Casco Bay Weekly : 23 January 1997
An island

in winter

Cliff Island is Portland's most remote neighborhood. Should it be part of the city at all? See Page 8.

The secret life of a Packers fan  •  Prescribed pot  •  Letters  •  Short cuts  •  Compact disc  •  It's Jackie Chan!

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Fuzzy Thurston Howell (who asked that we not use his real name, for fear of reprisal), will be rooting for the Green Bay Packers during the Super Bowl. Howell fell in love with the Packers while attending Marquette University in Milwaukee. He moved to Portland in September.

Why did you get involved with the Packers?
"It was a great excuse to get drunk."

What was the scene like out there?
"It's kind of a local pride thing: Everyone drinks Miller and everyone loves the Packers."

Are the Packers "America's Team"?
"Definitely. They'll never leave. They're always going to be there. And everybody is very supportive of them because they know they'll never leave them — they're stuck for life."

Did you like football before living in Wisconsin?
"I wasn't really a football fan before that. I watched it occasionally but it was more of a social thing, and then it just turned into Packer fanaticism."

Sounds like how kids get hooked on drugs. Who's your favorite player?
"Reggie White. He's a minister and he has God on his side. He can't lose because he deserves the Super Bowl. And we're behind the Packers when the wish of God beats them down."

Ever been to a Packer game?
"No, I haven't. Do I have a Packer T-shirt even? No. I must have had lots of hangovers from the Packers."

Do you like that crowd-surfing thing the Packers do after they score a touchdown?
"I think it's a very nice thing they do for their fans. I think the fans are that loyal. There's tailgate parties at 40 degrees and a wind chill at negative 70 and we're out there cooking Johnsonville Beer Brats and drinking Miller products. I think that's loyalty which the team appreciates."

Do they really "cheeseheads" at Lambeau Field?
"No, there is. It gets cold there. We're talking what kids that will freeze your face. There's snow on the door and your seat is frozen. You never have to worry about a runny nose when you're outside, which is very nice."

Why are the Patriots two-touchdown underdogs?
"Because Drew Bledsoe sucks."

Interview by David Kociemba; photo by Shoshannah White
Caught in a knot over pot

**Marijuana doctors advocate disagree on how far to go**

**AL DAVIS**

When a 24-year-old veteran returns each month, the first thing he does is run several half-marathons of "killer green bud." Joe (who asked that his last name not be used) says that he was thrown in jail and taken to a mental institution after taking LSD and a variety of other drugs prescribed by a doctor who had diagnosed him with schizophrenia and AIDS at the same time. Joe, now two or three years old, high, knows that for the rest of his life he will continue to live with the possibilities of a future that may never come true. Joe says his doctors have continued to prescribe a drug that could cause him to die, and that he has been attending a religious retreat to get his life back.

But the bill the Maine Legislature is likely to vote on today is something that even Joe's doctors can't agree on. The doctors, who are actively working with a coalition of doctors and patients to get the bill passed, want the state to make a move to stop the use of medical marijuana. But many doctors, including those who have written prescriptions for the drug, say that the state should continue to allow patients to use the drug under medical supervision.

The debate over medical marijuana is likely to continue for some time. Some doctors say that the medical use of marijuana is essential to the treatment of patients who suffer from pain and nausea. Others say that the use of marijuana is a gateway to other drugs, and that the state should limit the use of the drug to patients with a doctor's prescription.

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**Thank you...**

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**CITY**

**Eggs over easy**

**Boycott hatched by shipping through Portland Harbor**

Even though what's in those Hapag-Lloyd boxes isn't legs of lamb, but DeCoster Egg Farms in Topsham. Officials with Hapag-Lloyd say DeCoster ships about 40,000 eggs a day into Hong Kong every week. Some of those eggs have been found with salmonella bacteria. DeCoster Egg Farms has shut down operations.

**“We would sell eggs to a four-eyed Chinaman who was married to the devil and divorced from the witch, as long as he says “we want... No qualms whatsoever.”**

—David Hoffner
About to choke

The Maine Republican Party (motto: "The Republicans Like a Diamond to Chili") appears to be finding its new role as the party of laws and regulations. A recent ruling of the state's Constitutional Court (Baldwin, 2000) that the OCP may not be allowed to consider the issue of the death penalty, if the OCP even wishes to consider it, is causing much consternation among the representatives of the Republican's base. Instead of worrying why its public policy committee is meeting with piecemeal and con-"
An island in winter

The ferry ride out to Cliff can take nearly two hours.

View from the mainland

The people who administer Portland's budget interpret the figures a bit differently. While the city hasn't done a detailed analysis of tax revenue, it's aware that the islands make a difference. While the city has shown a steady increase in the tax base, the islands have been a steady drain. And while tax revenues may be up, the city's overall tax base has been declining.

To put it in perspective, here's a look at the revenue figures for Cliff Island:

- Tax revenues for Cliff Island in 1996 were $400,000.
- This amount is equivalent to the property taxes collected from about 100 Cliff Islanders.
- The majority of the tax revenue goes to the Portland Fire Department, which provides service to the island.
- The city also receives a small portion of the tax revenue from the islands, which is used to support local services.

Fire protection comes up before long. The islanders are well aware of the need for fire protection, and they pay their share of the costs. But they also feel that the city is not doing enough to support the island's fire department.

For example, Cliff Island has a small fire station, but it's not well-equipped. The islanders want a more modern fire station, but they're not sure if the city will provide funding for it.

One of the main concerns of the islanders is the city's handling of the city's surplus funds. They feel that the city is not doing enough to invest in the future of the islands.

The islanders are also concerned about the city's plans for the future of the islands. They feel that the city is not doing enough to ensure that the islands remain a viable part of the city.

That's the kind of decision — made without input from islanders — that people like Crowley think is unfair. "We've got a city to run and we can't lose financial power," said Crowley. "But it's not a lot of money off their islands. We think it's been a lot of money off Cliff, but it's not a lot of money off their islands."

Crowley is concerned that the city may be overlooking the importance of the islands. "We're looking at the big picture, but we're not looking at the small picture."

That's where the islanders come in. They're the ones who know the islands best, and they want to ensure that the islands remain a part of the city.

The islanders are working to improve the relationship between the city and the islands. They're also working to ensure that the islands remain a viable part of the city.

But it's not easy. The islanders are up against a lot of challenges. They're fighting for their survival, and they're fighting for their future. But they're not giving up. They're fighting to keep the islands a part of the city, and they're fighting to ensure that the islands remain a viable part of the city.
GRADUATE FROM
HIGH SCHOOL TO HIGH-TECH.

Look in the mirror. You'll see a young person, his home for more than two decades. "I have to look farther back in history," said the island's oldest inhabitant. "They caught them all, and then they had to start from scratch again." But Berle has managed to build his own operation in a residential zone with a permit to do so. They can afford to go out of business, which in 1995 was a good thing that someone would end up doing. But there is no island in a sense that Berle, who runs the island store, has as much responsibility as the others for maintaining the Finestkind fire. But he is worried about the island's young people. "I'm not thinking that I'm going to be there forever," he said, "but I'm hoping that I can do the best for as long as I can."
It’s high time

There seems to be a slow change underway in America’s attitude toward marijuana. Last fall, California and Arizona voters expressed their approval of the drug for medicinal purposes; an approval that crossed demographic lines in a surprising way. Those voters gave new life to a movement that had been moribund through much of the "Just say no!" '90s, and now other states, including Maine, are taking up the question seriously, as well (see "Ogre, a knot out of pot," page 4).

The problem here in Maine is that everyone who feels that pot is legitimate medicine can’t agree on how patients should obtain it. The more cautious among them, including state Sen. Ann Rand of Portland, who is sponsoring new legislation on the issue, don’t want the supply to be increased in any new marijuana law.

It seems disheartening, even hypocritical, to acknowledge sick people’s right to use marijuana without specifying some way for them to get it. Patients who need pot should be able to grow their own — as provided for in the California and Arizona referenda. That way they’re not molding of toxic drug storefronts and no agricultural bureaucracy to deal with.

Maine legislators should have the courage of their convictions on the medical marijuana issue. It seems the voters want us to do.

Letters

More skin please

Portland is the most beautiful city in the world, not including the coastline. I don’t doubt Portland has a lot to offer and has done a lot for it but still...it’s very underdeveloped.

I don’t think that Portland has enough skin to show off. The city is very conservative and it’s time it changed that. Let’s get some older people and downtown retirees to make the city more interesting. We need to have more skin to show off. Let’s get some older people and downtown retirees to make the city more interesting.

Seth Banner, Portland

Correction

In the caption on last week’s cover, we incorrectly stated that Portland West has received much negative attention for a $1,000,000 tax bill. It is $2,000,000 per year. Also, "as noted" is the same word as "noted," which means "as noted." The city will not receive any tax refunds from the state because the state has not been assessed.

The city of Portland has received much negative attention for a $2,000,000 tax bill. In the caption on last week’s cover, we stated that Portland West has received much negative attention for a $1,000,000 tax bill. The city will not receive any tax refunds from the state because the state has not been assessed.

Letters

O’Donnell’s return

On 1/18/97, "Portland West ("Paulie" Gay)" I-97 continues to mislead my belief in Portland Public Library’s low-income advocacy agency.

The senator who Portland West cited has no current liability impacts on its Youthfulf and Building Attraction Locations. This is correct, and I take responsibility. Social services agencies do not offer their services because agency donors are often caught between a giving and selling for services. In combination with lacking policy. Portland West is not responsible for the content of this building. We did not get to do any coverage. We did not keep the policy.

Portland West has received much negative attention for the article of regarding the building of the warehouse and the other community service agency that this agency provides. The agency provides job training, teacher educational, and educational skills, provides training for low-income residents and supports community service agency for youth at risk. The true life stories are not a cause. The balance of the people in need are real, compelling and true. This is the new thing. It is because these stories are about hope, success and change.

I would ask CBF to delve into the challenges of diminishing resources and the genuine need to social services. What are the options for the agency whose great innovations are at stake? Perhaps we also see the feasibility of the social services. I wish I could do more in the way of investigating these stories, CBF will have to support the community. We need to make the community a better place to live in. Reinvesting these issues, CBF will have to support the community. We need to make the community a better place to live in.
**Country overtones**

Portland bands are embracing roots music, but is it true love or just a fling?  

**Scott Sutherland**

It's a rainy Thursday evening in Portland. The sky is grey and the winds are strong. The streets are wet and the sidewalks are crowded. It's the perfect night for a night out, right?

It looks like it is. The streets are alive with people heading to their favorite local bars and venues. The sounds of music fill the air, from classic rock to contemporary indie, there's something for everyone.

But one thing stands out. The crowd is dressed in a mix of casual and business casual attire. It seems like everyone is here for the same reason - to enjoy some good music and hang out with friends.

And that's exactly what they do. The night is filled with laughter, conversation, and dance. It's a night to remember, a night of true love.

**Strings attached**

Dean String Builder performs Jan. 25 at Free Street Taverna, 774-1114.

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It's thatateurish direction and attention to craft that often marks true love. But it's also the feeling that you're part of something special, that you're part of something that you can be proud of.

For many Portland bands, the allure of roots music is hard to resist. It's a genre that allows them to connect with their audience on a deeper level, to explore their own musical identities, and to create something unique and beautiful.

But is it just a fling? Or is it true love? That's the question that many Portland bands are asking themselves as they explore the genre.

The answer is up to each band to decide. But one thing is certain - if they're willing to put in the time and effort, and if they're passionate about what they're doing, then true love can blossom.

So, if you're a Portland band, are you ready to embrace your roots and find true love in the genre? Or will you keep flitting from one trend to the next, never quite finding the right fit?

Only time will tell.
**Prime cut**

Talk about serious! The five guys who make up the Amherst, Mass. jam-rock band YEP! say they just want to make people feel the music the way they do. And the music makes you feel good. Of course, they wouldn’t mind a little commercial success, too. And with the way Yep!’s jazzy, bluesy, Talk about earnest! The five guys who make up the Amherst, Mass. jam-rock band YEP! say they just

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**PRODUCTION**

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** NEVER A COVER**
20 CASCO BAY WEEKLY

stage

concerts

thursday 29

Friday 24

opening

upcoming

dance

events

other

auditions/etc

Auditions for the Maine State Music Theatre's production of "Nine" take place today from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Maine State Music Theatre, 15凡 Spring St., Portland. For information, call 879-9081. "Nine," a musical adaptation of Fellini's film "8 1/2," opens Jan. 31 at the Portland Players Theatre.

Saturday 30

The Portland Players Theatre opens its production of "Nine," a musical adaptation of Fellini's film "8 1/2," at 8 p.m. at 961 Forest Ave., Portland. For information, call 774-0866.

* * *

A city dance society will celebrate the Chinese New Year with an evening of dance from 9 to 11 p.m. at the First Church of Christ, Scientist, 207 Commercial St., Portland. For information, call 772-8090.

The New Camerata Singers present a program of works by J. S. Bach, Antonio Vivaldi, Robert Schumann and Camille Saint-Saëns at 8 p.m. in the Thompson Center of the Portland Museum of Art, 178 Congress St., Portland. For further information, call 774-5565. Tickets are $20 ($18 seniors/students)."Happy 200th Birthday Schubert," a celebration of Schubert's music, opens the concert. Tix: $16. Gary Hines and pianist Billy Steele offer a gospel singing workshop Jan. 31, at 6 p.m. in the Thompson Center. For information, call 772-5434. Tickets are $20 ($16 seniors/students).

Saturday 31

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Sunday 1

Joe Lovano Ensemble Jan 31. Bop master Joe Lovano performs with his ensemble. At Lewiston Middle School, 75 Central Ave, Lewiston, at 8 p.m. For information, call 774-0002.
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*JIM PINFORD
5 Portland Performing Arts - "Big Sounds From All Over" series kicks off with 'Manhattan Transfer's' "The Merry Go Round." Saturday, Jan. 18, 8 p.m., Keller Auditorium. A true New York experience with Michael Bublé as vocalist for "Manhattan Transfer." The group's last appearance here was in 1992, and this should be an excellent opportunity to see them again.

2 Portland Pirates Games Jan 25: Against Baltimore and shake? Then take belly dancing classes with Josie at 25A Forest Ave. Portland. Wed 6:45-8 pm (any level) or Tues 6:30-8 pm (intermediate level. by invitation only). Workshops also available. For more information call 773-2337.

9 Portland Police in concert - "All This Useless Beauty" series at 800 S. 16th St. Portland. York Times' music critic Peter Watrous, Byron called it "a masterpiece" and said "it is a great, great album." It features a string quartet and is an excellent example of modern music that is both accessible and challenging.

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Continued from Page 22

Eater's Open for lunch & dinner Jan 17.

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

Don't Just Watch

Explore how the internet can help your business.

MtV's moronic miscreants is a bit tedious in
the fun. This feature-length movie 's debut of
Kevin Smith is extremely witty and enjoyable. The
little dialogue and well-timed special effects
make this a film worth watching.

TURBULEANCE (R)

MICHAEL (PO)

GRIDLOCK'D (R)

DEADPOOL (R)

THE PEOPLE VS. LARRY RYNT (R)

KEYSTONE 504 CONGRESS ST, PORTLAND. 871-5500 .
Help raise money for diabetes research by gathering pledges and skiing Sugarloaf USA. To register, call the American "Ski to Cure Diabetes" March 7.

Woodford Toastmasters Club of Greater Portland promotes and supports business ownership for Maine residents and offers workshops on a regular basis.

SCORE offers free counseling and resource referrals to help you start, grow, or expand your small business.

Big Brothers Big Sisters seeks volunteers age 18 to work with children and their families who are dealing with the loss of a family member or friend. Volunteers go through an intense 25-hour training.

Emergency Food Pantry accepts donations of non-perishable food items and beverages.

Coats for Kids Donate your outgrown and unused coats to help support other kids in need.

IFW Game Farm and Visitor Center Shaker Rd, Gray seeks volunteers to work as gate attendants, washers and dryers, and other life support services.

Jaz's Cleaning Service

Jaz's Cleaning Service offers residential and commercial cleaning services.

Maine Inspection Services provides residential and commercial building inspections.

A&A Property Services specializes in maintenance, repair, and improvement services for properties.

Discover what you are truly capable of doing!
SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Smoking By Pregnant Women May Result in Fetal Injury, Premature Birth, And Low Birth Weight.