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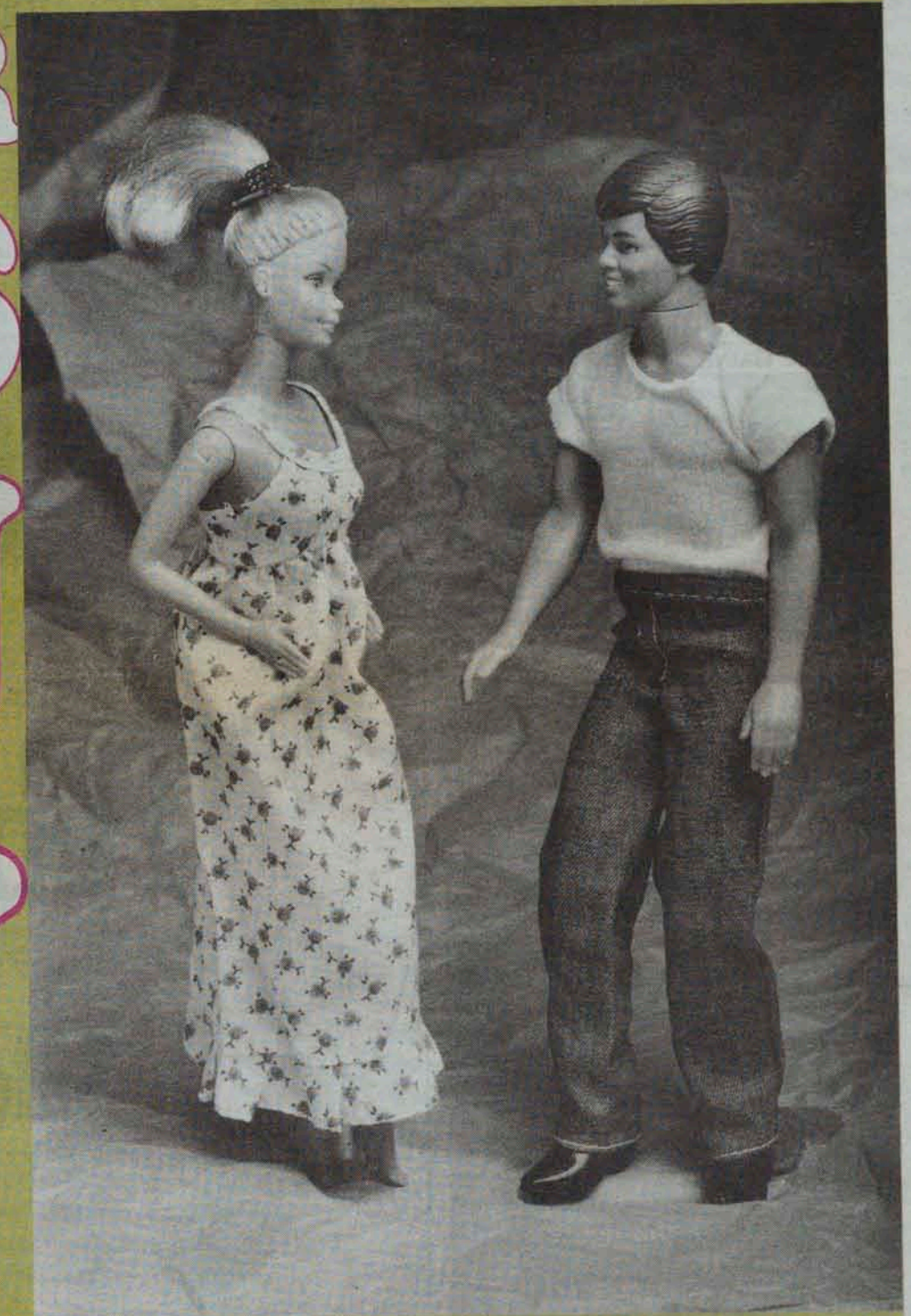
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Casco Bay Weekly

SEX... LOVE...
LUST... ROMANCE...
FRIENDSHIP

WHATEVER
TURNS
YOU
ON



PHOTO/COLIN MALAKIE

A SPECIAL ISSUE

What is sex, anyway?

Famous Portlanders' first kisses

The latest on safer sex

Condom taste test

Single and loving it

Comparison pricing on protection

FEB 6, 1997

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Talk A CONVERSATION WITH KEITH HALL

FEBRUARY 6, 1997 3



"The young
dating crowd
who runs
around here
drunk on the
weekends in
the bars, they
avoid us like
the plague."

In the five years that he and his wife, Nelly, have owned Condom Sense on Fore Street, Keith Hall has become a bit of an expert on the topic of contraceptives, and has shipped condoms as far as Antarctica.

What's the best condom on the market?

Tough question, because the foundation of it all is proper use, and nine times out of 10 if one fails, it's not quality of product, it's user misuse. Above and beyond that, Japanese manufactured latex is very high quality.

What's the worst condom?

Vending machine condoms in general. They want to have the highest profit margin possible, so they end up buying the cheapest condom they can.

What's the real size difference between regular and large condoms?

It's mostly marketing and perceived difference, place-

bo effect. Any of the larger ones aren't significantly larger. What it has to do with is the man's sensitivity to constriction and the ability of the product to expand.

What's the skinny on nonoxynol-9?

Currently the FDA is re-evaluating their stand — they never gave their full endorsement even though a lot of educators and doctors blindly endorsed it. What people have to be cautious of is that it's a very common irritant. Women have to be cautious of infections, because technically nonoxynol-9 is a detergent. Also, it's not nearly as effective as people are led to believe.

Is polyurethane the new wave in condoms?

They perform better in the strength tests, it's more idiot-resistant, there's no known polyurethane allergies at this point and polyurethane conducts heat extremely well. If the manufacturers can make the price competi-

tive, they will make latex obsolete.

What's the life span for a condom?

The standard life expectancy for a condom is five years from the manufacturer's date, if stored properly. If there's ever a question, just throw it away. How much does it really cost? The difference between a 50¢ condom and having a baby is pretty big.

Who buys the kinky stuff — like 'Wet 'n Wild' or studded condoms?

Predominantly the older couples, looking for variety. And the insecure younger men who think they need some additional assistance making a woman happy. Most women can't tell the difference, but if they get a kick out of it mentally, that's half the battle physically.

Interview by Zoë Miller; photo by Tonce Harbert

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The radio romance is over. Ratings taken in the Portland market last fall and released in January show modern rocker **WCYY** crashing and burning. The station went from a 9.2 share of the audience to a 4.2. WCYY officials explained the collapse as an anomaly of the process, which is broadcast talk for. "We have no idea what happened." The big winner in the latest listener measurements was Portland Radio, Inc., which owns top-rated WPOR-FM and runner-up WMGX, as well as the fourth-, fifth- and ninth-rated stations.

■ Portland is feeling warm and gushy about **L.L. Bean**. The company's only outlet store in a downtown outpaced sales projections by 30 percent in its first two months. In the wake of the strong sales, management decided not to cut back evening hours at the Congress Street shop during the slow winter months.

■ Another Congress Street storefront relationship is on the rocks. The empty space at 559 Congress was supposed to house the **new downtown police substation**, but the cops and the landlord couldn't agree on a lease. Chief Mike Chitwood said the dispute centered on insurance and liability issues. "If the roof leaks," said Chitwood, "they want the city to pay for it." The substation is now likely to end up at 545 Congress, and could open as soon as Feb. 7 if a premarital agreement can be worked out.

■ It's money over love at Maine Medical Center. The hospital is complaining about the cost of running its psychiatric out-patient clinic at **McGeachey Hall** on Vaughan Street. Maine Med officials say the clinic, which serves 3,000 people, is running an annual deficit of \$3 million. The hospital wants the state to take over the operation, but state mental health Commissioner Melodie Peet said she doubted the state could afford that. Mental health advocates say without the clinic, more people would end up hospitalized, increasing costs not only for the state, but for Maine Med as well.

■ **Karen Geraghty** is looking for voter love. The former president of the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance is sounding out potential supporters about a bid for the Portland City Council seat representing the West End and Parkside. If Geraghty runs, she'll face opposition from another gay activist, David Garrity. Incumbent Councilor Orlando Delogu is still undecided on seeking a second term.

■ Lust for an **elected mayor** won't die. Supporters of the idea were scheduled to turn in 5,500 signatures on Feb. 5 (after CBW's deadline) asking for a referendum to establish a charter commission which could put the issue of an elected mayor in Portland out to voters next year. If they can stay hot through all that, they deserve satisfaction.

CBW

CITY



For months, the state told attorney Judith Plano her check was in the mail. That didn't help when her own bills came due.

PHOTO/TONEE HARBERT

Trial by dollar

Court-appointed lawyers say they can't do the job for the money

LAURA CONAWAY

For over a year, South Portland lawyer Judith Plano faithfully carried out her duties as a court-appointed guardian in several child-protective cases. She visited the children, interviewed parents, teachers and social workers, filed motions and attended hearings. Plano billed the state for her work as the cases progressed, but the state didn't pay. Eventually, the courts owed Plano \$10,000, but she couldn't collect until the cases ended in October. But because of delays caused by the holidays, her check didn't arrive until January. By then, the attorney had grown desperate.

"It's not OK not to pay myself for two weeks, or not to pay my paralegal," Plano said. "I didn't pay my bills. I didn't pay my rent. I didn't have the money. I had to write a letter to my landlord saying the state owes me money, and as soon as I get it, I'll pay you."

Joke all you want about fat-cat lawyers, but if you're accused of a crime and can't afford an attorney, or if you're a child in a Department of Human Services protective case, odds are good the lawyer the court will appoint for you will be anything but fat. Getting paid can take weeks — especially if the judicial

branch runs out of money between fiscal quarters — and the checks often don't amount to much. Rates for court-appointed attorneys haven't changed since the 1980s. Lawyers get \$40 an hour, out of which they have to pay for office expenses and paralegals who help them do research. After subtracting her overhead, Plano estimates she makes \$5 an hour for court-appointed work. By contrast, private attorneys charge \$75-\$150 per hour.

For child-protective cases, the court allows lawyers to bill a maximum of \$500 per proceeding. That means they're supposed to spend a little more than 12 hours conducting necessary interviews, writing required reports and arguing the case before a judge. Lawyers say they're forced to cut corners to accomplish what they see as an impossible task. "There are some lawyers who don't do the work," Plano said, although she didn't want to name guilty parties. "They'll say they never saw the child one time."

Court-appointed lawyers in criminal trials don't fare much better. While some states maintain a staff of public defenders, Maine contracts with attorneys on a per-case basis. Lawyers can bill up to \$1,500 for crimes against a person (not

including murder), \$1,000 for crimes against property and \$500 for lesser offenses. Those amounts include time spent before a jury, which often runs to several days. "We're not paid for research, not adequately," said Bruce Mallonee, a Bangor lawyer who heads a statewide committee on indigent defense. "People charged with a crime have to be represented by people who have some leeway to do research. That takes time. It can involve hiring experts, filing motions and attending hearings, which can be expensive. If you can't do that, then people aren't being provided the kind of defense they should have."

According to Maine Supreme Court Chief Justice Daniel Wathen, the Legislature has historically kept funding tight for child-protective cases and criminal defense. "It's always a question of adequacy of compensation and quality of representation," Wathen said. "I don't ever see lawyers defending cases differently. A good lawyer does a good job sort of irrespective of the situation But if a client can afford a panel of expert witnesses, you'll certainly present a different case."

Wathen is now helping organize a task force to study problems in indigent

defense. Because the Legislature controls how much money the courts have for defending the accused, Wathen said, the best way to improve the process is to get more money from lawmakers.

For the past several years, the state has spent about \$5 million annually — divided between 16,000 attorney vouchers — on defending alleged criminals. Figuring out how much Maine spends prosecuting those same people is almost impossible, since the prosecution has free use of expert witnesses like detectives and forensic psychiatrists. "They have professional investigators — they're called police officers — that are absolutely at their disposal," Mallonee said. "They have expert witnesses who work in forensic departments, and they have unlimited access to them."

While judges sometimes let lawyers exceed the maximum amounts allowed by the court to do research or hire experts, attorneys say the judges often cut fees and expenses to fit the guidelines, regardless of what it cost to defend the case. One Portland lawyer said he's paid the Portland Police Department as much as \$200 for photographs. The Cumberland County district attorney's office charges 20¢ per page for photocopied information, an additional cost borne by court-appointed lawyers. "It's all coming out of the same inadequately funded pot," Mallonee said. "So if you've got \$10 in photocopying, you're probably getting cut somewhere else. Probably the lawyer is going to be paying for that out of the hourly rate."

Plano said she does whatever work the case requires — even if her hours exceed the state's billing guidelines — then hopes judges will grant her the full amount of her bill. But the threat of receiving less than what they're due hangs over attorneys constantly. "It affects the kind of representation people get," Plano said. "I've had people complain to me, 'My attorney never calls.' Well, he's probably fighting for his life, trying to make ends meet."

Portland City Hall

Daniels resigns

City clerk, who also heads two other departments, to leave

Nadeen Daniels, one of the most powerful people in Portland government, has announced her resignation effective June 2. Daniels' title is assistant city manager, but she also runs the City Clerk's office, the Department of Public Works and the Department of Parks and Recreation.

City Manager Bob Ganley said he hoped Daniels would still work for the city as a management consultant. Her resignation "has nothing to do with her working relationship with me or the City Council or anybody else," Ganley said. He praised Daniels' ability to manage three departments at once. "Nadeen's probably saved the city easily \$1 million in salaries. I'm running probably three department heads less than I would be."

You're looking at 150 grand [per year], not counting benefits."

Daniels cited personal reasons for quitting, saying she wants to spend more time with her teenage daughter. "It's been an internal struggle that I've been having," she said. "I've been a workaholic mother since she was born 13 years ago." Daniels has worked for the city since 1989, before that serving as city clerk in South Portland.

While Ganley will have to choose someone to head up the parks and public works departments, the city clerk's position is filled by the City Council. Since Daniels took over the job, Portland hasn't had to pay for a separate person to fill the position, and there's no money in the current budget for the salary, which is likely to be \$48,000 or more.

LAURA CONAWAY

Portland Press Herald

Access denied

Newspaper exec attempts to withhold document

Bruce Gensmer, president of the Portland Newspapers, has spent the last several months chairing a committee investigating Portland's municipal building process. The so-called Gensmer Group planned to submit its findings publicly Feb. 20, but Gensmer last week gave a copy of the report to City Councilor Jack Dawson, School Committee member Jim Banks, City Manager Bob Ganley, and school superintendent Mary Jane McCalmont.

When *Portland Press Herald* reporter Andrew Russell heard the report was being circulated, he asked for a copy. Dawson refused, saying he had promised Gensmer he wouldn't release it until Feb. 20. The next day, Russell showed up at City Hall armed with Maine's Freedom of Access Act. Dawson was unimpressed. "Let him sue his boss," the councilor said. "If he's going to get legal about it, then he's got to go upstairs and flex his muscles up there."

After a lawyer for the newspaper formally requested the report and Gensmer told Dawson it was OK to release it, the city sent copies to the full City Council, the School Committee and the public. It might seem unusual for the head of a journalistic operation to be blocking access to a public document. "The irony wasn't lost on me," Russell said. "They were going to release it in a big dog-and-pony show on the 20th I didn't want to wait till Feb. 20 to get it."

The five-page report includes several recommendations for a "fault-free" building process. According to the group, the city — not the school department — should take ultimate responsibility for all projects, and building committees should include construction experts and develop long-range plans. The report also advises the city to hire a construction manager early on to oversee each project.

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listened to while getting this week's
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Zoo, "Wake Up & Dream" • Red Hot &
Rio, "Pure Listening Pleasure" • Lyle
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E-mail • editor@cbw.maine.com
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Smokin' O.P.'s

Gov. Angus King's State of the State
address on Jan. 28 contained two notable
themes: 1) Maine's taxes are too high, and
2) the way to fix that is to raise taxes on
tobacco. These statements resulted in the
independent governor receiving standing
ovations from Republicans

(whose legislative agenda
calls for cutting taxes) and
Democrats (whose legislative
agenda calls for raising
taxes). This was either an
indication of King's astonish-
ing political expertise, or a
sign that humankind's intelli-
gence level has gotten as far
up the evolutionary scale as
it's going to go, and has start-
ed back down the other side.

King estimated his ciga-
rette tax increase would raise
an extra \$60 million over the
next two years, which coinci-
dentally is almost the cost of
the new programs Democrats
want. King also thinks the higher cost of
smokes will cause a 12 percent decline in
the nasty habit, although it's more likely to
cause a 12 percent increase in the number
of tobacco addicts who buy their drug of
choice in New Hampshire, where the tax
will be 49¢ a pack less.

If King were really serious about reduc-
ing the number of cancer-stick users in
Maine, he'd raise taxes by a dollar or two
(the levy is currently \$2.73 a pack in Cana-
da), making butts prohibitively expensive
and providing a much-needed boost to the
smuggling industry. The smaller increase
indicates that, in spite of the governor's Al
Gore-like tale of promising a man dying of
lung cancer he'd do all he could to prevent
smoking, King is actually a lot more con-
cerned about coming up with some extra
cash to placate his Democratic allies than
he is with discouraging the use of coffin
nails.

Misunderstood

Strategic Marketing Services (SMS) of
Portland got a lot of publicity out of a Jan.
21 poll it conducted showing a majority of
Mainers would vote to ban gay marriage
in the state, would support Gov. King's
Compact for Maine's Forests and would
approve of legalizing some additional
forms of gambling. But not all the poll's
questions were as easy to understand as
those on matrimony, clear-cutting or plac-
ing a bet. In fact, one question was so con-
fusing, not even the pollsters could explain
it.

According to SMS, almost two-thirds of
Maine's citizens believe removing the cap
on state income tax collections approved
by the last Legislature would result in high-
er property taxes. In fact, the income tax
cap's repeal would have about as much
impact on property taxes as the repeal of
the designated hitter rule. It is possible that
keeping the tax cap, which would limit the
amount of revenue the state could collect,
might force the state to cut its budget,

thereby indirectly adding pressure to local
tax bills, but even that is far from certain.
What is clear is that neither the cap's
staunchest defenders nor its fiercest foes
claim its repeal would affect the property
tax one way or the other.

If the question makes no
sense, why did SMS ask it?
"To us the question makes
sense," snapped Victoria
Walker, the company's di-
rector of research. SMS pre-
sident Patrick Murphy con-
ceded the query may have
been "too complex We
may not have gotten the
level of comprehension that
you want."

Murphy said the compa-
ny asked the question as a
courtesy to Doug Rooks, the
editor of *Maine Times*, but
Rooks said what ended up
on the survey wasn't what
he wanted. "It was definitely
faulty," he said. "I didn't think they asked
it right. It was a case of simple confusion."

Which leads us to the only valuable
information to be gleaned from the ques-
tion: When it comes to taxes, most of the
state's voters are thoroughly befuddled.

(Note: Doug Rooks and I work for the
same company, a situation only slightly
more comprehensible than the poll ques-
tion.)

Message in a bottle

If fledgling Sen. Susan Collins and rook-
ie Congressman Tom Allen wonder why
they're not getting many telegrams, it could
be because Western Union doesn't know
they exist. In late January, nearly three
weeks after the two were sworn in, a caller
to the telegraph company was informed
that Collins didn't appear on its senatorial
roll call ("Everyone who's in the Senate is
listed here"), and messages for southern
Maine's U.S. representative would be de-
livered to the Honorable James Longley
Jr., the man Allen defeated in the Novem-
ber election. It wasn't clear whether West-
ern Union was simply behind the times, or
was refusing to accept Longley's loss.

Messages for Secretary of Defense Bill
Cohen fared slightly better. Although
Western Union initially told a local activist
it couldn't deliver a telegram addressed to
Cohen care of the Pentagon ("We have to
have a street and number"), the company
later conceded it could probably find him.

Asked about the problem, a Western
Union operator admitted the listings
"could be something that needs to be
updated."

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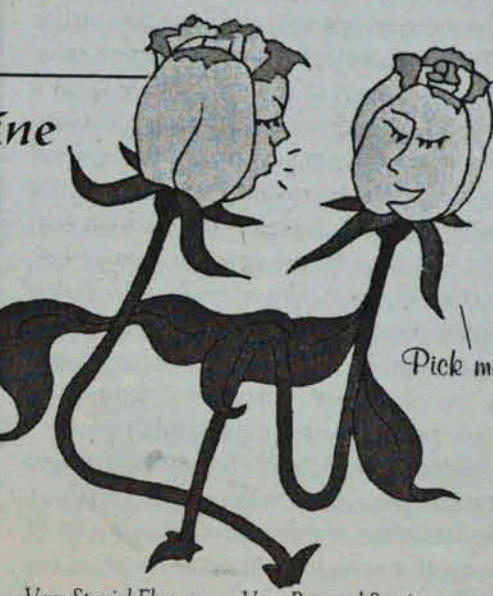


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Whatever turns you on

Sex. You're thinking about it, aren't you? Come on. Admit it.

We're all thinking about sex a lot of the time — some of us more than others, of course, and some of us to a fault. But no matter how busy you are, or how chaste, no matter how preoccupied you might be with more lofty matters, it's hard to get through the day as a high-functioning primate without having sex cross your radar screen once or twice.

It's on TV. It's in the movies. It's in the streets. And more and more, sex is part of politics. In the past two years, some of the most important and hotly contested civic battles in Portland, the state and the nation have focused on issues of sexuality. Carolyn Cosby's crusades against gay rights and gay marriage come immediately to mind; but don't forget the City Council's aggressive moves to curtail cruising for sex in Parkside and the West End, or its fixation on the prevention of nude dancing in the Old Port. Remember the police crackdowns on the allegedly obscene videos and publications available at venues as diverse as the Treasure Chest and Videoport. Remember the busts at the Fine Arts Theatre.

All these civic-minded efforts to contain and control the most crude and obvious manifestations of sexual desire take a lot of energy. Is it worth the trouble? Some would say keeping "smut peddlers" under wraps makes this a more wholesome, safe and progressive community. Some would say that repressing people's natural sexual desires causes those desires to become distorted, or to erupt in inappropriate ways.

Whichever side you take, the important thing is that the debate is more open now than ever before. The openness comes partly because the risk of HIV infection has forced sex into the limelight. Yet it comes also because people who are young, sexually active adults today grew up

with the sexual revolution of the '70s playing in the background of their adolescence. This generation has learned that frank discussions about sex can be healthy and fun and productive, that it's OK to acknowledge desire and that sex is a force to be respected and honored and reckoned with — out in the open. They've also learned, sometimes the hard way, that sex is serious business.

We may have a long journey ahead in our definitions of what constitutes "healthy" or "appropriate" sexuality. But we are moving ahead. In this issue, some of CBW's regular



Photos by Colin Malakie; photo shoot styled by Zoë Miller, Colin Malakie and Sarah Goodyear; dolls furnished by Zoë Miller, Maria Chutchian and Desta Toot.

contributors have written on various manifestations of sex, from safer sexual behavior to the distinctive pleasure of being single. It's an idiosyncratic collection, but then, sex is a very personal thing. We hope it gives you pleasure.

SARAH GOODYEAR

Pucker up in which famous Portlanders reveal the spinning bottles and bloody noses endured for first kisses

Peter O'Donnell, former executive director of Portland West Neighborhood Planning Council: "I was seven or eight, and I think we were on the Eastern Prom. It was a young woman who I think two weeks later gave me a bloody nose — it was a stormy relationship. We were pretty much the same age, so she could really take me. The second was after high school. That one was with a male. I said, 'Whoa. There's something to this.'"

Elizabeth Peavey, CBW columnist: "I think my first kiss was Neil Leibowitz. It was in kindergarten, actually. What happened was my two girlfriends had been shunning me. Neil was my next-door neighbor, so I started hanging around with him. Probably we were in the woods behind my house, and that's when the kiss happened. I think I did it so I could get his Tonka truck from him. When my girlfriends found out about it,

they hit me with their lunchboxes."

Kim Block, Channel 13 newscaster: "I remember his name was Alex. I must have been in 3rd grade. He came home with me, and he said, 'Come around the corner. I want to show you something,' and gave me a smack on the ear — didn't even hit the target. I remember running to my mother in complete dismay, feeling totally betrayed."

The Rev. Margaret Lawson, pastor of Green Memorial AME Zion church: "I was 12 years old, and I had a mad, mad, mad crush on one of my older brother's friends. He must have been 18 years old. One day I cornered him — I think I scared him to death — and I looked in his eyes all pitiful and he gave me a quick peck on the lips and I thought I was going to die. You talk about ecstasy for a 12-year-old girl. I'm 57 years old, and I'll never forget it. His

name was Cleon. I'd never heard a name like that. We were Phil and Floyd and Margaret, things like that. And then I met a Cleon."

Mike Chitwood, Portland Police Chief: "Probably I was 11 years old in South Philadelphia. Probably it was my first date. I kissed this girl on the lips in the back row of the movie theater, and she pushed me away. I thought, 'I got this girl pregnant.' So after she pushed me away, I went around the corner to my buddies and told them, and they said you can't get a woman pregnant that way. That was my first kiss, and my most dramatic."

Pat Peard, former head of Maine Won't Discriminate: "I was 13. That was the first time I ever kissed a girl. It was cool. We were in the basement of her parents' house. I think they were upstairs. I just remember kissing her. I

can't remember how we got around to it. She turned out to be straight later, but it was one of those things where we were really good friends so it was OK. But it was more than just a little kiss. It was pretty cool."

George Neavoll, editorial page editor for the *Portland Press Herald*: "I don't remember. I honestly don't remember. I guess that doesn't say much for the romantic George Neavoll."

Alfred DePew, Portland writer: "I was 11. It was in the library, which has to do with my relationship to books. It was summer vacation, so the library was empty. I don't know why we were even in the library. She kissed me. I was very surprised — one of the most surprising things that's ever happened to me in my life. And that's all I remember."

Carolyn Cosby, leader of Concerned Maine Families: "I don't remember a first kiss, other than my husband's. We were double-dating with my brother, and he married that girl that he dated, too. Our first date was on Halloween. When we got home, we had to go around the side of the house because my dad always wanted us to use the back door. It was dark around the side, and David thought that was a hint that I wanted him to kiss me. I didn't, but he whirled me around and gave me a kiss. When we got to the door, we were both kind of embarrassed because he could see I hadn't intended to kiss him good night. So we sort of shook hands. I thought I'd insulted him and I'd never see him again."

Bob Ganley, Portland City Manager: "It was probably when I was in 8th grade. I think it was a party and we were playing some kind of game, spin the bottle or something. It was just one of those get-togethers you have in the 8th grade. Everybody's thinking about it, but no one wants to start it. That's why you need those games."

Deirdre Nice, owner of Silly's: "It was in a closet, playing spin the bottle with Richie Steinheimer. Although it was definitely a kiss, we were still just friends. I always remember thinking Richie Steinheimer was a great guy, and I was glad we were pals. Me and my friend Stephanie Taylor kept turning our nose up to the spin-the-bottles we heard about until we were invited. Then we said, 'What the heck.'"

Herb Adams, Portland School Committee member: "It was in East Stoneham in the school yard. I was in 2nd grade, and she was in 4th. It was her idea, and we both got into big trouble for it. Litigation is still pending. I think I should pull the curtain of mercy around the rest."

Compiled by CBW reporter Laura Conway

One singular sensation Or, the joys of being uncoupled

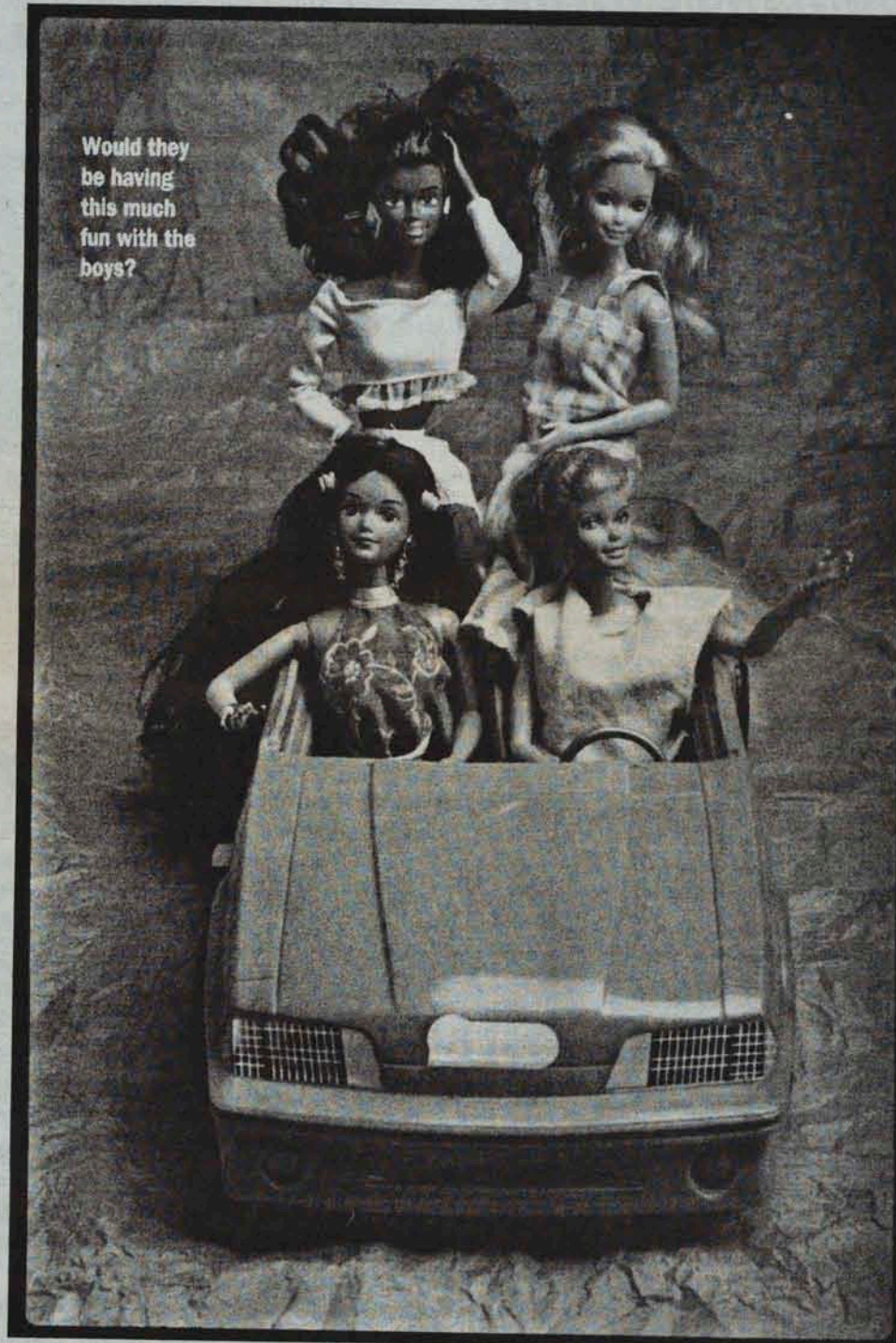
■ ELLEN MCALISTER

These days, they're everywhere. I've seen them gazing into each others' eyes in storefronts, they embrace in newspapers and magazines, they smile lovingly on television. Yessiree, the Happy Couple is out and about. It's the age-old story of girl meets boy and boy meets girl (or maybe it's boy meets boy and girl meets girl). Regardless of how you figure the mix, it still adds up to the

general idea that falling in love and getting married and living happily ever after in some picket-fenced castle is the high road to nirvana, the goal we should never let fall too far from the forefront of our minds, the be-all, end-all in the pursuit of happiness.

We're constantly bombarded with the message, "Go ye forth and pair off, it's the American thing to do." Maybe it's my inner desire to defy authority but, if you ask me, all this pressure to be lovey-dovey is nauseating. And so, as the red construction paper heart of Valentine's Day rises like dawn on the horizon, I stand before you and reject the notion

**I stand before you and
reject the notion that
I have to be half of a
couple to be a whole
person. In this world
obsessed with
romance, I do declare,
up with being single.**



that I have to be half of a couple to be a whole person. In this world obsessed with romance, I do declare, up with being single.

Let me say right now that I don't necessarily mean being single is better than being involved in a relationship. Certainly, nothing compares to the moment when you're seeing someone new and you begin to wonder if it just might be that you're falling in love again. All the same, it's absolutely possible to be perfectly happy without a significant other to call your own. Yeah, being by yourself has the potential to be a complete bummer. On the other hand,

it's a lifestyle whose finer points are often overlooked.

First and foremost, I would like to dispel the myth that being alone means being lonely. Personally, I enjoy my own company and demand serious space, even when I'm attached to someone. From that standpoint, I view singleness as something of a luxury. I get to go to the movies by myself. I see what I want to see. I draw my own conclusions. I read more. I adhere to my own schedule. I take long zoned-out walks. I spend a lot of time hanging out in the privacy of my own head. I get to know myself better, what I want becomes clearer.

Conversely, my social life blossoms when I'm on my own. I suppose for the simple reason that one person is more approachable than two, when I'm going solo, my circle of friends grows faster than the mold on the vegetables that live in the bottom of my refrigerator.

My last serious spoon and I split six months ago, when he decided to jet off to a certain alluring continent on the other side of the Atlantic. At the time, I was as mortified at the prospect of being single again as I was at the idea that I could be replaced by a geographical land mass. But since he left, I can't tell you how many times I've thought to myself, in the middle of some wild and crazy adventure, "If Ex-Boyfriend were here, this never would have happened." Of late, I've traveled more. I've remembered that the world is great and big and fascinating and that I'm hungry to explore it in my own way, on my own terms. In all honesty, I'm glad he left. I've even thanked him for it.

Ultimately, the thing is, being single is about freedom. As I get older and more and more of my friends take the plunge into shared living situations or, worse yet, holy matrimony, it's all I can do to keep from offering my condolences. Sometimes, I guess I just wonder if they realize how much they're giving up for the comfort of a ready-made date, a second name on the answering machine, an embrace in the middle of the night, a relationship that may or may not work out in the end. I ponder whether they've really found true love or if they've settled for convenience.

When you're single, you never have to compromise on what to have for dinner. You can wear whatever you damn well please. You're able to revel in your own bad habits without someone looking over your shoulder offering constructive criticism. You can decide what's best for yourself and tell the rest of the planet to take a flying friggin' leap. And so my friends, let the couples have their Hallmark-greeting-card pre-packaged holiday, forgive them their candlelit dinners and goofy stares, let them send their flowers and deliver their chocolates. Acknowledge the reality that being single is a beautiful thing and enjoy it while it lasts. And on Feb. 14, pour yourself a glass of champagne and drink a toast to another, more appropriate, celebration — Independence Day.

Ellen McAlister is single and satisfied.



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The Swimmer, c. 1921. Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, OH; Gift of Ferdinand Howald.

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is it safe?

Risk management
and other
questionable concepts
in the age of AIDS

RICK MACPHERSON

I asked John Holverson my first question point blank: "What would you consider safe sex?"

Holverson, director of prevention education at The AIDS Project, didn't hesitate. But that doesn't mean he had an easy answer.

"The dilemma is that when people talk about safer sex, so often people group behaviors into categories that aren't really useful," Holverson said. "Meaning that if you were to go out and have sex, to say that you can focus only on HIV infection is probably an interesting academic exercise, but in terms of other [sexually transmitted diseases] it's fairly unrealistic. So for people that accept even a hierarchical list of behaviors [see sidebar on next page], such a list does not take into account hepatitis, herpes, gonorrhea, syphilis and a whole lot of other things that come on the same dipstick."

As evasive as Holverson's reply may seem, it's nothing if not realistic. It's exactly that sort of realism — in stark contrast to previous attitudes — that has now become the hallmark of safe-sex education efforts. During the early years of the AIDS epidemic, public health centers and AIDS prevention agencies across the country orchestrated prevention campaigns employing scare and shock tactics, in the hope of altering unsafe behavior among gay men by generating fear and anxiety. Gay men were presented with images such as a shrouded cadaver with the simple legend, "Don't let love sweep you off your feet: use a condom." In other words, "Just say no."

Powerful, simple and initially effective, these campaigns were predicated on the optimistic belief that the AIDS epidemic would be something gay men would just have to wait out. But during the latter half of the '80s, when it became apparent that safe sex was a lifelong concern, scare tactics proved less and less effective. In fact, some safe-sex educators now believe such strategies may be more likely to compel an individual to disregard safe sexual behavior.

Aaron (not his real name), a young gay Portland man who admitted to practicing risky sexual behavior, is angered by such proscriptive campaigns. "How am I supposed to feel when I see a

poster showing a picture of a condom with the caption, 'Meet your partner for life?' Aaron asked. "No one targets straight people with those kinds of messages. You mean to tell me they're all using condoms every time?"

Health agencies are getting Aaron's message, bit by bit. Many have chosen to ditch the scare campaigns in favor of educational models that look at safer sex as a series of risk assessments and decisions.

Risk is defined as any sexual activity which brings a participant into contact with a partner's blood, semen, pre-cum or vaginal secretions. While all unprotected sex is risky, the inherent risk of unprotected sex with someone whose previous sexual history is known is different than that of unprotected sex with a complete stranger. Risk reduction models call for sexually active individuals to weigh inherent risks and make informed decisions.

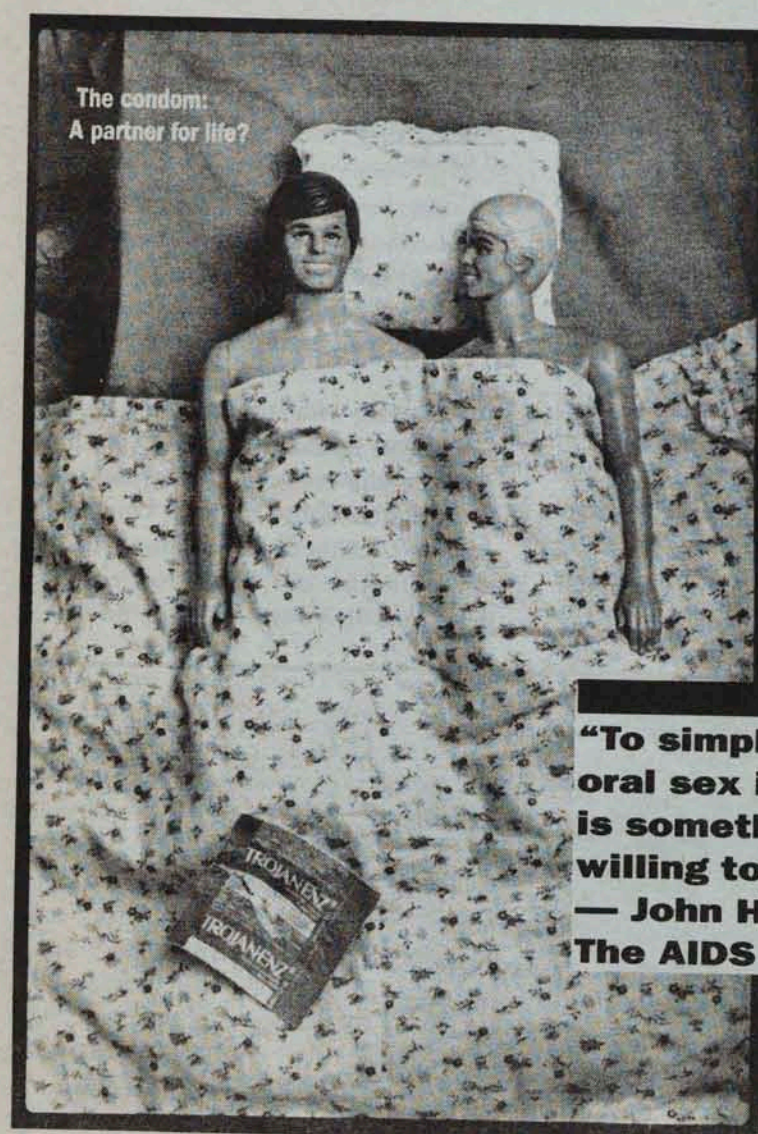
Easier said than done. Aside from such obvious roadblocks as drug and alcohol use — which impair effective risk assessment — social attitudes and fear of intimacy, abandonment or violence can also prevent individuals from asking honest and frank questions of their sexual partners.

"People are living out a number of mythologies when they approach sexual behavior," said Holverson. "[Like] 'If I have sex with someone younger, then I am risk-free,' or, 'If I'm young and have sex with a young person, then I won't be infected.' If you look fine — whatever fine is — then there is no risk. These are mythologies that people walk around with. But unless someone has been touched by a risk factor that brings it home to them, then there's not a lot that's going to change in their behavior."

Myles Rightmire, a public health worker at Portland's STD clinic, agrees that people find rationalizations to explain away unsafe behavior. "It's what we do," said Rightmire. "If I never see a cop on a stretch of road, I rationalize that I can speed here."

Encouraging results with antiviral drugs such as protease inhibitors may also be misleading gay men into believing the end of the epidemic is near. Bruce Patterson, director of the AIDS hotline for Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York City, recently told *The Village Voice* that callers are increasingly convinced that they no longer need to wear condoms. But with an estimated 40-70,000 new HIV cases last year in the United States, new treatments obviously aren't reducing infection rates.

It doesn't help matters when the experts can't find agreement on what constitutes risky behavior. For example, The Fenway Community Health Center in Boston recently attempted a major educational effort that resulted in a flurry of controversy. In a series of stylishly produced erotic posters for distribution in public restrooms, T stations, clubs, gyms and bars, hot men were depicted with other men above the caption "Oral



But safe-sex educators were unsure if it was the right message to put out there.

"An awful lot of men who have sex with men want to believe that oral sex is OK," Holverson said. "I'm not saying that it's not OK, I'm saying it's not risk-free. We know that unprotected oral sex

is less risky than receptive unprotected anal intercourse. But if people are going to make informed decisions, it seems to me that HIV education programs need to provide information that allows for informed decisions. For this agency or other agencies to simply say that oral sex

Comparison shopping

Planning ahead for your next romantic rendezvous decreases your chance of catching a sexually transmitted disease (STD). It can also save money. Pharmacy chains often charge more than supermarkets or Condom Sense, and sometimes have a limited selection. Free condoms and birth control are available through Maine Medical Center's clinic (871-0111), Planned Parenthood (874-1095) and Portland's STD clinic (874-8446). The city also offers family planning to homeless people through its primary care clinics.

This price guide samples various places throughout Portland where birth control and condoms are available. We selected six brands of

condom — Trojan, Trojan-Enz, Life Styles, Avanti, Kimono and Crown — in an attempt to balance availability, quality and price range. All condom listings are for packages of 12 condoms unless otherwise stated. We also priced Delfen (a contraceptive foam), Gynol II (a jelly), Encare (a vaginal insert), K-Y Plus (a spermicidal lubricant) and Genora (generic birth control pills). Remember, the decision on what type of birth control and STD protection to use should be made with your doctor and partner(s). Educate yourself and stay safe.

Listings compiled by news intern David Kociemba

	CYS, 510 Congress St., 774-4525	CYS, Westgate, 774-3636	Condom Sense, 424 Fore St., 871-0356	Rite Aid, 290 Congress St., 774-9344	Rite Aid, 262 St. John St., 773-5477	Rosemont Pharmacy, 580 Brighton Ave., 773-4746	Shaw's Supermarkets, Northgate, 797-4304	Shop 'n Save, 295 Forest Ave., 761-5967
Avanti	lubricated \$10.95 (6 condoms)	lubricated \$10.95 (6 condoms)	lubricated \$9.99 (6 condoms)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Life Styles	lubricated and spermicide \$9.97	lubricated and spermicide \$9.97, not lub/sperm \$8.99	lubricated \$1.49 (two condoms), lub/sperm (\$1.49, two condoms)	lubricated \$7.99, lub/sperm \$8.49	lubricated \$7.49, lub/sperm \$8.49	n/a	lubricated \$6.99	lubricated and spermicide \$5.89
Trojan	lubricated \$7.49	lubricated \$9.49	lubricated \$7.99, lub/sperm \$7.99	not lubricated \$7.39	lubricated \$8.99, lub/sperm \$10.29	not lubricated \$5.93	lubricated \$6.99, lub/sperm \$6.99	not lubricated \$5.28
Trojan-Enz	not lubricated \$7.49	lubricated \$8.99, lub/sperm \$9.49	lubricated \$7.99, lub/sperm \$8.49	lubricated \$8.99, lub/sperm \$10.29	n/a	lubricated \$7.49, lub/sperm \$8.29, not lubricated \$5.93	n/a	lubricated \$5.28, lub/sperm \$6.59
Crown	n/a	n/a	lubricated \$5.99, lub/sperm \$6.49	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Kimono	n/a	n/a	lubricated \$6.99, lub/sperm (\$7.49)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Delfen	\$12.45 (with applicator, 6 oz.), \$14.57 (1.4 oz. refill)	\$12.45 (with applicator, 6 oz.), \$14.57 (1.4 oz. refill)	n/a	\$11.89 (with applicator, 6 oz.), \$13.79 (1.4 oz. refill)	\$11.89 (with applicator, 6 oz.), \$13.79 (1.4 oz. refill)	n/a	n/a	\$10.87 (with applicator, 6 oz.), \$11.97 (1.4 oz. refill)
Encare	\$8.47 (12 inserts)	\$8.47 (12 inserts)	n/a	\$8.29 (12 inserts)	\$8.29 (12 inserts)	\$8.99 (12 inserts)	n/a	n/a
Genora	\$12.99 (28-day supply)	\$10.99 (28-day supply)	n/a	\$12.98 (28-day supply)	\$13.98 (28-day supply)	\$12.66 (28-day supply)	n/a	\$15.92 (28-day supply)
Gynol II	\$11.77 (3.8 oz.)	\$11.77 (4 oz.)	n/a	\$9.59 (with applicator, 2.5 oz.)	\$11.59 (3.8 oz.)	\$10.89 (with applicator, 2.85 oz.)	\$10.99 (3.8 oz.)	\$10.67 (with applicator, 2.5 oz.)
K-Y Plus	\$7.49 (4 oz.)	\$7.49 (4 oz.)	K-Y — \$2.99 (4 oz., without spermicide)	\$8.99 (4 oz.)	\$8.99 (4 oz.)	n/a	\$6.99 (4 oz.)	\$6.57 (4 oz.)

is safe sex is something I'm not willing to do."

At the root of Holverson's concerns is the possibility that gay men who see such posters would be lulled into a false sense of security. Which is probably not too far from the truth. It's something Rightmire hears time and again at City Hall: "I get couples who come in and ask the question of the '90s: 'If we're HIV-negative, can we have unprotected sex?'" said Rightmire. "I ask, 'What's your partner's middle name? Their favorite ice cream? The color of their eyes?' I try to get an idea how well they know their partner. And I tell them that I have been deceived in my lifetime, and I hope that doesn't shock you."

Accepting that people will make mistakes is part of the job of education. But both Holverson and Rightmire face obstacles that aren't going to disappear merely through educational programs. "People have ingrained that because they like to have sex and enjoy it, they must be bad," says Rightmire. "The judgment and ridicule around sexual expression is tremendous." For his part, Holverson sees gay men who have been surrounded by death from the AIDS epidemic as particularly vulnerable to participating in risky behavior. "When you have people, especially in urban areas lose their entire address book of friends and social connections, buddies and business partners," he said, "it's very tough sometimes to counter that simply with information."

Rick MacPherson encourages you to also remember the word sex in "safe sex."

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Slippery slopes and safer sex

Contracting HIV isn't the only thing you're risking when you have unsafe sex. Gonorrhea, syphilis, genital warts, Hepatitis B, herpes, chlamydia and a few other nasty STDs are out there in abundance. And (not to lump it together with biological pathogens) unwanted pregnancy is another undesirable side effect of unsafe sex. The following guidelines (established by The AIDS Project and slightly modified here) are a tool for a more enlightened approach to sexual activity

be used as lubricants. Commercial water-based lubricants should be used if needed.

- Anal or vaginal intercourse with latex condom. Risk is incurred if the condom breaks or if semen spills into the rectum or vagina. The risk is further reduced if one withdraws before climax.
- Sucking with latex condom. Risk is low unless breakage occurs. Don't bite or chew the condom during oral sex. Heat and moisture rot latex condoms, so don't let them freeze; don't leave them in the car; and don't keep condoms in your wallet or pocket.



and risk management.

Remember, drugs and alcohol will greatly compromise your safe sexual decision making, and should be avoided.

No Risk:

These activities involve only healthy skin (no breaks in the skin) to healthy skin contact, thereby avoiding exposure to blood, semen, pre-cum and vaginal secretions.

- Social (dry) kissing
- Hugging, holding, body massage
- Body-to-body rubbing
- Voyeurism/exhibitionism
- Fantasy
- Using your own sex toys
- Light S&M (without bruising or bleeding—safe, sane, consensual)
- Solo masturbation
- Mutual masturbation (The Portland Public Health Department considers mutual masturbation to be a possibly safe activity, provided that hand- or finger-to-genital contact is protected by latex or rubber gloves.)

Low Risk:

In these activities, small amounts of certain body fluids might be exchanged or the protective barrier might break causing some exposure risk. Cum, vaginal secretions and spit should not

Only use water soluble lubricants.

• French kissing, wet kissing. HIV is present in spit in such low concentrations that salivary exchange is unlikely to transmit the virus. Risk is increased if sores in the mouth or bleeding gums are present. Vigorous brushing of the teeth or flossing should be avoided before sex.

• Oral/anal contact or oral/vaginal contact with protective barrier. A latex dental dam, Saran Wrap, or a cut open latex condom provides a safe barrier. Do not reuse the barrier.

• Hand in anus/vagina with latex glove. If the glove does not break, viral transmission should not occur if adequate water based lube is used and fingernails are trimmed and filed smooth. Significant trauma can still be inflicted on the rectal/vaginal tissues leading to other medical problems.

High Risk:

These activities involve tissue trauma and/or exchange of body fluids which may transmit HIV or other sexually transmitted disease.

• Blow jobs (stopping before climax) without condom. Pre-cum may contain HIV and therefore the head of an uncovered penis should be avoided. Unprotected oral sex can also cause

exposure to herpes, gonorrhea and genital warts. If mouth or genital sores are present, risk is increased. Deep-throating can cause damage to delicate tissue in the back of the throat which may be more susceptible to viral infection. Vigorous brushing of the teeth or flossing should be avoided before sex.

• Blow jobs (to climax) without latex condom. Semen may contain high concentrations of HIV and could pose risk if absorbed through mucal tissues, open sores in the mouth, or digestive tract.

• Mouth/anal contact without a barrier. HIV may be contained in blood-contaminated feces or in the anal/rectal lining. This practice also poses high risk of transmission of Hepatitis B, parasites, and other gastrointestinal infections.

• Mouth/vaginal contact without a barrier. Vaginal secretions and menstrual blood have been shown to harbor HIV, thereby causing risk to the oral partner if absorbed through mucal tissues, open sores in the mouth, or digestive tract. Potential risk of contracting chlamydia and venereal warts as well.

• Hand in anus without latex glove. Studies have indicated a direct association between fisting and HIV infection for both partners. This association may be due to concurrent use of recreational drugs, bleeding, pre-cum and semen exposure, or anal intercourse with ejaculation.

• Sharing toys. Keep your toys to yourself to avoid risky exchange. If you share dildos, vibrators, or other sex toys, use a new condom each time or clean toys with hydrogen peroxide or antibacterial soap and water.

• Ingestion of urine. HIV has not been shown to be transmitted via urine. However, other immunosuppressive agents or infections may be transmitted via urine.

Very High Risk:

These activities have been shown to transmit HIV, especially with the use of drugs, alcohol, or other decision-altering substances.

• Receptive anal/vaginal penetration without latex condom. All studies imply that this activity carries the highest risk for HIV. Risk of herpes, chlamydia, syphilis and gonorrhea also present.

• Insertive anal/vaginal penetration without latex condom. Studies suggest that men who participate only in this activity are at less risk of being infected than their partners who are rectally receptive. However the risk is still significant. This activity also carries high risk of infection by other sexually transmitted diseases.

• Intravenous drug use. Don't share your works (needles, syringes, droppers, spoons, cottons, or cookers). Use clean needles. As of October 1993, clean needles can be purchased in Maine over the counter without a prescription.

R.M.

Pillow talk

The semantics of sex

■ ZOË MILLER

Last night Jane and Louise climbed into bed together. They kissed and embraced and touched each other in intimate places. If you asked them today, they would tell you they had sex. Also last night, Bob and Alice climbed into bed together. They kissed and embraced and touched each other in intimate places. If you asked them today, they would tell you they did not have sex. Both couples did the same thing. One calls it sex. The other does not. Welcome to sex in the '90s.

According to John Ayto's "Dictionary of Word Origins," use of the word sex for sexual intercourse was first recorded in the works of D.H. Lawrence. Lawrence wrote about sex in a time of shifting sexual mores. His frankness was revolutionary, as were his homosexual undertones. And while he may not have invented the term himself, or had such weighty intentions when using it, his vocabulary shift — from sexual intercourse to sex — was important. Getting rid of the word intercourse — thereby weakening the term's ties to procreation and heterosexuality — was a step in the direction of a new definition for the act altogether. Of course, no one read "Lady Chatterley's Lover" and suddenly viewed all genital relations as being equal, but Lawrence did help to place the s-word in the public consciousness permanently and irrevocably.

When was the last time you stopped to ask someone what they meant by the word sex? To most people, the meaning of the word sex is hardly vague. In the mainstream world — that is the heterosexual world — when we hear people refer to having had sex, we assume they are referring to a penis entering a vagina. Most people rely on that rigid interpretation with very little skepticism. Sex is sex. And anything short of penetration is not sex, but foreplay. Things like oral sex and mutual masturbation set the stage for the main act.

That strict definition is what allows people with a number of sexual experiences to call themselves virgins. It also determines our attitude about what constitutes a sexual relationship. "Sex changes everything" is a common maxim. But what about "almost" sex? Does getting naked with someone and doing just about everything short of penetration change the nature of your relationship? "What did you two do?"

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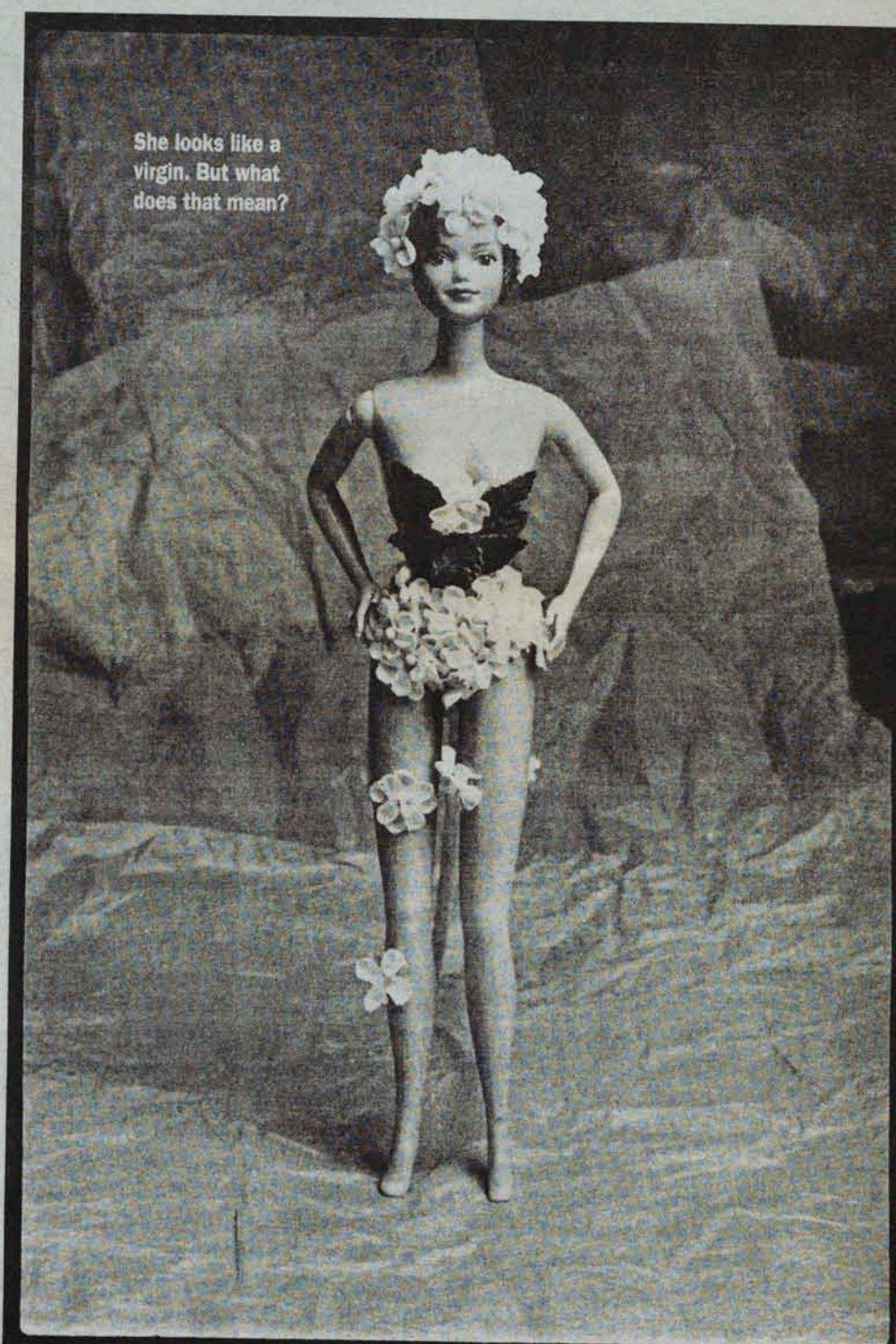
Pillow talk The semantics of sex

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

penetration change the nature of your relationship? "What did you two do?" Jane might ask Alice of her previous night's date with Bob. "Well, we didn't

you a virgin if you've never penetrated a vagina? Since we have no other language with which to discuss sex, we arrive at a new frontier where sex ceases to mean only heterosexual intercourse. Oral sex, previously considered safely inside the realm of virginity, becomes sex. But where does it end? No one has decided yet. And it will likely take generations before we see any widespread shift in cultural understanding.

Growing up in the '80s, learning about sex from soap operas, you could find clues but never the whole story. Two lovers, always a woman and a man, would kiss passionately, paw at



have sex," Alice could reply. Case closed — a nonsexual relationship.

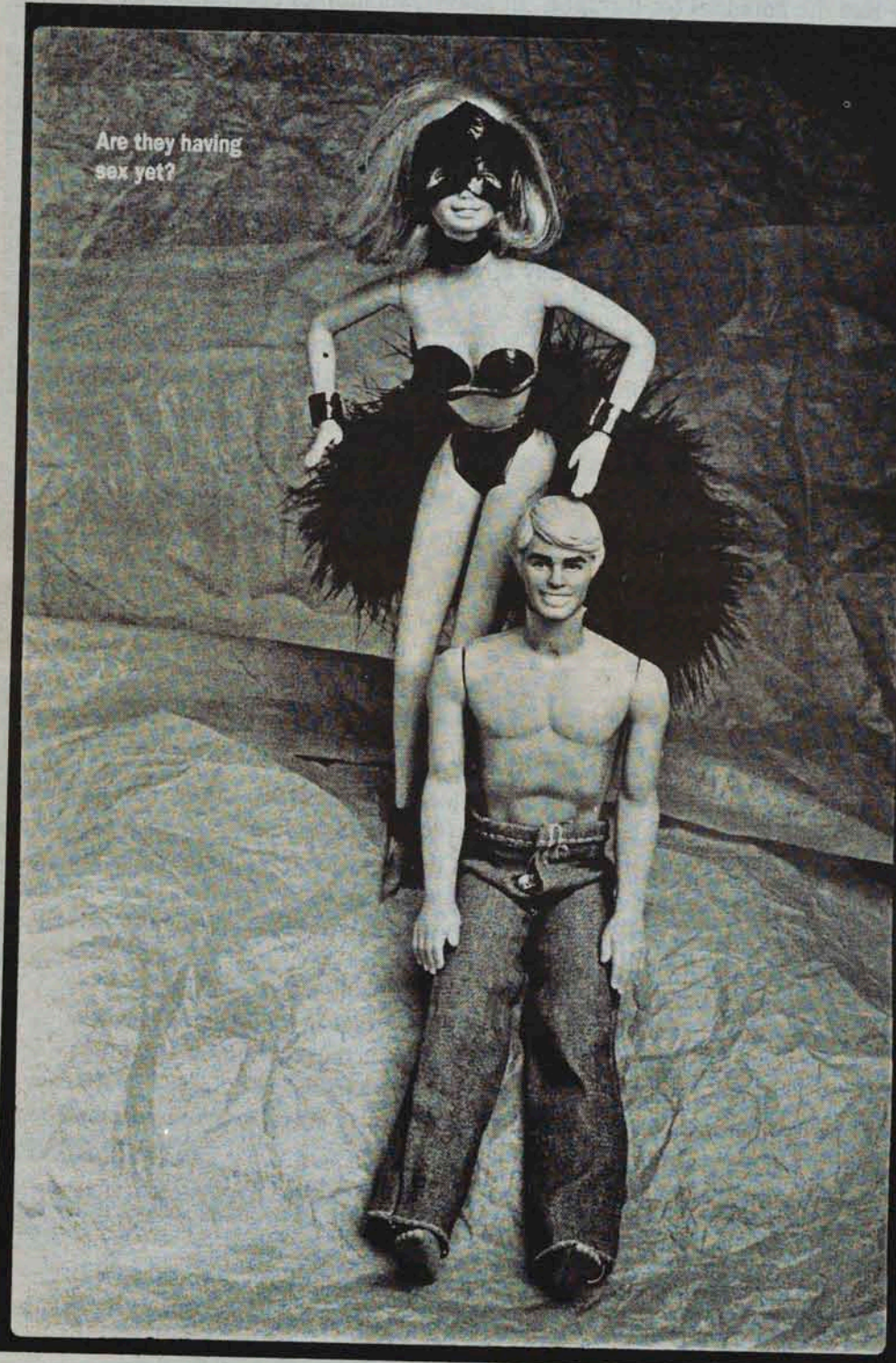
If you spend any time talking sex with people who are gay, bisexual or don't identify strictly as heterosexual, you have an opportunity to see a word on the cusp of changing definitions. And what's so exciting about this situation is that the word's meaning is not changing sheerly from conversational use, it's changing out of the necessity for a more encompassing usage. Is a relationship without penises a non-sexual one? Are

each other's clothing, then the scene would cut to the two of them lying in bed — their nudity implied by bare shoulders peeking from beneath blankets. From this scenario, you could learn that sex happens in bed and that it involves interlocking of private parts, but it was hard to be sure when the actor changed from being an embrace into actually being sex.

The '70s and '80s also saw a proliferation of books on the subject of sex, custom-made for confused and curious teens. From them, you could

learn that sex meant the penis would enter the vagina. That a woman could get pregnant. That it felt good. Putting the textbooks together with the soap operas, you could forge a rough picture of sex. Heterosexual sex, that is.

A few years ago, an attractive, professionally dressed lesbian couple appeared on an episode of Maury Povich. Amid polite questions about their relationship, a man in the audience blurted, "What do you two do when you're in bed together?" There it was, as plain as day: The idea that it is impossible to imagine what sex is without a penis in the picture — or with two penises.



Yet the notion that heterosexual people can't fathom what goes on in the bedrooms of same-sex lovers is absurd. The real misunderstanding stems from the use of the word *sex*. The question that man on Maury Povich was really getting at was, "What do you do when you have sex?" Clearly, we aren't all using the word the same way.

Only 60 years separates D.H. Lawrence's once shocking openness about sexuality and the routine frankness we've come to expect from talk shows

like Povich's. The first readers of Lawrence's writing, people bound by the same culture and codes of conduct as he, probably never imagined a society like the one we live in today. But they were the very tools of change.

Here we are at the end of the 20th century, finding that once again, our sexual realities are forcing a shift in the way we use and define the word *sex*. HIV has led us to classify our expressions of lust into elaborate gradations of high- and low-risk behavior. And though we rarely stop to think of the changes possible in the next 60 years, many of us will live to see the word *sex* undergo another meta-

morphosis. The definition of sex as straight intercourse is likely fading as we search for a newer, franker and more inclusive way to think about what we call sex.

Zoe Miller knows what she means when she says sex.

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comment

You sexy thing

My first reaction, upon moving to Maine, was relief: relief that it is possible for a woman to walk down the street here without being constantly prodded by remarks about the way she looks.

I'm from New York, you see, the land of *hey-baby-looking-fine-can-I-get-some-of-that*. Manhattan streets seem at times like an open-air marketplace of male appraisal, where a woman's breasts and hips and walk are the subject of knowledgeable speculation — commodities weighed constantly for relative value and appeal. Hot weather in New York means trouble for a girl. You can forget wearing a tank top without a bra, even if it's 90 degrees outside and 90 percent humidity. The last time I tried it, I turned back for home after five blocks.

So my first summer in Maine, living in a coastal tourist town, I reveled in my freedom to wear short skirts and shirts that showed cleavage, my freedom to go without a bra if I chose. This, I thought, is civilization.

But it didn't take long to uncover the flip side of Maine's laissez-faire attitude toward sex and looks. I looked around and noticed that the people around me — women and men alike — weren't dressing to be noticed. Slowly I realized it bothered me that they didn't seem to be having fun with their appearance and its effect on potential objects of desire. Everyone was buttoned up from top to bottom, clothed with the asexual practicality of L.L.

Bean. I stopped caring much about what I wore myself. But I did so feeling that I had lost something along the way.

The longer I lived here, the more I began to miss certain things about the New York style. Back home, every commercial interaction — buying a cup of coffee in the morning or a sandwich at noon, taking a taxi ride home at night — had the potential for flirtation. In Maine, such innocent thrills are very few. Eye contact over a fistful of change is polite, but rarely flirtatious. That most subtle of sensual pleasures — the sense that someone is checking you out — is rare in the Yankee climate.

And at some point I figured out that I had enjoyed the openly sexual nature of my hometown more than I ever knew when I lived there. Sure, it could be intrusive at times, or even frightening, but it could also be a lot of fun. It could make you feel like you were really alive — which is one of the things that sex, in general, is good for.

I'm not saying that I wish Maine men would start making crude comments or wolf-whistling on Congress Street. But I do wish that more people would take a chance and unbutton their top buttons, wear their skirts a little shorter, acknowledge the power that sex has to heal us and connect us to life. Sex isn't just about penetration and intercourse and exchange of bodily fluids; it's a way of seeing the world. And no matter what anyone tells you, sex is good.

By the way, baby: You're looking fine.

SARAH GOODYEAR

ESSAY

Native culture Protecting Portland's grubby past from an influx of do-gooders

■ AL DIAMON

It's time for true Portland natives to take up arms and establish a guerrilla army under the Million Dollar Bridge. The old bridge's decaying viaducts are about to go the way of Union Station, Longfellow's birthplace and nude dancing in the Old Port, which is to say they're about to be relegated to that part of Portland's history the city's elite would just as soon forget. That's because most of Portland high society was born and grew up in faraway places with much nicer bridges, and still considers any changes it can shove down the throat of its adopted hometown to be the moral equivalent of force-feeding starving children in Somalia.

The Somalis responded to such philanthropic undertakings with armed insurrection and projectile vomiting. Portlanders should do no less.

What out-of-towners have done for this burg includes replacing a perfectly serviceable donut shop in Congress Square with an utterly unusable park, tearing down acres of interesting old buildings to construct One City Center, ripping through funky neighborhoods on Franklin and Spring streets to build arterials and

replacing a host of delis, pool halls, pawn shops, bars and bootleggers with bank buildings.

The new bridge is just another example of the oh-so-smart set helping out us poor jerks by improving our primitive traffic patterns. As if any true Portlander would want to make it easier to get to South Portland. Real natives have always been happy enough when the old bridge got stuck in the upright position, thereby cutting off the flow of rich people from Cape Elizabeth.

That's just one of the many ways natives differ from folks who grew up in Boston, New York, Mogadishu or other cultural hot spots. To help those of you from away (which is to say anyone who reads *CBW*) to better understand the aboriginals, here's a guide to the inherent population's simple ways. A true Portland native:

- has never been to the top of the Portland Observatory,
- has never had brunch on Peaks Island,
- has no idea how to pronounce Orlando Delogu,
- spends more time in Old Orchard Beach than in the Old Port,
- always eats breakfast on Thanksgiving at the Sportsman's Grill,
- misses George's Delicatessen, Charlie's on the Square, Parr's Dairy Lunch, the Stardust Cafe, the Crow's Nest, Joe and Nino's Circus Room, Slade's, the Holy Mackerel, Ralph's Tavern, Eddie's Shamrock Cafe, Bill's Bar and Grill and the Seamen's Club before Joe Soley owned it,
- has done the following things no more than once: visited the Portland Museum of Art, drunk a Shipyard

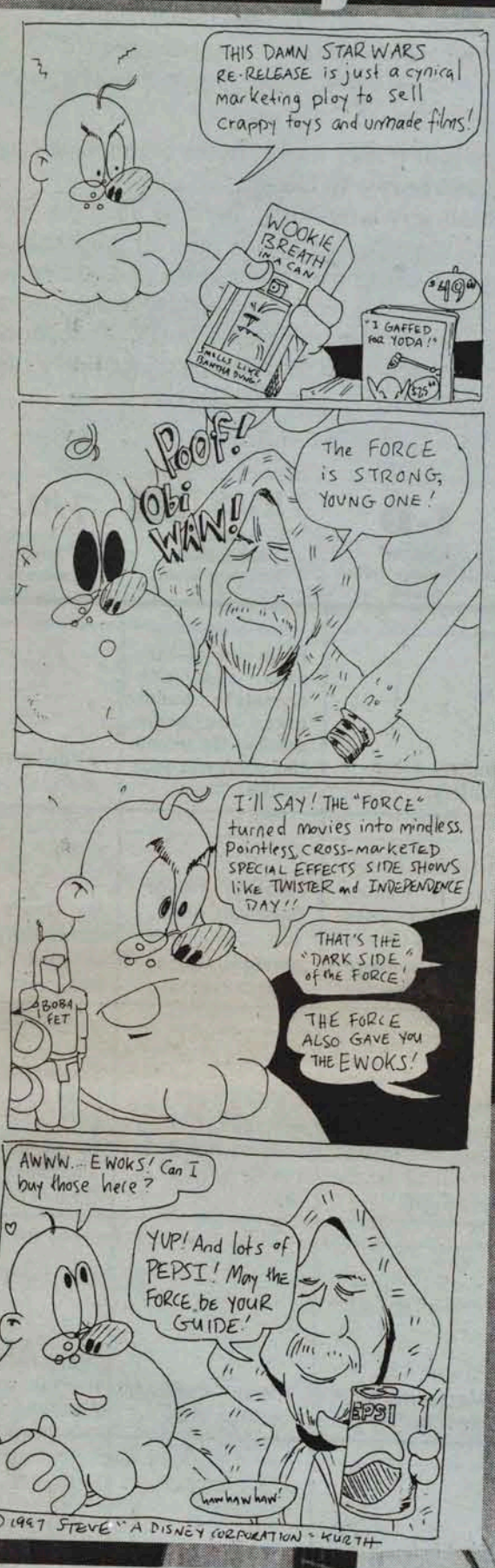
Ale, eaten lobster somewhere other than at home, attended a Portland Symphony Orchestra concert, attended a Portland Stage Company play, read anything written by Natalie Brenner, voted in a city election and entered Westbrook for some reason other than business,

- knows Boston better than Biddeford,
- has spent more time in Florida than Lewiston,
- has never walked the Back Cove trail,
- but has never referred to Back Cove as Back Bay,
- knows at least 12 ways to avoid going through Woodfords Corner,
- but can't find anything in the West End,
- would rather dance at the Holiday Inn West than The Pavilion,
- except he's never heard of The Pavilion,
- has also never heard of Phineas Sprague, "Reindeer Games," Mark McClure, Agape, Lars Vegas, Portland Community Action, Bill Linnell or David Garrity,
- but remembers David Koplow, Popkin Zakarian, and Mary Rose Starr,
- misses Union Station,
- but not passenger trains.

If that's not you, neither is this city. At the first indication of civic-mindedness, better grab the next Marine chopper out.

Al Diamon, CBW's political columnist and token native, was born at Mercy Hospital, but, sad to say, grew up in (ugh) South Portland.

drunkBoy BY KURTH



CBW Q

I'd like to get a concealed weapon permit, but I'm told there are lots of places in Portland I can't bring a gun even with such a permit.

Yes, in the city of Portland there are some restrictions on where you can carry a gun, even with a concealed weapon permit. You may not bring a gun into any establishment licensed to sell alcohol. It is prohibited to enter a public school building or any federal buildings, such as the courthouse or a post office, with a gun. And you cannot carry a gun onto any private property that is posted against guns on the premises.

Got a burning question about life in Greater Portland? Let CBW's crack investigative squad sort it out for you. Those whose questions are selected for publication will receive a complimentary SPAM® refrigerator magnet. CBW Q, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101, or by fax: 775-1615.

LETTERS



Casco Bay Weekly welcomes your letters. Please keep your thoughts to less than 300 words (longer letters may be edited for space reasons), and include your address and daytime phone number. Letters, Casco Bay Weekly, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101 or via e-mail: editor@cbw.maine.com.

The beauties of Grant Street

I'm sure Annie Seikonia wasn't thinking of anyone specific when she wrote ("Congress Street Minutes," 1.16.97), "You're not really living in a squalid apartment with five other completely obnoxious roommates on Grant Street and working as a prep cook at T.G.I.F. ..." (emphasis mine). However, quite coincidentally, my husband and I live in our apartment building on Grant Street, and some of our tenants work at T.G.I.F. NONE of our apartments — or our building — could be described as "squalid" (and I hope our tenants do not prove to be "completely obnoxious").

The point is, I'm sick of people thinking of the words "Grant Street" as synonymous with drug dealer-hooker-rat-cockroach-infested slum. Yes, there are some appalling examples of slumminess on Grant Street, but there are equally slummy buildings on Congress Street, on Merrill Street, on Pine Street, on Oxford Street ... in short, in just about any area of this city.

After busting my butt to try to make our building and yard look good, I may be a little sensitive. I get insulted by some of the comments and questions I get. Like the girl at the USM Commuter Student Services office, who (when I was trying to list an empty apartment) said, "Does it have cockroaches? All the buildings on Grant Street have cockroaches!"

It's easy to live elsewhere and make snide remarks about Grant Street. It's a bit more difficult to talk about the good side and the encouraging trends taking place down here.

It's disheartening to have the street I live on used, once again, as an example of squalor. (And I'm sure my tenants don't like to be characterized as obnoxious, but that's their letter to write.)

Rebecca Milliken

Portland

Fashion politics

Here at *The Forecaster* we got a chuckle out of Al Diamon's sartorial slam at our coverage of Sen. Susan Collins' appearance at Greely High School ("Politics and other mistakes," 1.23.97). Our reporter mentioned that Collins wore a "signature red wool coat over a conservative black Chanel-style suit which was trimmed in red."

Natty as he can be in the photo that accompanies his column — signature cap and signature beard — Diamon obviously has a well-developed sense for being politically correct. He implied that it was sexism that prompted the reporter's observation, and suggested that her future coverage of another state politician (of the male persuasion) should include mention of his physique, lack of hair and "ill-fitting suit."

As an insightful political columnist, Diamon is naturally aware that Collins, throughout her recent

campaign, adopted a public appearance uniform — a red dress — and might have recognized that a departure from it in a public appearance was worth a line or two. In adopting the consistent uniform, Collins has drawn attention to her choice of outfits, which is what drew the observation of our reporter.

Marian McCue

Publisher and editor, *The Forecaster*
Falmouth

A poetic oversight

Whilst laughing, crying and spewing forth various and sundry other bodily fluids over the local celebrity verse spotlighted in "Henry Wadsworth who?" (1.30.97), I could not help but note the obvious misspelling of "fridge" in your introduction to Carolyn Cosby's section.

If this was, in fact, a misspelling — shame on you. If it was a Freudian slip — well, I'm not quite sure what to make of it. If it was unintentional — you're fridgin' geniuses.

John A. Olorc

Portland

Net loss

In "What are you going to do with that little thing?" (1.9.97), Al Diamon barely touches on the gravity of the events that went down last year regarding free speech on the Internet (i.e. the passage of Sen. Exon's Communications Decency Act [CDA] within the telco/cable/wireless deregulating Communications Act of 1996 that President Clinton signed and the subsequent overturning of the same act by a federal court in Philadelphia). The issues surrounding "indecentcy" on the Internet have been heatedly debated both on the Net and in editorial pages across the country (although certainly sometimes ad nauseam). However, one would hardly know it from Diamon's article.

Diamon also neglected to mention that many companies have sprung up to provide parents a means to filter and/or block access to websites their kids can see (such as CyberSitter, NetNanny, SurfWatch, etc.) A simple search of Yahoo! or any of the major web search engines will find these sites. If it's our kids we're worried about on the Net, there are answers other than censoring what every adult in the country may choose, or not choose, to view.

What local readers got from the article was a dusty viewpoint that equated a local anti-porn ordinance with a national (actually international) issue that has many different sides and complexities. By implication, we find the Internet scapegoated as the Great Unknowable Nemesis for the zillionth time, with precious little background or context for readers to make up their own minds with.

(For the record, the U.S. Supreme Court has set the date for hearing oral arguments on the CDA for March 19, 1997).

Will Kretch
Portland

Bands on the run: The buzz in Portland music circles this week included news that two local bands, **King Memphis** and **Car**, will soon hit the road in support of bigger national acts — King Memphis as the backing band for rockabilly legend Ronnie Dawson, and Car as the opening act for alt rock legends Buffalo Tom. Car was hoofing it down to New York City for a gig as CBW went to press this week, but we did catch up with King Memphis guitarist Matt Robbins, who gave us the low-down on his band's plans:

"Our agent, Melissa Mencher, also books Ronnie, and when she heard that his backing band wanted to go on and do other things and that he was looking for a replacement, she said to him, 'How about King Memphis?' Ronnie said, 'Why not?' ... Ronnie always has crackin' backup bands with him, which makes me think maybe we're getting somewhere. This is a big deal in our type of music — it's not Prince or Michael Jackson, but Ronnie's the man to us."

The band will play close to 30 dates with Dawson in March and April on tours that will take them throughout the Southwest and Midwest. "King Memphis will be able to open for a lot of the shows, which will be great exposure for us," Robbins says. "I hope we can sell a lot of CD's."

■ And in the clubs: Negotiations continued this week between Ed Noyes, owner of the building at 121 Center St. that formerly housed Morganfield's, and **Millennium, Inc.**, a trio of would-be clubmeisters who hope to open Millennium, a cutting-edge dance club, in the space — but how they were progressing depended on who you talked to. Noyes told CBW this week that "this is still a long way from being a done deal," while Bruce Wild, a Millennium partner, said his company had signed a letter of intent to lease the space and was "confident we can reach an agreement." Negotiations hit the rumble strip earlier this week when local media reported Millennium's proposal to Noyes as a done deal, the result of Millennium's appearance before the City Council Feb. 3 for a liquor license, which was approved. "We did sort of put the cart before the horse on this one, but we hoped to have a lease signed before going in front of the City Council," Wild said. "We were going to postpone the appearance for a month, but the city's business licensing department suggested we go ahead, so we did."

Wild, of Old Orchard Beach, described his vision for Millennium as "high-tech, urban, a little dark, with really, really fierce dance music." The club would feature a 30'x40' dance floor with upgraded sound and light systems, Wild said, and would cater to a "mixed, upscale clientele," both gay and straight, the common denominator being "a liberal taste in music." Wild said he hopes to see the lease finalized by next week, and added that Millennium could open as soon as Feb. 28. **CBW**

ear to the pavement



edge

A matter of taste

■ ZOË MILLER AND RICK MACPHERSON

Sex is nothing if not a multi-sensory experience, taste being right at the top of the heap. Makers of sexual accoutrements have long been hip to this, which means

GRANNY'S GETS BACK IN THE GROOVE ... DON'T "MEET WALLY SPARKS" ... THE RETURN OF PAULA COLE ... WAITING FOR WATER IN "ALABAMA RAIN" ... DAN SHORT ON CERBERUS SHOAL AND THROWING MUSES ... JEWISH FILM FEST

you can flavor your revelry with everything from piña colada condoms to strawberry-kiwi lubes.

Which is all very interesting, but how do these things actually taste? We collected a wide array of lubricants and rubbers (flavored and non-flavored alike) and, armed with taste-buds, noses and a bottle of Welch's Raspberry-Grape Juice to beat back particularly noxious tastes, set about running this stuff through the ultimate test: our finely tuned senses. Bon appetit.

	the jury	the judged	Kiss of Mint condom (non-lubricated)	TRUSTEX condom (lubricated, cola flavor)	I-D lubricant (Piña Colada Splash flavor)	TRUSTEX condom (lubricated, chocolate flavor)	MAVIA condom (lubricated, strawberry flavor)
Olfactory		Very faint minty scent	A fresh, fizzy glass of Coca-Cola (sorry, Pepsi drinkers)	Buttery, cocoa buttery	Fresh-out-of-the-oven, super-rich chocolate bundt cake. You begin drooling the second this scent hits your nostrils.	Strawberry lip gloss	
Taste buds		Takes a little while to catch on, but has a pleasant Chiclets flavor	All talk and no action. This condom is completely tasteless.	Artificial sweetener with lousy Nutrasweet aftertaste. No trace of butter, coconuts or pineapples.	Another flavor flame-out. Leaves you opening the oven door looking for that cake.	No trace of strawberry — it's all latex, rubber and grease.	
The players		The Doublemint gum set — people unable to sacrifice fresh breath for even a minute, even during hot oral sex	Die-hard cola drinkers, who opt for Coke over coffee	The O.O.B. summer set — big hair, big biceps, mint tans and lots of Hawaiian Tropic suntan oil	Chocoholics, or anyone who believes that food can be as good as sex	Ski bunnies who wear Love's Baby Soft and carry Bonne Belle Lip Smackers with them at all times	
Mood music		"It's All Coming Back To Me Now," Celine Dion	"Shake It Up," The Cars	"Margaritaville," Jimmy Buffet	"I Want Candy," Bow Wow Wow	"Hold My Hand," Hootie and the Blowfish	
Where the deed is done		Definitely in a bed — with crisp percale sheets	In the can	In a customized van	The kitchen counter	In a slope-side condo with some ski stud who's on vacation from UVM	
Afterglow cigarette		Virginia Slims Menthol Light 120's	Marlboro Reds — what could be more all-American than a Red and a Coke?	Newport Light 100's	Skip the cigarette and grab a bag of Oreo Double Stuffs	Capri	
Final analysis		Great after a garlicky Italian meal at Per-fetto's, although the rubber taste comes through after a bit of sucking	It may not taste like much, but at least your hands will smell yummy	A serious breeder lubricant. It has no business anywhere near the mouth. Strictly for penetrative purposes.	Nice black color, but thoroughly disappointing taste. If oral sex is the reason for using this condom, it's just missing the boat.	When you're going for flavor, the last thing you want is a mouthful of surgical gloves. The taste would cause you to stop whatever you were doing and run for the Welch's.	



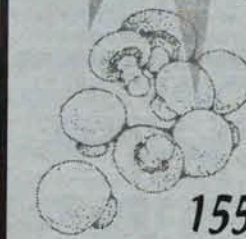
ForPlay Cinnamon lubricant	GOLD CIRCLE COIN condom (non-flavored, non-lubricated)	Moreblow condom (flavored)	Reynolds Plastic Wrap
Sweet and fresh, but not too obvious	Doctor's gloves, all the way	Bad — rubbery, latexy	For Rick it evoked thoughts of leftovers and Easter baskets. Zoë thought it had a brown-sugary scent.
Pleasant, not medicinal, similar to I-D's Cinnamon Buns flavor	Bone dry and powdery, exactly what you'd expect. You get what you pay for.	The fluoride you get at the dentist	Utterly flavorless
Unpretentious, morning latte-drinking, low-maintenance folks	A Las Vegas pseudo high-roller who thinks money talks, and the bleached-blond gold-digger he picks up at the casino	The only place this wretched rubber should appear is as a gag gift at a stag party	20-something, '90s hipster-riot-grrrl couples
"Slow Like Honey," Fiona Apple	"With Plenty of Money and You," Count Basie and Tony Bennett	"Mr. Lover Man," Shabba Ranks	"Untouchable Face," Ani DiFranco
On top of unmade covers on a futon	The flea-trap hotel room this dry-roller can actually afford	It's not gonna happen	On the Barcalounger in the living room. Heat of the moment doesn't allow time for walk to the bedroom.
Kamel Reds	Inexpensive stogie	More	Drum
Gay or straight, you can't go wrong with this lube. It's our favorite.	It's coming nowhere near our mouths	No blow — though it's hard to dislike the packaging, which is fashioned like a cigarette pack and emblazoned with the motto "For those who want to blow something other than smoke"	An acceptable dental dam. Conducts heat well, form-fitting and, while not exactly sexy, definitely practical. The word used to be that microwavable wrap wasn't as safe as non-microwavable, but it's not true. One is just as effective as the other.

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Saturday 2/8
Ellis Paul
w/ Garth Cormier
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2 Shows!
7pm/10pm

Bad Habits
2001

THROWING MUSES Thurs. 2.13
w/ Lily's &
LONG RIVER TRAIN
8:30PM • 21+ \$10

Fri. 2.14
Isaac Green
& The *Skalers*
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All ages • 5:30pm \$6

Sun. 2.16
SAM BLACK CHURCH
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Matthew Sweet

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clubs

Prime cut

People aren't lying when they call **CHRIS SMITHER** a blues man, but there's something delightfully countrified about his sound. With his big, resonating voice — which sometimes takes Dylanesque turns — and a firm grip on his steel-bodied guitar, Smither could win over even the most reluctant listener. Catch him playing cuts from his eighth album, "Small Revelations," Feb. 6 At Raoul's, 865 Forest Ave, Portland, at 9 pm. Dan Merrill opens. Tix: \$9 (\$7 advance). 773-6886.

thursday 6

The Basement
Silas Shepard Trio,
1 Exchange St, Portland.
828-1111.

The Big Easy
The Swinging Blue Matadors
(blues), 416 Fore St,
Portland. 780-1207.

Comedy Connection
Portland's Funniest
Professional Contest,
6 Custom House Wharf,
Portland. 774-5554.

Free Street Taverna
Cherry 2000 and Victory at
Sea, 128 Free St, Portland.
774-1114.

Geno's
Reggae-Mun-ia with Reggae
Roots, 13 Brown St,
Portland. 772-7891.

The Moon
T.G.I. Thursday (DJ Jayce
spins top 40 dance),
427 Fore St, Portland.
772-1983.

Old Port Tavern
Black Pearl (rock),
11 Moulton St, Portland.
774-0444.

The Pavilion
DJ Jim Dawg Lynch (top 40),
188 Middle St, Portland.
773-6422.

Raoul's
Chris Smither (acoustic
blues) and Dan Merrill (folk),
865 Forest Ave, Portland.
773-6886.

Tipperary Pub
Greg Powers Karaoke,
Sheraton Tara Hotel,
Maine Mall Rd, So. Portland.
775-6161.

Friday 7

The Basement
Motel Brown, 1 Exchange St,
Portland. 828-1111.

The Big Easy
The Peter Mallick Band
(blues), 416 Fore St,
Portland. 780-1207.

Comedy Connection
Vinnie Favorito, 6 Custom
House Wharf, Portland.
774-5554.

Free Street Taverna
Rumford, 128 Free St,
Portland. 774-1114.

Geno's
Vogue's Rogues (glam rock),
13 Brown St, Portland.
772-7891.

The Moon
Strangefolk (jam rock) and
Wild Oats, 55 Market St,
Portland. For info on
Granny's, call Squire
Morgans at 774-5246.

Tipperary Pub
Greg Powers Karaoke,
Sheraton Tara Hotel,
Maine Mall Rd, So. Portland.
775-6161.

Raoul's
Chris Smither (acoustic
blues) and Dan Merrill (folk),
865 Forest Ave, Portland.
773-6886.

The Moon
International Dance
(DJ Jayce), 427 Fore St,
Portland. 772-1983.

saturday 8

The Basement
Butch Bartley's Comedy
Showcase, 6 Custom
House Wharf, Portland.
774-5554.

The Big Easy
The Radio Kings (blues),
416 Fore St, Portland.
780-1207.

Comedy Connection
Vinnie Favorito, 6 Custom
House Wharf, Portland.
774-5554.

Free Street Taverna
Haakon K. and the American
Way (rockabilly), 128 Free St,
Portland. 774-1114.

Geno's
3 More Bullets, Miravie and
Broken Down, 13 Brown St,
Portland. 772-7891.

The Moon
Portland's Best Dance Party
(DJ Dredd), 427 Fore St,
Portland. 772-1983.

Old Port Tavern
Black Pearl (rock),
11 Moulton St, Portland.
774-0444.

The Pavilion
DJ Jim Dawg Lynch (top 40),
188 Middle St, Portland.
773-6422.

Raoul's
Paula Cole and Holly Palmer
(folk/pop), 865 Forest Ave,
Portland. 773-6886.

Sisters
Dance with DJ Special K,
45 Danforth St, Portland.
774-1505.

Stone Coast
Brewing Company
Max Creek (rock) and The
Gathering Field, 14 York St,
Portland. 773-2337.

Tipperary Pub
Straight Lace, Sheraton
Tara Hotel, Maine Mall Rd,
So. Portland. 775-6161.

The Underground
Dancing with DJ Andy,
3 Spring St, Portland.
773-3315.

sunday 9

Comedy Connection
Butch Bartley's Comedy
Showcase, 6 Custom
House Wharf, Portland.
774-5554.

The Big Easy
The Radio Kings (blues),
416 Fore St, Portland.
780-1207.

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The Underground
Dancing with DJ Andy,
3 Spring St, Portland.
773-3315.

wednesday 12

The Big Easy
Red Light Revue
(R&B/blues), 416 Fore St,
Portland. 780-1207.

The Basement
Open Mic with Fat Jed,
1 Exchange St, Portland.
828-1111.

Free Street Taverna
Johnny Welfare and the
Doomsday Prophets,
128 Free St, Portland.
774-1114.

Geno's
Men's night, 13 Brown St,
Portland. 772-7891.

Gritty McDuff's
Mark Miller, 396 Fore St,
Portland. 772-2739.

Old Port Tavern
Concert Karaoke with Greg
Powers, 11 Moulton St,
Portland. 774-0444.

Sisters
Val Bennett's Coffee House
and Open Jam, 45 Danforth
St, Portland. 774-1505.

Zootz
Rec Room (open 8 pm-
1 am), 31 Forest Ave,
Portland. 773-8187.

Free Street Taverna
Open Mic with Go Button,
128 Free St, Portland.
774-1114.

Uptown Billy's Barbecue
Teg Glenon Jazz Trio,
1 Forest Ave, Portland.
780-0141.

Verrillo's
Good Vibrations,
155 Riverside St, Portland.
775-6536.

Zootz
Decades of Dance
(70's, '80s and '90s
dance music), 31 Forest
Ave, Portland. 773-8187.

Free Street Taverna
Collaps (funk/rock improv),
128 Free St, Portland.
774-1114.

thursday 13

The Big Easy
Red Light Revue
(R&B/blues), 416 Fore St,
Portland. 780-1207.

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friday 14

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saturday 15

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sunday 16

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monday 17

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tuesday 18

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JAMES DURST
Journeys from the Heart
IN CONCERT

Valentine's Day
8:15pm Friday, Feb. 14th

(James is) a time machine, taking me back to the era in which we all believed with such a vengeance in peace and truth and beauty.

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2.7 miles north of SD Warren mill, on left
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Child care provided and required \$5/child
Call 893-1233 for info & rsv

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Ice Cream for Valentine's Day!

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"Breakfast for Your
Valentine"-Gift Baskets

Freshly Baked Valentine Desserts
Candy-filled Milk Bottles

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Westbrook/Scarborough line

calendar

The real
star of the
festival is
Vittorio
De Sica's
classic
film,

"The Garden of the Finzi-Continis."

Depicting
the life of
a secluded
group of
Jews in
Ferrara,
Italy, circa
1938,
"The
Garden"
won the
1971
Oscar for
Best
Foreign
Language
Film.

friday 7 Congregation Bet Ha'am brings Portland a collection of hard-to-find films with its second annual **Jewish Film Fest.** This year's festival starts off with "Cup Final," an Israeli film about shared humanity in a PLO prison camp, at 7:30 p.m. The festival also features "Chicks in White Satin," about a Jewish same-sex marriage, and "Forbidden Marriages in the Holyland," a humorous look at eight marriages. Both play on Feb. 16. The real star of the festival is Vittorio De Sica's classic film, "The Garden of the Finzi-Continis." Depicting the life of a secluded group of Jews in Ferrara, Italy, circa 1938, "The Garden" won the 1971 Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film. It plays Feb. 15-18 at The Movies, 10 Exchange St, Portland, at 7 pm. Unless otherwise noted, films show at Congregation Bet Ha'am, 81 Westbrook St., So. Portland. Tix: \$10 for festival pass. Call for times and a la carte ticket prices. 879-0028.



Dominique Sanda as Micol in "The Garden of the Finzi-Continis," Feb. 15-18.




thursday 6 How will you ever decide which theater opening to attend? Will it be Acorn Productions' **Lettice and Lovage**, a British comedy about the unlikely friendship between two middle-aged Englishwomen, at Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak St., at 8 p.m. (Tix: \$12/775-5103)? Or **Valley Song**, Portland Stage Company's presentation of Athol Fugard's story about the hopes and fears of post-apartheid South Africa, at PSC, 25A Forest Ave., at 7:30 p.m. (Tix: \$18-\$29/774-0465)? Both plays show through Feb. 23. **saturday 8** If you didn't learn everything you need to know about our glorious nation in school, then you're still in luck. Portland Concert Association presents the Reduced Shakespeare Company in "The

Complete History of America (Abridged)," a humorous, 90-minute roller coaster ride through American history. At Portland High School theater, 284 Cumberland Ave., at 3 & 8 p.m. Tix: \$20 (discounts available). 772-8630. **sunday 9** Portland just can't get enough of Québécois step dancer and musician Benoit Bourque, so Portland Performing Arts has brought him back for another 5-week residency. Catch up with Bourque at a real **Franco-American Community Soirée**, an afternoon of music, dancing, singing and food. At St. Hyacinth Church, 295 Brown St., Westbrook, at 2 p.m. Tix: \$5. 761-0591. If you want to learn some moves, join Bourque for "Québécois Step-Dancing For Beginners," a workshop held Feb. 8 at PPA, 25A Forest Ave., at 2 p.m. Tix: \$5. 761-0591. **monday 10** Fascinated by Maine history? You aren't alone. Catch up with "Yarmouth's Harbor and Mills" when Linda Attanas, Yarmouth Historical Society trustee, gives an illustrated lecture. Presented by the Yarmouth Historical Society. At Yarmouth High School cafeteria, West Elm Street, Yarmouth, at 7 p.m. Free. Reservations required. 846-2406. **tuesday 11** Mark Gibson is considered one of the country's most promising young conductors, and you can share some of that talent while Gibson serves as USM's 1997 artist-in-residence. He kicks off his residency with a staging rehearsal of "The Magic Flute," at Russell Hall, USM campus, Gorham, from 7-9:30 p.m. He'll also present lectures, master classes, rehearsals and a finale concert on Feb. 14. Call for details. 780-5555. **wednesday 12** Eliot Fisk has a reputation for stretching the limits of classical guitar. And it's just that versatility, whether he's playing his own astonishing transcriptions or commissioned works, that makes him such an exciting performer. Portland Concert Association presents **Eliot Fisk** at Portland High School Auditorium, 284 Cumberland Ave., at 7:30 p.m. Tix: \$22 (\$12 youth). Fisk gives a pre-curtain talk at 6 p.m. and a master class at Corthell Concert Hall, USM campus, Gorham, from 3-5 p.m. Cost: \$30 performers (\$10 observers). 772-8630. **thursday 13** A semester of hard work comes to fruition with the **USM Department of Theatre's Dance Festival**. Faculty, guest artists and students perform a wide assortment of styles of dance under the direction of dance instructor Emily Ojala and USM student Wendy Getchell. At Russell Hall, USM campus, Gorham, at 7:30 p.m. Tix: \$8 (\$6 seniors/\$4 students). Also Feb. 14 at 7:30 p.m. 780-5483. **friday 14** What better way to celebrate the loved ones you cherish than by spending St. Valentine's Day with **Cherish the Ladies**? LIA Arts presents the all-female Irish music ensemble at Lewiston Middle School Auditorium, 75 Central Ave., Lewiston, at 8 p.m. Tix: \$14 & \$16 (\$12 students/seniors). 1-800-639-2919. **saturday 15** The Children's Museum of Maine's Magic Attic Doll Club takes kids all over the globe. This month, you can travel to West Africa to find out if Keisha will go against her village's tradition in "Keisha Leads the Way." Afterwards kids will learn about African traditions, make crafts and decorate cupcakes. Pre-registration required. At the Children's Museum of Maine, 142 Free St., from 1-3 p.m. Admission: \$4 (under 1 free). 828-1234 ext. 221.

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Listings

Casco Bay Weekly listings are a fun and free service to our readers. To have a listing considered for publication, send complete information (including dates, times, costs, complete address, a contact telephone number) by noon on Thursday prior to publication.

stage

"Alabama Rain" Mad Horse Theatre Company presents Heather McCutchen's story of 5 sisters and their world of magic and magnolias. At Mad Horse Theatre, 955 Forest Ave., Portland, Feb 6-23. Thurs 7:30 pm, Fri & Sat 8 pm, Sun 5 pm. Tix: Sat night: \$20 (\$18 seniors/students); other nights: \$18 (\$16 seniors/students). Feb 6 is 2-for-1 night. 797-3338.

"The Complete History of America (Abridged)" Feb 8. Portland Concert Association presents the Reduced Shakespeare Company in a 90-minute roller coaster ride through American history. At Portland High School Theater, 284 Cumberland Ave., Portland, at 3 & 8 pm. Tix: \$20 (discounts available). 772-8630.

"Guys and Dolls" South Portland High School presents the musical "Guys and Dolls." At Mahoney Middle School Auditorium, So. Portland, Feb 7-16. Fri & Sat 7:30 pm, Sun 5 pm. Tix: \$6 (\$4 students/seniors). 767-3266.

"Lettice and Lovage" Acorn Productions presents Peter Shaffer's British comedy about the unlikely friendship between two middle aged Englishwomen. At Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak St., Portland, Feb 6-23. Thurs-Sat 8 pm, Sun 5 pm. Tix: \$12 (Thurs is 2-for-1). 775-5103.

"Nine" Portland Players presents Arthur Kopit's musical adaptation of Fellini's film "8 1/2." At Portland Players, 420 Cottage Rd., So. Portland, Feb 6-22. Fri & Sat 8 pm, Sun 2:30 pm. Tix: \$13 (\$10 opening night). 799-7337.

"Our Town" The Theater Project presents Thornton Wilder's play about small town community. At The Theater Project, 14 School St., Brunswick, Feb 6 at 8 pm. Tix: \$12 (\$10 students/seniors). Thurs is 2-for-1. 729-8594.

"Persephone" and **"Initiation"** Shoestring Theater performs "Persephone," the story of the Greek goddess of fields and harvest, and Baraka perform "Initiation," sacred temple dances celebrating initiation and transformation. Feb 14 & 15 at Agape, 657 Congress St., Portland, at 8 pm. Tix: \$8-\$15 (sliding scale). 775-0105.

"Valley Song" Portland Stage Company presents Athol Fugard's story of 17-year-old Veronica and her grandfather, and the hopes and fears of post-apartheid South Africa. At Portland Stage Company, 25A Forest Ave., Portland. Shows Feb 6-23. Tues-Fri 7:30 pm, Sat 5 & 9 pm, Sun 2 & 7:30 pm. Opening night is Feb 6 at 7:30 pm. Community night is Feb 9 at 7:30 pm (half price tix are available for artists, educators and non-profits). A reception with the cast will follow both performances. Tix: \$18-\$29 (discounts for students and seniors). Feb 8 is pay-what-you-can-night. 774-0465.

auditions/etc

Acting Classes at the Moxie Lab Portland's newest theater offers professional instruction in a playful and supportive environment. Introductory and intermediate classes start Feb 4. Enrollment is limited. 879-7901.

Performing Arts for Children The Warren Memorial Library is taking registrations for the 1997 spring sessions of "Warren Kids." The Sat sessions begin March 1 with two age groups: 10+ meets from 1:30-3 pm, and ages 6-9 meets from 3:30-5 pm. Sessions run through March 22. Cost: \$15 (financial assistance available). 828-4654.

Volunteers Needed Oak Street Theatre Company has volunteer opportunities in a variety of areas, from set construction and painting to poster distribution and front of house. Volunteers receive complimentary tickets. For more info, call Michael Levine between 2-5 pm. 775-5103.

concerts

Thursday 6

Students Recital Five students currently studying under Ronald Lantz play a noonday concert. At First Parish Church, 425 Congress St., Portland at 12:15 pm. Free. Sponsored by the Portland Conservatory of Music. 625-4439.

sunday 9

The Portland Rossini Club plays a program of mostly American music. At Corthell Concert Hall, USM Campus, Gorham, at 3 pm. Suggested donation: \$5. 780-5555.

Wednesday 12

Elliott Fisk Portland Concert Association presents the versatile guitar player. At Portland High School Theater, 284 Cumberland Ave., Portland, at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$22 (\$12 youth). Fisk gives pre-curtain talk at 6 pm. Master class: At Corthell Concert Hall, USM Campus, Gorham, from 3-5 pm. Cost: \$30 performers (\$10 observers). 772-8630.

upcoming

Frank Glazer and Duncan Cumming Feb 13. Frank Glazer and Duncan Cumming play a program of four-hand music at one piano. At First Parish Church, 425 Congress St., Portland at 12:15 pm. Free. Sponsored by the Portland Conservatory of Music. 625-4439.

Cherish the Ladies Feb 14. L/A Arts presents the

preview

Hey, hey Paula

Paula Cole last appeared in Portland a couple years back as the opener for Sarah McLachlan at the State Theatre. Expectations ran high for McLachlan's second appearance in less than a year, but her performance was poorly paced and never got off the ground. Cole, on the other hand, was dynamic and thoroughly enjoyable. "It was such a good opportunity," Cole, a Massachusetts native, recalled last week. "While on the tour, there were some headlines that said, 'Paula Cole steals the show,' and I thought, 'Oh my God, I'm going to be kicked off this tour.' But Sarah is so generous and so above all that ... I was grateful to have that chance."

After the widely-praised but fast-disappearing "Harbinger," the album Cole was supporting at the time, her second release, "This Fire," has her sounding like an altogether new singer. Cole produced the new album, and the focus on her voice remains uncluttered by competing visions. "This Fire" avoids some of the folkie trappings that occasionally made "Harbinger" feel like a Whitman's Sampler; with its stronger vocals and tighter production, the newer release is more akin to a single unsweetened Godiva bar. It leaves Alanis Morissette and her ilk sounding merely forced.

Cole's opener, Holly Palmer, mines a singer/songwriter vein similar to Cole's. Palmer's self-titled release takes on issues of power and sexuality (so, what's new?), topics that overlap with some of Cole's concerns, but Palmer delivers them in a more elliptical singing style. Often compared to Rickie Lee Jones, she slithers her way around her lyrics, but in a manner less affected than Jones, more relaxed than slack. Palmer may eventually need the level of exposure that Cole received on tours with Peter Gabriel, Melissa Etheridge and McLachlan to pop her career onto another level (her CD came out last summer), but the pairing with Cole seems to be at least a good place to start.

Paula Cole performs Feb. 7 at Raoul's, 865 Forest Ave., at 9 p.m. Holly Palmer opens. Tix: \$12. 773-6886.

■ JIM PINFOLD



Big voice, big smarts: Paula Cole

all-female Irish music ensemble. At Lewiston Middle School Auditorium, 75 Central Ave., Lewiston, at 8 pm. Tix: \$14 & \$16 (\$12 students/seniors). 1-800-639-2919.

Schubertiade Feb 14. Schubert lieder with Eva Virsik, piano, Bonnie Scarpelli, soprano, Peter Allen, baritone. At Starbird Performance Hall, 525 Forest Ave., at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$15. 775-2733.

The USM Choral and Chamber Singers Feb 14. Mark Gibson, USM's 1997 artist in residence, directs a performance of Orff's "Carmina Burana" and Schubert's "Mass in G." At Corthell Concert Hall, USM Campus, Gorham, at 7 pm. Tix: \$4 (\$2 students/seniors). 780-5555.

dance events

Ballroom Dance Party Feb 8. At Centre of Movement, Route 25, Gorham, from 8-11 pm. Cost: \$5. Merengue workshop from 7-8 pm. Music by D.J. "Bear" Holt. 839-3267.

Pine Tree Squares Dance Club Holds a mainstream and plus dance, Feb 8 Congin School, Westbrook. Rounds at 7 pm, squares at 7:30 pm. With caller Ray Hilton and cuer Pat Brann. 854-5627.

Québécois Step-Dancing For Beginners Feb 8. A workshop with master Québécois step dancer and musician, Benoit Bourque, here for a 5-week residency through Portland Performing Arts' House Island Project. At PPA, 25A Forest Ave., Portland, Tix:

\$5. 761-0591.

USM Dance Festival Feb 13 & 14. The USM Department of Theatre presents faculty, guest artists and students in a variety of styles of dance directed by dance instructor Emily Ojala and USM student Wendy Gelchell. Thurs and Fri at Russell Hall, USM Campus, Gorham, at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$8 (\$6 seniors/\$4 students). 780-5483.

Walnut Hill Auditions Feb 9. Portland Ballet Company hosts the auditions for the 1997 Summer Dance Workshop and National Youth Ballet held annually by Walnut Hill School in Natick, Mass. Serious students aged 12-16 are invited to attend. At 25A Forest Ave., Portland from 1-3 pm. Dancers should provide a photo. Cost: \$10. 772-9671.

events

National Girls and Women in Sports Day Feb 6-9. Join in celebrating women's and girls' achievements in sports with events like showings of the film "Maine Women Get in the Game," an info session at the Portland Expo, tennis, softball, basketball and rock climbing clinics and a photo contest. For a complete schedule, call 780-4630.

Portland Pirates Games Feb 8 & 9: Against Albany. At the Civic Center, Portland. Tix: \$8-\$13 (\$5-\$6.50 kids/seniors). 775-3458.

Eating Disorders Awareness Week Feb 6-9. Feb 3: Film Festival at Westbrook Community Hospital, 40 Park Rd., Westbrook, from 6:30-10 pm. 854-8464. Feb 7: "Fearless Friday! Stop Dieting ... Eat Healthy, Enjoy and Don't Feel Guilty!" A film, helpful handouts and professional to consult with. At Borders Books and Music, Maine Mall, So. Portland, from 4-8 pm. Feb 11: A live performance of "In My Head I'm Thin." At Ludoke Auditorium, Westbrook College, at 7 pm. A panel discussion follows. Tix: \$5 (free to students). 797-7261. Feb 12: Presentation of the film "Still Killing Us Softly." In the Beam Classroom, Visual Arts Center, Bowdoin College, from 7-9 pm. 725-3145.

Pool Champions Challenge Match Feb 6. Billiard legends Nick Varner and Grady Matthews face off at Spot Shot Billiard Club, 272 St. John St., Portland, at 6 pm. Tix: \$15 & \$25 (no tix at door). 773-3466.

Family Festival: Passport to Japan Feb 7. The Portland Museum of Art and the Japan American Society present an authentic Japanese tea ceremony (or Chanoyu) in conjunction with the exhibition "The Shores of a Dream: Yasuo Kuniyoshi's Early Work in America." The festival will also include flower arranging music performed using the Japanese Suzuki method. At PMA, 7 Congress Sq., Portland, from 5:30-7:30 pm. 775-6148.

Jewish Film Fest Feb 7. Congregation Bet Ha'am presents its second annual festival featuring four films, presented over two weekends. Feb 7: "Cup Final" at 7:30 pm. Feb 15: "The Garden of the Finzi Continents" at The Movies, 10 Exchange St., Portland, at 7 pm. Feb 16: "Chicks in White Satin" and "Forbidden Marriages in the Holyland" at 1 pm. Unless otherwise noted, films show at Congregation Bet Ha'am, 81 Westbrook St., So. Portland. Tix: \$10 for festival pass; a la carte: \$7 for Feb 7 & 16, \$7.50 for "The Garden of the Finzi Continents," \$4 for "Cup Final" or "Chicks in White Satin"/"Forbidden Marriages in the Holyland." 879-0028.

Franco American Community Soirée Feb 9. A night of music, dancing, singing and food with Québécois step dancer and musician, Benoit Bourque, here for a 5-week residency through Portland Performing Arts' House Island Project. At St. Hyacinth Church, 295 Brown St., Westbrook, at 2 pm. Tix: \$5. 761-0591.

The Great Chili and Chowder Challenge Feb 9. PROP's Foster Grandparent Program sponsors its 4th annual fundraiser with chili and chowder from 25 of Greater Portland's restaurants, bread from Big Sky, ice cream and coffee. At the Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland, from 1-4 pm. Admission: \$10 (\$6 kids/seniors). 773-0202.

The Return of the Jazz Breakfast Sundays through March 23. The Portland Museum of Art invites you to bring your friends and the Sunday paper for a morning of jazz. At PMA, 7 Congress Sq., Portland, from 10:30 am-noon. Music is free with admission (\$6/\$5 seniors & students/\$1 youth). Breakfast available a la carte from the museum cafe. Feb 9: David Libby. 775-6148.

art

openings

Art Star 578 Congress St., Portland. Opening reception for works by Catharine Draper, Feb 6 from 5-8 pm. Shows through Feb 27. Hours: Thurs & Fri 4-7 pm, Sat noon-4 pm. 774-2097.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30

SHORT

Cuts

Returning Muses

For those who can't remember, so-called "alternative rock" was once truly an alternative. Back in the '80s, bands like Boston's Throwing Muses provided a distinct alternative to the superficial, hedonistic viewpoint of most mainstream rock.

The Muses, scheduled to play Zootz on Feb. 13, offered a viewpoint that was definitely feminine and possibly disturbed. Since 1986, the band, led by guitarist/vocalist/songwriter Kristen Hersh, has made rock that has been teetering between guitar noise and tuneful pop; though sometimes hopelessly pretentious, it was always fascinating — indeed, often mesmerizing — in its idiosyncrasies.

In 1995, after many line-up changes — including the loss of original member Tanya Donnelly, who left to form the band Belly — and numerous personal and legal problems, the band, now a trio of Hersh, original Muses drummer

David Narcizo and bassist Bernard Georges, released "University," their most polished and pop-oriented album to date. Despite a more radio-friendly approach and its most immediately likable single, "Bright Yellow Gun," the band ended up being dropped by its record label. Unlike Donnelly's Belly, which broke up after its second album bombed, the Muses bounced back with a new record label and new album, last year's "Limbo." Though not as immediate as "University," "Limbo" is as assured and as powerful as any of the Muses' previous recordings, and without any of the bloated pretensions that marred some of the earlier work. The songs on "Limbo" may seem like normal rock songs, but there's always an element in the song, whether it be the melody, rhythm or lyrics, that throws the music off balance. The balance of the enticing and the disturbing is what makes Throwing Muses unique and always worth hearing.

Opening up is another off-kilter pop-rock band, The Lilys. On its latest CD, "Better Can't Make Your Life Better," the music is reminiscent of '60s, old-school psychedelia, at times sounding like mid-period Beatles, had their arrangements been so loose as to border on chaos. Beguiling and often vertigo-inducing, The Lilys' "Better Can't Make Your Life Better" proves there's still room for experimentation in rock.

Throwing Muses perform Feb. 13 at Zootz, 31 Forest Ave., at 8:30 p.m. Openers are The Lilys and Long River Train. 21+. Tix: \$10. 773-8187.

The highest tide

Also proving there's room for experimentation is the South-Portland-by-way-of-Boston band Cerberus Shoal, which will release its second album, "And Farewell to High Tide ...," on the Maryland label Flutterby, sometime in February. (Cerberus also has a 22-date tour planned in March that will take them as far west as Chicago.) Though "Farewell" doesn't have that great shock of discovery that came with hearing them live for the first time, it is an ambitious and enormously successful album.

Over the course of the five-song, 50-minute album, the quartet of guitarist Caleb Mulkerin, bassist Christopher Sutherland, drummer Thomas Rogers and keyboardist David Mulder take deceptively simple melodic figures and repeat them over and over, adding sonic elements including violin, trumpet and flute while deviating slightly from the melodies. Though reminiscent of progressive/art rockers such as Brian Eno and King Crimson and also post-punkers Slint, the band sounds like no one else. The songs take their time in unfolding, with two songs clocking more than 10 minutes and one coming quite close, and the tempos are stately.

In the hands of a less-talented band, it would seem unrelentingly pretentious. But with Cerberus Shoal, it seems natural and unforced. The lyrics, fittingly, are impressionistic, and the band claims to have a concept behind this album. Damned if I know what that concept is, but the mystery is another of the album's charms, chief among them that it avoids the easily explained and understood.

Cerberus Shoal performs Feb. 7 on the "Local Motives" show on WMPG (90.9 FM) at 7:30 p.m.

■ DAN SHORT

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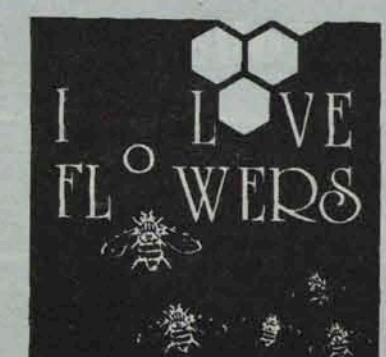
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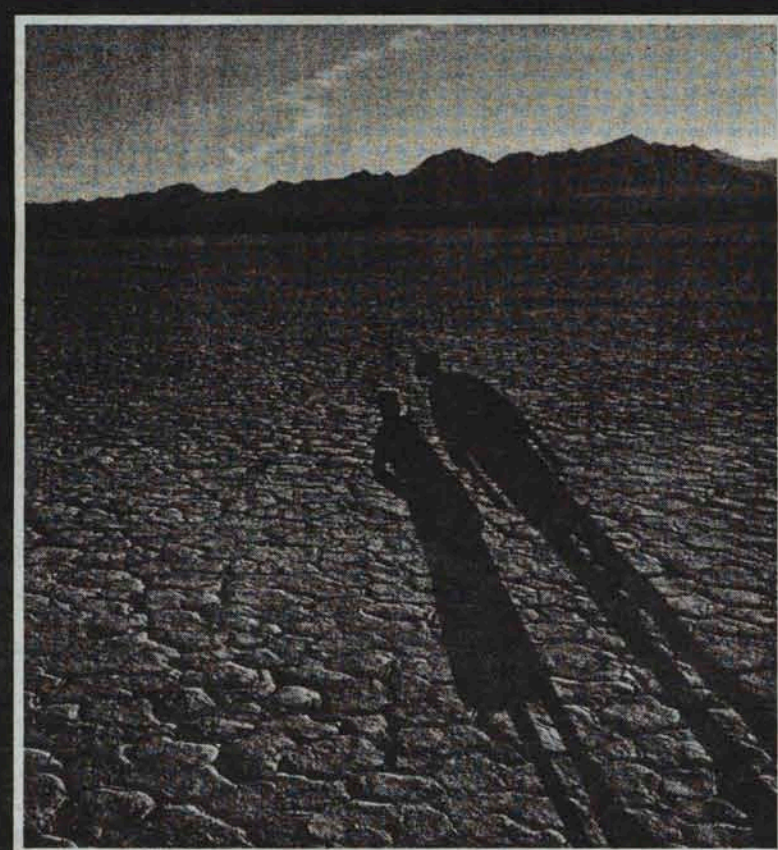
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Gimme some water

Mad Horse's "Alabama Rain": A mixed bag in search of meaning

■ MARY STAMATEL

Mad Horse's current offering, Heather McCutchen's "Alabama Rain," is a play that can't make up its mind. It's billed as an "allegorical comedy," but the story doesn't work as allegory; if anything, the play's elements suggest roots in the theater of the absurd. But it also stops short of committing to total farce, while simultaneously preventing its poetics from commanding center stage. The result is vivid comedy interspersed with weak, labored drama — a hillbilly yukfest yearning to break free of an extended Southern Gothic conceit.

The play, directed by Joan Sand, is inhabited by the five LaDean sisters, who live in a corner of Dixie where it hasn't rained in decades. The well is dry but life goes on, even if the drought is never completely out of their minds; personal crises usually manage to find a tie-in to the absence of water. Time, in fact, seems to stand still, and only when the water returns can time — and, for that matter, the characters' lives — resume.

Ripe allegorical fodder all, but it's given short shrift in favor of the machinations between the LaDean sisters, whose lives are thrown out of whack when the eldest sister, Phenie (Odelle Bowman), unexpectedly leaves for Florida to see the ocean. One sister, Laurie Laurie (Kymberly Dakin), immediately dies, but won't submit to burial; pregnant Monty Lou (Kathleen Weddleton) takes to bed and breaks taboo by demanding water, while Rachel (Tammy Duffy) and Dallas (Jennifer Lammert) care for and attempt to control their sisters, both dead and alive.

The story of the hoped-for rain of the title is presented largely in narrative asides by Phenie, and though the script has her do little more than bracket the acted-out parts of the play, Bowman's character is so articulate that we have difficulty believing she's related to the cat-fighting back home. The potential humor of a character like Phenie loose in the big world has been tapped by writers like Flannery O'Connor and Eudora Welty, but its absence here seems to have a dampening effect on the entire play.

Fortunately, there is plenty of humor in the sibling-rivalry interactions between the sisters, and if not for these comic moments, "Alabama



Tammy Duffy (l.) and Jennifer Lammert in "Alabama Rain"

Rain" would be especially tough sledding. Weddleton, in particular, brings a physical humor and a sharp comic timing to the role of Monty Lou, a part that's relatively richer than the others. (Monty Lou subsists on Diet Coke and magazines, and uses her condition to manipulate little sister Dallas, which enrages Rachel.) Weddleton's portrayal of both desperation and buffoonery is infused with a humor that shows its dark heart, and we can't help laughing. Her performance lifts the other actors; Dakin's funniest moments come in her scenes with Weddleton, and not until Rachel is thoroughly annoyed by Monty Lou does Duffy hit her stride, which helps make the second half of the play much stronger than the first.

The play's resolution lies in a trip to the deep dark well in an attempt to find water. After a round of "No, you go — I can't," the sisters begin to plot as a team. Here, at the end of the night, is where the play's diffuse dramatic elements finally start to gain power, and the characters' quirks and oddities begin to make sense. Funny scenes like a session with a Ouija board, or Laurie Laurie doing Monty Lou's hair and coming away

with a fistful, become arenas for the power struggles between the characters. We see women acting like women, using sharp-edged humor to play out human rivalries and alliances, and this infusion of psyche makes these comic bits more than local color in an all-girl show.

If this kind of comic attitude had been applied more liberally throughout "Alabama Rain," the darker elements of the play's drama would've packed a lot more punch. By the time the play's hog-calling, homestyle humor finally meshed with the clunky drama that flanked it all night, all I could do was wonder, *What took you so long, sis?* CBW

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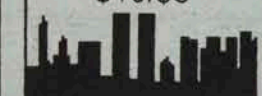
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

Coffee By Design 620 Congress St., Portland. Opening reception for "Where it's At: The Power of Love," an installation by Richard Lee, Feb. 14 from noon-5 pm. Shows Feb. 9-March 1. Works by Portland artist and poet Woody Dana show through Feb. 9. Hours: Mon-Fri 7 am-8 pm, Sat 8 am-8 pm, Sun 8 am-7 pm. 772-5533.

Free Street Taverna 128 Free St., Portland. Opening reception for prints by Judith Clark, Feb. 7 from 5-7 pm. Shows through March 2. Works by Aaron Saucier, Vanessa Wylie and Steven Maniopoulos show through March 2. Hours: Mon 11 am-4 pm, Tues-Sat 11 am-10 pm. 774-1114.

ICA @ MECA Institute of Contemporary Art, 522 Congress St., Portland. Opening reception for "David Ireland: An Installation and Residency Project," Feb. 6 from 5-7 pm. 775-5152.

Robert Clements Gallery 81 West Commercial St., Portland. Opening reception for "The Kissing Show," a collection of 100 photos by nationally known photographers, Feb. 14 from 5-8 pm. The opening features a kissing booth staffed by famous Portlanders, a valentine photo booth, roses and hors d'oeuvres and beverages donated by local restaurants. Cost: \$14. Proceeds benefit the Peabody House. 879-0042.

Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers 415 Cumberland Ave., Portland. Aerial landscape oils and watercolors by Eric Hopkins show through March 15. Artist's reception Feb. 8 from 2-4 pm. Hours: Mon-Sat 9 am-5 pm. 774-3791.

Agape Center 657 Congress St., Portland. "Divine Feminine in World Mythology," paintings by Sandra Stanton, shows through March 1. Hours: Mon-Fri 10-2 pm and by appt. 780-1500.

African Imports and New England Arts 28 Milk St., Portland. "Hidden Treasures," traditional African arts, rare carvings and works by modern artists from Nigeria to New England, ongoing. Hours: Mon-Sat 10:30 am-7 pm, Sun noon-6 pm. 871-9277.

Barbara's Kitchen & Cafe 388 Cottage Rd., So. Portland. Paintings and ink drawings by D. Cavanagh show through Feb. 28. 767-6313.

Bowdoin College Museum of Art Walker Art Building, Brunswick. The museum is open to the public free of charge. Hours: Tues-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Mon-Sun 2-5 pm. 725-3275.

"Quirks of Art" Shows through Feb. 9.

"The Inferno" Monotypes by Michael Mazur for Robert Pinsky's verse translation. Shows through March 16.

Center for Maine History presents a three-part exhibition on the history of Maine Native American carving and basket making, "Growth Rings: 200 Years of Basketry, Carving and Wabanaki Enterprise," "Trees and Tradition: Brown Ash and Maine Native American Basketmaking" and "Spirits in the Wood: Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Root Clubs." 489 Congress St., Portland. 879-0427.

Community Chiropractic of Maine 222 St. John St., Portland. "Alignment," works by Dave G. Hall, Dana Nelson, Lori Austill and Marilyn Blinikorn, shows through March 31. Hours: by appointment. 774-2663.

Davidson & Daughters 148 High St., Portland. A group show featuring Joe Novak, Harold Garde, Dave G. Hall and Anne Weber, shows through Feb. 22. Paintings by Elinor Piontti show through Jan. 25. Hours: Thurs, Fri & Sat 11 am-6 pm. 780-0766.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32

now showing

preview

Groove is in the heart

A friend writes: "Hey there, stranger. Long time, no see. Burlington still swells with anticipation, but little else, I'm afraid ... This writing is to introduce you to the new band in my life — a band called (sic), I'll let the hype begin here: An 8-piece groove machine, (sic) draws from



Burlington's finest: These guys are (sic)
PHOTO/MATTHEW THORSEN

an incredibly wide range of musical sources to create one of the most original sounds that the already diverse Burlington, Vermont, music scene has ever heard. And because the band draws its members from some of the area's finest working groups, the talent is out of this world: four-part harmonies, two guitarists, two percussionists, crazy keyboards, an out-of-this-world sax player, and even Chin Hol's guitarist Dave Morency on the 10-stringed 'Chapman stick.'"

The writer is Andrew Smith, singer for the Burlington band Chin Hol! and a one-man scene-meister responsible for a 'zine, a quarterly statewide music magazine and a slew of compilations featuring bands from not only Burlington but from throughout Vermont. The man's energy is, to say the least, prodigious. His latest project, (sic), delivers on the hype; for a group that's only been together six months or so — Smith describes (sic) as a "summer side project that just got out of hand" — these guys can lay down one stinky groove. Wah-wah pedals, gurgling organ, jittery sax lines — it's all there, riding atop an assortment of elastic funk rhythms.

(sic) is part of Granny Killams' reopening Feb. 7-8 — the grand poobah reopening will be the following week with Sabre Tooth Nudist — which will also feature another Burlington band, hip-hop rockers Strangefolk. The 'folk perform Feb. 7; (sic) rolls into town Feb. 8. Call it welcome-back-Granny's, complete with Green Mountain-style hospitality.

■ SCOTT SUTHERLAND

Strangefolk performs Feb. 7 at Granny Killams, 55 Market St., at 9 p.m. Tix: \$8, available at Bull Moose, 780-6424. Wild Oats opens. (sic) performs Feb. 8 at 9 p.m. Tix: \$5. 774-5246.

byte me

A field trip to Boston

Next weekend, do this: Drive your kids down to The Computer Museum in Boston. Show them all the nutty robots, the ancient Univac, the giant Walk-Through Computer. And you know what they'll yak about the whole ride home? The elevator. The thing is stupendous. It's the size of Delaware. The museum is on the upper floors of an historic brick building on the waterfront (it shares a roof with the Children's Museum). But the elevator is outside, encased in a steel superstructure that looks like construction equipment that got left behind. It moves ponderously up and up, and you can see the harbor unfold at your feet through a glass wall as you ascend to the sixth floor entrance. Bring a soccer ball, because you've got room and time enough to play a little three-on-three en route.

Sadly, Byte ME is a computer column, not an elevator column. Because it would be more fun to keep writing about the elevator. In a nutshell, that's the problem with the whole concept of a computer museum. A computer is a tool, nothing more, and

The problem with the whole concept of a computer museum is that a computer is a tool, nothing more, and what's truly remarkable about these things is the stuff you can do with a keyboard and a mouse. A museum devoted to the wonderful world of computers pales compared to its subject.

what's truly remarkable about these things is the stuff you can do with a keyboard and a mouse. A museum devoted to the wonderful world of computers pales compared to its subject.

I'll admit to liking some parts of the museum — I hit the replay switch three times for the famous Ridley Scott 1984 TV ad that introduced the Macintosh — but the place pretty much left me baffled. First off, who is the audience? Some exhibits are obviously aimed at young kids. (The centerpiece of the robotics exhibit is R2-D2™, the Star Wars robot.) Some are clearly designed for wary geriatrics who

need to be assured that The Computer Is Your Friend. And other exhibits are for unrepentant computer geeks intensely curious about the misty beginnings of digital technology. But for each group, the museum served only a tiny little appetizer without any main course.

At other times, exhibit curators seemed unclear about whom they were addressing. "How does an ethernet network work?" ponders one display. A perfectly good question, and one answered with an excruciatingly dull cartoon video that involved a fart noise. There's also a 31-word explanation on a panel. Kids don't care what an ethernet is. And this certainly didn't answer the question for curious adults.

One area was mildly entertaining and helpful: A roomful of computers where visitors could sample CD-ROM games designed for kids. After a couple of minutes, though, you realize this exhibit is by and large a sales pitch for "The Computer Museum Guide to the Best Software for Kids," conveniently available at the museum gift shop. After a couple more minutes, you realize you're paying \$7 for something you could be doing at home for free.

The most technologically up-to-date exhibit is The Networked Planet™. When you enter the hall you pick up a "key card" with a bar code. You have the option of programming this with your vital statistics — name, hometown, age, etc. At each station, you swipe the card through a reader, and your personal tour guide pops up on a video screen and tells you a little story about how computer networks affect his or her life. It's sort of like watching a TV documentary, but you have to walk from scene to scene.

But the creepiest lesson from the exhibit seemed inadvertent. At any point you could tap a video monitor and inquire as to who else was in the exhibit. It would then generate a map pinpointing the location of all other visitors along with whatever facts (or lies) they chose to input about themselves. But here was the catch: To snoop on others, you had to make your own data public. Were I more of a conspiracy theorist, I would suspect a ploy by big business to get kids comfortable with releasing demographic information about themselves. But ... nah, couldn't be.

As I finished my visit and started toward the exit, I suddenly felt a little flush of excitement. The elevator! I loved the views of the Boston skyline and the harbor. I loved being away from all the headache-inducing synthetic voices. Apparently so did all the kids bouncing off the walls all around me, wishing they had a soccer ball. That, at least, was encouraging. It's nice to see the silicon generation get more worked up about reality than virtual reality.

■ WAYNE CURTIS

Visit The Computer Museum online at www.tcm.org. Suggest other Byte ME field trips by e-mailing curtis@maine.com.

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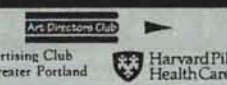
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 30

Foghorn Gallery 118 Washington Ave., Portland. International folk art, Oaxacan wood carvings, black pottery and crafts of indigenous peoples. By appointment. 781-2563.

ForeSide Cafe 201 U.S. Route 1, Falmouth. Paintings by Kate Merrick. Ongoing. Hours: Sun-Thurs 7 am-3 pm, Fri-Sat 7 am-7 pm. 781-4931.

Gallery Music 21 Forest Ave., Portland. "Trees, Rocks, Water," paintings and works on paper by Lavender. Hours: Mon-Sat 9:30 am-5 pm. 775-1304.

Granny Killams 55 Market St., Portland. Sculptures by Stephen Pullan IV. Ongoing.

Hole in the Wall Studios 1544 Roosevelt Trail, Raymond. A group show of gallery artists, including Cynthia Morse, Lori Austill, Evelyn Winter, Dave Hall and Lou Mastro, shows Feb 7 through March 31. "Art For the Holidays," a group show and sale of work by gallery artists, shows through Jan 30. Hours: 9:30 am-5:30 pm daily (closed Tues). 655-4952.

Icon 19 Mason St., Brunswick. New paintings by Frederick Lynch shows through Feb 26. Hours: Mon-Fri 1-5 pm, Sat 1-4 pm. 725-8157.

Java Joe's 13 Exchange St., Portland. Work by Matthew Hall shows through Feb 15. Hours: Mon-Thurs 7:30 am-11 pm, Fri 7:30 am-midnight, Sat 9 am-midnight, Sun 9 am-10 pm. 761-5637.

The Jones Museum of Glass and Ceramics Douglas Hill, Sebago. Cost: \$25. Reservations suggested. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 1-6 pm. Cost: \$5 (\$3 students). 787-3370.

June Fitzpatrick Gallery 112 High St., Portland. A group show by gallery artists: William Manning, Vivien Russe, Noriko Sakamishi, Greg Parker, Jim Wilkinson and Richard Wilson, shows through March 1. Hours: Tues-Sat noon-5 pm. 772-1961.

June Fitzpatrick Downtown Gallery 20-36 Danforth St. #304, Portland. "El Mas Alla (Heaven Revisited)," new works by Dorette Ameli, shows through Feb 8. Hours: Tues-Sat 3-8 pm. 772-3182.

Kaleidoscope Gallery Route 25, Gorham. Fine art, pottery, sculpture, jewelry and crafts by local artists. Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-5 pm, Sat 10 am-4 pm. 839-6926.

Kutz 86 Middle St., Portland. "Prints and Collage" by Alison Hildreth shows through Feb 22. Hours: Tues-Sat 10 am-6 pm. 773-9717.

Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance 12 Pleasant St., Brunswick. The poetry quilts exhibition, shows through Feb 28. 729-6333.

Margaria's Restaurant 242 St. John St., Portland. Original watercolors by Bonnie Brown. Ongoing. Hours: 4:11 pm daily. 874-6444.

Front Gallery North Yarmouth Academy, 123 Main St., North Yarmouth. "A Selection of Works," 1991-95, works by Richard Garrigus, shows through March 7. Hours: Mon-Fri 8 am-4 pm. 846-9051.

Perfetto's Restaurant 28 Exchange St., Portland. "Almost Edible," paintings by Kate Merrick, ongoing. Hours: Mon-Sun 11 am-11 pm. 828-0001.

Pilgrimage 1006 Forest Ave., Portland. "Hierophanies — A Selection of the Sacred," paintings by Bradford Fuller, shows through March 15. Hours: Tues, Wed, Fri 10 am-5 pm, Thurs 10 am-7 pm, Sat 10 am-2 pm. 878-5040.

Portland Coffee Roasters 111 Commercial St., Portland. Paintings and ink drawings by D. Cavanagh show through Feb 5. 761-9525.

Portland Museum of Art 7 Congress Sq., Portland. Hours: Tues, Wed, Sat 10 am-5 pm, Thurs-Fri 10 am-9 pm, Sun noon-5 pm. Admission: \$6 adults, \$5 students/seniors, \$1 youth 6-12 years. Museum admission is free 5-9 pm every Friday evening. The last Thursday of every month seniors only pay \$3. 775-6148 or 1-800-639-4067.

* **"From Monet to Matisse: The Origins of Modernism"** A complete overview of French art from early impressionism through Neo-impressionism to Fauvism. Ongoing.

* **"A Legacy for Maine: Selections from the Elizabeth B. Noyce Collection,"** including works by Fitz Hugh Lane, Albert Bierstadt, Childe Hassam, George Bellows, Rockwell Kent and Andrew Wyeth from the recently deceased philanthropist's bequest to the museum. Ongoing.

* **Post-war British Prints from the Collection** Focuses on five artists — Patrick Caulfield, Terry Frost, Patrick Heron, R.B. Kitaj and William Tucker — whose work includes elements of abstraction, figuration, Constructivism, Pop Art, Minimalism and Post-Modernism. Shows through Feb 9.

* **New Acquisitions: 1996 Artists** include Will Barnett, John Hultberg, Neil Welliver, Paul D'Amato, Jan Groover and Chansonetta Stanley Emmons. Shows through March 9.

* **"The Shores of a Dream: Yasuo Kuniyoshi's Early Works in America"** A collection of fanciful, often humorous works by Japanese-American artist Yasuo Kuniyoshi. The ink drawings and oil paintings were completed by Kuniyoshi between 1921 and 1925 while at the Hamilton Easter Field art colony in Ogunquit, Maine. Shows Feb 1 through March 30.

* **The Hamilton Easter Field Art Foundation Collection** Showing in conjunction with "The Shores of a Dream" exhibition. The collection includes works by Peggy Bacon, Stuart Davis, and Marsden

Hartley. Shows Feb 1 through March 30.

Portland Pottery 118 Washington Ave., Portland. Ongoing show of unique and functional ceramics and jewelry by Lisa Bonarigo, teachers and students. Hours: Mon-Fri 9-6 pm. 772-4334.

Portland Public Library 5 Monument Square, Portland. "Photopositives Too — A Visual Journey While Living With AIDS," photographs by Tom Antonik, shows through Jan 31. "Stone Workers of Maine," an exhibit of woodcut prints by E. Hudson Hamilton, shows Feb 3-28. Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri 9 am-6 pm. Tues & Thurs 12-9 pm, Sat 9 am-5 pm. 871-1700.

Renaissance Antiques 221 Commercial St., Portland. Ongoing show of works by John Dehlinger, Wilder Oaks, Terry Wolf and other Maine artists. Hours: 10 am-7 pm daily. 879-0789.

Salt Gallery Salt Center for Documentary Field Studies, 17 Pine St., Portland. Student work from the 1995 fall term shows through Feb 22. Hours: Wed & Fri 2-6 pm, Sat 10 am-1 pm. 761-0660.

Skills Greenhouse Rte. 88, Falmouth. Juried show of work by local artists and photographers shows through Jan 31. 781-3860.

The Spring Point Museum at Southern Maine Technical College, Fort Rd., So. Portland. "Portland Harbor, 1865-1900: Making a Living in Stormy Times," Ongoing. Hours: Wed-Sun 10 am-4 pm. Admission: \$2 (kids free). 799-6337.

USM Art Gallery 37 College Ave., Gorham. "Vestigial Offerings," new work by Harriet Pappas, shows through Feb 21. Hours: Tues-Sat 1-4 pm. 780-5409.

USM Osher Map Library 314 Forest Ave., Portland. "The Cartographic Creation of New England" shows through April 27. Hours: Wed 1-4:30 pm and 6-8 pm, Thurs & Sat from 9 am-12:30 pm. 780-4850.

Will's Restaurant 78 Island Ave., Peak's Island. Paintings by Lenny Hutch. Ongoing. 766-3322.

smarts events

Drop-In Discussion Group for married/gay/bisexual/questioning men, to talk about coming out, dating, relationships and safer sex. Free and open to all men who have sex with men. Wed 7-9 pm, through April 9. At The AIDS Project, 142 High St., 6th floor, Portland. 774-6877.

"The Essence of Leadership: Reimagining Ourselves in the New Workplace" Feb 6. A talk by David Whyte, author of "The Heart Aroused: Poetry and the Preservation of the Soul in Corporate America." At the Mariner's Church Banquet Center, 368 Fore St., Portland, from 6:30-9 pm. Sponsored by the Institute For Civic Leadership and Maine Businesses For Social Responsibility. Cost: \$22 (\$17 members). 761-4300.

Lifelong Learning Festival Feb 7 & 8. A chance to explore colleges, training programs, technical schools, educational support programs and other learning opportunities in this area. Sponsored by Maine Education Services. At the Maine Mall, So. Portland. Feb 7 from noon-7 pm, Feb 8 from 10 am-7 pm. 1-800-303-4376.

Maine Media Market and Advertising Resources '97 Feb 11. A trade show bringing together vendors and buyers. At Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland, from 9 am-6 pm. Free admission to exhibits. Workshops \$25 (\$20 advance). 781-5756.

Matlovich Society An educational organization of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and friends meets the second and fourth Thurs of the month. Feb 13: "Erotic Justice? Erotic Justice!" Marvin M. Ellison, a social ethicist and co-chair of the Religious Coalition Against Discrimination, shares insights from his recent book, "Erotic Justice: A Liberating Ethic of Sexuality." At Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring St., Portland, from 7:30-9 pm. 761-4380.

Mark Gibson Residency Feb 11-14. The USM Department of Music presents lectures, masterclasses and rehearsals with this nationally known conductor. Many free and open to the public. Call for details. 780-5555.

New Ventures: Entrepreneurship Training For Women A free 10-week comprehensive business training for potential women business owners. Offered by the Maine Centers for Women, Work and Community. April 1-June 5, Tues and Thurs from 9:30 am-3 pm, at the South Portland Center of MCWOC, 175 Main St., So. Portland. Application deadline is March 14. 1-800-442-2092.

The Soil in My Blood: Nationality, Race and Identity Feb 12. Nancy Gish and April Newman lead another "uncommon conversation" in the Ladies High Tea and Feminist Insurgency Society Series. At USM's Portland Campus Center, from 2:30-4 pm. 780-4955.

"The Transcendental Meditation Program: Consciousness and Health" Feb 12. A lecture at the Maharishi Vedic School, 575 Forest Ave., Portland,

at 7 pm. 774-1108.

Yarmouth Historical Society "An Air of Progress: Life in Yarmouth 1890-1930," an exhibition exploring the changing lifestyles of Yarmouth residents at the turn-of-the-century. At the Museum of Yarmouth History, Merrill Memorial Library, Main St., Yarmouth. Hours: Tues-Fri 1-5 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm. Free. 846-6259.

"Yarmouth's Harbor and Mills" Feb 10. Linda Attanas gives a lecture presented by the Yarmouth Historical Society. At Yarmouth High School Cafeteria, West Elm St., Yarmouth, at 7 pm. Free. Reservations required. 846-2406.

volunteer

new

"Ski to Cure Diabetes" March 7. Help raise money for diabetes research by gathering pledges and skiing Sugarloaf/USA. To register, call the American Diabetes Association at 1-800-870-8000.

"Ski the Night for Sight" March 8. Support the Maine Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired by gathering pledges and skiing Shawnee Peak in Bridgton. To join, collect at least \$25 in pledges, plus a \$10 registration fee. To register, call 774-6273.

Winter Walk Against Violence Feb 8. Walk for women's safety with Abused Women's Advocacy Project. Walkers raising \$75 receive a free t-shirt. \$125 receive a free sweatshirt. Preregistration encouraged. At the Auburn Mall, at 8:30 am. 784-3995.

outdoors

Adult Hockey Portland Ice Arena offers hockey for adults Fri from 1:30-2:30 pm. Helmets and face-masks required. At 225 Park Ave., Portland. Cost: \$4. 774-9553.

Appalachian Mountain Club Features a variety of trips, workshops and facilities. 799-5312.

Casco Bay Bike Club offers many local weekday, evening and weekend rides. For everyone from beginners to the seasoned rider. Meets the third Tues of each month at the Dana Center at Maine Med. Trip hotline: 828-0918.

Free Camp for the Blind Blind residents of Maine are encouraged to attend the National Camps for Blind Children program at Camp Lawrold, Weld, Contact Camps for Blind Children, 743-0815.

H2Outfitters Offering indoor pool instruction for paddlers of all skill levels and ages. Paddling series, open pool/rolling clinics. Kayak polo. Cost varies. 833-5257.

Ice Skating Portland Ice Arena offers public skating Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri from 11:45 am-1:15 pm and Sun from 3-4:30 pm. At 225 Park Ave., Portland. Cost: \$4 (\$2 youth/seniors). Rental skates: \$1. 774-8553.

Learn to Ski and Snowboard Portland Parks and Recreation offers ski and snowboard lessons for youth and teens, recreational skiing for youths and a race/bumps program for advanced skiers. Programs include bus transportation. Cost: \$15-\$182. For more info or to register, contact Ted Musgrave at 874-8793.

Maine Accessible Adventures is an adventure group for people with and without disabilities. Activities include kayaking, canoeing, archery, rock climbing, downhill skiing and horseback riding. Most events require advance registration. Membership: \$15/year (\$35/year family). 871-2993.

Maine Audubon Society Gillsland Farm Environmental Center 118 U.S. Route 1, Falmouth. New After School Science Series, for third through fifth graders, Wednesdays from 3:30-5 pm. Cost: \$7 (\$5 members). Preschool Discovery Time: "Buzzing Bees," stories and activities for preschool-aged kids, followed by a snack. Weds 10-11:30 am. Cost: \$5 (\$4 members) \$3 each additional child (\$2 members). Volunteer rally 2nd Thurs of each month from noon-1 pm. Reservations required. 781-2330.

Maine Frontrunners is a gay and lesbian running club that sponsors a weekly run in Portland, Sat 9 am, at the beginning of the Back Cove Walkway. For more info, call 761-2059.

Maine Outdoor Adventure Club meetings are the first Wed of every month at 7 pm at the Unitarian Church, 524 Allen Ave., Portland. MOAC offers hiking, canoeing, backpacking, mountain biking, white water rafting, camping and other trips for people of all skill levels. Upcoming: Feb 15-16, snowcave weekend. For updated trip info, call hotline at 828-0918.

Moxie Outdoor Adventures offers rafting trips in Maine. Discounts to Maine residents. Call for a free brochure. 1-800-866-6943.

Norumbega Outfitters 58 Fore St., Bldg 11, Portland, offers a variety of paddling and snow shoeing opportunities for people of all skill levels. 773-0910.

Outdoor Recreation Scholarship The Maine Campground Owners Association offers a \$500 scholarship to Maine residents who have already completed one year of study in an outdoor recreation program. For an application, write to: MECOA, 655 Main St., Lewiston, Me 04240, or call 782-5874.

The Portland Rugby Club seeks new and experienced players and coaches. For more info on practice and games, call Mike DeSalle at 828-4296, Peter DeBlacio at 829-4607 or Randy Lott at 846-4197.

So. Me. Sea Kayaking Network People of all skill levels are invited to join the network for some paddling. 874-2640.

Snowshoe and Cross Country Ski Race Feb 9. Presented by Gorham Trails, Inc. At Narragansett School Fields and Claire Drew Trail. Snowshoe race at 11 am. Cross country race at noon. Cost: \$3 (\$2 advance). 839-4644.

10th Anniversary Bicycling Banquet Feb 8. The Bicycle Coalition of Maine invites all past, present and future members to a potluck (A-K main dish or salad/L-Z bread or dessert). Guest speaker: hand cyclist Rory McCarthy. At the Gorham Congregational Church, Route 114, Gorham, at 5 pm. Cost: \$4 (\$6 without a dish). 828-0918.

Ultimate Frisbee Co-ed Ultimate Frisbee is played 3 days a week in Portland all summer — no experience necessary. 874-2190.

The Windham Recreation Department sponsors ski classes open to the public. At the Windham Town Building, Windham. 892-1905.

Wolfe's Neck State Park 106 Wolfe Neck Rd., Freeport, holds nature programs Sat and Sun from 2-3 pm. 865-4465.

family

events

Children's Museum of Maine 142 Free St., Portland, offers exhibits, clubs and activities for kids of all ages. Special events: Feb 7: First Free Friday; Feb 8: Meet special guests from Portland Fire Dept. from 12:30-1 pm. Hands-on chemistry from 1-2 pm. Feb 12: Meet Portland police officer Michaelson, from 1:30-2 pm; Feb 14: Meet two members of the Portland Pirates, from 2-4 pm; Feb 15: Join the Magic Attic Doll Club for an African adventure, from 1-3 pm. Weekly Fun: "Light and Camera Obscura," Wed and Fri at 11 am and 11:30 am, Sat at 2 pm and 2:30 pm. "Oh! Zones," fun-filled "make & take" projects, Wed-Sat 11 am-noon and 2-3 pm. Sun 2-3 pm. Pre-registration and additional fees required for some programs. Admission: \$4 (under 1 free). 828-1234.

Portland Public Library 5 Monument Sq., Portland offers free programs for kids. Feb 8: "Highland Dance and Scottish Fiddle" A family event with Laura Scott and Edward Scott Pearlmann, at 10:30 am. "Preschool Story Time" Mon at 10:30 am. "Finger Fun For Babies" Wed at 9:30 am. "Tales For Twos" Fri at 10:30 am. 871-1700.

Warren Memorial Library 479 Main St., Westbrook, hosts programs for kids. Feb 19: "Rockin' Reader," kids receive a badge or bookmark when they read in the locker for 15 minutes, from 1-7 pm. Regular programs: "Books and Babies," Tues at 9:30 am, "Read Aloud Time," Weds at 10:15 am and "Tales for Tots" Tues at 10:30 am. For kids all ages. 854-5891.

Valley League team starting! Wed: 8 ball tournament @ 7:00 pm Sat: 9 ball tournament @ 1:00 pm Registration for either begins 1 hour before

DAILY FOOD SPECIALS
821 Main Street, Westbrook • 856-2480

CONTINUED ON PAGE 35

**LOOKING FOR WORK?
LOOKING FOR HELP?**

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING HERE FOR?

**"HELP WANTEDS"
ARE IN CLASSIFIEDS!**

CLASSIFIEDS ARE
IN THE BACK
OF THE PAPER...
**KEEP GOING.
WELCOME**

WMPG 90.9

You are invited to our
Fat Tuesday Mardi Gras Party
February 11, 1997
on air from 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Join us for our
"House Party New Orleans Style"
at 92 Bedford St.
Noon to 7 p.m.

"THE GAME ROOM"

• BILLIARDS • DARTS
• VIDEO GAMES
• PINBALL
• CD JUKEBOX
LUNCHEON BAR
OPEN AT 10:00 A.M. DAILY

Valley League team starting!
Wed: 8 ball tournament @ 7:00 pm
Sat: 9 ball tournament @ 1:00 pm
Registration for either begins 1 hour before

DAILY FOOD SPECIALS
821 Main Street, Westbrook • 856-2480

movies

Review

"Meet Wally Sparks," directed by Peter Baldwin. Rated R. At Hoyts Clark's Pond, So. Portland, 879-1511.

Only the most die-hard Rodney Dangerfield fan should be called upon to sit through "Meet Wally Sparks," about an over-the-top talk show host on the brink of career expiration. Dangerfield's legendary one-liners retain their zing, but are hardly enough to save the film from a cast full of TV-movie-caliber performances and a plot that drags on and on.

At the outset, though, we're tantalized by the prospect of a talk show satire. We're treated to a montage of actual talk show hosts — Jerry Springer, Geraldo Rivera, Sally Jesse Raphael, Rolanda, and so forth — running to and fro among studio audiences ranting about the antics of Wally Sparks. Unfortunately, the fun of talk show heaves making fun of themselves lasts for about 15 minutes. Then the tedium of the real plot kicks in.

Sparks' trashy, tasteless, New York City-based show is loved by the common man, but corporate sponsors and the FCC are pressuring the network's president (Burt Reynolds) to cancel him. Fortunately, his producer and sidekick Sandy (Debi Mazar) earns Sparks one last chance to clean up his act and save the show. We follow Sparks to Atlanta, where he and Sandy try to nab an interview with the show's number-



raunchier Dangerfield — we never do see much of his supposedly tasteless show — he seems intent on coming across as merely a tender oaf. On second thought, maybe even die-hard Dangerfield fans shouldn't be asked to endure the stupidity of "Wally Sparks."

JOE MILLER

now playing

BEAUTICIAN AND THE BEAST Fran Drescher takes her "Nanny" highjinks on the road as a beautician from Queens who finds herself tutoring the kids of an Eastern European dictator (Timothy Dalton).

BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD DO AMERICA As you might expect, it's long on potty talk and exceedingly stupid humor — and therein lies the fun. This feature-length movie debut of MTV's moronic miscreants is a bit tedious in the final minutes, but for the most part it's a fun, warped romp. Beavis in particular turns in an Oscar-caliber performance. Reviewed 1/27/97.

BEVERLY HILLS NINJA Chris Farley is at it again, falling all over himself with disheveled hair and sweat flying. He plays the star of a Japanese ninja institute who grows up to be bigger and clumsier than anyone expected. Watch him nearly demolish Beverly Hills with Nicolette Sheridan and Chris Rock in tow.

THE CRUCIBLE The film version of Arthur Miller's famous play about the Salem witch trials isn't so much about witch hunts as it is about the dangers of consorting with sexually frustrated young women — you can't help feeling that it could have been bigger and more powerful than it is. Starring Winona Ryder and Daniel Day-Lewis. Reviewed 1/9/97.

DANTE'S PEAK Sparks fly between Linda Hamilton and volcanologist Pierce Brosnan in this thriller about a reawakened volcano in the Pacific Northwest.

D3: THE MIGHTY DUCKS The third in the "Mighty Ducks" series. "D3" takes the Ducks to a new school where they have a new coach. What will they do without their beloved coach, Gordon Bombay (Emilio Estevez)?

THE ENGLISH PATIENT Based on Michael Ondaatje's acclaimed novel, the film traces two love stories, one in late '30s Cairo between a count (Ralph Fiennes) and a British aristocrat's wife (Kristin Scott Thomas), the other in mid-'40s Italy between a Canadian nurse (Juliette Binoche) and an Indian minesweeper (Naveen Andrews).

EVITA Madonna sings her lungs out as Argentina's most beloved icon, Eva Peron. Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Also starring Antonio Banderas.

FIERCE CREATURES The crew from "A Fish Called Wanda" returns for a reunion film, but it should've stayed at home. Even the best efforts of Kevin Kline and Michael Palin can't save this wretched turkey. Reviewed 1/30/97.

FLY AROUND HOME A teenager (played by Academy Award Winner Anna Paquin) recovers from the grief of her mother's death in the company of her estranged father (Jeff Daniels). A diversion appears in the form of a bunch of orphaned Canadian geese, who think she's their mama.

GRIDLOCK'D Tim Roth and the late rap star Tupac Shakur play best pals/performance artists/heroin addicts trying to come clean. Unfortunately, they find some serious red tape standing between them and checking into detox.

JACKIE CHAN'S FIRST STRIKE Hong Kong action hero Jackie Chan takes on the myth of James Bond and stomps it to bits, smiling all the while. It's fast, funny, at times absurd and packed to the gills with fiendishly dangerous stunts. In short, big, fat fun. Reviewed 1/23/97.

JERRY MAGUIRE Writer-director Cameron Crowe offers us the story of a 30-something sports agent (Tom Cruise) who gets his butt fired for taking the moral high ground, but who manages to find his way to the top nonetheless.

MEET WALLY SPARKS Rodney Dangerfield plays an over-the-top talk show host on the brink of career expiration. His one-liners retain their zing, but are hardly enough to save the film from a cast full of TV-movie-caliber performances and a plot that drags on and on. Reviewed this issue.

METRO After scoring serious laughs with "The Nutty Professor," Eddie Murphy goes back into cop mode in this action-packed, San Francisco-based hostage comedy. Murphy's negotiator tries to help a rookie cop (Michael Rapaport) deal with a sticky situation and save the city.

MICHAEL John Travolta plays another "touched" individual in this feel-good story about an everyday angel. William

Hurt is the tabloid reporter who wants the real scoop.

MICROCOSMOS You may not realize it, but bugs lead very complicated lives. If the thought of getting closer intrigues you, then "Microcosmos" is right up your alley. Filmed with specially developed new cameras and recorders, "Microcosmos" brings you astonishingly close to the fascinating and bizarre world of insects.

MOTHER ALBERT Brooks directs himself in a comedy about a twice-divorced son who returns to the nest. His aim is to mend the years of muddled relations with his mother (Debbie Reynolds), and thereby cure all his other relationship troubles. Surprise — the task turns out to be a great deal more complicated, and frustrating, than he anticipated.

MOTHER NIGHT Nick Nolte plays an American playwright who winds up in Nazi Germany during World War II, broadcasting anti-Semitic and anti-American propaganda over the airwaves. Arrested by the allies at war's end, he claims to be an American spy. Trouble is, he's got no alibi.

ONE FINE DAY Michelle Pfeiffer and George Clooney play two super-hot workaholic single parents who meet through their super-cute kids. Though they find each other impossibly obnoxious at first meeting, it's not long before the chemistry kicks in.

101 DALMATIANS Glenn Close no doubt draws on her previous evil-wench roles to bring to life the queen of mean, Cruella DeVil. In this live-action remake of the classic children's tale.

THE PEOPLE VS. LARRY FLYNT Miles Forman's raucous and raunchy movie follows the transformation of Larry Flynt (Woody Harrelson) from a two-bit strip-club owner into a publisher, millionaire and First Amendment firebrand.

STAR WARS Revamped and remastered, George Lucas' masterpiece returns to theaters to swallow up some more cash — or, uh, rather, to inspire a new generation of Jedi masters. The force, apparently, is still with us.

TREES LOUNGE Steve Buscemi's debut as writer and director centers around a 30-something slacker (Buscemi) who spends most of his time hanging out in a Long Island bar. Out of work and recently dumped, he gets by on his knack for charming banter.

TURBULENCE Testing the "If they bought it once, they'll buy it again" theory of Hollywood filmmaking, Lauren Holly and Ray Liotta star in an airborne version of "Speed." After Liotta offs the crew, Holly's flight attendant must take control of the plane.

ZEUS AND ROXANNE A family film involving the friendship that grows between a dolphin (Roxanne) and a dog (Zeus) and the adventures they create for their people. Starring Kathleen Quinlan and Steve Guttenberg.

THE ENGLISH PATIENT (R) 12:10, 2:25, 4:55, 7:15, 9:35

SECRETS & LIES (R) 1:15, 4:30, 7:45

THE CRUCIBLE (PG-13) 1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30

STAR WARS (PG) 12:25, 2:40, 4:55, 7:10, 9:25

THE BEAUTICIAN AND THE BEAST (PG) 1:10, 4:25, 7:40, 10:55

EVITA (PG) 1:30, 4:40, 7:50, 11:00

MOTHER NIGHT (R) 1:15, 4:30, 7:45

THE PEOPLE VS. LARRY FLYNT (R) 1:15, 4:30, 7:45

STAR WARS (PG) 12:25, 2:40, 4:55, 7:10, 9:25

THE BEAUTICIAN AND THE BEAST (PG) 1:10, 4:25, 7:40, 10:55

EVITA (PG) 1:30, 4:40, 7:50, 11:00

MOTHER NIGHT (R) 1:15, 4:30, 7:45

THE PEOPLE VS. LARRY FLYNT (R) 1:15, 4:30, 7:45

STAR WARS (PG) 12:25, 2:40, 4:55, 7:10, 9:25

THE BEAUTICIAN AND THE BEAST (PG) 1:10, 4:25, 7:40, 10:55

EVITA (PG) 1:30, 4:40, 7:50, 11:00

MOTHER NIGHT (R) 1:15, 4:30, 7:45

THE PEOPLE VS. LARRY FLYNT (R) 1:15, 4:30, 7:45

times

SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE FRIDAY THROUGH THURSDAY, FEB 7-13 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

OWING TO SCHEDULING CHANGES AFTER CBW GOES TO PRESS, MOVIEGOERS ARE ADVISED TO CONFIRM TIMES WITH THEATERS.

NICKELODEON, TEMPLE AND MIDDLE STREETS, PORTLAND, 772-9751.

TURBULENCE (R) 1, 4 (SAT & SUN ONLY), 7:10, 9:40

BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD DO AMERICA (PG-13) 12:00, 4:20 (SAT & SUN ONLY), 7:20, 9:50

JACKIE CHAN'S FIRST STRIKE (PG-13) 12:40, 3:40 (SAT & SUN ONLY), 6:40, 9:20

SPACE JAM (PG) 1:10, 4:10 (SAT & SUN ONLY), 6:50, 9:10

ONE FINE DAY (PG) 12:50, 3:50 (SAT & SUN ONLY), 7:30, 9:30

THE CRUCIBLE (PG-13) 12:30, 3:30 (SAT & SUN ONLY), 6:30, 9:10

GENERAL CINEMAS, MAINE MALL, MAINE MALL ROAD, SO. PORTLAND, 774-1022.

DANTE'S PEAK (PG-13) 1:40, 4:15, 7:15, 9:50

THE BEAUTICIAN AND THE BEAST (PG) 1, 3:15, 5:25, 7:40, 9:55

STAR WARS (PG) 1, 3:45, 7, 9:40

MIDNIGHT (R) 1, 3:45, 7, 9:40

IN LOVE AND WAR (PG-13) 12:50, 3:10, 5:25, 7:45, 10

GRIDLOCK'D (R) 12:00, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30

101 DALMATIANS (G) 12:00, 4:40

METRO (R) 1:45, 4:20, 7:10, 9:45

BEVERLY HILLS NINJA (PG-13) 1, 3:05, 5:10, 7:25, 9:30

HOYTS CLARK'S POND, 333 CLARK'S RD., SO. PORTLAND, 879-1511.

THE PEST (PG-13) 1:50, 4:10, 7:20, 9:40

MEET WALLY SPARKS (R) 7:25, 9:55

ZEUS AND ROXANNE (PG) 1:40, 4:40

PIERCE CREATURES (PG-13) 1:20, 4:20, 7:10

THE RELIC (R) 1, 3:40, 6:50, 9:15

THE PEOPLE VS. LARRY FLYNT (R) 9:20

EVITA (PG) 12:45, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30

MICHAEL (PG) 1:10, 4, 7, 9:25

SCREAM (R) 1:30, 4:20, 7:30, 10

JERRY MAGUIRE (R) 12:50, 3:50, 6:45, 9:45

THE MOVIES, 10 EXCHANGE ST., PORTLAND, 772-9600.

MICROCOSMOS (NR) FEB 5-11 • WED-FRI 5, 6:30 • SAT-SUN 1, 5, 6:30 • MON-TUES 7-13

MOTHER NIGHT (R) FEB 5-11 • WED-FRI 8, 6:30 • SAT-SUN 2:30, 8 • MON-TUES 5, 9

TREES LOUNGE (R) FEB 12-18 • WED-FRI 5, 7, 9 • SAT 1, 5, 9 • SUN 1, 5

FLAGSHIP CINEMAS, 206 U.S. ROUTE 1, FALMOUTH, 781-5616.

DANTE'S PEAK (PG-13) 12:55, 3:30, 7, 9:25

THE BEAUTICIAN AND THE BEAST (PG) 1:10, 4, 6:45, 9:10

STAR WARS (PG) 12, 2:25, 4:50, 7:30, 9:50

THE CRUCIBLE (PG-13) 3:40, 9:05

MOTHER (PG-13) 1:30, 4:20, 6:55, 9:15

PIERCE CREATURES (PG-13) 12:35, 6:45

EVITA (PG) 1:05, 3:55, 6:40, 9:30

BEVERLY HILLS NINJA (PG-13) 1, 9:40

THE PEOPLE VS. LARRY FLYNT (R) 3:45, 7:05

MICHAEL (PG) 12:10, 2:25, 4:55, 7:15, 9:35

THE ENGLISH PATIENT (R) 1:15, 4:30, 7:45

JERRY MAGUIRE (R) 12:45, 3:50, 6:50, 9:55

KEYSTONE THEATRE CAFE, 504 CONGRESS ST., PORTLAND, 871-5500.

THE ENGLISH PATIENT (R) 2 (SAT & SUN ONLY), 6, 9:30 (EXCEPT SUN)

SECRETS & LIES (R) 2 (SAT & SUN ONLY), 6, 9:30 (EXCEPT SUN)

THE CRUCIBLE (PG-13) 1, 3:30 (SAT & SUN ONLY), 6:45, 9:30 (EXCEPT SUN)

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33

etc events

Auction/Brunch Feb 9, The Greater Portland YMCA Pine Tree Swim Team hosts a benefit for the YMCA youth programs and the Eddie Beckwith Recovery Fund. At the Yarmouth High School Cafeteria, West Elm St., Yarmouth, from noon-3:30 pm. A Greater Portland YMCA Family Membership will be raffied off. 874-1111.

Baked Bean Supper Feb 8, At Trinity Episcopal Church, 113 Coyle St., Portland, from 5-6:30 pm. Cost: \$4.50 (\$2.50 kids). 772-4758.

Bean Supper Feb 8, At Westbrook-Warren Congregational Church, 810 Main St., Westbrook, from 5-6 pm. Cost: \$5 (\$1.50 kids). 854-9157.

• Bean Supper Feb 8, At Highland Lake Grange, Route 302, Westbrook. Seatings at 5 & 6 pm. Cost: \$4.50 (\$2 kids). 854-2379.

Call for Nominations The Smaller Business Association of New England seeks nominations for the 11th annual New Englander Awards. To be considered, a company must show how its innovative qualities and performance have led to its success. Deadline for nominations: March 28. For info and nomination applications, call SBANE at 617-890-9270, X236.

Cape Elizabeth Mardi Gras Feb 9, Featuring a jazz concert and an open jam session. At Thomas Memorial Library, 325 Ocean House Rd., Cape Elizabeth, from 2-4 pm. Tix: \$1. 767-3911.

Chinese New Year Celebration Feb 8, Join the Chinese-American Friendship Association of Maine and the YMCA Racial Justice Committee in celebrating the Chinese Lunar New Year with workshops and demonstrations of a wide variety of Chinese arts and cultural traditions. At YMCA, 87 Spring St., Portland, from 11 am-4 pm. Cost: \$3. 829-7240.

Lincoln Club Dinner Feb 8, Choice of salmon or prime rib. At the Italian Heritage Center, 40 Westland Ave., Portland at 7 pm. Cost: \$18. 772-2443 or 893-2085.

"Love That Luncheon" Feb 12, The Greater Portland Women's Club presents a luncheon. Barbara Eberhardt will share tips on overcoming fear in public speaking. At Keesley's Banquet Center, 178 Warren Ave., Portland at noon. Cost: \$8. Reservations required. 797-8968.

Maine Antique Paper Show Feb 8, Featuring over 40 exhibitors of postcards and paper collectibles. At the Italian Heritage Center, 40 Westland Ave., Portland, 773-1315.

Maine Hoops AAU Boys Basketball Tryouts Feb 9, At Catherine McAuley High School, Stevens Ave., Portland, 11-year-olds from 10:11-10:30 am, 12-year-olds from noon-1:30 pm, 13-year-olds from 2:30-3 pm, 14-year-olds from 4:50-5:30 pm. Registration fee: \$15. Kids should arrive 30 minutes early. Those interested in coaching should attend. For more info, call Tom Nohette at 775-2829 or Chuck Smith at 646-1852.

"Mysterious Tibet: The 1990 Everest Peace Climb" Feb 11, Michael Perry gives a slide presentation of his expedition. At Forestry Harbor, 191 Forestry Rd., Falmouth, from 7-8 pm. Free. 781-8201.

Pet Walk T-Shirt Contest The Center for Grieving Children holds its annual t-shirt design contest for the Pet Walk & Children's Fair. Kids are invited to go to the Children's Museum of Maine, 142 Free St., Portland, to draw or submit entries, Feb 22 from 10:30 am-2 pm and Feb 23 from 12:30-3 pm. The winning design will be decided March 5. The walk will be held March 17. 799-1112.

Southworth Planetarium Feb 7, "Through the Eyes of Hubble" astronomy show at 7 pm, "Think Pink!" Pink Floyd laser show at 8:30 pm. Feb 8: "Follow the Drinking Gourd" kids' astronomy show at 3 pm, "Fires in the Sky" astronomy show at 7 pm, "Think Pink!" Pink Floyd laser show at 8:30 pm. Feb 9: "Follow the Drinking Gourd" kids' astronomy show at 3 pm. At 96 Falmouth St., Portland. Cost: \$4 (\$3 kids). Sat & Sun matinee: \$3. 780-4249.

others

Abuse in Intimate Relationships A support group for women who have previously or are presently experiencing abuse in their intimate relationships. Free and confidential, childcare provided. 874-1973.

Accent Reduction Class for speakers of English as a second language, as well as classes for neutralizing Maine and regional accents, with Jean Armstrong, certified speech and language pathologist. 879-1886.

The Alliance for Transportation Choice a group dedicated to creating a transportation system that improves the quality of life, protects the environment and promotes economic vitality. For info on next meeting, write to: P.O. Box 10625, Portland ME 04104 or call 871-9228.

The American Singles Golf Association is forming a Portland chapter. If you would like to help organize or join, call 1-800-599-2815.

Authentic Movement Group For Men A group for men who wish to "explore who we are beneath our roles and conditioning," meets the third Thurs of each month from 6:30-9 pm, at Williston West Church, 32 Thomas St., Portland. Facilitated by Jim Davidson. 879-1341.

Aye If you're in your mid-to-late 20s, then you know social group is forming just for you. To find out more about it, call 774-0915.

Bisexual Discussion and Support Group Meets the first and third Wed of each month at Payson Smith Hall, room 1, USM Campus, Portland, from 7:30-9 pm. Students and non-students welcome. For more info, call 780-5737 or e-mail: shoimes@maine.maine.edu.

Casco Bay Culinary Association meets the second Mon of each month, 799-2234 or 774-4308.

Center For Maine History 489 Congress St., Portland. Hours: Wed-Sat noon-4 pm. Cost: \$2 (\$1 kids). 879-0427.

Circle of Hope Metropolitan Community Church of Portland, a Christian group that claims a primary ministry with gay and lesbian people and strives to be inclusive of all, meets Saturdays at 4 pm at 156 High St., Portland. 775-6684.

COPE Support group for divorcing fathers — explore alternatives to the current divorce process. 874-7448.

Coping With Caregiving A support group for people providing care to chronically/terminally ill or disabled persons meets the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month at noon, at Mercy Hospital, 144 State St., Portland. 879-3486.

Creating Opportunity Through Change Women's group meets Thursday evenings from 6-7:30 at 854 Broadway, S. Portland. 767-1315.

Creative Productions Collaborative A group for women survivors of sexual abuse who are interested in furthering their healing journeys through the process of creating and presenting a production in the form of books, videos or performance art. Confidential, facilitated meetings are Wednesdays from 6:30-8 pm. Cost: \$15 per session. 774-2403.

Debtors' Anonymous meets every Tues from 7-8:15 pm at Woodford's Congregational Church, 202 Woodford St., Portland. 774-4357.

Dharma Study Group Sitting meditation on Sundays from 9 am-noon. At the office of Sandra Bulley, 3rd floor, 60 Forest Ave., Portland. 761-0047.

Donations Needed The Ted Rand Memorial Scholarship Fund, which will be awarded annually to a Casco Bay Island student going on to higher education, seeks contributions to help establish the fund. Send contributions to: 4 Moulton St., Portland, ME 04101. For more info, call Dave Redmond at 871-1001 or 766-4444.

Dream Group Interested in weaving dreams into life myths? Join a group that will feed your imagination, writing skills, storytelling abilities and teach you something about your personal story and journey. Facilitated by a licensed counselor. Schedule will be set by participants at initial meeting. To join, call the Swedenborgian Church at 772-8277 and leave your name, specify "dream group."

Enriched Golden Age Center 297 Cumberland Ave., Portland, invites men and women over 60 to daily luncheons, with special activities featured every Wednesday and line dancing every Monday at 10 am. Donation: \$2.50. 774-6974.

Family Crisis Shelter a domestic abuse intervention project is looking for volunteers to offer support and information to victims of abuse/violence. 874-1196.

Fearful Flyers Group meets on the first Wed of every month from 5-7 pm at Rm 204 Bailey Hall, USM Campus, Gorham. 780-5012.

Feminist Spiritual Community meets every Monday from 7-9 pm at 1837 Forest Ave., Portland. For more information, call 797-9217.

Fight Discrimination

Classifieds

FAX: 775-1615

775-1234

VISA/MC ACCEPTED

categories

bulletin board
lost & found (free)
rideshare (free)
help wanted
career development
business opportunities
positions wanted
child care
roommates
apts./rent
condos/rent
rooms/rent
seasonal rental
offices/rent
art studios/rent
storage/rent
rentals wanted
housekeeping
real estate
condos for sale
land for sale
mobile homes
real estate wanted
auctions
body and soul
fitness
instruction
education
professional services
business services
computers
financial
items for sale
yard sales
antiques
give away (free)
wanted
arts
holiday gifts
theatre arts
bed & breakfasts
getaways
fairs & festivals
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LOST & FOUND

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Many positions open for
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Contact Bruce Wild at
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Thursday, February 13, 1997 from 5-7 p.m.

Tuesday, February 18, 1997 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

For location and directions to the Information Session call:

Conny Markman at (207) 774-6323 Ext. 434.

Human Resources Dept.

Goodwill Industries of Northern New England

P.O. Box 8600

Portland, ME 04114

EOE

New Hope for Women

New Hope for Women, the domestic violence project
serving Lincoln, Knox and Waldo counties is hiring for the
following positions:

SCHOOL OUTREACH COORDINATOR: 40 hr/wk
position with benefits. Responsibilities include
educational programs on domestic violence prevention
for students and educators in local schools, support group
facilitation, and direct services to clients. Qualifications
include organizational, public speaking and classroom
management skills and experience working with children.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COORDINATOR: 16 hr/wk
position. Responsible for developing and implementing
groups for children who have witnessed domestic
violence. Qualifications include
organizational and group facilitation skills,
and experience in working with children.

Send resume and essay explaining views
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Hiring Committee, New Hope for Women,
PO Box 642, Rockland, ME 04841-0642.
EOE.

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Ability to work with primary substance abuse clients and experience
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Send cover letter and resume to Lora Wilford-McManus, LCSW,
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WOMEN & MEN

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ADVENTUROUS, HAPPY: attractive, educated professional, independent, SWF, 40. Enjoys sailing, kayaking, canoeing, hiking, skiing, supporting the arts. Seeks dramatic with an affinity for the arts, N/S, 40ish, educated professional, the active type with SDW, adventuresome, romantic nature, and a warm heart. #1232 (3/12)

ARE YOU TIRED OF HEAD GAMES? SWF, 36, 5'9", is bald. Enjoys dining out, dancing, movies, music, sports, reading & roller skating. Desires SDWM/28-45. Mad. Aged built for friendship/relationship. #1211 (3/12)

DISILLUSIONED WITH LOVE: Searching for an angel who can renew my faith in love, commitment, sincerity. You: 36-46, warm, gentle, honest, attractive, self-aware, N/S, MD, Mar. 30, warm, intense, attractive, active. #1265 (3/19)

CLASSY PETITE BLOND DWF, 36, 4'11", seeks serious, sincere-minded male for possible LTR. Age/looks unimportant, but a romantic heart is desired. Portland area preferred. #1165 (3/12)

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WOMEN & MEN

DOWN TO EARTH SWF, 38, looks 28, 5'2", N/S, seeks soulmate to share quiet times. Interests: New age music, movies, spirituality, and photography. #1173 (3/12)

DWF, 33, LOOKING FOR COMPANION who enjoys dancing, country music, and life. Prefer SDWM, 30-45, who would like to take one day at a time. Good values more important than good looks. Must be optimistic and positive, with a good sense of humor. #1122 (3/5)

FINALLY READY, HOW ABOUT YOU? Adventurous, well-traveled (Tuscany, anyone?) Attractive, fit, professional SWF, 44, Portland-based, into hiking, kayaking, x-country skiing, gourmet vegetarian cooking, reading, contradiction, yoga, and the arts/music/theater. I'm seeking intelligent, educated, fit, fun, progressive, independent, stable, sensitive man, 35-55, who values work, loves to laugh and enjoys life. N/S. #1130 (3/5)

HELP SURROUNDED BY: Intellectual, interesting, liberal people. DWF, 41, needs to find a few of those who are also single, and value the inclusion of play time. #1105 (3/5)

HOMEFUL IN CAPE ELIZABETH, likeable at 44, intelligent, attractive, sensitive, artistic, witty, educated, artistic, fun, value equality, integrity, healthy well-being. #1233 (3/19)

ATTRACTIVE SWFF, 28, outgoing, adventurous, petite. Enjoys outdoor sports, dining out, travel, theater, and the arts. Seeking SWFM, 26-36, N/S, who enjoys same. #1204 (3/12)

AND BACKPACKER: Brunswick SF seeks trail and life partner. Soulful, fit, ready for mutual respect, affection, compassion, honesty, sharing. Only N/S, qualified applicants, 47-57, need apply. #1056 (3/5)

BLUE HILL HEAVEN WITH ANGEL: Renaissance-age "gem of a life." Nature and ocean lover, very attractive, sensual, warm-hearted professional in healing arts field. ISO gentle, attractive, heart-centered soulmate (46-56), with energy for giving and receiving in companionship and possible LTR. N/S and natural lifestyle a must. #1164 (3/12)

CLASSY PETITE BLOND DWF, 36, 4'11", seeks serious, sincere-minded male for possible LTR. Age/looks unimportant, but a romantic heart is desired. Portland area preferred. #1165 (3/12)

FOGDOG! "Secret" shipper wishes the accepted late summer sailing invitation. My boat's in the water, now! I'm looking for suitably steady diversions. Attractive, intelligent, 40yo sailor/artist/SEO-sailor for trading sailing yams and varying tips. No stripclubs. #1048 (2/26)

DISILLUSIONED WITH LOVE: Searching for an angel who can renew my faith in love, commitment, sincerity. You: 36-46, warm, gentle, honest, attractive, self-aware, N/S, MD, Mar. 30, warm, intense, attractive, active. #1265 (3/19)

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WOMEN & MEN

GIVE ME A REASON TO STAY! SWF, 24, BL/BL, educated, romantic, fun-loving, attractive, and busy Rubenque woman looking for SWM, 24-34, educated, honest, funny, cute, and not easily intimidated. Please appreciate women's beauty, not just in terms of size! Can you keep me in Portland? #1197 (3/12)

GREATNESS: That's supposed to get your attention, the fact is, it's just right, pretty fit, attractive, and affectionate DWF, 40's, BLGR, 5'4", 128lbs, seeking company of a warm, intelligent, attractive, and honorable SWM, N/S, 42-50, #1061 (2/28)

HELP SURROUNDED BY: Intellectual, interesting, liberal people. DWF, 41, needs to find a few of those who are also single, and value the inclusion of play time. #1105 (3/5)

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