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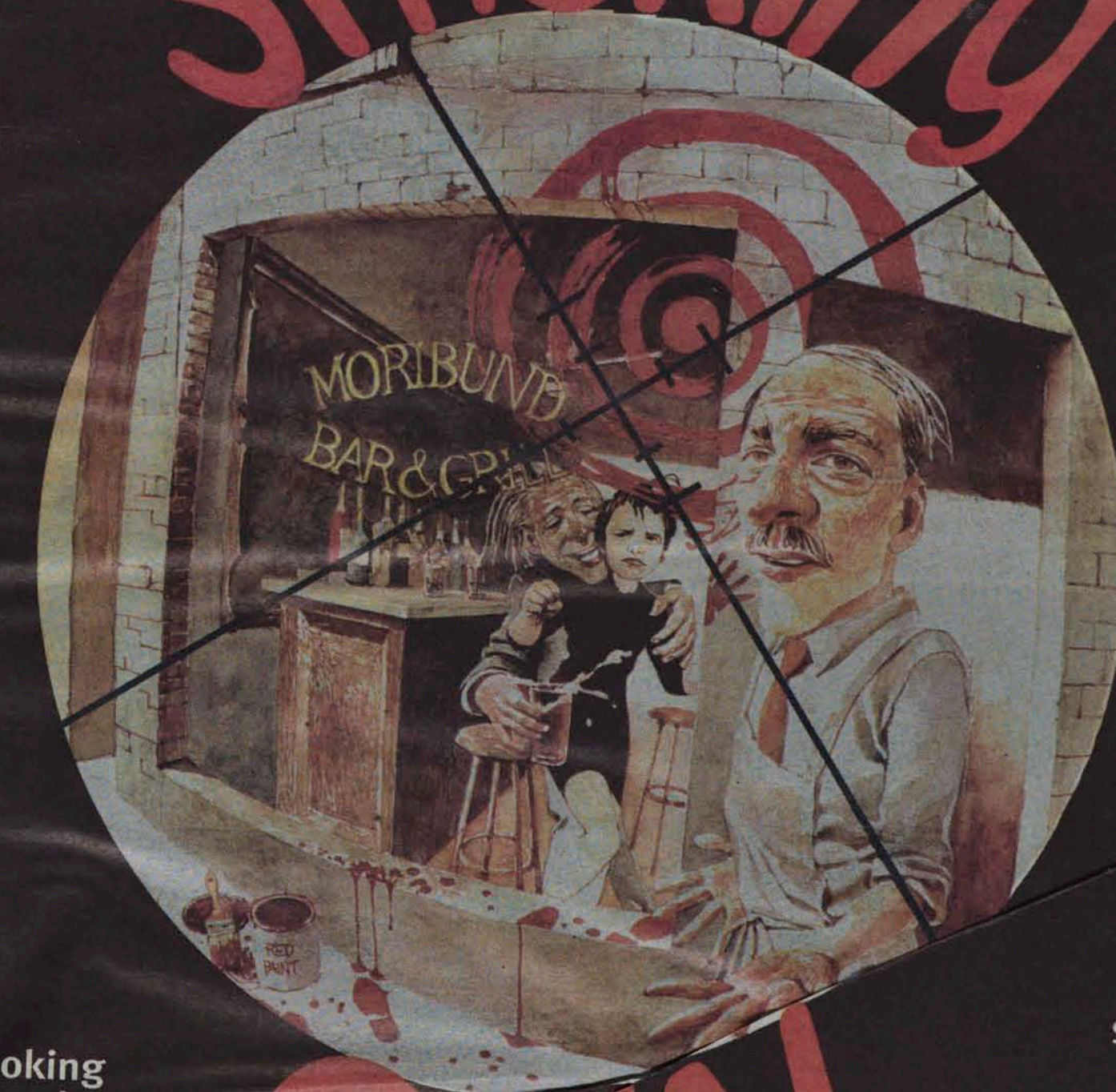
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Casco Bay Weekly

www.cascobayweekly.com

AUG 6, 1998

Smoking



DESIGN JOINNA AMATO

ILLUSTRATION MARTIN SHIELDS

Once anti-smoking
activists succeed
in banning
tobacco
in Portland
restaurants,
their next target
will likely be the
city's bars.

Smoking senator

5

Crumbling courthouse

8

Portland's gulag

14

Tales of a firebug

16

GUN

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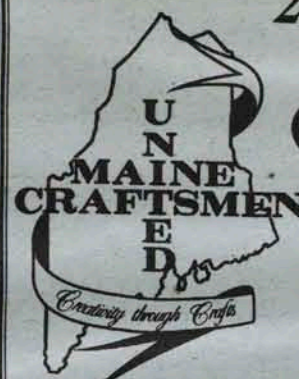


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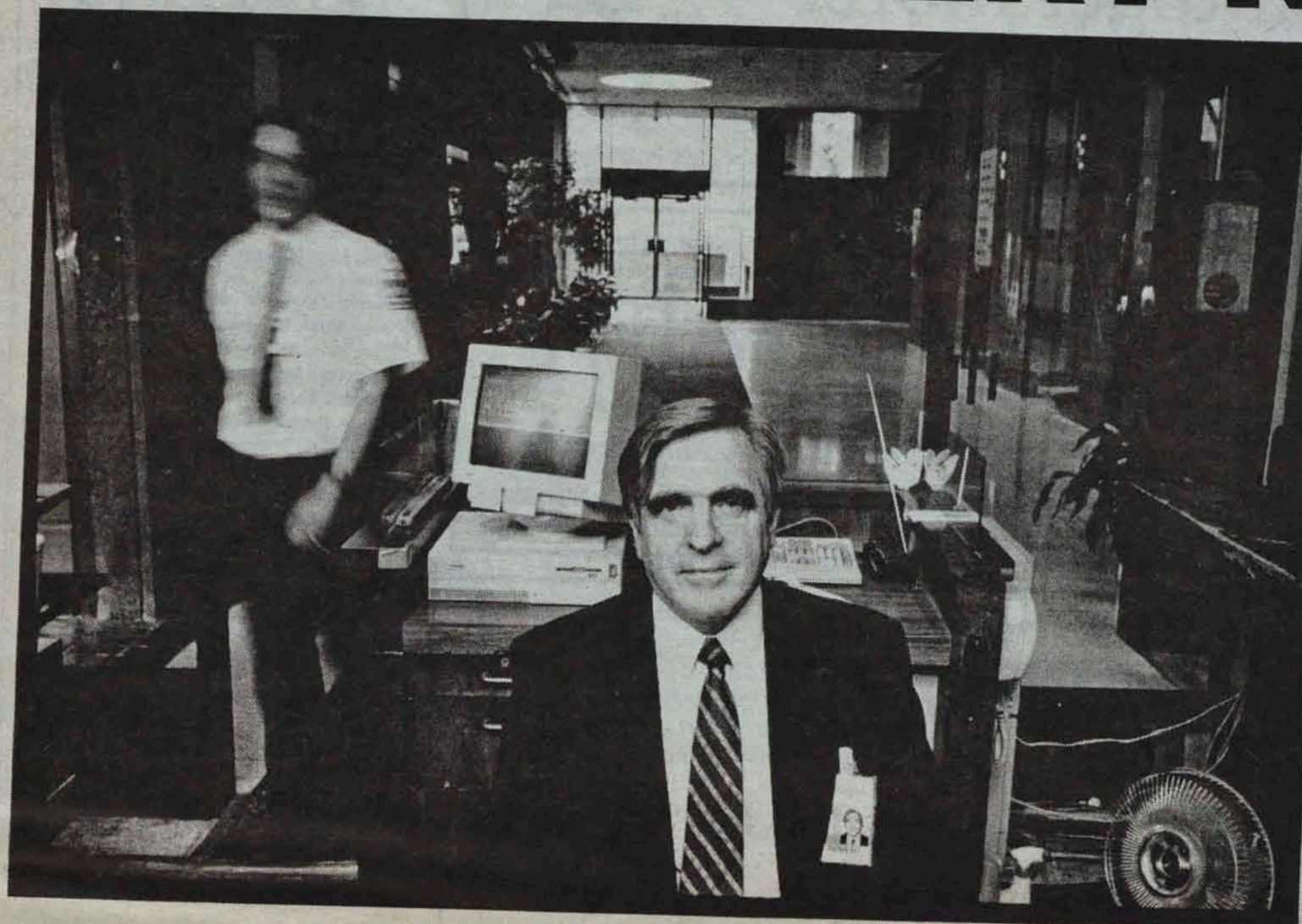
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TALK A CONVERSATION WITH ROBERT KEMP



"You know, these people now never show their guns, or anything. They just walk up to the teller, and the tellers are instructed not to say anything like, 'Show me your gun.'"

Robert Kemp, 54, has been a security guard at the Key Bank building in Monument Square in Portland for five years. Originally from Georgia, Kemp served several years in the military in Heidelberg, Germany, before moving here in 1973. He also teaches English at the University of Southern Maine.

How did you end up as a security guard?

I was really taken with "1984" when I read it in 1956, so I started reading other stuff by [George] Orwell in high school. As I got into college, I began to think a lot about Orwell's position on a lot of things, and it made sense. I question the naiveté of some of his positions now. But when I was young it appealed to me a lot.

One of Orwell's tenets was that there was something noble about work, and that paper pushers were not workers, that working involved some kind of proletarian work. That led me to have jobs that are working jobs. I worked as a shepherd in Virginia. I worked for the

Carter Milling Company. I worked for Americold over on Read Street, packing frozen vegetables onto carts. When I hurt my knee working there, I said, 'Well, I gotta do something else. I'm 49 years old and I won't be able to do this for a lot longer.' And someone said, 'Hey, why don't you work as a security guard?'

So you kind of believe in the value of work for work's sake?

The value of work for work's sake, but see, the dichotomy is that Orwell didn't believe that middle-class jobs were work, and that it had to be a non-middle-class job in order for it to be called real working-class work. Now, you know, when I look at people like lawyers and doctors, or college instructors or newspaper reporters, they all seem to be working pretty hard to me. I mean, work is work. The idea is that it's something you have to do to make money, and that makes it work. If you're having fun, it's not work.

Do you feel like Big Brother with all these monitors around?

I've been in other sites that have more of a Big Brother atmosphere than this one does. Large corporations, which will remain nameless, have excellent security systems. It's something that, well, our civilization is headed that way, and there's no way you or I or any small group of people is going to turn it back. It's just not going to be possible.

But you work as a security guard because there's a nobility in it?

That's not it. It's not a nobility. It is in order to experience what ordinary, everyday people do. A lot of them don't have a choice.

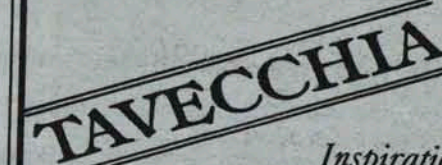
Interview by Allen Baldwin; photo by Colin Malakie



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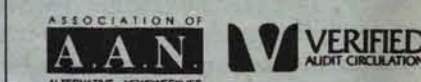
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Some of what the Production Department listened to while getting this week's paper out:
Liz Phair, "Juvenilia" • Waterlilies, "Tempted" • Land of the Loops, "Bundle of Joy" • Deee-lite, "Sampladelic Relics & Dancefloor Oddities" • Towa Tel, "Future Listening"



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My old addiction

Republican state Sen. Joel Abromson of Portland must have been wearing a nicotine patch on May 14, 1997. Abromson surprised his colleagues, tobacco lobbyists and possibly himself by voting to ban smoking in all restaurants in Maine.

But like many addicts, the effects of the patch were not enough to produce a lasting change in Abromson's habits. A little over a year later, he's drifting back toward a pro-smoking position.

The effort to outlaw tobacco use in restaurants squeaked through the Maine Senate in '97, but was killed in the House. As a result, anti-smoking activists convinced the Portland City Council to pass a similar ordinance — the first local law of its kind in the state. Restaurant owners then succeeded in collecting enough signatures to force the issue out to a public vote in November, and the campaign is expected to heat up soon. So it seemed to be time to call Abromson and see if he's still sitting in the no-smoking section.

"I'm very conflicted," he said, when asked if he supported the Portland ordinance. "I voted for it in the Legislature, but afterwards I had second thoughts. I feel that if you don't want to go into a restaurant, you don't have to. I voted for it for the employees' safety, so they could avoid secondhand smoke. But choice pertains there too, especially when everybody is looking for help."

"I don't know. It's a tough one. My guess is I'll vote against the ban, but I'm liable to change my mind."

Abromson isn't exactly the anti-smokers' poster boy. In 1996, he accepted more money from cigarette manufacturers' political action committees than any other state senator. But he claimed the cash from Philip Morris, R.J. Reynolds and the Tobacco Institute never influenced his votes.

"I don't have a problem taking tobacco money," he said. "I told the people in the tobacco industry that I'll take their money because any they give me won't be spent on advertising to kids. That's turned some of them off, right there."

There seems to be some validity to Abromson's claim he's not entirely in the industry's pocket. A 1997 study by the Money and Politics Project found that in return for the \$550 he received, Abromson voted with Big Tobacco only 38 percent of the time. That made him something less than a bargain, particularly when compared to Democratic state Sen. Beverly Daggett of Augusta, who received a mere \$175, but backed the smoking side on 88 percent of its issues. Democratic state Sen. Mike Michaud of East Millinocket accepted just \$250 to become a 100-percent tobacco toady. And Democratic state Sen. Lloyd LaFountain of Biddeford mirrored Abromson's 38-percent voting level, but cost a modest \$200.

There's also evidence Abromson really doesn't care whom he takes money from. In 1996, he accepted more donations from lobbyists and their employers than all but one other legislator — a total of over \$10,000.

Maybe his problem isn't nicotine, after all. What Abromson appears to need is a cash patch.

Plastic fantastic lover

MBNA America Bank, KeyCorp and Fleet Financial Group don't rely on Visa or Mastercard to purchase influence in Congress. They use cash and lots of it. The three credit card companies with operations in Maine are among the industry's biggest contributors to federal campaigns, according to a report from the Center for Responsive Politics in Washington D.C.

Between January 1997 and June 1998, MBNA's contributions through political action committees, soft money donations and individual giving totaled more than \$618,000, an amount far higher than any other credit card issuer. Of that sum, over \$560,000 went to Republicans, with just 58 grand for Democrats.

Key handed out almost \$96,000 to the elephant party, but just \$24,000 to the donkey boys. Fleet shelled out \$30,000 to Dems and \$9,000 to the GOP.

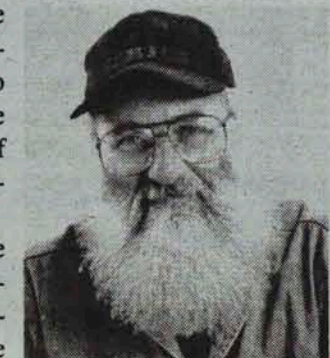
While the national credit card industry leans distinctly toward Republicans, who received 71 percent of the money donated by the top 25 companies, the situation in Maine is a little different. Here, MBNA and Key seem most comfortable contributing to an independent. In 1994, MBNA backed Angus King's gubernatorial bid to the tune of \$21,000. In 1998, KeyCorp is co-sponsoring King's \$250-a-head re-election fundraiser on Aug. 11.

My aim is (not) true

In my column of July 23, I mischaracterized a remark by Alison Smith of Maine Citizens for Clean Elections concerning the rules governing the state's new public campaign financing act. I wrote that Smith "lamented" the lack of user friendliness in the regulations. In fact, Smith advised the state ethics commission that future changes in the rules should be clear and fair, but warned, "These rules are not the place to solve the problem of murkiness in current election law."

Ever noticed there aren't many august occasions in August? Or that you hardly ever see a marching band in March? If that sounds like evidence of a political conspiracy to you, please don't write us, care of CBW, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101. And don't e-mail ishmaelia@ghi.net if you notice that Wednesday is either misspelled or mispronounced.

politics and other mistakes



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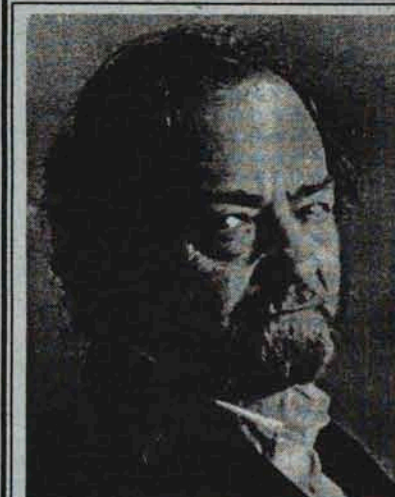


PHOTO: LINDEN FREDERICK

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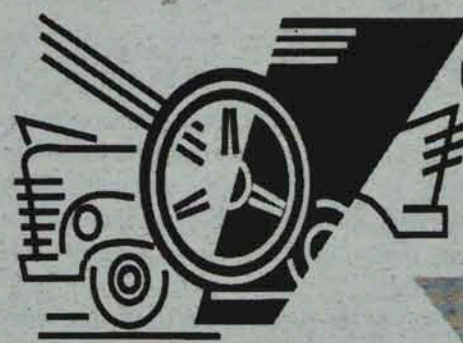
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Just us denied

Tina Turner, that one-time maven of misbehaving, was with me when I gave my notice last week at local insurance leviathan Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Maine. Tina was grinding across the back of my brain, singing "Proud Mary," as I, like the character in the song, announced I was leaving a good job in the city. In my case, I was escaping from a company with a prejudiced policy that focused not on the color of my face, but my sexual orientation. Blue Cross denies access to full medical benefits to the partners of its gay and lesbian employees.

I entered the company's hallowed halls in the fall of 1996 as a demure and deferring temp. Blue Cross needed fast fingers to enter confidential data, and I needed to pay my bills and eat. I knew little about the company, and it knew nothing of me, except how the temp agency had extolled the lightning speed of my Olympic gold-medaling digests. It was a great first date.

During the first weeks, I was forced to change my

name to "the temp." Six months later, a miracle occurred and my co-workers no longer acted as if I occupied space in an invisible parallel universe. They made eye contact, used the name my parents had given me at birth, and started saying things like, "We should hire that gal."

My being a lesbian was a non-issue. After 16 months of uncertain week-to-week employment, I became a full-time, non-disposable employee. A smorgasbord of benefits would soon be mine. I had hit the mother lode.

"Employee Orientation" was a two-hour meeting in a tiny room with one other new associate. We sat on one side of a skinny table and the human resources representative on the other. Line by line, she took us through the glossy employee handbook, careful to highlight the dos and don'ts of acceptable behavior, dress and parking. Unless you had been raised by wolves, it was all self-explanatory - until we came to the benefits section.

We had three HMOs to choose from, as well as full dental. Yippee, I thought, annual physicals for a pittance and dental pain twice a year for free, for myself and, if I wanted, a loved one! I knew Blue Cross sold domestic partner benefits to other companies, so I assumed it offered the same option to its own employees. Excited, I thumbed through the folders searching for the sign-up forms.

When I found them, I knew they couldn't be right. In big bold letters at the top of each page were the words "SELF and/or SPOUSE." "Hey," I asked, "doesn't Blue Cross offer domestic partner benefits?" A curt "no" was all I got back.

I bit the inside of my cheek, hard. "Excuse me," I said, making an effort to sit taller in my chair. "Can you tell me

why Blue Cross refuses to offer domestic partner benefits?" This time she paused, looked directly at me and told me if I needed more information on that topic, I would have to speak with someone higher up the food chain.

Early the next morning, I called a bigger fish in the human resources pond, and asked her the same question. She struggled to find the words, and when she started to speak, I could tell she had not faced this issue often enough.

Blue Cross had, she stumbled, been tossing around the idea for a few years

now, but it had not been approved because the company was not sure if any of its employees would use it.

"Stop right there little lady," is what I wanted to say, but opted instead for, "I'm a lesbian, an employee and I would use it. And if my single shout of discontent is not enough to warrant Blue Cross' move into the realm of ethical business practices, then how many voices would it take?"

"Well." That was all she could think to say until the thought train arrived again. As it stopped to unload its precious cargo, she perked up. There had, she said, also been a concern about unmarried straight couples wanting to take advantage of that type of plan. "How could they?" I squealed, my voice an octave away from shattering glass. "They have the option to marry, and lesbians and gays don't." Maybe, she said slowly, I should talk with the director. End of conversation.

I was a dyke possessed, a Joan of Arc on a holy mission from above. Besides, I had already hit two brick walls. What damage could one more do in this, my own personal jihad? With expectations considerably lower, I picked up the phone, crossed my fingers and looked to heaven.

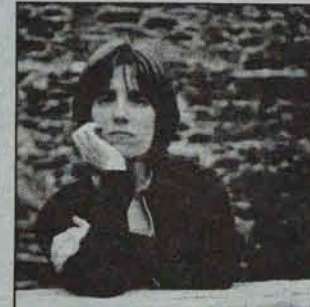
The party line was the same when I spoke to the head honcho of human resources. She couldn't really tell me, in her perfectly polished spin-doctor tone, why "they" (the all-powerful, Oz-like decision makers at Blue Cross) had never approved domestic partner benefits before, except to say those pixies of power were again "seriously considering" offering those benefits to employees in 1999.

They all knew their policy was discriminatory, yet they continued to embrace it the way one would a sacred - albeit dysfunctional - family tradition.

There was nothing more to say. I would be leaving the dance long before the new music began playing. As I sat there, receiver in hand, I heard only the hollow echo of excuses.

Connie Pacillo's new employer, CBW, doesn't provide domestic partner benefits either, because its insurance company, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Maine, doesn't offer such coverage to small companies.

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out side



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It was a bad week in Hoglund-land. On July 30, Maine State Police showed up at **Yankee Bingo** in Portland and seized cash and other evidence for an investigation into illegal gambling. Yankee Bingo is owned in part by former state Rep. Annette Hoglund and her family. Until recently, Hoglund used games at the hall to fund her political campaigns, raising more than a million dollars. But she had to halt that practice after the state revoked her license,

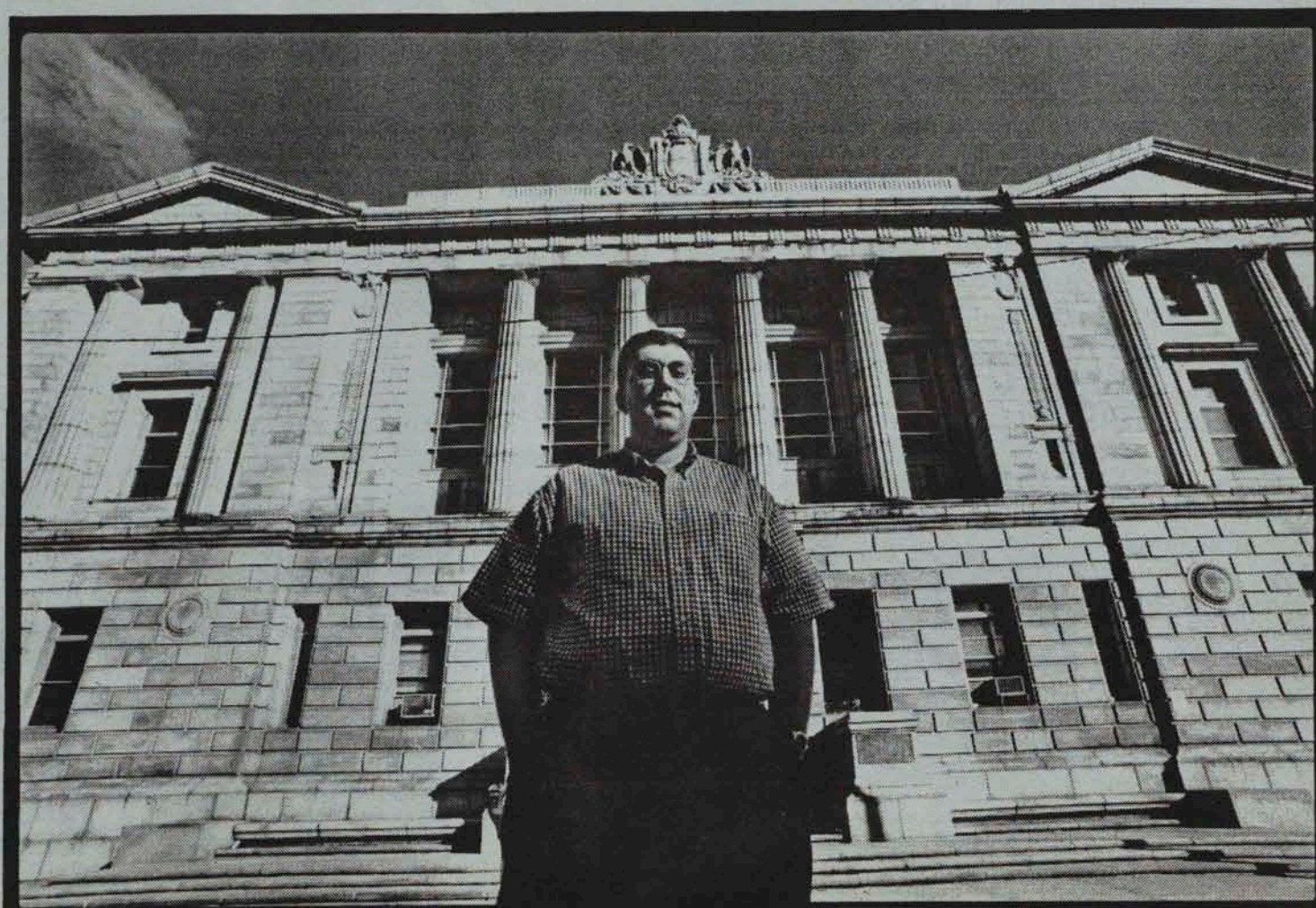
because the money wasn't actually being spent on any campaign. Hoglund also got fined by the state ethics commission for failing to report most of the bingo cash on her campaign finance report forms. Police said Hoglund was not the target of the raid, but declined to say who was. Yankee Bingo reopened the following night. Speaking of bad weeks, CBW had one back in February, when Hoglund filed notice she planned to sue us for reporting on her problems, a suit she still hasn't gotten around to filing.

■ It was a bad week in Soley-land. According to city health inspectors, Old Port mega-landlord **Joe Soley's Seamen's Club** has insect problems — as in cockroaches and flies. The restaurant was also cited for numerous other violations dealing with malfunctioning equipment and dirt — scoring just 48 out of 100 on the city test. The lowest passing score is 78. If the problems weren't fixed by Aug. 5, the city planned to schedule a hearing to revoke the Seamen's Club's license. Even if Soley manages to avoid that, he still faces court action over apartments he owns. Portland police say they've been called to 7 Fox Court 30 times in the last month, and want the building cited as a "disorderly house," which would allow the city to evict the tenants. Soley told the *Portland Press Herald* he'd never seen a roach at the restaurant, and never received a complaint from the cops about his apartments.

■ A bad week in brief. The Portland City Council wimped out on Aug. 3 on taking land off Rand Road that the **U.S. Postal Service** wants to develop for a distribution center. Although neighbors and environmentalists want the site preserved as open space, councilors opted for delay, in hopes of talking the USPS out of moving the project — and its 1,000 jobs — to Lewiston The *Press Herald* somehow missed this story, but among Gov. Angus King's nominees for the University of Maine System board of trustees is **Meg Weston**, president of the Portland Newspapers, the parent company of a certain local daily newspaper A Portland planning department report recommends improving **West Bayside** by renaming Marginal Way as Soley Street, putting up a giant statue of Annette Hoglund and allowing the postal service to build a nuclear waste dump. Actually, the real report wasn't quite that bad. **CBW**

■ It was a bad week in Soley-land. According to city health inspectors, Old Port mega-landlord **Joe Soley's Seamen's Club** has insect problems — as in cockroaches and flies. The restaurant was also cited for numerous other violations dealing with malfunctioning equipment and dirt — scoring just 48 out of 100 on the city test. The lowest passing score is 78. If the problems weren't fixed by Aug. 5, the city planned to schedule a hearing to revoke the Seamen's Club's license. Even if Soley manages to avoid that, he still faces court action over apartments he owns. Portland police say they've been called to 7 Fox Court 30 times in the last month, and want the building cited as a "disorderly house," which would allow the city to evict the tenants. Soley told the *Portland Press Herald* he'd never seen a roach at the restaurant, and never received a complaint from the cops about his apartments.

CITY



They don't build 'em like they used to: Cumberland County Commissioner Peter Feeney in front of the county courthouse. The modern annex is riddled with problems. PHOTO/COLIN MALAKIE

Damage control Cumberland County Courthouse employees say building plagued by bad air and lax security

■ **KIMBERLY JEAN SMITH**
State and county officials are spending thousands of dollars to repair and improve the Cumberland County Courthouse annex, though the four-story building is only six years old.

The \$9 million courthouse addition, which stands between Federal and Newbury streets, houses District and Superior courtrooms. Though the state is merely a tenant in the county-owned building, it has covered the bulk of the repair costs. So far, Maine taxpayers have spent about \$70,000 to improve the building's air quality. Now, the state must put aside another \$16,000 to cover the costs of fixing leaky walls in a building that opened in 1992.

"That's not unreasonable," said Jeff Henthorn, who as a state regional court administrator oversees repairs and improvements to judicial buildings throughout parts of Cumberland and York counties. After construction is complete, Henthorn said, all modern buildings go through a "break-in" period in which adjustments, even expensive ones, have to be made.

But some employees say that despite the improvement efforts, the building is

plagued with problems. Workers complain about stuffy air that causes migraine headaches and sinus pain, the confusing layout and ineffective signs that frustrate visitors, carpets that harbor fleas and a general lowering of morale that comes from working in a building growing old before its time. "It just looks like the place is falling apart," said one employee, who asked not to be named.

While workers have learned to cope with some of those structural problems, their biggest concern may be knowing how easily guns and other weapons can enter the building. In many federal courthouses, including Portland's, visitors are greeted by security guards who direct them through metal detectors and scan their bags for weapons. But like many state courthouses, Cumberland County's doesn't regularly provide such security measures. It only uses its metal detectors and bag scanners for random spot checks and during high-profile cases like the Sabato Raia murder trial in 1997.

"I would say that all the courthouses, as a whole, would be better off if they had more" security, said Linda Jowett, the head court clerk for Cumberland County. Other employees said the people who

come to the courthouse are often in the midst of bitter divorces and painful custody battles. "When people are that angry," said an employee, who asked to remain anonymous, "there's nothing to stop them from coming right over the counter" and hurting a representative of the very system that is frustrating them.

But court administrator Henthorn, who constantly addresses complaints about air quality, leaks and confusing signs, doesn't anticipate making any changes in the building's security. That would be too expensive, he said. Currently, the Cumberland County sheriff's office provides eight-10 security guards, who wander the building and monitor the public through hidden cameras and video screens, while the courthouse metal detector and package scanner sit idle nearby. "To use it every day, all the time, will take resources that I don't have," Henthorn said.

He did say he's committed to resolving the building's other problems. Henthorn attends seminars on air quality and has moved vents, upgraded air filters and added exhaust fans to improve the indoor environment. The county regularly monitors carbon monoxide levels, and

those tests show the air is safe. Henthorn is confident employees are breathing air that is healthy and free of pollutants.

As Henthorn deals with those issues, he must also deal with water leaks. The most serious leak wasn't discovered until the old county jail was torn down in 1997. That building had protected the nearby annex from driving rains. Now that the jail is gone, weatherproofing the exposed wall will cost \$16,000, in addition to the \$1,850 the county spent in March to repair a separate leak. Henthorn expects to make the repairs this fall. Meanwhile, with each heavy storm, more water could potentially drip in.

While he battles leaks in the building's exterior, Henthorn must somehow make the inside of the courthouse more understandable for visitors. Only a small, unlabeled door connects the main lobby of the old marble-floored courthouse, with its grand staircases and ornate columns, to the more modern annex, with its faux-hardwood wainscoting and flimsy light fixtures. Once in the new annex, visitors are confronted by a hallway that seems to lead nowhere and an elevator that takes them to a small, empty-looking lobby. That lobby is surrounded by frosted glass doors with no obvious public purpose. Employees have long complained the poor layout makes it hard to direct the public. "It's very confusing," said Peter Feeney, a Cumberland county commis-

sioner. "We always try and get volunteers in to direct people, but that's difficult."

In Henthorn's office, in the old turn-of-the-century courthouse, is a pile of engraved metal signs that used to line the annex walls. They've since been replaced by red and gray plastic ones, which are less elegant but easier to read. Henthorn hopes the new signs, along with maps that will be installed soon, will help people find their way around more easily.

None of these measures — not air quality improvements, nor the weatherproofing of walls, nor the change in signs — are unusual, Henthorn insisted, because all new buildings go through a long process of such adjustments. Esther Clenott, who became a Cumberland county commissioner the same year the annex opened, agreed. "I know my feeling is that with any building that's built new, there are problems" Clenott said. "I think we had that with the jail" as well.

Though part of his job is dealing with the shortfalls of modern construction, Henthorn doesn't stop longing for the sturdy qualities of older buildings, like the one that holds his office. "I wish we did buildings like this," today, Henthorn said, looking around the roomy space with its hardwood molding and high ceilings. "But when you think of the cost ..."

He lifted his eyebrows skyward. **CBW**

loose change

Greater Portland legislators who took tobacco industry money in 1996:

Sen. Joel Abramson of Portland: \$550
Sen. William O'Gara of Westbrook: \$100
Rep. Mike Saxl of Portland: \$450
Rep. Jean Ginn Marvin of Cape Elizabeth: \$100
Rep. Christopher Muse of South Portland: \$150

Taxable retail sales in Portland:

1994: \$784,970,000
1995: \$807,830,000
1996: \$848,707,200
1997: \$938,719,900

Taxable retail sales in South Portland:

1994: \$587,203,800
1995: \$587,503,100
1996: \$641,697,100
1997: \$656,336,500

Taxable retail sales in Freeport:

1994: \$273,550,000
1995: \$251,510,000
1996: \$264,348,800
1997: \$270,209,800

Percentage of seafood shipped out of Browne Trading Company in Portland that's local:

90
Pounds of caviar shipped per month: 200
Pounds of crab meat shipped per week: 1,000
Pounds of oysters shipped per week: 1,800-2,000

Number of chartered flights from Portland Jetport by Maine Aviation Corporation from July 1997 to July 1998:

Montreal: 22
Quebec City: 10

As if you didn't have enough to worry about, these statistics, gathered by CBW's staff, indicate the average person worries too much.

Number of games at The Dream Machine in the Maine Mall:

racing video games: 17
sports video games: 10
martial arts video games: 9
shooting video games: 8
pinball machines: 6

Percentage of orthodontic patients of Dr. Alan W. Schneit of Portland who opt for porcelain (clear) braces over stainless steel:

1
Cost of porcelain braces compared to stainless steel: 10-20 percent more

Average duration of stainless steel braces:

2-3 years

Average duration of porcelain braces:

2.5-4 years

Foods to avoid when wearing porcelain braces:

spaghetti sauce and red wine

Age of oldest patient to get braces:

64

Number of Mike & Ike candies received from vending machine in CBW's office on July 29:

first 25¢: 4
second 25¢: 2
third 25¢: 0

Number of mechanical parts that dropped from machine when it was gently knocked:

1

Amount Preble Street Resource Center earns annually from this machine:

\$75-125

"I'm tired of Love. I'm still more tired of Rhyme. But Money gives me pleasure all the time." That couplet by Hilaire Belloc explains why we don't have features called "Loose Love" or "Loose Rhyme." But we lost for blank verse for this column. Send it to CBW, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101, or e-mail editor@cbw.maine.com.

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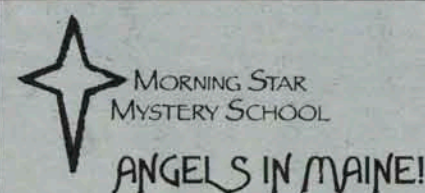


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Smoking

ILLUSTRATIONS: MARTIN SHIELDS



Once anti-smoking activists succeed in banning tobacco in Portland restaurants, their next target will likely be the city's bars.

AL DIAMON

Stu Lacognata stands to make a killing if Portland voters approve a ban on smoking in the city's restaurants this November. Under the proposed ordinance, Lacognata's establishment, Bleachers on Forest Avenue, would probably be exempt from the law's prohibitions against tobacco use on the premises because it would legally be classified as a bar. But a quarter mile up the street, another local watering hole, the Great Lost Bear, would almost certainly be considered a restaurant, and forced to tell its patrons to put out their cigarettes.

It's not unreasonable to suppose that a significant number of smokers who currently slake their thirsts at the Bear might opt to transfer their butts and bases of operation to nearby Bleachers, thereby increasing Lacognata's profits. It also wouldn't be unreasonable to expect Lacognata to be pleased at the prospect that a city ordinance might soon be bringing him lots of new business.

Guess again.

"In one word, it's unfair," Lacognata said. "That's the word. It's just unfair. I'll back the Bear 100 percent in fighting this thing. It starts a trend. Who's next? Are they going to target bars next? The seed has been planted."

In fact, that seed has sprouted and bloomed in several places. Utah, Vermont and Maryland already have statewide restaurant smoking bans in place. In January, California extended its restaurant ban to include bars. According to Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights, more than a dozen counties, cities and towns in other states have approved legislation outlawing the use of tobacco in establishments that are primarily devoted to drinking. Twice that number are expected to consider such laws this year.

All of which sounds like good news to anti-smoking activists, who freely admit they'd like to attempt something similar in Portland, but don't believe there's enough popular support to pull it off.

Yet.

"It's like anything else when you're pushing the envelope," said Dr. Dora Anne Mills, the state health director. "You push the envelope as far as you can go."

Or as Dave Evans, co-owner of the Great Lost Bear, put it, "They're going after the easy targets first."

Where there's smoke

The idea of having Portland institute the first municipal ordinance in Maine to outlaw smoking in all restaurants was conceived last year by an anti-tobacco group called Citizens for a Healthy Portland and the city's public health division. The two organizations decided to act after a similar statewide ban went down to defeat in the Legislature in May 1997.

Almost immediately after the proposal for local restrictions surfaced, a heated debate erupted, with proponents arguing it was needed to protect public health, and opponents charging it was unnecessary government regulation. Both sides rolled out surveys to support their stances. The anti-smokers presented a poll showing more than two-thirds of respondents favored banning tobacco from Portland eateries. The Maine Restaurant Association responded with statistics indicating about two-thirds of the city's restaurants were already smoke-free. On April 6, the City Council approved the smoking ban on a 7-2 vote, with only Councilors Cheryl Leeman and Peter Rickett opposing the measure.

Restaurant and bar owners reacted quickly and negatively. They launched a petition drive to prevent the new law from taking effect and to force the ordinance out to referendum. Since their effort succeeded this May, the issue has been smoldering, awaiting what's expected to be an intense debate leading up to the Nov. 3 election.

As with most laws, the Portland ordinance is a good deal more complex than it appears. It not only prohibits smoking in all restaurants (except those with enclosed smoking areas using city-approved separate ventilation systems), but also outlaws self-service cigarette displays and vending machines. In addition, it protects restaurant employees who refuse to work in smoking areas from being fired or otherwise discriminated against.

If the smoking ban is approved by voters, it will become effective in early February 1999, although restaurants that plan to build separate smoking rooms can apply for a waiver that will give them until early May of next year to comply with the law.

The smoking ban also defines a bar as any establishment in which "alcohol sales constitute sixty percent (60%) or more of the gross sales ... over the immediately preceding twelve month period." Any place selling a smaller percentage of booze would be dubbed a restaurant, and smoking would be prohibited there.

There's more. Any establishment that's been open for less than 12 months on the day the new law

becomes effective will be treated as if it were a restaurant. Only after the owners present a full year's sales data to the city can that designation be changed, and the operation reclassified as a bar where tobacco use would be legal. In practical terms that means that if the ordinance is approved, all new bars in Portland will be forced to go smoke-free for their first year of existence.

Smoke gets in your eyes

Opponents of the smoking ban have a little problem. They can't appear to be too chummy with the tobacco industry. That's because polls show that while the average voter dislikes smoking, he or she flat-out hates cigarette companies. So don't expect to hear Bill Troubh, the attorney and chief strategist for the restaurant owners, echoing Big Tobacco's claims that smoking isn't harmful.

"We're not going to discuss the health aspect," Troubh said. "Everybody knows smoking is bad for you. You won't hear anything coming from my mouth saying smoking doesn't hurt you."

Instead, the restaurant owners will push the issue of allowing freedom of choice for consumers. In Troubh's words, "Let people alone." He'll also argue his clients are just trying to protect their businesses from onerous regulations. "To force The Village [a restaurant on Newbury Street] to spend huge sums — as much as \$75,000 — to separate their bar and ventilation system really hurts," he said.

The big question for the restaurant owners is whether to accept aid from Big Tobacco. Although there have been press reports stating the National Smokers' Alliance, a tobacco industry front group, has already sent staffers to Portland to help organize the campaign against the smoking ban, Troubh insisted his group has had no contact with them. But that's of far less consequence than the issue of accepting direct contributions from the cigarette manufacturers.

"I don't know if we will," said Richard Pfeffer, co-owner of Gritty McDuff's on Fore Street and president of the Old Port Exchange Restaurant and Lounge Association. "We've already been accused of it. They just assume we are. We're the bad guys whether we do or don't. But we haven't made a decision. We're trying to raise the money [for the campaign] locally. We'll decide in the next several weeks if we have to do more."

Taking the cigarette company's cash is no guarantee of a successful campaign. Nationwide, the influence of Big Tobacco money and manpower has produced a decidedly mixed record. The industry was unable to stop a statewide ban on smoking in California restaurants from being expanded to cover bars, although it continues to fight a guerrilla action in hopes of weakening or overturning the new restrictions. In Massachusetts, cigarette manufacturers were credited with derailing statewide legislation to outlaw smoking in eateries. But even that success was tainted, because the failure of the state to act prompted several cities and towns to approve local bans. As of May, at least 20 municipalities in the Bay State had outlawed tobacco use in restaurants. In Congress, the tobacco lobby has had far more success, thwarting efforts to increase taxes on cigarettes, restrict advertising and regulate nicotine.

One way to determine how much influence cigarette companies are having on the Portland referendum will be to examine the tactics employed by opponents of the ban. A key part of the standard tobacco industry attack on smoking bans is the presentation of a less-restrictive alternative. One such proposal, called "Red Light-Green Light," requires bars and restaurants to post a notice indicating



CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

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SMOKING GUN CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

whether smoking is permitted ("red light"), allowed only in designated areas ("yellow light") or banned entirely ("green light"). According to Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights, that approach is severely flawed.

"Red Light-Green Light is a red herring," the group announced in a recent news release. "This type of strategy was spelled out in an internal Philip Morris memo as a way to wipe out local smoke-free ordinances in California 'by introducing smoking accommodation bills' to 'confound the antis' and 'put them on the defensive.' It is nothing more than a retooled version of the Philip Morris 'Accommodation' program, originally developed to derail a restaurant smoking ordinance in Pittsburgh, PA."

Another standard tactic employed by opponents of city or town laws regulating tobacco is to argue the question ought not to be dealt with at the municipal level. "This isn't a local issue," said Councilor Leeman. "This is a state issue because we have a statewide problem. Whatever policy is developed should be fair to everybody."

Which sounds like the conservative Leeman, normally a staunch advocate of local control, is calling for the Legislature to outlaw smoking in all Maine restaurants. "I don't know if I'd go that far," she said. "The market is taking care of the issue. There's no place for government intervention."

So how exactly is this a state issue?

"I support efforts to educate people about smoking. That's more of a state or federal legislative issue."

Legal smoke

A federal judge in North Carolina handed opponents of smoking bans a major weapon in July, when he ruled the 1993 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) study that supposedly proved secondhand smoke causes cancer is seriously flawed. That decision was seized upon by smokers like Steve Harris, who owns Rosie's, a restaurant on Fore Street, and Ruski's, a bar on Danforth Street. Harris called the EPA study "a goddamned lie."

Burned UP

There's a difference between restaurants and bars. If the experience of other towns that have banned smoking in eateries and saloons is any indication, it's a lot easier to accomplish in the former than it is in the latter.

In towns with no freestanding bars, such as Brookline, Mass., or Arlington, Mass., smoking bans in restaurants have caused few complaints. "The anticipation was it was really going to hurt business [when the ban was proposed four years ago]," said Carolyn Simmonds, the executive secretary of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce. "But now, it hasn't really affected anybody. The anticipation was much worse than the impact."

At Brookline's chamber of commerce, executive director Helen Walter said that although she initially received lots of complaints about lost business, particularly from restaurants that depended heavily on bar revenues, she now hears mostly positive comments about the ban passed in 1994. "The bars are the ones that suffered the most," Walter said, "although I'm not aware of any that went out of business."

But the story seems to be markedly different in Amherst, Mass. The town had little difficulty two years ago when it banned smoking in restaurants. But when the local board of health decided this year to extend the restrictions on tobacco use to bars, there was open revolt. The new rules went into effect on July 1, but since then, many bars have refused to obey the law. Instead, they've posted signs warning potential customers that smoking is still allowed inside and to enter at their own risk. The signs also include a list of nearby smoke-free bars.

The Amherst bar owners fear that if they go along with the board of health, the area's large population of college students will travel to other towns to smoke and drink. So they're willing to risk being fined to keep their customer base intact and register their disapproval of the new rules.

"Why is Amherst going it alone?" asked bar owner Judie Teraspulsky. "All we're asking for is equality, that everyone does it [bans smoking] at the same time."

In Roseville, Calif., bar owner Bill Ostrander was found guilty of violating the new state ban on smoking because he didn't stop a customer from lighting up, and even supplied him with an ashtray. Ostrander is appealing his conviction, claiming he obeyed the law by posting no-smoking signs and informing his patrons about the law. He said he put out the ashtray only after his warnings were ignored, and only because he was afraid ashes dropped on the floor would create a fire hazard.

At least one California bar customer has been cited for refusing to snuff his butt. According to *Market Watch*, a restaurant trade magazine, the smoker was fined \$505 and ordered to perform 24 hours of community service.

Portland Mayor Tom Kane said he's aware of the acts of civil disobedience by bar owners and patrons in other states. Kane said those strong negative reactions figured in the decision not to include bars in Portland's ordinance. "We knew this was going to be hard enough," he said. "In other communities people in bars have really gone berserk."

A.D.

In an April advertisement in *CBW*, Harris wrote, "It is very possible that very few or no deaths can be attributed to [secondhand smoke]."

Even Dr. Robert McAfee, a retired Portland physician and former president of the American Medical Association, conceded parts of the EPA study were "questionable." But McAfee said there's "overwhelming evidence" that secondhand smoke causes asthma, bronchitis and other lung diseases, and several studies show "strong links" between cancer and inhaling sidestream smoke.

"I'd stake my scientific reputation that the evidence is there that the dangers of environmental tobacco smoke are reason enough to change public policy," he said.

But if proponents of smoking bans are so sure they're right, why are they so cautious in attacking tobacco use? The answer seems to have more to do with politics than scientific studies or concerns about public health.

Smoke screen

The best argument against "Red Light-Green Light" and other alternatives to a ban on smoking is that they do nothing to protect employees in establishments where smoking is permitted. But the same argument can be used against the Portland ordinance, which ignores the effects of secondhand smoke on people who work in bars. If exposure to tobacco by-products is as harmful as anti-smoking activists claim, why are they willing to sacrifice all those poor bartenders, waiters and waitresses?

The answer is politics.

"Ideally, smoking should be banned in bars," said Dr. Lani Graham, chairwoman of Citizens for a Healthy Portland. "But we have no clear evidence this is what the majority of Portland people want."

Translation: Our polling shows the restaurant-only ban is an easy winner, but when bars are added to the list of places smoking isn't allowed, the numbers are decidedly less positive.

"There is not the kind of public support needed," said Ed Miller, executive director of the American Lung Association of Maine. "It's just not there, and it would be foolish to delay the opportunity to ban exposure to secondhand smoke in restaurants until it is."

"This is a reasonable first step to take — one that was politically acceptable," said Ann Elderkin, Portland's director of public health. "It's seen as an incremental step toward protecting public health."

But isn't it hypocritical to claim this ordinance is based

on health concerns, when it's clearly been compromised in order to increase its popular appeal? "The tobacco industry makes the same argument," said Graham. "They say that's playing politics. But we say you can take sound steps. Just because it doesn't cover everybody is not a good reason to say we can't do it."

Which brings up the issue of how soon after a ban on smoking in Portland restaurants takes effect will anti-tobacco activists be back pushing for a similar prohibition on bars. It took about four years for that to happen in California, and Graham said her group is "looking at the experience of other states and communities. We're watching California with interest."

If the total ban on tobacco use in restaurants and bars succeeds in the Golden State, there's little doubt a similar effort will get under way in Portland in far less than four years. Just months after California's expanded smoking ban went into effect, Amherst, Mass. took similar action, expanding its restrictions on smoking in restaurants to include bars (see sidebar, page 12).

But measuring the success of such laws is difficult. Even Portland City Councilor Nathan Smith, a firm supporter of outlawing smoking in public places, admitted, "It would be naive to assume smoking bans don't have an [economic] impact on restaurants."

Opponents have made numerous wild claims about the dire consequences of anti-smoking ordinances. In his ad, Harris asserted that after smoking was banned in restaurants and bars in Brookline, Mass., in 1994, they experienced a 23-27 percent decline in their business. The National Smokers' Alliance claimed sales at one bar in Whittier, Calif., were down a whopping 80 percent in the first five months after the new restrictions took effect. But all those numbers are, at best, suspect.

The Whittier figures appear to have been based on a survey of bar owners conducted for the American Beverage Institute, a Washington, D.C.-based lobbying group. The survey, in turn, was based on statements by bar owners, statements that were not independently verified. Overall, the poll indicated more than 59 percent of bars and restaurants lost business under the California ban, while just over 30 percent gained customers.

The Brookline figures are even more questionable because they appear to be out of date. Recent studies of tax revenues from restaurants in Brookline found the anti-smoking legislation initially had a major impact on establishments that relied heavily on bar business, but showed those operations rebounded over time. There was

no significant decline in restaurant food sales. Arlington, Mass., had a similar experience, reporting few complaints from restaurants about the no-smoking rule. But neither town allows freestanding bars (although both permit some restaurants that would probably be classified as bars under the Portland ordinance). In communities that allow bars, such as Amherst, Mass., the impact of smoking bans has been more dramatic, although Amherst and most other places haven't had their laws in effect long enough to provide much data as to whether problems associated with new restrictions are short- or long-term phenomena.

"All valid studies very, very consistently show these bans don't inflict any economic detriment," said Mills, the state health director. "If anything, they're an economic benefit."

Maybe, but if the sketchy evidence available to date is any indication, it appears smoking bans do little if any damage to restaurants, but initially have a greater impact on bars — particularly bars located near competing establishments that aren't required to restrict tobacco use. "I'm very negative," said Judie Teraspulsky, the owner of an Amherst bar. "On either town line, the bars are smoking. We're surrounded by neighboring towns that allow smoking. I don't know why smoke in Amherst is any more dangerous than smoke in Northampton."

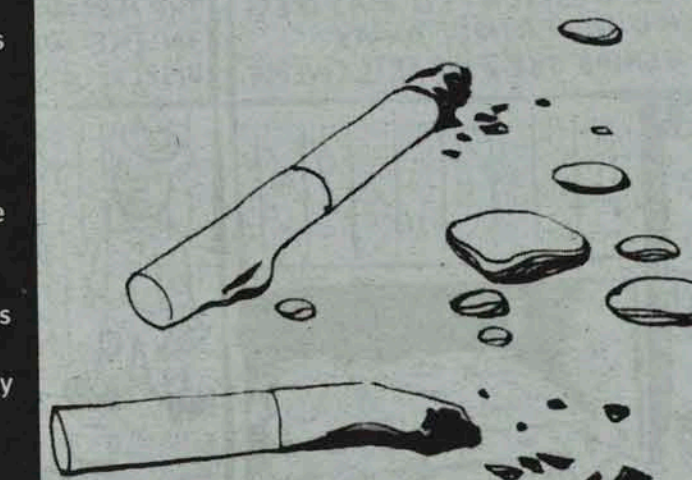
There's little in the studies and experiences in other towns that provides much comfort to Portland restaurant owners like the Great Lost Bear's Evans. "Our bartenders are terrified," he said, "because they see a pack of cigarettes in front of nearly every customer. They're afraid all those people will leave here for some place they can smoke."

"We do more sales than any restaurant in the state," said Steve DiMillo, general manager of DiMillo's Floating Restaurant on the Portland waterfront. "We know how to please people. We don't need government help. We prefer to let the market make the decision."

Those arguments elicit little sympathy from proponents of the ban. "Some of these places are downplaying themselves," said Miller of the American Lung Association. "There are a lot more reasons to go there than just to smoke. That's not the make-or-break it."

McAfee expects anti-tobacco forces will seek to outlaw smoking in virtually all public areas, including bars, in the near future. "The ordinance says you can still smoke, but let's isolate it from the rest of us," he said. "I'm hearing this liberty issue — the government versus the individual. But I say the rules have changed. Nonsmokers are now in the majority, and that allows them to demand ordinances to change behavior."

Al Diamon, *CBW's* political columnist, signed the petition seeking a referendum on the Portland anti-smoking ordinance.



A.D.

SMOKING the numbers

While there have been several studies of the economic impact of restaurant smoking bans, no one seems to have investigated whether such legislation actually does what it's supposed to do — protect public health. Although restrictions on tobacco are touted as beneficial because they reduce potentially dangerous contaminants in the air, there doesn't appear to be any firm evidence that eliminating smoking in restaurants actually reduces the number of cases of lung cancer and other diseases in a community.

Previous studies have indicated that employees in restaurants where smoking is permitted face an increased risk of developing lung cancer of anywhere from 50 to 90 percent. Those are such large numbers that it seems reasonable to assume there should be some similarly significant decreases in the cancer rate once smoking bans are put in place. But nobody seems to have conducted any research to find out if that actually happens.

"That would be a very difficult study to undertake, because there are so many variables," said Dr. Alan Balsam, the commissioner of public health in Brookline, Mass. "It's not impossible, but it's hard to quantify the number of cases or the number of people that avoid disease."

"You don't have to be a scientist," Balsam added, to conclude that less smoke in the air means less exposure to carcinogens, which in turn means less likelihood of health problems.

Maybe, but even some scientists are questioning whether smoke-free air actually results in any detectable public health benefit. They say secondhand smoke produces levels of carcinogens that are so low its health risks have never been established. Congressional reviews of studies of exposure to sidestream smoke have warned that the dangers associated with tobacco fumes may have been overstated and the increased risk of disease may be little more than a "statistical fluke."

Even if that's true, anti-smoking advocates argue the ban on tobacco in restaurants still makes sense. "When you stop seeing secondhand smoke, it does a lot to change the culture," said Dr. Dora Anne Mills, the state health director. "When you don't see smokers, it gives a subtle message to youth, saying smoking is not acceptable."

comment

Our backyard gulag

Amnesty International usually protests the worst kinds of human rights abuses in distant corners of the world like Rwanda and Tibet. Last month, the organization set its sights closer to our backyard: the Maine Youth Center.

In a July 22 letter to Gov. Angus King, an Amnesty official said his group had received numerous reports that residents of the South Portland correctional facility "live in poor physical conditions; that there are inadequate programs and services to rehabilitate and educate children and to care for their physical and mental needs; and that many children have been subjected to ill treatment by staff, including violence Amnesty International urges you to establish an independent and thorough inquiry as soon as possible in order to ensure that the Maine Youth Center provides the children placed in its custody with the care and protection to which they are entitled."

The chronically underfunded youth center has long been an embarrassment to Maine. Teenagers are sent there for rehabilitation, but incompetent leadership and deep budget cuts have reduced the center's overcrowded cottages to little more than holding pens. Some kids awaiting trial spend more than a year locked up — time during which they receive scant education and have no chance to earn the credit for good behavior that could one day set them free — before having their day in court.

Other residents wind up in special isolation cells for weeks on end, victims of their own rebellious acts and the scarcity of trained counselors who could help them regain

mental health. A youth center supervisor once told *CBW* about the sweltering summer day she visited the inaptly named "Intensive Care Unit" and saw a boy who had been shackled in solitary confinement after he ground a shard of concrete into his skin ("Man with a mission," 5.15.97). "He had gouged a hole in his chest. I mean gouged," she said. "He had blood all down his shirt. He was bleeding from his nose. It must have been a hundred degrees in there. The smell was just awful."

Amnesty International not only heard reports of such conditions at the youth center, but considered these hints of horrors to be worthy of action. To their credit, Maine officials have already pledged to give the facility more money in an effort to improve the situation there. A few staff positions have been added in recent months, but more — much more — remains to be done. Gov. King should accept Amnesty's call for an outside investigation.

We can't hide the existence of our little local gulag anymore.

Hello, goodbye

In this issue, we welcome a new reporter, Connie Pacillo. Pacillo has been writing a column on gay and lesbian issues for *CBW*, "From the outside" (see page 7), and cranking out freelance articles.

Last week, we bid fond farewell to Mark Knott, our assistant art director and Web monkey. Knott is headed back to school at Rutgers in New Jersey, where he'll study graphic design.

LAURA CONAWAY



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.

Straight from the Monster's mouth

I was utterly appalled upon reading the article about the Trash Monster wedding at Hadlock Field ("Ear to the pavement," 7.6.98). As a Trash Monster, I found the comments insulting to myself and my co-workers.

There are eight girls, all teenagers and all either in high school or early college, who dress up in the Trash Monster costumes during every Portland Sea Dogs baseball game. I speak for myself, as well as all of my co-workers when I say we are not gay and we are all extremely embarrassed and insulted by the speculation of the editors of *CBW*. This false accusation was apparently thought to be true when the Trash Monsters were married on July 6, prior to a Sea Dogs game.

The Trash Monster wedding was merely a promotional stunt, and was in no way meant to be a statement about the gay lifestyle. The marriage was between two Trash Monsters, one male (green) and one female (orange). It was a completely heterosexual wedding. Yes, both Monsters were played by females, but does that automatically mean we are gay? No! For the record, the two girls who happened to be in the costumes on the day of the wedding (myself and one other) were not actually getting married. If anyone thought this was really the case, well, frankly, I feel sorry for you. How could anyone truly believe that two people — gay or not — would actually get married in dirty costumes by an employee of the Sea Dogs organization who was not even a licensed justice of the peace?

I would like to make it clear that, regardless of the sexual preferences of the girls inside the Trash Monster suits (we happen to be straight!), what right does anybody have to judge us? Especially the author of the insulting article. I am educated and I understand one's constitutional right to freedom of speech and freedom of the press, but I believe that right was abused by *CBW*, and my rights, as well as the rights of my co-workers, were also abused by *CBW*. We are extremely angry, not to mention totally embarrassed and insulted.

I think it's really sad that something which started out as a fun, crazy, silly promotional idea was ruined by a bit

LETTERS

of speculation, by a few insulting remarks from someone who has no clue what he/she is talking about. The author of the article had no right to speculate about such bogus ideas and to embarrass the girls who work so hard to keep Hadlock Field looking clean and beautiful. We bring smiles to the faces of thousands of baseball fans each game and keep them coming back for more great family entertainment. We do not deserve to be insulted in such a way, when we are simply doing our jobs!

an angry Monster

Special equality

I disagree with Al Diamon's critical analysis of Republican gubernatorial candidate Jim Longley ("Feel the Pain," 7.16.98). Asking for specialized actions against perpetrators of "hate crimes" completely defeats the purpose of the gay rights movement — which is equality! Specialized rules for achieving these goals can be perceived as a hindrance, since they strive for continued separation by exceptional privilege.

Do not misunderstand what I am saying. By "exceptional privilege," I mean a separation of a particular mass from the whole, and through that separation any true form of equality can never be achieved. But we shall continue the fight for lawful same-sex marriages (if that is the route you choose to travel — I am against the traditionally lawful and religious marriages, but that's a whole different matter) and equality in the work place. In the midst of the struggles we are all facing toward conquering personal injustices, it is important to keep our heads clear and be able to identify the positive strides and deterrents to convincing the generally ignorant masses of just how right we are!

Timothy Stroede
Washington D.C.

He's no Republican

Although I promise not to file suit, I think Al Diamon may have defamed me ("Concrete and barbed wire," 7.30.98). In quoting me, he seemed to suggest that I was one of many Republicans who, disgruntled with Jim Longley's pro-choice stand on abortion, might support the Maine Taxpayer Party's gubernatorial candidate, Bill Clarke, were it not for Clarke's martial-law type plans for Maine. Little could be further from the truth.

Although I may be disgruntled about a lot of things, I am neither pro-life nor Republican. My "agreement" with Clarke referred solely to his wishes to reduce government and taxes, and his recognition that the current Republican Congress, despite their talk, will do none of it.

I don't want anyone who agreed with my comments in the "As Maine Goes," newsletter to think there is hope for the GOP. There isn't. Rather than glare at the President, GOP politicians should look in the mirror next time someone shouts, "Liar!"

As for the Taxpayers Party, it's really all about God, not taxes. As a proud atheist, I wouldn't be welcome there even if I wanted to be.

Stephen J. Stinson
Portland

Connolly's taste test

I enjoyed very much your article about the power of advertising and money to manipulate voting ("What price victory?" 7.23.98). Of course, I see myself in the

same position as the D.L. Geary Brewing.

My campaign for governor is involved in the same fix of having a lesser quality brew carrying the day simply because of advertising money. Under law, a person who bad-mouths you if you don't give them a million dollars would be called an extortionist. In politics it seems to be called the conventional wisdom.

I hope to break the conventional wisdom cycle regardless of who spends more on advertising. I hope taste will tell in the upcoming November election. Otherwise you know what bud will wind up the King of Maine Beers.

Tom Connolly
Democratic gubernatorial candidate
Portland

"Homeless" in Portland

Laura Conaway's story of her runaway brother ("Have you seen my brother?" 7.2.98) closely resembles mine with my daughter, now 18. I shed a few tears as I read it, recalling the pain, frustration and anger of those dark times. For nearly three years I watched Chelsea descend from a relatively happy and within-normal-limits preteen to one who declared herself "homeless" in Portland, eventually choosing a path of self-destruction that nearly killed her. While she was living in shelters, numbing herself with drugs and alcohol and thumbing her nose up at me and the rules of social and legal order, I was behind the scenes much in the same way as Ms. Conaway. Getting Chelsea arrested, appealing to district attorneys and judges to mandate rehab, deflecting others who believed she would "grow out of it" — all were heart-wrenching attempts to get her off the streets.

More often than not, I came up against her juvenile rights far outweighing mine as a parent. While many I called for assistance (police, social services, counselors, doctors, etc.) were sympathetic to my situation, it seemed their hands were tied by laws that always stopped them in their tracks (and me in mine) if we were inclined to impose ourselves too heavily on Chelsea and her freedom to choose. In the same way Ms. Conaway describes her brother's life on the streets of Portland, Chelsea got everything she needed in the way of clothing, food and shelter. She was slowly dying and being allowed to do so quite comfortably. Eventually, I found myself wishing for her to do something so extreme as to warrant intervention. The most common question posed by professionals was, "Has she threatened to harm you or herself?" I quickly discovered that anything less than the threat of homicide or suicide does not qualify as extreme.

Against all odds Chelsea has survived, as have I. She made the decision at some point to find her way back. Today she is nearly two years clean and sober, has gotten her GED and looks forward to attending classes at the local community college. She aspires to a degree in drug and alcohol counseling in hopes of hitting the streets again, this time to help the kids whose numbers out there keep growing.

The legal limits placed on me as a caring parent, which ultimately deprived Chelsea of help in a timely manner, were the most frustrating part of the ordeal. Like Ms. Conaway, I also recall shouting words of love as doors were closed, able to do absolutely nothing except watch Chelsea walk away and pray that she would find her way home. Or at the very least, make it through the night.

Linnea Lundwall
Newport, R.I.

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.

Get out your hankies, kids: **Raoul's Roadside Attraction**, on Forest Avenue, will close Aug. 10, ending a 15-year stint as one of the spunkiest places in Portland to hear live music. Raoul's co-owner Mark Stuart said the closing date had been moved up from October because landlord East Brown Cow is selling the building.

East Brown Cow co-owner Tim Soley said the price tag on the property was "somewhere over \$600,000." According to Stuart, the Soleys offered him the opportunity to buy the building, "but the numbers ... were just too high."

In the five years Stuart owned the club he "did a wonderful job bringing national acts in," Soley said. But "you have to turn a profit Mike wasn't able to develop the other aspects of the business, like food service, in order to do that."

Soley said he'd consider leasing the space and the Raoul's name, which he says he owns, if he could find a tenant who had "vision." He may have found a tenant or buyer in John Nappi, owner of Nappi's Pizza & Pool on Commercial Street. Nappi, for his part, said it would be "really premature" to discuss the deal. Nonetheless, rumors abound that Nappi plans to turn the space into another pool hall, devoid of any Raoul's-ness. As for the live music tradition at the venerable venue, he said, "Short of saying no comment, I will say I would be happy to discuss it in the future, and you can read between the lines on that."

Raoul's lacked slickness, but it had chutzpah. The exterior resembled a barn, while the inside looked more like "Deliverance" meets "Wheel of Fortune." The musical bookings were just as varied, ranging from big names like Steve Earle and Paula Cole to local bands like the Boneheads and Diesel Doug.

As another live music venue bites the dust, Portland promoter Jim Ahearn of Don Law Productions said the effect the closing will have on the local music scene will be more "in the sad category, rather than have a huge-impact category." Ahearn said the club scene is resilient, and places like Stone Coast Brewing Company will host many of the bands Raoul's once booked.

Stuart hasn't given up his dream of running a successful music hall. He said investors have approached him about starting a club in a new building with a "couple of stages, a recording studio and seating capacity that would go from 250 to 1,000."

Stuart said he wants patrons to get ready to party away Raoul's final days. He plans to sell off the club's memorabilia as souvenirs. For those who want a piece of the experience, Stuart will host a final night at Raoul's on Aug. 10, featuring a jam session open to any local musician who shows up. He intends to compile the best music from that event on a farewell CD to be released in a few months.

CBW

edge

WHERE THE BUFFALO ROAM — PAULA'S BACK — NO TRIP TO THE BEACH — ALL BROUGHT TO YOU COURTESY OF A RADAR DETECTOR MOGUL



ILLUSTRATION/JED MORFITT

Light of my life

One firebug offers a few last thoughts on smoking before it's extinguished forever

■ ALLEN DAMMANN

Smoking is cool — but in certain regions of the world, so is topping off your pinkie to demonstrate allegiance to the Mafia. While smoking may be less painful than self-amputation, it poses health risks of its own, including the ugly threat of cancer — which will henceforth be referred to in this article as "an*er" to avoid making smokers feel self-conscious. *an*er is followed on the list of hazards by emphysema, wrinkles and premature births. Cigarettes create a fire hazard, make your breath smell terrible, pollute the air and can gradually kill those closest to you. Since using tobacco

is really just a drawn-out, expensive form of hari-kari, the question on the minds of my non-smoking friends is always the same: Why would I smoke at all?

Because I simply enjoy lighting up. For all its ill effects, smoking lends a unique tactile and psychological satisfaction to otherwise run-of-the-mill events, such as standing. Yes, it's a terrible vice to take up, and without the benefit of Uma Thurman sitting across the table from you, it almost never looks as cool as smokers think it does — but it's gratifying in its own wheezing, hacking, death-rattle kind of way.

Smoking is pleasurable for several rea-

sons. First, there's the nicotine rush — a quick, low-flying buzz that neither impairs your motor control like alcohol, nor leaves that embarrassing mustache of goo you get from inhaling a bag of cleaning agents. Second, the habit allows you to exhale long, luxurious streams of smoke, giving you the appearance of being on the foggy moors of England — just like Sherlock Holmes. And third, when you've reached the top of a small embankment and your overtaxed heart is crashing furiously against your ribcage, you're never more in tune with your body, particularly your respiratory system.

That's not to say everyone who smokes wishes to keep puffing. Many people desperately want to quit, a situation that seems almost hopeless when you consider that cigarettes are addictive and not, as people once believed, just "that damn good." To their credit, a lot of folks have been successful at kicking the habit, whether they used nicotine patches to ease withdrawal symptoms, quit cold turkey or switched to chewing tobacco. Whatever their motivation for quitting, one thing is certain: They all deserve a hearty slap on the back and a fresh, creamy carton of Marlboro Reds.

But there remains that group of us who willfully go on smoking. Skeptics might argue that we're slaves to the tobacco companies, that we're too weak to break free and are therefore reduced to justifying our vice. Not so. We smokers are slaves to no one except Wrigley's gum, 24-hour convenience stores, Scope, pine-scented air fresheners, Ultra Bright toothpaste, All-Tempe Cheer and Bic.

These days, the nuisances that accompany tobacco addiction are such that only the most die-hard firebug would stick with it. Most convenience stores are getting tougher about checking IDs, which makes sending your kid niece to pick up some butts almost impossible. Fewer and fewer restaurants offer a smoking section. The price of a pack of cigarettes has gone up so much that the tax on smoking alone could now fund most socialist countries. And unless you're born with talent, it's next to impossible to blow smoke rings.

Annoyances aside, smoking is a highly communal act, kind of like a church that meets every 20 minutes. In an era that encourages suspicion of others, it's heartening to see a small band of people finding a common ground, usually the parking lot outside work. All vices should produce such bonding. Thanks to cigarettes, total strangers from different walks of life have a forum for relating to each other. At parties, clumped together on a tiny porch in the dead of winter, frozen to the bone, smokers inevitably

develop friendships that survive at least until the keg dries up.

Maybe the real dilemma is that the gap between smokers and non-smokers can never be bridged, because the two groups have no way to relate. Firebugs view their abstemious counterparts as sticks-in-the-mud out to ruin everyone else's chances for getting emphysema. Non-smokers, on the other hand, regard tobacco hounds as something like a smellier version of anthrax. Meanwhile, huddled between the two camps are former smokers — whose urge to light up has been replaced with an even stronger urge to moan about how badly they want to light up — as well as that odd breed of non-smokers who turn into chimneys the moment they're drunk. None of these groups is ever quite sure what to do with the others — although with the increase in bans on public puffing, like the one proposed in Portland, it's becoming

clearer that "the smoking section" will soon refer exclusively to a thatched hut in French Guyana.

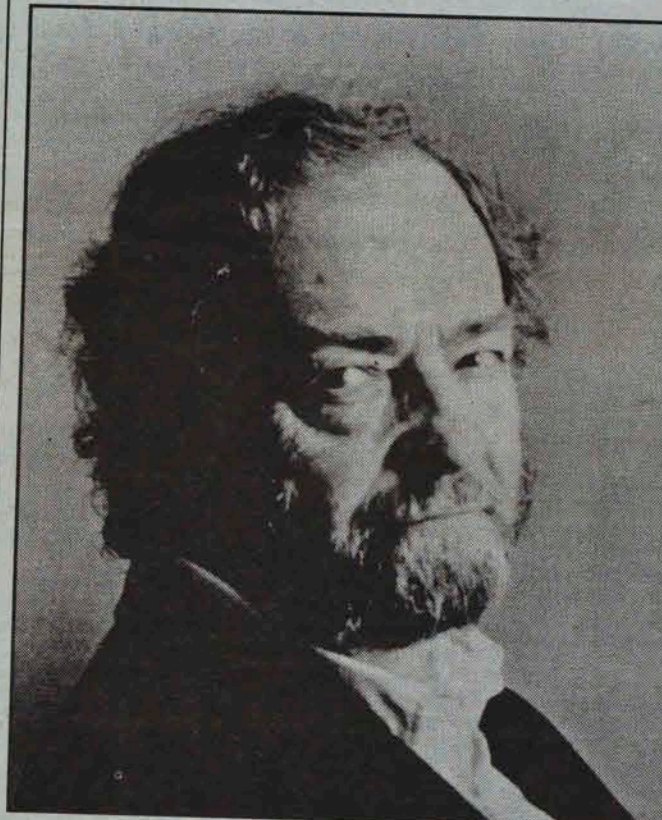
Perhaps smokers have already lost the battle. The same elements who decided asbestos insulation and unsterile surgery were bad for the public health will probably see to it that smoking, too, becomes a thing of the past. You'll have to visit a small Central European country to witness people firing up a Pall Mall — or pay five bucks to get into a living history farm, where you could sit in a hazy 20th-century bar and watch drunk people light the wrong end of a cigarette, just like in the old days.

Or maybe smoking will be replaced with another vice to get people riled up all over again. When it comes down to it, what good is a pinkie finger, anyway?

CBW

Preview

Not going gently



When Donald Hall lost his wife, fellow poet Jane

Kenyon, to leukemia, he turned to his writing desk for succor. The resulting book, "Without," may be the most powerful collection of verse to see print in the last decade. Hall will present poems from his work Aug. 12 at Borders Books & Music in South Portland.

"Without" is a bracing read for our death-denying culture. The book is full of the generosity and artfulness that have endeared Hall to generations of writ-

ers and readers. With a clear eye and in beautifully transparent language, he sketches the decline of his wife's health, from the initial ravages of cancer, through the sicknesses of chemotherapy, to the end. He depicts himself struggling to fulfill his wife's last wish: "Be with me when I die." In what he knows will be their last days together, Hall asks questions about himself: "Why was he not contented four months ago? Because Jane did not have leukemia? A year hence, would he question why he was not contented now? Therefore, he was contented."

Hall, a native of New Hampshire, where he once served as the state poet laureate, was invited to speak in Maine by the Portland-based *Cafe Review*, which recently published a special issue dedicated to Hall that includes tributes from such heavy hitters as Robert "Iron John" Bly and Maine's own laureate, Kate Barnes. It's not often a poet of Hall's caliber comes to visit the local shopping center. His appearance should not be missed.

■ JASON WILKINS

Donald Hall reads Aug. 12 at Borders Books & Music, Maine Mall Rd., So. Portland, at 8 p.m. Co-sponsored by the *Cafe Review*. Free. 775-6110.

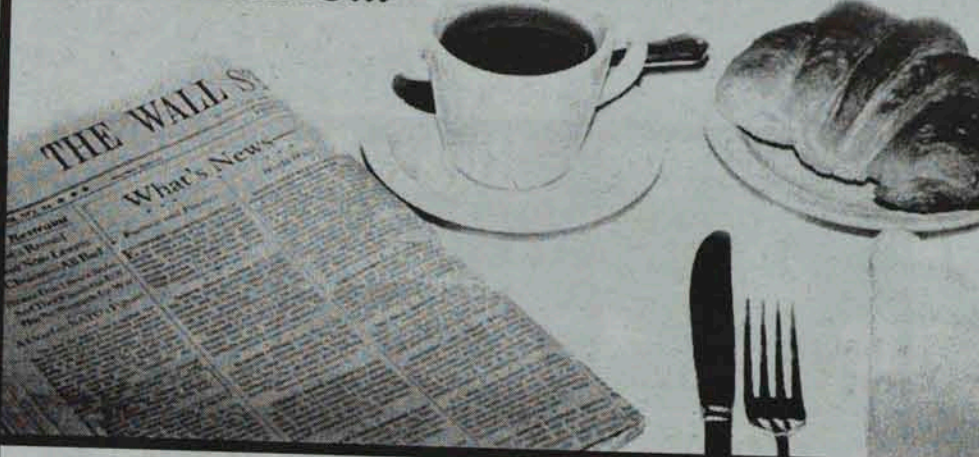
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clubs



Prime cut

Grant Lee Buffalo's brand-spanking-new release, "Jubilee," plays like the postmodern soundtrack for a tour through turn-of-the-century America. Blending the rickety sounds of antiquated instruments with the band's cache of rock-guitar stylings and frontman Grant Lee Phillips dramatic falset-to-tinged vocals, GLB has created a body of work that is comfortably old, refreshingly new and overwhelmingly emotional. "I grew up with a lot of church music," explains Phillips. "In these little country churches, the idea was that the music was part of the release, part of the physical experience. I always dreamt of my Jubilee as an event that was musical and magical and liberating as well as exotic and all things possible — a tent revival and a vaudeville show, all these other forms that are entertaining as well as liberating." Harvey Danger — the band responsible for that pleasingly whiny summer anthem, "Flagpole Sitta" — opens Aug. 10 at Stone Coast, 14 York St., Portland, at 9:30 pm. Tix: \$12 (\$10 advance). 773-2337.

thursday 6

Asylum
Meddell, Honkeyball and DOON
(hardcore/8 pm/\$7 all-ages)

The Barking Squirrel
Charlie and Claudia (jazz/8:30 pm/
no cover)

The Basement
Dexter Groove (9 pm/cover T.B.A.)

The Big Easy
Bluesettes (blues/9 pm/cover T.B.A.)

The Bitter End
Calepitz (9 pm/no cover)

Club 100
TJ the DJ spins Top 40 (9 pm-1 am/
ladies' night)

The Comedy Connection
Comedy showcase (8:30 pm/\$6)

Commercial Street Pub
Karaoke (9 pm/no cover)

Free Street Taverna
The Bulgarian Cowboy (10 pm/
no cover)

Gilgan's Tiki Bar
Mike Schools (classic rock/9 pm/
no cover)

Jones Landing
The Sean Mencher Swing Combo
('30s and '40s-style swing/8:30 pm/
no cover)

Old Port Tavern
Empty Head (alt rock/10 pm/
no cover)

Pete and Larry's
Happy hour with Tom and Harvey
(covers/5-6 pm/no cover)

Raul's
Darden Smith (8 pm/\$8)

Silver House Tavern
Ken Gensley and Friends (classic
rock)

Sisters
Dancing (8 pm/no cover)

Somewhere
Corduroy Planet (piano/9 pm-
midnight/no cover)

Squire Morgan's
Acoustic duo (9 pm/no cover)

Stone Coast Brewing Company
Robert Walter (of the Greyboy
Allstars/10 pm/\$7; Concert karaoke
with Greg Powers (9:30 pm/town-
stars/no cover)

The Underground
DJ Bob Look's All Request Night
(70s, '80s and '90s dance
hits/cover T.B.A.)

friday 7

Asylum
Mark Miller (blues/9 pm/no cover)

Asylum
Call ahead

The Basement
Another Planet (9:30 pm/cover T.B.A.)

The Big Easy
The Radio Kings (blues/9 pm/cover
T.B.A.)

The Bitter End
Dyskrikhan (9 pm/\$1)

Brian Bori
Rakish Paddy (traditional Irish/9 pm)

Club 100
TJ the DJ spins Top 40 (9 pm-1 am/
no cover)

The Comedy Connection
Julie Barr (8:30 pm/\$8)

Free Street Taverna
The Brood and 13 Ghosts (rock/
10 pm/\$3)

Gilgan's Tiki Bar
Call ahead (9 pm/no cover)

The Industry
College Night (DJ Jayce spins hip-hop,
R&B and dance/18+10 pm-3
am/21+, \$3/18+, \$5)

Jones Landing
Schmidt and Trout (jazz/8:30 pm/
no cover)

Metropolis
Chem-free party with DJ Thunder (hip-
hop and Top 40/8 pm-1 am/\$6;
Synrpy in Room Two with guest DJs
(house, trance, techno/9:30 pm-7
am/\$8)

Old Port Tavern
Empty Head (alt rock/10 pm/
no cover)

Pete and Larry's
Happy hour with Tom and Harvey
(covers/5-6 pm/no cover)

Raul's
Jimmie Dale Gilmore (9 pm/\$15)

The Seamen's Club
The Red Light Revue (R&B/9 pm/
no cover)

Silver House Tavern
Candi-oke (9 pm/no cover)

Sisters
Dancing (70s, '80s and '90s dance
hits/8 pm/no cover)

saturday 8

Asylum
All Out War, Candiria, Rara Form and
Low Life (hardcore/8 pm/\$8/all-ages)

The Basement
Atos Regatta (9:30 pm/cover T.B.A.)

The Big Easy
The Slam Allen Band (blues/
9 pm/cover T.B.A.)

The Bitter End
Meat Depressed and Cradle
(9 pm/\$1)

Brian Bori
Rakish Paddy (traditional Irish/9 pm)

Club 100
TJ the DJ spins Top 40 (9 pm-1 am/
no cover)

The Comedy Connection
Julie Barr (8 and 9:45 pm/\$10)

Free Street Taverna
Cerberus Shoal (alt rock/10 pm/\$3)

Gilgan's Tiki Bar
Call ahead (9 pm/no cover)

The Industry
DJ Miss spins Top 40, hip-hop and
techno (18+10 pm-3 am/21+,
\$3/18+, \$5)

Jones Landing
Jenny Woodman (1:5 pm;
Jeff Aumiller (folk/6-9 pm)

Metropolis
70s, '80s and '90s dance night (Top
40 dance mix/9 pm-4 am/18+ from
1-4 am/ladies night/men pay \$3)

Old Port Tavern
Empty Head (alt rock/10 pm/
no cover)

Pete and Larry's
Happy hour with Tom and Harvey
(covers/5-6 pm/no cover)

Raul's
Jimmie Dale Gilmore (9 pm/\$15)

The Seamen's Club
The Red Light Revue (R&B/9 pm/
no cover)

Silver House Tavern
Candi-oke (9 pm/no cover)

Sisters
Dancing (70s, '80s and '90s dance
hits/8 pm/no cover)

sunday 9

Asylum
Ken Gensley (classic rock/9 pm/
no cover)

Asylum
Call ahead (9 pm/no cover)

The Basement
Earth Crisis, Another Victim and
Reach The Sky (hardcore/8
pm/\$7 all-ages)

The Big Easy
The Slam Allen Band (blues/
9 pm/cover T.B.A.)

The Bitter End
Meat Depressed and Cradle
(9 pm/\$1)

Brian Bori
Rakish Paddy (traditional Irish/9 pm)

Club 100
TJ the DJ spins Top 40 (9 pm-1 am/
no cover)

The Comedy Connection
Julie Barr (8 and 9:45 pm/\$10)

Free Street Taverna
Cerberus Shoal (alt rock/10 pm/\$3)

Gilgan's Tiki Bar
Call ahead (9 pm/no cover)

The Industry
DJ Miss spins Top 40, hip-hop and
techno (18+10 pm-3 am/21+,
\$3/18+, \$5)

Jones Landing
Jenny Woodman (1:5 pm;
Jeff Aumiller (folk/6-9 pm)

Metropolis
70s, '80s and '90s dance night (Top
40 dance mix/9 pm-4 am/18+ from
1-4 am/ladies night/men pay \$3)

Old Port Tavern
Empty Head (alt rock/10 pm/
no cover)

Pete and Larry's
Happy hour with Tom and Harvey
(covers/5-6 pm/no cover)

Raul's
Jimmie Dale Gilmore (9 pm/\$15)

The Seamen's Club
The Red Light Revue (R&B/9 pm/
no cover)

Silver House Tavern
Candi-oke (9 pm/no cover)

Sisters
Dancing (70s, '80s and '90s dance
hits/8 pm/no cover)

the next Big things

The Robert Cray Band
Merrill Auditorium,
8/14

The Lemonwheel
Festival with Phish
Loring Air Force Base,
8/15-16

Guster
Stone Coast, 8/17

The Suffragette
Sessions with the
Indigo Girls
State Theatre, 8/19

Silver House Tavern
Candi-oke (9 pm/no cover)

The Underground
DJ Colin spins and karaoke with
Stompin' Norman (9 pm/covers)

Zootz
Free Fall Sunday with DJ Moshé (hip-
hop/9 pm-1 am/\$3 after 11 pm)

monday 10
The Basement
Acoustic open mic with Jeff Mew
(9:30 pm/no cover)

Free Street Taverna
Open mic with Skeezy Boll Weevil
(10 pm/no cover)

Jones Landing
Woodwind Quartet of the Community
Orchestra of the Portland Symphony
(8:15 pm)

Old Port Tavern
DJ Dancin' Don Coman (10 pm/
no cover)

Stone Coast
Grant Lee Buffalo and Harvey
Danger (9:30 pm/\$12/\$10
advance/all-ages)

Zootz
Dominate the Species (gothic indus-
trial dance and fetish night/9 pm-1
am/\$3)

tuesday 11
Asylum
Seven Mary Three and Far Too Jones
alt rock/9 pm/\$12/\$10
advance/18+)

The Big Easy
Lay Lightening (Dead covers/9 pm)

The Comedy Connection
Bob Nelson (8:30 pm/\$12.50)

Commercial Street Pub
Acoustic open mic (9 pm/no cover)

Free Street Taverna
Hollister (10 pm/no cover)

Sonia Dada
Stone Coast, 8/22

The Tragically Hip
State Theatre, 8/28

The Tubes
Stone Coast, 8/28

The Connells
Stone Coast, 8/29

Clarence
"Gatemouth" Brown
Asylum, 8/28

Bill Cosby
Merrill Auditorium,
9/26

Gritty McDuff's
The McChriffs (8 pm-midnight/
no cover)

Old Port Tavern
Old Port dance night with Dancin'
Don Coman (10 pm/no cover)

Somewhere
Karaoke with Larry & Larry (9 pm-1
am)

Stone Coast
Missing Joe (10 pm/\$1)

wednesday 12
Asylum
Rock, pop and swing dance night
(8 pm/no cover)

The Big Easy
Red Light Revue (R&B and blues/
9 pm/cover T.B.A.)

The Bitter End
Call ahead

The Comedy Connection
Bob Nelson (8:30 pm/\$12.50)

Free Street Taverna
Aksu (reggae/10 pm/no cover)

Gritty McDuff's
Mark Miller (blues/8 pm-
midnight/no cover)

Heads U Win
Mark and Patty Miller (blues/
8 pm/no cover)

Old Port Tavern
Karaoke talent contest with DJ
Dancin' Don (10 pm/no cover)

The Pavilion
Ladies' night with DJ Shane Staples
(Top 40 dance hits/\$3/ladies free)

Pete and Larry's
Happy hour with Tom and Harvey
(5-8 pm/no cover)

Silver House Tavern
Candi-oke (9 pm/no cover)

Sisters
R&B dancing (9 pm/no cover)

The Underground
DJ Colin spins (10 pm/covers)

Zootz
Open mic with Electric Tigers
(9 pm-1 am/no cover)

club directory

Angle's 121 Commercial St., Portland, 772-6593.

Asylum 121 Center St., Portland, 772-8274.

The Basement 1 Exchange St., Portland, 628-1111.

The Big Easy 55 Market St., Portland, 871-6817.

The Bitter End 446 Fore St., Portland, 874-1933.

Brian Bori 57 Center St., Portland, 780-1506.

Club 100 Route 100, Gray, 758-2374.

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

Commercial Street Pub Commercial St., Portland, 761-9970.

The Farnata Club 365 Forest Ave., Portland, 772-6693.

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

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

Gilgan's Tiki Bar 38 Wharf St., Portland, 772-2739.

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

Heads U Win 27 Forest Ave., Portland, 774-1100.

The Industry 50 Wharf St., Portland, 879-0865.

Jones Landing Peaks Island, Portland, 766-5542.

Metropolis 1037 Forest Ave., Portland, 791-3781.

Old Port Tavern 11 Moulton Ave., Portland.

O'Rourke's Landing 175 Pickett St., So. Portland, 767-3611.

Pete and Larry's Doubletree Hotel, 1230 Congress St., Portland, 774-5611.

The Pavilion 188 Middle St., Portland, 773-6422.

Raul's 865 Forest Ave., Portland, 773-6886.

The Seamen's Club 375 Fore St., Portland, 774-7777.

Silver House Tavern 340 Fore St., Portland, 772-9885.

Sisters 45 Danforth St., Portland, 871-9169.

Stone Coast Brewing Company 14 York St., Portland, 773-2337.

Squire Morgans 46 Market St., Portland, 774-5246.

The Underground 3 Spring St., Portland, 773-3315.

Ventilo's 155 Riverside St., Portland, 775-6536.

Zootz 31 Forest Ave., Portland, 773-8187.

Unless otherwise noted, clubs require that patrons are 21 years or older.

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8/29 Tubes 8/29 Connells

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UPCOMING
Sun Aug 9: All-ages \$7 8pm

Somewhere
piano bar

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SHORT

cuts

DAN SHORT

Million-dollar bash

When everybody gets done celebrating Rustic Overtones' recent signing to the Arista label, it might be worth remembering that this is simply a business deal — a deal that promises as much potential danger as it does opportunity.



For a long time, it's been all but certain the Overtones would eventually land a contract with a major label. After all, the Portland band has toured the nation and built an extensive fan base. (There are at least four fan-operated Web pages out there,

more than some artists who have been on major labels for years.) There's no question the band deserves any and all success it gets. But signing this contract doesn't, in and of itself, guarantee that success.

The problem with this sort of deal is financial. The *Portland Press Herald* reported the agreement was worth over a million dollars. The principals won't give out the details, but chances are extremely good that most of this money is in the form of advances. That's cash paid to the band in expectation of future sales. Which means that if sales fall short of the label's goals, the band owes the company whatever money wasn't recouped from its advance.

With most record deals, money spent for recording, videos, promotions, touring, etc. is deducted from the band's share of album sales. If a recording fails to generate enough revenue to cover those costs, the band ends up in debt to the label. For example, it was reported in *Spin* that the roots-rock band the Jayhawks owed their label, American Recordings, close to a million dollars. Though such debts often go uncollected, companies can use them either to control bands or force them to cancel their contracts.

Though a band must pay for failing to meet sales quotas, a label, by failing to promote the band skillfully or at all, can hinder an artist's marketing. No contract is going to guarantee that a label will provide a strong promotional push, a decent video or adequate tour support. Since the money spent on a band is in the form of advances — that is, debts owed to the label by the band — the failure of that band to sell albums has a minimal financial downside for the label. Hence, there isn't much reason for a label to spend time and money on an unknown band, when it can put its energy into a sure moneymaker, thereby maximizing profits.

It would be foolish to judge the Rustic Overtones' deal without knowing the particulars, but it is possible to assess the track record of the label with whom the group signed. Arista may be a well-known company, but it's not a name normally associated with rock groups. As one source told the *Press Herald*, "If Arista has a weakness, it's in alternative rock, in terms of breaking alternative rock acts."

That's a bit like saying if Tupac has a medical problem, it's those bullet holes in his chest. With the exception of Sarah McLachlan, the label currently has no big-name rock acts, and McLachlan herself appeals more to the adult contemporary market.

Moreover, looking at Arista's history, the label has been home to very few of rock's giants. The Kinks and Lou Reed recorded for the company for a period of time, but made their names — and their best work — elsewhere. The Grateful Dead and Patti Smith have been longtime fixtures. But that hardly adds up to a grand tradition. What has happened to most of Arista's attempts to break rock acts? If you see a picture of the Jeff Healy Band, The Church, Flock of Seagulls or the Crash Test Dummies, it's likely to be on a milk carton.

Arista has built itself a big house thanks to R&B and pop acts like Aretha Franklin, Barry Manilow, Whitney Houston and Dionne Warwick. The company keeps its mansion well-furnished thanks to the current work of Babyface and his LaFace imprint. Meanwhile, rock bands have been generally relegated to the basement.

As the old show biz saying goes, "Nobody knows anything." Rustic Overtones could get a big push from Arista and become huge stars. But that probably won't change the fact that the group's success is dependent on constant touring, hard work by its management team and a good deal of luck. That million dollars doesn't hurt, but it doesn't help as much as you might think.

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Groove galore: The Beatroots and a zillion other acts perform at the Maine Festival, beginning Aug. 6.

calendar

THURSDAY 6

MAINE FESTIVAL

So no one showed up for your first annual Todd Fest — two days of sitting in your backyard doing Jell-O shots to Led Zeppelin IV. Big deal. Maine Arts' annual Maine Festival has four days of art, rhythm and food, ranging from musical performances by the Beatroots and the Zulu Leprechauns to dance demonstrations by Bon Temps Chez Nous and Los Gitanos, to storytelling from Tim Sample and Bob Bryan. There are art workshops, too, which means Todd Fest '99 will boast Jell-O shots, Zeppelin and face painting. Righteous, dude! At Thomas Point Beach, Brunswick, beginning at 11 a.m. The festival continues through Aug. 9. Tix: \$12 (\$6 kids under 12/\$9 kids 13-17 and seniors). Schedules available at Shop 'n Save. For a full schedule, call 772-9012.

SATURDAY 8

PORTLAND 3-ON-3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

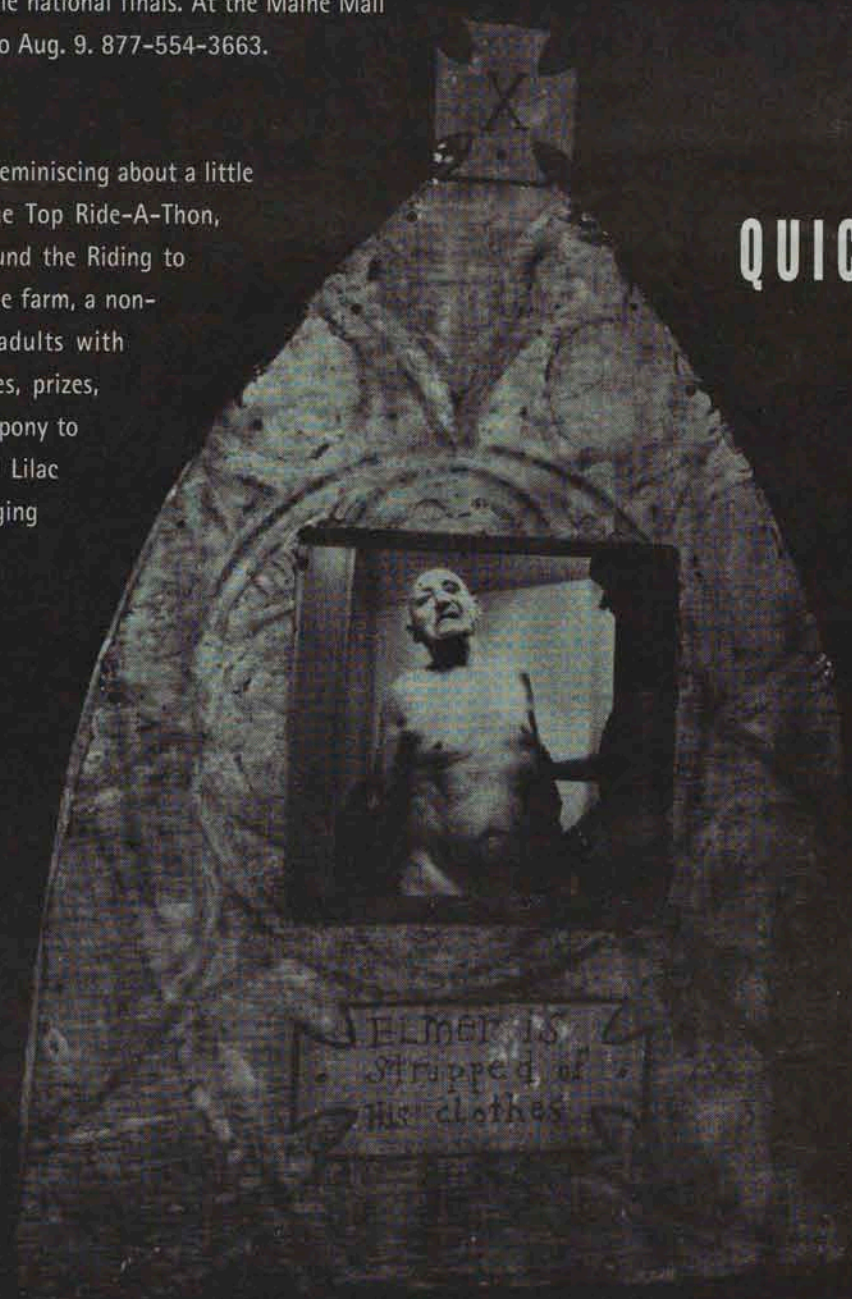
Uh-huh. We all know you'd be an NBA star today if it weren't for those damn Pringles. For some real-life basketball, there's the Portland 3-On-3 Basketball Tournament, organized by Summit Sports — two days of b-ballin' trios going head to head for the chance to move on to the national finals. At the Maine Mall parking lot, Maine Mall Road, So. Portland, from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Also Aug. 9. 877-554-3663.

RIDING TO THE TOP RIDE-A-THON

It never fails. You get a couple of beers into you and soon you're reminiscing about a little pony you once trained named Secretariat. At the Riding to the Top Ride-A-Thon, horseback riders are invited to explore the woods and trails around the Riding to the Top farm in Windham. Pledges earned by the riders benefit the farm, a non-profit therapy center providing riding services for kids and adults with physical and emotional disabilities. In addition, there are raffles, prizes, drawings and a barbecue lunch. But don't worry about bringing a pony to get in — spectators are also welcome. At Riding to the Top, 10 Lilac Drive, Windham, from 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. For info on being or pledging a rider, call 892-2813.

"ELMER WALKER: HERMIT TO HERO"

Too bad *National Geographic* had to fire you. A blurry photograph of your pinkie doesn't look like the Loch Ness monster, after all. "Elmer Walker: Hermit to Hero," on the other hand, is the real thing. Featuring over 30 photographs by Portland artist and CBW photographer Tonce Harbert, the exhibition documents six years (1988-1994) in the life of Walker, a 91-year-old resident of the White Mountains in Porter. Labeled "retarded," Walker was almost institutionalized 11 years ago following the death of his brother — a circumstance avoided through the intervention of friends and neighbors. Join the artist for the opening reception at Maine College of Art's Institute of Contemporary Art, 522 Congress St., Portland, from 5-7 p.m. The exhibition continues through Sept. 25. Hours: Wed.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 879-5742.



Picture this: "Elmer Walker: Hermit to Hero" opens Aug. 8.

Submissions for the calendar must be received in writing by the Thursday two weeks prior to publication. Send your calendar listings to Allen Dammann, Casco Bay Weekly, 561 Congress St., Portland, ME 04101.

FRIDAY 7

"FAMILY FESTIVAL: ON THE RIVIERA"

You've got the black getup, you're a chain-smoker, you cut your ear off — if only you could actually paint. Monet, Matisse — now those cats could wield a brush. The Portland Museum of Art's "Family Festival: On the Riviera" is your chance to explore the museum's current exhibition, "Impressions of the Riviera," using the masterpieces as inspiration for your own drawing or poem. (Warning: Poems beginning "There once was a man from Nantucket" will not be permitted.) At the Portland Museum of Art, 7 Congress Sq., Portland, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Free. 775-6148.

SUNDAY 9

COUNTRY MUSIC PICNIC

Just because you refer to everyone as "pardner" doesn't mean you'll make it as a country music singer. Fans of the real stuff can attend the Maine Country Music Association's annual picnic, which includes performances by Hazel B and the Zodiacs, Gloria Jean and E-Z-Rider, Slim Andrews and Owen Clark, plus eats like hot dogs and hamburgers, games for kids and raffles. At Wassamki Spring, Saco St., Westbrook, from 1-5 p.m. Admission: \$6 (\$5 members/\$3 kids under 12). 892-2385, 795-6515 or 799-8938.

QUICK PICKS

AUG 7

• Join artist John Bonanno for the opening reception of "Visions" at the June Fitzpatrick Gallery, 112 High St., Portland, from 5-7 p.m. The exhibition shows through Aug. 29. 772-1961.

AUG 8

• Grupo De Capoeira Angola Malandragem performs the Afro-Brazilian self-defense art form, capoeira, as well as the traditional stick dance, maculelle. At the Cake Studio, 27 Forest Ave., Portland, at 7 p.m. Tix: \$7. 879-2371.

AUG 12

• The Children's Theater of Maine summer camp performers stage three original plays by contestants from the 1998 Young Playwrights Contest: "Who Dunnit Hotel," at 10 a.m., "On Strike," at 2 p.m. and "All Your Hopes and Dreams," at 7 p.m. Outside Ludcke Auditorium on University of New England's Westbrook College campus, Stevens Avenue, Portland (Rain location: Ludcke Auditorium). Tix: \$3. 878-2774.

SOUND BITES

• Think Van Halen crossed with the Beatles and The Ramones and you've got The Erratics. Hear them Aug. 7 at Geno's (9:30 p.m./\$4).
• King of the funky, funky sax, Maceo Parker, plays cuts from his forthcoming "Funk Overload" with the Wise Monkey Orchestra. Aug. 7 at Stone Coast (9 p.m./\$17.50).
• Raging hardcore quartet Madball unleash some wicked sounds Aug. 6 at Asylum (8 p.m./\$7/all ages).

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Seven

■ JIM PINFOLD

LUCINDA WILLIAMS
CAR WHEELS ON A GRAVEL ROAD



1 It's hard to imagine an album in the last couple of years as elegant as Lucinda Williams' "Car Wheels on a Gravel Road." Wishing, hoping, remembering, desiring, staying and leaving—the songs on "Gravel Road" are all about the could've-beens in life, as Williams floats above the sadness of what is. She's left out the prettiness of her last album, "Sweet Old World," but the dust and intelligence are still in. These songs should travel well. "Car Wheels on a Gravel Road": A

2 Is Portsmouth's Elvis Room always like this? Mid-July Tuesday night. Four bands. The headliner, Bap Kennedy, goes on at 11. Five kids watch a pool game. Four folks stand and watch the band. Another five sit in chairs. The soundman is shooting eight ball, ignoring problems on stage until the musicians just give up trying to get his attention. Even the prospect of a bar fight might have doubled attendance. Or, perhaps, publicity. Kennedy: A-

3 Which peaked higher on the weirdness meter: seeing Jonathan Richman singing in a tree in the opening sequence of "There's Something About Mary," or seeing his hand-dog visage in the July 29 *USA Today* (in a story about his "Mary" role)? Watching Jonathan sing on the big screen with the big production of strings welling up on the soundtrack is like seeing an Irish setter with hair ribbons. The owner may think it's cute, and the dog may pee all over itself with excitement, but that doesn't make it right. Despite the questionable violins and the voice being slightly out of synch, seeing our aging boy as a Hollywood superstar is a victory for all the dorks in America. Forget *USA Today*. We want him on the cover of *Car & Travel*.

4 So who's going to put Greg Brown on stage in Portland? Or Steve Forbert or Jimmie Dale Gilmore or Cheryl Wheeler or Catie Curtis or Patty Larkin or Ferron or Jonathan Richman or James McMurtry or hundreds of other performers who've appeared at Raoul's? The club has long been the imperfect hang for the over-25 crowd who actually like to listen. True, the noise at the bar made second sets hard on performers as well as audiences. True, the quality of the food led some patrons to brown-bag it in the parking lot during breaks. But the days of incredible nightmares were over, the sound guy was better than in many other area clubs, the parking was easier than in any place south of Pownal and if you had to wait for a beer, at least it wasn't because some little fuckwad behind the bar was ignoring you because he was reminiscing about glory days at Deering High with a drunken classmate in a Hard Rock Café T-shirt. So why is nobody wringing hands at the news that Raoul's is closing Aug. 10? The owners should never have taken down that stage-eating Speedo that stretched above performers' heads for so many years. We knew that decision was bad juju. We just knew it.

5 If you listen for interesting singers outside the usual range of hearing, they are always there. This month it's *fado* (loosely translated as "lament of destiny") singer Misia. Her American debut is "Garra dos Sentidos": A

6 On the warmest days of summer, sounds hang close to the ground. Traffic noise doesn't go up, it goes out. Children's chatter gets lost in the grass. Even the neighbors seem far away. It's inexplicable. But above a certain height, everything returns to normal. We are awakened by the house sparrows outside our open bedroom windows, and distracted by chittery, repetitive songs of chimney swifts, as they catch insects on the wing at dusk. When you're lying on the bed at sunset reading travel books, these tiny birds are the perfect soundtrack.

7 Jumping into the memory of one of the most time-honored sax solos of jazz and producing something fresh is an interesting trick. Michael Brecker's inventiveness on "The Girl from Ipanema" is only one of many quiet surprises on Eliane Elias's new tribute album to Antonio Carlos Jobim. Her best by far: B+

Education



The Institute of Contemporary Art is pleased to announce the opening of three new exhibitions

Elmer Walker: Hermit to Hero
Photographic Installation by Tonee Harbert

The Permanence of Memory:
Objects of Influence
Installation by Bradley McCallum

The Bowery in two inadequate descriptive systems
by Martha Rosler

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Tonee Harbert will speak at 7 pm.

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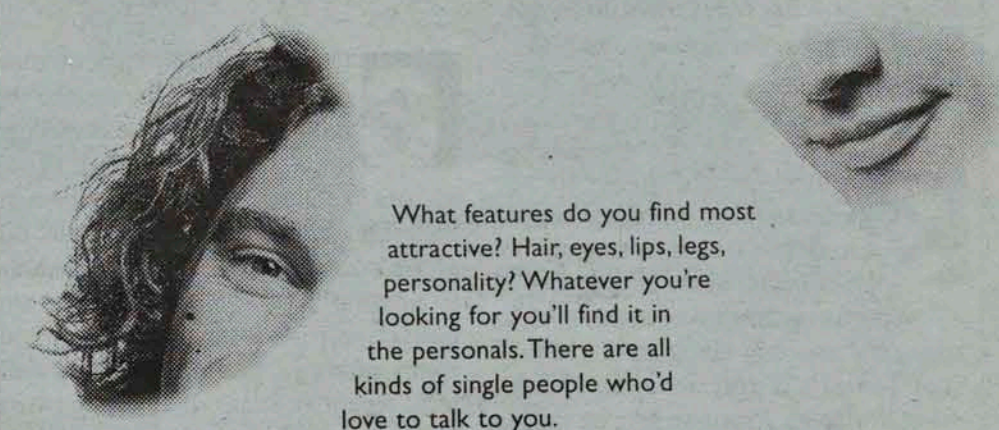


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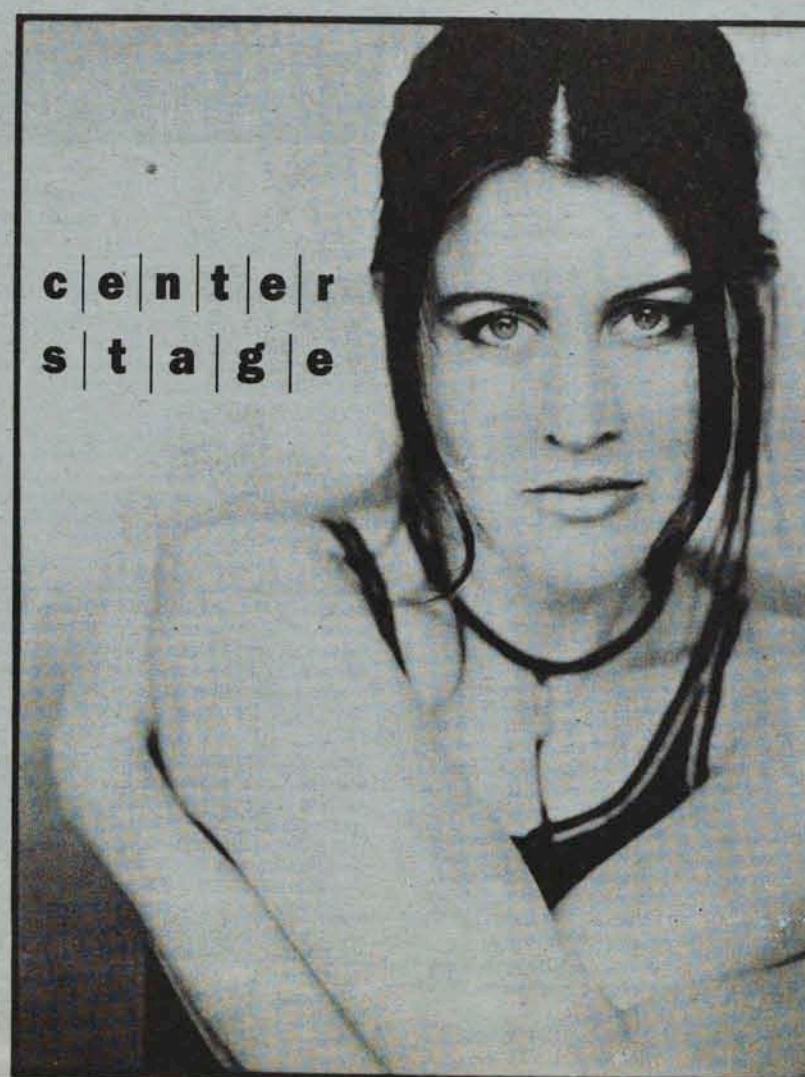
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Performance



If you're hoping to memorize all the lyrics on Paula Cole's album "This Fire," don't bother looking for them inside the CD cover. The pop artist doesn't believe in printing the text to her music, thereby leaving her songs — many inspired by her childhood poverty in Rockport, Mass. — open to a host of different interpretations. Of course, it seems obvious that hearing and reading the lyrics would produce the same interpretation, but a sampling of the album proves otherwise. At a distance of 15-18 feet from the stereo, the words "Where have all the cowboys gone?" mysteriously switch to "Moses supposes his toes-es are roses." Interpret Cole's work for yourself Aug 6 at the State Theatre, 609 Congress St, Portland, at 7:30 pm. Grey Eye Glances opens. Tix: \$25. 888-767-6398.

dance

Bates Dance Festival

Through Aug 25. The school offers a summerful of toe-twirling events. Unless otherwise noted, performances take place at Schaeffer Theatre, Bates College, Lewiston, Aug 7 and 8: Bebe Miller Company, at 8 p.m. Tix: \$14 (\$8 seniors and students). Aug 11: "Moving in the Moment," an evening of improvisational dance and music with Nancy Stark Smith and company. Aug 13: "Different Voices," new works from around the globe, at 8 p.m. Tix: \$12 (\$8 seniors and students). Aug 12: Choreographer's Panel Discussion, at Olin Arts Center, at 8 pm. Free. Aug 14 and 15: "Young Choreographers/New Works," original works created by festival students. Fri at 8 pm, Sat at 2 pm. Tix: \$6. Aug 15: "Student Finale," at Alumni Gym, at 8 pm. Tix: \$5 (\$2 kids). "Inside Dance: Understanding Contemporary Performance," pre-perfor-

music

Bowdoin "Back to Back" Summer Music Festival

Aug 7 and 8: Pieces by Strauss, Nin and Bach make up "The Magic Voices," at Crocker Theatre, Bowdoin College campus, Brunswick, at 8 p.m. Tix: \$17.50. 725-3895. **Casco Bay Lines' "Music on the Bay"** Aug 7: Broken Men, from 8-11 pm. Aug 9: Bellamy Jazz Band, from 5-8 pm. Aug 15: POP, from 2-5 pm. Aug 19: Jenny Woodman, Aug 20: Patio Cowboys, from 7:30-10:30 pm. At Casco Bay Lines, 56 Commercial St, Portland, from 8-11 pm. Tix: \$12 (\$10 advance). 774-7871. **Cathedral Summer Concert Series** Through Aug 26. The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception hosts concerts of historical and contemporary classical music. Aug 12: Violinist Bette Hagens, Aug 19: Trumpeter John Kevin Birch, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 307 Congress St, Portland, at 12:15 pm. Free. 774-1634. **Chamber Music at Bates** Aug 8-14. The college presents three performances of chamber music by the St. Cecilia Trio. Aug 8: Works by Beethoven, Aug 11: Works by Dvorak, Kodaly and Matthews, Aug 14: Works by Beethoven. At the Olin

Arts Center, Bates College campus, Lewiston, at 8 pm. Tix: \$5 (\$2 students and seniors/under 12 free). For reservations, call 786-6135.

Country Music Association

Picnic Aug 9. An outdoor country-fest, including music by Hazel "B" and the Zodiacs, Gloria Jean and E-Z Rider and Slim Andrews. At Wassami Spring, Saco St, Westbrook, from 1-5 pm. Admission: \$6 (\$5 members/\$3 kids under 12). 892-2385 or 795-6515.

Robert Cray Band

Aug 11-17. The blues musician comes to town on the "Sweet Potato Pie" tour. At Merrill Auditorium, 20 Myrtle St, Portland, at 8 pm. Tix: \$25.50/\$28.50. 842-0800.

Friends of the Kotschmar

Organ Aug 11-27. Various musicians park themselves on the organ seat. Aug 11: Amy Johansen, at 7:30 pm. Suggested donation: \$5. Aug 13: Harold Stover, at noon. Free. Aug 18: Peter Conte, at 7:30 pm. Suggested donation: \$5. Aug 25: Douglas Major, at 7:30 pm. Suggested dona-

tion: \$5. Aug 27: Ray Cornils, at noon. Free. At Merrill Auditorium, 20 Myrtle St, Portland. 842-0800.

Lemonwheel Phish Festival

Aug 15 and 16. The band spearheads two days of peace, love and lots of dr — uh, dreams come true. The festival includes on-site camping, food, crafts, people, performers and artists. At the former Loring Air Force Base, Limestone. Begins Aug 15 at 10 am. Tix: \$75. 775-3331.

The Scarborough Downs

Outdoor Concert Series A different batch of local band performs every Sat and Sun at Scarborough Downs, Payne Road, Scarborough, from 1-7 pm. Cost: \$10. 883-4331.

Steamer Summer Shows

In the Great Outdoors Aug 6: Diesel Doug and the Long Haul Truckers at Congress Sq, at noon. Sue Sheriff at Deering Oaks

Park, at 12:30 pm. Charlie and Claudia at the Barking Squirrel, at 6:30 pm. Big Talk: The Maine Festival

Preview, from 7:30-9:30 pm. Aug 7: Rakish Paddy at Monument Sq, at noon.

Aug 10: Lisa Gallant Seal at Lobsterman Park, at noon. Aug 11: Sax Works at Tommy's Park, at noon. Italian Heritage Center

Band at Deering Oaks, at 7 pm. Aug 12: Deborah Friedman at Tommy's Park, at noon. Lynn Dewes at Western Prom Park, at 7:30 pm. The Music

Makers Big Band at Mill Creek Park, at 7 pm. Free. 767-7650 or 772-9012 or 772-8628 or 874-8793.

"The Suffragette Sessions"

Aug 19. The Indigo Girls, Amy Ray and Emily Saliers, along with a bevy of guests including Sam Ann Deary, Lisa Germano, Kate Schellabach and Ann Wilson, come together for one big jam session. Please, no requests for "Barabara." At the State Theatre, 609 Congress St, Portland, at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$25. 775-3331.

Yarmouth Summer Arts Series

Aug 12: Fascinating Rhythm, at 6 pm. At Royal River Park, Yarmouth. Free. 846-2406.

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Performances are Wed at the Theater Project, 14 School St, Brunswick, at 8 pm. Tix: \$6. Tix: \$23.95. (Professional non-Equity.) 729-8584.

"The Drunkard"

Through Aug 8. The Arundel Barn Playhouse presents this melodrama set in 1884, with lyrics by Barry Manilow. Aug 6-8 at 8 pm, Aug 7 at 2 pm. At the Arundel Barn Playhouse, 53 Old Post Road, Arundel. Tix: \$17-\$20. 985-5552.

"An Evening of Laughter With Betty Crocker and Father Time"

Aug 14 and 15. The Reindeer Theatre Company presents two one-act, one-person comedies starring Nancy Woodward and Louis Philippe. At Reindeer Pointe, 650 West Ave, Portland, at 8 pm. Free. Reservations required. 874-9002.

"Good Luck, Fred!"

Dinner Through Aug. The Embassy Players stage Hank Beebe's musical comedy about retirement every Thurs night at Snow Squall Restaurant, 18 Ocean St, So. Portland. Dinner at 6 pm. Cost: \$35. 799-2232.

"Greater Tuna"

Aug 18-29. Two actors play 20 zany characters in this comedy set in Tuna, Texas. At the Arundel Barn Playhouse, 53 Old Post Road, Arundel. Aug 18-22, 25-29 at 8 pm, Aug 19, 21, 26 and 28 at 2 pm, Aug 23 at 7 pm. Tix: \$17-\$20. 985-5552.

"Hail"

Through Aug 8. The Originals present this story of a hayseed from Flushing, NY who falls in with some singing hippies on the eve of his departure to Vietnam. At Saco River Grange Hall, Salmon Falls Road, Bar Mills, at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$10 (\$8 seniors and students). Aug 6 is paywhatyoucan. (Professional non-Equity.) 929-5412.

"Harold Be Thy Name"

Aug 13-30. Grover's Crossing/Stone Pinehead Ensemble presents the world premiere of this musical comedy. Set in the Vatican, the play follows two angels, some nuns, various evil factions and Jesus H. Christ as they try to select the next Pope. At the Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak St, Portland, Thurs-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 7 pm. Tix: \$10. 775-5103.

"The Helress"

Through Aug 28. The Theatre at Monmouth stages this tale of a plain-jane heiress who meets the man of her dreams. But does he love her — or her expected windfall? At the Theatre at Monmouth, Cumston Hall, Main St, Monmouth, Aug 6, 12, 16, 20, 23, 26, and 28 at 8 pm, Aug 8 at 2 pm. Tix: \$14-\$24. 933-9999.

"In the Beginning"

Aug 11-22. The Maine State Music Theatre presents a musical comedy featuring Adam and Eve's neighbors, Noah's cousins and buddies of Moses. At Pickard Theatre, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Aug 11, 13, 15, 19 and 22 at 8 pm, Aug 12, 14, 18, 20 and 21 at 2 pm and 8 pm, Aug 16 at 2 pm. Tix: \$18-\$30. 875-8769.

"Into the Woods"

Aug 11-15. Characters from a number of classic fairy tales come together in this musical, come performed by the Vinegar Hill Youth. At the Arundel Barn Playhouse, 53 Old Post Road, Arundel, at 8 pm, Aug 12, 14 and 15 at 2 pm. Tix: \$17-\$20. 985-5552.

"Jack and the Beanstalk"

Aug 9-27. Fee-fie-fo-lum. The classic tale of magic beans and English-blood smelly giants roars to life at the Theater at Monmouth, Cumston Hall, Main St, Monmouth, Aug 9, 11, 13, 16, 18, 23, 25 and 27 at 2 pm. Tix: \$14-\$24. 933-9999.

"Late Night Cabaret"

Through Aug 22. The Theatre Project dishes out food, music and comedy every Sat at the Theater Project, 14 School St, Brunswick, at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$29.95. (Community theater.) 892-9241.

"Measure for Measure"

Through Aug 9. Acom Productions presents this late-period Shakespearean play, a dark comedy about the corrupt deputy, Angelo. Temporarily placed in charge of Vienna, Angelo abuses his position by offering to save the life of Claudio — if Claudio's sister will sleep with the scaly deputy. At the Oak Street Theatre, 92 Oak St, Portland, Thurs at 7:30 pm, Fri-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 5 pm. Tix: \$5-\$14 (67 students). Thurs are 2-for-1. (Professional non-Equity.) 775-5103.

"The Merry Wives of Windsor"

Through Aug 29. The Theatre at Monmouth presents Shakespeare's comedy about Sir John Falstaff, a wily womanizer who discovers hell has no wrath... At the Theatre at Monmouth, Cumston Hall, Main St, Monmouth, Aug 7, 13, 15, and 29 at 8 pm, Aug 21 at 2 pm. Tix: \$14-\$24. 933-9999.

"Mala Powers"

Aug 9. The actress wraps up a 10-day workshop at USM's Summer Session Theater Institute with a performance of a work-in-progress. At Corthell Concert Hall, USM's Gorham campus, at 5 pm. Free. 780-5394.

"Richard III"

Through Aug 27. Shakespeare's tale of a cunning misfit who will stop at nothing to obtain the crown of England. At the Theatre at Monmouth, Cumston Hall, Main St, Monmouth, Aug 8, 11, 18, 21, and 27 at 8 pm, Aug 15 at 2 pm. Tix: \$14-\$24. 933-9999.

"Sherlock Holmes & The Sign of the Four"

Through Aug 29. The great detective follows a treasure trail from an ancient Indian fortress

to the foggy streets of London — a path beset by murder, poisonous darts and bloodhounds. At the Theater at Monmouth, Cumston Hall, Main St, Monmouth, Aug 6, 9, 14, 19, 21 and 25 at 8 pm, Aug 23 at 2 pm. Tix: \$14-\$24. 933-9999.

"Showboat"

Through Aug 8. Kern and Hammerstein's musical depicts the lives, loves and heartbreaks of three generations of show folk and their life-long friendships. Presented by Maine State Music Theatre. At Pickard Theatre, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Aug 6 and 7 at 2 pm and 8 pm, Aug 8 at 8 pm. Tix: \$18-\$30. (Professional Equity.) 725-8769.

"Tammy and Billy Bob's Wedding"

A family from Arkansas meets a family from Cape Elizabeth in this send-up of weddings, performed by Renegade Productions. At Charlie Beigg's Special Events Center, 754 Roosevelt Trail, Windham, Aug 14 and 28 at 7:30 pm. Tix: \$29.95. (Community theater.) 892-9241.

"Twelfth Night"

Through Aug 22. The Theatre Project's summer festival continues with this farce about gender-bending, clowning and mistaken identity. More humor than you can shake a stick at. At the Theater Project, 14 School St, Brunswick, Aug 7, 13, 15 and 22 at 8 pm. Tix: \$12. Dinner theater is Thurs night. Tix: \$23.95. (Professional non-Equity.) 729-8584.

"Two By Two"

Aug 7-23. At the Schoolhouse Arts Center, Route 114, Standish, Thurs-Sat at 8 pm, Sun at 2 pm. Tix: \$10-\$12. (Community company.) 642-3743.

"Whatever Happened to Art?"

Aug 20. This musical mystery follows the disappearance of Art from an opening at a prominent gallery. Which of the misfits is guilty of the theft? At the Theater Project, 14 School St, Brunswick, at 8 pm. Tix: \$12. Dinner theater is Thurs night. Tix: \$23.95. (Professional non-Equity.) 729-8584.

"Young Playwrights"

Aug 12-14. The Children's Theater of Maine presents a batch of plays by contestants from the 1998 Young Playwrights Contest. Aug 12: "Who Dunnit Hotel," at 10 am. "On Strike," at 2 pm. "All Your Hopes and Dreams," at 7 pm. Aug 13: "On Strike," at 10 am. "All Your Hopes and Dreams," at 2 pm. "Who Dunnit Hotel," at 7 pm. Aug 14: "All Your Hopes and Dreams," at 10 am. "Who Dunnit Hotel," at 2 pm. "On Strike," at 7 pm. At UNE's Westbrook College campus (Rain location: Ludcke Auditorium). Tix: \$3. 878-2774.

DINING

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BARBARA'S KITCHEN AND CAFE. Acclaimed So. Portland destination offering appetizers like Maine Blue Crab Cakes w/ sweet red bell pepper puree, savory entrees like Shrimp, scallops, salmon & mussel bouillabaisse and Mediterranean Pasta w/ feta cheese & pesto. Breakfast and lunch, Tue-Fri, 7a-3p; Sat-Sun, 8a-2p; Dinner Thur, Fri and Sat, 5p-10p. 388 Cottage Rd., 767-6313.

BINTLIF'S AMERICAN CAFE. (Daily 7am-2pm) Experience signature items, custom omelettes, wraps, tortillas, and other American Fusion Cuisine. Selective dinner menu (5:30p-9p) will please the simplest of cravings to the most discriminating palates. Homemade desserts, full bar and extensive wine list in Greek Revival surroundings. 98 Portland St. (across from the post office), 774-0005.

BLACK TIE. Now in the heart of the Old Port! Stop by and experience our simple satisfying fare or our elaborate cuisine. Hearty soups, delicious sandwiches and always a tempting lunch special. Take home dinners available. Catering specialists on site. Hours M-F 7:30-3:00. Free delivery available in the Old Port area. 188 Middle St. (off Exchange behind the Pavilion) 761-6665.

BLUE MANGO CAFE. New owners have transformed the old Woodford's Cafe into a four star lunch and dinner eatery with full bar. Featuring saffron scented seafood, salmon quesadilla w/ chimichurri sauce, chicken o'porto. Fresh seafood, soups, breads, dressings, and desserts. Listed by Holiday Inn Preferred Restaurants. Credit Cards accepted. Open Tues-Sun, 3 to 10pm. Lunch is back on Sept. 1st. 129 Spring St. 772-1374.

FRIENDSHIP CAFE. Enjoy breakfast and lunch in a friendly, casual atmosphere. For brunch, over-stuffed omelettes, fresh quiche, pancakes and more served all day. Lunch includes a wide variety of soups and sandwiches. Daily lunch and brunch specials also available. Specialty coffee drinks. Rated four stars in GO magazine. Open Mon-Sat, 7am-2pm; Sun 7:30am-2pm. 703 Congress St. on Portland. 871-5005.

THE MUSEUM CAFE (PORTLAND MUSEUM OF ART) Tasteful lunch items, desserts, and pastries served in a distinctive setting. Tues-Sat 11:30a-3p, Sun 12p-3p. Seven Congress Square. 775-6148.

ASYLUM. Looking for fantastic food & excellent entertainment? Seek Asylum. Scrumptious soups, sexy salads & sophisticated sandwiches. Daily specials, fresh desserts & homemade bread. Happy Hour 4p-7p, Mon-Fri. Free Buffet Thurs-Fri. 121 Center St., Portland, ME. 772-8274.

BRIDGEWAY RESTAURANT. Affordable eclectic fare offering Fresh Fish, Twin Lobsters, Sirloin, Pasta, Pizza and more. Lunch specials (\$3.95-\$4.95) Baked/Fried Haddock, Lasagna, Grilled Chicken Sandwich, Lobster Roll and Club Sandwiches. Early Bird Dinner Specials Mon-Thurs 11am-7pm, Fri & Sat 11am-6pm. Fri & Sat Eve listen to live piano music. Tues & Thurs - Jazz. Children's menu. MC Visa AmEx. 71-77 Ocean St., South Portland. 790-5418.

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SAMUEL'S BAR & GRILL. We feature a full menu and are known for our outstanding selection of dinner specials ranging from \$8.95-\$10.95. Wed-Sat 4-10pm. 2 for 1 pizzas and \$1.00 Drafts Mon-Tues 4pm until closing. We open daily at 11:30am offering a large lunch menu. 1160 Forest Ave., Portland, open nightly until 1:00am. No reservations. 767-6924.

VICTORY DELI & BAKE SHOP. Hearty breakfast, mouth watering baked-from-scratch breads and pastries, freshly prepared soups, stews, salads, pasta and vegetarian specialties, delicious sandwiches. Beer & Wine. Monument Square, 299 Forest Ave. and One Portland Square. MC/Visa accepted. 772-7299, 772-3913, 772-8186.

ZEPHYR GRILL. The Zephyr Grill sets an inviting mood with rich colors & pinpoint spotlights over the tables that give alluring islands of light. The menu changes regularly, but always includes vegetarian, seafood & grilled meat entrees. A sampling of recent daily specials: crisp corn tostada with smoked duck, cilantro, corn & cheddar; potato, corn and squash empanada with crisp greens; slow wood roast pork loin with cannellini beans, mashed potatoes and grilled vegetables. Dinner 7 nights starting at 5:00. Sunday Breakfast 9:30-1:30. 653 Congress St., Portland. Free Parking next door behind Joe's. 825-4033.

ZYGOT BOOKWORKS & CAFE. Inviting and friendly service. Inspired and inventive food. Reasonable prices. Described as a place that "not only nourishes your body but actually changes your state of mind." Specializing in vegetarian soups, chilled noodle dishes & great sandwiches. Open Mon-Fri 8am-6pm, Sat 10am-5pm. Closed Sundays. 61 Pleasant St., Portland 775-4121.

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Q'S ICE CREAM. Q's own homemade super premium ice cream, made exclusively on the premises using only the finest ingredients. Also serving Green Mountain Coffee, cappuccino, espresso, baked goods & other inspired desserts. Relax in a warm, friendly atmosphere. Open until 11pm Thurs-Sat, 10pm Sun-Wed. 505 Fore St., Portland. 773-7017.

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ANTHONY'S ITALIAN KITCHEN. Voted "Best Cheap Eats in Portland" 3 years running. Family diningroom. Beer & wine. All credit cards. Open nightly "til 9. Free parking. Oh, did I forget to say we have the best pizza, pasta & sandwiches in Maine? Try our famous "mile high" lasagna only \$5.99. 151 Middle St., 774-8668.

MARIA'S RISTORANTE. The Napolitano Family welcomes you to try Portland's finest Italian cuisine. We offer dishes originating from all parts of Italy. Great vegetarian selections, homemade bread & desserts & a unique & wonderful wine list. Featuring owner/chef Anthony Napolitano Sr. Since 1960. Lunch \$5-8, dinner \$10-20. 337 Cumberland Ave. Portland. 772-9322.

JAPANESE

TIM'S JAPANESE TAKE OUT. Fresh Japanese Foods To Go! Authentic Japanese foods served fresh, quick, and healthy for dining in and to go. Enjoy Yakitori, Gyoza, Tonkatsu, Curry, Ramen, Sushi, and much more. Open Mon-Fri, 11:30am-9:00pm. 10 Exchange St. Mall in the Old Port, Portland. 780-1359. Fax your order: 780-1313.

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MEXICAN

GRANNY'S BURRITOS. 420 Fore St., Old Port, Portland. 761-0751. Preparing all of our Mexican favorites: featuring Portland's Best Burritos, Quesadillas, Nachos & more. Functional food for functional folks. Hours: M-Th 11am-close, Fri 11am-12am, Sat 12-12, Sun 12am-10pm.

MARGARITAS MEXICAN RESTAURANTS. 2 great locations in Portland: 242 St. John Street at the Union Station Plaza, 874-6444 and 11 Brown Street, opposite the Civic Center, 774-9398. These amigos know how to serve up huge, oversized meals and colossal-sized drinks! Happy Hour starts at 4p with free hot appetizers and great drink specials.

MESA VERDE. Flavorful, healthful Mexican dishes. NATURAL FOODS AND HEALTHY JUICE BAR. Happy Hour Mon-Fri, 3p - 6p. Enjoy fresh juices, fruit shakes, smoothies, juice combinations, fresh fruit margaritas, rum smoothies and other frozen delights. Casual atmosphere. Serving lunch & dinner. Take-out available. 618 Congress Street (across from the State Theatre) 774-6089.

TORTILLA FLATS. A memorable experience in fine, affordable Mexican cuisine. Chill Happy Hour Mon-Thurs, 4-7, free chips, salsa and chili. Open Sun 12p-9p, Mon-Thurs 11:30a-close, Fri-Sat 11:30a-11p. Free parking. VISA, MC, AMEX and Discover. 1871 Forest Ave., Portland, between Riverside and the Tumpane. 797-8729.

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THE WHOLE GROCER. For lunch or dinner: all natural, vegetarian meals to go including wholesome soups, vegetarian roll-ups, sandwiches, and sushi, home made muffins and cookies, and a wide assortment of fresh juices. Open seven days a week. M-F 9a, Sat 9-7, Sun 11-6. Open at new location, 127 Marginal Way. Call 774-7711.

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MILLINER'S. Swingin' food! Rice & noodle bar and natural foods restaurant in a funky downtown environment. Serving lunch a variety of rice and noodle dishes with an eclectic sampling of sauces. Dinner will feature vegetarian, natural and seafood's. Take out available. No credit cards. 51 Oak St. (between Congress and Free) Lunch mon-sat 11am-3pm. Dinner Wed-Sat 5:10pm. 871-9999.

POLISH

BOGUSHA'S POLISH RESTAURANT & DELI. Come try our popular lunches, Kielbasa, Pierogi (meat, cheese or fruit) Potato Pancakes, Stuffed Cabbage, and Bigos (Hunter's stew) summer salads, delicious soups, and more, all under \$6.00. Dinner entrees include Hunter's Port Chop, Stuffed Beef, Vegetarian Platter, Stuffed Dumplings, Goulash and more, all under \$12. We welcome you to a little bit of Poland, visit us at 825 Stevens Ave Portland. 878-9618. Mon 11am-5pm Tues-Thurs 10am-8pm, Fri & Sat 10am-9pm.

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WRAPS

FEDERAL SPICE. Original four-star concept serving the best in wraps with multi-ethnic and heart-healthy ingredients from around the world. All under \$8! Everything available to go. Delivery available 11:30a-2p, Mon-Fri. \$2.50 Micro Pints after 5 p! Open Mon-Sat 11a-9p. 225 Federal St., Portland. 774-6404.

THE KITCHEN. The Kitchen prepares fresh, wholesome ingredients in creative, interesting ways for people who love food, but don't have time to cook. Try our homemade Falafel or Souvlaki, Jamaican Jerk or Thai Chicken Wraps. We make Vegetarian Chili daily and have a Tofu Teriyaki Stirfry you'll come back for. 593 Congress St., 775-0833. 4 Pleasant Street in Brunswick. 729-5526.

WOOD GRILL

RACHEL'S WOOD GRILL. Inventive cuisine delicately seasoned with wood smoke and cooked the way God intended - over flame. Elegantly unpretentious atmosphere. 25 wines by the glass. Lunch Tues-Fri 11:30a-2:30p. Dinner Tues-Thurs 5:30p-9p, Fri & Sat 5:30p-10p. MC, Visa, 90 Exchange St. (upper Exchange) Portland. 774-1192.

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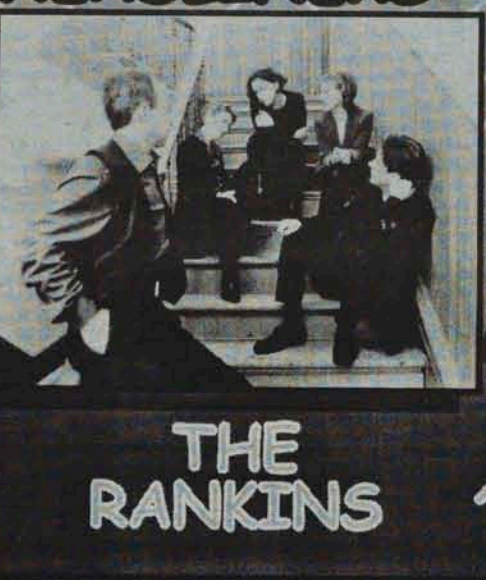
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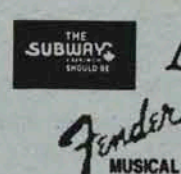
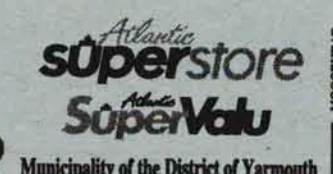
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Visual Arts

openings

The Chocolate Church Arts
Center 804 Washington St.
Bath. Opening reception for the
1998 Juried Summer Exhibition,
Aug 6 from 5-7 pm. Ongoing.
Hours: Tues-Fri 10 am-4 pm, Sat
noon-4 pm. 442-8455.

Danforth Gallery 34 Danforth St.
Portland. Opening reception for
"Members' Exhibition II," featuring
photography, sculpture, digital
art and video. Aug 13 at 6 pm.
Shows through Aug 29.
Hours: Wed-Sun noon-4 pm.
Thurs noon-8 pm and by appoint-
ment. 775-6245.

Jane Fitzpatrick Gallery
Alternative Space 654 Congress
St. Portland. Opening reception for
"The Young New Yorkers," the
work of four emerging artists from
New York — Kate Cary, Michael
Houston, Vikki Michalos and
Charles Webster — Aug 14 from 5-7
pm. Shows Aug 11-28. "Fishers
of Men," the paintings of Matthew
Barter, shows through Aug 8.
Hours: Wed-Sat noon-5 pm.
772-1961.

Jane Fitzpatrick Gallery 112
High St. Portland. Opening
reception for "Visions," the
works of John Bonarone, Aug 7
from 5-7 pm. Shows through Aug
29. Hours: Tues-Sat noon-5 pm.
772-1961.

The Gallery 108 108 High St.
Portland. Opening reception for
new works by Bonnie D'Abate
and Susan Tureen, including
paintings, drawings and prints,
Aug 6 from 6-8 pm. Shows
through Aug 22. Hours: Thurs-
Sat noon-5 pm. 761-0076.

Greenleaf Galleries 146 Middle
St. Portland. Opening reception
for new paintings and ceramics
by Heidi Quigley, Aug 6 from 5-7
pm. Shows through Aug 30.
"Characters, Scenes &
Creatures of Montserrat," three-
dimensional wood and metal
constructions by Mike Siler,
shows through July 31. Hours:
Mon-Fri 10 am-5:30 pm, Sat 10
am-5 pm. 772-2693.

Hole in the Wall Studios
Route 302, Raymond. Paintings
by Daisy Green, Ann Stein-Aaron
and Cynthia Morse, and sculp-
ture by Lou Mastro, show Aug 7-
Sept 8. "Art in the Yard," an
outdoor sculpture show featuring
the work of 20 New England
artists, shows through Sept 30.
Hours: Mon-Thurs 9:30 am-6
pm, Fri 9:30 am-7 pm, Sat-Sun
9:30 am-6 pm. 655-4952.

Icon Contemporary Art 19
Mason St. Brunswick. Opening
reception for new paintings by
Rudolph de Harak, Aug 13 from
5-7 pm. Shows through Sept 19.
Hours: Mon-Fri 1-5 pm, Sat 1-4
pm. 725-8157.

Institute of Contemporary Art
MECA Building, 522 Congress
St. Portland. Opening reception
for photographs of Porter resi-
dent Elmer Walker by Tonia
Harbert, and "The Permanence
of Memory: Objects of
Influence," a multimedia installa-
tion by Bradley McCallum, Aug
13 from 5-7 pm. Show through
Sept 25. "Something from
Nothing," the conceptual quilts
of Susie Brandt, "Pleasant Preen
Girl," an installation by Lesley
Dill inspired by the poetry of
Emily Dickinson, and "Mr.
Right," the Polaroid photos of
Judy Labraccia, show through
July 30. Hours: Wed-Sat 10 am-
5 pm. 879-5742.

Jameson Gallery & Frame 305
Commercial St. Portland. Opening
reception for "Waiting for the
Sun," new works in acrylic on can-
vas by John Hafford, Aug 13 from
6-8 pm. Shows through Sept 9.
Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm.
772-5522.

The Museum of African Tribal
Art 122 Spring St. Portland.
Opening reception and grand
opening for a collection of
African tribal masks and arti-
facts representing over 1,000

years of Central African history,
Aug 8 from 4-8 pm. Ongoing.
Hours: Sun noon-6 pm. Mon by
appointment only, Tues-Sat 11
am-7 pm. 871-1788.

On Balance Center for Healing
and Education 4 Mile St.
Portland. Opening reception for
recent paintings by May L.
Cupo, Aug 8 from 4-7 pm.
Shows through Sept. Hours:
Mon-Fri 9:30 am-noon and 1-
5:30 pm. 772-9812.

Pleasant Street Collective 52
Pleasant St. Portland. Opening
reception for sculpture, paint-
ings and drawings by Rebecca
Wright-Wheeler, Aug 7 from 5-8
pm. Shows through Aug 29.
Hours: Wed-Sat 11 am-7 pm and
by appointment. 761-7909.

Portland Public Library 5
Monument Sq. Portland.
Opening reception for "Coastal
Inspiration," the nature pho-
tographs of Robert Staples, Aug
6 from 5-7 pm. Shows Aug 4-29.
Hours: Mon, Wed and Fri, 9 am-
6 pm. Tues and Thurs, 12-9 pm.
Sat, 9 am-5 pm. 871-1700.

Blue Rabbit Gallery 11
Exchange St. Portland. "Puppets
and Poppets," a group show fea-
turing Rebecca Goodale, Nancy
Parker, Shana Hall, Judith Clark,
Laurie Babin and others, shows
through Aug 15. Call for
hours. 763-0017.

Robert Clements Gallery 81
West Commercial St. Portland.
"Ball and Switch (Altering Fish
Tails)," featuring the works of
Darin Nord, Robert
Clements, Ethan Gordon and Bill
Curtis, shows through Sept 1.
Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5:30 pm.
775-5841.

Foghorn Gallery 4 Clinton St.
Portland. International folk art,
Oaxacan wood carvings, black
pottery and crafts of indigenous
peoples. Ongoing. Hours: by
appointment. 781-2563.

The Fox Street Gallery 366
Fore St. Portland. Group show
of photographs by Nancy and
Matthew Sleeth and paintings
by Tom MacLach, Nancy
Swasey, Alfonso Gobeia, K.
Dana Nelson, Marcia Baker,
Richard Ruffow, Tom
Elliott, John Bickford and
Manly Dwyer. Ongoing.
Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-6 pm,
Sun noon-5 pm. 874-8064.

Lakes Gallery & Sculpture
Garden Route 302, South
Casco. Works on paper by
Beverly Hillman and paintings
of New England scenery by
Bruce Muirhead show through
Aug 16. Hours: Sat-Sun 10
am-5 pm. 655-5066.

Little Sebago Gallery & Frame
765 Roosevelt Trail, Windham.
Opening reception for new
works by David Hall, shows
through Aug 29. Hours: Mon-Fri
9:30 am-5:30 pm, Sat 9:30 am-
5 pm. 892-8086.

Maine History Gallery 489
Congress St. Portland. "Rum,
Rice and Reform," a provoca-
tive look at drinking in Maine
and America from the colonial
era to the present day, shows
through Oct 31. Hours: Sun-
Sat 10 am-4 pm. 879-0427.

Montgomery Memorial
Gallery at MECA 522
Congress St. Portland. Works
by Claude Montgomery.
Ongoing. Hours: Tues-Sat 11
am-4 pm, Thurs 11 am-8 pm.
Free. 775-5098.

O'Farrell Gallery 58 Maine St.
Brunswick. "Selected
Paintings," the works of Neil
Welliver, shows through Sept
5. Hours: Mon-Sat 10 am-5
pm. 729-8228.

UNE Art Gallery University of
New England's Westbrook
campus. "Verner Reed:
A Retrospective," featuring more
than 55 pieces by the Falmouth
photographer, shows through
Sept 12. Hours: Tues 10 am-1
pm, Thurs 10 am-8 pm, Sat 1-4
pm. 791-7261.

MUSEUMS
Bates College Museum of Art
Bates College campus.
Lewiston. "Phil Sultz: Painted
Collage" and "Jan Sultz:
Stoneware Forms," show
through Aug 15. Hours: Tues-Sat
10 am-5 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. 786-
6158.

Bowdoin College Museum of Art
9400 College Station,
Brunswick. Hours: Tues-Sat 10
am-5 pm, Sun 2-5 pm. Free.
725-5275.

**"Art and Life in the Ancient
Mediterranean"** Work spanning
the 4th century A.D. Walker
Gallery. Ongoing.

"Asian Art" A selection of de-
corative art objects from the per-
manent collection. Ongoing.

"Musée Menagerie," paint-
ings and sculpture featuring
beasts of land, sea and air,
shows through Aug 16.

"Portraiture" American portra-
ture, dating from the 18th cen-
tury to turn of the century.
Ongoing.

**"William H. Alexander 20th
Century"** A collection of American 20th-
century art, including works by
Cornell, Bultman, Haas and
Lindbergh, shows through Aug
23.

Portland Museum of Art 7
Congress St. Portland. Hours:
Tues, Wed, Sat 10 am-5 pm,
Thurs-Fri 10 am-9 pm, Sun noon-
5 pm. Admission: \$6 (\$5 stu-
dents and seniors/51 youth).
Admission is free every Fri from
5-9 pm. 775-6148 or 1-800-
639-4067.

**"Art to Osmosis, Osmosis in
Art: 1890-1990,"** paintings,
sculpture and graphics by mem-
bers of the Woodbury and Field
circles, as well as paintings by
artists who visited, worked in,
or explored Osmosis. Ongoing.

**"The Ernest Haas Memorial
Collection,"** including 70 black
and white photos by Haas's
associates and students of the
Maine Photographic Workshops
in Rockland, shows through Oct
23. Also Aug 29 through Oct 11.

"Impressions of the River,"
a collection of 60 works by
Monet, Renoir, Matisse and
their contemporaries, shows
through Oct 18.

"Modern Color," watercolors
by Carl Gordon Cutler, shows
through Oct 4.

**"Winslow Homer: Facing
Nature,"** featuring 13 watercol-
ors, five oil paintings and select-
ed wood engravings, shows
through Sept 27.

Shaker Museum Route 26, New
Gloucester. "The Frigate Will
Never Fall," illustrating the story
of the 200-year-old orchards at
Shaker Village, shows through
Aug 30. "The Whole Sincerely
Kept," A Decade of the Shaker
Library in its New Home," shows
through Oct 12. Hours: Mon-Sat
10 am-4:30 pm. 926-4597.

The Spring Point Museum at
Southern Maine Technical College,
Fort Rd. So. Portland. "Portland
Harbor Changed Forever: The
Legacy of World War I," document-
ing the impact of the war on local
communities, shows through Dec.
31. "Spring Point Light
House," a permanent exhibition of
photographs and artifacts docu-
menting 100 years in the light's
history, "Portland Harbor, 1865-
1900: Making a Living in Stormy
Times," a permanent exhibition on
the clipper ship Snow Seal.
Hours: Tues-Sun 1-4 pm. Cost: \$2
kids free. 799-5337.

Umbrella Cover Museum 105
Brackett Ave. Peaks Island. A
humorous display of umbrella
sheaths is ongoing. Hours: Aug
8 from noon-5 pm and by ap-
pointment. 766-4496.

other venues
Arts Resource Service 8
Pleasant St. Portland. Paintings
by Marjorie Moore show through
Aug 18. Hours: Tues from 2-6
pm and by appointment. 799-
6899.

Coffee By Design 620 Congress
St. Portland. Drawings and
reliefs by David Snow. Ongoing.
Hours: Mon-Fri 7 am-8 pm, Sat 8
am-8 pm, Sun 8 am-6 pm. 772-
5533.

Coffee By Design 67 India St.
Portland. Pastels by Erica
Eysenbach show through Aug
30. Hours: Mon-Fri 7 am-6 pm,
Sat 8 am-6 pm. 879-2233.

Coffee By Design 67 India St.
Portland. The Missing Pieces:
Abstract and Reality Paintings,"
by Greg Frangoulis, shows
through Oct 3. Hours: Mon-Fri 7
am-6 pm, Sat 10 am-4 pm. 761-
2400.

Delilah Pottery 134 Spring St.
Portland. Bead art, a collection
of glass beads, as well as print-
ed and painted fabric, by Susan
Winn, shows through Aug 15.
Hours: Tues-Fri 11 am-6 pm, Sat
noon-4 pm. 871-1594.

**Galvite Custom Framing &
Gallery** 190 US Route 1,
Falmouth. "The Thunderhead
Series: Landscapes of Maine
and the American West" by
Deborah Carlton, shows through
Sept 7. Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30 am-
5:30 pm, Thurs 10 am-7 pm, Sat
9:30 am-5 pm. 781-3555.

Online Art Exhibition Company
invites artists to exhibit their
work on the Internet at
/home.maine.com/oeac. For an
application or additional info,
call 761-0017 or e-mail to: trab-
bit@maine.com.

Portland Parks and Recreation
17 Arbor St. Portland. "Muse &
Venus," photographs by Stewart
Nudelmann, shows through Aug
7. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-4 pm.
874-8793.

USM Outer Map Library 314
Forest Ave. Portland.

**Mapmaking Through the Eyes
of Children,** showcasing 67
maps by students of local
schools, and "Firmament and
Fundament: Humans Making
Sense of the Natural World,"
focusing on the stories and art
that decorate maps, show
through Aug 13. Hours: Wed 1-
4:30 pm and 6-8 pm, Thurs 9
am-12:30 pm and 1-4:30 pm,
Sat 9 am-12:30 pm. 780-4850.

calls artists
Front Room Gallery seeks fine
art and crafts for upcoming exhi-
bitions. Send slides and resume
to Front Room Gallery, 378
Cottage Rd. So. Portland, ME
04106. 767-9070.

Lago Content The Mid Coast
Millennium Producers of Brunswick
sponsors a logo contest for its
regional celebration on Dec 31,
1999. Call the Chamber of
Commerce of the Bath-Brunswick
Region at 725-8797.

The Metalhead Society and the
Danforth Gallery seek entries for
the "Metalsmithing in the New
Millennium" exhibition, showing
Sept-Oct. The focus areas are:
work created using the hydraulic
press, work created using the
technique of fold-forming, work
created using transfer etching
and work created using
"Precious Metal Clay." For a
prospectus and additional infor-
mation, send a SASE to The
Metalhead Society, c/o Ann
Thompson, 31 Seabrook Mill
Road, Biddeford, ME 04005.

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Portland Parks and Recreation
invites artists to submit water-
colors for consideration for a
show in Oct and Nov. Call

Brenda at 874-8793.
Portland Public Library 5
Monument Sq. Portland, invites
artists to submit work for a one-
month exhibition in the Lewis
Gallery. 871-1758.

Southern Maine Wellness
Center invites artists to exhibit
framed works in their therapy
center. Call Merrill at 767-1385.

Union of Maine Visual Artists
invites new members. For
details, write to UMW, HC 62
Box 224, Bristol ME 04539, or
call Polly at 244-5746.

classes & workshops
Creative Resource Center offers
programs for kids of all ages.
Aug 6: "Name Decorating," Aug 20:
"Sun Catchers," Aug 27:
"Creative Collage." At the
Creative Resource Center, 1103
Forest Ave. Portland, from 3-5:
4 pm. Free. Space is limited.
797-9543.

Kaplat offers classes in interior
decorating. Aug 12: "Borders and
Stripes," from 6-9 pm. Cost: \$50.
Aug 20: "Faux for Walls," from 6-9
pm. Cost: \$50. Aug 22: "Faux for
Walls, Level 2," from 9 am-noon.
Cost: \$50. 86 Pond Cove Point and
Decorating, 305 Commercial St.
Portland, 846-5663.

Sawyer Street Studios has adult
classes on Mon, Tues and Wed
evenings. Children's classes are
Wed and Thurs afternoons.
Genevieve Levin teaches pottery
classes for kids and adults each
Mon through Aug. At Sawyer
Street Studios, 131 Sawyer St.
So. Portland. Call Levin at 892-
9184 or 767-4394. Call Sawyer
Street Studios at 767-1113.

The Shaker Museum Aug 15:
"Shaker Oval Box Making," from
9 am-noon. Cost: \$15. Aug 22:
"Handfinishing Woods" from
8:30 am-noon. Cost: \$15.
Space is limited. The museum
also has free demonstrations.

**The Central Maine Friends of
Photography** holds meetings the
first Tues and third Wed of each
month. At the Creative
Photographic Arts Center, Bates
Mill Enterprise Arts Center, 4th
floor, 59 Canal St. Lewiston,
from 7-9 pm. 782-1369.

Graphic Design Lectures The
Maine College of Art hosts lec-
tures by several graphic design
artists and experts. Aug 6:
Lucille Tenazas, principal of
Tenazas Design in San
Francisco, speaks on experimen-
tal typography. At the Portland
Museum of Art Auditorium, 7
Congress St. Portland, at 7 pm.
Free. 775-5098.

MECA Open House Tours Visit
Maine College of Art's studio
space the first Tues of every
month at the MECA Building,
522 Congress St. Portland, at
noon. RSVP 775-5098.

"On the Rivers" Family Festival
Aug 7. Learn how Monet,
Matisse and other
Impressionists were inspired by
the French Riviera. The evening
also includes gallery games and
other activities. At the Portland
Museum of Art, 7 Congress St.,
from 5:30-7:30 pm. Free. 775-
6148 or 800-630-4067.

Open Slide Night The Union of
Maine Visual Artists invites
artists, craftspersons and anyone
interested to attend an open
slide night the second Fri of
each month at Jay York
Affordable Photo, 58 Wilnot St.
Portland, at 7:30 pm. Bring
slides for discussion/feedback.
773-3434.

The Portland Museum of Art
has upcoming lectures held in
conjunction with its exhibitions.
Aug 7: "Every Picture Tells a
Story: The PMA Learning
Laboratory" with Linda Finko.
Aug 14: "Matisse" with Annette
Weinhardt. At the PMA, 7
Congress St. Portland, at 12:30
and 6 pm. Free. 775-6148 or
800-630-4067.

events & lectures
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on 5-10 minutes. Meets the first
Wed of the month at Agape, 657
Congress St. Portland, at 7:30
pm. Suggested donation: \$5.
783-1500.

"Artist's Soliloquy" Every Fri
at Mainely Frames and Gallery,
1103 Forest Ave. Portland, from
5-8 pm. 782-1369.

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review
Works by Marjorie Moore show through Aug. 8 at Davidson & Daughters, 148 High St., Portland. 780-0766. This exhibit features a sampling of painter Marjorie Moore's latest work, which examines society's equivocal depiction of animals. Though she now lives in Austin, Texas, Moore — who was featured in a solo show at the Portland Museum of Art in 1990 — hails from Maine and still has strong local ties.

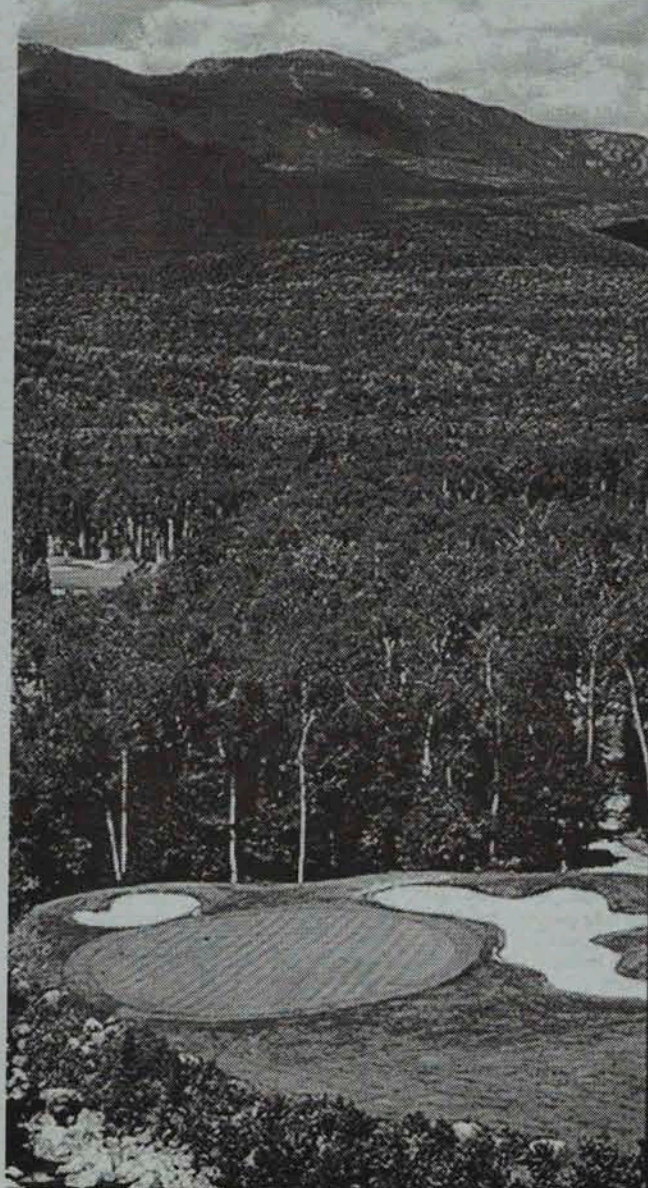
These pieces are smaller than ones Moore has shown previously, and her painting style is more compact and detailed than her past depictions of fairy tale animals. Here, she focuses primarily on monkeys and apes, as shown in the large oil on linen painting entitled "Random Revolutions," in which circus animals and mechanical toys circumnavigate an amorphous yellow stage. Ghostly images of monkeys haunt the real and toy animals, and surreal vines intrude on the scene, creating an atmosphere of strange magic. Though Moore seems to have traded in the radical, shocking approach she once favored for a more condensed treatment, the power of her message remains strong and she continues to shape a biting irony by pairing her images with text. Below the stage in "Random Revolutions," a section of hand-lettered type contains passages taken from the writing of early 19th-century natural historian Reverend J.G. Woods. One portion reads "baboons are positively disgusting," followed by, "This aversion seems to be caused not so much by the resemblance the ape bears to man, as by the horror lest man should degenerate until he resembles the ape."

Moore's fascination with the ways in which humans anthropomorphize animals is reflected in two series of paintings. The "Simian Playroom" series features a number of toys and a realistic monkey in a Never-Never Land, suspended above the background text of a hand-lettered children's story. The central toy, a monkey, is shown animatedly blowing bubbles throughout the four pictures, while the other toys look forlorn and abandoned. These images force us to confront our own childhood attachments to imitation animals dressed up in human clothes, not to mention the ways in which we have relegated their real flesh-and-blood counterparts to "cute entertainment." In her artist's statement, Moore writes, "Viewers will have to decide for themselves if the simians suggest the stories or the stories suggest the simians." Moore's purposely ambiguous work points out the difficulty of perceiving animals and their world as something other than mere mimicry of ours.

Her "Simian Asteroid" series is both humorous and garish in its portrayal of a wild tangle of stuffed toys, seen from four perspectives against playful but dark galaxies painted in violet and plum shades. The toys seem silly and bizarre at the same time — rarely are we forced to contemplate our own playthings with such penetrating wit. The two "On High Seas" pieces are the least successful. When compared to the gripping intellectual impact of other works in this exhibit, the scenes of monkeys on boats pulling small toy boats and toy monkeys seem too lightheaded, despite

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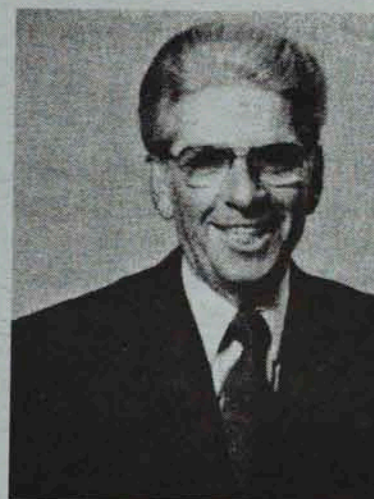
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movies

War is hell. William Tecumseh Sherman, a master of the inferno, told us that. But what, exactly, happens in hell? **"Saving Private Ryan,"** Steven Spielberg's latest film, makes you think about that question in detail. Starting with the opening battle scene, in which the audience is thrown onto the beach at Normandy with the D-Day invasion force, and culminating with a struggle for survival in a ruined French village, Spielberg catalogues the particulars of the martial underworld with sober precision: fear, mutilation, betrayal, cowardice, humiliation, indecisiveness, confusion, moral degradation, loneliness, suspicion, self-doubt, pain, bereavement — and the finality of physical death.

Each torment takes its diabolical place in the chaos of the greatest invasion in modern military history, brilliantly recreated on film by cinematographer Janusz Kaminski. Perhaps never in the history of movies have the horrors of war been evoked with such excruciating specificity. This is a terrifying, all-male world, where the only women are distant angels of love and rationality, invoked by soldiers holding onto their spilled guts as they die, howling, "Mama, Mama, Mama!"

The story has the simple framework of a fable. Captain John Miller (Tom Hanks), having survived the initial botched attack on Omaha Beach, is charged with leading seven men behind enemy lines on a special mission: to find Private James Francis Ryan (Matt Damon), an Iowa farm boy whose three brothers have been killed in action, and to bring him back to safety.

The men under Miller's command are already battle-toughened, cynical and cold-blooded. They are also devoted to each other and filled with a powerful life force. The characters risk stereotype — there's the smart-mouthed Jew, the Bible-quoting Southerner, the emotional Italian, the pencil-necked bookworm. But strong performances from the entire cast (this film is not a star vehicle for Hanks or anyone else) and a surprisingly unsentimental script prevent the soldiers from becoming caricatures. Their resistance to the folly of risking

eight lives to save one makes their devotion to their beloved and mysterious captain all the more compelling. By starting the film with a 20-minute battle scene that spares us nothing, Spielberg sucks us into the surreal world of war before we can put up defenses. It's more than an hour before he even allows us to really laugh. As a result, the carnage of the D-Day invasion, and the enormity of the sacrifice made by young American men while their leaders were scrambling to compensate for failed strategies and fatal miscalculations, becomes real in a way many viewers — especially younger ones — might not be ready for.

How many people born since 1960 know the first thing about D-Day? How many have any idea of its scale? For the record: Of the 250,000 American troops involved in the action, 6,603 were killed. Of the 170 men in the first wave to hit the French beaches, 91 died and 64 were wounded. The town of Bedford, Va., population 3,200, lost 21 young men in the invasion. Nineteen of them died within the first 15 minutes of the battle.

Spielberg means us to think about honor and decency and patriotism when we see this movie. It's impossible not to — although the simple power of the film's action is badly undermined by a hokey and didactic present-day framing device in which an old veteran visits the soldiers' cemetery at Normandy with his family. The ultimate question posed by "Saving Private Ryan" is this: Have the peacetime generations that benefited from the sacrifice at Normandy conducted themselves in a manner worthy of the soldiers who fought there?

"Saving Private Ryan" doesn't answer that question. But it serves as a painful reminder for the fat and happy Americans of today — a reminder that some people went through hell, and died, that we might live as we do. The rest is up to us.

SARAH GOODYEAR

now playing

NEW THIS WEEK

HENRY FOOL Mysterious author Henry Fool (Thomas Jay Ryan) befriends a humble trash man, Simon Grim (James Urbaniak), and prods him to discover his own voice and language. Using his experiences as the caretaker of his mother (Maria Porter) and sexually charged sister (Parker Posey), the novice writer achieves dizzying success. In turn, he must deal with the drunken mentor who discovered him. **Reviewed 4/16/98. Nickelodeon**

DISTURBING BEHAVIOR A family moves to a small town, where the teenagers are oddly comelike. But not for long... With Katie Holmes. **Hoys Clark's Pond**

DR. DOLITTLE Eddie Murphy replaces Rex Harrison in the title role of a man cursed with the ability to speak to animals. **Hoys Clark's Pond**

EVER AFTER: A CINDERELLA STORY In this latest version of the classic fairy tale, Cinderella is an ass-kicker who falls in love with a less than dazzling prince. With Drew Barrymore. **Hoys Falmouth 10, Hoys Clark's Pond**

GOODZILLA He's mean and he's green. The terror from the South Pacific rises again, this time skipping Tokyo (the city's been razed enough) for the concrete jungle of the Big Apple. The only people who won't get a kick out of the major-league mayhem are those with chronic impairment of the enjoyment glands. **Reviewed 5/28/98. Nickelodeon**

GONE WITH THE WIND With enhanced color and bonus footage, the legendary reimagining of the men's rape fantasies returns to the big screen. **Hoys Clark's Pond**

HIGH ART When a book develops in her apartment, the editor for a photo-magazine discovers a once renowned, now down-on-her-luck, photographer living above her. Both women are drawn to art, fame and drugs — and eventually to each other. With Alley Sheedy and Radha Mitchell. **The Movies**

THE HORSE WHISPERER Even though it's not uncommon for horses to whisper "you stupid boob" each time you turn your back on them, this equestrian epic has less to do with our four-legged friends than with the remarkable healing powers of TLC. Robert Redford stars as a dewy, soft-shouldered cowboy who tames feral ponies — and the hearts of coltish women much, much too young for him. **Nickelodeon**

JANE AUSTEN'S MAFIA Leave it to those crass Hollywood types to cash in on a hot-selling romance author any way they can. The late Lloyd Bridges stars as a Mafia kingpin in this spoof of gangster films. With Jay Mohr and Christina Applegate. **Hoys Clark's Pond, Hoys Falmouth 10**

LETHAL WEAPON 4 More gratuitous characters than the last one, with plenty of creaky action and a missing soldier. While the feds milk the rescue for public approval ratings, the troops who must perform the mission remain unconvinced it's worthwhile. With Tom Hanks and Matt Damon. **Reviewed this issue. Hoys Clark's Pond, Hoys Falmouth 10**

MADLINE In "Fargo," Frances McDormand portrayed law-enforcement as slightly less blasé than working for the Department of Motor Vehicles. Now, in this big screen adaptation of Ludwig Bemmel's classic children's series about a troublemaking nine-year-old, McDormand takes on the role of a nun — an occupation whose winsome effectiveness is slightly more exhilarating than working for the DMV. **Maine Mall Cinema, Hoys Falmouth 10**

THE MASK OF ZORRO What — audiences weren't satisfied with George Hamilton's flamboyant portrayal of the Mexican vigilante? In this latest tale of the masked mercenary, whose heroics are one part Don Juan and two parts Lone Ranger with a dash of sassy impudence thrown in — a hot-blooded young landowner (Antonio Banderas) dons the cape for some swashbuckling subversion in 'ol California. **Maine Mall Cinema, Hoys Falmouth 10**

MR. JEALOUSY Eric Stoltz — who holds the record for the most years spent hovering between leading-man status and hip character actor — stars as a guy so jealous of his girlfriend's ex, he joins the former beau's group therapy class to keep an eye on him. With Annabella Sciorra. **Keystone Theatre Cafe**

THE NEGOTIATOR One of Chicago's best hostage negotiators is framed for murder and embezzlement. When his claims of innocence fall on deaf ears, he takes a few hostages himself, demanding to speak to a second hostage negotiator. And so on and so on, until you're the only one left in the theater that isn't somehow involved in the whole crisis. With Kevin Spacey and Samuel L. Jackson. **Maine Mall Cinema, Hoys Falmouth 10**

THE OPPOSITE OF SEX A gay high school teacher is unexpectedly visited by his 16-year-old half-sister, Deedee, who's escaped from her abusive home. Concerned only for number one, the girl steals \$10,000 from her sibling, hitting the road with the older man's ambivalent lover. **Reviewed 7/30/98. The Movies**

OUT OF SIGHT Following a prison escape, a charming bank robber falls in with a beautiful but unyielding federal marshal — leading to a halcyon of bullets and flirtatious wisecracks. With George Clooney and Jennifer Lopez. **Reviewed 7/2/98. Nickelodeon**

PARENT TRAP Identical twin girls — separated at birth when their parents divorced — are accidentally reunited at summer camp. Now, can they reunite their parents? And if so, will they promise to never, ever remake this movie? **Maine Mall Cinema, Hoys Falmouth 10**

SAVING PRIVATE RYAN Spielberg continues his arthouse cycle with this WWII drama about an attempt to save a missing soldier. While the feds milk the rescue for public approval ratings, the troops who must perform the mission remain unconvinced it's worthwhile. With Tom Hanks and Matt Damon. **Reviewed this issue. Hoys Clark's Pond, Hoys Falmouth 10**

times starting friday

SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE FRIDAY THROUGH THURSDAY, AUG 7-13.
Owing to scheduling changes after CBW goes to press, moviegoers are advised to confirm times with theaters.

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

GONE WITH THE WIND (PG)
2:10, 7:20

HALLOWEEN: H20 (R)
11:50, 12:40, 1:50, 2:45, 3:50, 4:50, 6:50, 7:30, 9:10, 9:55

EVER AFTER (PG-13)
12:10, 12:50, 3:20, 3:40, 7, 9:50

SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (R)
11:30, 3, 4:20, 6:30, 8, 10

DISTURBING BEHAVIOR (R)
3:10, 9:20

JANE AUSTEN'S MAFIA! (PG-13)
12:30, 7:10

LETHAL WEAPON 4 (R)
6:40, 9:45

DR. DOLITTLE (PG-13)
11:40, 2

HOYS FALMOUTH 10, 206 U.S. ROUTE 1, FALMOUTH, 781-5616

SNAKE EYES (R)
12, 2:40, 5, 7:40, 9:55

HALLOWEEN: H20 (R)
12:10, 2:20, 4:30, 7:10, 9:15

PARENT TRAP (PG)
10:30, 1:15, 3:55, 6:45, 9:30

THE NEGOTIATOR (R)
11:45, 2:50, 6:50, 9:50

BASKETBALL (R)
2:35, 9:45

SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (R)
AUG 7-9 11:30, 3, 6:30, 10

EVER AFTER: A CINDERELLA STORY (PG-13)
11:40, 2:30, 7, 9:40

THE MASK OF ZORRO (PG-13)
1:15, 4, 7:05, 9:55

THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY (R)
12:30, 3:40, 6:40, 9:20

ARMAGEDDON (PG-13)
11:50, 3:15, 6:35, 9:45

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

SIX DAYS, SEVEN NIGHTS (PG-13)
4, 7

WILDE (R)
7

THE TRUMAN SHOW (PG)
4:30, 7, 9:30

MR. JEALOUSY (R)
3:30, 6, 8:30

MAINE MALL CINEMA, MAINE MALL ROAD, SO. PORTLAND, 774-1022

SNAKE EYES (R)
1:15, 3:50, 7:30, 9:45

BALTO (G)
AUG 12 ONLY 10 AM

PARENT TRAP (PG)
1:30, 4:20, 7:15, 10:05

BASKETBALL (R)
7:15, 9:40

THE NEGOTIATOR (R)
1:10, 4:05, 7, 10

THE MASK OF ZORRO (PG-13)
12:50, 4, 7:10, 10:05

THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY (R)
1:30, 4:10, 7:25, 9:55

MADLINE (PG)
1, 3:05, 5:15

ARMAGEDDON (PG-13)
12:30, 3:45, 7, 10:05

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

THE OPPOSITE OF SEX (R)
AUG 6-11 THURS-TUES 5, 9+SAT-SUN MAT 1

HIGH ART (R)
AUG 6-11 THURS-SUN 3, 7 MON-TUES 7

HENRY FOOL (R)
AUG 12-18 WED-TUES 4:30, 7, 9:30+SAT-SUN MAT 2

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

THE X-FILES (PG-13)
1:10, 3:50, 6:50, 9:25

OUT OF SIGHT (R)
1, 3:40, 6:40, 9:20

THE HORSE WHISPERER (PG-13)
9:15

GOODZILLA (PG-13)
12:40, 4, 7:30

SMALL SOLDIERS (PG-13)
12:50, 3:35, 6:30

TITANIC (PG-13)
12:30, 4:20, 8:10

CITY OF ANGELS (PG-13)
1:20, 4:10, 7, 9:30

PRIDE'S CORNER DRIVE-IN, 651 BRIDGTON RD., WESTBROOK, 797-3154

THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY (R)
6:15

HALLOWEEN: H20 (R)
10:20

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By Rob Brezany

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): This would be a fine time to stand beneath a lover's window and serenade him or her with a tear-jerking yet funny song. It's also an excellent astrological moment to surprise your paramour by pouring maple syrup into the shape of a happy face on his or her oatmeal. Finally, you couldn't choose a better week than this one to arouse so much sacred pleasure in you-know-who that he or she will be forevermore convinced that the body is indeed a temple of the Holy Spirit.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): Some Jews regard their houses as a more sacred place of worship than the synagogue. Many pagans feel no need to confine their celebrations to any special building, but offer their prayers to the earth and sky. Several Zen Buddhists I've known have claimed they're as likely to find enlightenment while mowing a lawn under the fluorescent lights of a convenience store as when meditating on a straw mat in a monastery. In the spirit of these seekers, Taurus, I exhort you to look for divine inspiration in both the stranger and most familiar places this week—anywhere other than where it's "supposed" to be.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): What's good about you has almost stopped interfering with what's great about you, Gemini. Your past is no longer sabotaging your future, and your work is beginning to cooperate more creatively with your love life. Everywhere you look, in fact, peace and harmony breaking out. To what do we owe these salutary developments? I believe it has to do with the fact that something like a courtship is currently unfolding in the deep, dark recesses of your psyche. Two of your sub-personalities that have rarely acknowledged each other's existence have begun an almost convivial dialogue.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): The renowned 17th-century painter Rembrandt was born under the sign of the Crab. True to his tribe's reputation, he was an exquisitely sympathetic and sensitive soul whose art expressed a complex understanding of the human psyche. Known as a "master of light and shadow" who gave himself "genial" to his students, the duke was also a flaming narcissist who did not less than 64 self-portraits. In these ways, too, he demonstrated his Cancerian roots. The point I'm hoping to imply is that like Rembrandt, you are perfectly capable of being both a sweet nurturer of people in need and an utterly self-involved explorer of your own intriguing depths. These days especially, I expect you'll be driven in both directions simultaneously.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): "I always wanted to be somebody," comic Lily Tomlin once remarked, "but I should have been more specific." This is one of the best admissions for members of your tribe that I've ever heard. Some version of it should be inscribed in the frontispiece of every Leo's journal. Why? Because there's only one thing standing in the way of you becoming a gorgeous gift to humanity, and that's a tendency to be so hungry for bringing rights that you neglect to define the exact nature of the accomplishments you want to brag about. This birthday season, Leo, is a perfect astrological moment to fight that tendency. Reconsiderate your passion to ripen the "exact" talents that make you special.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): Even though I've never been a big fan of St. Paul, I've taken one of his mantras, "I die daily," and made it my own. It helps me annihilate my ridiculous self-importance. I use it to dismantle my hypocrisies and flush out my unexamined prejudices and kill off any budding delusions I might be suffering from. May I recommend this meditation to you? It ain't easy, Virgo, but once you get the hang of it, it's fun and liberating—especially now, during the karmic clean-up phase of your yearly cycle.

Let me know how I can serve you better, and for that matter, how "you" can serve you better, too. Box 761, Petaluma, CA 94953 or www.realastrology.com.

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LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): In the modern world, August is the most quiescent time of the year. Everyone's on vacation. News is slow. It's too hot to move very fast. But for you, August was the most critical month of the entire calendar. The crops had to be harvested—or else. During "Wakes Week" in old England, many people left their normal jobs and came to the fields to assist in bringing in the grain. By my reckoning, Libra, you're at a point in your astrological cycle that's comparable to our predecessors. Laziness should be taboo. It's time to reap what you've been sowing since your last birthday.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): The good news is that due to tremendous surges in the strength of your willpower recently, you're virtually exempt from planetary influences. Fate has less hold on you than ever. You have the enormous capacity to reprogram the patterns that will shape your life for months to come. The bad news is that due to tremendous surges in the strength of your willpower recently, you're virtually exempt from planetary influences. Fate has less hold on you than ever. You have a tough and imposing responsibility to reprogram the patterns that will shape your life for months to come.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): You know what a halo is, but you may not have ever heard of a "mandorla," which is a full-body halo. In Buddhist and Christian art, this almond-shaped aureole of light sometimes appears around an especially saintly or godlike character. I thought I'd introduce you to the term, Sagittarius, because when I've looked at you with my psychic vision lately, you yourself seem to be sporting a rich purple mandorla. Does this have something to do with a growing determination to live up to your highest ideals? Or is that something you've been pondering since you decided to re-up your impersonation of a fearless explorer?

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): In addition to advice to the lovelorn, fashion coordinating, middle-class support, and career counseling, I sometimes like to provide you with less practical help. I hope if you desperately need nuts-and-bolts counseling this week, you'll have the sense to read a more down-to-earth horoscope. What I want to tell you more than anything else is that resurrection is your featured theme. Assume that it's somehow the answer to every question. Rejoice in the knowledge that though a part of you has died, it will soon be reborn in a fresh (though altered) guise.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): If you ask me, the Devil doesn't exist. I just don't believe there's a big bad fallen angel who organizes evil forces to oppose God's goodness. I do, however, feel that each of us human beings harbors a little devil inside. It's the wounded, primitive part of us, the aspect of our psyche which is most ignorant and out-of-balance. Ironically, according to Carl Jung, this beast hoards and hides some of our richest potentials. If we can win it over with love and understanding, I grant us access to these treasures. Have you guessed why I'm telling you this, Aquarius? You're in a prime position to sweet-talk your own devil.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): This week will feature brown and gray motifs, emotionally speaking. If you're under the mistaken impression that brown and gray moods are inherently blah and boring, maybe it would help to use different terms. How does "sepia" and "charcoal" sound? Or what about "mahogany and pearly silver"? The moral of the story: More than you could ever imagine, the precise words you use in the coming days will magically determine the shape and meaning of your experiences.

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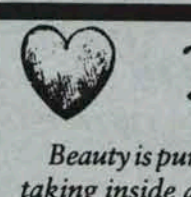
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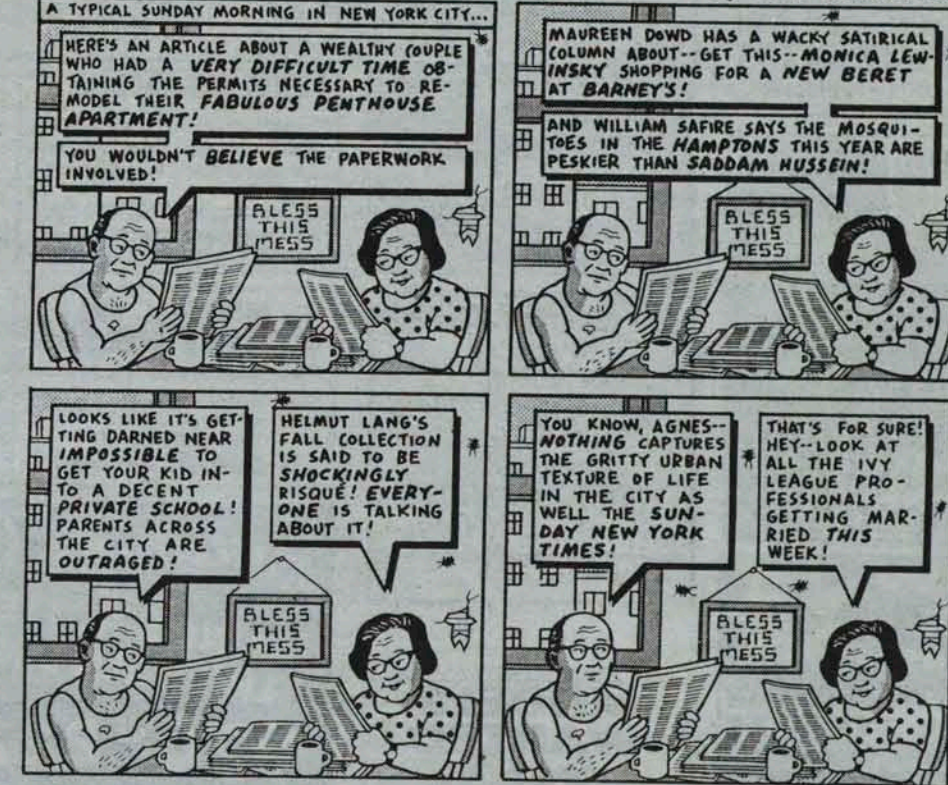
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women seeking

SUBMISSIVE DWF. 31-year-old BSW (big beautiful woman) seeking dominant M. 24/7. I seek occasional sex, same play. Married but no couples! You be tall, average to good-looking, fit, 45 or under, no drugs, healthy. #90112

AS WE lay beneath the star-studded sky, his sweet breath smelt like strawberries. It was one Saturday night I will never forget and I wonder, did he have feelings for me? #90098

BEST OF both worlds. Hispanic/Indian pre-occupied, 40, full-figured, 38-34-36, extraordinarily sexy, seeking blue-collared worker, 30-35, light smoker/drinker ok, for quiet evenings, movies, dinners, taking it one day at a time. #90080

CAN YOU help? Still looking for a few good men to fulfill my fantasy of 3 Men, apocryphal unimportant. Asking for a willingness to please. Must be ok with my husband there. I'm 45, fit, attractive, with many exceptional qualities. #90077

COMPANIONSHIP. SBF, 23, seeks female friend to have good times with, maybe leading to more. Real Portland Names & Home Phone Numbers. Try it, it works! 1-900-420-0420 ext. 161. \$2.95/min. 18+ zmc (702)387-6465.

DRY AS toast. GF, relocated back to Maine after one too many earthquakes. This attractive, easygoing 36 year-old, is into a variety of (saucy) adult activities, likes to cook and will even butter your toast in bed. Please be 25-35 and open-minded. #90084

REAL TO YOU. GF, 30, slender, attractive, sense of humor, open-minded, enjoys intimate conversations, dancing, private moments, lazy Sunday afternoons. No time for heart games. Call if you're true to you and real to me. #90083

SUNDAY KIND of love. Small, slim, pretty, educated, traveled SF, 33, brunet/dark, quick wit, gentle spirit, myriad of interests, seeking SM, with similar interests, to share love, to last past Saturday night. #90081

TORMENTRESS. This dominant F, 31, 5'9", brown/brown, would like to show you your foot fetishes. Love body worship, massage and foot fetish. If you are ready to serve a sensual mistress, call me. Loves country music. #90086

TRIANGLE. CLASSIC, contemporary, authentic dyes, blonde/blue, strong, petite, seeks 2 lesbians of like-minded to form a fun-filled, pink triangle, 28-35, N.Y., n/d preferred. #90077

40-YEAR-OLD M seeking Married/SF, 35-40, for fun and adventure. Please be clean, discreet, open-minded and healthy. #90122

ADULT FUN. Good-looking, clean, well-equipped, genuine SWM, 40s, seeks Women who enjoy sex. Please be clean, discreet, attractive Couple for friendship and intimacy. We enjoy antiques, motorcycles, the beach, dancing, etc. #90020Men Seeking

ATTRACTIVE, FUN-LOVING, sensual Couple seeks SF or Couple with BF for serious meetings. She is 5'7", long, brown, wavy hair, green-eyed, shapely. He is 5'7", strawberry-blonde/blue, Italian staple. Must be discreet. #90115

CLEAN, EDUCATED, fun-loving Couple seeks special Female or Couple, for hot, passionate, discreet rendezvous, greater Portland area. We are attractive, considerate lovers who want to explore all of our pleasures and fantasies. Let's meet for dinner, decide on dessert. #90079

DOMINANT COUPLE. 40s Couple looking for experienced, clean, discreet, dominant Couple to help dominant wife learn the pleasures of training submissive womanhood. #90120

FOURTY OF July bang. Happily Married Couple looking for "a few good men". Healthy, sense of humor a must. Friends first. Looking to fulfill wife's fantasy. Call, so we can make sparks fly. Will answer all. #90026

FUN-LOVING, OPEN-MINDED Couple seeking BF/SF for adult fun and fulfillment of fantasy. We are very fit, healthy professionals with a crazy edge. Will answer all inquiries. #90103

HAPPILY MARRIED Couple seeking F, 21-35. Enjoys going out to movies, drinking once awhile. Very discreet. #90009

MARRIED W Couple, attractive, outgoing. She is 30, 5'9", 130 lbs. He is 35, 5'10", 165 lbs; both bi-curious. Would like to meet other BiCouples or fun during the day. Call now and let's get together to discover what we both have been missing. We're clean, discreet, you be too. Portland, ME. #90123

men seeking

SEEKING FUN, nonsmoking BF or Couple like ourselves, with straight Male and BF. We're an attractive, young-looking, 40s Couple, height/weight proportionate, who enjoy outdoor fun and dancing. Looking for friendship in all activities. #90129

SEEKING NEW adventures. GW Couple, 40-ish, seeks GM or BM, 25-45, masculine, height/weight proportionate, playful, for no strings attached, discreet, safe adult fun. #90029

SENSUAL SINGLE Couple, early 40s, wish to meet others with Female, or male, fun, erotic times. Our place, yours, or out. #90110

SEXY, FUN, nonsmoking Married White Couple looking for other Couples for erotic fun. She's 37, 5'5", 120 lbs, blonde, tan, looks great! He's 37, 6'1", 200 lbs, great sense of humor, interested in non-erotic, watching, being watched, light touching. #90101

SUBMISSIVE MALE wanted. Married White Couple seeks Single, submissive BM, n/d, to fulfill their desires. Must be willing to develop a unique friendship for the summer. Only the serious need to reply. #90021

THREE WAY. Attractive, fit, professional White Couple, 30 and 38, seeks MF for very discreet, adult fun. Clean, safe, n/d, is a must. #90025

TWO PLUS one for spice. If not adventurous, courageous and ready, don't bother, no time for games. Attractive, monogamous GWM Couple seeks versatile, hot G/BWM, drop-free, healthy, for erotic weekends, evenings, good food, drinks, XXX movies, hot times. LTR possible with right Man. Discretion assured. #90028

WANT TO dance? If you ever wanted to do erotic dancing, now is your chance. Married White Couple, mid-30s, seeks MF Couple who would enjoy dancing for us. #90024

WORK HARD, play hard. Happily Married White Couple; she: shapely, sexy, Bissaux, 5'7", 135 lbs. He: handsome, sexy, straight, 5'3", 200 lbs. Seek another clean, discreet, attractive Couple for friendship and intimacy. We enjoy antiques, motorcycles, the beach, dancing, etc. #90020Men Seeking

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FEMALE VOYEUR sought. Attractive SWM, 26, well-built, intelligent, seeks attractive, Female voyager to watch an attractive, young Male. Discretion assured and expected. #90047

FIERCE INTELLECT, youthful spirit, heart of gold, bar of steel, slender body, nice and naughty, deep as the emotions that you feel. CM, 39, 6', 160 lbs, short hair, clean-shaven. #90052

FIRST TIME, attractive Bi-curious WM, 32, seeks attractive Couple, 25-35, must be fit, clean, discreet, willing to teach. #90030

FIRST TIME ad. BW, 30, enjoys camping, movies and quiet times at home. Looking for fun times. Your: 30-50, discreet. Interested? Call. #90132

FISHTALES. FLAMING fish seeks mature post girl in need of a good spanking. Must be gorgeous, creative, physically fit. Moonlight tennis, horror dining, sex on the beach and intimate light sweat you. #90057

FOUR PLAY. Seeking Couple and Bi or straight Female to join in. Adult fun and games. Must be clean, safe, discreet. All limitations respected. Will return all calls. #90108

FULL-FIGURED, FLUFFY Female? Married WM seeks large Lady, 28-40, 200 lbs., with delightfully dark hair, for cuddling and caressing. Massage a must. Predisposed to pump-and-play-sized, eager to entice. Hips a plus. Discretion assured/required. N/d, n/d, n/d, healthy. #90066

FUN AND NO strings. Married WM, 6'1", slender built, blonde/blue, great personality, travels to greater New England regularly seeks SDF, 21+, to enjoy music, the outdoors and be my companion while I'm in the area. #90063

HANDSOME, MARRIED WM seeks one special Married WF, for super discreet, extramarital affair. Intelligent, good person, secure marriage, partner's interest 2nd, not promiscuous, nice body with clean bill of health? If you share these traits with me, then please call. #90032

HELLO LADIES! Easygoing WM, 5'11", brown hair, 24, above-average size, seeks open-minded, Bi or straight Female playmate for role-playing and good time. Couple welcomed. #90045

HOT TIMES, with no strings. Married BM, 40, 5'11", 225 lbs, great legs, seeks well-endowed, BW, 20-40, for fun times. Cleanliness, safeness and discretion is expected and assured. No fetishes, please. #90046

I SAW you. Turn around, bright eyed! You're buzzin' up top, tiny below and when our eyes meet there's sparkle in our eyes and a demure smile. Tall Native American, 42, seeks unbound Female, 28-40, for fun and wisdom rather than answers. LTR. #90075

I WANT muscle. Seeking Female bodybuilders. Let's get physical. Share adult work outs, massages, body posing. I'm a clean-cut, young, healthy Male. Fitness Ladies are ok too. Age/race unimportant. #90041

LET'S TALK. SWM, 39, seeks older Female, 55-70, for erotic conversations and maybe more. #90072

LET'S TRY it all! Married Male, enjoys new friends and adult fun, tried by one and wants to score with you. Open-minded Couple and Female. All ages and races. #90128

LONG-NAILED BEAUTY. Trim, clean, healthy, sane WM, 35+, seeks long-nailed and/or long-legged goddess to worship and please. Dominant? I'll submit. Will pamper your fetishes with eager service. 18+, any race, Single/Married, clean, discreet, creative. Limits? All answered. #90036

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WITH

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