes, of course, are the rules which assume that they are immature, irresponsible, and stupid. Among these are the requirements of passes and teacher's permission to be late for a class, go to lockers, see the nurse, or go to the bathroom. Consider the assumptions underlying these rules. These rules imply that either 1) the student cannot really tell time, know when s/he needs a book, know s/he feels sick, or know when s/he needs to go to the bathroom, and therefore needs a teacher's assistance in determining these conditions; or 2) that the student is willing and eager to go to any length, including lying, to put off going to class for five measly minutes. If 2 is true, high school classes must leave something to be desired.

However, Normal Community High School students say that they judge classes separately: some are fun and worthwhile, but the students are too often taught down to, and they have to endure a lot of repetition.

High school, as I see it, has gone to new lows in practically admitting that it's a prison. NCHS suspension (given for skipping too often) is now in-school suspension, in which the student is required to sit in The Office all day. It seems that NCHS lawmakers came to the brilliant conclusion that



people who skipped school didn't want to be there, which makes out-of-school suspension really a reward for the skipper. So they made the punishment much more meaningful by putting the skipper on lock-up. Nice going.

From talking with the teenagers, we got the idea that Parkside Junior High is really restrictive. People who went there agreed that NCHS seems like a liberated zone in comparison. Also, they like being back with their friends who had stayed at Chiddix Jr. High when the two junior highs split up.

## 85 cts an hour

Teenagers, like everyone, need money. The other part of their work life comes in the form of part time jobs, which are usually bad news. Waitress, food service, and busboy jobs are the positions usually available to high school kids. The two women interviewed emphasized that a teenager can't get a job that is career-oriented. One of them worked as a carhop at A&W two years ago for 65¢ an hour; carhops at A&W make 85¢ an hour. The top paying job we heard of was one at Charlie Arriba's Mexican Food, at \$2.25 an hour, but the women emphasized that this kind of pay was atypical. Teenagers also feel that they have to put up with bad attitudes of older workers wherever they work, and of course we all know that food service jobs are among the most oppressive.

Even when teenagers do find jobs, they frequently received lower wages than other, older workers doing the same job in the same place. For example, in one local restaurant, a teenaged woman receives \$1.75 for the same duties that older workers get \$1.90 - \$2.05 for performing. Some of them have worked there longer than the teenager; some have not.

All in all, a teenager's work life sounds quite unsatisfying. It's a life that few adults would find tolerable. Even if an adult must work a job that compromises her/his self-esteem and self-determination, s/he can look forward to some carefree recreation with friends. A high school kid's situation is quite different. As the Union Board letter puts it, they are not welcome.

I talked with high school students Jeff Weber, Gordon Sipes, Kevin Essig, and Glen Hedrin at the ISU Bowling and Billiards Center. They said that they used to go to the BBC all the time during the summer. With the new restrictions, only ISU students and staff are allowed in the BBC on weekends. This leaves teenagers who can't drive or don't have cars with "nothing to do" on weekends. After going to school all week, they would like to have somewhere to go with their friends. I asked them what the ideal place to hang out would be. They all replied, "Here."

# The NEW LOOK at

FOR THE MOST IN MUSIC

107 n. broadway

# ia: Teenage Oppression

## "Got an ID, kid?"

All six people interviewed resent implications that all high school students are destructive and bothersome. The high school women said that BBC officials used one incident (where high school kids broke a pinball machine) to justify kicking all of them out. They said they had seen college people wreck stuff there. Weber, Sipes, Essig and Hedrin think that, "As long as we don't mess up, we should get in." They feel that college people "want a place where it'll only be them--none of us 'little kids.'" Yet college students claimed in a recent survey that their top priorities in college include broadening their "personal and social development." I don't consider being exclusive much of a positive social development. This exclusiveness was reinforced in an ISU Vidette editorial on Sept. 9, 1975, in which the writer claims that a proposal for volunteer ID checkers to "keep the facility exclusively ISU" is "an indication of serving ISU students' best interests."

Another great aspect of the personal development students get at ISU is preferential treatment. At the BBC, high school kids who sign up for bowling lanes sometimes wait two hours, because ISU students get lanes first even if they sign up last. Also, ISU concert tickets cost more for non-students; on the other hand, the women interviewed pointed out, community affairs don't cost more for ISU students, even though the students don't pay local taxes.

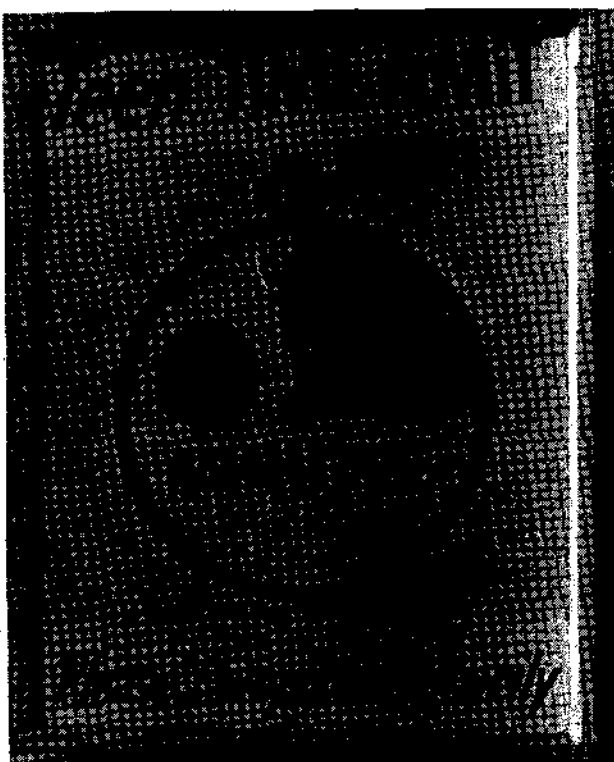
## Restaurant hassles

Local restaurants serve as alternative hangouts for high school students. Weber, Sipes, Essig and Hedrin named Mr. Kelly's and Tobin's as places where they felt welcome. The female students said that Papa Gene's used to be a great place to hang out, but it's closed now. Hanging out at a restaurant is limited, however, by the buy ethics: restaurant managers don't want teenagers if they're not spending money. The students pointed out that if the Velvet Freeze really enforced its 15 minute Teen Time Limit, they wouldn't even have time to eat their food.

But at least the Velvet Freeze is clear and open about its teenage policy. A former employee of a local donut shop revealed that counterpeople are told not to give water to high school kids. Adults can have water. Even if a high school student buys a donut in the morning, the counterperson is not supposed to give her/him water to drink with it. Of course, this policy's purpose is to encourage the customer to buy a beverage, but it's not applied to older customers.

Teenagers, says the former worker, make up at least half of the daytime business; yet one owner claims that they drive away the "regular customers." Many adult customers come in, buy one cup of coffee (16¢) and sit around for two or three hours; a high school student comes in for 30-40 minutes before school, spends 79¢, comes back for a break after school, and gets kicked out if s/he doesn't buy again--and not gently either. One customer reports seeing a teenager get rudely and roughly expelled from the restaurant; the owner paid no attention to her claim that she was going to buy a Coke. Regular customers report that this is not an isolated incident, but rather a recurring event.

The worker interviewed also stated that high school kids never harass the counterpeople, in contrast to many of the adult customers who do. This puts the employees in an awkward position, since they're supposed to selectively enforce restrictions on customers who are no trouble to them.



## Officer Friendly

The last hangout alternative for the teenager is on the streets--and there, too, they are clearly not welcome. Besides the limitations that bad weather puts on street life, the students we interviewed really believe that "the cops are after the young kids."

One student related a "typical incident" in which she and her friends were standing around in the old Taco Villa parking lot when suddenly two police cars with flashing lights and spotlights swooped down on them; the police demanded to know who they were and exactly what they were doing, and drove away again without any explanation for their intrusion. (Aren't you glad you don't live in Russia?)

Another teenager reports that driving down Main Street once on the night of Homecoming last year, the kids' car had a blowout. They pushed it into the Weaver's Rent All lot and were trying to decide what to do when some friendly helpful police officers drove up. The police pushed everybody up against the car and frisked them, searched the car, and even sniffed their pop bottles (so who's paranoid?) As for dealing with the blowout problem, the police ordered the kids to leave the area and walk home.

The most clearly defined manifestation of our culture's attitude toward high school kids is the curfew law. People under 17 must be off the streets between 12 midnight and 6 AM on weekends and 11 to 7 on weekdays. The state curfew was declared unconstitutional by a state appellate court in Elgin early in October. Assistant State's Attorney Ron Dozler said in the Pantagraph (10/7/75) that "it was his feeling that the State had no business deciding if a person should or should not be in a public place if he's (sic) not doing anything illegal."

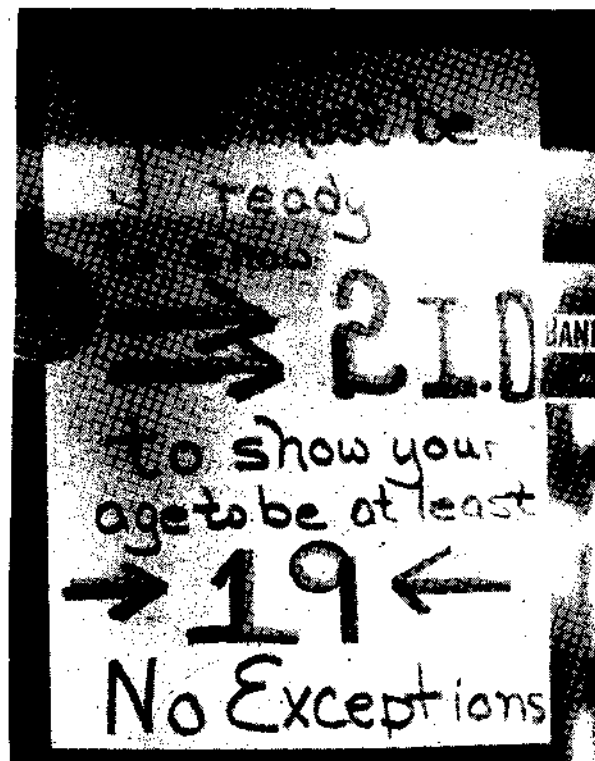
The Pantagraph's report of Twin City police officials' reactions to the ruling reveals where they are coming from.

Normal Police Chief McGuire said, "We'd have youngsters running around the street all night long and there's nothing we could do about them... A youngster 14 or 15 years old has no business out on the street late at night." Evidently, teenagers make McGuire kind or nervous--and we all know about nervous cops (remember Kent State?)

Bloomington Police Chief Bosshardt said, "If they are out all hours of the night, the temptation's there to get in trouble--whether it's of a serious or minor nature." Well, chief, some people would say the same thing about cops. He goes on "Unless they're working somewhere late at night, their place is home with their parents." I hope all you parents appreciate Bosshardt's advice on what your family life should be.

NOTE: The curfew law is still in effect in McLean County. The court ruling applied to another district in Illinois, and local authorities are waiting to see what a higher court says before they pay any attention.

The six teenagers we interviewed all feel that curfew is unfair and unreasonable. One said, "It's stupid--it's the same place at night, only darker." All of them think that if curfews were left up to a high school kid's parents, instead of the law, there would be no increase in troublemaking, and they would feel safer knowing that the police drove around at night for better purposes than to bust kids for curfew.



## Kids on file

Another clearly anti-teenager law is the recently passed Illinois House Bill 199, which establishes a central Juvenile File, to which any authorized law enforcement officer in the state has access. This file includes background information on every kid under 17 who has had an "encounter" with police--even if s/he was not arrested, charged or convicted of any criminal offense. There are no built-in criteria or procedures to protect teenagers from police violations of their right to privacy.

In spite of all this evidence, there are still a lot of people who would say, "High school kids have it easy." Maybe they are free from many adult responsibilities, but we should consider what price they pay for this privilege. They are continually treated with suspicion. No one wants them on the labor market, but everywhere they are expected to be consumers. They are exhorted to behave responsibly, while being forced to obey rules which presume their irresponsibility. They pay the price of dignity, respect, and self-determination.

--Phoebe Caulfield, with Alice Wonder

TEEN FORTY-THREE. IN EXACTLY TWO MINUTES I'LL RING THE FIRST BELL AND THEY'LL ALL STAND STILL!



ALL THAT'S BEHIND YOUR FUTURE BEHIND! YOUR FLEDGLING BEHIND! YOUR INCIDENT BOAT-ROCKER!



THEY'LL TRY TO MOVE ALL RIGHT! THEY'LL HAVE TO LEARN THE HARD WAY NOT TO MOVE!



SO I'LL SCREAM AT 'EM AND TAKE THEIR NAMES, AND GIVE THEM FIVE DETENTION! ANOTHER HOMEWORK! NEXT TIME THEY WON'T MOVE AFTER THE FIRST BELL!

BECAUSE WHEN THEY'VE LEARNED NOT TO QUESTION THE FIRST BELL, THEY'LL LEARN NOT TO QUESTION THEIR TESTS! THEIR TEACHERS! THEIR COURSES! THEIR EXAMINATIONS!



THEY'LL GROW UP TO ACCEPT TAXES! LEARNING! DEVELOPMENT! MENT'S/INSURANCE! WAR! MEDICAL! SPEECHES! TELEVISION COMMERCIALS/FUNERALS!



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# KING'S TENANT INFORMATION SERVICE

## The Continuing Saga of Sheriff King

Browsing through the Pantagraph's Agriculture section for September 25, one can find a short article entitled, "Ag Club Requested to Help Fight Crime." McLean County's donation to the new Amerikan police state, Sheriff John King, was on hand at the Brandville Restaurant the night before to address the Bloomington-Normal Agriculture Club.

His message to persons in attendance was essentially a simple one: the county is so big that we need people from the rural areas and outlying towns to report to the Sheriff's Department any scrap of information regarding a crime that has been committed—even if it seems quite minor. King urged rural residents to think about registering their residence at the sheriff's office, a practice that was begun about the time of the McLean County Fair during the summer. The registration program was begun largely to deal with emergencies (or so the Sheriff purported.)

But addressing himself to other issues relating to rural crime, the Sheriff suggested that owners of rural and isolated homes for rent might be sorry if they rent to single persons or young couples. According to what King must regard as his "hippy criminal" theory, such a rented house might become occupied with more persons than the owner had anticipated—"many" people "without visible means of support."

King's answer to the "problem" he created that evening is to provide some kind of information to rural home owners about their prospective tenants. Just what kind of information the Sheriff reveals is a little unclear, because the Sheriff told this reporter, "I don't care to discuss this with you."

One wonders if the Sheriff is allowing landlords access to information not ordinarily released to the public or investigators except by written permission of the individual being checked on. "Written permission only" is the practice in the records division of the Bloomington Police Department.

If the Sheriff's Department isn't giving out "that kind" of information, just what is he trying to tell a landlord? What other kinds of information does the Sheriff have on file just for such an occasion? And how about some consideration for landlords here in the Twin-Cities--when will they be able to benefit from King's information treasury so they can refuse to rent to "undesirables"? King knows the answers; he just ain't talking!

--Thomas Pain



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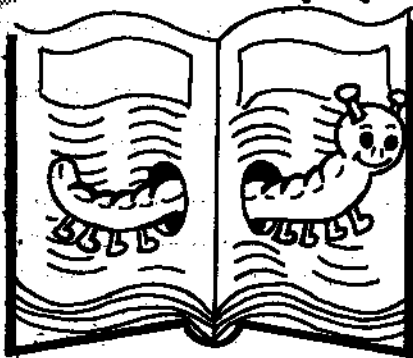
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# DeLand Jailed

The last Friday in September saw the jailing of Brent DeLand, member of the Bloomington Six.

The charge: obstructing a "peace officer" at last year's protest against Sheriff John King. DeLand was one of three men found "guilty" by an ambiguously motivated jury. (The two others are currently appealing.)

The sentence handed down by Judge Joseph Kelly was a whopper, considering the minor nature of the offense: \$100, a year's probation, and a weekend in County Jail. This last, according to observers, was an unusual scurvy embellishment on Judge Kelly's part. DeLand, remember, was arrested just for

asking a policeman for his I.D.

Remember too that the purpose of the original demonstration, in part, was to call attention to inhumane treatment of prisoners in the very same building DeLand and his two comrades were sentenced to spend a weekend.

If Judge Kelly wanted to make a political statement with his sentencing, he succeeded. If he didn't, he's stupid or mindlessly malevolent or both.

Members of the public, conscious of the message contained in DeLand's jailing, turned out to hold vigil as the former Department of Children and Family Services employee submitted to

incarceration. Carrying signs that read "Free Political Prisoners" and "Jail the Figs," they watched DeLand enter the building in the company of his lawyer.

All told, over fifty sympathizers were present. They stood outside the jail an hour.

At the same time, Sheriff John King-- in spite of all the atrocity charges levelled at him-- goes free.

A weekend in jail may not be long, but it's a heck of a lot longer than no time behind bars.

--D.C.

## "I chose to do only what I had to do"--DeLand

Two weeks following his weekend incarceration, Brent DeLand spoke to a Post reporter over the phone. Following are Mr. DeLand's words, distilled for conciseness.

"My experiences inside were not very exciting. Some of the other prisoners treated me like a celebrity. They'd been told a lot of stories about me beforehand--that I was paranoid, crazy, communist, going to organize a break-out. I guess they'd heard these sort of stories before; they all knew it was a lot of bull.

"The people inside were really good people--at least in the section I was in. None were hardened criminals or anything like that. Most were in for small money hassles or drug charges.

"One guy there was definitely a stoolie, but he wasn't smart enough not to let us know it. Nobody hassled him much; he was pretty pathetic. He was broke and doing it for tobacco money.

"The keepers there are really pathetic. When you have nine men in a room watching you undress, then inspecting your rectum for anything hidden--that's dehumanizing. In draft physicals, you undergo the same sort of treatment, but at least you're in it with others and you can joke about it together. Here you're alone.

"Sheriff King appeared several times during the weekend asking me to sign a statement saying that I wasn't hurt while in jail. I asked him if I was required to sign it. I wasn't, so I didn't.

"I only chose to do what I had to do. The food was poor, so I chose to fast.

"One thing I'd stress: since last year's protest there have been some changes for the better in County Jail. TV, reading material have been made available (though most of the reading material is--in my opinion--really bad). Baths are more frequent; there are more mattresses in the cells.

"Conditions are still poor, but they have gotten comparatively better.

"I was told by some of the weekenders that people aren't getting put in the hole as much. When they are, though, it's still for stupid reasons. The week before I was there, one weekend got put in the stand-up cell because his wife had driven by the jail and honked to him. They traced the car by its license, then put the husband in the hole.

"One further message I would like to see in the Post: they need playing cards, books, pencils, and writing paper in there. I remember when I came out I mentioned this to people, and they thought I was kidding. Yet it's important when you're inside.

"In a way I'm glad I went in. It forced me as a state bureaucrat--one who has seldom admitted that he was one--to see what I'm supposed to be about.

"In no way do I feel I deserved my sentence. But being inside made me, as a human being, realize how oppressed fellow human beings are in McLean County--and the rest of the world."

--Denny Colt



Brent DeLand prior to his weekend in jail.

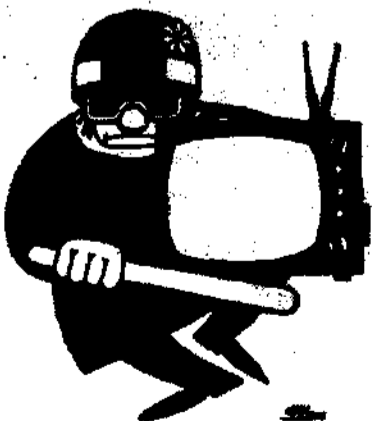


Life is a continuous adjustment to external stimuli. The existential responsibilities of our choosing and/or inheritance in relation to the changing necessities of the moment force the individual to make decisions affecting his/her ability to appreciate, enjoy, and find meaning in his/her situation. The interaction between internal needs and external demands compels the individual to find solutions and to choose directions in which s(he) can harmonize self and world to his/her unique personality pattern and energy field. Astrology is a conscious tool developed to aid the individual to discover his/her own way to self-actualization and to understand his/her own rhythm in relation to the cycles and meanings of the larger whole.

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# ALTERNATIVE NEWS

## General Mills promotes "good nutrition"

(LNS) The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture has just published "The Thing the Professor Forgot," a story book on nutrition for children which "tells the story of good eating habits in pictures and rhyme." The booklet was developed by the General Mills Corp., the company that produces Trix, Lucky Charms and Count Chocula cereals. Nutrition experts have long maintained that these cereal goodies and others like them, loaded with sugar, have almost no nutritional value and contribute significantly to children's tooth decay. In addition, they encourage bad eating habits at an early age. But the agriculture department doesn't seem fazed in the least, for the booklet, along with a message on "good nutrition," will be promoted on about 40 million General Mills cereal boxes in the next few months.

## JUNK

(LNS) One measure of the worthlessness of a product is the amount of advertising the producer puts in to sell it. Not surprisingly, the companies with the highest advertising budgets in 1974, according to Advertising Age, were companies selling cosmetics, pet food, non-prescription drugs, cars, cigarettes, alcohol, and junk food.

## Black unemployment high

While the Ford Administration says it sees "signs of encouragement" in the slight dip in unemployment from 8.6% in July to 8.3% in September, it has been silent on the topic of black unemployment. And no wonder, for the black unemployment rate soared from 13% to 14.3% during the same period. The National Urban League, which tabulates black employment rates, says the real unemployment rate among black people is twice the official rate. The Urban League found 2.9 million unemployed in the first quarter of 1975; 3.06 million blacks were unemployed during the second quarter of 1975. According to the Dept. of Labor Statistics, industries in which black unemployment is double that of white unemployment include construction and primary metals, as well as retail trade and the service sector. Both local and federal governments had three times the number of blacks laid off than whites in the second quarter of 1975.

## High radiation found in New Mexican power plant

(LNS, Secs Catalogue)--The Environmental Protection Agency found "intolerable" amounts of radioactive material in drinking water near three uranium mining areas in New Mexico. Kerr-McGee Nuclear Corporation, Anaconda, and United Nuclear failed to develop adequate monitoring systems to protect water supplies surrounding their mines. The three corporations issued denials that they were breaking existing regulations.

## Coal Company Lies

A grand jury in Columbus, Ohio, has indicted officials of Consolidation Coal Company, one of Appalachia's largest mining companies, for falsifying dust samples they submit to the government. The samples are used to determine whether dust levels are high enough to cause respiratory ailments such as black lung disease, commonly contracted by miners. The 174-count indictment cites numerous instances during 1973 and 1974 in which Consolidation officials switched samples and made false statements to the federal Mining Enforcement and Safety Administration. If convicted, Consolidation Coal Company could be fined \$25,000 on each of the 174 counts--- or \$4,280,000.

## Butz Protested

(LNS) A luncheon for Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz was disrupted Oct. 4 as two protesters handed out leaflets calling Butz "living proof of the sweetheart marriage between the U.S. government and agribusiness." "Ford, Kissinger, and Butz are now openly using the threat of famine to retain U.S. control over raw materials and Third World countries," said the protesters' leaflet, which showed a picture of a starving woman and child. While Butz has a salary of \$63,000 a year and lives in plush affluence, the leaflet noted that as ag secretary he "has promoted policies to raise the price of food stamps, cut free school lunch programs, and drastically reduce grain reserves for emergency aid."

## HIGHEST PAID EXECUTIVES

Harold S. Green, Chairperson of ITT--\$789,000  
J. Kenneth Jamieson, EXXON--\$677,000  
William F. Laporte, American Home Products--\$600,000  
Rawleigh Warner Jr., Mobil Oil--\$596,000  
William S. Paley, CBS--\$588,000  
Leonard Goldenson, ABC--\$582,000  
Maurice F. Granville, Texaco--\$579,000  
Charles J. Pilliod Jr., Goodyear--\$564,000  
Meshulam Riklis, Rapid-American--\$545,000

## INDIANS JAILED

(LNS)--3 Oglala Sioux Indians from the Pine Ridge Reservation were found in contempt of court and jailed at the end of September for refusing to testify before a grand jury in Rapid City, South Dakota. The grand jury is currently investigating the shooting incident in Oglala on June 26 in which an Indian and two FBI agents were killed. The grand jury has subpoenaed only political activists and their supporters. Those who support the federally-imposed Tribal Government (led by Tribal Chairperson Dick Wilson), even those involved in acts of violence, have not been called. Nearly thirty people on the reservation have been killed by Wilson's men since the 1973 Wounded Knee occupation. These cases have not been investigated by grand juries.

## FBI Invades Reservation

(LNS)--100 Armed FBI agents invaded the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota on Sept. 6. They broke into two homes, arresting 4 well-known American Indian Movement members, among others. The 4 are charged with assault, allegedly stemming from a Sept. 3 fighting incident at the reservation. On that date, 2 men beat up one of the arrested. They were later seen in a car with FBI agents. Their second attempt at a beating was broken up when the Indian's friends interfered.

## Indians Refuse Shell

(LNS)-- The Crow Tribal Council in Montana dealt a blow to the Shell Oil Company in September when they rejected a Shell Oil bid to lease 30,000 acres on the Crow Reservation for coal strip mining. Shell had hoped to mine at least \$1 billion in coal from the arrangement. The tribal rejection came after a summer-long hard-sell campaign by the oil conglomerate. At the Crow Tribal Fair, Shell set up a movie showing how strip mining ultimately "benefits" the area. The film narrator noted the Crow had once relied on buffalo meat for sustenance. "Earth Mother is still providing for her children," the narrator said. "Coal is 'the new buffalo--a new kind of nourishment.'" The company also gave away keychains and penlights in their effort to win the people over.

## Exxon 'warns' Congress

(LNS) In response to the repeal of the oil depletion allowance tax loophole, U.S. oil companies have drastically cut back exploration for new oil and gas wells, down by more than 20%. Whereas a record 334 seismicographic explorations were out seeking new reserves in July 1974, only 268 were at work this July. Summer months are usually the peak months for geophysical exploration. While denying the cutback was an attempt to blackmail Congress into restoring the loophole, EXXON executive and geophysicist J. Dan Skelton told the Chicago Tribune, "A drop off in drilling will follow and four or five years later you will see a drop off in oil production."

## Sioux beaten to death

(LNS)--In continuing violence on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota, Jim Little, a 35-year-old Oglala Sioux, was beaten to death by four men on Sept 10 in the town of Oglala. Little opposed the tribal government structure, which was established by the federal government in 1934. Joe Stuntz, the Indian man killed by the FBI at Pine Ridge last June, was buried on the land of Jim Little's father. Jim Little has been buried next to him.

## Viet refugees hold strike

(NAN/LNS) 44 Vietnamese refugees on the US military base at Guam began a hunger strike Sept. 5 to press their demand for an immediate return to Viet Nam. Most of the Vietnamese seeking repatriation from Guam are men who served in Thieu's military and were ordered to fly their planes or take ships to U.S. bases in the Pacific after the April 30 liberation of Saigon. At least 13 airmen claim that they were drugged by U.S. military personnel and forcibly removed from Viet Nam. The Republic of S. Viet Nam is reportedly willing to accept the refugees from Guam. In Washington, the State Dept. has denied any knowledge of the hunger strike.

## Iranian Students Arrested

Houston police arrested 124 Iranian students Sept. 27 during an Iranian Student Association demonstration outside the Iranian consulate in Houston. A decree recently passed in Iran authorizes life imprisonment for any Iranian who demonstrates against the government-- inside or outside Iran. The students, who wore white paper masks to avoid identification by Iranian agents, also tore up all their identification papers as they were being led to the Houston jail, to avoid having their names turned over to Iranian officials.



# SERVICES BRIEFS

## Rallies hit Chile junta

(LNS)--Rallies and demonstrations against the military junta in Chile took place in dozens of cities around the world on Sept. 11, the 2nd anniversary of the 1973 rightist coup that overthrew the Popular Unity government of Salvador Allende. Most of the rallies condemned the junta's imprisonment of political opponents, which still include 13 members of the Chilean Parliament, and the junta's terrorism and torture tactics.

(LNS)--a recent survey by the National Enquirer found that Americans are bombarded by advertisements in excess of \$110 per year per person.

## the AID in SPAIN

(LNS)--The U.S. government reacted angrily to Europe's last remaining fascist government, the US would only say that it condemned the "cycle of violence" in Spain. Throughout the entire period from the first military trials in late August to the executions of leftists on Sept. 27, Sec. of State Henry Kissinger met constantly with Spanish foreign minister Pedro Cortina Mauri, in an effort to renew a 5-year "agreement on friendship and cooperation," a euphemism for military aid. The aid package reportedly calls for \$750 million in military credits to Spain during the next five years, and a recognition of "mutual security and economic interest."

## South Africans jailed

(LNS) The South African apartheid regime in Pretoria has conducted an intensified campaign of arrests since mid-August both inside South Africa and in occupied Namibia (formerly known as South West Africa). Police implementing the "Terrorism Act" have arrested and jailed 68 people identified as members of or leaders of student or worker black organizations. Nine black S. Africans are currently on trial in Pretoria under the Terrorism Act, charged with subversion and advocating the violent overthrow of the government. (They participated in a demonstration supporting the liberation of the Portuguese colony Mozambique.) If convicted, they could face death.

## South Viet Nam enters U.N.

The UN General Assembly voted to admit the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Republic of South Viet Nam to world body on Sept. 19. The U.S. abstained. The vote came in response to a U.S. veto of the two applications to the Security Council last month. It is the 15 member Security Council that ultimately decides on the admission of new members, but so many countries were outraged at the U.S. veto that they brought up the issue again, this time in the General Assembly, which includes representatives from 113 nations.

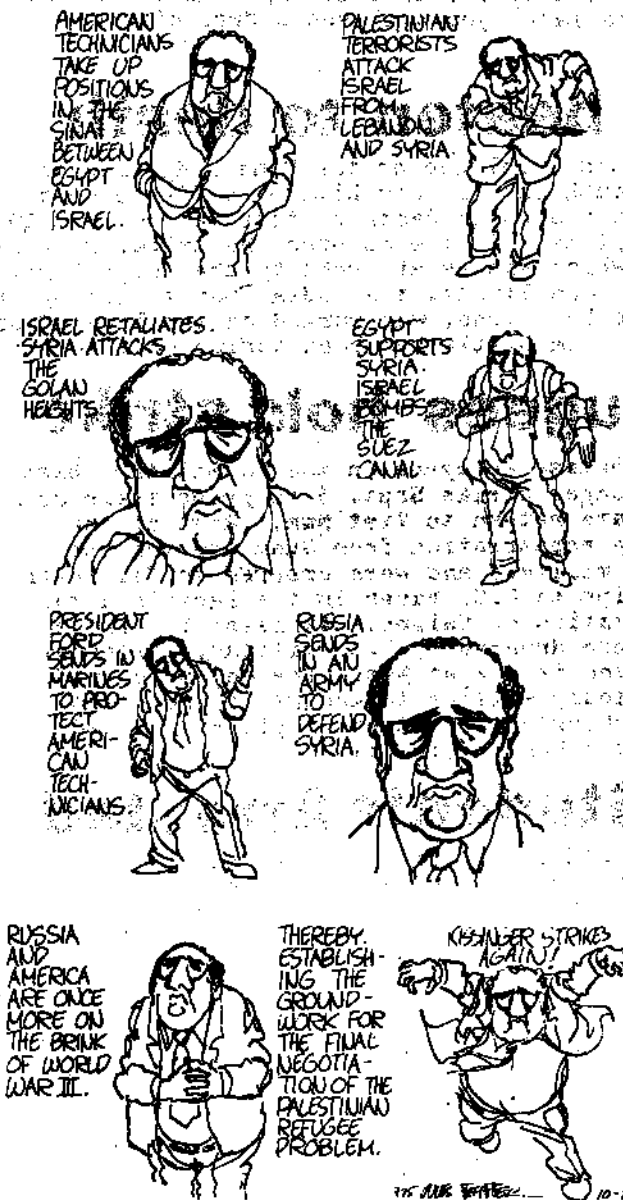
## CIA control of Argentine police?

(LNS) An Argentine judge sentenced Olga Falana to three years in prison on Sept. 17 for her alleged involvement in a 1973 assassination of two Argentine judges and a subversive activity. Falana was arrested in San Francisco, California, and returned to Argentina. She was charged with conspiring with Argentine consul Francisco Licastro and demanding that Licastro's daughter be released. Licastro later denied that the Argentine police are controlled by the CIA.

## Basque nationalists repressed

(LNS)--A wave of repression unleashed against Basque nationalists and other suspected leftists in Spain has culminated in death sentences for eleven people and the arrest of over 500 others under the country's new "anti-terrorist" decree enacted on August 27. Under the new decree, a death sentence is mandatory for all convicted "terrorists." The emergency law also takes away the normal right to appeal. Only General Franco, Spain's president, has the power to grant a stay of execution. The law also specifies execution by garrote vil, a torturous medieval method. In Barcelona and Madrid, people were arrested in Barcelona and Madrid for "spreading propaganda." In Asturias, 100 people have been arrested on the same charge. Under the emergency decree, suspected terrorists can be imprisoned for ten days without charges, and their houses searched. Basque nationalists have been struggling for self-determination for the Basque people, who comprise a different nationality, culture, and language from the rest of Spain.

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# Administrative "Difficulties" Prevent Downtown Food Stamp Distribution

22

Bids for a site for the new downtown Post Office substation closed on September 22 with the City of Bloomington appearing as the only source of a bid. The City of Bloomington proposed to rent a little less than 1500 square feet to the postal service in the downtown parking garage. However, a real estate specialist for the postal service in Peoria explained that it is impossible to tell how long it might be before the Postal Service makes a decision on the site.

Apparently, the Postal Service doesn't have to take the low bid (even with a single bid) and can negotiate with other bidders (whoever they may be) using "open advertising" to take advantage of the best offer.

What all this may very well mean for food stamp recipients on Bloomington's West side is that they will have to make a lengthy excursion to the postal facility near Eastland or travel to Normal to pick up their coupons. Bloomington Postmaster Buhrke told the Post-Amerikan he hopes it's "not too long" before the new facility will be in operation. Nevertheless, the proposal for the new site is being stalled.

Gary Wilder, the director of the Occupational Development Center, is hoping to move that facility into the old post office station on East St. by November 15. The ODC Board is presently tied down in negotiations with the General Services Administration for the rental of the old post office facility.

Wilder said he hadn't heard from the General Services Administration for 6 to 7 weeks as of October 13. He explained that the GSA may be waiting on ODC's Small Business Administration loan to go through before they will entertain completing the negotiations for renting space to the Postal Service for a substation in the present facility.

Wilder said the Postal Service wants about 2000 sq. feet in their former main branch, with access to the dock area. Postmaster Buhrke seemed to indicate that food stamps would not be distributed downtown until the new substation was built. An unidentified postal worker at the downtown Bloomington facility told the Post-Amerikan that food stamps couldn't be sold in the present structure because there isn't enough security to protect the valuable food coupons.



If the downtown substation works out a lease with ODC, security will still be a problem. If a new substation is built in the City's downtown parking garage, security will still be a problem. Is the problem a question of having enough people to make a substation function smoothly, having enough armed security personnel to protect food stamps, or simply that nobody is particularly concerned about the needs of food stamp recipients?

### THE PRESENT SITUATION

Food stamp recipients now have to fight their way across Empire on Fairway Dr. without the benefit of pedestrian crossings. Postmaster Buhrke said he sympathized with the plight of food stamp recipients who had to rely on bus transportation, and was suggesting to Robert Tate who chairs the B-N Transit Board to provide for bus service to the east side Post Office. A spokesperson for the Transit System told the Post-Amerikan that she expected the newly scheduled buses to be running to the new Post Office around December 1. Unfortunately the

bottleneck arising from taking the bus only to pick up food stamps there is the wait involved for the trip home.

Another aspect of the food stamp distribution problem which seems to rest in the hands of welfare bureaucrats in Springfield is the time period in which food stamps are distributed. In September the McLean County Office of Economic Opportunity circulated a petition asking that distribution hours be extended throughout the week and on Saturdays. The rationale the MCEOC used is that persons who hold down full time jobs and are paid on Fridays are inconvenienced because the food stamps cannot be secured after 3 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. Food stamps are never distributed on Saturdays, so food stamp recipients must either wait until Monday to either run to Bloomington's east side or Normal during lunch breaks or authorize someone else to get the food stamps and make them go the distance.

Postmaster Buhrke claimed that the hours for food stamp distribution are set by contract between the postal service and the State of Illinois Dept. of Public Aid. He claimed he is "positively bound in" by the system. Nobody from the MCEOC was available for comment on the success of the petition, but Nancy Barnes, MCEOC's outreach worker, told the Post-Amerikan that the petitions would be sent to Jack Lauer, Gerald Bradley, Gil Deavers, and Harber Hall so area legislators would recognize a problem existed there.

Readers with suggestions about dealing with problems in getting food stamps should contact Nancy Barnes, MCEOC's outreach worker at 828-1412.

Thomas Pain

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# No indictment for "flag desecration"

In September the grand jury refused to indict George Marsik on the charge of flag desecration. Marsik visited the Bloomington Police Department on September 3 after he found a message on his van left by Officers Brienan

and Frank. Brienan and Frank had been "cruising by" and noticed (with their x-ray vision), big holes in the American flag Marsik had suspended to his van's ceiling. The condition of the flag would not be apparent to most normal folks without entering the van.

--Thomas Pain



State's Attorney Welch presented the evidence against Marsik. Brad Murphy, who had previously dealt with the case, and who provided public comments about it, more or less stepped out of the picture. Murphy and Welch told the Post-American that the case was a delicate one. Welch indicated that the Illinois statute in question had been revised several times. Several years ago, a federal court threw out a similar case in which a man had a flag suspended by wire to the roof of his car, resulting in holes in the flag.

A month ago, the State's Attorney's office didn't know what to do with the case. They avoided filing felony charges, throwing the matter into the grand jury's lap. According to radio reports of the grand jury's decision, Marsik was not going to be hassled because he'd "cooperated with police in the matter." But Marsik had no choice. He hadn't known what the police wanted; neither did the State's Attorney or the grand jury.

But the police apparently knew what they wanted: using the "Clear view doctrine" in the most shoddy way, the police had been able to get a good look at the inside of Marsik's van. Not finding what they wanted, but needing material evidence to justify their snooping, they charged Marsik with desecrating the flag. Then they released him on his own recognizance, shuffled

the paper-work to the State's Attorney, who in turn shuffled the stuff to the grand jury. What a fun way to deal with an excuse for looking in someone's vehicle!

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# 24 Lenz O.K.s Tenant Ripoff

Misunderstandings sometimes have ugly consequences, especially when someone tries to profit from them. A case in point is the plight of two ISU students, who out of sheer necessity rented an apartment owned by the Twin Cities' trust king, Robert Lenz.

## What's the problem here ?

According to reports in the Pantagraph, Andre Fields and Michael Thornton, who reside at 404 E. Vernon, called Normal Police to report the theft of over \$1400 in stereo equipment from their apartment. Less than an hour later, each of the two men were placed under arrest for criminal trespass to property and possession of marijuana. Thornton was additionally charged with battery after he and the apartment manager George Perkins allegedly got into a fight.

As usual, Pantagraph reporting took the police reports on face value and didn't investigate any further. The person responsible for the real criminal damage was mentioned once in Pantagraph accounts. Fields and Thornton returned home from classes at ISU on September 30 to find their apartment door open, over \$1400 (not "\$1400") worth of stereo equipment missing, plus a warning sign on the door which stated that no one was to enter the apartment without authorization. Anyone else would be liable for charges of criminal trespass. Having paid their rent through October 1, Fields and Thornton entered their apartment anyway, discovered the thefts, called the police and rushed over to see George Perkins, manager of the Lenz apartment complex.

## Perkins, doing what

Lenz tells him

Perkins had expected a visit from Fields and Thornton. Both men had rented in the apartment since the Spring semester at ISU last year. According to Thornton, when school was over in May, Perkins told them the rent for the summer was \$300. They were given a summer lease which allegedly did not specify a

termination date. All Fields and Thornton were aware of was that they had rented the apartment through the summer. Both men left their rent for September, and then they were informed that they were responsible for \$60 apiece for the last weeks in August. Both balked at paying the extra amount, claiming they weren't aware of such a liability.

Thornton told the Post-American that a birthday party was held in the apartment on September 9. Apartment manager Perkins came to their door, and claiming he was acting on behalf

of a complaint from a neighbor, asked them to turn down their music. They complied with the request, but wondered why the complaining tenant had not come to them with the request. The next day the men found on their door a typed order for them to vacate the apartment.

The order was not issued through a McLean County court, and was not notarized. Both men ignored it--unaware that Bob Lenz had a big surprise in store for them.

## Lenz's lease legalizes theft

Imagine your reaction if you came home to find the lock on your door changed plus valuable possessions missing. Clause 10 of Lenz's lease authorizes such activities: "...Upon the non-payment of the whole or any portion of rental herein or the breach of any term or condition of this Lease by LESSEE, the LESSOR may, at his election, either distrain (which means rip-off) for said rent due, or declare this Lease at an end and recover possession as if the same were held by forcible detainer; the LESSEE hereby waiving any notice of said election or any demand for the possession of said premises." What this jargon means is that Lenz can, using his own interpretation of reality, seize things which rightfully belong to his tenants.

The Post-American asked some of the tenants at the Hillside complex why they signed a lease like that, and the overwhelming response was that they didn't really have any choice. When ISU resumed classes this fall, there was a mad dash to find a place to live. High rents and abominable lease requirements had to be overlooked.

## The lockout confrontation and arrest

Fields and Thornton demanded an explanation from apartment manager Perkins for the attempted lock-out and the notice on the door that an eviction had taken place. Perkins was obviously upset at being confronted by two angry black men, and when Thornton's gestures became too personal for him, Perkins imagined that he had been assaulted. Thornton told the Post-American that he had never committed battery against Perkins; rather, he had touched Perkins' hands and arms to emphasize concern. Thornton also told Perkins that, if he wanted his money, "let's go to court" and handle this affair. Lenz had other ideas.

Responding not to the burglary report but armed with arrest warrants for criminal trespass, Normal Police surprised Fields and Thornton in their apartment. During the arrest, the police spied some marijuana and were able to add more

charges against the two men. In order to reinforce the classic class conflict, an unidentified cop asked, "Do you know who pressed charges against you? It was MISTER Lenz, an attorney from Bloomington."

## Lenz's guilt trip

After posting bond, both men were released. The Post-American discovered that the fathers of both men had met with Lenz privately after the incident, and Lenz, surprised that black people actually do know their rights, notified Fields and Thornton in a letter dated October 3rd that he had decided to drop charges. Of course, dropping charges still rests in the hands of the State's Attorney's office.

Lenz knew the charges against the two men would never stick. He knew that a 10-day notice prior to eviction (especially without going to court) was wrong. But Lenz has money and power and makes his own decisions. During the meeting with Lenz, the fathers of the two men were told that noise complaints were the main reason for initiating eviction measures. The real issue of course was the back rent which both men were supposed to pay. The money was paid back, and Lenz was happy. Neither Lenz nor manager Perkins assumed any responsibility for the lack of communication about the summer rental agreement.

"Whoever can use the law to his best advantage is the name of the game," Thornton told the Post-American. The stereo equipment which had "disappeared" has not been recovered. Both men received an undue amount of harassment for trying to live in this town and study at ISU. Neither had any previous hassles with the police--but a pinch of landlord greed and a large dose of Lenz's power changed the whole situation.

Thomas Pain

Post-Note: Attempting to do any real estate research on Robert Lenz is practically impossible. Lenz operates mostly in trusts, and information about the kinds of profits Lenz is making from his student rental properties will be hard to find. One can only assume that like most landlords who have property near the ISU campus, student demand jacks rental costs up to sky-high limits. The concepts of supply and demand for services may apply, but in most cases the resulting prices are far from equitable, and the reality of a housing market monopoly is what emerges.

# The Rise of Robert Lenz

POST NOTE: Local landlord, lawyer and politician Robert Lenz has finally made it to public office. Unsuccessful in his bid for State Senate in 1972, Lenz settled for running for University of Illinois Trustee in 1974. He took office in 1975.

The following article is reprinted from the Daily Illini, the student paper of U of I. Since Lenz is also a figure on the B-N scene, we thought Post readers would be interested in what U of I folks think of him.

This is printed exactly as Ron Knecht wrote it in the Illini, except for one place where the Post has put an asterisk (\*) in--this is to refer the reader to an extra part at the end, written by a Post person.

What kind of man becomes a University of Illinois trustee?

Well, let me tell you a little bit about Robert Lenz, one of our newest and youngest board members.

Lenz is a handsome, dapper and generally spiffy gent who is a lawyer from Bloomington-Normal. He was elected to the Board as a Democrat last year and took office this year.

His hair is modishly long and he is articulate and well-dressed.

He also has a knack for becoming the center of controversy.

For example, there is the way Lenz got slated for the board in the first place.

Among other things, he didn't even show up to be interviewed by the committee recommending a slate of trustee candidates to the state Democratic convention.

Other candidates appeared before the committee for interviews. But political wheeling and dealing got Lenz onto the slate over the determined efforts of Robert Johnson, a University student who was at the convention and who had worked his tail off traveling around the state in hopes of getting grass roots support from party regulars in order to be nominated.

The raw political muscle that got Lenz slated was exercised by his county chairman with the Daley block in a backroom deal just before the slating list went to the convention floor.

After he was elected and before he took office, Lenz came out publicly against the board's resolution of opposition to the Oakley Dam-Lake Springer controversy. He said he hoped to get the board to drop its opposition.

But before his first meeting--before he even had a chance to ask the board to change its stance on that issue--the matter brought him a gust of trouble.



Opponents of the dam discovered Lenz was working as a legal consultant to the Committee on Banking and Finance of the Illinois Senate. This committee is headed by Sen. Robert W. McCarthy, D-Decatur, a well-known proponent of the Oakley boondoggle.

The opponents of the dam suggested that Lenz' feelings on Oakley were perhaps influenced by his pocketbook, which was being lined by consulting fees from McCarthy's committee at the rate of \$150 per day.

They also suggested there was an even more serious conflict of interest because Lenz was serving as a consultant to the committee at the same time he was listed as one of the corporate organizers of the Prairie State Bank in his hometown. The bank recently received its charter from the state.

So Lenz backed off slightly on the dam thing, but he did manage to get himself embroiled in another hot item at his first board meeting--the case of Robert Byars.

Byars is a political science professor here who is having a tenure fight with the University administration.

What turbulence will swirl around the dashing Robert Lenz next?

I don't know. But I have recently found out about another storm he was caught in just a couple of years ago and I have high hopes Lenz will be an exciting bit of news here for some time to come.

Lenz was involved up to his legal neck in the scandal that surrounded construction of the university president's house at Illinois State University (ISU) a few years ago. Our trustee was the attorney for that institution at that time and a principal advisor to ISU President David Berlo, who resigned under fire as a result of the episode.

In an investigation after the resignation, the Illinois Legislative Investigating Commission found Berlo had surreptitiously spent of \$245,000 on construction of a new presidential (or should that be royal?) residence when he was legally limited to \$100,000.

The investigating commission concluded that "several Illinois laws, as well as policies of the Board of Higher Education and the Board of Regents, were violated by the manner in which the president's residence was constructed." A number of these were itemized in the report.

Lenz handled the major negotiations with banking institutions and construction companies in the scandal, and it appears the university came out on the short end.

ISU had to pay 7% interest on the money it borrowed to build the house. At about the same time, Western Illinois University was able to get a loan for the same purpose at only 6%. Eastern Illinois University had a clause put into the loan agreement for its presidential residence saying the interest rate would be 4% if the lending bank was not required to pay taxes on the interest.

The savings and loan institution that lent money to ISU got 7%, but was not required to pay taxes on the interest.\*

But the gang at ISU was good at some things--like covering up costs with their accounting procedures, according to the investigation.

"Specific examples of the accounting method used may be enlightening," the report said. "One interesting example is that of a rowing machine used for exercising, which was sent to the president's home, but charged to the physical education department.

"Another example is the crystal, china and silverware that were bought for the home. Instead of including this as a cost of furnishing the residence, the expense was met by drawing upon surplus revenue bond funds. The rationale, as stated by Robert Lenz, former university counsel, was that the revenue bonds were issued to finance a student union building and that it was appropriate to charge and finance the purchase of these items to surplus revenue bond funds because these items could be used in the student union as well as the president's residence."

And we thought such creative thought was limited to Washington, Springfield, and Chicago.

Later in the report, the commission took more direct issue with Lenz on the matter of surplus revenue bonds.

The report quoted a legal memorandum by Lenz saying that such funds could be used in the way they had been used and quoted a section of Illinois law that apparently supported him.

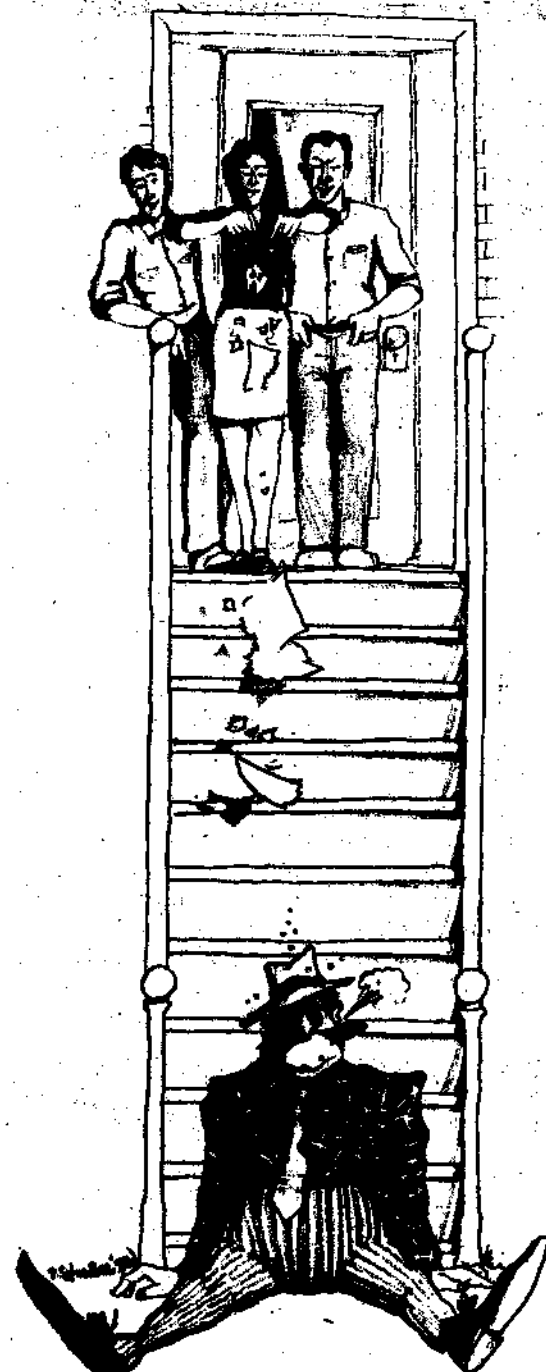
But the commission found that Lenz had quoted the law out of context and when the entire section was read, it contradicted him.


The report outlines many other creative ways that Berlo's gang covered up costs and misappropriated ISU resources, but perhaps one of the most interesting to

students is that they used interest <sup>25</sup> earned from student fees in some cases.

With that kind of background, I think Robert Lenz has a wonderful future here. I think he will be able to do many creative things at this University. Just wait until he gets together with Earl Finder and Tom Parkinson.

\*POST-NOTE: That institution, Bloomington Federal Savings and Loan, was technically lending the money to the ISU Foundation. One member of the ISU Foundation board was conveniently the Vice President of Bloomington Federal at the time.





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# NFO Visits Twin-Cities Again

Bringing in four tons of high quality ground beef and two tons of cheese, the National Organization again set up shop for a day in the Zayre Plaza parking lot. Selling what NFO state president Dale Nass characterized as 100% ground beef for \$1 a pound, NFO members present were kept busy by scores of anxious Twin-Cities consumers.

Nass told the Post-American that there was an urgent need to sell as much cheese as possible. He explained that a year and a half ago the Department of Agriculture removed the price supports for milk—a move which threatened to bankrupt a number of dairy farmers. NFO farmers and other sympathetic farmers, rather than selling their milk at deflated prices and absorbing enormous losses, held back the milk and made cheese. The sale of the cheese now will allow farmers to get back their investments in milk production, bypass market conditions which would jack up the prices and save consumers some money.

More than anything else, Nass tried to explain how powerless farmers are in assuring their survival as producers of food. As an example, Nass mentioned the Emergency Farm bill which would have supported the price of farm commodities to the price of production. So family farms would break even. Unfortunately, Earl Butz was able to persuade President Ford to veto the measure after it passed in both Congressional houses.

Last year when soybeans shot up to a price of \$13.00 a bushel, 94% of the entire crop had been sold already by farmers for \$3.38 a bushel. It seems that large companies, according to Nass, had held back 6% of the crop and when the squeeze came, were able to extract nearly \$10.00 a bushel more. Many cases of this sort of activity by Boards of Trade and commodities futures exchanges can be



Townpeople converged on the Zayre Shopping Plaza to get a good deal on some quality ground beef and cheese.

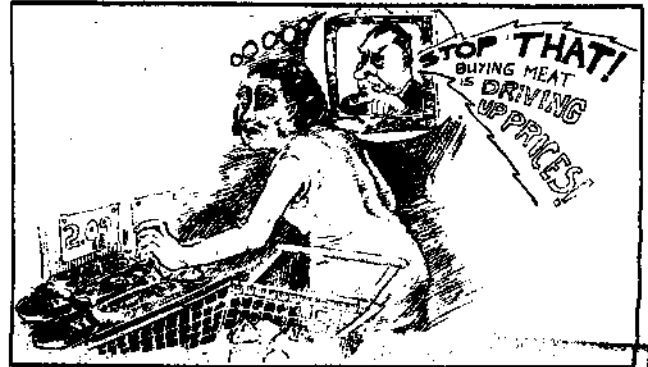
cited daily, Nass said, but it wouldn't happen "if the farmers kept control of the commodities."

Nass and other members of the National Farmers' Organization are interested in the role of collective bargaining by farmers to help regain control of the food price situation. "If we can put together 30% of the control of commodities, we can urge collective bargaining and get firm contracts to keep the prices farmers get from going down," Nass concluded.

The interview with Nass had to conclude quickly because people kept surging to the section of Zayre parking lot where they could finally get some quality meat and cheese. Nass didn't indicate when the NFO would be back in town, but the response they get in McLean County has always been good, and future visits certainly would be well-attended. But the NFO gets its share of hassles year-to-year, too. Besides attempts to force the NFO into receivership for a number of commodities by the Securities and Exchange Commission, the NFO was near the top of Nixon's infamous enemies list.

Is corporate and governmental collaboration in controlling the food industry really what's the rule rather than the exception in this supposed "free enterprise" economy? Nass seems to think so, and the milk industry's contributions to the '72 Nixon campaign seem to show whose interests are at stake. "When our Lord threw the money-changers out of the temple, they took the first boat they could catch and set up the Chicago Board of Trade," Nass said in a humorous twist while talking with the Post-American. But the exodus of small farmers from their land and the takeover of food commodities by corporate interests and governmental rubber-stamping of these trends remains to become a laughing matter.

-----Thomas Pain



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# Monty Python and the Holy Grail

If I were one of those big-name professional film critics, I'd be able to tell you how good the Monty Python movie is just on the basis of its clever parodies of various film artists who make their movies with subtitles --but I'm not. I'm only one of the people who read and write this newspaper: an ordinary chap who doesn't know Tennyson's "Idylls of the King" from the Disney cartoon version of The Sword and the Stone.

Monty Python and the Holy Grail is a funny movie. Now, I'm just one of the People, not any kind of intellectual, but I know what's funny. Any movie that shows cows catapulted over castle walls is funny.

Nobody, by the way, named Monty Python ever appears in the movie. The name is derived from the English tv show "Monty Python's Flying Circus," which is written by the very same people responsible for this movie and which also has nobody named Monty Python ever appearing in it.

The people responsible are Graham Chapman, John Cleese, Terry Gilliam, Eric Idle, Terry Jones, and Michael Palin. All of them appear in the movies under a variety of guises.

All but Terry Gilliam are English, and he never talks much in the movie. (He never does on the show either. Shy maybe?) Gilliam, a former cartoonist in America, is responsible for a host of weird cartoons interspersed in the movie, including a cartoon image of Our Lord Himself that tells King Arthur (Graham Chapman) of his quest.

Oh yes. The movie's about King Arthur's quest for the Holy Grail. The Python people take the Arthurian legend and show it for what it is: an archaic fantasy that still has its hold on England. People in England, I'm told, still believe in the Arthurian legends, kind of like believe in this country still hold on to the myths of Horatio Alger and good cops.

Hence, the Python people can be said to be doing a Good Thing in making this movie debunking the central culturally oppressive myth of their country.

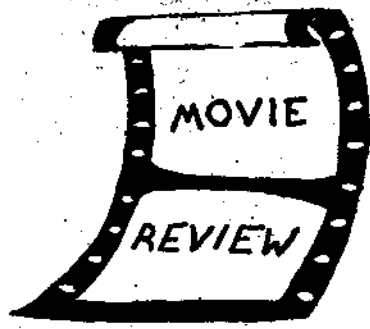
There's lots of violence and death in the movie, all of it ludicrous. Maybe the best thing about the movie is the way it places violence in a non-romantic perspective. I grew up on television shows about chivalric merrie England, and this movie is the best antidote to over twenty years of such brainwashing.

Take the sequence when Arthur comes up against the Black Knight. In the heat of battle, Arthur chops off the man's hand; Arthur; the Black Knight refuses to admit defeat. Arthur chops off the knight's other arm; the fool starts kicking the king, calling him "chicken" for not wanting to continue. Arthur chops off the man's legs; the knight is willing to "call it a draw."

If I was any kind of intellectual film critic, I'd say the Monty Python people were making fun of that machismo which is so much the foundation of English (and American) culture.

However, like I said when I started this, I'm not, so I'll just say Monty Python and the Holy Grail is the funniest movie I've seen in centuries.

--Tom Malory



## GRASS ROOTS



by  
**Ray Ryburn**

### The Route 9 Barge Canal

Governor Walker. Sir, the following has been brought to my attention and I thought you should be made aware of it.

Proposed Sale of Apparently Abandoned Property Located between Bloomington and Gibson City, Illinois. Midway between two fine blacktop roads, property can be reached by several well-kept roads that cross property at intervals.

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Several accidents have happened to people who have mistaken it for a road between Point A and Point B.

If no proper use for this abandoned piece of property can be found in the near future, it will be sold to the lowest bidder. High bids will miss it completely. To become a qualified bidder, sign Route 9 petition.

I know, Governor, that it's tough to make an east to west decision in a state that's mostly north and south. But my advisors tell me that a recent census confirmed their theory that there are about as many voters counted from east to west as there are counting from north to south.

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# ETHIOPIA: Torn by Seccession

Ethiopia has a long history of civilization, one which begins over 3000 years ago; it is probably the second oldest civilization in Africa, slightly younger than that of Egypt. Eritrea speaks Tigrinya, a Hamitic dialect of Arabic, and is about  $\frac{1}{2}$  Christian and  $\frac{1}{2}$  Muslim, whereas the rest of Ethiopia speaks Amharic and Galinga and is predominantly Christian. Ethiopia has been mainly Christian since 300 A.D. Ethiopia has been a symbol of independence throughout Africa's colonial period, because it resisted colonization until 1935 (except for Eritrea, which was colonized by Italy in 1889), and was able to free itself from colonial domination six years later, in 1941. No other African nation except Liberia, a U.S. creation, was independent during this period. In 1941 Eritrea also became independent of Italy. In 1963 the OAU (Organization of African Unity) was founded in Ethiopia. Ethiopia has many largely untapped resources, including gold, nickel, copper, manganese, titanium, petroleum, and others.

Emperor Haile Selassie ruled Ethiopia for 52 years, from 1922 until 1974, when he was deposed. During the 1950's and 1960's he became more and more unpopular. In the 1950's Selassie abolished labor unions, suppressed political parties, and sent 14,000 troops out to keep the people from revolting. Selassie was unwilling--partially because of his strong ties with the landed aristocracy--to challenge the traditional hierarchical and feudal system in Ethiopia, and his refusal had become an impediment to economic and social reform. Growing student protests and demonstrations against Selassie demanded universal public education and land redistribution, and protested limits put on school enrollments. Workers and unemployed soon joined students in the streets, protesting rising prices in transportation and food and basic commodities, and government inadequacy and corruption in dealing with widespread famine.

The United Nations in 1952 sent two commissions to Eritrea regarding its independence, and made a historic decision that Ethiopia should give Eritrea autonomy and democratic representation under federation status. The Eritrean assembly enacted a democratic constitution, but came in conflict with the Ethiopian government, which annulled the assembly's actions (the son-in-law of the emperor, the appointed representative of Eritrea, took this step), refusing to comply with the U.N.



decision it was delegated to enforce. In 1958 massive anti-Selassie demonstrations erupted in Eritrea, and were put down with the massacre of 550 people. In 1962 the Eritrean democratic constitution and assembly were abolished and Eritrea annexed, in violation

of the 1952 U.N. decision. By this time guerilla resistance by the ELF (Eritrean Liberation Front) and PLF (Popular Liberation Forces) began shortly. In 1975 the two were merged into the EPLF (Eritrean Popular Liberation Forces).

In 1967 Selassie ordered the bombardment of the Eritrean countryside. About 120 villages were destroyed, wide areas of crops were ruined by defoliants, and water was poisoned in many villages, including the mensae and sahl areas, resulting in countless casualties. Massacres occurred in Keren, where 22 people were hung in the town square and 2,000 were killed and many more injured by napalm, in Um Hajer, where 250 unarmed villagers were shot, and others. Torture by slitting the wombs of pregnant mothers and burning suspects were "popularized." In 1970 Eritrea was placed under Emergency Military Rule by Selassie. Today the EPLF holds over 2/3 of the countryside of Eritrea and enjoys the support of the great majority of the people there. Growing discontent with Selassie's rule in all parts of Ethiopia helped bring his downfall on September 15, 1974, when the Provisional Military Council (PMC or Derg) took power under the leadership of Lieutenant General Amam, an Eritrean, as chairman. Widespread protests and demonstrations (leading to the closing down of the schools), and by taxi drivers helping lead to a breakdown in public transportation) encourage dissident young military men to revolt. Soon afterwards many powerful figures in government, parliament, and the landed aristocracy were arrested, parliament is abolished, and widespread graft, corruption, and hoarding of wealth in foreign banks by Selassie's administration was revealed.

There is a question when they will turn the government to civilians. Currently no civilian parties are allowed legally, although there is a fairly widespread underground party (Ethiopian Labor Confederation) pressing for a more democratic government and compromise with Eritrea.

Zehainesh: The military does not seem to be going in the direction of civilian rule, although the people want it. I think that Ethiopia may not be ready, however, for civilian rule at this point.

Post: What is your opinion concerning the Eritrean conflict?

Ayalew: I don't support the idea of complete independence for Eritrea, but I would support their autonomy. Not only Eritreans but other Ethiopians as well are oppressed under the military government.

Zehainesh: I'm from Eritrea and support their revolution for self-determination and freedom. I feel that Eritrea should be made independent of Ethiopia, not in federation with it. I feel the movement will succeed. The Eritreans right now don't have much place in the Ethiopian government. Almost all the people in Eritrea support the EPLF. There is widespread destruction by the government of houses and attacks on people there. Women have been participating in the resistance movement on an equal basis with men in all areas. Eritrea, unlike the rest of Ethiopia, has no feudalistic tradition.

Post: What do you feel about the land re-distribution program of the government?

Ayalew: I support it very much. So far they have done very well. In several southern states they have



already finished re-distribution of land, and production has significantly increased, but the northern states are slower.

Zehainesh: Feudalism and aristocracy have been dominant in Ethiopia, although 90% of the people are farmers and their interests are not served by this. Many people are poor in Ethiopia. Land re-distribution is a good idea.

Strikes and demonstrations continued for a time after the coup by those disappointed by the slow pace of reform in the new regime. In November 1974, 55 imprisoned people were summarily executed, and General Amam, who was favoring a peaceful compromise with Eritrea, without granting it outright independence, is ousted. Immediately 5,000 troops are sent to Eritrea, and the conflict escalated.

The military government has managed to remove the landed aristocracy from power, has nationalized 70 companies, and has enacted substantial land re-distribution to landless peasants and cooperatives, and plans to start state-owned cooperatives soon. However, it has never initiated transition of power to civil government, which has sparked widespread protests and an increasingly costly war in Eritrea (which drains valuable resources) will force the government to begin a transition to civilian and democratic rule is uncertain. On September 30, the Ethiopian Labor Confederation, with 125,000 members, called for the establishment of a democratic government and went on strike. The new Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party has also emerged after being underground for three and a half years. Since the Ethiopian government feels that it needs the Eritrean ports in the Red Sea, Ethiopia is not likely to grant the EPLF demand for complete independence from Ethiopia, although a future government may be willing to compromise and give Eritrea autonomy in exchange for use of its ports.

An interview was conducted with two students from Ethiopia, Ayalew Haile Mariam, from Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa, and Zehainesh Tesfai, a woman from Eritrea.

Post: What do you think about the present policies of the Ethiopian government?

Ayalew: They are trying to change things too fast, the army has a lot of land holdings from Selassie still, which they don't want to give up. They aren't using democratic means to change things. They shot four underground Ethiopian Labor Confederation members because they were protesting government policies. They also kill their own council members if they try to compromise or slow down the pace of change.

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## ELIJAH LOVEJOY KILLED

Elijah Parish Lovejoy, a New Englander who studied at Princeton to become a Presbyterian minister, moved to St. Louis, Missouri in 1833 to publish a religious newspaper, the *St. Louis Observer*. A bigoted anti-Catholic, and fanatical in his opposition to alcohol, he detested slavery but did not at first regard himself as an Abolitionist. However, on October 1, 1835 he published and endorsed the platform of the American Anti-Slavery Society.

Missouri was a Slave state. A group of prominent St. Louis citizens told Lovejoy to stop publishing anti-slavery material. He refused. In May, 1836 he denounced the burning alive of a black man in St. Louis. In response, a mob sacked his newspaper office; and Lovejoy decided to move to a safer place -- Alton, Illinois, twenty-five miles up the Mississippi River in non-slave territory.

His reputation preceded him to Alton. When his printing press arrived by boat from St. Louis, some pro-slavery citizens seized it as it stood on the dock at Alton and threw it in the river. Other citizens of Alton, outraged at the action, collected money to buy Lovejoy a new press. With it he established the *Alton Observer* and once again began publishing abolitionist articles and editorials.

On July 4, 1837, Lovejoy called for the creation of a local chapter of the American Anti-Slavery Society. An outraged mob attacked his office and destroyed his press. Lovejoy replaced it with another press. It too was destroyed. Lovejoy did not give up.

On July 20, 1837, he had written: "Abolitionists hold that 'all men are born free and equal, endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among which are life, LIBERTY, and the pursuit of happiness.

"They do not believe that these rights are abrogated, or at all modified by the colour of the skin, but that they extend alike to every individual of the human family.

"As the above-mentioned rights are in their nature inalienable, it is not possible that one man can convert another into a piece of property, thus at once annihilating all his personal rights, without the most flagrant injustice and usurpation....

"Abolitionists, therefore, hold American Slavery to be a wrong, a legalized system of inconceivable injustice, and a SIN ... against God. ..."

The Ohio Anti-Slavery Society sent a new printing press to replace the last one destroyed. Word spread thru Alton that it had arrived; and on the night of November 7, 1837, a mob attacked the warehouse where the press was stored. Lovejoy, with the aid of sixty young abolitionists from neighboring towns, defended the press. Both sides were armed, and a long battle ensued in the moonlight. Finding they couldn't budge the defenders, the mob set fire to the building. Lovejoy to prevent this, stepped outside and was shot five times. He managed to get back into the building and climb one flight of stairs before he died. His co-defenders tried to make terms with the mob for safe exit; but the mob refused, saying they were going to burn

the building and shoot the defenders as they came out. The defenders, in a body, charged out of the building and escaped under fire from the mob. The mob then entered the warehouse and destroyed the printing press. The next day, when Lovejoy's body was carried through the streets of Alton, pro-slavery men stood on the sidewalks and jeered.

Elijah Lovejoy's death shocked the nation. Abolitionists such as William Lloyd Garrison and Wendell Phillips saw Lovejoy as a martyr of the anti-slavery cause; others saw Lovejoy as a martyr in the cause of Freedom of the Press. Lovejoy's death was one of the factors that led John Brown to feel that the South would never give up slavery without armed struggle, and which set Brown on his course to Harper's Ferry Arsenal to arm black people for insurrection. The most important effect of Lovejoy's murder was its crystallizing the Abolitionist movement into a disciplined, militant force that helped to polarize the nation through the 1840's and '50's and make armed struggle inevitable.



## CALENDAR

### November

November 7, 1837. Elijah P. Lovejoy, editor of the Abolitionist newspaper, *The Alton Observer*, is killed by a mob in Alton, Illinois while defending his printing press (see adjoining article).

Nov. 11, 1886. Four "anarchists" are hanged as a result of the Haymarket Riot in Chicago. Their guilt was never established. (Three other men condemned as Haymarket anarchists were pardoned in 1893 by Illinois Governor John Peter Altgeld, an act that branded him "communist" and destroyed his political career.)

Nov. 16, 1879. Vachel Lindsay, poet, born in Springfield, Illinois.

Nov. 18, 1787. Sojourner Truth born. Witty articulate abolitionist, a former slave, she took the anti-slavery cause to lecture platforms and the courts. Had a memorable conference with President Lincoln.

Nov. 19, 1925. Joe Hill, IWW organizer and composer of many revolutionary songs for working people, was framed for murder and executed thru the influence of Utah copper bosses, despite an international movement to save him.

Nov. 22, 1909. 30,000 women garment workers strike in New York against sweatshop conditions. Their unity and bravery in the face of police brutality won them support of the whole working class and the women's suffrage movement.

Nov. 22, 1963. President John F. Kennedy assassinated in Dallas, Texas by ???

Nov. 25, 1783. British troops evacuate New York City following the final signing of the Treaty of Paris (Sept. 3), which ended the Revolutionary War.

Nov. 26, 1883. Sojourner Truth dies.

Nov. 30, 1930. Mary "Mother" Jones, important labor organizer and agitator, dies at age 100. She was buried alongside her "boys", the coal miners killed in the Virden Massacre, in Miners' Cemetery in Mt. Olive, Illinois. She was one of the nation's foremost strike leaders at the turn of the century, was present at the formation of the IWW (Industrial Workers of the World).



Born Mary Ludwig in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, "Molly Pitcher" acquired her nickname in combat at the Battle of Monmouth (New Jersey) on June 28, 1778. Shortly after her marriage to John Hays, a barber, the Revolutionary War broke out; and her husband joined a regiment that spent the winter of 1777-78 under Washington's command at Valley Forge. Hearing of the Army's hardship, Mary Hays traveled over a hundred miles thru mountains and drifted snow to reach Valley Forge, where she spent the winter. Then, in the summer of 1778, the Army moved to cut off the British movement across New Jersey; and a major battle was fought at Monmouth in 100 degree heat. Throughout the day, Mary Hays carried water to the soldiers, many of whom were suffering heat exhaustion. She saw her husband fall wounded beside his cannon; since there was no one to take over, she began loading the cannon and kept it firing during the remainder of the battle. Though the Battle of Monmouth was indecisive, General Clinton's British troops were forced to retreat to New York, and the American forces claimed victory. On the day following the battle, Mary Hays (now "Molly Pitcher") was decorated for her valor by General Washington.

# Shift Reassignment Proposal Nixed

## Undercurrents at the Cop Shop

"Look, things are a little warm around here. I'll meet you later to discuss this."—one Bloomington cop. "The atmosphere around here sucks. My wife and kids are in an uproar about this."—a second Bloomington cop. "If Bosshardt gets his way, I'll be the first 'troublemaker' to get reassigned."—another Bloomington cop.

Since the initial airing of disagreements with Bloomington Police, Chief Harold Bosshardt's proposal to have authority to reassign shifts for patrolmen, getting any more feedback from police affected has been practically impossible. At this writing,

Dennis O'Brien, president of Unit 21 of the Patrolmen's Benevolent and Protective Association, is in Champaign attending a conference and was unavailable for comment. Police whom he suggested the Post-American speak with have declined to comment any further on the situation.

### WHAT BOSSHARDT HAS IN MIND


A few weeks ago, Police Chief Bosshardt let it be known that he would approach the Bloomington City Council with a proposal which would give him the authority to reassign patrolmen to any shift he wanted, largely to improve the quality of patrols

during the 11-7 shift. The Twin-Cities' burglary rate seems to be the primary focus of Bosshardt's public statements.

Bosshardt's department released to the public figures showing average years of service by patrolmen on the various shifts. Police on the 7-3 shift have an average of 12 years experience and those on the other two shifts have an average of 5.1 years. During City Council's work session on October 7, Bosshardt was challenged to provide reasons and documentation showing how a change in the experience levels on the graveyard shift would increase the effectiveness of patrols. For some reason, that documentation was never presented.

Moonlighting and education for police officers is also a no-no, according to Bosshardt. He was quoted in the Pantagraph saying, "A patrolman's foremost responsibility is to do the best job he can as a police officer. Classes and moonlighting have to come second." Personal needs which would be met with another job, meaningful classes, or with set times to be with one's family come second to duty.

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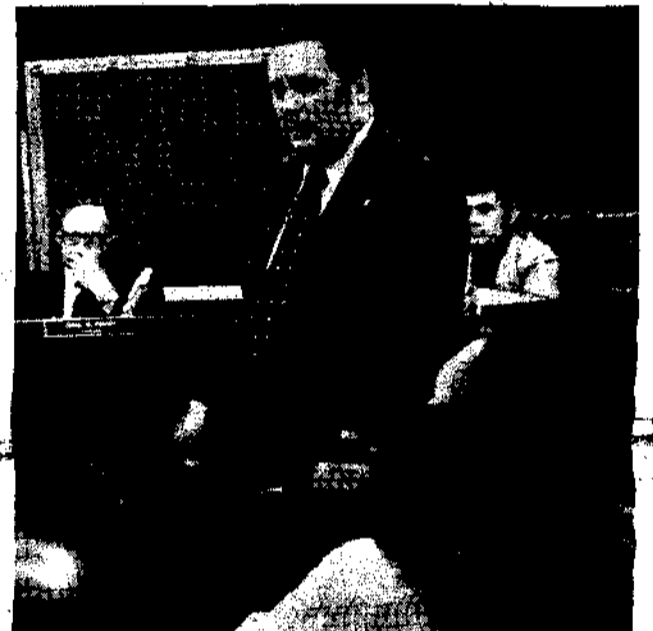
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Chief Bosshardt getting heavy.

### THE POLICE HAVE AN EVALUATION

Detective Dennis O'Brien and PBA's Attorney John Luedtke tried to make clear at the City Council work session that their position was not based solely in what Council person Richard Buchanan called a "knee-jerk reaction." Citing the fact that Bosshardt had never contacted the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association about his proposal and had sought no feedback from the affected patrolmen, O'Brien claimed that Bosshardt was simply proposing the changes to solidify his control over department activities.

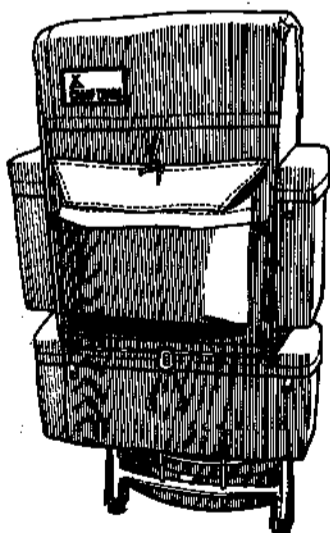
Such control has been interpreted by a number of officers to mean rescheduling their shifts to discipline them. Several officers spoke out during the work session, accusing Bosshardt of wanting the power to deal with individuals who have different ideas. Such allegations by police reduce Bosshardt's motivations to nothing more than petty revenge.

Lt. Wayne Emmett established during the city council work session that Bosshardt already has the power to assign 27 men in the department—shift commanders and assistants, detective and traffic division members, and those working in the records division, youth service and crime prevention bureaus. Such a power, Emmett said, affects 1/2 to 3/4 of the men in different departments. "Does he (Bosshardt) have to have the power to place each and every man in different spots and in different shifts?"

### CITY COUGIL REACTION

During the work session, the members of the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association had to cope with a piecemeal city council. Mayor Bittner was late, but

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indicated he had read Bosshardt's proposal. Karl Passmore was late, saying that he had to take his kids somewhere. "My kids come before anything else," he said sheepishly, and later added only one comment about the policemen's concerns.

Buchanan wanted to strike the compromise. Hailing Bosshardt's request as an exercise in anticipatory management, Buchanan proceeded to label the PBA's concerns as a "knee-jerk" reac-

tion. "Why do we need to identify a police protection crisis before changes are made?" Buchanan asked, still unable to comprehend the gist of the PBA's logic because his knee was twitching so hard. So what Buchanan called a compromise really amounted to little more than a situation in which persons who identify with management prerogatives stick together. He indicated that if Bosshardt could assure him that shift changes wouldn't be made

as a form of punishment, he would vote for the proposal.

Bosshardt is asking for the power to change shifts arbitrarily by December 1. In that time, he says, patrolmen will be able to get their personal affairs in order. What Bosshardt really means might more appropriately be put, "Like it or leave."

----Thomas Pain

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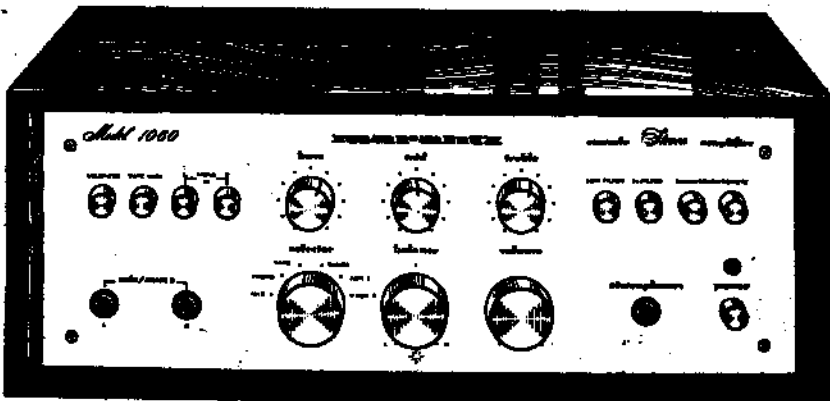
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